

CANADA

HOUSE OF COMMONS DEBATES

OFFICIAL REPORT

FIRST SESSION—TWENTY-NINTH PARLIAMENT

22 Elizabeth II

VOLUME IV, 1973

COMPRISING THE PERIOD FROM THE SEVENTH DAY OF MAY, 1973,
TO THE EIGHTH DAY OF JUNE, 1973, INCLUSIVE

INDEX ISSUED IN A SEPARATE VOLUME

Published under the authority of the Speaker of the House of Commons by the Queen's Printer for Canada

Available from Information Canada, Ottawa, Canada

26314—1½

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Monday, May 7, 1973

The House met at 2 p.m.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

AGRICULTURE

REFERENCE TO STANDING COMMITTEE OF REPORT OF CANADIAN WHEAT BOARD FOR CROP YEAR ENDED JULY 31, 1972

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Justice): Mr. Speaker, there have been some discussions and I think there may be found to be unanimous consent to deal, without notice with a motion that the annual report of the Canadian Wheat Board for the crop year ended July 31, 1972, tabled on April 12, 1973, be referred to the Standing Committee on Agriculture.

Mr. Speaker: Is this agreed?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Mr. Speaker: The House has heard the motion proposed by the Minister of Justice (Mr. Lang), seconded by the Secretary of State for External Affairs (Mr. Sharp). Is it the pleasure of the House to adopt the said motion?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Motion agreed to.

* * *

EXTERNAL BOUNDARIES READJUSTMENT ACT

TABLING OF REPORT OF COMMISSION FOR PROVINCE OF PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

Mr. Speaker: It is my duty, pursuant to Section 19 of the Electoral Boundaries Readjustment Act, Chapter E-2, Revised Statutes of Canada, 1970, to lay upon the table of the House a certified copy of the report of the electoral boundaries commission for the province of Prince Edward Island, 1973.

* * *

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR CONFERENCE

TABLING OF OUTLINE OF CANADIAN POSITION RESPECTING CONVENTIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS ADOPTED AT FIFTY-FIFTH AND FIFTY-SIXTH SESSIONS

Mr. Charles Turner (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Labour): Mr. Speaker, under Standing Order 41(2) I should like to table a document, in English and in French, outlining the Canadian position with respect to conventions and recommendations adopted at the fifty-fifth (Maritime) and fifty-sixth sessions of the International Labour Conference at Geneva, October, 1970, and June, 1971.

* * *

FISHERIES

EFFECT OF ICE CONDITIONS ON LOBSTER FISHERY—REQUEST FOR UNANIMOUS CONSENT TO MOVE MOTION

Mr. Jack Marshall (Humber-St. George's-St. Barbe): Mr. Speaker, I wish to move a motion under Standing Order 43 on a matter of urgency. Extreme ice conditions in many lobster fishing districts in the Atlantic region have already meant a delay in executing this fishery. The persistence of this condition will result in shortening the season to the point of loss of livelihood to many hundreds of fishermen who are dependent on this fishery. I therefore move, seconded by the hon. member for St. John's East (Mr. McGrath):

That the Minister of Fisheries give immediate consideration to extending the lobster season in those areas affected.

Mr. Speaker: The House has heard the motion proposed by the hon. member under the terms of Standing Order 43. Is there unanimity?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

Mr. Speaker: There is not unanimity. The motion therefore cannot be put to the House.

* * *

LIVESTOCK

BRUCELLOSIS IN NORTHERN SASKATCHEWAN—REQUEST FOR UNANIMOUS CONSENT TO MOVE MOTION

Mr. Elias Nesdoly (Meadow Lake): Mr. Speaker, in view of the increasing incidence of brucellosis or Bang's disease in northwestern Saskatchewan, in view of the inadequate compensation paid to farmers, and in view of the danger to human health because of the possibility of undulant fever, under Standing Order 43 I move, seconded by the hon. member for Saskatoon-Biggar (Mr. Gleave):

That incidence, control, and compensation in so far as brucellosis is concerned under the Animal Contagious Diseases Act be referred for immediate study to the Standing Committee on Agriculture.

Order Paper Questions

Mr. Speaker: The motion proposed by the hon. member for Meadow Lake requires unanimous consent. Is there unanimity?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

Mr. Speaker: There is not unanimity. Therefore the motion cannot be put.

QUESTIONS ON THE ORDER PAPER

(Questions answered orally are indicated by an asterisk.)

TREASURY BOARD—PUBLICITY AND INFORMATION EXPENSES

Question No. 84—**Mr. Nystrom:**

1. What were the amounts of money spent by the Treasury Board on publicity and/or information in each of the fiscal years 1968-69, 1969-70, 1970-71, 1971-72?

2. What were the names and addresses of firms or individuals who received these contracts, what amounts of money were spent in each case and what was the purpose of each contract?

3. What contracts for publicity and/or information were awarded in the current fiscal year, what are the names and addresses of contractees, what are the amounts of money involved in each case and what is the purpose of each contract?

Hon. C. M. Drury (President of the Treasury Board): 1. 1968-69, Nil; 1969-70, Nil; 1970-71, $46,168.79; 1971-72, $326,361.21.

2. 1970-71, Publishing of Collective Agreements, $37,-699.63; 1970-71, W. A. Gray, Toronto, $5,209.66, Editorial Assistance; 1970-71, M. Cassidy, Ottawa, $2,040, Editorial Assistance; 1970-71, Berger, Tisdall, Clark and Lesly Ltd., Toronto, $1,219.50, Editorial Assistance; 1971-72, Henri A. Muhn, Montreal, $750, French Editorial Assistance; 1971-72, Printing costs of booklet "How Your Tax Dollar is Spent": Canadian Government Printing Bureau, $136,-844.19*; Campbell Printing, Ottawa, $3,716.16; 1971-72, Publishing of Collective Agreements, $176,867.76; 1971-72, GMISP booklet, $4,608.13; 1971-72, W. A. Gray, Toronto, $3,125, Editorial Assistance; 1971-72, H. Simcik, Montreal, $450, Design Services.

———

*Includes payments of $63,108.28 for work done on 1971-72 booklet in fiscal year of 1970-71.

3. 1972-73, Canadian Mailbag Marketing, Toronto, $4,000, Booklet Distribution; 1972-73, Printing and Costs of booklet "How Your Tax Dollar is Spent", Canadian Government Printing Bureau, $46,790.20; 1972-73, Henri A. Muhn, Montreal, $1,980, French Editorial Assistance; 1972-73, Henri A. Muhn, Montreal, $1,088.73, French Editorial Assistance; 1972-73, Publishing of Collective Agreements, $30,340.27; 1972-73, National Joint Council pamphlet, invoice not received.

[Mr. Nesdoly.]

AIR CANADA BUDGET

Question No. 276—**Mr. Rowland:**

1. It is the intention of Air Canada to reduce the budget of its finance department by a figure of $180,000 over the next few months?

2. Is this budget reduction to be accomplished by reductions in the department's Winnipeg staff?

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): Air Canada management advises as follows: 1 and 2. The Budget procedures are a matter of internal management, but it can be said that expense targets are set for all departments to ensure proper control of administrative costs. With reference to the Winnipeg Accounting Department, the company does not contemplate any reductions in permanent staff.

BIOAVAILABILITY STANDARD FOR DRUGS

Question No. 728—**Mr. Rynard:**

1. Has the Food and Drug Directorate of the Department of National Health and Welfare established a bio-availability standard for all drugs prescribed by physicians across Canada and, if so, is this bio-availability standard mandatory to all prescribed drugs?

2. What percentage, if any, does this bio-availability standard require and does this standard percentage apply to all drugs?

Hon. Marc Lalonde (Minister of National Health and Welfare): 1. The Health Protection Branch has established a guideline for the bioavailability of drug products which it assesses in its current programs on drug quality. Bioavailability tests are not at present mandatory, although there is provision in the Food and Drugs Act and Regulations to demand proof of efficacy. The whole field of bioavailability is very much in the development stage, with the clinical significance of bioavailability data still not fully understood. In order to put this problem in proper perspective, we have commissioned an advisory committee of non-governmental medical experts to consider all aspects of it, and report within the next few months.

2. The guideline specifies a minimum bioavailability of 80 per cent for the product, relative to a reference standard. It has been applied to drugs chosen for reason of critical medical use, high sales volume, narrow therapeutic index, possibility of contaminants, and unknown problems with bioavailability.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE COMMISSION—DISENTITLEMENT OF BENEFITS

Question No. 763—**Mr. Paproski:**

1. In the week of January 8 to 15, 1973, how many persons were cut off Unemployment Insurance benefits in (a) Montreal (b) Toronto (c) Edmonton (d) Vancouver (e) all of Canada?

2. In the case of those who were receiving benefits and whose entitlement was cut off prior to the benefit period being exhausted, what was the reason given for this action?

Hon. Robert K. Andras (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. During the week of January 8 to January 15, 1973 the following number of persons were cut off Unemployment Insurance benefits either because their claims exhausted or they were denied benefits for various limited periods. Number of Claimants: (a) Montreal 3,069;

(b) Toronto 3,766; (c) Edmonton 1,188; (d) Vancouver 1,537; (e) Canada *24,777.

———

*The national figures are available only on a monthly basis. The figures for the week requested have therefore been estimated.

2. In the case of those who were receiving benefits and whose benefit had not exhausted, the reasons for this are as follows: (a) Refusal of an offer of employment; (b) failure to remain available for employment; (c) failure to attend a CMC course of instruction; (d) failure to attend an employment interview.

CMHC—EMPLOYMENT OF MARRIED COUPLES

Question No. 769—**Mrs. MacInnis (Vancouver Kingsway):**

1. Does the Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation now employ any husband or any wife of another person in the employ of the Corporation and, if so, how many?

2. Does CMHC have a written policy in regard to the employment of persons thus related by marriage and, if so, what is the reason for such a policy?

3. How many wives have been refused employment because of such a policy since June 1968?

4. How many husbands have been refused employment because of such a policy since June 1968?

5. Is this policy now under review?

Hon. Ron Basford (Minister of State for Urban Affairs): 1. Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation currently employs five married couples. Three of these couples were employees of CMHC before their marriage, and one couple was hired as a janitor team in a rental project. In the case of the fifth couple, the wife was hired on a short term contract, in a position previously occupied by her, while the present incumbent of the position is on maternity leave.

2. CMHC does not have a written policy governing the employment of married couples. It has been the long standing practice of the Corporation to discourage the hiring of all relatives of employees, and this applies to the hiring of a spouse of an employee. In administering this policy, cases do arise where personnel on staff marry one another. In these few cases that have arisen the Corporation has generally adopted a policy of continuing to employ both persons on the understanding that they will not be working within the same department in an office.

3 and 4. CMHC does not have a record of the number of husbands/wives who have been refused employment since June, 1968.

5. The personnel policies of CMHC are always under review.

Order Paper Questions

LIP PROJECTS

Question No. 777—**Mr. Lambert (Bellechasse):**

Will additional funds be added to LIP for 1972-73 in order that most projects submitted can be approved and effected and, if so, on what date will it be announced?

[*Translation*]

Hon. Robert K. Andras (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): It is agreed that a large number of prospective LIP projects had to be rejected due to the fact that the funds allocated were not sufficient to permit the approval of all applications. I am presently studying the future of the Local Initiatives Program and when a decision is made, the House will be informed.

[*English*]

TAX LOSS BY GOVERNMENT DUE TO COMMERCIAL BANKRUPTCIES

Question No. 899—**Mr. Latulippe:**

What amounts in taxes were lost by the government due to commercial bankruptcies in Canada in (a) 1968-69 (b) 1969-70 (c) 1970-71?

Hon. Robert Stanbury (Minister of National Revenue): In so far as National Revenue, Customs and Excise, is concerned: (a) $778,481.32; (b) $517,578.44; (c) $1,149,321.37.

In so far as the Department of National Revenue, Taxation, is concerned; (a) $2,195,601; (b) $3,258,260; (c) $1,997,861.

LIP PROJECTS

Question No. 1,016—**Mr. Fortin:**

1. How many LIP projects for 1972-73 (a) were approved in each province (b) were submitted (c) were rejected (d) are still outstanding?

2. For each province, how much was granted and how many participants are there?

[*Translation*]

Hon. Robert K. Andras (Minister of Manpower and Immigration); 1. See Schedule 1.

2. The value of approved projects is shown at Column 2A of Schedule 1. At the present time, the information on participants is not available as the contractual details are still being processed.

Schedule 1

Province	1(a) Number of Approved Projects	1(b) Number of Applications Received	1(c) Number of Projects Rejected	1(d) Number of Outstanding Projects	2(a) Value of Approved Projects
Newfoundland	327	1,309	982	—	$11,715,004
Nova Scotia	355	1,097	742	—	10,147,304
Prince Edward Island	95	251	156	—	1,953,406
New Brunswick	407	960	553	—	10,773,249
Quebec	1,719	5,635	3,916	—	64,041,478

Order Paper Questions

Province	1(a) Number of Approved Projects	1(b) Number of Applications Received	1(c) Number of Projects Rejected	1(d) Number of Outstanding Projects	2(a) Value of Approved Projects
Ontario	1,256	2,617	1,361	—	24,910,497
Manitoba	243	533	290	—	6,861,195
Alberta	279	733	454	—	7,748,788
Saskatchewan	183	379	196	—	5,142,828
Northwest Territories	41	78	37	—	1,097,393
British Columbia	913	1,740	727	—	18,980,331
Yukon	34	58	24	—	654,219

NOTE: The figures shown in the column headed "No. of Projects rejected" also include those projects that were withdrawn or cancelled by the sponsors after submission.

[*English*]

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE COMMISSION—SICKNESS BENEFITS

Question No. 1,017—**Mr. Hueglin:**

For each month between January 1, 1972 and the latest month for which statistics are available (a) how much was paid in sickness benefits (b) how many individuals received sickness benefits (c) how much was paid for maternity benefits (d) how many individuals received maternity benefits?

Hon. Robert K. Andras (Minister of Manpower and Immigration):

	Benefit Payments ($000)	Initial Claims Established
	(a) Sickness	(b) Sickness
January 1972	2,523	7,601
February	4,215	14,316
March	6,142	17,977
April	5,481	12,982
May	5,715	12,993
June	5,293	13,619
July	4,482	12,141
August	4,624	10,719
September	4,210	8,015
October	5,193	8,608
November	5,516	9,872
December	*5,461	*9,287
	(c) Maternity	(d) Maternity
January 1972	1,886	2,074
February	2,363	2,866
March	2,835	3,279
April	2,436	2,670
May	2,730	2,748
June	2,656	2,851
July	2,334	2,740
August	2,885	3,077
September	3,127	3,500
October	4,026	3,814
November	4,689	4,212
December	*4,464	*3,857

*These are preliminary figures and may be subject to change.

[Mr. Andras.]

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE COMMISSION—PREMIUM RATE

Question No. 1,021—**Mr. Hueglin:**

Is the Unemployment Insurance Commission considering an increase in employer-employee contributions and, if so (a) what is the amount of the increase (b) on what date will it come into effect?

Hon. Robert K. Andras (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): The Commission will not be making any changes to the premium rate or maximum benefit payable for 1973; (a) not applicable; (b) not applicable.

PROJECT SAMSON

Question No. 1,044—**Mr. Rowland:**

1. What percentage of the $52,000,000 cost of Project SAMSON will be spent in Canada?

2. By province, how will this expenditure be distributed?

3. Do specifications for the tenders include formal regional distribution requirements?

Hon. Jean-Pierre Goyer (Minister of Supply and Services): 1. Contracts for Project SAMSON will be awarded as a result of competitions among qualified Canadian companies. Until such time as these competitions are held and contracts are awarded, it is not possible to establish what percentage of the cost of Project SAMSON will be spent in Canada. It is known, however, that the potential exists for a high level of Canadian industrial involvement. This will be brought about either directly for goods and services used in SAMSON, or through offset production arrangements outside the project.

2. Similarly, distribution of expenditure by province cannot be established until the contracts are awarded. The three main switching centers will be located in Nova Scotia, Ontario and Alberta. SAMSON terminal locations are distributed across the country and a significant effort will be expended in each province for construction, installation and test, power and air conditioning.

3. The invitation to tender will request bidders to indicate the regional distribution of their Canadian content.

LIP PROJECT "HANDICO À QUÉBEC"

Question No. 1,192—**Mr. Lambert (Bellechasse):**

1. What is the purpose of the LIP project "Handico à Québec", to which grants of $161,226 were made for a first project and $200,000 for a second project?

2. What are the names and addresses of those responsible for the projects?

[*Translation*]

Hon. Robert K. Andras (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. The projects are aimed to provide guidance and help in any manner or form to handicapped persons so that they may make a transition between their state of semi-dependance to total independance. Monitors are hired to teach them new skills and to assist them when visiting employers to offer their services. Furthermore, the projects provide ways and means of transportation to and from work. The handicapped are also assisted in their communications with governmental agencies most likely to help them.

2. Mr. Marc Ouellet, 3021 St. Siméon, Petit Village, Giffard, Mr. Réjean Fortin, 21 Thomas Chapais, Loretteville.

[*English*]

PROVISION OF MANPOWER AND UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE OFFICE SERVICES IN DELTA

Question No. 1,284—**Mr. Reynolds:**

Has the government any plans to put a Manpower and UIC office in Delta to serve the needs of over 55,000 people living in this area?

Mr. John M. Reid (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): In so far as the Department of Manpower and Immigration is concerned: No plans are being made to open a Canada Manpower Centre in Delta, B.C.

In so far as the Unemployment Insurance Commission is concerned: The Unemployment Insurance Commission is presently studying decentralization of its offices. It is not known at this time whether this study will affect the Delta area.

1972 INCOME TAX STATEMENT—CODED NUMBERS

Question No. 1,386—**Mr. Rose:**

1. On the 1972 Income Tax Statement of Farming and Income and Expenses, have coded numbers been added to the individual expense items for the first time and, if so, what is the purpose of these coded numbers?

2. Have other occupation forms been similarly coded and, if not, for what reason have farmers been singled out?

Hon. Robert Stanbury (Minister of National Revenue): In so far as the Department of National Revenue, Taxation, is concerned: 1. Yes. Coded numbers were added to facilitate direct keypunching for computer application of the information contained on Form T2042 (Statement of Farming Income and Expenses). This action on behalf of Statistics Canada was taken at the request of that agency under the authority of Section 23 of the Statistics Act.

2. No. The Department of National Revenue, Taxation has met the request of Statistics Canada that codes be assigned to Form T2042 for the reason stated above.

Order Paper Questions

WELFARE ASSISTANCE TO CHILDREN AGED 16 AND 17

Question No. 1,481—**Mr. Hueglin:**

1. Are children aged 16 and 17 able to obtain welfare or any other form of social assistance that would enable them to live independent of their name and, if so, on what basis?

2. (a) What are the statistics of children (i) 16 (ii) 17 receiving assistance as in Part 1 by month for the years 1970, 1971, 1972 (b) if these figures are not available, for what reason and are any actions planned to secure such information?

Hon. Marc Lalonde (Minister of National Health and Welfare): 1. Children 16 and 17 years of age may be granted social assistance in every province. However, the legislation governing eligibility and the rates of assistance paid vary from province to province. Under the Canada Assistance Plan, the federal government may share in the cost of such assistance granted on the basis of a needs test which takes into account an applicant's basic requirements and the income and resources available to him. A summary of the provincial situation follows: In Newfoundland, Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Ontario, Manitoba, Saskatchewan and British Columbia, persons 16 years of age and over may be granted social assistance. In most cases the provincial legislation requires that the possibility of family support be investigated, and that the young person register for employment or provide documentation attesting to school attendance or to the desirability of continuing at school. In Newfoundland and Saskatchewan persons 16 years of age and over who have established themselves as self-supporting may be granted assistance. In Manitoba, assistance to persons under 18 is provided on a non-ward basis by the child welfare authority. Quebec does not grant social assistance to persons under 18 except on an emergency basis. Exceptions are made for young people who must live away from home to receive medical treatment or educational courses not covered by Manpower training programs. In Alberta young people over 16 who are not attending school are usually considered responsible for their own support; but emergency social assistance may be provided when they are unable to obtain employment. Applicants for social assistance who are 16 and 17 years old may be provided with ward or non-ward care through the child welfare program. Young people are generally not required to return to a home situation which has been investigated and found unsatisfactory.

2. (a) Provincial governments are responsible for the administration of social assistance programs, and statistical data reported by them do not identify recipients of social assistance by single-year age groups. Hence, it is not possible to answer this enquiry at this time. (b) An Information System Team is presently engaged in a project which has as its central focus the design and development of a system for gathering and processing such statistical data.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT—NUMBER OF MASTER MARINERS WITH FOREIGN-GOING CERTIFICATES

Question No. 1,513—**Mr. Nowlan:**

What is (a) the number of Master Mariners with foreign-going certificates employed by the Department of Transport in shore jobs (b) the number of non-Canadian Master Mariners with foreign-going certificates employed by the Department (c) what

percentage of Master Mariners with foreign-going certificates employed by the Department are non-Canadian (d) how many of the jobs held by non-Canadian Master Mariners in the Department were advertised and how were they advertised?

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): (a) The number of Master Mariners with foreign-going certificates employed: (1) Ashore 86; (2) Afloat 58; Total 144; (b) The number of non-Canadian Master Mariners with foreign-going certificates: Total 16; (c) The percentage of Master Mariners with foreign-going certificates who are non-Canadian: Total 11 per cent; (d) The number of jobs held by non-Canadian Master Mariners advertised and how advertised; Total 16 (Recruited by the Public Service Commission through normal advertising procedures).

CANADIAN ARMED FORCES—REPLACEMENT VEHICLE FOR M-37 ¾-TON CARGO VEHICLES

Question No. 1,519—**Mr. Rowland:**

1. Are the Canadian Armed Forces currently conducting evaluation tests of a possible replacement vehicle for the M-37 ¾-ton cargo vehicles currently in service?

2. What are the names of the vehicles and their manufacturers currently being considered for this role?

3. What is the anticipated total cost of this purchase program?

4. What is the number of vehicles it is anticipated will be purchased and what is the anticipated per unit cost?

5. Will any eventual purchase contract contain the provision that the vehicle must be constructed in Canada?

6. Will any eventual purchase contract contain provisions for regional distribution of expenditures on the vehicle?

7. On what date may an announcement with respect to the letting of a contract be expected?

Mr. John M. Reid (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): I am informed by the Departments of National Defence and Supply and Services as follows: 1. Yes, evaluation trials are under way and are expected to end in June 1973.

2. Truck Utility 1¼-ton Chrysler Model XW350, Chrysler Canada Ltd., Windsor, Canada. Truck Utility Rover 101 Series, 1 Metric ton, The Rover Company Ltd., Warwickshire, England. Truck Utility, Volvo 4141 Series, 1 Metric ton, 4 Wheel drive, A. B. Volvo, Gothenberg, Sweden. Truck Utility, Volvo 4143 Series, 1.5 Metric ton, 6 wheel drive, A. B. Volvo, Gothenberg, Sweden.

3 and 4. Sufficient information is not yet available to allow a realistic estimate of either the unit or total program costs to be made at this time. It is expected, however, that approximately 3,300 vehicles may be purchased.

5. The provisions of the purchase contract cannot be determined until the source of supply has been selected. It is Canadian government policy always to take Canadian content into consideration when selecting a source of supply.

6. No special contract provisions are contemplated at this time.

7. As no decision has been made on which vehicle may be selected, no date has been set for any announcement.

[Mr. Nowlan.]

TREASURY BOARD—PERSONNEL

Question No. 1,531—**Mr. Knight:**

1. How many full-time employees were there as of January 31, 1970 in the Treasury Board?

2. How many of those employees were earning more than $15,000 annually, distributed according to $1,000 intervals?

3. How many full-time employees were there as of January 31, 1973 in the Treasury Board?

4. How many of those employees were earning more than $18,000 annually, distributed according to $1,000 intervals?

Hon. C. M. Drury (President of the Treasury Board):

1. 443.

2. 15,000 to 15,999, 14; 16,000 to 16,999, 8; 17,000 to 17,999, 13; 18,000 to 18,999, 25; 19,000 to 19,999, 11; 20,000 to 20,999, 31; 21,000 to 21,999, 23; 22,000 to 22,999, 5; 23,000 to 23,999, 9; 20,000 to 25,000; 24; 22,000 to 27,000 15; 24,000 to 30,000, 4; 29,000 to 35,000, 2; 40,000 to 45,000, 1.

3. 591.

4. 18,000 to 18,999, 22; 19,000 to 19,999, 22; 20,000 to 20,999, 34; 21,000 to 21,999, 18; 22,000 to 22,999, 22; 23,000 to 23,999, 18; 24,000 to 24,999, 21; 25,000 to 25,999, 36; 22,000 to 28,000, *SX 1, 42; 25,000 to 31,000, *SX 2, 17; 28,000 to 35,000, *SX 3, 6; 34,000 to 40,000, *SX 4, 2; 45,000 to 50,000, *DM 3, 1;

———

*Not separated to $1000 intervals in order to protect privacy of salary information in accordance with T.B. Circular 1969-206.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE—EXPENDITURE BY REGIONS

Question No. 1,542—**Mr. McKenzie:**

1. In the fiscal years 1968-69 to 1971-72, how much money was contracted to each of the five regions of Canada by the Department of Agriculture?

2. What was this in per capita terms for each region?

Hon. E. F. Whelan (Minister of Agriculture): (In thousands of dollars):

1. Region	1968-69	1969-70	1970-71	1971-72
Atlantic	16,999	13,130	12,860	15,012
Quebec	68,958	67,569	60,734	71,803
Ontario	76,241	85,825	82,238	104,469
Prairies	55,822	50,755	108,469	78,758
British Columbia	14,666	10,660	9,258	11,763
2. Atlantic	$ 8.46	$ 6.53	$ 6.37	$ 7.29
Quebec	11.63	11.29	10.10	11.91
Ontario	10.50	11.51	10.77	13.56
Prairies	16.16	14.50	30.79	22.24
British Columbia	7.32	5.16	4.33	5.34

CANADA PENSION DIVISION—DISABILITY PENSIONS

Question No. 1,545—**Mr. Rodriguez:**

1. What was the number of applications received by the Canada Pension Division for disability pensions between January 1 and December 31, 1972?

2. How many of the applications were (a) approved (b) rejected?

3. What was the average length of time taken before a decision was made on a claim?

4. How many of these applications were rejected under Section 43 (2)(a) of the legislation governing the Canada Pension Plan?

5. How many appeals (a) were heard (b) went to the Review Committee during this period and, in each case, how many appeals were (i) denied (ii) upheld?

Hon. Marc Lalonde (Minister of National Health and Welfare): 1. 19,516.

2. (a) 13,879; (b) 5,637.

3. The average processing time is now two and one half months, with half this period required by the applicant to gather the supporting documentation (medical evidence, evidence of earnings, etc.) required by the legislation, and the other half by the administration to thoroughly evaluate the evidence, make a decision, and bring the benefits into pay. (It should be noted that, under the law, no benefit is payable until the fourth month following the month the disability is determined to have occurred.)

4. 4,541.

5. (a) 1,210 appeals (to the Minister, First level); (i) 727 were not upheld; (ii) 483 were upheld (usually on the basis of new evidence or a change in the condition of the individual since the date of application); (b) 24 (appeals to Review Committee, Second level); (i) 5 were not upheld; (ii) 19 were upheld.

PENITENTIARY COSTS

Question No. 1,548—**Mr. Olaussen:**

1. What was the average cost to taxpayers for each prisoner in each year from 1952 to 1962?

2. What were the total prison costs and prisoner maintenance costs in each year from 1952 to 1962?

3. Are there proposed plans to cut down on prisoner maintenance costs?

Hon. Warren Allmand (Solicitor General): By the Ministry of the Solicitor General: 1 and 2

Year	Average per inmate	Penitentiary Costs	Inmate[1] Maintenance
	$	$	$
1952-53.....	1,885	9,301,295	7,909,549
1953-54.....	1,796	9,193,577	8,135,614
1954-55.....	1,907	10,501,364	8,823,908
1955-56.....	1,943	10,700,571	9,444,926
1956-57.....	2,213	12,022,137	10,714,139
1957-58.....	2,198	12,682,717	11,588,955
1958-59.....	2,572	16,189,463	11,934,287
1959-60.....	3,019	19,149,395	13,219,895
1960-61.....	2,725	18,362,863	15,224,334
1961-62.....	3,135	22,432,979	17,351,241

[1]Approximately 73 per cent of the total maintenance cost is attribuable to salaries.

3. The increased cost of salaries, services and supplies together with the need for increased staff in the professional categories make it unlikely that the cost of inmate maintenance will decrease. However, expenditures are strictly controlled and efforts are continually being made to keep costs to a minimum while maintaining essential services and adequate rehabilitative programs.

CANADA PENSION PLAN—COVERAGE FOR HOUSEWIVES

Question No. 1,664—**Mr. Fairweather:**

Has a study been undertaken by government departments to explore alternative methods of providing Canada Pension Plan coverage for housewives and with what result?

Hon. Marc Lalonde (Minister of National Health and Welfare): An Inter-departmental Study Group composed of the Department of National Health and Welfare, Department of Finance, Department of National Revenue—Taxation, Treasury Board, Ministry of State for Urban Affairs, Department of Insurance and the Secretary of State Department has met on several occasions to study this question and explore various alternatives. While the matter is still under review, no suitable method has yet been found to provide for the voluntary coverage of housewives under the Canada Pension Plan. At the moment, the same situation prevails in Quebec where such coverage is not yet available under the Quebec Pension Plan.

IMPAIRED DRIVING CONVICTIONS

Question No. 1,692—**Mr. Stewart (Okanagan-Kootenay):**

1. How many (a) men (b) women in Canada have one, two, three, four, five or more convictions for impaired driving?

2. How many (a) men (b) women in Canada have one, two, three, four, five or more convictions for drunk driving?

Mr. Herb Breau (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): Statistics Canada reports that: The table below provides a partial answer to this question. It shows the number of persons (no breakdown by sex is available) charged/convicted of impaired-/drunk driving (number of convictions per person not available) for Canada (Quebec and Alberta excluded) for 1969, the latest year for which data are available. In 1967, the latest year for which data from all provinces are available, Quebec accounted for 42.4 per cent of charges and 40.3 per cent of convictions, and Alberta accounted for 1.4 per cent of charges and 1.8 per cent of convictions.

Persons Charged/Convicted of Impaired/Drunk Driving, Canada (excluding Quebec and Alberta) 1969

	Number of Persons Charged	Number of Persons Convicted
1. Driving while ability impaired	167	149
2. Driving while intoxicated	12	11

Order Paper Questions

*CANADA PENSION PLAN APPLICATION

Question No. 1,700—**Mr. Fairweather:**

1. Under the Canada Pension Plan, how many cases (a) have not yet received a first decision on eligibility for disability benefits (b) were initially ruled ineligible for disability benefits and are now in some stage of review?

2. How many of the applications on each of these cases were first received (a) less than three months ago (b) between three months and six months ago (c) between six months and one year ago (d) between one and two years ago (e) over two years ago?

Mr. Norman A. Cafik (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of National Health and Welfare): Mr. Speaker, in view of the statistical nature of this response I would ask permission of the House for it to be printed as read.

Mr. Speaker: Is this agreed?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

[*Editor's note: The answer referred to above follows.*]

The length of time elapsed from the date the appeal was made to:

	The Minister, National Health and Welfare	Review Committee	The Pension Appeals Board
(a) less than 3 months	291 (82 per cent)	91 (76 per cent)	2 (20 per cent)
(b) 3 - 6 months	50 (14 per cent)	23 (19 per cent)	2 (20 per cent)
(c) 6 - 12 months	15 (4 per cent)	6 (5 per cent)	6 (60 per cent)
(d) 12 - 24 months	Nil (0 per cent)	Nil (0 per cent)	Nil (0 per cent)
(e) more than 24 months	Nil (0 per cent)	Nil (0 per cent)	Nil (0 per cent)
Total	356 (100 per cent)	120 (100 per cent)	10 (100 per cent)

SALE OF CANADIAN LANDS

Question No. 1,706—**Mr. Nystrom:**

1. Is the government aware of an advertisement in the magazine *Outdoor Life*, February 1973, advertising Canadian lands seized and sold for taxes which are being offered for sale in the United States?

2. Since it advertises for sale valuable urban land, river frontage and lake frontage, is it the intention of the government, in consultation with the provinces, to investigate sale of our valuable lands to foreigners?

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs): 1. Yes.

2. Land sales to foreigners is one of the items proposed for discussion at the next federal-provincial meeting of first ministers.

FROBISHER BAY POST OFFICE

Question No. 1,729—**Mr. Firth:**

Was a policy announced on March 12, 1973 to the people of Baffin Island and in particular, Pond Inlet, by the Frobisher Bay Post Office, to the effect that C.O.D. mail would be stopped at Frobisher Bay and forwarded to the settlements on receipt of the amount due and, if so (a) on what date was this policy initiated (b) for what reason was it initiated (c) how long will it continue?

Hon. André Ouellet (Postmaster General): Yes. (a) October 1969; (b) Frobisher Bay is the centralization point for 16 communities in the Northwest Territories. We have had serious difficulty in accounting for C.O.D. transactions at a number of points in our northern area. The Postmaster, therefore was instructed to apply the restrictive measures indicated whenever he experienced difficulty in collecting remittances for C.O.D.'s from one of his dependent offices. Extraordinary precautions were considered necessary in order to protect the department; (c) indefinitely.

[Mr. Breau.]

SECURITY FOR EMBASSIES AND CONSULATES OF FOREIGN COUNTRIES

Question No. 1,734—**Mr. Stewart (Okanagan-Kootenay):**

Does the government provide police and/or security service for embassies and consultaes of foreign countries and, if so, what was the cost of the service provided during each of the years 1960-72 inclusive?

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs): In so far as the Department of External Affairs is concerned, yes. The cost for each of the years 1960-72 was: Fiscal Years: 1960-1966, NIL; 1966-67, $40,736.48; 1967-68, $31,059.50; 1968-69, $43,430.00; 1969-70, $82,696.05; 1970-71, $180,377.73; 1971-72, $931,398.97; April 1-December 31, 1972, $975,000 (estimated).

AVERAGE AGE OF WAR PENSIONERS

Question No. 1,738—**Mr. Stewart (Okanagan-Kootenay):**

1. What is the average age of war pensioners?

2. How many war pensioners are (a) over 80 years of age (b) 70-79 (c) 60-69 (d) 50-59 (e) 40-49 (f) 30-39 (g) 20-29 (h) under 20 years of age?

Hon. Daniel J. MacDonald (Minister of Veterans Affairs): 1. As at December 31, 1972, World War I, 79.16 years; World War II, 57.98 years; Special Force (Korea) 47.59 years; all pensioners, 61.20 years.

2. (a) 9,791; (b) 18,542; (c) 24,822; (d) 58,784; (e) 9,527; (f) 16; (g) None; (h) None.

WAR VETERANS PENSIONS

Question No. 1,739—**Mr. Stewart (Okanagan-Kootenay):**

What was the total amount paid for veterans pensions during each of the years 1945 to 1972 inclusive?

Hon. Daniel J. MacDonald (Minister of Veterans Affairs):

Fiscal Year	No. of Pensions	Expenditure $
1945-1946	142,671	59,466,377
1946-1947	175,835	70,761,105
1947-1948	189,863	77,093,347
1948-1949	192,624	102,951,293
1949-1950	195,907	96,090,694
1950-1951	195,660	95,576,898
1951-1952	194,461	103,703,434
1952-1953	194,344	127,053,093
1953-1954	194,265	127,579,443
1954-1955	194,448	128,773,469
1955-1956	194,218	130,662,090
1956-1957	192,935	130,307,562
1957-1958	191,625	145,582,754
1958-1959	190,312	150,725,903
1959-1960	188,626	149,656,053
1960-1961	186,665	150,694,547
1961-1962	184,666	177,869,638
1962-1963	182,713	175,901,737
1963-1964	180,354	173,164,513
1964-1965	177,826	180,300,376
1965-1966	174,567	185,532,099
1966-1967	172,098	195,883,055
1967-1968	169,129	205,571,352
1968-1969	165,608	223,293,341
1969-1970	162,312	218,527,992
1970-1971	159,126	212,893,033
1971-1972	155,373	231,348,985
1-4-72 to 31-12-72	153,285	179,044,452

EMPLOYMENT BY GOVERNMENT OF MR. JERRY PRINGLE

Question No. 1,753—**Mr. Cossitt:**

1. How much money has been paid by the government, before any deductions at source, in the nature of salary, honorarium or retainers to Mr. Jerry Pringle between October 30, 1972 and up to an including March 31, 1973?

2. Has any money been paid to Mr. Jerry Pringle as an expense allowance of any kind whatsoever and, if so (a) what is the total amount of such expenses paid (b) what is the exact description of each expense and the amount involved in each case?

Mr. Léopold Corriveau (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Agriculture): 1. Mr. Jerry Pringle received a fee from January 15, 1973 based on a service contract in the amount of $5,000 for a three-month period.

2. As of March 31, 1973, Mr. Jerry Pringle has not been paid an expense allowance; (a) Not applicable; (b) Not applicable.

EMPLOYMENT BY GOVERNMENT OF MR. BRUCE HOWARD

Question No. 1,757—**Mr. Cossitt:**

1. How much money has been paid by the government, before any deductions at source, in the nature of salary, honorarium or retainers to Mr. Bruce Howard between October 30, 1972 and up to and including March 31, 1973?

2. Has any money been paid to Mr. Bruce Howard as an expense allowance of any kind whatsoever and, if so (a) what is the total amount of such expenses paid (b) what is the exact description of each expense and the amount involved in each case?

Hon. Marc Lalonde (Minister of National Health and Welfare): 1. Mr. Bruce Howard received a salary from November 27, 1972 to March 31, 1973, based on an annual salary range of $17,500 to $20,000.

2. No.

EMPLOYMENT BY GOVERNMENT OF REV. M.A. McBRIDE

Question No. 1,760—**Mr. Cossitt:**

1. How much money has been paid by the government, before any deductions at source, in the nature of salary, honorarium or retainers to Rev. Murray McBride between October 30, 1972 and up to and including March 31, 1973?

2. Has any money been paid to Rev. Murray McBride as an expense allowance of any kind whatsoever and, if so (a) what is the total amount of such expenses paid (b) what is the exact description of each expense and the amount involved in each case?

Hon. André Ouellet (Postmaster General): 1. Reverend M.A. McBride received salary from December 18, 1972 to March 31, 1973 based on an annual salary of $17,500 to $20,000.

2. Travel Expenses, $427.59; Total Expenses, $427.59.

CMHC—INSURANCE FEES

Question No. 1,764—**Mr. Stewart (Okanagan-Kootenay):**

1. What was the total amount received on account of insurance fee on approved loans made by Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation in each year since its inception?

2. What amount, if any, has been paid out of this fund in each year since the fee has been collected?

3. What is the aggregate amount of all NHA loans covered by the insurance fee?

4. To what use is the insurance fee fund put by the government and what income is derived from it?

Hon. Ron Basford (Minister of State for Urban Affairs): 1, 2 and 3.

Mortgage Loan Insurance Plan

(Administered by Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation, National Housing Act, Section 9)

Year	Receipts		Expenditures		
	Fees and Premiums Received	Other Income (Net)	Claims Paid and Legal Expenses	Other Expenses	Insurance or Guarantee in Force[1]
	$000	$000	$000	$000	$ million
1954	2,390	5	—	—	124
1955	9,237	152	—	—	529
1956	9,840	521	—	—	1,083
1957	7,279	978	38	—	1,425
1958	13,816	1,562	62	—	2,100
1959	13,146	2,530	275	—	2,733
1960	8,456	4,555	1,497	*	3,090
1961	10,971	9,932	6,730	*	3,640
1962	11,577	12,266	8,579	—	4,123
1963	9,869	17,909	13,944	—	4,499
1964	12,063	17,408	14,731	—	4,934
1965	13,483	21,148	15,400	—	5,321
1966	14,291	18,797	10,373	—	5,789
1967	16,491	14,798	4,644	697	6,311
1968	14,640	13,945	2,102	590	6,732
1969	14,995	16,354	2,410	501	7,412
1970	10,711	18,510	2,705	479	8,051
1971	16,361	24,144	7,389	565	9,225
1972	20,193	41,125	29,337	1,074	10,056

*Less than $1,000.

[1]As at December 31.

4. The Mortgage Loan Insurance Fund is used to pay claims on defaulted mortgages made by approved lenders and CMHC, and insured under the terms of the National Housing Act. The income of the Mortgage Loan Insurance Fund is derived from: Rental revenue from repossessed properties; mortgage payments from proceeds of sold properties; and interest from investments in bonds issued, or guaranteed, by the Government of Canada.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT—SPEED LIMITS FOR LARGE VESSELS

Question No. 1,772—**Mr. Cossitt:**

Has the Department of Transport established speed limits for large vessels using the main boat channel between Prescott, Ontario and Kingston, Ontario and, if so (a) what are the limits in specific areas (b) how are these limits enforced and by whom (c) what plans does the Department have for the strictest possible enforcement during the year 1973 in order to prevent damage to shoreline property by excessive waves?

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): In so far as The St. Lawrence Seaway Authority is concerned: The St. Lawrence Seaway Authority, together with the Saint Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation, have established speed limits for the main channel between Prescott and Kingston for all commercial vessels in excess of forty feet in overall length. These limits have been in effect since June 1, 1970 and are as follows: (a) Prescott to Blind Bay ½ mile east of Light 162, 15 miles per hour; Blind Bay ½ mile east of Light 162 to Deer Island Light 186, 13 miles per hour; Deer Island Light 186 to Bartlett Point Light 227, 10 miles per hour upbound, 12 miles per hour downbound; Bartlett Point Light 227 to Tibbetts Point, 15 miles per hour. (b) Limits are enforced by both Seaway entities. The St. Lawrence Seaway Authority carries out speed surveillance throughout the Lake St. Francis-Blind Bay area. This surveillance is carried out with the help of radar equipment. Locations are selected at random and checks are carried out on a 24-hour basis. The Saint Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation is responsible for speed surveillance in the area from Blind Bay to Tibbetts Point. (c) Recognizing the high water level situation in the upper St. Lawrence River area, the Seaway entities introduced temporary speed restrictions on March 27, 1973 in the following areas: Ogden Island Buoy 99 to Blind Bay, from 15 miles per hour to 14 miles per hour; Bartlett Point Light 227 to Tibbetts Point, from 15 miles per hour to 13 miles per hour. Agreement has been reached between the two entities for further temporary speed reductions from Tibbetts Point on Lake Ontario to Lancaster on Lake St. Francis when the level of Lake Ontario reaches a critical point. The St. Lawrence Seaway Authority plans to continue its speed enforcement program with particular emphasis being given to sensitive areas. Random radar surveillance will be carried out in all speed restricted areas both during night and daytime hours, including holidays and weekends.

AMOUNT BUDGETED FOR POLICE AND SECURITY PLANNING

Question No. 1,774—**Mr. Cossitt:**

What was the total amount budgeted for the fiscal year 1972-1973 for the Police and Security Planning and Analysis Group in the Department of the Solicitor General?

Hon. Warren Allmand (Solicitor General): The total expenditure for 1972-1973 of the Security Planning and Research Group (now known as the Police and Security

Planning and Analysis Group) was $192,000, against a budget allocation of $271,000 for the same period.

1936 PERPETUAL BONDS

Question No. 1,775—**Mr. Cossitt:**

Is the government giving reconsideration to the matter of calling the 1936 Perpetual Bonds bearing 3 percent interest in order to assist many elderly people who are holders of these securities and, if so, on what date can a decision be expected on the matter?

Hon. John N. Turner (Minister of Finance): Careful consideration was given to establishing a maturity date on the perpetual bonds prior to September 15, 1966, when the last coupon on the coupon registered bond certificates became payable. The federal government has from time to time reviewed its policy with respect to these bonds and does not feel that it is in the country's best interest to redeem or fix a maturity date on these obligations at this time.

BUDGET FOR POLICE AND SECURITY PLANNING AND ANALYSIS GROUP, 1972-73

Question No. 1,776—**Mr. Cossitt:**

What is the reason that the estimates of the Department of the Solicitor General for the year 1972-1973 contained no specific budget for the Police and Security Planning and Analysis Group?

Hon. Warren Allmand (Solicitor General): The Police and Security Planning and Analysis Group is an integral part of the headquarters of the Department of the Solicitor General (The Secretariat of the Ministry of the Solicitor General). Estimates of the Group are included in the total estimates for the headquarters (Secretariat) under the Activity-Departmental Administration.

BUDGET FOR POLICE AND SECURITY PLANNING AND ANALYSIS GROUP, 1973-74

Question No. 1,777—**Mr. Cossitt:**

What is the reason that the estimates of the Department of the Solicitor General for the year 1973-1974 contain no specific budget for the Police and Security Planning and Analysis Group?

Hon. Warren Allmand (Solicitor General): The Police and Security Planning and Analysis Group is an integral part of the headquarters of the Department of the Solicitor General (the Secretariat of the Ministry of the Solicitor General). Estimates of the Group are included in the total estimates for the headquarters (Secretariat) under Activity-Departmental Administration.

BUDGET FOR POLICE AND SECURITY PLANNING AND ANALYSIS GROUP, 1973-74

Question No. 1,778—**Mr. Cossitt:**

What is the total budget allocated for the fiscal year 1973-1974 for the Police and Security Planning and Analysis Group in the Department of the Solicitor General?

Hon. Warren Allmand (Solicitor General): $278,000.

Order Paper Questions

SUBSIDIES TO TRANSPORTATION INDUSTRIES

Question No. 1,786—**Mr. Stewart (Okanagan-Kootenay):**

What was the total subsidy paid to the transportation industry during each year 1960 to 1972 inclusive?

Mr. Herb Breau (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): Statistics Canada reports that: Subsidies paid to Transportation Industry by the federal government are as follows:

Fiscal Year	$'000's
1961-62	97,004
1962-63	99,433
1963-64	95,680
1964-65	99,843
1965-66	120,784
1966-67	147,953
1967-68	154,731
1968-69	123,318
1969-70	117,058
1970-71	95,224
1971-72	94,455

Note: (1) The type of analysis required to provide this information was not conducted for those years prior to 1961-62; (2) data provided refers to subsidies only (capital assistance not included).

ELIGIBILITY UNDER VETERANS' LAND ACT

Question No. 1,822—**Mr. Stewart (Okanagan-Kootenay):**

1. How many veterans of the Second World War used the establishment credit under VLA?

2. Do any veterans still have the option to obtain benefits under VLA?

Hon. Daniel J. MacDonald (Minister of Veterans Affairs): 1. 129,603 veterans were established under the Veterans' Land Act from inception to December 31, 1972. Records are not maintained separately for World War II and Special Force veterans who served in Korea.

2. Veterans who hold a Certificate of Qualification are eligible to apply for benefits under Parts I and II of the Veterans' Land Act until March 31, 1974. Those veterans who are established may apply for additional financial assistance, to the maximum available, until March 31, 1977, provided that their agreement with the Director is in force at the time they apply. All eligible veterans, whether or not they hold a Certificate of Qualification, may apply for home construction assistance under Part II of the Veterans' Land Act until March 31, 1974.

AMOUNT LOANED UNDER VLA PROGRAM

Question No. 1,823—**Mr. Stewart (Okanagan-Kootenay):**

What was the total amount loaned to veterans of World War II under the VLA Program?

Hon. Daniel J. MacDonald (Minister of Veterans Affairs): Records are not maintained separately for World

War II and Special Force veterans who served in Korea. The following funds were disbursed to established veterans under the Veterans' Land Act from inception to December 31, 1972: $1,084,050,976 to establish veterans as full-time farmers, part-time farmers and commercial fisherman; $12,577,917 to establish veterans on Provincial or Dominion Lands; $3,818,626 to establish veterans on Indian Reserve Lands; $38,483,895 to build houses for veterans under Part II of the Veterans' Land Act.

HIGHWAY NOISE REDUCTION ENFORCEMENT

Question No. 1,858—**Mr. Mather:**

Is consideration being given to consulting the provinces and promoting highway noise reduction enforcement?

Mr. William Rompkey (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of the Environment): Yes.

* * *

QUESTIONS PASSED AS ORDERS FOR RETURNS

DEPARTMENT OF INDIAN AFFAIRS AND NORTHERN DEVELOPMENT PUBLICITY EXPENDITURES

Question No. 89—**Mr. Nystrom:**

1. What were the amounts of money spent by the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development on publicity and/or information in each of the fiscal years 1968-69, 1969-70, 1970-71, 1971-72?

2. What were the names and addresses of firms or individuals who received these contracts, what amounts of money were spent in each case and what was the purpose of each contract?

3. What contracts for publicity and/or information were awarded in the current fiscal year, what are the names and addresses of contractees, what are the amounts of money involved in each and what is the purpose of each contract?

Return tabled.

DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT—RESEARCH EXPENDITURES

Question No. 134—**Mr. Nystrom:**

1. What was the total amount of money spent in each of the fiscal years 1968-69, 1969-70, 1970-71, 1971-72 by the Department of the environment on contracts to outside persons and organizations for research, development and other consulting services?

2. What are the names and addresses of these outside persons and organizations and what amounts of money were involved in each contract?

3. What was the purpose of each contract and title of each report submitted?

4. What are the names and addresses of outside persons and organizations who were awarded contracts for research, development and other consulting services in the current fiscal year, what are the amounts of money involved in each case and what is the purpose of each contract?

Return tabled.

DEFENCE INDUSTRY PRODUCTION PROGRAM

Question No. 157—**Mr. Broadbent:**

1. What were the names of the corporation which received cash grants under the Defence Industry Productivity Program (DIP), in each of the fiscal years 1968-69, 1969-70, 1970-71, 1971-72, 1972-73 to date and, in each case, what were the amounts of money committed and paid?

2. What are the objectives of the Program?

3. Has the department conducted any evaluative study of the Program and, if so, what was the date of the latest report?

Return tabled.

COST OF FURNISHINGS FOR GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS 1968 TO DATE

Question No. 180—**Mr. Harding:**

What was the total cost of purchase and installation of office furnishings for (a) furniture (b) carpets and carpeting (c) draperies and blinds (d) plants (live and artificial) (e) others in each department and agency and for each of the fiscal years 1968-69, 1969-70, 1970-71, 1971-72, 1972-73 to date?

Return tabled.

GOVERNMENT LOANS TO MUNICIPALITIES IN CANADA

Question No. 487—**Mr. Beaudoin:**

By year since 1867, has the government loaned money to any municipality in Canada and, if so (a) at what rate of interest (b) for what term?

Return tabled.

NUMBER OF BILINGUAL POSITIONS IN PUBLIC SERVICE AT WINNIPEG

Question No. 529—**Mr. McKenzie:**

In each calendar year 1970, 1971 and 1972 (a) how many positions in the public service at Winnipeg were declared bilingual (b) how many new appointments were made to these positions (c) what proportion of these new positions required bilingual employees (d) what proportion of these bilingual employees were predominately French-speaking (e) how many public servants in Winnipeg were displaced as a result of bilingualism?

Return tabled.

FEDERAL REVENUE FROM CIGARETTES

Question No. 585—**Mr. Mather:**

In each year 1970, 1971 and 1972 (a) what, in dollars, was the total federal revenue from cigarettes (b) what was the total federal expenditure on smoking and health (c) what was the department of National Health and Welfare estimate of deaths, days lost through illness and cost to the economy of cigarette-induced disease?

Return tabled.

FEDERAL ASSISTANCE TO DAY-CARE CENTERS

Question No. 850—**Mr. Lambert (Bellechasse):**

How much has the government spent on assistance to day-care centres in each province during the fiscal year 1971-72?

Return tabled.

CANADA'S NATIONAL PARKS

Question No. 887—**Mr. Clark (Rocky Mountain):**

1. In each of the past ten years, what studies have been undertaken concerning (a) land rentals in Canada's National Parks (b) leasehold policy in Canada's National Parks (c) townsite administration in Canada's National Parks (d) land appraisals in Canada's National Parks (e) any other matter relating to policy or administrative changes in the National Parks?

2. In each study (a) what was the cost (b) who were the authors (c) what was the date of completion (d) what was the date of publication and, if not published (i) for what reason (ii) on what date will it be published?

Return tabled.

LIP PROJECTS—QUEBEC

Question No. 1,010—**Mr. Fortin:**

For each federal constituency in the Province of Quebec in 1972-73 (a) how many local initiatives projects were submitted for approval (b) how many were approved, what was the amount involved in each case and on what date was each approved (c) how many projects were rejected and what is the exact amount of the total projects rejected (d) how many projects are still under consideration?

Return tabled.

LIP PROJECTS—LOTBINIÈRE CONSTITUENCY

Question No. 1,011—**Mr. Fortin:**

1. In 1972-73, how many local initiatives projects were submitted by citizens from the constituency of Lotbinière?

2. (a) How many were accepted (b) what was the amount of each accepted project (c) on what date was each project accepted?

3. (a) How many projects were rejected (b) on what date was each project rejected (c) for what reasons (d) what is the exact amount of each of the rejected projects?

4. (a) What projects are still being considered (b) what is the amount of each?

Return tabled.

LIP PROJECTS—QUEBEC

Question No. 1,060—**Mr. Lambert (Bellechasse):**

1. How many public servants were responsible for analysing, selecting and approving LIP projects submitted from the Province of Quebec?

2. What were their names?

3. Did the Montreal Regional Office have responsibility and authority for approving or rejecting such projects and, if not, was there another selection committee in Ottawa and, if so, what were the names and duties of each of its members?

4. Were there specific standards to be strictly applied by the public servants in assessing the acceptance or rejection of a project and, if so, what were such standards?

5. Were priority projects (a) those related to recreation and submitted by private organizations (b) those concerning public works and submitted by public organizations?

Return tabled.

Order Paper Questions

TOTAL AMOUNT OF LIP GRANTS, QUEBEC

Question No. 1,196—**Mr. Matte:**

What was the total amount granted to each of the 74 constituencies in Quebec under LIP?

Return tabled.

QUEBEC—NUMBER OF ACCEPTED LIP PROJECTS AND UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

Question No. 1,272—**Mr. Matte:**

For each of the 74 constituencies in Quebec (a) how many LIP projects were accepted (b) what was the unemployment rate?

Return tabled.

DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL REVENUE—PERSONNEL

Question No. 1,414—**Mr. Knight:**

1. How may full-time employees were there as of January 31, 1970 in the Department of National Revenue?

2. How many of those employees were earning more than $15,000 annually, distributed according to $1,000 intervals?

3. How many full-time employees were there as of January 31, 1973 in the Department of National Revenue?

4. How many of those employees were earning more than $18,000 annually, distributed according to $1,000 intervals?

Return tabled.

LIP PROJECTS 1972-73

Question No. 1,461—**Mr. Haliburton:**

1. How much money was committed for all LIP projects for 1972-73 season?

2. What is the total cost of administrative and supervisory services borne by the government in relation to LIP?

3. By province, what amount was committed to LIP?

4. By constituencies in Nova Scotia, Quebec, Ontario and Manitoba, what amount of money was committed to LIP?

5. What is the total amount committed to projects which will provide tangible continuing facilities such as houses, public buildings, play grounds, etc?

6. What is the total amount committed to projects, the central purpose of which will not leave any tangible facilities in the community when completed?

7. What is the total amount committed to projects in which provincial or municipal administrations are participating, either directly or indirectly?

8. How many grants have been allocated?

9. How many of the program are being carried out by an organization which was in receipt of LIP funds in 1971-72?

Return tabled.

NUMBER OF GRAIN HOPPER CARS IN USE

Question No. 1,546—**Mr. Masniuk:**

1. What is the number of grain hopper cars currently in use by (a) CNR (b) CPR?

2. What principal tracks are used for the grain hopper cars by (a) CNR (b) CPR?

3. What is the maximum number of grain hopper car units which may be carried by these principal tracks?

Oral Questions

4. Does the government consider the present handling capacity adequate and, if not, what are its intentions toward rectifying any inadequacies?

Return tabled.

EMBASSIES AND CONSULATES IN CANADA

Question No. 1,735—**Mr. Stewart (Okanagan-Kootenay):**

How many embassies and/or consulates are there in Canada, what countries are represented and where is each embassy and/or consulate located?

Return tabled.

● (1410)

Mr. Orlikow: Mr. Speaker, I have had a series of six questions dealing with Air Canada, Nos. 1182 to 1187, on the order paper since February 26, a period of some ten weeks. I wonder if something could be done to facilitate obtaining the answers. The questions are not that difficult.

ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

FOOD PRICES

DATE OF ESTABLISHMENT OF REVIEW BOARD—NATURE OF TERMS OF REFERENCE—METHOD OF REPORTING

Hon. Robert L. Stanfield (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs whether he can now give us a definite date when the proposed food prices review board will be established, it now being more than a month since the committee made its interim report and about ten days since the minister announced his intention to establish such a review board? Can the minister give us a firm date, or is he having trouble finding people to serve in this rather useless role?

Hon. Herb Gray (Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs): Mr. Speaker, there is no trouble in finding people to serve on the board. The work of identifying potential members has not yet been completed. Therefore I am not in a position to give a definite date when the formal appointments will be made.

Mr. Stanfield: Perhaps the minister might tell us whether it will be this year or next. Can he tell us whether the terms of reference of the Prices Review Board will include any guidelines with regard to costs, profits and price increases, or will the board have to establish its own guidelines as a result of laborious and long research?

Mr. Gray: Mr. Speaker, the terms of reference of the board will be set out in the order in council appointing the commissioners, but I can direct my hon. friend to the statement I made about the plan for the board a few days ago.

[Mr. Masniuk.]

Mr. Stanfield: It is because I read the statement of the hon. gentleman that I have asked the question.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Stanfield: Is it the intention that a member of the board who considers it appropriate may make a report on his own or will it be necessary that all members of the board act in concert? I ask this question particularly because I understand it is the minister's intention to have the board represent different points of view in the country.

Mr. Gray: I would have to check into this further, but I understand that basically the reports would be reports of the board.

REVIEW BOARD—METHOD OF REPORTING—CONTINUANCE OF SPECIAL COMMITTEE

Mr. James A. McGrath (St. John's East): Mr. Speaker, as a supplementary question may I ask the minister whether, in accordance with the recommendations of the parliamentary committee, he intends to have the Prices Review Board report through him to parliament and, if not, why not?

Hon. Herb Gray (Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs): Mr. Speaker, I announced that, in order to confirm the independence of the board, it will be able to release its reports directly for the use of parliament, the public and the government without the necessity of having the report go first to some minister before they can be made available to those concerned. I think this is quite consistent with the main thrust of the recommendation of the committee that this board be independent.

Mr. McGrath: In view of the fact that the minister has circumvented parliament by using the Inquiries Act, and in view of the fact that act will give the board no more and no less power than the Special Committee on Trends in Food Prices, thereby making the special committee redundant, is it the government's intention to continue the Special Committee on Trends in Food Prices and will the committee be given new terms of reference in view of the obvious redundancy?

Mr. Gray: Mr. Speaker, the government has not circumvented parliament by announcing its decision to take action under the Inquiries Act. The Inquiries Act is an act of parliament, and the government is using authority already given it by parliament.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Gray: Specifically, Mr. Speaker, this board will have very wide and deep powers under the Inquiries Act. I invite the hon. member to take the trouble to read the Inquiries Act and then he will know what I mean.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Gray: Further, Mr. Speaker, if I could have another 30 seconds—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. Perhaps it might be easier to allow the hon. member his supplementary and then the minister could have another 30 seconds.

Mr. McGrath: Mr. Speaker, may I ask the minister if it is his intention to appoint Professor Young as Chairman of the Prices Review Board so that he can at least salvage something from the Prices and Incomes Commission?

Mr. Gray: Mr. Speaker, I think the hon. member will just have to wait to see who is appointed so that he can try to salvage something from his very negative approach to a very constructive proposal.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

REQUEST FOR STATEMENT ON WAYS CONTEMPLATED BY GOVERNMENT TO IMPLEMENT REVIEW BOARD RECOMMENDATIONS

Mr. Terry Grier (Toronto-Lakeshore): Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the minister whether he will give consideration to making an early statement in the House of Commons to expand more fully, in a more detailed manner, on the ways which the minister and the government would contemplate for following up or implementing recommendations of the Prices Review Board?

Hon. Herb Gray (Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs): Mr. Speaker, I will be happy to take that under advisement with my colleagues.

REVIEW BOARD—POSSIBLE DIRECTION BY GOVERNMENT RESPECTING SUBJECTS OF INQUIRY

Mr. H. W. Danforth (Kent-Essex): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a supplementary question to the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs. Will the minister, on behalf of the government, be directing certain courses of inquiry for this board on the basis of the fact that there has been a tremendous increase in the input costs of farmers and farm suppliers, which can do no other than be reflected in higher food prices? Will the minister give this priority and direct that immediate action be taken on behalf of this industry?

Hon. Herb Gray (Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs): Mr. Speaker, as I pointed out in my statement a few days ago, the board is intended to be independent, and its terms of reference will enable it to look into any aspects pertaining to changes in food prices. I think this could certainly cover the areas mentioned by the hon. member.

* * *

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

VIET NAM—CONTINUANCE OF CANADIAN PARTICIPATION IN CONTROL AND SUPERVISION COMMISSION IN LIGHT OF FURTHER ATTACKS ON PERSONNEL—REQUEST FOR STATEMENT

Mr. Andrew Brewin (Greenwood): Mr. Speaker, my question is addressed to the Secretary of State for External Affairs. In view of the repeated incidents of attacks on personnel of the International Control Commission and the continuation of hostilities throughout Indo-China in breach of the Paris peace agreement, will the minister make a statement in the House at an early date on the continuation of Canada's contribution to the ICCS after the 60 days we are now committed to have expired?

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, the incidents the hon. member has referred to are part of the accumulating evidence. As I have said publicly, and I have no hesitation in saying it here in the House, there has not been the kind of improvement in conditions of operation of the ICCS which I laid down as one of the reasons for staying on. In fact, the situation has deteriorated rather than improved. However, we have been urged to be patient and we shall continue to observe events, probably until the end of the month.

Mr. Brewin: If the conditions to which the minister refers have not been carried out, and I must agree with him that they have not, why does he not now notify the various parties that Canada cannot continue this useless role?

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

• (1420)

Mr. Sharp: Mr. Speaker, the peace agreement remains in effect. Although both the United States and the North Vietnamese have sent notes to each of the members of the International Conference on Viet Nam and both of them have expressed their determination to see that the peace agreement is carried out, it has obviously been breached. However, I do not think it is for us to judge whether the peace agreement itself has been broken or not. That is for the signatories of the peace agreement to decide. Our function as members of the ICCS is to report upon infractions that are brought to the attention of the International Control Commission.

* * *

[*Translation*]

SOCIAL SECURITY

OLD AGE PENSION—POSSIBILITY OF LOWERING ELIGIBLE AGE TO 60—DISCUSSION AT RECENT FEDERAL-PROVINCIAL CONFERENCE

Mr. Réal Caouette (Témiscamingue): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of National Health and Welfare.

In view of the increasing concern of the whole population of Canada with the payment of old age security pensions at 60, could the minister state whether he raised this question during the recent conference with his provincial opposite numbers?

Hon. Marc Lalonde (Minister of National Health and Welfare): Mr. Speaker, that question, as well as many others, has been discussed. The whole field of social security was dealt with, including the question mentioned by the hon. member.

[*Later:*]

DATE OF NEXT CONFERENCE OF WELFARE MINISTERS

Mr. Réal Caouette (Témiscamingue): Mr.Speaker, I should like to put a supplementary question.

Can the minister tell us roughly when he intends to meet again the provincial ministers of social welfare?

Hon. Marc Lalonde (Minister of National Health and Welfare): Mr. Speaker, two weeks ago, in my statement following the conference, I indicated that the next meeting is planned for September. In the meantime, the deputy ministers and government officials will meet.

[*English*]

INCLUSION OF YEARS LIVED IN GREAT BRITAIN BY FORMER RESIDENTS TOWARD QUALIFYING FOR CANADIAN OLD AGE PENSION

Mr. Duncan M. Beattie (Hamilton Mountain): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of National Health and Welfare. In light of a recently signed agreement between the minister and the British High Commissioner which will allow former residents of Canada now living in Britain to receive British pensions at age 65, can the minister inform the House whether negotiations are taking place between Canada and Great Britain in order to establish reciprocal arrangements which would allow former residents of the United Kingdom to have their years of residence in that country count toward qualifying for the old age security pension in Canada and, if so, can the minister advise the House when reports on these discussions will be made available?

[*Translation*]

Hon. Marc Lalonde (Minister of National Health and Welfare): Mr. Speaker, the matter has been discussed with several countries on many occasions and not only with the United Kingdom. I do not believe I shall be in a position to report to the House in this regard in the near future.

* * *

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

INQUIRY RESPECTING GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE TO MARC CAYER

Mr. Claude Wagner (Saint-Hyacinthe): Mr. Speaker, I wish to put a question to the right hon. Prime Minister.

Can he tell us whether, since his return to Canada, Mr. Marc Cayer has been offered any help whatsoever by the government to facilitate his reintegration into Canadian society?

[*English*]

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, perhaps I may be privileged to reply to this question. As the hon. gentleman knows, Mr. Marc Cayer was afforded all courtesy and help possible on his return from Viet Nam. He never suggested that he wanted to have any employment with the Canadian government. If he does, there are no doubt opportunities for which his abilities would well suit him. As for a rehabilitation program, Canada has none which could be suited to Mr. Marc Cayer's very special case.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Wagner: Mr. Speaker, I wish to put a supplementary to the Secretary of State for External Affairs.

Has he been in touch with Mr. Marc Cayer with a view to benefitting from the experience the latter gained in Viet Nam?

[*English*]

Mr. Sharp: Yes, Mr. Speaker. My officials had the opportunity of talking to Mr. Cayer about his experiences there and he knows we would always be willing to listen to anything else he would like to tell us.

* * *

PENITENTIARIES

TRANSFER OF MAXIMUM SECURITY INMATES TO COWANSVILLE—ADEQUACY OF SECURITY—EFFECT ON PAROLE AND REHABILITATION

Mr. Heward Grafftey (Brome-Missisquoi): Mr. Speaker, the urgency of my question relates to the massive escapes of maximum security prisoners from the medium security institute at Cowansville, Quebec. Was the Solicitor General informed when maximum security inmates were transferred to the medium security institute at Cowansville, or were the transfers made by his officials without his knowledge?

Hon. Warren Allmand (Solicitor General): Mr. Speaker, I was not made aware of this. I might say that the people who are there who could be considered to be maximum security inmates, and I do consider them that in many cases, were classified as medium security inmates. However, after looking at the records of many of these men it is pretty obvious that they are maximum security inmates. There has been a serious overpopulation problem with respect to maximum security inmates and we are trying to find places for them at the present time.

Mr. Grafftey: When maximum security type prisoners were placed in Cowansville, did the Solicitor General order or receive a thorough analysis of the adequacy of the security provisions at Cowansville, and has the minister assessed the effects of these transfers on parole procedures and on modern penal reform and rehabilitation measures which were being carried out successfully at Cowansville with hundreds of medium security type inmates and at similar institutions across the country?

Mr. Allmand: Mr. Speaker, there are approximately 30 maximum security type prisoners at Cowansville, which has approximately 420 inmates. These inmates were not transferred there all at once but over a period of time. In Quebec there are approximately 600 maximum security inmates, and Archambault, which is the principal maximum security institution, only holds 450 inmates. So they have have had to put some of the maximum security

inmates at Cowansville, some at Leclerc and some in the special correctional units.

Mr. Grafftey: Mr. Speaker, is the minister not aware that the 12 prisoners who escaped were maximum security inmates? What affect has this had on Cowansville which is a medium security institution designed to rehabilitate inmates?

Mr. Allmand: Mr. Speaker, all those who escaped were not maximum security inmates. However, the moving of maximum security inmates to Cowansville has contributed to the general population problem and has created a lot of tension with the staff and inmates. It has led to a situation in which there are not enough staff to handle all the inmates from the point of view of programs, security and many other aspects. We are now looking for solutions to that problem. On a temporary basis we are applying maximum security measures to Cowansville Penitentiary.

Mr. Grafftey: In view of the good work carried on at Cowansville, will the minister assure the House that in future no more maximum security inmates will be transferred there?

Mr. Allmand: Mr. Speaker, we, of course, want Cowansville to return to being a medium security institution as soon as possible. However, if maximum security inmates are sent to penitentiary we have to put them some place. We are not going to put them back on the street.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Allmand: As I said, Archambault—

Mr. Bell: Explain.

Mr. Allmand: Obviously, I have to explain quite a bit.

Mr. Bell: Where is Rivard now?

Mr. Allmand: As I said, the principal maximum security institute in Quebec is Archambault. However, there is no space left at Archambault and at all our maximum security institutions throughout Canada there is a serious overpopulation problem. We have to find additional space outside of the present regular maximum security institutions.

Mr. Grafftey: Mr. Speaker, may I ask one further supplementary question.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I think the hon. member for Surrey-White Rock has a supplementary.

* * *

INCOME TAX

RECONSIDERATION OF PROPOSED CORPORATE TAX REDUCTIONS IN LIGHT OF INCREASED PROFITS

Mr. Barry Mather (Surrey-White Rock): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Finance. Having in mind the almost daily reports of greatly increased corporation profits in Canada, is consideration being given to reconsidering the government's earlier idea of reducing corporation taxation rates?

Hon. John N. Turner (Minister of Finance): Mr. Speaker, the improvement in the return on capital for the business community in no way lessens the need for the corporate measures proposed in 1972 which were meant to enhance Canada's ability to compete in the medium and long term with the new economic blocs in the world.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I apologize to the hon. member for Fundy-Royal who I believe wished to ask a supplementary to the previous question. I thought the hon. member for Surrey-White Rock was rising on the same question and that is why he was recognized.

* * *

• (1430)

NATIONAL PAROLE BOARD

SUGGESTED FILLING OF VACANCIES AND INCREASE IN MEMBERSHIP TO ENABLE RESUMPTION OF INTERVIEWING OF INMATES AT PENITENTIARIES

Mr. R. Gordon L. Fairweather (Fundy-Royal): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a supplementary question to the Solicitor General. Will the government soon fill the vacancies on the National Parole Board and add to the membership of the board so that it may resume its very useful practice of interviewing inmates in the various penal institutions across the country, a practice they have had to stop because the government has not filled the vacancies and has not done anything about expanding the board?

Hon. Warren Allmand (Solicitor General): Mr. Speaker, the fact that the National Parole Board has discontinued personal interviews in penitentiaries is not due to the vacancies on the board. It is due to a general over-work problem that has carried on for some time. I might say we have made recommendations to fill two positions. We hope they will be filled soon, but that in itself will not bring back the interviews at penitentiaries. I hope to have some measures before the House soon to increase the size of the parole board and I hope we will have the support of members opposite in this regard.

* * *

NATIONAL DEFENCE

POLICY RESPECTING CONTRACTING OUT OF MAINTENANCE AND CATERING SERVICES

Mr. Donald W. Munro (Esquimalt-Saanich): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of National Defence. It will also be of interest to the President of the Treasury Board. In light of the widespread fear of contracting out policies in the maintenance and catering sections of the Department of National Defence, can the minister indicate the extent to which this policy has been implemented and comment on the charges made during the past week across the country by the president of the Union of National Defence Employees to the effect that many—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. Will the hon. member resume his seat. The second part of the hon. member's question is hardly in order. The hon. member cannot ask the minister to comment on statements made outside the House. The question might be asked in other terms or perhaps the hon. member might ask it in some other form as a supplementary.

Hon. James Richardson (Minister of National Defence): Mr. Speaker, I have heard and seen the allegations made by the union, but I can assure the House and the hon. member that no members of the Department of National Defence staff are being laid off, dismissed or in any way having their jobs jeopardized as a result of contracting out any of the services that the hon. member mentioned.

Mr. Munro (Esquimalt-Saanich): None the less, can the minister indicate whether this policy of contracting out is in fact a new policy or whether it relates to the already stated policy of the government, enunciated by the Treasury Board, to reduce the number of civilian employees within the Department of National Defence from 35,000 to 30,000?

Mr. Richardson: Mr. Speaker, there is no new policy of contracting out in the area of food services and maintenance and cleaning. There is no attempt to reduce the number of Department of National Defence personnel by contracting out. Our contracting out is relatively limited in those areas.

[*Translation*]

VALCARTIER—MEASURES TO AVOID LAYING OFF OF CERTAIN EMPLOYEES

Mr. Roland Godin (Portneuf): I wish to ask a supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Could the hon. minister tell what has been the objective of the administrative measures used until now and assure the House that the department will review its policy in order to spare certain employees of the Valcartier base who have recently been threatened with dismissal at the end of the month?

[*English*]

Hon. James Richardson (Minister of National Defence): Mr. Speaker, I think I have already given that assurance.

FUTURE INTENTION RESPECTING CONTRACTING OUT OF CERTAIN SERVICES

Mr. Doug Rowland (Selkirk): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a supplementary question to the Minister of National Defence. Because this concerns the livelihood of very many people, I wish to ask the minister a question to which I hope he can respond directly. Will the minister assure the House that the Department of National Defence has no intention of contracting out food or maintenance services beyond what has already been done?

Hon. James Richardson (Minister of National Defence): Mr. Speaker, as I indicated, our contracting out of food services and maintenance services is relatively limited. There are occasions when we are not able to meet our requirements internally and we do contract out. When we do, however, the positions of our employees are protected. I repeat, we do not have a policy to greatly increase the contracting out of services.

Mr. Rowland: In view of the fact the average age of the employees likely to be affected by any contracting out, however minimal, is in excess of 50 years, can the minister assure the House that, should contracting out take place, no indeterminate employees will lose their jobs because of it and they will be able to retain their jobs where they are currently employeed or at a base nearby at the same salary?

Mr. Richardson: Yes, Mr. Speaker. I can give that guarantee and assurance to the employees. No regular employee can have his position jeopardized by any contracting out of services which we might undertake.

* * *

OFFICIAL LANGUAGES

POSSIBILITY OF LEGISLATION IF MOTION ON ORDER PAPER ADOPTED—EFFECT OF MOTION ON SUBSEQUENT ADMINISTRATIONS AND PARLIAMENTS

Mr. Jack Horner (Crowfoot): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct my question to the Prime Minister. It arises out of the motion on the order paper which deals specifically with the Official Languages Act. Does the Prime Minister envision an act or bill following this motion which will place binding authority either on the Treasury Board or the Public Service Commission?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, the motion stands by itself. No legislation is contemplated at this time to follow up the implementation of it.

Mr. Horner (Crowfoot): Mr. Speaker, I wish to ask a supplementary question arising out of the Prime Minister's answer. Can the Prime Minister assure the House that the nine points outlined by the President of the Treasury Board will have a lasting effect and carry on to another Treasury Board or another President of the Treasury Board in subsequent parliaments or, for that matter, in this parliament?

Mr. Trudeau: Mr. Speaker, I fail to understand the meaning of the question.

Mr. Horner (Crowfoot): With Your Honour's indulgence, possibly I could explain it a little better. A resolution passed by this or any other body is an expression of that body's opinion, but if the Treasury Board, the government, the cabinet or this group of Members of Parliament should change, that resolution would not necessarily be binding on a subsequent body of men or women, or both. What means of conveyance of that authority does the Prime Minister have in mind for subsequent parliaments?

Mr. Trudeau: Mr. Speaker, the authority lies in the act. It was endorsed by all parties in the House some years ago. The present resolution intends explaining how the act will be brought into application in as much detail as possible. If that resolution is adopted by the House, as I

hope it will be, it will be binding on the administration as long as it is not changed by parliament.

Mr. Horner (Crowfoot): Mr. Speaker, I have one further supplementary. I do not want to get into an argument with the Prime Minister with regard to the application of the Official Languages Act. However, I wonder how the nine points, which I also endorse—

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Horner (Crowfoot): I note there is some applause. If the members had studied the amendment, which I know the Minister of Finance well remembers and which clearly outlines similar proposals—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. Will the hon. member ask a supplementary rather than comment on the reaction from other members. Following that, we might try to go on to the next question.

Mr. Horner (Crowfoot): I am sorry, Mr. Speaker. I did not want to become involved, but it seemed obvious that I should make some comment. Will the Prime Minister state how the nine points, which are not now in the Official Languages Act, will become part and parcel of that act if a bill or an act does not follow the motion now on the order paper?

Mr. Trudeau: Mr. Speaker, if the resolution carries, and if the hon. member intends to support it I am sure it will carry, because if he supports it I am sure everyone else will—

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Trudeau: —it will become a directive of this House to the President of the Treasury Board.

Mr. Horner (Crowfoot): Only to the present President of the Treasury Board.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. It seems to me we are getting involved in debate on a motion which is not at the moment before the House.

* * *

VETERANS AFFAIRS

INQUIRY AS TO LEGISLATION TO INCREASE BASIC RATE OF DISABILITY PENSION

Mr. Stanley Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Minister of Veterans Affairs. In view of the fact the minister was not able before Easter to introduce his bill to increase the basic rate of the war disability pension, can he say whether that bill will be introduced within the next few days?

Hon. Daniel J. MacDonald (Minister of Veterans Affairs): Mr. Speaker, that is presently before the government. As I already stated in the House, when I have the information I will certainly convey it to the House.

• (1440)

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Can the minister say whether the bill when it is introduced will provide for the increase to be retroactive?

Mr. MacDonald (Cardigan): When the bill is drafted this will be very obvious and easy to determine.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

* * *

FOOD PRICES

REVIEW BOARD—REQUEST FOR SUBMISSION OF TERMS OF REFERENCE TO HOUSE FOR APPROVAL OR EXAMINATION BY STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS COMMITTEE

Mr. G. W. Baldwin (Peace River): Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs a question supplementary to those put to him previously. In light of the fact that a great many people in Canada, including important elements of this House, have some reservations as to the efficacy of the Prices Review Board of which the hon. gentleman has told us, is the minister prepared to submit the terms of reference establishing the board to the House for approval in the form of a motion in the same way as the Prime Minister is submitting his motion with regard to the Official Languages Act?

Hon. Herb Gray (Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs): I shall be happy to discuss the hon. member's suggestion with my colleagues, though I might add that parliament has already spoken by passing the Inquiries Act which delegates to the cabinet the authority to set the terms of reference.

Mr. Baldwin: In that light parliament has also legislated the Statutory Instruments Act. Will the minister co-operate with the joint chairmen of that committee and allow that committee to examine the provisions of the terms of reference in the order in council if he is afraid to entrust the matter to the House?

Mr. Gray: I have the utmost confidence in the House, and that is why I am happy to be able to make use of the authority given to the government by the House under the Inquiries Act. However, I would be glad to examine the requirements of the Statutory Instruments Act to determine whether the hon. gentleman's suggestion is one that is in fact required by that statute.

* * *

PUBLIC SERVICE

REQUIREMENT THAT NEW MANPOWER DEPARTMENT STAFF BE FINGERPRINTED—WIDER APPLICATION

Mr. Eldon M. Woolliams (Calgary North): Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask the Prime Minister a question in relation to a paragraph which has appeared in an information bulletin issued by the Department of Manpower and

Immigration. It is stated that all new staff—this refers to the Department of Manpower—shall be fingerprinted. Does this requirement apply to all the staff of the Department of Manpower? Does it apply to all public servants irrespective of their category in the various departments?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): It certainly does not apply to everyone in the public service. However, I will look into this requirement, discuss it with the minister concerned and perhaps provide an answer to the hon. member.

Mr. Woolliams: Might I ask the Minister of Manpower and Immigration to tell us to which people this fingerprinting requirement applies? It is stated that all new staff are to be security-cleared to a minimum level of "confidential" and complete a form known as M & I 34 or C-216C and be fingerprinted. What people are we talking about?

Hon. Robert K. Andras (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, I will take notice of the question, get the information and report back.

Mr. Woolliams: One further question to the Prime Minister. I ask it because I think this is a very important matter, one of concern to many people nowadays who are getting jobs in various departments. Will the Prime Minister take notice of this question and advise the House and the country what new civil servants, public servants, are being fingerprinted in all the departments in Canada today in accordance with the confidential bulletin put out to various people across the country?

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Saint John-Lancaster.

Mr. Woolliams: Mr. Speaker, I believe the Prime Minister wanted to answer. This matter involves security and is of concern to public servants across Canada.

Mr. Speaker: The Chair does not wish to prevent the Prime Minister from replying to the hon. member's question, but I was under the impression he was repeating the question he asked in the first instance. In any event, the hon. member for Saint John-Lancaster is about to ask a supplementary which might give the Prime Minister an opportunity to reply to both questions.

Mr. Tom Bell (Saint John-Lancaster): Mr. Speaker, I just want to ask the Prime Minister whether he would consider appearing before an appropriate parliamentary committee, either in camera or otherwise, to deal with this general subject and, in particular, with the charge he made over the weekend that Americans are spying on Canadians?

Mr. Trudeau: Mr. Speaker, I never made such a charge.

Mr. Bell: On a question of privilege, Mr. Speaker. I have here a Canadian Press report of May 7 in which the Prime Minister is quoted as saying that certain Americans are spying on Canadians—on Canada. I would think an opportunity should be given for the committee to hear, in camera or otherwise, whether these spying charges are justified or not.

[Mr. Woolliams.]

Mr. Trudeau: Having heard the hon. member explain his question, I think he is really referring to the rest of the answers I gave. I did tell a questioner on television that most people in business, in government, in politics or in industry were trying to obtain intelligence concerning their competitors and that the only important question was whether this intelligence was obtained in legal or illegal ways.

Mr. Woolliams: May I ask the Prime Minister whether the cabinet has issued a directive that people getting new jobs in the public service in the various departments of government must all be fingerprinted irrespective of the category in which they are classified? Has such a directive been issued and has the Prime Minister knowledge of it? If not, will he look into it?

Mr. Trudeau: Mr. Speaker, you are perfectly right. In my first answer to this question I did indicate I would look into the matter.

* * *

ENERGY

DEVELOPMENT OF CONTINENTAL SHELF OIL AND GAS RESOURCES—DISCUSSION BETWEEN MINISTER AND GOVERNMENT OF PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

Hon. Alvin Hamilton (Qu'Appelle-Moose Mountain): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources. In his recent conversations with the prime minister of the Peoples' Republic of China and in particular in his discussions concerning the continental shelf, did the minister propose to the premier a meeting of Pacific powers to decide on boundary lines between the nations before oil or gas is recovered from the continental shelves?

Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): No, Sir. The concern which is felt by the leaders of the People's Republic of China relates to the Yellow Sea rather than to the Pacific Ocean as a whole. I did indicate we would be prepared to co-operate with that government by making available to them the studies we have carried out in preparation for the Law of the Sea Conference and in particular with respect to our own negotiations for defining the boundary on the continental shelf off the east coast of Canada.

Mr. Hamilton (Qu'Appelle-Moose Mountain): Would the minister make the same information available to Members of Parliament as he is making available to the premier of China?

Mr. Macdonald (Rosedale): I would be glad at some appropriate point to explain to the hon. gentleman the problems associated with this as they affect the continental shelf.

TRANSPORT

ADEQUACY OF TOFINO LIFEBOAT STATION SERVICE IN LIGHT OF DROWNINGS

Mr. T. C. Douglas (Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands): Mr. Speaker, may I direct a question to the Minister of Transport regarding the unfortunate incident at Tofino on the west coast of Vancouver Island in which two persons were drowned when seeking to reach the Indian reserve. In view of the fact there is some concern in the community about the reduction of staff at the lifeboat station— the staff has been reduced to one contingent on duty from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.; there is no one there at night— may I ask whether the minister is prepared to make an investigation to determine whether or not this curtailment of service was responsible for the loss of life to which I have referred? If he has received a report on the incident, is he prepared to tell the House the nature of the information he has received?

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): It is my intention to investigate the matter to determine whether the staff at the station is sufficient. However, in the particular case to which the hon. member has referred, no responsibility can be placed on the staff because four minutes after they received the alarm they were on the spot, saving the people who could be saved. There is only one period during which no one is in the office; it is from 4 a.m. to 8 a.m., four hours, and during that time there is direct telephone contact between the office and the people whom this service affects. Maybe there is a shortage of staff but responsibility cannot, surely, lie in that direction in this case.

Mr. Douglas: Apart from those few extraneous remarks the minister made, may I ask him whether he will undertake to have a full study made of the situation to determine whether or not these deaths might have been prevented, or deaths in similar circumstances prevented in the future, by having a full complement on duty 24 hours a day?

Mr. Marchand (Langelier): I repeat that in this particular case four minutes elapsed between the alarm and the rescue. But I am making a doublecheck with a view to seeing that no lives are lost as a result of lack of staff.

* * *

• (1450)

INDIAN AFFAIRS

BRITISH COLUMBIA—CLAIMS OF NATIVE PEOPLE— POSITION OF PRIME MINISTER

Miss Flora MacDonald (Kingston and the Islands): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct my question to the right hon. Prime Minister. Will he tell the House the basis of his assumption that the Indians of British Columbia want, as he put it, "half of B.C. back" if he has in fact read the very reasonable, clear and just brief on native claims presented to the Prime Minister and the government by the Union of B.C. chiefs in July of last year, and what does he expect to gain by making such exaggerated and unfounded statements?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. In those terms the question is not in order.

* * *

AIR TRANSPORT

DISCONTINUANCE OF CUSTOMS PRECLEARANCE— RELATION OF RESTORATION TO BILATERAL AGREEMENT NEGOTIATIONS WITH UNITED STATES

Mr. Don Mazankowski (Vegreville): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Transport having regard to the matter of customs preclearance. It arises from the statement issued by the minister on April 26 confirming the intention of Canada to discontinue preclearance and indicating to the United States that restoration of preclearance would have to be negotiated in the context of the present bilateral air agreements. Can the minister advise the House whether any renewed negotiations are taking place with United States officials in this regard, and can we expect reinstitution of preclearance?

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, I think there will be a new round of negotiations on May 28. Like the hon. gentleman, I will just have to wait to see what the results of those negotiations will be.

* * *

FISHERIES

LOBSTERS—REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF SEASON BECAUSE OF ICE CONDITIONS IN ATLANTIC REGION

Mr. Jack Marshall (Humber-St. George's-St. Barbe): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Fisheries. In view of the fact that ice conditions in the Atlantic region are hampering the execution of the lobster fishery in many districts, will the minister indicate whether he has received any reports from his district officers, and what action he is taking to relieve the situation by way of extending the lobster season in those areas affected?

Hon. Jack Davis (Minister of Fisheries): Mr. Speaker, consideration is being given to the submission of the hon. member.

* * *

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

ALLEGED APPOINTMENT IN 1968 BY FORMER MINISTER, EDGAR BENSON, OF FIRM WITH WHICH HE HAD BEEN ASSOCIATED AS AUDITORS OF CMHC

Hon. Robert L. Stanfield (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask the Prime Minister whether there has been any investigation of the allegation that Mr. Edgar Benson, during 1968 when he had responsibility for Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation, appointed as

auditors for CMHC a firm with which he had formerly been associated?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I will have to, perhaps with the help of the hon. member, look into that allegation and find out.

Mr. Stanfield: Mr. Speaker, I asked the question particularly because of the fact that when Mr. Benson was asked he said "it is possible; I am not sure". I would like to ask the Prime Minister whether there are any guidelines laid down within this government that govern this kind of appointment?

Mr. Trudeau: Mr. Speaker, the normal guidelines referring to conflict of interest in such matters do apply, but I would have to know more about the particular case to know whether there are any guidelines that cover it.

* * *

[*Translation*]

CANADIAN NATIONAL RAILWAYS

HIRING OF QUALIFIED PERSONNEL TO REDUCE NUMBER OF ACCIDENTS

Mr. Albert Béchard (Bonaventure-Îles de la Madeleine): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Transport. In view of the disquieting number of railway accidents which occurred recently, and especially in the last few months, is the minister considering requiring the Canadian National Railways to hire enough qualified personnel for an adequate inspection of the lines and an equally adequate maintenance of the equipment?

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, for quite some time the Canadian Transport Commission has undertaken, jointly with its American counterpart, an investigation into the causes of railway accidents which are increasing considerably because trains are longer. Trains which were formerly made up of 40 to 50 cars now have 100 to 120, and engines are heavier; this surely results in more frequent accidents. In my opinion the first thing to do is to carry out a complete and thorough investigation into the incidence of modern technology with regard to railway accidents.

* * *

[*English*]

POST OFFICE

ALLEGED DELAY IN DELIVERY OF FIRST CLASS MAIL

Mr. Gordon Towers (Red Deer): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Postmaster General. Can he explain the continuing unreasonable delay in the delivery of first class mail in every part of Canada?

[*Translation*]

Hon. André Ouellet (Postmaster General): Mr. Speaker, I have already answered that question from the hon. member. I invited him to give me specific cases but he has not done so yet.

[Mr. Stanfield.]

[*English*]

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I will recognize the hon. member for Fraser Valley West for a supplementary question and then the hon. member for Brandon-Souris for the last question before calling orders of the day.

STEPS TO INCREASE COMPENSATION OF RURAL MAIL DELIVERY CONTRACTORS

Mr. Mark Rose (Fraser Valley West): Mr. Speaker, I would also direct my question to the Postmaster General. In view of the fact that inflation has caused unorganized rural mail contractors to fall so far behind in income they are in fact currently subsidizing the whole postal operation, can the minister advise the House what steps he plans to take to improve the rewards for this group of workers?

[*Translation*]

Hon. André Ouellet (Postmaster General): The senior officials of the department are examining this question, Mr. Speaker, and I hope to be able to announce soon to the hon. member and this House decisions which certainly will satisfy them.

[*English*]

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Brandon-Souris. Order, please. I apologize to the hon. member. I did not appreciate that the hon. member for Fraser Valley West had a supplementary question. I will recognize him and then we will hear the hon. member's supplementary to the previous question.

Mr. Rose: I did not rise immediately, Mr. Speaker, as I was waiting for the translation. Since the minister has asked a number of Members of Parliament for suggestions to improve the rural route delivery system, and since the present legislation restricts the minister to amending those contracts under $10,000 a year, is he planning to introduce legislation dealing with this restriction and, if so, when can the House expect to see this legislation?

[*Translation*]

Mr. Ouellet: Mr. Speaker, I hope to introduce such a bill as soon as possible, but I think that it will be possible in the meantime to take administrative measures to correct the situation pointed out by the hon. member.

[*English*]

REQUEST FOR RESTORATION OF MAIL DELIVERY SIX DAYS A WEEK

Hon. W. G. Dinsdale (Brandon-Souris): Mr. Speaker, my question is supplementary to the one asked by the hon. member for Red Deer. In view of the Prime Minister's recent comment about the slowness of Canadian mail delivery, when will the Postmaster General be announcing the restoration of delivery six days a week as a partial solution to this problem?

[*Translation*]

Hon. André Ouellet (Postmaster General): Mr. Speaker, I thought that the hon. member had appreciated as I did

the Prime Minister's sense of humour and that he had not taken it amiss.

[*English*]

Mr. Dinsdale: Mr. Speaker, in view of the fact that the people of Canada do not regard this as funny, will the minister take some action?

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

[*Translation*]

Mr. Ouellet: Mr. Speaker, since we have decided to establish the 5-day delivery service, we have noted some difficulties, especially on Mondays. However, recent surveys have shown that conditions have greatly improved and since we have signed an attractive contract with most postal workers, the postal service has really improved in Canada.

• (1500)

[*English*]

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

PROTECTION OF PRIVACY BILL

CREATION OF OFFENCES RELATED TO INTERCEPTION OF PRIVATE COMMUNICATIONS BY CERTAIN DEVICES

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Justice) moved that Bill C-176, to amend the Criminal Code, the Crown Liability Act and the Official Secrets Act, be read the second time and referred to the Standing Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs.

He said: Mr. Speaker, the subject matter of Bill C-176 is of very great importance. It is a subject matter that has been before this House of Commons on two separate occasions. This afternoon I want to address myself very briefly to hon. members here about its content, doing so with the earnest hope that the broad measure of agreement, which I am sure there is in the House about the importance of this matter and the need to make these changes in the law, will result in the expeditious movement of this bill to the committee, back to the House and into effect as the law of Canada.

One of the problems we have experienced in the past with legislation is that too much kindness and too much talk about the merits of legislation has resulted in a delay in the implementation of important measures. This bill is important because it recognizes in a formal way the importance of privacy in our Canadian life. I say "in a formal way" because of course privacy has been recognized in indirect ways through various parts and parcels of the law over the years. But in this bill, for the first time at a federal level, the right of privacy is recognized expressly in a protection of privacy act. We are all familiar with the deepfelt belief that privacy and individuality are of fundamental importance to our own democratic way of life. With the growth of electronic devices which make it possible to hear or intercept conversations and communications without awareness of that interception by the persons participating in the conversation, we have had an increase in the problem of protection of privacy and an increase of the problem of the security of the people in this country, as well as their ability to converse with the knowledge that it is a private matter and not one which is being overseen or overheard by other persons.

The bill attempts to protect the right of privacy, I believe in a number of effective ways. It makes it a criminal offence to engage in this interception and a criminal offence with significant potential penalties attached, one of which is imprisonment of up to five years. It makes it an offence to possess or to sell devices of the electro-magnetic type or other devices which may be used for such interception purposes. Again, it places in the law significant penalties of up to two years imprisonment for this sale or possession of these devices. There is, of course, provision for the proper and authorized possession and sale but in a limited way, a way which is necessary for other portions of the bill. The bill also places a limitation on the communication of information if it is obtained in an illegal way. It proscribes that and also creates the potential of damages, punitive damages, to be assessed against those who improperly obtain or communicate information with electro-magnetic or other similar devices. That is the main thrust of the bill. It sets up the protection of privacy and the importance of our ability to communicate with one another without being surreptiously overheard or having our conversations intercepted.

The bill puts in play, I think, effective measures to ensure that that cannot be done and that that will be hereafter, after the passage of this bill into law, an illegal matter and therefore one which we can attempt to restrain with the full power of law enforcement. The bill on the other hand, recognizes the potential desirability of the use of these devices on occasion in the public interest, in the public cause, when our enforcement officers, either for security reasons or reasons associated with offences where other measures may fail, need these devices and will find them useful in the enforcement of the general law and order on our society. In the case of criminal matters, the bill proposes the authorization of such uses by persons engaged in the enforcement procedures. The bill accepts the conclusion of the House committee in 1970, which was supported by the House again in committee in 1972, that these authorizations should be obtained from a judge, a judge defined, as the committee chose in the 1972 session, to include superior court, county court and district court judges. The Solicitor General, in the case of certain federal matters, and the provincial attorneys-general in the case of provincial matters, are involved in the applications for these authorizations and therefore are seen as having a direct responsibility for this.

There is, in a sense, a double protection through the responsibility of the Solicitor General or the provincial attorneys general and the actual authorization of the use of the warrant by the judge. That is one of the issues which has been the cause of some discussion and controversy. It may again be a matter upon which the committee will wish to focus some attention. I hope when we get to that stage we will look at it seriously once more, but not to the point of preventing the bill becoming, at an early date, a part of the law of the land.

It has been argued in the committee that, on the one hand, it might be better if the full responsibility for these authorizations were placed upon the Solicitor General or the attorneys-general as the case may be. The involvement of the judge, I think, is a useful precaution, even though it is recognized that in an ex parte proceeding he is faced with material being presented to him upon which he must make a judgment without having necessarily the total part of the argument which an opponent might put forward to him. It is none the less a useful precaution I believe in ensuring that the form of the use of electronic device is in fact apparently on a sound basis.

The bill itself sets out that these are not to be first-rank techniques of investigation but rather in the way of additional, fall-back or substitute ways of investigating when more ordinary means of investigation fail. There is further political protection in the requirement of report by the Solicitor General or by the provincial attorneys-general each year with regard to the number and types of uses of devices in the course of enforcement within their areas of jurisdiction. These, I think, are the interesting and useful balances. It will be argued before the House I am sure—and we have a good deal of knowledge about the arguments which may be made in the committee because of the appearance of this matter before the House on two separate occasions and the appearance of witnesses before House committees—that the bill, even as it stands, is perhaps a little too restrictive in respect of the investigative powers, in the shortness of the period for which warrants may be issued and in the exact terminology of the type of cases for which they may be applied.

I will be eager to hear hon. members views once again in the committee as we look at the exact and precise details of the legislation. There also has been some controversy in respect of the proposals in the bill to exclude evidence in criminal or civil matters under federal jurisdiction which had been obtained in an illegal or unauthorized manner following the enactment of this bill into law. There, we would be seeing the introduction into our law I believe for the first time of an exclusionary rule which I think is, in its history, merely intended to add a further sanction against the illegal obtaining of evidence on the theory that it will not so readily be obtained as evidence if it is not admissible in a subsequent case. I think it is worth noting that there are significant other sanctions in the bill before us, including both the penal provisions and the civil or punitive damages provisions, including Crown liability if any Crown servants are involved in an illegal interception. The committee may want to consider further whether this exclusionary rule is reasonable or necessary in this particular case with these additional sanctions.

There is, in addition to the sanction argument, the issue which will be before the committee of whether it is right for a court to be involved with evidence which is illegally obtained or, on the other hand, whether it is fair or decent to the administration of justice to see a cause unresolved because certain clear evidence is not before the court because of the technical rule excluding it.

• (1510)

I think these are important points, and I hope and look forward to having the committee conduct further discussion upon them, but not in a way which will obscure the main and fundamental thrust of the bill upon which there was agreement in the committee of the House of Commons when the main portions of this bill were put forward in almost the same form as they now stand, as well as in the committee of the House in 1972 when a bill very much like Bill C-176 was before it. That main thrust is to make it an offence to engage in electronic, electro-magnetic and similar eavesdropping or interception of conversations to protect privacy in a fundamental way by the creation of that offence, and then only to allow certain very narrow exceptions to that main point. With the passing of the law, therefore, the interception of communications by private citizens, whether for purposes of trade or curiosity, will be a criminal offence. We will have the possibility of restraining such activity and, perhaps even more important, of adding to the assurance of individuals that their privacy is protected and that they do not have to fear that such devices are around them.

In addition to the prohibition of the use of these devices we have also the prohibition of their possession and sale, again except in very narrow categories. That is the main thrust of the bill. It is an important addition to the Criminal Code and to the law of the land and I, therefore, urge hon. members to help in the swift passage of the legislation, even though we must debate in committee the interesting points to which I referred and resolve them there. While they are important, they are not as important as the main thrust of the bill which, I hope, will soon be a part of the law of the land.

Mr. R. Gordon L. Fairweather (Fundy-Royal): Mr. Speaker, the shortness of the speech of the minister makes it somewhat difficult for the rest of us to comment on a seminal piece of legislation—if I could use that term—but I am afraid that, although the official opposition will want to co-operate in the passage of this bill, there will be three or four speakers from this side at least who will want to have a chance to make their comments before the bill reaches the committee.

I think I am conscious of the fact that we must not be like the pharisees and thank God that we are not like other men when we consider this bill in juxtaposition to the grubby and sordid events which are called the Watergate scandal in the United States. However, it must be admitted that the Watergate scandal makes an interesting backdrop for a public debate in this country. It is my submission that, although the events of Watergate could have taken place here legally until this bill is passed, there is no question that their ethics would leave a great deal to be desired.

One of the major problems connected with this bill for spokesmen for the official opposition such as me is not really in the thrust which has been discussed by the minister regarding the protection of privacy, with certain narrow exceptions, but rather—and I will comment briefly on this and hope that perhaps somebody else from the government will allay my concern about it, and then I will consider some other aspects of the bill—in the rather loose, use of certain words, if I can say so fairly, in clause 6 on page 21 of Bill C-176. There is a description in the clause of espionage and sabotage, and the following are the words which I think are used much too loosely, certainly for this party's acceptance, namely: "... or any

other subversive activity directed against Canada . . .". This is not the language of the Criminal Code. This phrase is nowhere defined, either in the Criminal Code, or in this bill, and I hope that the committee will direct itself, first of all, to getting rid of such loose language or, second, to to at least defining it.

We must remember that we are within three years of the imposition of the War Measures Act, and I think that put all of us as parliamentarians—I am not being partisan at all—on our guard when we see rather ill defined language about what is or what is not subversive activity. As I have said in other contexts, one man's draft dodger is another man's hero, and I think that in defining the right to privacy and in defining peculiar ways in which the government can listen in on conversations—and I think this bill is a positive measure—we must be very careful that we are not busy listening in on activities which, although they may not be very pleasant for governments or for administrations, none the less are in no way part of what we might call the scandalous activities of espionage and sabotage.

That is just a comment, but I hope the government will want to tighten up this language, and if not tighten it up, remove it altogether because sabotage and subversion are well defined. There is a law concerning them but nowhere in this statute or the Code is there anything about any other subversive activity directed against Canada. This needs to be defined, and I hope the government will see to it that it occurs.

The problem of the control of electronic means of surveillance has become acute due to rapid technological advances which now offer comprehensive techniques for bugging and snooping. As is obvious, telephones can be tapped, offices bugged, files photographed, movements monitored, and communications recorded without the knowledge of the person involved. I think the minister will agree that science and technology have—until this bill is passed—outstripped the legal means of controlling technology. This is really what we are about. The law is finally catching up with technological change. As I said when I started, it is appropriate for us to be discussing this subject while the evils of Watergate take up so much of the news these days. The assumption that Watergate could not have happened in Canada is naïve, I think, and dangerous, particularly because, until now no federal law has existed concerning wiretapping and other forms of electronic eavesdropping.

As the minister has said, the aim of the bill is to make a crime of the wilful interception of a private communication. To repeat what the minister said—if I may flatter him in this way—the central question is the delicate one of how far you can restrict law enforcement officers without interfering with them, how much you have to restrict them in order to give better assurance that there is, in fact, protection of privacy in the bill. The bill prescribes a particular kind of compromise in this area. If protection is to have meaning, all methods and devices for wire tapping and electronic surveillance must be controlled.

• (1520)

The Task Force on Privacy and Computers—if I may say so gratuitously, one of the more interesting recent government publications—explains the privacy of the person as "aimed essentially at maintaining the dignity of the human person. Our persons are protected not so much against the physical search as against the indignity of the search, its invasion of the person in a moral sense." The right to privacy is not absolute. "In any society, claims to privacy are continually balanced against other values and interests by social, political and legal processes. The security and welfare of the collectivity and its institutions are values which tend to prevail over individual claims to privacy." Of course, what the government is seeking, and I hope it thinks it is seeking it with our help, is to try to strike a just balance between public protection and safety and the protection of privacy. As the minister pointed out, this question has been considered several times in recent years.

The Justice and Legal Affairs Committee studied the matter of electronic eavesdropping and made a report on March 11, 1970. The committee listed 20 major recommendations. Among them were that wire tapping, electronic eavesdropping and industrial espionage should become crimes. Also recommended by the committee were well defined limits on police use of electronic bugs, a list of crimes justifying such investigation, application for use by an attorney-general and authorization by a judge, a stated time period for surveillance, and a yearly report to parliament by the attorney-general. I am glad to say that many of these recommendations have been incorporated in the bill that we are now considering. As I have said, at present there are no privacy laws at the federal level in Canada. British Columbia and Manitoba have privacy laws for civil actions, and I am informed that several provinces have legislation concerning interception of telephonic communication.

This bill is the third bill concerning wiretapping and electronic eavesdropping introduced by the government. When the hon. member for Ottawa-Carleton (Mr. Turner) was minister of justice he introduced a bill on privacy on June 28, 1971. That bill died on the order paper after first reading. Then, there was Bill C-6 on the same subject. It was given first reading on February 21, 1972. I think it is worth noting, and anyway I am going to note it because others may read that there is this chronology available. I always have a horror that some day others will read these words, but if so, no doubt thay will be interested to know what happened. Hence the excuse for the history lesson, Mr. Speaker. On May 2, 1972, Bill C-6 was given second reading, and was discussed in committee in early June. The bill, with amendments, was reported back to the House on June 14, and we know what happened then. It did not get any further, and once again died on the order paper.

The present bill has been before us for just a month. It was given first reading on April 13. Essentially, Mr. Speaker, it is the same as Bill C-6, with one or two amendments suggested by the Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs. Outlawed is wilfully listening in or recording of a private conversation by electromagnetic, accoustic or mechanical devices. It will become a criminal offence to possess, sell or purchase any device that is primarily useful for invading privacy.

Information gained from illegal wiretapping would also become an offence punishable by imprisonment. The bill authorizes monitoring aimed at preventing and detecting subversive or criminal activity where other investigative procedures are judged not likely to be successful. Evidence obtained as the result of information acquired though illegal wiretapping can be used in certain circumstances. Bugging must be authorized by a provincial attorney general or by the Solicitor General (Mr. Allmand). Application must be made to a Superior Court judge, and bugging can be approved for a 30 day period, with the right to apply for an extension. In case of emergency, the approval of a judge is not required for authorization but the permit is valid for only 36 hours, and approval of a judge is necessary if the evidence obtained is to be used in court.

Basic to the consideration of this bill, Mr. Speaker, is the recognition of the right to know. In a moment I am going to quote the distinguished hon. member for Ottawa-Carleton, the present Minister of Finance, who made a very interesting and now, I am afraid, forgotten by many, speech in September, 1969.

Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton): Not forgotten by Jed Baldwin.

Mr. Fairweather: No, and he has a private bill which should be part of this legislation. I am going to invoke the good advice of the Minister of Finance and read to him part of the speech he made, and the suggestions he was going to make to his cabinet colleagues.

The legislative scope of this bill attempts to achieve the two purposes of protection of the right to privacy, and infringement of the right to privacy in the public interest. I suggest it can be criticized as completely forgetting to provide for the complementary right to know. I have here marked a copy of the speech which the Minister of Finance made in 1969. It was probably made to Osgoode Hall. He used to like to speak there. But no, Mr. Speaker, I see it was to the Canadian Bar Association, one of the more open and liberal associations of this country. It was to the Canadian Bar Association annual meeting in Ottawa.

Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton): Don't forget that we may be back in practice one day, Gordon.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Fairweather: I had better stop this. Anyway, the speech was delivered to that very open minded group, the Canadian Bar Association. It was entitled, "Twin Freedoms: the Right to Privacy and the Right to Know." I agreed with the thrust of the speech. At page 13 he said:

> Mr. Chairman, there is another side to the right to privacy which has not received the prominence it deserves but whose dimensions cannot be ignored. There is a tendency in governments to refuse information to its citizens under the guise of privacy which is disguised as the public interest.

Those words are eloquent, but they are four years old and I have not seen the government change one whit.

Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton): May I ask the hon. gentleman a question?

Mr. Fairweather: Please do.

[Mr. Fairweather.]

Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton): Has he read the Statutory Instruments Act which goes a long way towards increasing the public's right to know?

Mr. Fairweather: I have read the Statutory Instruments Act. I have also read the 16 points that the minister's colleague, the President of the Privy Council (Mr. MacEachen) announced, commonly known as the sixteen protection of the government rules. We will be discussing those in the committee. As a very senior civil servant said to me, "I have to get it through my head that it isn't really the protection"—Mr. Speaker, what did he say?

Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton): It must have been late at night.

Mr. Fairweather: No, it wasn't late at night. It was an important statement, and I will recall it. He said that it was the protection of the government that was always foremost in the mind of the government, and not indeed the protection of the public. It is no wonder that that man has moved to other places.

Now to continue quoting the speech made by the Minister of Finance, he said:

> There is a tendency in governments to refuse information to its citizens under the guise of privacy which is disguised as the public interest. Government secrecy is sometimes legitimated—

• (1530)

I would not have used that word.

Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton): That is the right word.

Mr. Fairweather:

> —as the state's right to privacy, but it may well be a denial of the public right to know. If individual privacy is a foundation of democracy, the citizen's right to know is fundamental to any participatory democracy.

That was a sort of elegant phrase then; it is now more famous for its breach than for its acceptance by this government.

> The public cannot be expected to dialogue meaningfully—

Now, Mr. Minister, really. "Dialogue meaningfully" is not a phrase that I think you would have used. I suppose you meant "talk sense". That would have been a better cliché. I know "dialogue meaningfully" is what you said but I hope we reach the stage in this parliament that the clichés "dialogue" and "meaningful" will be exorcised forever. If so, we will have done the country a service.

Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton): That speech was made three or four years ago.

Mr. Fairweather: Before it got to the dialogue stage! Now, I am afraid that I was guilty, too. I notice we are beginning to use the word "thrust" and it is close to becoming a cliché as well.

Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton): How about "scenario"?

Mr. Fairweather: We could go on forever—"a meaningful scenario". To continue:

> The public cannot be expected to dialogue meaningfully—still less decide—if it is refused the very information which would make such a dialogue and decision-making possible.

That was an excellent speech. I wish some of the minister's good sense had been embodied in this legislation because I think that most of this legislation is good but there is a serious gap in that part of it which relates to the public's right to know. The minister went on to say:

It is my view that we have now reached the stage when this matter should be dealt with legislatively—

I presume the minister's intervention meant that the Statutory Instruments Act had covered his concern.

Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton): Partially.

Mr. Fairweather: Well, the minister is still the minister—regretfully. Maybe he can do something more about this.

—in a comprehensive way and it is my intention to recommend that this course of actions be followed in so far as the federal government is concerned in the very near future.

I think that is a good recommendation. If the present Minister of Justice (Mr. Lang) would accept some amendments that we offer at the committee stage, perhaps we might have dual rights entrenched in legislation—that is the protection of the right to privacy and the fact that the public has, indeed, the right to know.

Others will be considering this legislation, Mr. Speaker, and I hope very much that before this second reading debate is finished someone on behalf of the government will explain what I find to be upsetting language on page 21 in clause 6.16(2)(a) "subversive activity directed against Canada". I serve notice that if the government cannot clear up this matter we will want an amendment at the committee stage.

The bill has been around three times, so there is some disposition to try to get it to committee at an early date. I hope the House will profit from speeches made by members new to this place but not to the consideration of this subject.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. John Gilbert (Broadview): Mr. Speaker, Bill C-176 takes centre stage at this critical time in political democracy. Canadians have been exposed to and some have experienced the results of wiretapping and electronic surveillance. We have witnessed and read the revelations of the Watergate affair and are shocked by the conduct and cover-up of persons in high places. Mr. Speaker, Watergate is now making the McCarthyism period in the United States look like the age of reason. When we learn that the late J. Edgar Hoover, as head of the FBI, considered Martin Luther King a subversive and a liar and applied electronic surveillance to Dr. King, it makes us realize the restrictions that must be placed on electronic surveillance.

We in the New Democratic Party support the principles of Bill C-176 but are concerned with some of the procedures and provisions in it. I notice that the former minister of justice is here, Mr. Speaker. I read his speech and some of his interviews in which he indicated that there should have been consultation between the Minister of Justice and the attorneys-general of the provinces. I hope that procedure was followed prior to the framing of this bill because he indicated the necessity of uniformity in the law and that the power to license the manufacture of electronic equipment probably lay within the provincial jurisdiction and that such licensing was necessary. I hope this course has been adopted by the present Minister of Justice (Mr. Lang) and that he will be able to respond to that assertion.

In view of the fact that there is now virtually no legislation limiting electronic surveillance, this bill provides a good starting point to deal with this serious problem. Prior to this legislation all we had was one federal statute which made it an offence to interfere with any of the property of the Bell Telephone Company, to work on its lines or intercept any message transmitted thereon, as well as a few provincial statutes which made it an offence to divulge the contents of a conversation heard by means of wiretapping, except when authorized or directed. These restrictions were completely unsatisfactory and provided an opportunity for wiretapping by many people and groups. Probably the worst offenders, Mr. Speaker, were the police forces of this country.

Wiretapping and electronic surveillance have increased in use and sophistication at a rapid rate in the past few years. They have become the tyrant of technology and have taken on different forms and types, pressing into the privacy of man's conversation and into his home. We have had electronic snoops with regard to criminals; we have had electronic snoops with regard to car salesmen, where a manager has had electronic surveillance of conversations with customers; we have had electronic surveillance with regard to union activities; we have had data bank information revealed, and in some cases that has been unwarranted and unjustified; we have had psychological surveillance by way of truth serums; we have had corporate espionage and now political espionage as exemplified in the affairs of our neighbours to the south.

This bill deals with some of these areas but certainly not all. Probably the most important is the danger of the misuse of data bank information and there is a need to protect individuals and businessmen against the misuse of information about them which is sorted in computers or data banks. There is now a provincial or international flow of information through the telecommunications facilities, linking computers with central data banks. This is certainly not covered by the bill.

This legislation is clear in three aspects however: first, electronic surveillance in the private sector is completely illegal; second, the possession, sale and purchase of electronic equipment by unauthorized persons which render it primarily useful for surreptitious interruption of private communication is illegal and, third, civil liability of persons connected with illegal wiretaps is established. These measures are welcome.

The major concerns of the New Democratic Party are first, the issuing of permits by judges; second, the admissibility of certain evidence from illegal wiretaps and, third, amendments to the Official Secrets Act concerning the issue of warrants by the Solicitor General for alleged espionage and subversive activities. These are the three main areas. I am sure the Minister of Justice (Mr. Lang) will deal with them when he replies, and also at the committee stage.

• (1540)

The general rule that private wiretaps are illegal is subject to this main exception: That the police are permitted to make wiretaps, provided they have complied with certain criteria satisfactory to the judge before a permit is issued. That brings into sharp focus the question of personal privacy in a democratic country and underlines the problems arising from the tyranny of technology. I submit that personal privacy is central to man's dignity and liberty, and to deny him this privacy may be to undermine his very humanity and erode belief in our democratic institutions and the judicial process. In the words of Mr. Justice Field of the United States:

—Of all the rights of the citizen, few are of greater importance or more essential to his peace and happiness than the right of personal security and that involves, not merely protection of his person from assault but exemption of his private affairs—from the inspection and scrutiny of others. Without the enjoyment of this right, all others would lose their value.

This proposition was restated by Professor Edward Ryan at the Couchiching Conference of August 5, 1971 when he said:

The right to privacy, far from being a mere individual claim, is itself a public interest of the highest order, in which may be found the wellsprings of individual creativity and group expression which are at the heart of popular government. They cannot be allowed to be imperilled. No more fundamental laws to our ideals is possible than that posed by the possession and potential abuse of overly wide governmental powers in this area.

From those statements arise such questions as: Should the police be given the power to snoop, and is wiretapping necessary and effective in combatting crime? Many have said that the police should be in the same position and as well equipped as criminals with respect to the use of electronic equipment. This bill deals with the question of private surveillance and private surveillance is made illegal, as is the possession, sale and purchase of unauthorized electronic equipment.

The second assertion that crime is on the increase does not necessarily jibe with the facts. The fact is that more crime is reported today than in the past, and therefore it does not follow that more crime is being committed. The assertion that police wiretapping and electronic surveillance is necessary to combat crime should be reviewed on the basis of facts. The self-conferred right to wiretap by the police has had no appreciable effect on crime detection. Actually, the evidence discloses that wiretapping is used by the police for the purpose of aiding in investigation and seldom if ever for the purpose of collecting evidence. The following was said in the brief of the Canadian Civil Liberties Association which was presented to the Standing Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs:

In a learned law review article, Brown and Peer made the following observation, generally supported by experts in the field:

'Wiretapping is of very little use in connection with ordinary felonies and crimes of violence. There is lacking in this sporadic sort of crime the pattern of continuity necessary for effective wiretap operation by the police officers.'

No less an authority than Ramsay Clark, U.S. President Johnson's last Attorney-General, voiced the same misgivings when he said:

In several cities where organized crime is most severe, police and prosecution have in the past used wiretap without inhibition. It has not been effective. Organized crime still flourishes in these communities. In other cities where there has never been organized crime, police have never used wiretap. The massive programs required to end organized crime have no place for wiretap. It is too slow, too costly, too ineffective . . . Organized crime cannot exist where criminal justice agencies are not at least neutralized and probably corrupted to some degree . . . The F.B.I. used electronic surveillance in the organized crime area from at least the late 1950's until July 1965 . . . So far as is known not one conviction resulted from any of the these bugs . . . In 1967 and 1968, without the use of any electronic surveillance, F.B.I. convictions of organized crime and racketeering figures were several times higher than during any year before 1965. The bugs weren't necessary.

With regard to organized crime in Canada, we had a royal commission studying crime in Ontario in 1961. In their report they said that organized crime was virtually non-existent in Canada. In 1969 the Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police stated that organized crime in Canada was in its infancy. We must, therefore, ask whether it is necessary in the circumstances to give the police such wide powers in these fields. What worries the members of my party, Mr. Speaker, is the procedure that will be adopted with regard to permit applications to a superior court judge. Such applications will be made ex parte by way of affidavit, and the procedure will involve an application to a superior court judge. When there is an ex parte application, there is a one-sided type of justice. The decision is made on the basis of an affidavit prepared by a police officer, in most instances, and there is no right to cross-examination, which is contrary to our adversary system. The judge will need to make a decision on the basis of an application made by one person or group of persons.

In the United States, especially in the state of New York, they have had the experience of police officers who wanted to make application for wiretapping permits going judge shopping. In other words, they have gone to judges who were sympathetic and who have issued permits on evidence that was very scanty. I do not think that this will happen in Canada. Certainly, it is not in keeping with our concepts of Canadian justice. We think that all parties should be represented in court. We think the adversary system is necessary and we think that examination, cross-examination, legal argument and judgment should be part of our system. All these factors are most important, but yet are missing when a police officer applies to a judge on an ex parte basis.

The bill also provides for a private communication, intercepted without authorization, to be not admissible as evidence, but that information or things disclosed as a result of unauthorized interception may be admitted as evidence. In other words, the direct evidence is inadmissible, but the derived evidence may be admissible. We are departing from the usual rule which states that all relevant evidence is admissible, regardless of how it is obtained. It has been suggested that the rule should be that the evidence should be admitted only it does not offend the fundamental concepts inherent in our ideas of ordered liberty under the law. We should consider whether it is reasonable evidence, whether it is just evidence and whether it is in accordance with the Bill of Rights before it is admitted in court. Surely, there could be a *voir dire* to determine this issue.

It has been indicated that most police wiretapping is not designed to gather evidence, but to gather information from which evidence can be developed. Professor Beck of Osgoode Hall put it into sharp focus when he said:

> The only real control over the police is self-control. To achieve self-control over illegal wiretapping the law should provide that all charges arising from illegal wiretapping must be dismissed in court. This would have a magic effect in assuring that whatever wiretapping legislation is passed by Parliament, it will in fact be obeyed by the police.

• (1550)

I think the members of the New Democratic Party agree with the sentiments contained in that statement by Professor Beck.

Perhaps the most frightening parts of the bill deal with the amendments to the Official Secrets Act. All the safeguards relating to police wiretapping disappear. I quote:

> The Solicitor General of Canada may issue a warrant authorizing the interception or seizure of any communication if he is satisfied by evidence on oath that
>
> (a) the purpose of such interception or seizure is related to the prevention or detection of espionage, sabotage or any other subversive activity directed against Canada or detrimental to the security of Canada; and
>
> (b) such interception or seizure is necessary in the public interest.

A provision follows that under which the application for the warrant is made by an officer of the RCMP. The warrant is issued by the Solicitor General (Mr. Allmand). The accounting procedure, the report aspect, is, and I quote:

> The Commissioner of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police shall from time to time make a report to the Solicitor General of Canada with respect to each warrant issued pursuant to subsection (2) setting forth particulars of the manner in which the warrant was used and the results, if any, obtained from such use.

In other words, all the safeguards which we have applied to the police in general do not apply to the Solicitor General or to the RCMP when the wiretapping is for the purpose of prevention or detection of espionage, sabotage or any other subversive activity. We find that this provision is repugnant to most Canadians.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Gilbert: The last speaker indicated that the views of his party were much the same. He has asked the Minister of Justice (Mr. Lang) to consider amendments at the committee stage to this important section. What has happened is that they have lumped together even home-made radicalism. Giving the RCMP the opportunity of maintaining surveillance in universities and other places really strikes at the very roots of political democracy. One should recall that a former Prime Minister issued a direction to the RCMP that no surveillance should take place on university campuses. Past experience indicated that the RCMP were keeping many students under surveillance who did not have the views that were generally accepted throughout the country.

When one reads the words "detrimental to the security of Canada", one wonders if the RCMP and the Solicitor General will apply this section to other segments of society. I wonder if they could ever direct a warrant against International Nickel, Domtar or any of the other polluters in this country when, in fact, their conduct militates directly against Canada and is detrimental to the security of the environment. I wonder if the RCMP and the Solicitor General will be worrying about General Motors, Ford and Chrysler when they enter into subversive activities with regard to price fixing. These are some of the dangers that are attendant upon this type of section. However, one feels that their attention will not be directed to International Nickel and the other great polluters of the environment or the big corporate enterprises, but against ordinary folk, young students in universities and other groups which are trying to make this a better country. Therefore, we find this section repugnant and not worthy of support.

I have outlined in broad detail the position of our party with regard to this bill. Other members will zero in on particular sections and aspects that are of major concern to them. In closing, I think it would be fair to say we support the bill in principle, but we are certainly concerned about some of the provisions and procedures presently contained in it.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Ron Atkey (St. Paul's): Mr. Speaker, this bill is long overdue. Finally, the arduous efforts of many law reformers to provide a meaningful form of protection of privacy in Canada are about to be rewarded. This is not to say that I support all the provisions of this bill before us, but merely to indicate that I support wholeheartedly its general legislative thrust as a valuable and necessary reform to an area of law which until recently was largely ignored in Canada.

In my remarks I will outline, in general terms, some objections to some of the specific provisions of the bill with the hope that the Standing Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs will entertain appropriate amendments following second reading with the same constructive and non-partisan approach that the committee followed in its proceedings during the 28th parliament. However, the minister and hon. members will be only too aware that this is a new parliament, with many new members having new or different ideas. Under no circumstances will the opposition necessarily feel bound by the proceedings taken under Bill C-6 in the 28th parliament when this government had a majority in the House and in the committee. Indeed, it is my hope that the end product of our labours here and in committee might reflect improved protections against invasion of privacy and further limitations on authorized interceptions than are in the present bill.

To put my jurisprudential premise at its simplest, I believe that in a free society the right to privacy should be protected by law and that there should be derogations from this protection only where public need is clearly demonstrated by those who seek to use means to invade privacy in a rational way for the public good. The onus should always be on those invading privacy, not on those seeking the legal protection of the right.

Compared with the United States and the United Kingdom, Canada got off to a relatively late start in this field. However, in the past five years, a great deal of ground has been covered. I refer not only to the hard work of the

many able and responsible members from all parties who participated in the work of the standing committee in the last parliament, the initiative of the present Minister of Finance (Mr. Turner) when he was Minister of Justice, or to the continued interest and open-mindedness of the present Minister of Justice (Mr. Lang). Of equal importance, I refer to the pioneering work of the Ontario Law Reform Commission in 1968, with its now famous study and report on protection of privacy in Ontario, which laid much of the groundwork for the subsequent activities of the standing committee at the federal level and the resulting initiatives of the government. The Ontario study was prepared largely by my friend and former colleague, Edward Ryan, who was quoted so ably by the hon. member for Broadview (Mr. Gilbert), who later became counsel to the federal standing committee and assisted in the preparation of its report which forms the basis of the bill before us. Mr. Ryan and members of the Ontario Law Reform Commission certainly deserve a share of the credit for the bill we have before us today. Canadians will always be in their debt.

However, the concerns which precipitated the interest of law reformers five years ago are much greater today. Canadians should know that technological advances have led to the production of bugging and photographic devices which permit a man's every movement or word to be recorded without his knowing about it. Canadians should also be aware that it is now a relatively simple matter for telephones to be tapped, offices to be bugged, files to be photographed, physical movements to be monitored and communications to be recorded. Yet until this bill is passed, there is virtually no right of recourse or protection in law against this sort of activity. Indeed, had the type of bugging activity which took place during the Watergate affair last year taken place in Canada there would have been absolutely no legal recourse against the perpetrators of this heinous conduct. Unlike the United States law, Canadian law provides no constitutional right to privacy. However, in the context of today's society I would submit that erosions of privacy of the kind I have mentioned, certainly in the political context, constitute the beginning of the end of political freedom as we know it in this country.

• (1600)

The bill before us goes a long way toward providing the protection which Canadians want and need. For the first time, wiretapping is made a crime, punishable by way of indictment and liability to imprisonment for a five-year term. Second, the exceptions are specifically defined, the most important being the carefully-defined authorization of wiretapping carried out by law enforcement officials acting under the instructions of the Attorneys-General of the provinces or the Solicitor General, or their agents specially designated in writing. The bill makes a bold attempt to rationalize, structure and confine the method of requesting an authorization and the person who can give the authorization. However, I have grave reservations as to the specific method proposed in the bill particularly its reliance on the judiciary to provide ultimate authorization, as opposed to the Solicitor General or the Attorneys-General. I shall elaborate on this point later.

[Mr. Atkey.]

Third, the bill provides another valuable protection by making possession, sale or purchase of bugging devices an indictable offence, subject again to certain clearly-defined exceptions in the public interest. Also, the bill makes provision for the forfeiture of such devices in cases in which a person has been convicted of wilful interception or unlawful possession. Another important feature of the bill is that it creates the offence of disclosure of information obtained by unlawful wiretapping or bugging.

Perhaps one of the most innovative aspects of the bill is the introduction of the concept of civil damages, both punitive and actual, in situations of unlawful interception or user disclosure. This means that a person whose privacy has been invaded in this fashion not only has criminal sanctions at his disposal but can proceed against those responsible to recover a monetary amount equivalent to the actual damage to his reputation, and also punitive damages to the extent of $5,000. This may prove to be an important additional deterrent to anyone contemplating illegal invasions of privacy of the kind under consideration.

Unfortunately, though, the bill fails to provide any means by which a person whose wire has been tapped by public officials can find out that his privacy had been invaded in this fashion. There is no provision requiring the Solicitor General, the Attorney-General or their authorized agents to notify the person subject to a wiretap even after an investigation has been completed.

As a practical matter, therefore, it will be very difficult, if not impossible, for a person to seek the prosecution of a public official, or to claim damages against him under the suggested changes to the Crown Liability Act. The present draft seems to be based on the premise that what a man doesn't know won't hurt him.

It is significant that the standing committee in its 1970 report recommended that notification be made within a reasonable time by registered letter, subject to reasonable exceptions where there is a continuing investigation or where the wiretaps are related to espionage or sabotage on behalf of a foreign power. At the very last, the bill should require that in the annual report of the Solicitor General or of the Attorneys General an accounting be made of the number of people who were not informed following the completion of the wiretap investigations surrounding their cases.

I support wholeheartedly the elaborate annual reporting requirement of the Solicitor General and the Attorneys General in this Bill. If invasions of privacy are to be authorized in accordance with the mechanisms proposed, it is absolutely essential that the responsible political officers account to the public for the number of times and the circumstances under which they have initiated wiretapping, and give some indication of the extent to which wiretapping has been successful or unsuccessful as a means of law enforcement. Any Solicitor General or Attorney-General who has been over-zealous in his use of such techniques will obviously be directed toward his rightful place by the force of opposition scrutiny, press vigilance and public opinion. While it is good that these annual reports are required to be tabled or made public "as soon as possible after the end of each year", I would

like to see the insertion of a more specific time limit of not more than six months after year end. The unfortunate practices of the present government with respect to the filing of annual reports are surely evidence of the need for further protection. Also, the Solicitor General's report should include information as to the number of persons to whom he issues licences each year to lawfully possess bugging devices which are otherwise illegal.

The public accountability aspects of the bill bring to mind what is perhaps the most reprehensible provision before us, one which allows the Solicitor General to drive a truck right through even the reporting safeguard. I refer to the provision which allows a Solicitor General to issue a secret warrant authorizing the interception of communications if he is satisfied that the purpose is "related to the prevention or detection of espionage, sabotage or any other subversive activity directed against Canada or detrimental to the security of Canada." There is no reporting requirement respecting these secret warrants. All that is required is that the Commissioner of the RCMP report from time to time to the Solicitor General; other than that these secret warrants will never see the light of day.

In any event, what does the term "any other subversive activity" mean? Clearly, it means whatever the Solicitor General wants it to mean. Anything that varies from the status quo could be swept into the net under this elastic formula, whether it be taking a trip to Mainland China or reading the wrong kind of books or knowing the wrong kind of people, as defined by the Solicitor General. We need only contemplate the experience in the United States during the Red scare and deportations of the early twenties, the Red scare of the McCarthy era in the fifties, their disastrous Asian tragedy of the sixties in Viet Nam and the Pentagon papers revelations of the seventies, all of which resulted from the abuse of secret powers directed against subversive activity, to know how dangerous is this provision in the bill before us. The Solicitor General need not even apply to a judge for the issue of these warrants. He does not even report to parliament about his use of these absolute powers of secret surveillance. He need not state how many times he has exercised these powers.

Mr. Brewin: Would the hon. member permit a question? Would the learned member not agree that the words "subversive activity" have been held by the courts in the United States to be so vague and indefinite as to be unconstitutional?

Mr. Atkey: The hon. member for Greenwood (Mr. Brewin) is a constitutional authority for far greater notoriety than myself.

Some hon. Members: Oh!

Mr. Brewin: Notoriety?

Mr. Atkey: I believe the statement you have made is correct.

The standing committee of the twenty-eighth parliament recognized the need for a strong power to guard against subversive activities. But the committee also recognized that parliament must be kept informed in order that it might assess the propriety of the use of the power which it grants and the effectiveness of the safeguards, so as to maintain vigilance in preventing the erosion of civil liberties. Yet this government has persisted in maintaining the same sort of secrecy that so characterized its methods of operation during the October crisis of 1970 when civil liberties were reduced to one of the lowest levels in Canadian history. Surely, something is wrong in the state of Canada at the present time if this is allowed to remain in the bill.

• (1610)

At the very minimum, parliament must be informed of the number of times the Solicitor General sees fit to use this dangerous power. Secret surveillance of the sort contemplated by this section has no place in a free and democratic society.

There is another glaring inconsistency in this bill, already referred to by the hon. member for Broadview, relating to the evidentiary provisions as to admissibility. This bill as drafted would preclude direct evidence obtained by illegal wiretapping from being admitted in court proceedings against the originator of the communication intercepted, but it would allow the fruits of such illegally obtained evidence to be admitted, that is the evidence obtained directly or indirectly as a result of information acquired by such illegal interception. In my view, this is totally inconsistent with any rational application of the exclusionary rules of evidence, no matter what the jurisdiction. Either you admit all evidence from illegal wiretapping or you exclude it all.

To exclude it is to admit that such a rule of evidence is necessary in order to control the behaviour of police and public officials in their use of wiretapping. To admit all such evidence, whether direct or indirect, is to leave to the discretion of the court the weighing of such evidence as to its relevance in the context of the case before it. But the legislation as it now stands contains a serious analytical defect. My own preference would be to exclude both direct and indirect evidence which has been obtained by illegal wiretaps, and I was encouraged to note that such an amendment was proposed following second reading by the standing committee of the last parliament and was narrowly defeated by a vote of six to five. Hopefully, this matter will be given serious reconsideration once again.

No further proof of the futility of the present provision is required than to refer to the evidence of the chief of police of Toronto on behalf of the Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police before the standing committee, there he indicated that in some 155 cases of wiretapping leading to criminal prosecutions in the courts in Toronto, in not one instance was the actual intercepted conversation used in prosecutions, but only the indirect evidence which was obtained as a result of having received that conversation. Clearly, the present evidentiary protection in the bill is totally illusory.

Perhaps the most debated aspect of this bill when it was before the last parliament and in committee was whether the final authorization for wiretapping by the police and public officials should be given by a judge, or by the Solicitor General or the Attorneys-General or persons designated by them. After much debate and division of opinion, the committee opted for the final authority to be given by a judge of a superior court of criminal jurisdic-

tion, but only after the request for authorization was initiated by the Attorney General, the Solicitor General or persons specially designated by them. Later the committee went on to broaden the range of judges who could provide this type of authorization. Included were all county and district court judges in Canada and all provincial court judges or judges of the sessions of the peace in the province of Quebec. I believe the term used in the legislation is "a judge as defined in Section 482 of the Criminal Code".

In my opinion, it was a mistake not to vest the final authority in those political officers who the public hold responsible for the conduct of the government in this country. It should be the Solicitor General or the Attorneys General who have the final say. The exercise of the power to grant authority to invade privacy can affect the critical balance between the government and people. Surely, then, the people must be able to hold a responsible minister to account for his use of the power. Under this bill, the minister can take shelter behind the judge's decision.

The bill provides that the Solicitor General, the Attorney General or agents designated by them will apply to a judge in a secret ex parte hearing for authorization to wiretap. In most cases it will be the agent applying, not the Solicitor General or the Attorney General. One can expect that most agents to be named would be justices of the peace, Crown Attorneys or even chiefs of police. In any event, all of the records of the application are sealed. Surely, this is a blatant abuse of the traditional judicial process. Secret ex parte hearings have no place in our judicial tradition, and they can place a judge in a very difficult and embarrassing position. This may well undermine the traditional function of our judiciary. The judges will have no data to go on other than a written accusation or statement of suspicion by the agent. They will not know both sides of the story and they are not allowed to weigh both sides. In other words, they are not judging; they are being told to make the minister's decision for him. Responsible police officials told the standing committee that they did not want to go to judges. They wanted the Solicitor General or the Attorney-General to take the responsibility, as he should under our parliamentary system. The idea of using a judge, I am told, is borrowed from the United States, and the experience there, as the hon. member for Broadview has pointed out, has been a sorry one.

A New York District Attorney noted recently that the police in his state seemed to know which judges required strict proof and which judges were to be avoided. Throughout Canada, there are 255 Supreme Court and Superior Court judges, 181 county and district court judges, and close to 200 provincial court judges in Quebec, well over 600 in all, who would be qualified to authorize wiretapping under this bill. There is no reason to believe that a similar type of judge shopping would not take place here. As one who prefers greater restrictions on authorized wiretapping, I would strongly urge the committee and this House to give reconsideration to vesting ultimate authority in the political officials, and not the judges.

A final concern with this bill is that the range of the offences for which wiretapping may be authorized by a judge may be unnecessarily broad. The standing committee proposed that the use of this power to lawfully intercept communications be limited to 19 extremely grave crimes, including the control of syndicated crime. Eighteen of the 19 offences listed by the committee carry possible penalties of 10 years or more in prison. This bill before us will allow the police to seek authorization to intercept communications in the case of any indictable offence. In other words, the extraordinary power of invasion of privacy could well become a routine investigative tool and, contrary to the recommendations of the standing committee, wiretapping could be used on such matters as petty theft, income tax evasion, impaired driving, the possession of marijuana and theft over and under $50. While I would not for a moment condone any of these offences or attempt to impair the attempts of law enforcement officials to arrest and convict people committing them, I would seriously question whether authorizing wiretapping for such matters is not really the equivalent of using a shotgun where a rifle would do.

In the same vein, I think that the demand of the Association of Chiefs of Police to extend wiretapping to summary conviction offences is an example of unnecessary and dangerous overreaching of law enforcement goals at the expense of civil liberties of the public generally. I sincerely hope that the committee will avoid this broad shotgun approach.

As one last matter, I want to express some reservation about the provision in the present bill permitting emergency permits to wiretap to be granted for up to 36 hours by an agent designated by the Solicitor General or the Attorney-General without the necessity of having to go before a judge. My fear is that in some provinces the use of such emergency permits may become more the rule than the exception, unless the Attorney General there takes an extremely firm position against such a practice. My own preference, if emergency permits must be part of the legislation, would be to require authorization by the Attorney-General or the Solicitor General personally. Otherwise, the bulk of authorized wiretapping activities may consist of 36-hour taps approved and then revoked by the local agents in each case. These are difficult to detect except ultimately through the Attorney General's annual report to be made public each year, but always after the event.

In closing, may I say that this is one of the most significant pieces of legislation to come before this House this session. It is to the minister's credit that he responded to the pressure applied by the opposition in committee last month and promptly came forward with this bill before Canada is faced with a situation similar to Watergate, with no legislative sanctions to remedy it.

• (1620)

Mr. Edward Broadbent (Oshawa-Whitby): Mr. Speaker, first of all I wish to compliment the hon. member for St. Paul's (Mr. Atkey) for what I regard as one of the very best speeches I have heard in this House. I have only been here since 1968, but it is one of the best speeches I have heard on the very important question of human liberty and the related subject of human privacy. I think it was an excellent speech. The question with which we are faced with respect to this bill really is part of the larger

question of what limits if any are to be placed on human privacy. That question is a root question, a philosophical question, which must be faced by any society at any time in history. It is a question, however, which democratic societies are inclined to think they need not deal with because democracies, as forms of government, think they are not liable to the problem of the invasion of privacy associated with other types of regimes.

I find it unfortunate, in a sense, that this debate in this House at this time in the history of North America should in fact have aroused such little interest from the point of view of attendance in the House. I realize there are important matters which must be attended to and with which members have to deal. However, I think the attendance here is indicative of the attitude of many people, including Members of Parliament, toward the question of privacy and toward the question of human liberty itself. There is a basic assumption, so prevalent in our land as well as in others, that one need not be concerned about the question of a human right until one is hit personally or until one's group is hit. Then, there is a psychological response.

I suggest that the specific matter with which we are dealing now is one which could open up in a fundamental way the question of the invasion of privacy on the kind of systematic basis that was alluded to by the previous speaker; and in such a way in terms of its long-range consequence for Canadians that all of us in this House, if we cannot be here physically for this debate, should take great care in reading the debate and of course in looking at the bill with which we are dealing before we cast a final vote. Privacy is essential to individuality itself. It is fundamentally important to what is known as the integrity of the personality. This is a notion philosophically as old as the Greek philosophers and medieval theologians and as recent as the intellectual concern of the 20th century psychoanalysts. People as diverse as Plato, J. S. Mill, Bertrand Russell and Sigmund Freud have all recognized that without a sense of privacy, without a distinction between public concern, public involvement, community concern and community involvement on the one hand and the basic right in other instances to have privacy in one's life, that without this distinction being legitimatized and institutionalized in society what you really end up with is the abolition of individuality in people, the abolition of freedom and the abolition of creativity in the human being.

I try to avoid rhetoric as frequently as possible in my speeches and avoid exaggeration, but I think this type of issue is of just this importance. If we take steps in terms of the laws of this parliament which lead to the systematic invasion of privacy, we are really taking steps which can lead to the systematic elimination of the individuality in people. For the purpose of the debate, I define the right of privacy as the recognition of the legitimacy of man's right to think, to speak and to meet with people under circumstances from which all others but those whom he himself has selected are excluded. That, as I say, is privacy. As I have said, I see this as being essential to human individuality.

To state the opposite circumstance I think illustrates the case. That is, if we have a state in which no privacy is permitted, liberty and creativity are also non-existent. The most recent, in terms of the 20th century, standard works of art one cites for this are, of course, the works of Kafka and, in the English language, Huxley's "Brave New World" and George Orwell's "1984". The book "1984" I remind hon. members is a novel written by a man in this century who was responding not, as is frequently thought, simply to capital "C" communism but indeed to the possibility of any totalitarian society which has at its disposal the technological means of the total elimination of privacy. It has at its disposal the possibility, therefore, of the total control of the individual. I think the elimination of privacy, as I said a minute ago, leads clearly in that type of direction. The danger is that, as Canadians, we tend to associate that kind of danger simply with the Nazi regime with which Germany and western Europe had to live in the 1930's and until the mid-1940's. Or we think of Stalinist Russia as another form of totalitarianism.

However, the phenomenon of the threat of privacy is not to be restricted to those countries in those parts of the world. In my view, the United States at the present time is undergoing, in terms of its own internal life, its most significant crisis perhaps of this century as a democratic society. The United States now has the technology to totally invade the privacy of all her citizens virtually any time of the day or night. Not only that, but we are witnessing in what people all over the world have called "that great democracy," the United States, the fact that technology can be used by a democratically elected president, or if he has not authorized it directly himself it is clear that it has been used by officials appointed by him and directly responsible to him.

• (1630)

The point I am making is that in the United States there is the systematic use of modern, technologically sophisticated devices for the total invasion of people's privacy and hence of their freedom, and that is taking place not in a totalitarian society but in a democratic one. It is taking place in part—and this is an important point to make in the context of the central weakness of this bill which is to be found in clause 6 which gives such extraordinary powers to the Solicitor General (Mr. Allmand), totally unimpeded by normal judicial processes—in a democratic country in the form of what is now known as the Watergate affair. It is taking place, I would argue, in part because the men and women who were directing the operation believed in the legitimacy of what they were doing. As de Toqueville said in the last century, and since by a number of other serious commentators, but de Toqueville was the first observer of mass democracy, he saw then the dangers of a democratic society using instruments or devices, because they believed in the overwhelming legitimacy of their case and had majority support, which other kinds of governments in previous times would have been reluctant to use.

The point is that in a democracy, precisely because we mobilize public support for causes, precisely because there is a danger that once you have the majority on your side you might point to those who disagree with that majority as being the enemy, as being in a sense alien, there is a danger of using the full support of a democratic majority to attack the roots of human freedom, namely the right to privacy. I, for one, believe that a lot of people

acting under the orders of President Nixon, or—and I hope this turns out to be the case—under the orders of senior officials appointed by him, believe that it was right to spy on Senator McGovern, that it was right to violate the basic legal rights of Mr. Ellsberg, that it was right to engage in undermining the political processes because they believed that a man named McGovern was last year undermining the democratic objectives which the regime of the time was trying to further.

The point I am trying to make is that many of the Nixon officials did not believe that they were doing evil. They believed that Mr. McGovern somehow, instead of bringing peace for which he was working, was going to bring in a kind of society which was the very contradiction of what they thought was in the spirit of the basic American principles of democracy. As I see it, as a democrat in a democratic country, this is the kind of broader issue with which we should be concerning ourselves in this kind of debate. When we give, for example, under the provisions of clause 6 of the bill, the authority to the Solicitor General to use all the modern devices such as wiretapping to invade the privacy of individuals and of groups without going, at least initially, through the judicial route of applying to a superior court judge for a warrant or without having to consult any other person, I would argue that we are leaving ourselves open to the kind of situation which occurred in the United States. I stress the words "in principle", and I do not mean of course that the present Solicitor General or the present government would deliberately embark on such action.

I wish to repeat the point I was making a minute ago about democratic societies. I am convinced that a majority of the members of the U.S. Congress, if this debate were taking place in that chamber a year and a half ago, would have thought it inconceivable in principle that the systematic corruption which is now being revealed by the investigations of the Watergate affair could take place. The point, then, is that if we are going to justify, under certain extreme circumstances, the invasion of privacy, then we have to take extreme precautions in terms of the procedures that will be used by a democratically elected politician in so acting. I suggest that it is a glaring and unacceptable weakness of this bill that the Solicitor General can, relying on his own definition presumably, decide what is going to be defined as a "subversive activity directed against Canada", which is the wording in this bill. This can lead to the kind of thinking by certain eminent politicians in the United States which clearly enabled them psychologically, in a country which is now at the centre of world history, to perceive themselves as being profoundly threatened, not only from without but from within, and to use measures which we find totally unacceptable.

Therefore, to guard against that eventuality in Canada, I think that the minimum we need in terms of implementing the provisions of this part of the act is a safeguard provision that would make it mandatory, at the very least, that the Solicitor General obtain a warrant from a superior court judge and, beyond that, that he must provide to this parliament on a regular basis a full and documented report on all the instances in a given period when action has been taken under the provisions of clause 6 of this bill. If such a change is not made in the bill, judging from what the previous speakers from the Conservative and NDP groups have been saying, I am sure that we will not get this bill passed at all. I hope that the minister is listening with care to what hon. members are saying in this debate if he wants to get it passed.

There are two good provisions in the bill, and we join in praising the minister and his predecessor for prohibiting under this bill private wiretapping and the sale, possession or purchase of equipment to be used for that kind of activity. These are good provisions, but I have entered what I regard as a very important caveat. We expect a change in the provisions of clause 6 which enable the Solicitor General to act in much too sweeping a manner.

I want to conclude with a recent instance, not from American, German or Russian history, but one which occurred in Canada. About three weeks ago a conference was held in this city, Ottawa, organized by the Canadian Society for Industrial Security. It was a three day affair attended by representatives of Northern Electric, Cominco, International Harvester, Bell Telephone, Eaton's and a number of others. The ostensible purpose of it was to discuss security. We do not know what aspects of security because we were excluded from this conference by a group of Canadian businessmen who held it here in the capital city.

• (1640)

I went down to the conference. I was told that the assistant-commissioner of the RCMP, H. C. Draper, was to deliver a paper entitled, "The Threat from Subversive Elements." I was told that he was going to deal with subversive elements in the trade unions. As a Canadian and Member of Parliament, I thought it would be interesting to hear what an assistant-commissioner of the RCMP was going to say about Canadian workers to a group of businessmen. But when I got there I was barred entry. I was told that this was a security matter. I ask what kind of security matter it was. What right did the RCMP have to collect information on Canadians from one coast to the other, information which if revealed or spoken about outside this chamber would probably be subject to the laws of libel? And what right does a state police official, a senior one at that, have to divulge information of that kind about one group of Canadians to another group of Canadians? In this instance, I am told that it was about a group of Canadian workers in the trade union movement, and it was to be divulged to a group who usually are on the other side of the bargaining table, a group of businessmen who will be confronting the workers at different times when negotiating employment contracts. What can justify such action?

After this issue was raised in the House of Commons, I was pleased that the Solicitor General (Mr. Allmand) informed me that there will be no more such conferences. But, Mr. Speaker, this body has met each year for the past number of years. This body of businessmen has been concerned ostensibly with security matters. It is little known in Canada. It is little talked about. The conference was interesting, not only in terms of the papers delivered but in terms of the literature that was made available, advertising courses which representatives of the companies could take. The literature included brochures from a certain institution in the United States inviting represent-

atives of business companies to go there and learn all about bugging, to learn all about listening devices, to learn all about means of, in effect, spying on Canadians who work in offices and factories.

What I am concerned about in this context is that a national police force, the RCMP, should have had a spokesman at that conference, speaking about one group in our country and disclosing what, if used in a different context, could conceivably amount to libellous statements. There is no place in our society for our national police force to perform that kind of act. Little concern has been expressed about that matter by the average person, or by the Canadian newspapers. At times I am at a loss to understand the lack of concern about individual rights that is so widespread in our country. Little concern is expressed about these rights by institutions or people to whom one would look for some kind of leadership. I cite this as merely one instance, simply to show that in the broad course of history Canada is by no means Simon pure. We cannot, therefore, look at Watergate in the United States and say that nothing like that could happen here.

The speaker who preceded me said that the present provisions in the laws of Canada would make a Watergate a clear possibility here. I would like to say that this bill, which in part does deal in a positive way with the invasion of privacy, would still leave the possibility open to the Solicitor General of Canada to initiate the same kind of situation in Canada, and so long as that kind of legal possibility remains I do not think the bill merits support.

Mr. Terry O'Connor (Halton): Mr. Speaker, the re-introduction before this House of legislation governing electronic surveillance has been welcomed by virtually all commentators. I join in this general commendation, but would add the comment that such action is long overdue. The subject has received lengthy scrutiny in previous parliaments. At least three previous Justice and Legal Affairs Committees have heard evidence and considered the matter of wiretap legislation, as it is generally called. It would be redundant to examine fully all of the arguments for and against such legislation at this time, nor is it necessary at this stage to examine in depth all of the particulars of Bill C-176. But I do wish to make a few comments of a general nature on the bill before the House.

The nefarious practice of the invasion of the personal privacy of the individual, without his knowledge or consent and without the authority of law, is surely an area which should be the subject of the most stringent government legislation. Yet as the law now stands such practice is not illegal, is not contrary to the Criminal Code and is not, per se, even the subject of civil action in eight of the provinces of Canada. These facts are sometimes not recognized or not understood by some of those who view the introduction of such legislation only in its permissive aspects, that is, as the allowing of the electronic surveillance of private conversations by police agencies.

This bill should be looked upon, as it definitely is, as a codification of something which most people take for granted as a fundamental human right, that of protection of the personal privacy of the individual and his freedom from interference with his personal conversations, his comings and goings, and his private affairs. Perhaps because of the inherently despicable nature of wiretapping, of bugging and the use of electronic recording equipment to learn of private communications, the general public seems to assume that these practices are illegal. But not so, Mr. Speaker. Thus, legislation in this field is welcomed wholeheartedly. One can only wonder why it took the government so long finally to put together Bill C-6 of the last parliament and now Bill C-176, the latter being substantially the same as the former.

In proposing rules and regulations of this type, however, the government must resolve the age-old and perhaps insoluble conundrum which faces the law when dealing with matters of this nature, the conflict which results when the interests of the individual are pitted in opposition to the interests of society as a whole. The extent and limitations of each, and the degree to which a contemporary society feels the already hazy line between the two should shift one way or the other, is a dilemma which has been faced by lawmakers in free countries over the centuries. A variation of this question is seen presently, especially in the United States, in the debate being waged over the freedom of the press to report, and thus the public to be informed, when such right may conflict with the right of the individual to receive a fair and equitable trial under the law. Thus, this bill must determine clearly for the courts the extent to which, and under what conditions, the public, through its authorized agencies may encroach upon the privacy of the individual.

• (1650)

It cannot be said that one right is paramount over the other, although we must start from the premise that the right of the individual to privacy is a fundamental human freedom which cannot be subrogated arbitrarily. But, to the extent that conflicting interests are diametrically opposed, there must be some compromise. The areas where clearly each is paramount must be spelled out and the hitherto hazy no man's land must be clearly defined. This bill, as did its predecessor, has attempted to achieve this goal in several commendable ways. First, it establishes as a criminal offence punishable by up to five years imprisonment, the use of electronic devices to intercept private communications without the consent of those involved. This operative section obviously refers to the wiretapping of telephone calls, the most common type of interception, but is broad enough to include the use of hidden microphones, long distance microphones and hidden recording devices. To these extents, it establishes as part of our codified law, the right of an individual to privacy.

Second, the bill permits exceptions to the general rule in the case of police and other security agencies, provided authority has been obtained to do so in accordance with the Criminal Code. The significant feature of this provision is the fact that the onus is clearly on those who wish to except themselves from criminal sanction, to establish the necessity to resort to such methods of collecting evidence. The application for the authority is made to a judge and must be signed by the Attorney-General of the province or his personally delegated agent. This requirement of political approval, which was not contained in the former Bill C-6, is an attempt to meet the objections of a

number of groups and individuals who have commented on the old bill. Groups with as traditionally disparate points of view as the Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police and the Canadian Civil Liberties Association, however, managed to agree on this point.

The CACP brief to the Standing Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs stated:

> The responsibility for the issuance of permits or warrants must rest with the elected representatives and not with the judiciary . . .

The civil liberties brief submitted to the committee on this point concludes:

> We submit that the initiative for wire tapping application should reside with a political authority such as the Attorney General . . .

As I said, Mr. Speaker, the Bill C-176 has been changed apparently to achieve this effect. In fact, under the bill, electronic surveillance authorization would require the consent of the Attorney General or his agent and a judge. In the tried and true tradition of Liberal governments, they have tried to satisfy everyone and be all things to all men. But in the process they have compromised themselves into an error—one of the few in this legislation.

The whole question of the invasion of the sacredness of individual privacy is extremely delicate in nature. Its use or non-use should be determined by someone who is immediately accountable to the people—in other words only the Attorney General of a province or the Solicitor General of Canada (Mr. Allmand). A judge and our judicial system together with all of its built-in safeguards for those accused of crime, will eventually become involved in the process when examining the evidence adduced as a result of the wiretap. But the initial infringement of the state into the individual's private communications is a decision of the highest political order. It should, therefore, be made only by a politician, after which it may be the subject of public scrutiny and criticism in the public forum of a legislature or parliament. It follows, further, from this argument that the Attorney General should not be permitted to delegate this authority or if he is to be permitted to do so, such delegation should be to a severely limited number of individuals only and who would be known to the public either by name or position.

The bill in its present forms permits the delegation of this function, which should be properly that of an Attorney General, to as many agents as he so chooses. Presumably these could include every Crown Attorney, justice of the peace, or even chief of police in the province of the Attorney-General if he so wished. Clearly, there must be some statutory restraint in this area, either by the limitation of the function of granting such permission to the Attorney-General only or at least a limitation of the number of agents he may appoint, to a publicly known few. Surely, it is not anticipated that the use of such investigatory methods will be so broad as to unduly take up the time of a provincial Attorney General in examining the signing consents to proceed. And surely there can be few pursuits of greater importance to an Attorney General than the determination of such fundamental questions as the rights of the individual to prevent the indiscriminate delegation of this most important and onerous responsibility as the bill now does is wrong and ought not to be part of the legislation.

Five o'clock, Mr. Speaker?

[Mr. O'Connor.]

PROCEEDINGS ON ADJOURNMENT MOTION

SUBJECT MATTER OF QUESTIONS TO BE DEBATED

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order. It is my duty, pursuant to Standing Order 40, to inform the House that the questions to be raised tonight at the time of adjournment are as follows: the hon. member for Grenville-Carleton (Mr. Baker)—National Capital—Proposed Ottawa-Hull rapid transit—Position of federal government respecting contribution to cost; the hon. member for Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands (Mr. Douglas)—Transport—Adequacy of Tofino lifeboat station service in light of drownings; the hon. member for St. Paul's (Mr. Atkey)—Information—Possibility of use of Retail Credit Corporation by departments to obtain information.

PRIVATE MEMBERS' NOTICES OF MOTIONS

[*Translation*]

REGIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

ADVISABILITY OF DESIGNATING ST. HYACINTHE AS A SPECIAL AREA

Mr. Claude Wagner (Saint-Hyacinthe) moved:

> That, in the opinion of this House, the government should consider the advisability of taking steps under the appropriate programmes to designate Saint-Hyacinthe as a special area in order to provide for the economic expansion of Saint-Hyacinthe by means of incentives to its industries; to bring about substantial industrial growth; and, by means of financial aid, to construct community facilities such as water, sewers, roads, and schools.

He said: Mr. Speaker, it is my great honour to introduce this motion in the hope that its importance for the population of Saint-Hyacinthe will be apparent to all my colleagues and will obtain the necessary approval, thus breaking with the unfortunate tradition by which such motions are debated to death, or until the debaters are exhausted.

Mr. Prud'homme: That is what will happen!

Mr. Wagner: Mr. Speaker, I note the words of the member for Saint-Denis (Mr. Prud'homme), who says: "That is what will happen!" It will be a sorry thing for the constituency of Saint-Hyacinthe if that does happen.

Mr. Speaker, I should like right away to say what should be the spirit of this debate. We should take steps to have the Saint-Hyacinthe region designated as a "Special area", so as to provide economic development, and give a considerable boost to the agricultural, manufacturing and industrial sectors; that, briefly, is the spirit behind my presentation of this motion.

Through the words of its Member of Parliament, the whole population, the whole Saint-Hyacinthe area is now asking the federal government, first to help it boost the industries that area already there, second to help it bring

new businesses to it, and lastly, to help it bring about improvements in its community services.

The citizens of the Saint-Hyacinthe economic "sub-area" can ask for a special intervention by the federal government with legitimate pride, for they have first helped themselves.

In the opinion of economists, the manpower of my riding is, and rightly so, recognized as stable and reliable. The infrastructures are in place, all ready to receive and support expansion projects or any new development plan.

The mayors of municipalities, particularly Mayor Grégoire Girard of Saint-Hyacinthe, most municipal councils, the secretary treasurers or clerks, the agencies honourably representing our workers, the Chamber of Commerce, the Industrial Development Board and its dedicated officers, and, finally, the local news media well rooted in the riding, such as CKBS, *Le Nouveau Clairon* and *Le Courrier,* or because this paper also serves our riding, *La Voix de l'Est,* they all support us, they all stand behind me as far as the submission of this request is concerned, rather, I should say, they are before me, because they preceded me.

They and others believed in the potential of Saint-Hyacinthe and, as early as 1969-70, they fought with my deserving predecessor, the hon. Théogène Ricard, to secure justice for Saint-Hyacinthe. I am quite aware of the fact that the Saint-Hyacinthe file is already bulky and significant in the Department of Regional Economic Expansion. The former minister, now Minister of Transport (Mr. Marchand), will recall having received on April 20, 1970, an impressive delegation from Saint-Hyacinthe, led by the common front of that have-not area. The minister, although he did not grant the request of the delegates, recognized that the situation was unfortunate for the Saint-Hyacinthe area, stating, and I quote:

> The situation is abnormal and dangerous.

Mr. Speaker, three years after this April 1970 action of its common front, Saint-Hyacinthe is still in a bad way. Because of its designation as a "C" area, Saint-Hyacinthe offers little interest for the expansion of industry. Granby and Drummondville, closely related to Saint-Hyacinthe as to industrial stagnation, because of certain qualifications—so much the better for those towns and areas—have been designated as "B" areas. This, these two sub-areas, which are close neighbours are more attractive to industries wishing to locate south of Montreal.

On another plane, the decision taken by the minister in charge of housing on August 14, 1969, to bring an abrupt end to the urban renewal program has been dearly paid by the people of the Saint-Hyacinthe area in particular. Urban renewal studies had then cost the city of Saint-Hyacinthe $11,000, and the other levels of government $33,000. What is more, Mr. Speaker, the federal government's refusal at the time to allow the program to go ahead, would have caused at least a delay in the economic development of Saint-Hyacinthe and its surroundings. Building, business and, quite simply, all industry could have been boosted with investments.

• (1700)

What lies ahead for Saint-Hyacinthe is even more disquieting. The study by the Quebec Planning and Development Bureau suggests that in the south of Montreal, in areas like Valleyfield and Saint-Hyacinthe, unemployment and stagnation have set in for a long time. The study carried out by the National Institute for Scientific Research even says, and I quote:

> There will be very little increase in employment in Bagot, as the economy is predominantly agricultural. Unless there is some exchange with neighbouring counties, or some definitive migration, this part of the federal county of Saint-Hyacinthe will have a high rate of unemployment.
>
> In the (provincial) counties of Saint-Hyacinthe and Rouville, the available manpower will seek work elsewhere because of the slow growth of employment.

In a word, the outlook seems favourable only in the constituencies located to the south of Montreal, along the river, from Chauteauguay to Sorel, and in the areas around Granby and Drummondville.

However—as the minister knows very well—the urban area of Saint-Hyacinthe, to name but one, has at least as many advantages as Granby. Indeed, from 1966 to 1971, Granby, whose town councillors must here be commended for their dynamism, created at least three times as many new jobs as Saint-Hyacinthe and Valleyfield together.

All this brings us to wonder whether the distance from Montreal is a very valid criterion for a zone to be designated or not by the Department of Regional Economic Expansion.

At a time when it is about to renew its programs, it is fitting to call the Department of Regional Economic's attention to certain features.

First of all, considering Quebec as a whole, it is obvious that the province needs a master plan, and also close consultation with provincial and municipal authorities and with the main intermediary bodies concerned.

Considering the situation of Saint-Hyacinthe specifically the department should be made aware of the urgent need for more equitable administration of the master plan, particularly regarding neighbouring Granby and Drummondville and for greater autonomy in relation to Montreal itself.

That, Mr. Speaker, is why in my plea—and it is a plea—on behalf of the population of Saint-Hyacinthe, I should just like to point out a few reforms the department could consider implementing.

In the first place, consideration should be given to a contingency for regional stabilisation fund. This would be an instrument for assistance through public investments to industrial towns at times of economic crisis or when industrial economy is functioning normally, to towns dealing mainly in services.

Government interventions should be concentrated in locations which have better opportunities, due to their own facilities, to resist the Montreal attraction, especially Saint-Hyacinthe, to name one among others.

Mr. Speaker, I do not think that Montreal should become an economic monstrosity or any such thing. Not at all. It would be advisable, for example, to consider the

possible substitution of regional industrial parks for municipal industrial parks. We should for example consider industrial diversification which must also become a more inportant criterion of regional development.

From another point of view, Mr. Speaker, the partly agricultural vocation of Saint-Hyacinthe must hold the attention of the Department of Regional Economic Expansion. We must consider the possibility of producing beef in the Montreal area and as again suggested by the National Institute for Scientific Research the other Quebec farming districts would recover most of the manufacturing milk production from the Montreal area. And above all, the Department of Regional Economic Expansion, when it does consider the case of Saint-Hyacinthe in particular, will have to think about the definite establishment of a food farming industry, for sure, which will eventually create new jobs at home.

And before concluding this much too succinct analysis, I would like, still in the perspective of the economic development of Saint-Hyacinthe, to remind the government ministers about these urgent requirements: first, an urgent requirement for an expansion of the veterinary medicine school in Saint-Hyacinthe; second, an urgent requirement for a federal legislation concerning the production of sugar beets in order to enable farmers of my riding, in particular, as well as the Saint-Hilaire refinery, to enjoy more stable and considerable incomes; third, as requested by the Chamber of Commerce of Saint-Hyacinthe and the municipality of Beloeil, among others, to proceed with the integral of partial development of a master plan for an express transport system linking Montreal, Beloeil, Saint-Hyacinthe and the other municipalities involved.

Mr. Speaker, I become here only the spokesman for the people of the Saint-Hyacinthe area to ask, in closing, to the Minister of Regional Economic Expansion that, in the decisions he will soon render in conjunction with the Quebec provincial government, Saint-Hyacinthe be considered very seriously as a "special area".

There are nonetheless some factors that are obvious. The rate of unemployment which last June was 13.2 per cent; the fact that the regional industries are unable to absorb the ever growing number of young people who complete their education and want to join the labour force; the fact that the district of Saint-Hyacinthe is classed as zone "C" by the Department of Regional Economic Expansion, which places it in a lower position than the neighbouring cities of Granby and Drummondville, which, in fact, are not much farther from Montreal than Saint-Hyacinthe. All these, and many others that I will be glad to give to the minister by hand, plead in favour of Saint-Hyacinthe.

• (1710)

Mr. Speaker, I would be grateful if this plea were not without results. I want to continue increasing the contacts I have already established with the minister himself and with the officials of the department, in order to multiply industries in the Saint-Hyacinthe constituency, to make maximum use of resources available at the federal level and, finally, to reach the point where this worthy cause of the Saint-Hyacinthe population will be heard, accepted and fostered by the officers of the department, not only for the benefit of the people of Saint-Hyacinthe but for the benefit of all our fellow citizens.

[Mr. Wagner.]

Mr. Irénée Pelletier (Sherbrooke): Mr. Speaker, first I would like to congratulate the hon. member for Saint-Hyacinthe (Mr. Wagner) for the brilliant plea he has just made to have his area designated as a special area. It is my humble opinion that the department is now looking for reasons which could warrant the designation of areas in most of low growth areas in Canada.

In my first speech to this House I talked about my area. I note that what was pointed out a while ago by the hon. member for Saint-Hyacinthe strangely ressembles what is happening in my riding of Sherbrooke; the unemployment figures are the same. During the last two and a half years, or even three, studies were made by university researchers as well as the Sherbrooke city council to have the department designate the Sherbrooke area and, on a larger scale, the Eastern Townships as a special area.

We know quite well that our area—here I am thinking mainly of the Sherbrooke area—is in great need of secondary industries. As early as 1954 we developed a tertiary sector which, in my humble opinion, stands second to none in other big Quebec cities. The University of Sherbrooke as well as the University Medical Centre have contributed for a large part to the development of our area.

But if we consider what has been done in the field of processing industries we realize that in the past 10 years, if we figure out the number of industries which settled in the area and the number of those which left, we are minus one. Therefore, our area as well as that of Saint-Hyacinthe have been disfavoured in that respect in comparison to other areas of the country.

In my humble opinion—and I hope the hon. member for Saint-Hyacinthe will forgive me—the Eastern Townships and more particularly the area of Sherbrooke which is the queen of the Eastern Townships is in the great need of industries and its designation as special area would help enormously in setting up an infrastructure which would allow secondary industries which we lack to settle there.

The hon. member for Saint-Hyacinthe has indicated a few minutes ago that almost 13 per cent of the population was unemployed in his region. We have the same figure for the Sherbrooke region. However, we have a problem in our region which perhaps is not found in that of Saint-Hyacinthe since it is close to the metropolis of Canada, and it has benefitted for many years from some developments on the outskirts of Montreal; Saint-Hyacinthe has even been described as being or becoming a bedroom town, and I agree with the member for Saint-Hyacinthe when he says that development is much slower when such things happen.

Mr. Speaker, I will support such a motion provided the Eastern Townships be designated at the same time, that is to say that slow growing regions include—and that is the responsibility of the department—all developing regions—and let us put these words between quotation marks—"of Quebec and the east of our country" as well as other regions which have been disadvantaged in many respect because of big poles of growth.

Mr. Speaker, while I agree with the proposal of the hon. member for Saint-Hyacinthe, I think that representations now being made by the department to the government of the province of Quebec will have some results, aware as I am that a "special area" cannot be designated without the approval of provinces, and that during the next few weeks, the premier of Quebec as well as the federal Minister of Regional Expansion (Mr. Jamieson)—

Mr. Prud'homme: —as well as the parliamentary secretary!

Mr. Pelletier (Sherbrooke): —and the parliamentary secretary will hold discussions to gain an insight into what can be done about slow growing regions in the province of Quebec. I hope that at that time, not only the city of Saint-Hyacinthe but that of Sherbrooke as well will be considered, since we have been making representations for three years already to the minister so that our region be taken into account. I am not the only one to say so; studies made recently by the Quebec Planning and Development Bureau show that the Eastern Townships are economically ill, need a lot of economic assistance as well as an input of capital. This could be done by designating our region as a "special area".

• (1720)

[*English*]

Mr. Bill Knight (Assiniboia): Mr. Speaker, I express sympathy with the two hon. members who are seeking to have their particular areas designated under the auspices of the Department of Regional Economic Expansion. If this debate were to continue for two or three days, I am sure every Member of Parliament from every corner of the country would like to see his area designated. This does not speak well for the last one hundred years of economic development in Canada, though it does speak well for members who present a case for their areas.

I would point out to the hon. members who have spoken that a year or two ago the government proposed to deal with the question of the designation of areas under the DREE program. There has been, since then, a suspension of that revision process. Certainly, the two cases presented by the preceding speakers ought to be reviewed by the Minister of Regional Economic Expansion (Mr. Jamieson). I am not well acquainted with those areas, but undoubtedly some day I shall enjoy visiting them. I do say that the question of the revision of designated areas should be dealt with by the minister as soon as possible.

There are certainly questions which need to be asked in terms of designation as they relate to unemployment, to the migration of population from rural areas to urban areas and the continuation of that migration in many parts of the country. If you look at my home province of Saskatchewan you will find that the designated area might well be expanded across most of the north. There are only two areas picked out for designation, in a sense; one in Meadow Lake and one east of Saskatoon. They happen to cover the two seats which were held by two Liberals in that province, but I will not go into that.

The question of regional expansion is one with a far more expansive perspective than merely where lines were drawn in terms of incentive grants. There is a real need for a review and revaluation of those very grants to determine how effective they have been in regional development. If you study the statistics related to poverty in Canada, if you studies the statistics related to development in areas which have been economically deprived in this country, you will find, Mr. Speaker, that in the last four years in the operation of regional development there has been no substantial change in the situation in those regions of Canada which need development, that is to say, regions which lie outside the Ontario golden horseshoe.

We need far more concrete answers about the operation of this program than we have been getting from the minister so far in the committee on regional development. We have had no information about the evaluation of the program which supposedly has been taking place in the last three years. There has been no indication of when those studies are to take place. The minister stated in his forty-page statement to the committee when the committee was dealing with the department that there would be a reevaluation, a redefinition of the type of grants given, a decentralization of the Department of Regional Economic Expansion. He stated that the question of equity would be dealt with.

I need only refer to the Ottawa *Citizen* of April 5 of this year in which the minister is reported as saying that DREE might take back shares in aided firms. There has been no answer whatsoever from the minister to these questions as they relate to economic expansion. I hope that when the committee begins again tomorrow we shall get assurances as to an evaluation of this program up until this point in time. This is needed in order to improve it and develop it for the future. An assessment should be made showing how many of these grants have in fact been give-aways. The minister stated that 70 per cent of the grants made so far were needed in order to create jobs. This simply means that 30 per cent was, in a sense, not needed and that the jobs would have been created anyway. This could represent a loss or a waste in a sense to the Canadian taxpayer of some $100 million. I am sure the new minister is sincere. He comes from a region which itself needs assistance. He has to give the committee some concrete evidence on which to work, a concrete proposal to convince us there is to be some redirection of this department which has come under such severe criticism in the last few years.

• (1730)

We have heard a great deal in answer to questions in the House and in committee to the effect that certain things will be done or will be considered, but we have not received from this department one concrete proposal, other than in respect of decentralization, for real change in the future. I hope the committee will deal with the criteria to be used in the designation of areas, as well as with the question of whether the federal government should take action in respect of equity in the use of Canadian tax dollars in spite of the pleas of multinational corporations. This matter is particularly important in respect of publicly-owned corporations in all parts of the country.

The committee should also deal directly with the freight rate structure as it affects regional development. The

Minister of Regional Economic Expansion (Mr. Jamieson) was previously minister of transport and knows the effect of the freight rate structure on my area of the country, on northern Ontario and the Maritimes. Prominent people have told me that when it comes to developing industry in southern Saskatchewan such as distilling and using products from the area, the fundamental obstacle is not lack of incentives or grants for regional development but freight rates on the finished product. If policies of regional development are to work they must take into account questions such as transportation.

I could make a long speech about the effectiveness of DREE grants, but I would sum up by saying that in many instances, although not all, these grants represent nothing more than corporate write-offs. I hope the committee will in the coming weeks inquire into the equity of our transportation policy and will obtain concrete proposals from the minister and his assistants for the development of a truly regional development program.

During our discussions on designation of areas I hope the matter of unemployment will be seriously taken into account. In addition, I hope the question of the emigration of regional population will be taken into account. Hon. members from New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island and Newfoundland, as well as members from the Prairies, know it is not easy to assess the unemployment situation in these areas because of the movement of population to industrial centres resulting from lack of employment in regional areas. This situation must also be considered.

Designation should not be based on only one economic year. A good example of this is found in the western regions where because of grain sales by the Canadian Wheat Board the economy of one year may be relatively high yet within less than a year it can take a severe drop. One year of adverse weather conditions can result in substantial economic change in some areas. When it comes to designation, consideration should be given to the instability of certain economies within Canada.

In conclusion, I wish the hon. member well in his attempt to obtain for his area recognition under DREE. I hope that in the weeks before the summer recess we will receive concrete proposals from the minister. If we believe these proposals represent a move in the right direction, I can promise the House that we will not be as critical as in the past; we will openly welcome any substantial changes in this direction.

Mr. J.-J. Blais (Nipissing): Mr. Speaker, I was indeed pleased to hear the hon. member for Assiniboia (Mr. Knight) indicate that he will not be as critical in the future.

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Provided you do something.

Mr. Blais: I was pleased that the hon. member for Assiniboia, who is one of our more active members on the committee on regional economic expansion, participated effectively in this debate. However, I hope his initial criticism, probably unjustified, will not mislead him in future discussions to frustrate the studies being conducted by that committee. I am sure he recognizes that the program being reviewed by the committee, pursuant to the declaration of the minister, was initiated in 1969 and that some time must be taken in order to ascertain its effects. I agree that there will have to be some amelioration of the program.

I come from an area similar to that of the hon. member for Assiniboia and I hope that in the future we will be able to work together to adopt the best measures for our respective regions. I am pleased, in view of the initial criticism of the hon. member for Assiniboia, to note how readily the hon. member for Saint-Hyacinthe (Mr. Wagner) agreed on the effectiveness of DREE as put into effect by the government. As a result of his ability to argue and plead his case with sincerity, we are convinced that he really believes this program is of great economic benefit.

• (1740)

[*Translation*]

However, I was somewhat apprehensive about the intentions of the hon. member for Saint-Hyacinthe (Mr. Wagner) since his motion was placed on the order paper on January 12, 1973, while he was asked to introduce it on three occasions, namely on February 5, on February 19 and on March 19. And each time since he would not introduce it, I kept thinking that he was reluctant to seek for his constituency the program's advantages since he thought that maybe this program was not so good.

In the light of the comments he made immediately prior to the intervention of the hon. member for Assiniboia (Mr. Knight), it is evident that he has great confidence in the program and in looking at his "rejuvenated" appearance and at his tan, I realize that he simply wanted to go on a vacation and rebuild the strength he needed to bring forth his arguments with his well-known eloquence.

In any case, I thank him for having supported the governmental program and I would like him to try and convince the members of the committee who are from his party of the merits of the governmental policy because in spite of my brief experience in this committee, I have realized that there are some objections to the program.

I should also like to indicate that today, when I realized that the motion was going to be introduced, I hastened to take the floor, because I am against, in principle, urban areas like Saint-Hyacinthe, which is only 25 miles from Montreal, being offered special assistance whereas the far northern areas like mine and those of Northern Quebec, are denied these advantages. I want to oppose the motion of the hon. member for Saint-Hyacinthe, because I believe that the available funds to encourage economic expansion are limited and that they should be affected to areas which should be able to ensure in the future a development which is likely to favour all the other areas in Canada.

Moreover, I would simply like to say that the Saint-Hyacinthe area has the same advantages as the Montreal area. In fact, as of December 31, 1972, the Department had offered ten grants which were accepted by applicants in Saint-Hyacinthe. The amounts involved totaled $618,000 and was to create 281 direct jobs. The Saint-Hyacinthe riding as a whole accounted for, as of December 31, 1972,

16 grants offered and accepted, for a total amount of $763,591 and 425 direct jobs having been created.

To designate Saint-Hyacinthe as a "special area" for financial aid purposes, both for infrastructure building and, after June 1973, for maintaining of subsidies to industry, is a question which deserves the greatest attention within the economic structures of the Montreal area and of the province as a whole.

And I want precisely to talk about that subject because the whole of the Montreal area is considered as one economic region. If we start offering special advantages to what in fact are the dormitory areas of that large urban centre, we could be in far trouble. We know—and I would have believed that the hon. member for Saint-Hyacinthe who has once been a member of the provincial government and a member of another party should have known that—that large sections of the province of Quebec do need financial assistance, as does all my own area. And again on the subject of my own area, I will say that it is just like any area in Northern Quebec. Let me quote from the report the minister filed with the committee when he appeared for the first time. This is what it said:

> In a large area of the province, encompassing the bulk of provincial territory and almost 800,000 people, economic performance has been more like that of Manitoba or New Brunswick than that of the rest of Ontario. Northern Ontario has experienced a growth rate in population of less than one per cent per year throughout the decade of the 1960's, slightly below the average for the Atlantic region. It tends to be characterized by a dual economy comprising urban centres such as Thunder Bay, Sault Ste. Marie, Sudbury, North Bay and Timmins, where incomes are at or above national averages, and rural and remote areas and resource towns, where incomes tend to be substantially below the Canadian average and where economic growth depends almost entirely upon primary resource production.

And this area is not designated as a special area, as the hon. member for Saint-Hyacinthe would like for his own area.

Mr. Speaker, I am truly sorry to hear from the honourable member for Saint-Hyacinthe, that there was a 13 per cent unemployment rate in his riding last winter. I deeply sympathize with those people who were so badly tried. However, his is a metropolitan region, and he has access to the provincial government, and he knows very well that the program he wishes to see implemented requires a preliminary agreement between the provincial and the federal governments. True enough, he knows several of the members sitting in the Quebec national assembly and he could certainly approach them and ask for assistance.

Obviously, the motion before us requires to be very seriously considered and I think that all those who took part in the debate have done so.

Mr. Speaker, I only want to say, as every one speaks about his own church belfry, that mine needs to be repainted and that the sound of the bell is not as clear as it should be. In fact, in my area as in most other areas of the country there is a need, not only for temporary stimulants but for one that will favour providing a substructure enabling the manufacturing industry to settle down permanently.

As the Minister of Regional Economic Development has very ably indicated, Northern Ontario has to be developed in order to provide for the development of the far-northern areas of the Western provinces, including Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta. And, in fact, it is in my area that the mid-Canada passage, as we now call it, will be developed.

Mr. Speaker, I have been very happy to take this opportunity once again to bring not only my riding and its problems but also all the surrounding regions to the attention of the whole country.

• (1750)

Let's come back to the riding of the hon. member for Saint-Hyacinthe. At the outset of discussions held in 1969 and 1970 with the Quebec government concerning the designation of special areas in the province, they deemed advisable not to concentrate efforts on the Montreal region, because the employment situation in Montreal and the neighbouring areas had not yet deteriorated enough to warrant its designation under one of the departmental programs. Since then, chronic unemployment has spread to all Quebec regions and the provincial unemployment rate climbed from 6.9 per cent in 1969 to 8.2 per cent in 1972 and 8.3 per cent in 1972. Consequently, since January 1971, the Montreal region is eligible for financial assistance under the industrial incentive grants program. In March 1971, the region of the new Montreal international airport was added to the four existing "special areas".

Whether the Montreal region will be eligible, after June 1973, for some kind of industrial incentives or whether "special areas" will designated is a question that will be dealt with in the program review undertaken by the department.

Mr. Speaker, needless to say, this will be done with the co-operation of the provincial government and, here again, I encourage the member for Saint-Hyacinthe to address himself to it in order to obtain the advantages he is entitled to.

If the economic situation of the province, and particularly that of the Montreal area of which Saint-Hyacinthe is part, does not improve considerably in the next few months, certain steps will surely have to be taken with regard to Montreal and vicinity.

So, once again, Mr. Speaker, we discuss the fact that we must absolutely find out what will be the results of the general policy of the government as regards its economic expansion program. We are still in its early stages; we must absolutely find out how those amounts of money will be spent and what the results will be. This applies to the Montreal area as well as to other urban and rural communities throughout Canada.

Still, it goes without saying—and I will not budge from my position—this program should be oriented towards the development of the far and middle north. The program must indeed strive towards the economic development and decentralization of our industrial "effort".

Mr. Speaker, I have just been told that other hon. members wish to speak. I merely want to say that Canada is a vast country, that the regional development policy is wise, and that in the next few years we should see to it that even more public funds are assigned to it.

Mr. Marcel Prud'homme (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Regional Economic Expansion): Mr. Speaker, I followed very closely, as did most of my colleagues in this House, the observations of the hon. member for Saint-Hyacinthe (Mr. Wagner). I believe he fulfilled his task very spiritedly, making representations that go beyond the usual requests and that are based on what is going on in Saint-Hyacinthe.

Mr. Speaker, the hon. member for Saint-Hyacinthe, who is obviously fully informed about the various regional development programs, knows I am sure that it is in a joint action with provinces that special areas can be designated. His representations to the federal Parliament, to the hon. Minister of Regional Economic Expansion (Mr. Jamieson), as well as the urgent pleas, the daily representations from the hon. member for Sherbrooke (Mr. Pelletier), who is also asking that the Sherbrooke area be designated as a special area, are obviously well received by the minister.

I must say however that, when it comes to comparing one area with another and given the choice between the Saint-Hyacinthe area, which is very close to Montreal, and the Sherbrooke area—obviously the decision would be difficult to make and non-partisan I believe—I wonder if we might not conclude that it is more urgent to designate that area. But since there has to be priorities everywhere, I believe, as regards the Sherbrooke area, that the representations have come to such a point at the provincial and federal levels, that it would very probably be designated before that of Saint-Hyacinthe.

Mr. Speaker, the hon. member for Saint-Hyacinthe, and rightly so—

Mr. Yvon L'Heureux (Chambly): Why not both? The Saint-Hyacinthe area borders on my constituency.

Mr. Prud'homme: The hon. member for Chambly, who would surely have representations to make to have his area designated, says "Why not both"? Theoretically, Mr. Speaker, why not all the slow-growth areas in Canada? However, I hope that the hon. member for Saint-Hyacinthe who, on many occasions, always raises the question of the privileged situation of Montreal, has nothing against the urban constituencies vis-à-vis the semi-rural constituency he wants to represent.

On several occasions, statements by the hon. member for Saint-Hyacinthe have scared me because he consistently alludes to the seemingly privileged situation of Montreal and the Montreal area vis-à-vis the Saint-Hyacinthe area and the semi-rural constituencies. Of course, I will not attribute him any political consideration; maybe after having eliminated the whole Montreal area from the Progressive Conservative election map he would rather concentrate his energy on the rural or semi-rural areas. In any event, his own strategy is up to him.

However, I would like to tell him a few convincing facts and I will refer to a speech delivered by the minister to the Standing Committee on Regional Economic Expansion to the effect that contrary to the rest of Canada, the Montreal region is extraordinarily sensitive to any economic change. When you know that 56 per cent of the Quebec population lives within the Montreal region, that 65 per cent of provincial taxes are paid by the Montreal region, and that 72 per cent of the manufactured products and industrial labour are in Montreal, you must conclude that the Montreal situation is most important to regional development.

I hope that, in the mind of the member for Saint-Hyacinthe, it will be possible to reconcile his justified requests in favour, of course, of the Saint-Hyacinthe constituency which he now represents here with the basic interests of the Montreal region which is, as I always say, the center of eastern Canada. Surely Montreal is the economic center of all eastern Canada and should the Montreal economy collapse all eastern Canada would be in jeopardy, including of course the Saint-Hyacinthe constituency. I hope that the hon. member for Saint-Hyacinthe—

Mr. Speaker: Order. The hour appointed for the consideration of private members' business having expired, I do now leave the Chair, until eight p.m.

At six o'clock the House took recess.

[*English*]

AFTER RECESS

The House resumed at 8 p.m.

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

PROTECTION OF PRIVACY BILL

CREATION OF OFFENCES RELATED TO INTERCEPTION OF PRIVATE COMMUNICATIONS BY CERTAIN DEVICES

The House resumed consideration of the motion of Mr. Lang that Bill C-176, to amend the Criminal Code, the Crown Liability Act and the Official Secrets Act, be read the second time and referred to the Standing Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs.

Mr. Terry O'Connor (Halton): Mr. Speaker, prior to private members' hour I was pointing out what in my opinion is the one major flaw in this bill, that is, the provision to refer an application for authorization to wiretap to a combination of both a judge and the attorney general of a province. I feel this requirement as set out in the bill is the result of an attempted compromise by the government to satisfy those proponents of authorization being granted by a judge and at the same time to satisfy those proponents of authorization being granted by an attorney general.

In its attempt to compromise, the government has tried to spread the responsibility for making decision. It is neither that alone of the attorney general, his agent or a judge, but of both or perhaps all of them. This approach, in my opinion, is a worse alternative than leaving the decision solely to a judge. At least then one person alone is responsible for the decision taken. The bill now invites a buck-passing exercise with perhaps no one being accountable for a foolish or harmful use of the authority.

If we recognize that the individual's right to privacy can only be interfered with in the event of public necessity

where harm to the public or members of it will possibly follow without its use, then someone must be directly responsible for ensuring that individual rights are protected. The buck must stop somewhere. In my opinion it should be with the Attorney General or Solicitor General alone.

The bill quite properly limits the duration of the use of individual instances of electronic surveillance, requires periodic public accounting of the use of such electronic devices and allows the emergency use of the right to intercept a communication where circumstances do not permit a formal application to be made. There is provision for the awarding of damages to a person aggrieved by one convicted of employing electronics surveillance equipment contrary to the bill, and this again is commendable.

The thrust of the bill, with which I agree, is to make an offence the odious practice of intercepting private conversations except where such practices are necessary in the combating of crime, and only then after close scrutiny and authorization by a properly designated and responsible person. The increasing sophistication of criminal activities and organized, syndicated crime, all equipped with mechanical and electronic equipment, demands that police agencies be allowed the use of equally effective equipment. If the rights of the individual can be safeguarded by judicious and scrutinized use of such equipment, then such use should be a permitted exception to the general prohibition. But for the reasons I have mentioned, Mr. Speaker, I feel it is necessary that the person responsible for the decision to allow the use of such investigatory methods must be the Attorney General or the Solicitor General of Canada.

Mr. G. W. Baldwin (Peace River): Mr. Speaker, much of what has been said by my colleagues in this debate so far has gone to the merits or demerits of the bill and has dealt with some of the particular facts and circumstances of the proposals. I think the hon. member for Fundy-Royal (Mr. Fairweather), the hon. member for Halton (Mr. O'Connor) and the hon. member for St. Paul's (Mr. Atkey) have dealt exceptionally well with the detail of the bill and I associate myself to a considerable extent with what they have said. I do want to point out that in our examination of this bill we must not forget that it does in fact constitute an extension of the right of the state to secure from people involuntary information or involuntary statements.

I know that the minister said, and I accept his statement, that there is a limitation on the extent to which information derived from electronic surveillance and so-called bugging can be taken. Nevertheless, by this bill there is an extension of the right of government, the right of the state to secure information which in the past it might have had the legal right but certainly it did not have the moral right to obtain.

In my view, in the long run, particularly after the circumstances which we have seen displayed in recent days in other parts of the world, there is a growing body of public opinion opposed to invasion of privacy by means which are unknown to the people whose statements are being obtained in that way. All through the centuries states have attempted to secure facts and information by involuntary means. Any historical examination of this phenomenon will go back to the days of the Inquisition. I do not limit only to the Inquisition but I use the Inquisition as an example, as an historical incident best known to people in the modern day who have read about it. Many methods have been used in an attempt to secure information—by force and by torture both mental and physical. Over the years a repugnance has grown up to this form of acquiring facts and information even in the course of securing information for the prosecution of criminal offences and protecting society.

• (2010)

There has been this conflict. You need to protect society, it is true, but you need to do it by means which are acceptable, not repugnant, to the individual. You may sometimes gain by purporting to guard the state but you may lose infinitely more through the means of securing that information if you brutalize society and the individuals engaged in obtaining it. Before and during the last war we saw evidence of this in the totalitarian states. There are totalitarian states today, of course. I am not going to go into detail about them, but it is common knowledge that they are engaged in securing information not only by electronic surveillance but by other means as well.

This constant struggle has not been won nor, I suppose, will it ever be won because of the very nature of government and the innate character of any kind of government. I confess quite frankly, Mr. Speaker, that if I were a member of a government I would not trust such methods without taking steps to ensure that the strongest possible protection was taken through checks and balances and countervailing forces. What we have here is simply an extension of that principle. When this debate is over, it is true that within the four corners of the bill will be found certain restrictions upon the extent to which the state can go to secure information, without the knowledge of the people involved, by means of electronic and mechanical devices of surveillance. In the result, we will have codified a right of government. By this bill we are saying, in effect, that government has a right to certain types of information without the knowledge, suspicion or consent of the people involved, the right to secure information and statements from them by means of such devices.

I would like this bill to have contained a preamble stating that it is contrary to the rights of the people of this land that there be any electronic surveillance, bugging of any kind except subject to certain exceptions; in other words, an extension of the Bill of Rights. The bill should start on the basis that it is wrong, it is improper, it is not the right of government to secure information by these means unless subject to certain rules. We do not have that; we have a recognition by this bill, not only by implication but by expressed statement that it is right, it is proper and it is legal. I am concerned about this question even though that statement is coupled with other language which restricts the right.

I suggest to the minister that he include a preamble—it might be possible to put it in the Bill of Rights or other legislation—to the effect that the innate principle of securing involuntary statements through electronic surveillance is wrong to start with and can be approved only on certain conditions, some of which would be contained in the bill. As it is now, we have a codification and an

admission. By this legislation this House is saying that in fact we approve the right to do it under certain circumstances. We all know, Mr. Speaker, that while we may give very limited blessing to this proposition and may comfort ourselves by saying we have so hedged it with restrictions that it can be done only under certain circumstances, the whole history of parliamentary legislation is that once entry is made, slowly and inexorably the practice grows.

Some of my colleagues may remember when the original income tax bill was passed. I was not here at that time nor, I believe, was the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre (Mr. Knowles). I think it was called the war income tax act and was referred to as temporary, as an act for the purpose of securing certain funds to carry on the war. That was during the First World War, and the people who passed that legislation were probably beguiled by statements of the government of the day, which I believe was a government of a persuasion which should have known better. But at least it was a unionist government. It said that the legislation was temporary and would be withdrawn as soon as the war was over. If Members of Parliament of that day had seen the miscalled tax reform legislation recently introduced in this House, I think they would have given it a terrible time; those people who observe cemeteries might have noticed that the ground was rather disturbed where some of these legislators now are.

When this legislation has been in effect for some time, Mr. Speaker, I wager that people will be coming to governments of the future pleading special cases which will suggest that the principle of the bill should be extended. I make the prediction, confident that it is correct, that in ten or fifteen years from this small beginning of a legislative approval the right to electronic surveillance with be substantially extended. That is why I would feel much more comfortable with the ultimate passage of this legislation if it were preceded by a preamble which said that the principle, to start with, was wrong and only under certain circumstances could it be allowed.

I leave that part of the bill and the debate, Mr. Speaker, because I want now to deal with another aspect which was referred to by my hon. friend from Fundy-Royal. He said that in dealing with this matter the government should deal with a companion question of the right of freedom of information. These are Siamese twins; they are inextricably bound together and cannot be dissociated one from the other. The government secures all kinds of information, not only that given on income tax forms but data on various questionnaires and documents sent out by the Department of Industry, Trade and Commerce and by Statistics Canada. Ask any small businessman. There is an undue, continuing encroachment upon the rights of individual citizens of this country who wish to retain information of a private nature. Indeed, today there is little information that an individual cannot be compelled to give to some appropriate authority of government, particularly the federal government. This applies also to provincial governments and to the governments of some cities.

• (2020)

If one were to make a detailed, itemized list of all legislation passed by parliament for compelling an individual to provide information to governments, one would be astounded at the extent of legislation which compels one to divulge facts. This may be necessary; I do not know. In any event, the government comes into possession of a tremendous amount of information. If this bill passes, it is obvious that the government could come into possession of a great deal more information. What, then, is the responsibility of government in the use of that information?

There is a growing feeling on the part of governments all over the world, which includes this government and the government of the United States, that the executive branch of government stands in some rare, exclusive and esoteric position vis-à-vis the rest of the people of the country. This administration is gathering facts and information and feels it has no responsibility to make known the facts which it has obtained. I consider that to be a dangerous and pernicious doctrine, particularly as it is held by a government which is now seeking this means of compelling further facts and information to be divulged involuntarily.

The hon. member for Fundy-Royal referred to a statement made by the Minister of Finance (Mr. Turner) before he assumed his onerous responsibilities. At that time he was much more liberal in his views and spoke as a small "1" liberal about social and legal problems in this country. He was not the only one who held that view and made statements of that kind. While luxuriating in the freedom of not being the prime minister of this country and being free to say what he thought, the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau), writing in the Montreal periodical *Cité Libre*, took a strong stand on the need of the public for true and complete information. Although dealing with Quebec politics, he made a statement that basically referred to any democratic government. On that occasion he said:

> Democratic progress requires the ready availability of true and complete information. In this way, the people can objectively evaluate their government's policies.
>
> To act otherwise is to give way to despotic secrecy.

Those are the words of the leader of the government which we face every Monday and Wednesday in our attempt to obtain answers to written questions and to secure documents. Many questions are asked. I would be the first to admit, and I see the parliamentary secretary pricking up his ears, that without doubt many questions are asked which should not be asked.

An hon. Member: Hear, hear!

Mr. Baldwin: I am prepared to admit that. But that shortcoming is only minimal when compared with the extent to which this government hides behind the age old answer, "It is not in the public interest to reveal this information and it should not be provided."

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Baldwin: Hon. friends to my left have asked a good many questions. I thought perhaps they might know all the answers by now. I assume they are still genuinely seeking information. We ask questions. I submit that a casual survey of the records of this House for Mondays and Wednesdays will lead one to bring in an appalling indictment of the present administration in that it has

failed to live up to what the Prime Minister said before he became prime minister, before he even undertook his responsibilities as a member of this House. Many people hold the same opinion. Former United States president James Madison once said:

A popular government without popular information or the means of acquiring it, is but a prologue to a farce or a tragedy or perhaps both.

In speaking of the government he was referring to the legislature. Any country in which the legislature, the people and the press are inadequately informed of what the government is doing or what it plans is not a good country, because if information is withheld from parliament there is no forum wherein the affairs of the nation can be debated adequately and properly.

That this is so has been demonstrated by what has happened in the last few weeks in the United States. I do not intend to become involved in what is happening there. The trouble is not so much what some individuals are alleged to have done in their electronic surveillances and in the securing of facts; it is that they are alleged to have taken extravagant and unusual steps to withhold that knowledge from the people. That is the trouble they are in today and that is the reason for their difficulty. The question at issue involves not only what was done, juvenile, stupid and silly though it was; it also involves the failure of certain people to impart frankly and honestly the facts to the people. The attitude of that government is much the same as the attitude held by members of this government. It is alleged that that administration feels that certain facts and information which may be too esoteric, too embarrassing, too difficult or too damaging must not and need not be disclosed.

Before this House complies with the request of the government to give the government or its emanations the right to secure further information, the minister some time before third reading, possibly in committee, should say that the government will take a serious look at the idea of codifying the rights of parliament, of the people and of the press to secure facts and information from the government.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Baldwin: I have proposed a bill dealing with this area. I do not for one moment suggest it is the final answer. To be honest, I have some doubts myself about parts of my proposal. This is the third time I have mentioned this bill in the House, which in one form or another has been before the House for about three years. I call it the right to information act. The term "public business" is defined in the bill. It contains a simple statement about the rights of Canadians. I suggest there should be a statement in this bill about the rights of Canadians to be free from electronic surveillance except under certain conditions. The rights in my bill are as follows:

• (2030)

Any Canadian, or any person not being a Canadian who resides in Canada, may apply to the government for a record made in the course of public business and the government shall, within a reasonable time thereafter, provide a copy of such record to any person who so applies or make such record available for inspection by him.

There are certain exceptions; I admit that. In addition, I propose that if the government cannot bring itself within the four corners of those exceptions there is the right of the citizen to go to court in order to have the issue settled. If the court makes a declaration, there is then a mandatory duty upon the government, department or Crown corporation involved to furnish that information or face the penalty of a jail sentence. I do not think you would have to use the penalty provision very often, probably only once or twice.

The salutary effect of legislation of that kind becoming part of the law of this land would, in my opinion, have a very useful effect on a government which, because it is the government, is secretive to begin with and, because it is a Liberal government, is even more secretive than most governments. I suggest that this is not very far from the subject matter we are debating. The members of the standing committee to which this bill will be referred will be free to secure a statement from the government and the minister at that time. The former minister of justice, now Minister of Finance, made it quite plain; he said in the simplest and clearest language that it is essential that there be a legislative proposal of this kind. The time has long passed for this country to have on the statute books legislation which gives that right to the ordinary citizen of Canada.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Baldwin: I have said all I want to say. There are others who want to participate in this debate. I shall vote for second reading with some mental reservations. I have some reservations about the bill. I have given voice to some of them. I concur with what has been said by some of my colleagues in this party and some of my friends from the New Democratic Party and the doubts they have expressed.

In light of events south of the border, I think this matter is of sufficient importance to take a good, hard look at it. I would like to see this bill regarded as a white paper, or simply refer the subject matter to the committee. Before this debate is concluded, the minister should pledge in the clearest and most unequivocal terms that he will listen to reasonable proposals. I have heard enough from hon. friends to my left to believe that we could get together and come up with some reasonable amendments which the government would be compelled to accept.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Baldwin: This government loves office so well that it would swallow itself inch by inch and day by day in order to stay in power.

Mr. Reid: Not half as much as you want to get in.

Mr. Baldwin: If hon. friends to my left, and this party get together there will not only be the moral strength but the numerical strength of our conviction which will have a very strong effect on my friends opposite.

While coming back here the other day I was listening to the news. What struck me was not so much the Watergate case in the United States but the case of the Pentagon papers, the prosecution of two men. One does not need to

agree with them ideologically, politically or otherwise. It has now been pretty well established that the documents they took had in large part been published beforehand. Expert witnesses called at the trial of these two men testified beyond any question that the documents which they took and caused to be published were not secret documents in the sense they had any value or endangered in any way the prosecution of United States' participation in Indo-China. Most extraordinarily, we find that people high in the government and security agencies in the government were involved in burglary attempts and attempts to obscure information about these two defendants in order to try to favourably impress the judge and jury and forward the prosecution's case. These are the kinds of dangers we face in the matter we are dealing with today. We only see that part of the iceberg above the surface of the water.

This is an admirable opportunity for all members of the House to look at the whole problem in a non-partisan and objective way. The standing committee which will consider this bill is an excellent committee. I hope the committee will have the courage to be objective. It would be well advised to come back with very strong recommendations which the government would have to accept.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Stuart Leggatt (New Westminster): Mr. Speaker, as a new member of this House I am surprised to learn that this is the third time this bill, in substance, has been before parliament. I understand that it has been dealt with extensively on three other occasions by the Standing Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs. Having had that much time in committee and in this House, I find it incredible that the extensive rights to wiretap under the Official Secrets Act have not been removed from the bill.

I was impressed with the approach taken by the hon. member for Peace River (Mr. Baldwin) in dealing with this subject as a matter of a bill of rights or a matter of being positive, rather than negative, in guaranteeing one's right to privacy. This is a most useful approach that could be taken.

It is also interesting to note there have been at least four private members' bills dealing directly with this subject; one from the hon. member for Surrey-White Rock (Mr. Mather), one from the hon. member for Timiskaming (Mr. Peters), one from the Minister of National Revenue (Mr. Stanbury) before he held that post, and one from the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre (Mr. Knowles). That persuades me there is some merit indeed in private members' bills. I am convinced this subject would probably not be before the House now without the pressure that has been put on the government by private members both now and in the past.

There is no doubt that severe regulation must come into the law with regard to the continuing flagrant abuse of privacy by electronic devices. This bill, which has many weaknesses, is still long overdue. I intend, as I believe the majority of the members of the New Democratic Party intend, to vote for this bill in principle and have it referred to committee. However, I must say we are most unhappy with many provisions in the bill. In fact, this is just a little better than nothing. I would characterize this as still being basically Big Brother legislation.

• (2040)

We have to look upon this bill as only the beginning of a concerted attack upon violations of the right of privacy—violations by big business, by the large technocracy which is developing around us, by government itself. In the last 30 years the pendulum has been swinging away from individual privacy. It cannot swing back unless there is government help, governmental intervention.

I was most impressed by the position taken by the hon. member for Peace River. I was impressed by his argument that we should look at this question from the positive point of view and bring in a bill which would guarantee privacy, rather than the kind of bill we are now considering. The bill before us fails to deal with many areas of privacy violation. For example, we are still faced with flagrant abuses by credit reporting agencies affecting the rights of citizens across the country. What is needed is a bill to require the disclosure by all credit agencies of the files they keep on individuals.

We need a bill which gives to individual citizens the right to take action against such agencies when the information they possess is inaccurate. In addition, we need legislation giving the private citizen the right to clear his record, in the same way as a person convicted of criminal offences has a right to clear his criminal record. There may be items in a man's financial past which hurt his credit indefinitely. There should be some provision here to protect him from the disclosure of information by these agencies which could cause him serious harm.

We need legislation which would allow a citizen to challenge in the courts the release of private data about himself without his consent. I think, too, we need a bill of rights for employees so that employers are prevented from invading the personal lives of employees and interfering with their right to privacy. We do not need big corporations whose employees are expected to go to the company church, the company picnic, and so on. It seems to me that here, too, a right of independence and privacy is involved.

Last, but not least, we should consider protecting the right of privacy where the news media are concerned. I realize the news media should be entitled to get the news fairly when they can, but there are times when they step over the boundary, as it were, as when for example they take pictures of a mother grieving over a dead child. On many occasions in times of personal tragedy the news media impose upon a family that awesome thing, a television camera. In a way this, too, is an infringement of personal liberty and it is an area which those engaged in the media should themselves be considering very carefully.

To deal with the bill before us, there are still many points of weakness in it. First, it seems to me the bill gives authority for wiretapping to be carried out in all cases of indictable offences. I do not see why it should be allowed in all cases. I believe wiretapping should be limited to cases where the most serious offences are suspected. Are we to allow wire tapping for the purpose of catching marijuana smokers? Apparently, under this bill we could.

It seems to me that only the most serious crimes should be covered by the legislation and that these should be listed. Something in the order of those carrying at least a ten-year prison term should be considered.

There is no provision for the attorneys general of the provinces to be required to report to their legislatures in connection with the permits they have issued. This is a fundamental issue. If a political authority is to be allowed to issue permits for wiretapping, the final political authority should be the parliament. When an attorney general is not required to report back to parliament, a dictatorship situation arises.

The most severe weakness in the bill is one most speakers have already touched on. It involves the Official Secrets Act. In spite of the criticism which has so often been levelled at the government, this kind of legislation is foisted upon us. It is not good enough. Earlier I described the bill as Big Brother legislation. The clause I had in mind begins on page 21, and it provides:

> The Solicitor General of Canada may issue a warrant authorizing the interception or seizure of any communication if he is satisfied by evidence on oath that . . . the purpose of such interception or seizure is related to the prevention or detection of espionage, sabotage—

These are the operative words which are so dangerous:

> —or any other subversive activity directed against Canada or detrimental to the security of Canada.

Under the provisions of this clause there is no responsibility to go to a judge. It is entirely an internal matter between the Solicitor General and the police force. This is most dangerous. We have no right to be smug about the Watergate case. Under our present laws, as other speakers have pointed out, there could be a Watergate, and I submit that we could just as easily see a Watergate under the bill before us, because of some solicitor general who was not able to draw the fine line between opposition and subversion. Exactly the same thing could occur here. This clause gives the Solicitor General the right to determine which organizations in the country can be placed under wiretap surveillance. It immediately brings to mind the question of political radicalism on campus, debating societies, and so on. We have already witnessed interference with political freedom on campus. I can see no protection for political freedom on campus in the terms of this bill. The RCMP has over and over again shown itself to be completely unsophisticated when it comes to determining what are political rights and what is sabotage.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Leggatt: They simply do not have the background or in many cases the education to understand it, and this can become a direct threat to academic and political freedom in this country. So I would repeat what the hon. member for Oshawa-Whitby (Mr. Broadbent) said earlier, that unless there are substantial changes, particularly in the clause to which I have referred, I do not think the bill will pass after it has been considered by the justice committee.

I want to deal briefly with one or two other clauses. We say that evidence obtained by wiretapping is inadmissible in court, yet evidence derived from wiretapping is admissible. Surely all we are doing here is encouraging illegal wiretapping. The least that should be given is a *voir dire* in connection with such evidence, so that the judge can inquire as to the rights of the individuals concerned before that evidence is considered.

I hope these matters will be dealt with positively by the justice committee. We in this party intend to vote for the legislation in order to get it before the committee, but very few of us are satisfied with what we read. I conclude by saying that I would hate to see the bill defeated because it is something, after all, and the present law is hopelessly inadequate in terms of protecting private citizens. Nevertheless, I feel it could be defeated unless there are changes, particularly in the clause dealing with the Official Secrets Act.

Mr. Trevor Morgan (St. Catharines): Mr. Speaker, there are certain elements in this legislation the thrust of which most of us agree with. I disagree with the previous speaker in that he is more inclined to put emphasis on serious offences. I agree with the legislation to the extent that it must relate to illegalities per se, whether the offence being investigated is major or minor, because interference with the right of the public to privacy must be protected and upheld. I think it is the function of parliament to maintain that privacy.

• (2050)

There are one or two technical matters to which I should like to refer. The first relates to an application for an ex parte motion. Any lawyer will know that ex parte motions are open to the public, and with a little contemplation this legislation could properly be altered to take care of that situation. It can be left to the committee to make some of these changes to which other speakers have alluded, but this is one which to date has perhaps been overlooked.

This bill calls for notice to be given an accused if this type of evidence, either by transcript, by tape or by whatever method is used, is to be used; but it does not say when. All the power of the state is being pitted against the accused. He must have some time to prepare his defence. Such a notice should not be handed to him at the time the evidence goes in, as that is hardly fair or in keeping with our concept of justice. Under the Ontario Medical Act, for example, in respect of medical evidence at least an accused is given seven days' notice. I think there should be some kind of time limitation, in respect of when notice is given, that such evidence is to be used against an accused. The accused should be given a copy of the transcript or the tape, as the case may be, in order that he will have fair warning and be in a position to prepare his defence.

I am worried about another aspect of this legislation. Although I am not an electronics expert, having watched television at times I am aware of how tapes can be doctored, and this bothers me. Tapes can be cut, spliced and put together, entirely changing the context of a conversation. This legislation in itself or through its regulations must have some safeguards to protect the accused and others if such evidence is to be used. I am not a cynic but, rather, a realist and having been in the courtroom day after day I know how some officials operate. Among the safeguards we have for accused, this legislation must

require some scientific proof that there has been no tampering with or doctoring of such tapes or transcripts.

Perhaps another minor point is the aspect of this legislation relating to the doctrine of possession. I have been greatly concerned about the word "knowing" in reference to the primary use. What is "primary"? How close is it to secondary or tertiary? This is a difficult question. The accused must show that possession was not for that primary use. From the accused's point of view, I think that part of the legislation must be further considered.

I am also bothered that peace officers would be authorized to have such equipment in their possession, but the legislation does not spell out that they must only be in possession when so authorized; it merely refers to possession as long as the peace officer is in the course of his employment. Most police officers are employed on a shift basis and may not have the authority to have such equipment in their possession, but if they do so this will not be an offence under the proposed change. Again, I do not want to appear cynical but we must realize that police officers are human and do have temptations. There must be safeguards to protect the general public, making sure that policemen do not abuse the privileges given them. This legislation must relate to the situation I have just outlined as well as to John Q. Public. It must also relate to policemen whether they are on duty or off duty, and those that do not have the authority must be treated in the same way as any other member of the public.

I am surprised by the degree of trust and equanimity we display in respect of those in charge of our communications in this country, telephone and telegraph. We accept them like we accept God and motherhood and believe they can do no wrong. Apparently they can interfere with communications because that is their business and they should know what is going on.

Our memories are very short indeed if we forget what was so well documented recently in respect of the state of IT&T and the way it operated during the last war. It owned 28 per cent of a German aircraft company which produced planes which shot down our aircraft, while at the same time producing communications equipment to protect our ships and planes. Apparently Colonel Ben did not worry about that situation. If we think our communications system is not tied up with IT&T, then we are naïve to the point that we should not be sitting in this honourable chamber. All you need do is talk with employees of Northern Electric or Bell Telephone to find out what the connection is with IT&T.

In any event, that is the way IT&T operated during the last war. Its communications and espionage system was the best in the world. It initiated the first entente with Hitler right after he came to power. A committee of two from the United States made a visit in that regard, and Colonel Ben of IT&T was one of them. They were put in touch with the right people.

We must take a long, hard look at what I consider to be the very naïve way in which we view communications conditions in this country. Parliament and the people have a right to be protected against the actions of such corporations. I frankly admit that I have no love for IT&T or for what it does. It sucks the blood of any person who comes along and tries to play both ends against the middle. It forecast that Germany would win the war in 1941, yet in the middle of 1948 it claimed $27 million compensation for damage caused by our bombers to its aircraft plant. In any event, I believe we must take a more serious look at that aspect of this legislation.

In a philosophic way—others have referred to this—the section dealing with the Official Secrets Act actually codifies and allows the government to carry on what happened in the Watergate affair. I am sure hon. members across the way would suggest to me that this is all right if it is necessary in the public interest to keep them in government.

An hon. Member: That's right.

Mr. Morgan: There is your answer, Mr. Speaker. The wording of the legislation is such that if the Solicitor General thinks it is necessary and in the public interest, the government can do what it wants to do. I do not know who the hon. member was who interjected just now, but I am glad he answered my question, because this is what can happen when a government thinks this legislation is necessary and good in the public interest. It can undertake any surveillance it wished: this legislation makes it possible. If John Stewart Mill were alive today, he would certainly roll in his grave.

• (2100)

I have become rather distrustful of politicians, because politicians too often want power, and power corrupts. Absolute power corrupts absolutely, and this is the temptation which this legislation places in the government's hands. I am afraid my mind wanders a bit, but while I was sitting here tonight I was concerned about the politician, what he actually does and what he stands for. A little limerick came to mind, which I would quote with your permission, Mr. Speaker:

Of politicians we are told to beware,
For they are all so full of hot air;
For instance, the diapers of Justin are as dry as a dustbin,
For, you see, he's the son of Pierre.

This legislation and this particular clause remind me of 1984. It can happen so easily, where you have listening in and where government can do what it wishes to do when it believes it to be in the public interest and necessary for the public good. That clause is so loosy-goosy that any government in power can do whatever it may wish with it. Certainly, the committee must get down to hard facts and really tighten up that clause before we find ourselves in very serious trouble. That particular clause is coated with corruption; it is there. I think that unless that clause in the legislation is changed we will be changing the whole aspect of a free parliamentary system. The system will not last, and could not last, if that power is given.

We see what has happened in respect of our neighbour to the south with regard to both the Pentagon papers and the Watergate situations. I do not know how the Minister of Justice (Mr. Lang), having seen what has happened there, could codify it and make it possible for government to do it. I wonder whether they have read the legislation and have seen what it says. We object violently and point

the finger to our neighbour, but we should first look more deeply at our own backyard and criticize ourselves before we have the temerity to criticize our brother. We should take the mote from our own eyes.

Mr. Speaker, I agree with the fact that this type of invasion of the rights of the people of this country must be stopped. This legislation is a step forward. There are many changes which must be made to it in the committee. I hope the necessary corrections will be accomplished.

Mr. Arnold Peters (Timiskaming): Mr. Speaker, it is surprising in a country such as Canada that we should be speaking in the same breath about two things: first, the right of the individual liberty of the citizen and, second, the right of Big Brother to supervise this liberty and the extent of it. I am sure most Canadians, no matter what walk of life they come from or what part of Canada they live in, will agree that they have the right to privacy and that that right is probably their most fundamental right as human beings. With the loss of privacy one becomes no better than an animal in a cage in a zoo.

I was pleased to hear the reference of the previous speaker to the year 1984 as being an indication that he also agrees we will soon reach that stage where the ability of Big Brother to direct and influence the lives of every individual will be accepted. I object to the docility of the Canadian public in a number of fields, and this is one. The other one which bothers me very greatly is the invasion of privacy which takes place when a person is searched at an airport. I know why people are searched; I know that we are trying to provide a deterrent. But we are providing a deterrent for a very limited number of incidents where hijacking might take place.

At the same time, however, we allow people to sit in our airports and sell life insurance. Over the years this has been one of the major causes of disasters in the air. It has been violently opposed by all the people who work for the airlines. It is very easy to insure your wife and then send her on a trip with a small parcel containing a bomb. This is allowed, and we know it has been a big factor in air disasters. We allow it because it is a form of business, and we really cannot interfere with the large insurance companies! We search people and we know what we are searching for. However, a metal detector is used. Anyone in his right mind would not carry a hand grenade; he would have to have a mental problem before he would board an aircraft with a bag full of hand grenades. He would carry a plastic bomb which could be contained in a pocket or which could be carried in a number of ways. It certainly would not be detected by a metal detector. I do not believe most people would attempt to carry sophisticated weapons on board an aircraft. If so, we should be using a totally different approach for them.

No one becomes angry about being searched, or objects to it. No one will object when the day arrives when people are searched in a supermarket. They do not object because it happens very occasionally and usually does not happen to them. It is always somebody else who is involved, and that really does not matter. I suggest that if the government wishes to bring in a bill, such a bill should totally outlaw eavesdropping by electronic devices.

We made a great hullabaloo when we stopped hanging criminals in this country except in the case of murder of a policeman. But have we hanged any one who has murdered a policeman since that time? No. We wrote that provision in merely to satisfy the law enforcement people. Two sections are being written into this bill. One will allow the police to carry on surveillance activities against almost anyone. Then we cover that up by allowing the security people, who are a totally different group, to go to the attorney general of a province or to the Solicitor General federally and ask permission to carry on surveillance in the case of national or provincial espionage. That is window-dressing. The people who are responsible for security in this country do not need to ask the government for the right to exercise that kind of surveillance, because we have provided them with the necessary type of equipment and training and with that very elementary device whereby they can go to the Attorney General and ask for permission to use that kind of information.

• (2110)

This right would only be provided once. The Minister of National Defence would go to the Attorney General of Canada and say that the use of certain surveillance equipment was necessary in the interest of national security for the army, navy or air force and he would be allowed to use it. This would be a blanket authorization and it would be carried like warrants and carried by RCMP officers. Once they are given, they are given for an indefinite period. They can do all sorts of things under those warrants.

Most crooks would not be caught by the equipment that is being used today to bug a room, a telephone service or other equipment. If you think your telephone is being bugged or the room in which you are is being bugged, ask somebody to build you a small oscillator. It will cost perhaps $10. Anybody who is using a tape recorder to record a conversation in the room would find that the tape recorder cannot pick up the conversation if on the oscillator you use decibels higher than the human ear can hear. There will be nothing on that tape except a high pitched screech which will destroy everything that is being recorded.

You can get such a device for about $10—any kid can make you one. Children today have a high awareness of electronic devices and can not only dial long distance but place international calls through satellites and perform all sorts of manoeuvres, simply because they know something about the theory of sound, which is really what we are talking about when we refer to eavesdropping. The eavesdropping to which we refer is so elementary and unsophisticated that in my opinion it is not being used by many people.

The privacy that is being invaded and that has been mentioned by other people is not covered by this legislation. This is something for which every member of the House should have some responsibility. I am referring to the new kind of invasion of privacy which is taking place, in particular through the setting up of memory and data banks as well as credit banks and all the other types of data processing information centres which provide information on people from the cradle to the grave and is completely legal and of great value to the person who may be using it.

The hon. member for Broadview (Mr. Gilbert) mentioned several instances, such as the espionage that is taking place in industry and the ability of smart, young engineers with initiative to use the communications system to tap information banks and obtain any kind of information in almost any part of the world illegally, and use it to make a huge profit. If you have the ability to enter into the memory bank of a large multinational corporation, then you really have the equivalent of the ability to print money. Incidentally, this is being done by many multinational corporations to obtain information on whether or not they should buy a company or play monopoly with other companies, with workers lives and with the very economics of a country.

The provisions of this bill do not cover this type of activity which is an invasion of privacy. If some credit agency states that you are a poor risk because when you were 20 years old you had a nervous breakdown while you were going through college, and if that information in a memory bank somewhere was made available, it might stop you from obtaining a loan or it might do something which happened in another country, namely, stop a young, progressive person from becoming the vice-president of one of the major political parties in that country.

That is the kind of invasion of privacy from which this government should be protecting us. I am referring to protection against the invasion of privacy in the industrial world and in various government agencies where the storing of information is taking place. It is getting to the stage where, if you have access to unemployment insurance data you will know a considerable amount about any person on whom information is stored in that data bank, information about where he works, how long he has worked, what his address is, how many kids he has, what his status is, etc. You would then have unlimited knowledge about him which I am sure he would not want you to have. That information would be available to you if you could invade the privacy of the data bank.

The government has not given any consideration to that matter in the bill before us. I have heard members refer to espionage. We have had only one case of espionage since I became a member, namely, the Spencer case. Would it not be a great thing for the Attorney General, working closely with officers of the Department of Justice who had already decided that here was a poor, harmless, dying man, to state the RCMP should be allowed to attach all the necessary listening devices and to harass him by listening in on his private conversations and following up any contacts that poor Mr. Spencer had. This is a beautiful case of espionage, the only one that has been made public!

In the United States there are two controls that would be available under this kind of legislation and are not available in Canada. In Canada, judges are appointed by the government, although I understand there are exceptions and on rare occasions advice is being given by law societies in the provinces which occasionally make recommendations, although very seldom. Often, defeated political candidates become judges. They are always people who have an obligation to the government and they are not really the kind of people whom you would want to entrust with the responsibility of granting a warrant.

It has always impressed me that when a man goes on strike he has very little chance of getting an injunction against the company involved, but as soon as he goes on strike it is very easy for the boss to see the judge and ask him for an injunction against such and such a union or such and such a plant. He gets that injunction almost invariably without any justification at all. This is true with search warrants. It has been true with regard to every invasion of the rights of workers in this country, Mr. Speaker. It has always been true so far as the workers are concerned but never, never, never applies to the management of the companies.

• (2120)

This reminds me of the will of God clause which is written into many labour and insurance contracts. As an individual, it always seems to me that God is never on my side in those contracts but is always on the side of the companies. This is true whether it be the case of a labour dispute or a dispute over an insurance policy. I think in the present instance God would always be on the side of the Department of Justice, never on my side, and I would be getting the short end of the stick.

In the United States, judges secure office in two ways. In the case of Supreme Court judges a recommendation is made to Congress. Congress has to approve the appointment of a Supreme Court judge. Who appoints such judges in Canada? It is the Minister of Justice. He is always coming before us and asking for the appointment of another three judges somewhere, and he appoints three of his friends. Invariably the appointments are made in that way.

In the United States there is a second way by which judges secure office, and that is by vote. I do not agree that it is a very good system but at least the public has some say in appointing a judge and some choice in getting rid of a judge. With respect to the Watergate case in the United States, why would anyone have any hesitation asking the approval of John Mitchell, the Attorney General responsible for the security of the nation, for permission to engage in wiretapping? Nixon, as President of the United States, represents the top security of the nation, and in such a case anything done to defend him, no matter what it is, would be in the interests of the nation. Therefore, he would go to John Mitchell, as he did or as someone did and ask about this matter. And then he fires them. He says, "I am above all of them. God is on my side. I don't have to resign, but the rest of you had better resign." Mr. Speaker, it could happen here very easily.

I can remember ministers of justice in this House not too long ago who were not the kind of people in whom the average citizen could put much faith. I also remember that a very short time ago we had a solicitor general who was so contemptuous of the representatives of the people that he would not allow us to visit the jails. Not only would he not let the public go in, but he would not let their representatives go in although that right was written into the law of this country for 100 years and was removed only because a former solicitor general said, "You won't need that. That is British law and it will always be there."

I do not think that the individual in this country will be protected by this legislation, but the police will be protect-

ed with respect to something they already do. The police will not be any more effective against the Mafia or against anybody who is influential. I am not suggesting that a judge will not give authorization in such a case, but such people are also pretty sophisticated and I am sure they will take precautions against electronic surveillance devices. Such precautions are simple to take.

Progress in this whole field is taking place so rapidly that every time you visit an exhibition of such electronic equipment you find new devices that were not there when you visited it the previous year. The crooks know this and the police know it. There is not a heck of a lot of difference, in many cases, between organized crime and the police force. One is organized on one hand and the other is organized on the other hand, and they both play a real game. But, Mr. Speaker, that game should not affect the individual. The individual should not lose his right to privacy because of the game being played between the police and organized crime in this country.

It is the little guy who gets hurt, the guy who may be cheating 10 bucks or 20 bucks on his income tax. He is the guy who is going to get hurt here. The bootlegger is going to get hurt. The prostitute is going to get hurt. It is very easy to listen to their conversations. The Mounties don't get red ears; they don't mind listening into a conversation in somebody's bedroom. As I say, prostitutes can get hurt. I can see Jarvis Street, with all the mobile listening units. The old judge will be issuing the mobile unit licences, and they will be up and down Jarvis Street in Toronto without number. I can see the accidents taking place between these mobile units in Jarvis Street, and the same will be true of Craig Street in Montreal and of several other streets in that vicinity.

An hon. Member: How about Timiskaming?

Mr. Peters: Well, Mr. Speaker, not even prostitution is organized in Timiskaming; it still remains a relatively unorganized operation, with everybody for themselves. I think the police will probably engage in the free enterprise system of getting a contact here and a contact there and getting some information here and some information there, so nothing in Timiskaming is really going to happen in that field. But I suggest that in other places the police will have a field day.

I have not heard anybody say anything about the other security agency that we have built up in this country, and I am not talking about S and I. Everybody knows about Security and Intelligence. Everybody knows what it does. It is a pretty open book. It handles normal security and intelligence connected with police matters. But now we have another agency. This other agency was set up by the government to look after the security of government against espionage. I do not know the name of one person in that agency. I have not heard that it has even reported to the responsible minister. I do not know if it has ever reported to a committee. I do not know any activity that it has investigated. I do not know if it operates in conjunction with the RCMP or not. But I suggest, Mr. Speaker, that that agency, operating in the dark, may not be too far away from the CIA in the United States, and I would not be too surprised if there are a number of people in that agency who are also counteragents for the CIA.

Also, I would suggest that, operating under the Attorney General of Canada, they will probably not have much difficulty in getting any type of sophisticated equipment approved by the Solicitor General and that they will not have much difficulty in operating in a pretty free and easy way, without any kind of protection for the public.

I am opposed to this kind of bill. I have no faith in the ability of our police force to police what are truly matters of security. I have seen them chase red herrings for 20 years. I have seen members of the RCMP at every major union meeting that I attended for ten years. I am well aware that they have attended university campuses in about the same haphazard manner. I am quite sure that their purpose there was to write voluminous reports on a number of people and that this was an invasion of privacy that was not justified in the realm of national security. I am sure it was an undue and unreasonable invasion of the privacy of young people, of the privacy of individuals, of the privacy of Canadians in general.

• (2130)

Mr. Speaker, every time there is a demonstration on Parliament Hill we see about one and a half times the number of the members of the press gallery out there taking pictures. Half of that number is press gallery members but the other half is always the same people; they always look the same—they carry their guns the same. They are the same people and they take pictures of the crowd from all angles and by telescopic lens from the tops of buildings across the street and from the top of this building. They have taken pictures of every crowd that has gathered in front of parliament for the last five or six years. If anyone doubts this they should ask themselves how they got those pictures when Mr. Kosygin was here. The same pictures of the same person were being taken at every demonstration in the United States, Toronto, Montreal and elsewhere.

When these pictures were matched it was found that the same guy had been at four or five of the rallies. The RCMP got this information because they are there taking pictures, keeping files and maintaining a record on everybody who attends every meeting. In my opinion, that is an invasion of privacy. Another example is when Mr. Nixon was here and pictures were taken of him. Who takes them? The RCMP takes them, or agents of the RCMP, and they keep a file. This makes things easy for the police. That might be an advantage in a police state. In some countries it is very easy, because when you go to town the first thing you do is not just look for a hotel but for the police station. You give your name, state your business, who you are going to see, how long you will be staying. This makes things very easy for the police, but it is not the kind of country we want to live in. Most of our citizens came to this country to get away from that sort of thing. They do not want Big Brother. Mr. Speaker, what we want is the very maximum right of liberty and of privacy for the individual.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Peters: When you take that away for no reason at all, you are taking the right of the individual to be free. I believed that when we brought in the War Measures Act.

The things that took place under that act were a disgrace and an indication that government never operates on behalf of the people but only operates on behalf of government and the perpetuity of that government. That was a clear case where violent abuses took place because we developed a hysteria. If we again develop a hysteria against organized crime and allow invasion of privacy, again the individual loses.

Mr. Speaker, every time I go the airport I am shocked, concerned and saddened to see people submitting, like sheep, to being searched. I do not care if they take the plane to Cuba. We have a non-scheduled flight every day from Halifax, or perhaps two flights a day. If Air Canada flies me there, I would like them to keep me in a hotel for four or five days so that I could have a holiday, and then bring me back. I am not concerned, either, about the person who hijacks the plane to some place other than Cuba but I am concerned about the nut who gets on the airplane and wants to destroy it. If anyone wants to destroy an airplane flying 50,000 feet above the ocean, all he has to do is kick out a window. Seat belts would make no difference; the pressure on every person would be about four or five tons and the plane would crash. There is no need for a bomb; everybody knows that. The person to be worried about is the one who is going to steal the airplane and hold it to ransom.

I am willing to take the risk of somebody hijacking the plane. Well, nobody is going to hijack the one that goes to northern Quebec, so I am fairly safe; nor is anybody going to hijack the one that my colleague uses to go to Val d'Or, Rouyn, Earlton, North Bay or Toronto. However, Mr. Speaker, I am concerned that people are searched and that their luggage is searched on the strength that something has happened once or twice.

If you get on a bus and the bus has an accident, they do not then give the driver a breathalyzer test every time, nor do they check the tires every time. The Ontario Northland is recapping tires on its buses six times. One caused an accident and killed many people not long ago. No commercial vehicle has tires that are recapped more than three times. Well, we ride that bus and do not search it or do some of the things that we should for our own protection, but we docilely let the police or security people search us. They have the right, as well, to go before a judge and get the authority to wiretap.

Mr. Speaker, nobody has even suggested that we have an ombudsman to represent the public as the Auditor General does in regard to public accounts. The minister will get the file. But the minister was foolish enough to take on such things as the Wheat Board as well as the Department of Justice, so he is not going to have time to read about all the telephone calls that have been made and make a decision on whether the judge should allow it or not. A third party is not even allowed to represent the individual.

I am violently opposed to the invasion of privacy that we, as Members of Parliament, are allowing for no reason. If there were a demonstrated need for this, then maybe we should consider it. I think this government should be introducing a bill to eliminate the right to wiretapping with rare exceptions, those exceptions to be stringently policed. The police force should not be allowed to get a search warrant or injunction, but the individual's privacy should be retained at all costs.

We should stir the people of this country to object to the invasion of privacy, to object to the benefit control officers of the UIC asking the personal questions they do. Once you have been asked all those questions, Mr. Speaker, once somebody listens to your telephone conversations, once you no longer have privacy in your own home, then you are no longer master in your own house and you have really lost a great deal of your individuality; you become close to being an animal. That animal will be 1984 and it will be Big Brother who will make the decision for you. You will be trained to like it, accept it and even to appreciate it.

• (2140)

Mr. Don Blenkarn (Peel South): Mr. Speaker, I was delighted to hear my hon. friend from Timiskaming (Mr. Peters) speak of the new philosophy of the New Democratic Party. He suggested the government acts only on behalf of the government. I am most impressed if that is that party's position in dealing with regulatory legislation. Presumably, those members will now be voting with my party, the party of freedom, the party that is concerned with individual liberty. It is in that respect that I wish to make some remarks tonight.

The matter of electronic snooping has been raised in the press in the last few weeks in connection with the Watergate affair in the United States. I commend the minister for bringing this matter to the attention of this House at this time. The people of this country are totally unhappy over the use of bugging or electronic snooping devices. They have no reason to wish for this kind of activity and are most emphatically in favour of laws protecting privacy.

If this bill contained only section 178.1 and 178.11 and nothing else, I would commend it entirely to this House and say it is a terrific piece of legislation. Under those two sections, conviction for electronic snooping brings a penalty of up to five years in jail. Electronic snooping is pretty clearly prohibited. Nevertheless, the bill goes on to authorize electronic snooping not only on the part of officers of the Crown but, as pointed out by the hon. member for St. Catharines (Mr. Morgan), by private and public telephone and telecommunication companies. The authorization of such invasion of privacy leaves a great deal to be desired and the entire matter must be examined seriously in committee.

It is surprising that the government continues to put forward police state type electronic snooping measures as proposed in this legislation. This is the third time a bill like this has been before the House and, presumably, this bill will go to committee for the third time. Each time provision has been made whereby officers of the Crown and others will be entitled, under certain conditions, to eavesdrop on every bit of private conversation that you and I, Mr. Speaker, may have. It is in that respect also that I wish to address the House tonight.

Not only is the eavesdropping of the government under certain conditions permitted; all of a sudden the results of this eavesdropping will now become legitimate evidence in court. According to section 178.14, if an ex parte

application is granted by a judge of the superior court and eavesdropping is undertaken, the evidence in connection with the eavesdropping can be introduced in court and is to be treated as proper and valid evidence. This is an amazing extension of the laws of evidence as relating to courts. All of a sudden the private conversation in someone's living room, the private conversation in someone's office, say in the Confederation Building between members of this House, or the private conversation over a telephone may become evidence. If a constituent says over the telephone that the Prime Minister should drop dead, that statement may be treated in court as evidence if there is a charge of espionage or something like that.

What will happen, Mr. Speaker? Sure, the tape will be given to the accused; the accused will have access to that information. But the tape will be produced in court and entered as evidence and what was said will be loud and clear, almost like a picture. The court and jury, if there is a jury, will have the right to hear that kind of evidence. Such evidence will not have been obtained by someone directly seeing the subject; it will not be direct evidence given by someone who heard somebody else say something. It will be the evidence of a machine. The machine will have heard something said. The machine will be played in court, and what is recorded may lead to a conviction. That is the kind of thing authorized under this bill. That is a serious extension of the law of evidence, and a very serious infringement of liberty. That is the kind of thing we find in this bill. Therefore, this bill is not properly named as clause 1 says—"This act may be cited as the protection of privacy act." Here is a bill that legitimizes wiretapping evidence. That is a serious provision that will have to be expunged from the bill in committee.

May I deal with the next subject. Authority to conduct this kind of invasion of privacy is to be obtained by way of ex parte application to the court. Every lawyer who has practised law knows that you always go to a friendly judge if you want a friendly order. Really, the friendly judge is always there as my hon. friend from Timiskaming pointed out. I have lots of faith in our judiciary, I have practised law and have gone to friendly judges on behalf of my clients to get friendly orders. There is really not too much difficulty in getting such an order if you want one. Now there are to be ex parte applications for permission to bug.

Under this government we have seen the proliferation of all sorts of ex parte applications. The Minister of Manpower and Immigration (Mr. Andras), who I see is here, gets ex parte orders every day to garnishee citizens' wages of this country because they happen to have been overpaid by his department in the matter of unemployment insurance. All of a sudden people find that their bank account is lighter by a couple of hundred dollars or so because the minister has obtained an ex parte order of garnishment. Those are the kinds of ex parte orders I am talking about. You never find out about them until they hit you.

The same holds true for the Minister of National Revenue (Mr. Stanbury). If he wants to make a seizure because you have not paid your income tax, the minister obtains an ex parte order and makes an ex parte seizure. This is done all of a sudden. There is no due process of law here; there is an ex parte order and seizure. That is the kind of thing that is creeping into our statutes. There is an ex parte order and that is it. And this bill is supposed to protect the rights of the citizen!

I referred to the kinds of orders the Minister of Manpower and Immigration obtains to garnishee people's wages. I dealt with one such order the other day involving a constituent who had already gone bankrupt. The minister's department had been advised of the bankruptcy yet the minister authorized that ex parte garnishee and it went through. Even though I told the minister that the constituent had gone bankrupt, the minister said, "I have a court order, old boy, and I would garnishee him anyway." That is the kind of attitude that prevails under these kinds of ex parte proceedings. Provision is made for them in other statutes, and there is no reason to believe it will not happen under this statute.

Mr. Baldwin: And that is the minister who has unlimited access to our national bank account.

Mr. Blenkarn: Yes, he has unlimited access. It would not be so bad if the orders had to be obtained by the minister. However, from looking at this statute we find that the attorneys general of the provinces, the Solicitor General of Canada or their agents—and that could be a corporal in the RCMP or a police constable in Mississauga—could obtain, on an ex parte order from some judge somewhere, the right to bug, wiretap and do all sorts of things. It is not the minister, but the minister's agent. Almost any person could be the minister's agent. This provision is far too loose. It has far too wide an application and puts far too wide a right in the hands of the Crown or its servants. The whole matter of delegation must be looked at. There should be no right of delegation in this serious invasion of the privacy and rights of individuals.

• (2150)

The bill further states that you do not even need a court application. All you need is the minister's agent, his police office, to think that maybe it is a matter of urgency and for a 36-hour period, without limitation, they can go in and wiretap on their own. They do not even need an order. For 36 hours they are foot-loose and fancy free. Eventually they may get an order, but they may not. They may decide to wiretap my friend here, my friend there or any person in my constituency for any reason at all. They do not have to report. They do not have to justify their activities.

I wish to deal further with this ex parte order. Having obtained the ex parte order, does the minister or the police have to make the details of the ex parte order public knowledge? Not on your life. The whole system can be buried. The file remains sealed until it is destroyed. The accused who is charged as a result of an improperly obtained ex parte order has no right to cross-examine the grounds on which the order was obtained in the first place. The evidence obtained against him is not open to cross-examination. The fact that it was obtained without the right to have it in the first place, without the right of being open to examination or cross-examination, is used against him.

Under section 178(2)(i) we find that on proof of conviction or illegal wiretapping the government of Canada, without the right to go into property and civil rights, declares a damage suit for $5,000. Surely a claim for punitive damages, which is a tort, should not be set out in the Criminal Code. After all, the Criminal Code should not set out grounds for civil damage or even limitations on grounds for civil damage. This is clearly a matter within the competence of the provinces. This section should be removed from the statute. If a person is aggrieved by the improper use of wiretapping and sues someone for that, there is no reason why the person so aggrieved should have his damages limited to $5,000 by the Parliament of Canada. The whole question of damage and civil litigation is a matter within the competence of the provinces of this country. It is not a matter of competence of the federal parliament. On that basis, this section must be removed from the statute.

There are a lot of things said by people on the telephone and otherwise. Things are sometimes said when they should not be said. Things are sometimes said in a way they should not be said. As a politician, I know that. Your Honour also knows it. Loose comments are made. Surely, loose comments made by people over the telephone and picked up as a result of the authority given to the police office to bug the telephone or otherwise should not be used as evidence in a court of law. Just because someone says he is going to do something that is possibly of a seditious nature, it should not be used in evidence against that person just because it was said in private.

This whole question must be looked at, and looked at seriously. It is very easy for politicians to talk about fixing a nomination. It is very easy for people to talk over the phone about fixing a horse race. Because it was very easy for my constituent, a middle-aged lady, to talk about getting rid of the Prime Minister, this idle chatter should not be used as evidence against her in a court of law. That is the kind of authority that is being given by this parliament as a result of this bill.

There is one other thing I would like to say before Your Honour calls it ten o'clock. I wish to make this point very clear. Evidence is taken on the quiet without any person understanding that it is being taken from him. It is taken secretively without his having any understanding of what is happening. All of a sudden it is used against him. This is totally against our concept of British justice. On that basis, the clauses in this bill authorizing electronic snooping must be deleted.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Deputy Speaker: If the House is ready for the question, the Chair will now put it. The hon. member for Saskatoon-Biggar (Mr. Gleave) is rising. Obviously, the House is not ready for the question. Is the hon. member rising on a point of order?

Mr. Gleave: No, Mr. Speaker; I wish to speak on this subject.

[Mr. Blenkarn.]

PROCEEDINGS ON ADJOURNMENT MOTION

A motion to adjourn the House under Standing Order 40 deemed to have been moved.

NATIONAL CAPITAL—PROPOSED OTTAWA-HULL RAPID TRANSIT—POSITION OF FEDERAL GOVERNMENT RESPECTING CONTRIBUTION TO COST

Mr. Walter Baker (Grenville-Carleton): Mr. Speaker, on March 5 last, as recorded at page 1883 of *Hansard*, I asked the Minister of State for Urban Affairs (Mr. Basford) a question the text of which appears on that page. The question relates to the necessity of a financial contribution, which I and many others have said is the responsibility of the federal government, toward the development of a rapid transit system in the national capital.

On January 30 the province of Ontario made an announcement wherein it stated it was prepared to put up a large sum of money toward the cost of developing a system of rapid transit for the Ontario side of the national capital area. At that time it invited participation by the Government of Canada. Since then, neither the government nor the National Capital Commission has made any commitment whatsoever to sharing in this type of development although I am sure there have been discussions with respect to it.

• (2200)

The important thing, however, was the minister's answer. Apart from the fact that he jumped to the conclusion I was assuming something that I was not, he evaded the direct question and replied that in effect there would be no contribution until a co-operative arrangement had been arrived at within the whole of the national capital region, that is, on both sides of the river, in Quebec as well as Ontario. No one quarrels with the concept that there should be development on both sides of the Ottawa River and that both sides ought to develop space. On the other hand, no one can realistically believe that what is desirable is always possible or that differences in attitudes and needs and states of readiness can be ignored.

A commitment has been made, however, by the province of Ontario which will benefit the Ontario side. A regional transport authority has been established throughout the regional municipality of Ottawa, or Ottawa-Carleton. There has long been a need for rapid transit. An invitation to the federal government to make a contribution has been made. This invitation ought to be answered now. It ought to be answered in the affirmative. It ought to have been answered in the affirmative a long time ago. It is neither fair nor reasonable that those who want such a service now should have that service delayed while they wait for another jurisdiction. I have no hesitation in saying that the reasons for delay on the part of the other jurisdictions may be reasonable. None the less, this delay should not penalize most who reside in the regional municipality of Ottawa-Carleton.

On this side of the river there are now half a million people who require rapid transit. They live in the capital of Canada. They live in an age when we should be doing our best to improve our city. The national capital ought to

be a model for all forms of services which municipalities supply. Yet in the field of transportation we still live in a dark age. The answer is obviously rapid transit. In this age, the traditional bus service will not do.

Having said this, I want to add that no doubt the federal government is experiencing difficulties in co-ordination at this time; there are two municipal jurisdictions, two provincial jurisdictions and the federal government is in the middle. This situation ought to raise, not obstacles but rather challenges for the federal government. Perhaps the time has come for us to constitute the parliamentary committee which has been talked about in the newspapers and in this House from time to time, and ask it to examine the structure and the place of the National Capital Commission. In doing this, perhaps we should consider whether the time has not come for the new types of municipalities, the regional municipality of Ottawa-Carleton on the one hand and Outaouais municipality on the other, to be represented on the National Capital Commission.

Perhaps we should seek to determine the real place of the federal government in such an arrangement. Perhaps we ought not to turn our backs on the possibility that there may be some good come of local government involvement at the policy level, and that more could be done in the national capital than the commission's traditional role of tending flowerbeds and building highways—that its real role with respect to development and planning might be recognized by local participation. Perhaps we should take advantage of these new municipal structures so that there could be co-ordination at the policy level between the municipal governments and the National Capital Commission. Perhaps we ought to say that the National Capital Commission has a place on a regional transportation body or bodies which affect both sides of the river. Perhaps the question, the answer to which I sought on March 5, might be answered in that way.

I hope that when the parliamentary secretary rises he will announce that the government does, indeed, intend to go ahead now and act with respect to that part of the national capital area which has made a request for a federal contribution to the development of a modern rapid transit system in that part of the national capital area which has shown itself ready and able to absorb it.

The challenges that face the national capital area have been too long characterized as difficulties. My respectful submission is that this government has not been active enough in meeting the challenges. One of the great challenges it must meet in this area is the challenge before it of providing, on this side at least in the beginning, perhaps as an example to the other side, a modern, up to date and thoroughly sound rapid transit system so that we will not forever become the victim of the automobile and the expensive highways which are necessary for its maintenance.

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, I have been asked by my colleague, the hon. member for Laprairie (Mr. Watson), the parliamentary secretary in this area, to present this reply.

The hon. member for Grenville-Carleton (Mr. Baker) asked whether, in the event that one or other of the provincial governments is not prepared to participate in the conditions necessary to establish rapid transit to serve the national capital region, the federal government would deal separately with one of these governments in the granting of funds for a system on only one side of the Ottawa River.

The minister is not prepared at this time to accept the premises of the question. Indeed, there is considerable evidence that there is sufficient understanding of the necessity for rapid transit for the national capital region on a truly regional basis to include both sides of the Ottawa River and to be an integral part of a balanced transportation network for the whole region.

In support of this I would point out that the Premier of Ontario has made public statements inviting the co-operation of both the federal government and the province of Quebec in dealing with transit proposals for the national capital region which have been recently announced by his government. Moreover, it is also evident that the province of Quebec is initiating steps dealing with transit and is making a considerable effort to overcome the disparity which now exists between the two provinces in the national capital.

Consequently, the minister is satisfied that in the case of both provinces there is an appreciation of the necessity to plan and implement rapid transit on a regional basis and in a co-operative manner with the federal government. I am sure, therefore, there is agreement on the importance of rapid transit in the national capital region to all three senior governments, as well as to the municipalities to be served on both sides of the Ottawa River, and that these governments are therefore willing to work together on this matter.

This seems to be the appropriate time to seek a meeting to discuss public transit and transportation in the region with the other senior levels of government. To this end the minister is now making arrangements for a meeting with representatives of Ontario and Quebec at which we expect a very co-operative approach to be taken. In due course the minister will undoubtedly be reporting further to the House.

TRANSPORT—ADEQUACY OF TOFINO LIFEBOAT STATION SERVICE IN LIGHT OF DROWNINGS

Mr. T. C. Douglas (Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands): Mr. Speaker, this afternoon I asked the Minister of Transport (Mr. Marchand) a question regarding the very unfortunate incident which happened last Wednesday, May 2, near Tofino on the west coast of Vancouver Island. At 2 a.m. four persons were making their way in a small boat, a dug-out canoe, to the Opitsat Indian reserve and the boat capsized. Fortunately, Mr. Walter Arnett, who was a member of the lifeboat crew, heard the shouting and sent out an alarm. Mr. John Shaw launched a rubber boat within four minutes of hearing the alarm and managed to rescue Mr. Henry Williams. Someone on the wharf rescued Mrs. David Henry Williams. Within 15 minutes of the rubber boat being launched, the lifeboat was launched and scoured the area but was unable to find the other two. As a result, David Henry Williams, age 33, and Mrs. Martha Martin, age 73, were drowned.

Adjournment Debate

• (2210)

I did not raise this matter with a view to criticizing the crew of the lifeboat station; not at all. If they were able to launch a rubber boat within four minutes and launch a lifeboat within 15 minutes of hearing the alarm, I think they deserve every commendation. I raise the matter because there is a growing feeling among people on the Pacific coast that the curtailment of the staff of the various lifeboat stations has contributed to many of the losses of life at sea in recent years.

When one considers that this lifeboat crew is on duty from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., seven days a week, and on call all the rest of the time 24 hours a day, seven days a week, one realizes it is virtually impossible to expect that these men can be found by telephone message from the marine radio station at any hour of the day or night. They go out sometimes to visit friends, to go to church, to visit the beer parlour or somewhere else. It is only between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. that persons are actually at the lifeboat station. For the remainder of the time the safety of people at sea is dependent upon someone being able to find the persons who are on call but are not really on duty.

I do not believe it was good economy when some time ago the department reduced the staff of these lifeboat stations. The men who go down to the sea in ships and do business in deep water have a right to better protection than that which they are being given. It is not merely a matter of these four persons who were making their way to the Indian reserve: there are fishing fleets 25 or 30 miles out to sea and any one of them could capsize or be involved in a collision.

There is a need for two things. There is need for a modern, up to date ship-to-shore radio service and lifeboat station crews available at all times to launch a boat and go to the rescue of those whose ship has been wrecked or destroyed. I do not raise this matter to either embarrass the minister or find fault with the lifeboat crew, who apparently in this particular instance acted with commendable speed and energy. My purpose in raising the matter is to ask the government, through the Minister of Transport, to look into this situation to see if the paring of the staff of the lifeboat stations has resulted in a situation in which people's lives are in jeopardy.

When I ask for an investigation, I do not mean public servants investigating themselves. I mean someone from the minister's office or persons familiar with lifeboat operations and coastguard services who would look into this matter. They should be people who are not intimately connected with the operation. It should certainly not be done by someone from the Treasury Board to see whether there could be a saving. This is not a case of saving dollars but, rather, of saving lives. This is what I am interested in.

I ask the minister, through the minister's parliamentary secretary, if the department will look into this question of lifeboat stations to see whether men could be on duty on three shifts of eight hours each, which would mean that they would be there and available to meet any mishap. I know some steps are being taken toward this end, but they have been very slow. There needs to be a tremendous improvement in order to achieve some radio service, particularly the ship-to-shore radio service on the Pacific coast. With those two things, adequate lifeboat crews and up to date radio communication, I think we could reduce the loss of life that has been all too common in recent years on the Pacific coast.

[Mr. Douglas.]

Mr. Joseph-Philippe Guay (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, I would like to say to the hon. member that I have taken careful note of the comments he has made, of his concern and of the various other points that he outlined. At the same time, I would like to say to him, on behalf of the department, that from our review of the whole operation there is no doubt in our minds that a sufficient crew is manning the station.

In order to confirm this opinion it should be noted that it was one of the members of our lifeboat crew who first became aware of the emergency and put the rescue operation in action, which included the launching of the rubber boat and the rescue, and the further launching of the larger lifeboat, both of which took place in extremely short periods of time. Additional staff would not conceivably have improved the speed with which this whole operation was carried out.

It must also be borne in mind that all this took place during the hours of darkness. A special investigation team was sent to the scene of this unfortunate incident to look into all details relating to it. The investigation is still under way.

INFORMATION—POSSIBILITY OF USE OF RETAIL CREDIT CORPORATION BY DEPARTMENTS TO OBTAIN INFORMATION

Mr. Ron Atkey (St. Paul's): Mr. Speaker, on a day when the right to privacy is being discussed in the House, and indeed throughout Canada and the United States, it is appropriate to consider whether the government's own house is in order. One of the more reprehensible types of invasion of privacy is the surreptitious investigation of persons by governments through the use of commercial credit agencies whose computer-stored data is often lacking in truth if not in substance.

On March 6 of this year I asked the President of the Treasury Board (Mr. Drury) if he would advise whether any department of the federal government is a client of the Retail Credit Corporation or Company, or of any other commercial reporting agency and, if so, does it use the information received for purposes other than as an employer? My question was prompted by the following information which has been brought to my attention. The first information is that there is in existence an up to date, eleven-page manual of the Retail Credit Company called "Retail Credit Managers' Manual". It is my understanding that this is a confidential document which is not distributed to the public. Moreover, this manual contains words to the following effect under the heading "General Policies of the Retail Credit Company":

> The company operates with the federal authorities in the United States and Canada. Requests usually come from the RCMP and other federal departments in Canada.
>
> These departments have the right of subpoena and we try to co-operate with them. Any unjustifiable demands should be submitted to the company's legal department in Atlanta.

The passage to which I refer concludes by saying:

You should realize that the company's information is only hearsay and is not guaranteed.

• (2220)

That is from the "Retail Credit Manager's Manual," which is an up to date manual used by retail credit managers in the United States and Canada. In conclusion, I would refer to some statistics and a comment in the report of the task force on privacy and computers which was tabled in the House earlier this year. That report states at page 63:

Retail Credit of Canada, a subsidiary of the Retail Credit Corporation of Atlanta, Georgia, which is primarily an investigative credit bureau, has been diversifying into in-file operations. Approximately 30 per cent of the in-file business in Canada is now under its control.

In light of the information which I have laid before the House, I would appreciate it if the President of the Treasury Board (Mr. Drury) would provide a full and complete answer to the question which I have raised, in the context of the factual information and the resulting concerns arising therefrom.

Adjournment Debate

Hon. C. M. Drury (President of the Treasury Board): Mr. Speaker, I am afraid I cannot give the hon. gentleman the kind of assurances that perhaps he would like. I gather he would want to have assurance that no one in the government's employ has anything whatsoever to do with the Retail Credit Corporation or the Retail Credit Company of Canada. However, I can say that so far as the Treasury Board is concerned no directive, no instruction and no advice has ever been issued by that body enjoining departments to make use of this kind of service for any governmental purpose, and there have been no departments, to my knowledge, that have made use of the services of this corporation.

I am advised by the Public Service Commission that they have not, and do not intend to make use of the services of this particular corporation, either to obtain character references or, indeed, measurements of so-called credit worthiness when it comes to the matter of the recruiting of people or their appointment to the public service. So both the two control agencies at least do not make use of the facilities offered by this company themselves, nor have they given any advice or instruction to other government departments that they should use them.

Motion agreed to and the House adjourned at 10.25 p.m.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Tuesday, May 8, 1973

The House met at 2 p.m.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

DESIGNATION OF THURSDAY AND FRIDAY, MAY 10 AND 11, AS OPPOSITION DAYS

Hon. Allan J. MacEachen (President of the Privy Council): Mr. Speaker, I should like to advise the House that Thursday and Friday of this week are designated as opposition days.

* * *

THE CANADIAN ECONOMY

FOOD AND HOUSING PRICE INCREASES—REQUEST FOR UNANIMOUS CONSENT TO MOVE MOTION

Mr. James Gillies (Don Valley): Mr. Speaker, pursuant to Standing Order 43 I rise on a matter of the utmost urgency and gravity. It is the ever-accelerating rise in prices, particularly in the vital fields of food and housing, and the ever-present failure of the federal government, which has paramount responsibility in this area, to take steps to abate the current inflationary spiral and to deal adequately with the continuing rise in the cost of living. I therefore move, seconded by the hon. member for York-Simcoe (Mr. Stevens):

That this House urges the government to impose a temporary 90-day freeze on incomes, prices, rents and dividends, during which time it is instructed to meet with industrial, labour, provincial and consumer group leaders to formulate measures providing for medium and long term control of inflation.

Mr. Speaker: Is there unanimous consent that the motion proposed by the hon. member be put?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

Mr. Speaker: There does not appear to be unanimity in respect of the motion proposed by the hon. member. Therefore the motion cannot be put under the provisions of Standing Order 43.

INDIAN AFFAIRS

FORT ALEXANDER RESERVE—NON-ATTENDANCE OF CHILDREN AT SCHOOL—REQUEST FOR UNANIMOUS CONSENT TO MOVE MOTION

Mr. Jake Epp (Provencher): Mr. Speaker, pursuant to Standing Order 43 I request the unanimous consent of the House to discuss a matter of urgent and pressing necessity. The matter concerns the fact that 600 students from nursery school to grade 8 inclusive have not attended school since Friday, May 4, on the Fort Alexander Indian reservation in Manitoba. Because of the deplorable conditions of existing educational facilities resulting in health hazards and illness, children at Fort Alexander are not able to receive the educational help which they so desperately need.

In view of the fact that this condition needs immediate attention, I move, seconded by the hon. member for Kingston and the Islands (Miss MacDonald):

That the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development immediately take steps which will provide adequate educational facilities on the Fort Alexander Indian reservation.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member's motion is proposed under the terms of Standing Order 43 and therefore requires the unanimous consent of the House. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

Mr. Speaker: There is not unanimity. Therefore the motion cannot be put under the terms of Standing Order 43.

MOTION TO ADJOURN UNDER S.O. 26

THE CANADIAN ECONOMY

INCREASE IN COST OF LIVING

Mr. James A. McGrath (St. John's East): Mr. Speaker, I rise under Standing Order 26 to propose a motion to adjourn the House for the purpose of discussing an important matter requiring urgent consideration. I refer to the sharp rise in the cost of living, 6.6 per cent in the last year, the highest increase since 1951, which is particularly evident in the vital areas of shelter costs, up 6.9 per cent, and food at home, up 13.3 per cent, causing hardship to hundreds of thousands of Canadians, especially those on low and fixed incomes, and the complete failure of the government to alleviate this national crisis.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for St. John's East has filed with the Chair the required notice under the provisions of Standing Order 26 in which he seeks to move the adjournment of the House to discuss the question to which he has alluded.

As has been frequently stated in considering proposed motions to adjourn the House, the question to be determined by the Chair does not necessarily concern itself with the importance of the topic but rather with the requirement that the matter should be one that should be given urgent consideration under the Standing Order. Obviously the subject is one of great concern to the House and to all hon. members, but in my view it is not acceptable at this time under the provisions of Standing Order 26. I would draw the attention of hon. members to paragraph 5 of Standing Order 26 which states in part:

> In determining whether a matter should have urgent consideration, Mr. Speaker shall have regard ... to the probability of the matter being brought before the House within reasonable time by other means.

In passing, it should be stated that the question of the rising cost of living was covered in amendments in both the address and budget debates in this session. Additionally, as hon. members will recognize, the estimates of the departments concerned are still before committees. The question of rising food costs is now being considered by a special committee of the House. I might also refer to Bill C-133 dealing with the National Housing Act which is now before the Standing Committee on Health, Welfare and Social Affairs.

I am always reluctant to suggest that hon. members make use of the allotted days available to them under Standing Order 58 as I do not think it is the function of the Chair to direct the utilization of those days. On the other hand, I think I should remind hon. members that there are some 13 days available between now and June 30, and it does seem to me that some consideration might be given by hon. members to that aspect of our proceedings.

For these and other reasons, perhaps the form of the motion proposed by the hon. member which in some respects at least is more of a substantive motion or a censure motion, I would hesitate very much to suggest to the House that there should be a debate under the provisions of Standing Order 26. I regret I cannot put the motion at this time under the terms of Standing Order 26.

● (1410)

ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

THE CANADIAN ECONOMY

COST OF LIVING INCREASE—GOVERNMENT INTENTION RESPECTING IMPLEMENTATION OF CONTINGENCY PLAN

Hon. Robert L. Stanfield (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct a question to the right hon. Prime Minister, in the absence particularly of the Minister of Finance. The Prime Minister will have observed the very disturbing increase in the cost of living reported by Statistics Canada this morning. I would like to ask the Prime Minister whether the government is now prepared to implement its contingency plan that we have heard about from time to time? We have suggested a 90-day freeze on wages, incomes and prices but, whatever the government's contingency plan is, is the Prime Minister now prepared to implement it?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, the Leader of the Opposition says that they propose a 90-day freeze. It is not clear to the government whether the freeze would include prices on the farm, at the farm gate, all prices, or just—

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Hees: Just answer the question. You know where those wisecracks got you on October 30, Pierre.

Mr. Stanfield: Mr. Speaker, I am very happy to be of any assistance I can to the government in formulating policies—

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Stanfield: —but I would like to ask the Prime Minister whether in view of the figures released today, following previously disturbing figures on the cost of living, the government is now prepared to implement the contingency plan it has talked about in the past, although it has never divulged what it is? Is the Prime Minister prepared to move at the present time?

Mr. Trudeau: Mr. Speaker, I think I have previously explained the government's position on this subject. It is that if the plan is to be implemented it will be announced and implemented at the moment of its announcement. We would not signal it in advance as this would permit everyone across the country to make increases before the plan was actually implemented. I am interested to see that the Leader of the Opposition has not really answered with respect to the explanation I asked of him.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. MacInnis (Cape Breton-East Richmond): You are not allowed to ask questions now.

Mr. Stanfield: I would be very happy to meet with the Prime Minister and answer any questions that he may have to put to me.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Stanfield: Mr. Speaker, this is my final supplementary. In the light of the failure and the intentional refusal of the Prime Minister to be in any way responsive, I simply ask him whether the government will indicate what level of price increase it is prepared to accept in this country for 1973? Can the Prime Minister give the House and the country any information at all, hopefully precise information, as to what the government is prepared to accept before taking some more drastic action?

Mr. Trudeau: I repeat, Mr. Speaker, that we would not want to signal in advance any steps we wanted to take in

this direction. I think we will be judged by the opposition and by the country on whether we take steps at the right time. But I fail to understand, and perhaps I need guidance from you, Mr. Speaker, why the Leader of the Opposition wants to do this in a private meeting between ourselves. Surely the Leader of the Opposition receives emoluments under the Crown, and this is under his jurisdiction and he should be able to answer questions.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Stanfield: Mr. Speaker, I have expended a good deal of energy trying to get into a position in this House where my right hon. friend could ask me questions like this.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. Is the hon. member for York South rising for the purpose of a supplementary?

Mr. Lewis: I am, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for York South.

FOOD PRICE INCREASES—POSSIBILITY OF LEGISLATION TO ENABLE ACTION ON RECOMMENDATIONS OF REVIEW BOARD—SUGGESTED FEDERAL-PROVINCIAL CONFERENCE

Mr. David Lewis (York South): Mr. Speaker, may I ask a question of the right hon. Prime Minister and suggest that the situation with regard to the increase in prices, particularly food prices, is perhaps more serious than some of the hilarity and noise suggests.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Lewis: In view of the fact that the announcement with regard to the Food Prices Review Board gives that board very wide powers of inquiry and the opportunity for staff necessary to make that inquiry, which we of course support, may I ask whether the government is now considering necessary legislation to enable the board or the Governor in Council or a minister to take action following such an inquiry and the recommendations of the board?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, it would be the intention of the government to take action on any reasonable proposition put forward by the board. I cannot say at this time whether that would entail legislation or not. If legislation is needed in order to act as recommended and as the government desires, then of course we will present it to the House.

Mr. Lewis: I appreciate that there are obviously some constitutional problems with respect to any system of price control or rolling back prices. May I therefore ask the Prime Minister whether he is prepared to call a special federal-provincial conference for the purpose of having all 11 governments or all 11 legislatures take action in order to halt the rising cost of living in all areas?

Mr. Trudeau: Mr. Speaker, I think the answer to that is already written into history. When I was Prime Minister in 1969 or early 1970 this government did call such a conference to obtain the support of the provinces in our fight against inflation. If that were a necessary course I certainly would do it again. I would hope, though, that if we agree this time amongst the provinces and the federal government to do our best to fight inflation, many of the provinces would not head for the hills as soon as the fight got a bit tough.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. There are many members seeking supplementaries on this subject and they will be recognized. I will allow the hon. member for York South another supplementary for the moment, but then I think we should recognize the hon. member for Témiscamingue and pursue supplementaries from there.

Mr. Lewis: Mr. Speaker, if any of the provincial governments run to the hills the people of Canada will deal with them just as the people of Canada dealt with this government last October 30.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Lewis: In view of the very substantial increase in all areas of the cost of living and in view of the forecasts of economists that these increases will continue in the future, I am asking the Prime Minister whether he would consider calling a meeting of the federal government and all the provincial governments immediately for the purpose of taking joint action to halt the spiralling rise in the cost of living?

Mr. Trudeau: Mr. Speaker, this is the same question as the one I just answered, with the possible addition of the word "immediately", and the answer is no, not immediately. We are having a meeting of first ministers on the 24th of this month, and if there is a desire on the part of all participants to put this subject on the agenda the federal government will be very happy to deal with it.

● (1420)

[*Translation*]

Mr. Réal Caouette (Témiscamingue): Mr. Speaker, I want to ask a supplementary question of the right hon. Prime Minister.

Everybody deplores the continual rise in prices, but since the Leader of the Official Opposition is promising price increases to fishermen in the east and in the west, to the western farmers, to the workers of central Canada while he is asking for a price freeze in the House, something which is not easily understandable,—my question is serious, I do not want to set anybody laughing—is the Prime Minister prepared to take efficient measures to have the Leader of the Official Opposition examined first thing tomorrow morning?

[*English*]

COST OF LIVING INCREASE—GOVERNMENT POLICY RESPECTING INTEREST RATES

Hon. George Hees (Prince Edward-Hastings): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Prime Minister.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Hees: Mr. Speaker, if I can get the attention of the Prime Minister, I should like to ask him a question.

Mr. Trudeau: You have my attention.

Mr. Hees: In view of the fact that the cost of living is going up—

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I regret that I have to interrupt the hon. member. There is quite a bit of noise at the moment and it is difficult for the Chair to hear the question being asked by the hon. member for Prince Edward-Hastings.

Mr. Hees: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, for demanding quiet for this very important question. I would ask a question of the Prime Minister. In view of the fact that the cost of living, as the Prime Minister knows, is rising at an annual rate of 3.2 per cent a year, is it the intention of the government to intensify and carry on the policy of rising interest rates and tight money initiated by the Bank of Canada on the instructions of the government about a month ago, which of course will bring about higher unemployment? Is that the intention of the government, as it was three years ago?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, there is an element of debate in the question, but if I could comment on the premise of it, that the rise on an annual basis is 3.2 per cent—

Mr. Hees: It was 13.2 per cent.

Mr. Trudeau: —I would be prepared to concede that.

Mr. Hees: I said 3.2 per cent but I meant 13.2.

Mr. Trudeau: I should like to tell the hon. member that in some countries which have applied price and wage controls the consumer price index has been increasing. It has been increasing in the United States at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 9.8 per cent in the past three months. On a year-over-year basis the increase in the consumer price index in Japan was 8.4 per cent, in Germany, 6.9 per cent, in France, 7.0 per cent, in the United Kingdom, 8.2 per cent, and in Italy, 9.7 per cent.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. May we have order, please. The hon. member for Prince Edward-Hastings is recognized on a supplementary.

Mr. Hees: Mr. Speaker, naturally I meant 13.2 per cent.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Hees: Does the Prime Minister think, because the cost of living is rising at an abnormally high rate in a few other countries in the world, that this justifies this government, when at the present time our cost of living is going up at an annual rate of 13.2 per cent, in sitting back and refusing to bring in the contingency plan that on other occasions it said it would bring in?

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

[Mr. Hees.]

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. May we have order, please. That is not a question; of course; that is argument. A number of hon. members are seeking the floor for supplementaries. They will be reocgnized. Is the right hon. gentleman rising for a supplementary?

Mr. Diefenbaker: No, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: I will come to him in a moment after the supplementaries.

FOOD AND SHELTER PRICE INCREASES—STEPS TO CONTROL PENDING ESTABLISHMENT OF PRICES REVIEW BOARD

Mr. James A. McGrath (St. John's East): Mr. Speaker, in view of the urgency of this matter and the fact that it does not seem to be of any great concern to the government, which is regrettable—

Some hon. Members: Question!

Mr. McGrath: Mr. Speaker, this is a very serious matter to the people of Canada.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. McGrath: In view of the fact the proposed Prices Review Board, with all its shortcomings, has not yet been set up and will not report for at least another three months, I ask the Prime Minister what specific interim steps the government is prepared to take to hold the line on rising food costs and rising shelter costs which are causing such extreme hardship to people on lower incomes in this country?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, apart from saying that the year-over-year based increase in the all-item consumer price index in April was 6.6 per cent, thereby hoping to correct the figure of the hon. member who was not sure whether it was 3 per cent or 13 per cent—

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Hees: I was sure it was 13 per cent and not three.

Mr. Trudeau: —I must say I have nothing to add to what I said in answer to the Leader of the Opposition.

Mr. McGrath: Mr. Speaker, with great respect, the Prime Minnister has deliberately avoided answering my question. With Your Honour's indulgence, I will repeat my question because it is urgent and very important. In view of the fact that the Prices Review Board proposed by the government, with all its limitations, and there are many, has not yet been set up and will not in fact report for at least another three months, I ask the Prime Minister what specific interim measures the government is prepared to take to hold the line on rising food prices and rising shelter prices to alleviate the suffering of those on low and fixed incomes in this country?

Mr. Trudeau: Mr. Speaker, if the hon. member will do me the favour of reading *Hansard* tomorrow, he will see

that I answered this question in reply to the Leader of the Opposition.

Mr. McGrath: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. The Prime Minister is deliberately refusing to answer my question.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. McGrath: He shows the bankruptcy of this government in meeting this national crisis.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. McGrath: Perhaps Your Honour will allow me to redirect my question to the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs who has a great deal of statutory responsibility in this regard. What specific proposals does the government propose to bring in to help hold the line on rising food costs during the next three months before the minister's lame duck Prices Review Board has a chance to get into operation?

Hon. Herb Gray (Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs): Mr. Speaker, I will do my best to answer the hon. member's lame duck question by reminding him of the proposals in the recent budget to remit sales taxes and remove customs duties as well as to increase the old age pension and family allowances to help the lower income people.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. McGrath: Mr. Speaker—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. Perhaps the hon. member might allow the Chair to recognize other members on supplementaries. At this moment the Chair will recognize the hon. member for Vancouver-Kingsway on a supplementary. I will return to the hon. member and others in due course.

INCREASE IN FOOD PRICES—POSSIBLE PROGRAM TO PROVIDE PROPER FOOD FOR PEOPLE WITH LOW INCOMES

Mrs. Grace MacInnis (Vancouver-Kingsway): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct my question to the Prime Minister. In view of the lengthy battle to get the Prices Review Board started and in view of the fact that people are suffering in the meantime from malnutrition, will the Prime Minister inform the House when the government proposes to implement the recommendation in the report of the Special Committee on Trends In Food Prices, which was accepted by the House, that the government consider the feasibility of co-sponsored programs with the provinces to put proper food on the tables of people with low incomes? I do not want to hear about the Canada Assistance Plan because this recommendation was in addition to any Canada Assistance Plan program.

Hon. Herb Gray (Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs): Mr. Speaker, if I may answer on behalf of the Prime Minister—

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Gray: —I feel I must refer to the Canada Assistance Plan because it does provide an opportunity for the federal government to pay half the cost of certain programs if the provinces would request them which would enable more food to be placed on the tables of lower income groups. Also, as I said in the House recently, the Minister of National Health and Welfare indicated that he would be going into this matter with his provincial counterparts in tne course of the review of social welfare policy he is undertaking.

Mrs. MacInnis (Vancouver Kingsway): Instead of leaving this to some other minister or taking it away from the Prime Minister, will the minister, under his responsibility as Minister of Consumer Affairs, try to get these programs going immediately in order to put proper food on the tables of those who need it?

Mr. Gray: Yes, Mr. Speaker.

* * *

● (1430)

[*Translation*]

REGIONAL ECONOMIC EXPANSION

CIP PLANT IN TEMISCAMING—STUDIES RESPECTING POSSIBLE REOPENING—REQUEST FOR REPORT BY MINISTER

Mr. Réal Caouette (Témiscamingue): Mr. Speaker, I want to ask a question of the hon. Minister of Regional Economic Expansion.

Can he say if new elements have come out concerning the reopening of the CIP plant at Temiscaming and is there any hope of that reopening taking place in the near future?

[*English*]

Hon. Donald C. Jamieson (Minister of Regional Economic Expansion): Mr. Speaker, I checked on this matter just before coming into the House this afternoon. The position is that we have completed our federal talks with the various parties concerned. The government of Quebec is now meeting, I understand, with the unions and with the promoters, and all three parties agree that once their round of negotiations is completed they will return to us with a proposal. As things stand at the moment, we have gone as far as it is possible for us to go until the remaining three parties reach agreement on the substantive issues involved.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Caouette (Témiscamingue): Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask a supplementary.

Has the department made an offer to the persons involved regarding resumption of operations in these plants?

[*English*]

Mr. Jamieson: Not a specific offer in terms of dollars and cents, because that is impossible for us to do until the outcome of the discussions to which I have referred is known to us, but we have said that once given a proposal by the other parties we shall respond and make the necessary grants available.

Oral Questions

THE CANADIAN ECONOMY

COST OF LIVING INCREASE—SUGGESTED ADDITIONAL TAX ADJUSTMENTS TO ASSIST PEOPLE ON LOW OR FIXED INCOMES

Mr. John Lundrigan (Gander-Twillingate): Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary relating to previous questions. Perhaps the cabinet meeting could break up over there for a moment. It is directed to the Prime Minister. Over and above the statements he has made with respect to tax changes and various measures introduced in the spring budget, does the right hon. gentleman have any other plans in mind, not necessarily relating to price controls but in the area of tax adjustments or moneys which could be directed to people with low incomes and people on fixed incomes to help offset immediately the impact of the increases in the cost of living?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): In the area of taxation, what we have in mind is also on the order paper or will be on the order paper soon. In the area of price and wage controls it is in the form of a contingency plan, and here I refer the hon. member to my answer to his leader a few moments ago.

Mr. McGrath: You have no contingency plan.

Mr. Trudeau: Yes, we do.

Mr. Hees: They don't know where to find it.

Mr. McGrath: Ask the Minister of Agriculture. He knows.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. May we have order, please. I suggest that the hon. member for Gander-Twillingate be given an opportunity to ask his supplementary, and I will then recognize the right hon. member for Prince Albert.

Mr. Lundrigan: Many of the people I represent are finding inflation rather difficult and I should like the Prime Minister, if he could get serious for a moment, to answer the question. The incomes of many people on the east coast of this country average $2,000 a year and I presume this is the case in central Canada and western Canada as well. Has the Prime Minister anything to tell these people who are doing everything in their power to alert Members of Parliament and the government to the impact that the rising cost of living is having on them? Has he any encouragement at all to give these people? Has he anything to say which would promise an easing of the burden of inflation on people with low or fixed incomes?

Mr. Trudeau: Mr. Speaker, I believe the answer given by the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs was a form of encouragement.

* * *

PENITENTIARIES

REQUEST FOR ROYAL COMMISSION TO INVESTIGATE UNSETTLED CONDITIONS

Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Prince Albert): Mr. Speaker, I would direct a question to the urbane Solicitor General. I know I shall get an answer, which is something nobody has been able to get today from the Prime Minister.

[Mr. Jamieson.]

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Diefenbaker: I have already brought this matter to the minister's attention. In view of the deep unsettlement in the penitentiaries of our country and, indeed, falling morale among the custodial officers, finding, as they do, that it is easier for inmates to get out of penitentiaries these days than it is to get in—

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Diefenbaker: —will he give consideration to setting up a royal commission composed of representatives of his department and of the Department of Justice and also of the various provincial Attorneys General to look into this matter in order to offset falling morale in all of the institutions I have visited or with which I have been in communication, and to report within 60 days because the situation demands not only immediate attention but action?

Hon. Warren Allmand (Solicitor General): Mr. Speaker, I will give consideration to that proposal. I might say that at the present time there are a number of administrative inquiries under way, one with respect to Cowansville and another with respect to Dorchester penitentiary. I shall await the reports of those two inquiries, which I expect very soon, and then we will make a decision whether or not we need a broader inquiry such as is suggested by the right hon. member. I might point out that in recent years several important inquiries have taken place. There was the Ouimet report of 1969, and the Swackhamer and the Trainor commissions last year. However, I do not want to turn down the possibility of implementing this recommendation. It may be necessary.

Mr. Diefenbaker: I thank the minister for that answer. I know how sincere he is about this matter. But am I not right when I suggest that the degradation, as it were, in morale in the penitentiaries has greatly accelerated since the present head of the penitentiaries was appointed some two years ago?

Mr. Allmand: It is true there are morale problems, especially in some of our maximum security institutions, but I do not think I could relate this to the fact that the present director was appointed two years ago. In general, our problem in the maximum security institutions has been the tremendous increase in the inmate population. As we all know, the maximum security inmate is the most difficult type of prisoner to deal with. There are certain morale problems and we are seeking ways now to solve them. An inquiry might be necessary.

[*Translation*]

COWANSVILLE—MEASURES TO PREVENT ESCAPES

Mr. Jean-Marie Boisvert (Drummond): Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask a supplementary of the Solicitor General.

Does he intend to wait for the report's findings before starting to seek a way of locking up the Cowansville penitentiary?

[*English*]

Hon. Warren Allmand (Solicitor General): No, Mr. Speaker. We have already taken steps to correct the security situation at Cowansville penitentiary. As I pointed out recently, we have increased the number of guards. We are placing special barbed wire on the top of the 18-foot fence. We are clearing the bush farther away from the fence. We are putting special grating on the windows—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. Perhaps the minister might wish to return to motions to make a statement.

Mr. Hees: How many of the inmates are going to tonight's game?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member for Qu'Appelle-Moose Mountain.

* * *

INDUSTRY

LUMBER—POSSIBILITY OF EMBARGO ON EXPORTS TO REDUCE DOMESTIC COST

Hon. Alvin Hamilton (Qu'Appelle-Moose Mountain): Mr. Speaker, my question is addressed to the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce. Has the minister had time to consider the proposal I advanced some weeks ago to reduce the cost of lumber in Canada by using the federal power to place an embargo on the export of lumber?

Hon. Alastair Gillespie (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): We have reviewed the situation with respect to lumber. We have held discussions with industry representatives. My impression is that the tight situation as far as lumber is concerned should ease in the second half of this year.

* * *

THE CANADIAN ECONOMY

SHELTER COST INCREASES—SUGGESTED ELIMINATION OF SALES TAX ON BUILDING MATERIALS

Mr. Walter C. Carter (St. John's West): Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question for the Prime Minister. Since the Prime Minister is unable to announce a contingency plan to meet the very serious problem of rising costs, and since the cost of shelter has increased considerably, would the right hon. gentleman start by eliminating the 11 per cent sales tax on building materials?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): This is a representation which is made frequently in the House—

An hon. Member: And ignored.

Mr. Trudeau: —and which the government considers from time to time in preparing a budget.

* * *

ENERGY

INCREASE IN PRICE OF CRUDE OIL—SUGGESTED LIMITATION OF EXPORTS TO UNITED STATES

Mr. Terry Grier (Toronto-Lakeshore): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources relating to the fact that both Gulf Oil and Shell Oil have now followed in the footsteps of Imperial Oil by raising the price of crude. Since these price increases, of which there have been several in recent months, are related not to increased costs but to the fact that demand in the United States is increasing, and since this in turn will result in increased prices for gasoline and domestic fuel oil, would the minister and/or the National Energy Board limit exports of oil to the United States?

● (1440)

Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): Mr. Speaker, the hon. member may not have been following this but exports were limited by decision of the government in the earlier part of this year. The hon. member says that the increases have not been due to costs, but I would remind him that the cost of offshore oil, which represents between 800,000 and 900,000 barrels a day in eastern Canada, has been increasing steadily because of the pressures applied by the OPEC countries.

With regard to the other question which may be implicit in a comment just made, whether or not the price in the western part of this country should be divorced from the international price, this is something that we are taking under consideration but no decision along those lines has yet been made.

Mr. Grier: Mr. Speaker, in view of the concern that is being expressed on both sides of the House in regard to the rising cost of living, and without quibbling as to the precise reasons for the increase but recognizing that price increases as a result of this action are probably inevitable, would the minister and/or the National Energy Board consider decreasing the amount of allowable exports to the United States?

Mr. Macdonald (Rosedale): Mr. Speaker, the hon. member might reflect on this. It is not so much a question of the absolute level of exports but whether or not we should have a two-price system. As I have said, we have not yet reached any conclusion in this regard.

Oral Questions

THE CANADIAN ECONOMY

COST OF LIVING INCREASE—REQUEST THAT HOUSE BE CONSULTED ON TERMS OF REFERENCE OF PROPOSED PRICES REVIEW BOARD

Mr. G. W. Baldwin (Peace River): Mr. Speaker, may I ask the Prime Minister a question relating to matters which have been discussed. Is the government prepared to consult the House in connection with the terms of reference and powers of the proposed Prices Review Board?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, with respect, I believe that this question was asked yesterday of the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs.

Mr. Baldwin: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs simply said that the government was going to invoke the Inquiries Act to establish the board. I know this and so does every member of the House. I am asking the Prime Minister, knowing that to be the fact, whether the government is prepared to consult the House as to the width of the powers and terms of reference this board will have in its dealings with this very difficult subject?

Mr. Trudeau: Mr. Speaker, I really have nothing to add to what the minister said yesterday.

FOOD AND SHELTER COST INCREASES—REQUEST FOR IMMEDIATE FEDERAL-PROVINCIAL CONFERENCE

Mr. James A. McGrath (St. John's East): Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question for the Prime Minister. In view of the fact that the NDP now supports our proposal for an immediate federal-provincial conference on rising food and shelter costs, thereby constituting a majority of the House in favour of such a proposal, and in light of the figures released today by Statistics Canada on food and shelter costs, would the Prime Minister now give the government's consent to convening immediately such a federal-provincial conference to deal with this very serious crisis on an emergency basis?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, this is, as you will realize, the same question. As I told the leader of the NDP, a federal-provincial conference will be taking place two weeks from now and the agenda can always be expanded to include the subject the hon. member referred to if such is the desire of the provincial governments across the country.

Mr. McGrath: Can the Prime Minister assure the House—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member will be recognized for a further supplementary, but a number of members are seeking to ask supplementaries on the same subject and we will soon be running short of time.

Mr. McGrath: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I merely want to ask the Prime Minister whether he will assure the House that the agenda of that conference will contain an item dealing with the rising cost of living.

[Mr. Macdonald (Rosedale).]

Mr. Trudeau: No, Mr. Speaker, I cannot give that assurance. This government operates in co-operation with the provinces and we do not impose agenda items or force them on the provinces.

* * *

[*Translation*]

OFFICIAL LANGUAGES

CRITICISM BY PRESIDENT OF TREASURY BOARD OF CERTAIN STATEMENTS BY COMMISSIONER—PRIME MINISTER'S POSITION

Mr. René Matte (Champlain): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the right hon. Prime Minister.

Is the criticism made by the President of the Treasury Board against the Official Languages Commissioner, Mr. Spicer, about some of his statements, endorsed by the right hon. Prime Minister?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): I apologize to the hon. member, Mr. Speaker, but I did not catch the question mark in his question.

Mr. Matte: Mr. Speaker, I only wanted to ask the Prime Minister if he endorsed the criticism made by the President of the Treasury Board against the Official Languages Commissioner, Mr. Spicer, about some of his statements.

Mr. Trudeau: Mr. Speaker, I will have to note this question because I do not know what statement of the President of the Treasury Board the hon. member is referring to.

Mr. Jean-Marie Boisvert (Drummond): Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question.

Has the right hon. Prime Minister any criticism to make against the Official Languages Commissioner, Mr. Spicer?

Mr. Trudeau: No, Mr. Speaker, I have no criticism against Mr. Spicer.

* * *

[*English*]

NORTHERN AFFAIRS

POSSIBLE INCREASE IN ISOLATED POST ALLOWANCES FOR GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES BECAUSE OF HIGHER COST OF LIVING

Mr. Erik Nielsen (Yukon): Mr. Speaker, in the absence of the President of the Treasury Board may I direct my question to the Prime Minister. It relates to the fact that the cost of living in areas above the 60th parallel is approximately 25 to 30 per cent higher than in southern Canada. Can the Prime Minister say whether consideration is being given to increasing the isolated post allowances so as to assist government employees to cope with the higher cost of living in the north, and are any other measures being considered to assist other members of the population in the north to cope with higher costs?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): No, Mr. Speaker, I cannot.

SOCIAL SECURITY

REQUEST THAT FAMILY ALLOWANCE PAYMENTS BE TIED TO COST OF LIVING INDEX PENDING INCREASES

Mr. Jack Marshall (Humber-St. George's-St. Barbe): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Prime Minister in the absence of the Minister of National Health and Welfare. In view of the fact that the proposed increases in family allowances will not be implemented until January, 1974, and in view of the significant rise in the cost of food, clothing and shelter which is affecting many hundreds of thousands of children of families on low income, would the minister cause to be tabled an order in council to tie present family allowance payments to the cost of living index, using January, 1973, as the base month, to ensure that families receive some improvement in benefits starting immediately instead of their having to wait until next year?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I can only remind the Conservative party that family allowances paid to needy persons, to children of needy families, to families with needy children, would have been in effect since January 1 of this year had the members sitting on the Conservative benches not voted against it.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Marshall: Mr. Speaker, the Prime Minister is well aware of the fact that the opposition was going to vote for the family allowance bill of the last session. He need only ask the minister of the day, who is now Minister of Labour, about the agreement between the two parties in regard to voting on that bill. Certainly he should clarify the position.

FAMILY ALLOWANCE INCREASES—SUGGESTED ADVANCING OF EFFECTIVE DATE TO JULY 1, 1973

Mr. Stanley Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, as a supplementary question may I ask the Prime Minister whether the government would consider advancing the effective date of the new plan for family allowances to July 1, 1973?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, it is the desire of the government to have them implemented as soon as possible. I believe the reason for setting the date of January 1 is the complexity of implementing the plan after parliament has voted upon it.

* * *

THE CANADIAN ECONOMY

INCREASE IN COST OF LIVING—EFFECT OF TARIFF AND TAX CHANGES ON CONSUMER PRICES

Mr. Ron Atkey (St. Paul's): Mr. Speaker, my question is addressed to the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs. In view of the minister's earlier reply to the hon. member for St. John's East to the effect that he was relying on the February 19 budget proposals partially to meet the increase in consumer prices, would the minister be prepared to table the government's analysis of the consequences of the budget changes on consumer prices? If not, is the government satisfied that the tariff and tax changes contained in the budget have been passed on to the consumer and provide adequate relief?

Hon. Herb Gray (Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs): Mr. Speaker, the work that the hon. member refers to has not yet been completed but I shall be happy to discuss his suggestion with my colleagues.

* * *

● (1450)

INDIAN AFFAIRS

ABORIGINAL RIGHTS—VALIDITY OF ROYAL PROCLAMATION OF 1763

Mr. Thomas S. Barnett (Comox-Alberni): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Prime Minister on the subject of aboriginal rights which arises from certain recent statements he has made outside the House. Was the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development stating government policy when he told the Indian Affairs Committee on April 12 last that the Royal Proclamation of 1763 has continuing validity of application in Canada?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I have some doubt as to the correctness of the question asked by the hon. member from a procedural standpoint. The hon. member is making reference at this time, I gather, to evidence in a committee. I doubt whether the question can be asked in those terms. Perhaps the hon. member might like to ask the question directly without reference to a statement made in a committee of the House.

Mr. Barnett: Mr. Speaker, I think I might place myself in order if I were to ask the Prime Minister directly whether the government recognizes the continuing validity of application in Canada of the Royal Proclamation of 1763 in respect of Indian rights, native rights?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I must advise the hon. member that this is a very difficult legal question which I am not able to settle in any final way by any answer or, indeed, by a statement of policy. I believe the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development at that time was commenting on a recent judgment of the Supreme Court in relation to a British Columbia case and was probably referring to the fact that a suggestion had been made by some of the judges that the Royal Proclamation still had effect. As the hon. member knows, this is a question of law and not a question of policy.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Central Nova. Order, please. May I be allowed to recognize the hon. member for Comox-Alberni for a supplementary and then go to the hon. member for Central Nova.

Mr. Barnett: Mr. Speaker, my supplementary is directed to the Prime Minister. Perhaps I might preface it by

saying that while the minister did refer to a certain decision by the Supreme Court he was not answering the question in relation to that decision, initially at least. In view of the answer the Prime Minister has given to my question, may I ask him why it would appear that he is refusing to recognize section 91.24 of the British North America Act in respect of Indians and land reserved to Indians and appears in public statements across the country to be trying to slough off this responsibility to the provinces?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. That appears to be argument.

* * *

REGIONAL ECONOMIC EXPANSION

STUDY OF IMPACT OF INCREASES IN COST OF LIVING ON DISADVANTAGED REGIONS

Mr. Elmer M. MacKay (Central Nova): Mr. Speaker, my question is addressed to the Minister of Regional Economic Expansion and is on the topic of the rising cost of living. Has the minister initiated any study to determine the particular impact of the rising cost of living on the disadvantaged regions of Canada and how counterproductive these increases have been in terms of DREE's efforts to overcome regional disparities, since it appears that prices seem to be rising faster in the poorer regions of the country?

Hon. Donald C. Jamieson (Minister of Regional Economic Expansion): No, Mr. Speaker. No specific studies of the type outlined by the hon. member have been undertaken. He knows, however, that we have a broader economic analysis under way of these regions of disparity and this would be one of the elements in it. I will be very glad to make what information we have available to him.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. A number of members are seeking to ask supplementaries, but we have reached the end of the question period. If the hon. member for Central Nova has a supplementary he will be recognized and then the Chair will recognize the hon. member for York-Simcoe.

Mr. MacKay: In view of the alarming statistics dealt with today, does the minister intend to initiate any particular action to see what can be done to take into account this alarming rise in the cost of living and how it affects the poorer regions of the country?

Mr. Jamieson: Yes, Mr. Speaker, I will be very pleased to do that in consultation with the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs and other members of the government.

[Mr. Barnett.]

HOUSING

TORONTO—GOVERNMENT ACTION TO RELIEVE RISING COST

Mr. Sinclair Stevens (York-Simcoe): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Prime Minister. In view of the Prime Minister's recent visit to the Toronto area and in view of the average cost of housing in the Toronto area having risen by 19 per cent in the last year from $32,000 to over $39,000 on average, has the Prime Minister any suggestion as to what his government will do to relieve the soaring cost of housing in the Toronto area?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, this subject and the government's position on it is in committee now and the government will have further occasion to state its policy.

Mr. Speaker: Orders of the day.

Mr. Baldwin: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a question of privilege. I could not raise it until this moment because I did not know what was going to happen. I want to take this opportunity to pay tribute to a great and accomplished parliamentarian, the Minister of Finance (Mr. Turner), and call to the attention of the Chair and the House that it is one year today, May 8, since the minister introduced his budget containing certain measures which he has successfully evaded the necessity of having to introduce in the House up to the present time.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Trudeau: Mr. Speaker, on the same point of order—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. Of course that is not a question of privilege. I doubt that it would be in order to have any kind of debate at this point. I am sure the hon. member for Peace River will be the first to appreciate that that is not a question of privilege.

Mr. Lundrigan: Mr. Speaker, roughly two months ago, I believe, I participated in a move, not initiated by myself, to try to get some changes in respect of the question period. I believe that the hon. member for York Centre (Mr. Walker) is the member on the government side responsible for chairing the particular committee considering changes. Today we have had another example of what happens in the House of Commons in respect of the 40-minute question period. I think it is redundant for me to remind Your Honour that this is the only way in which, to my knowledge at least, the Canadian people through their representatives can hold the government responsible for its behaviour.

Mr. Sharp: Nonsense.

Mr. Lundrigan: It is the only way I am aware of. The Secretary of State for External Affairs (Mr. Sharp), although an expert in external matters, may not be aware of it.

Notice was given the government this morning at eight o'clock of the importance of the issue to be raised today. Every member of the Privy Council was alerted by Statis-

tics Canada to the fact that there had been a dramatic increase in the cost of living.

We come here today as members and try to pursue our responsibility not for ourselves but on behalf of the Canadian people, particularly in respect of the areas of very low income and areas that have been very adversely affected by the increase in the cost of living. Members attempted to pursue with the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) in particular the manner in which the government intends to try to react to the increases in the cost of living. The Prime Minister evaded the questions. He did not answer any of the questions and refused to respond to the representations made. I think I would be unfair if I said that he treated the matter as a joke but some members might be able to accuse him of that.

We have the situation today of a 40-minute question period in which we spent today roughly 30 of the 40 minutes on this most important matter, but I doubt that there has been one single word that we as Members of Parliament and the various communications media can report to the Canadian people by way of encouragement as a result of the representations we made. This is mainly because the government has elected, for one reason or another, having achieved the rule changes—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I doubt that the House would want the Chair to allow the hon. member to pursue the matter. He rose on a question of privilege. He should state what the question of privilege is and indicate whether he intends to propose a motion. The Chair will make a ruling on whether there is a prima facie case of privilege in that event.

The hon. member is bringing to the attention of the Chair a point which he has raised before. The point is his dissatisfaction with the question period. By agreement between the parties the matter was referred to a committee of the House. I gather that some time or other it will be considered by that committee. However, I am wondering what purpose will be served while the grievance is under consideration by the committee, and what will be gained by pursuing the matter under the guise of a question of privilege. I would hope that if the hon. member indeed has a question of privilege, which I have not perceived until now, he would indicate what it is.

Mr. Lundrigan: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to say in very quick summary that perhaps the matter should be dealt with by the experts on procedure rather than by a backbencher from the east coast of Canada. The central fact is that by several moves, the restriction on the question period and numerous other restrictions placed on us, our privileges in the House of Commons have been taken away from us by the new rules and by the fact that the government has elected not to respond to the questions raised by hon. members. The result is that effectively our role of holding the government accountable for its behaviour has been eliminated.

● (1500)

I say to Your Honour that it is not good enough for the committee to get around one of these days to dealing with this important matter. This is the most important thing before the House of Commons.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Lundrigan: There must be some way in which we as representatives of the Canadian people, can hold this government responsible for its behaviour. The government has to accept its responsibility to answer to the Canadian people. Today it has been dramatically demonstrated that the government is unwilling to do so. If motions are necessary to bring this matter to a head, then I serve notice that motions will be coming forward of such a magnitude as to hamstring the House until we get some action. I am not blaming the chairman of the organization committee, but certainly that committee has a responsibility and it must tackle the fact that the government has elected not to co-operate with the people of Canada and with members of the House of Commons. We have to hold the government responsible for wilfully rejecting that responsibility. I will be moving motions, and unless Your Honour wants to make a statement to remind the chairman and members of the committee of their responsibilities there will be some delays before we get question periods off the ground in the future.

Mr. Speaker: Is the hon. member rising on a point of order?

Mr. Walker: Yes, Mr. Speaker, on the same point of order. I should like to advise the hon. member in a totally noncontroversial way that this very important question, along with many others dealing with the business and organization of the House, has already been referred to the committee.

Mr. Lundrigan: We know that. It has been there for months.

Mr. Walker: I listened very carefully to the hon. member. May I now continue? There are many channels of communication that the hon. member has to members of the committee. If he would care to see members of the committee from his own party they would be his spokesmen. May I say that at the meeting on Thursday the subcommittee will be reporting and asking the full committee to adopt a priority of subjects. The question period is the number one priority subject for the Thursday meeting. Prior to now we have been dealing with the Speaker's estimates.

I must say that I hope no member of the House will fail to give that very important committee an opportunity to go into these matters fully so that not just one member who has a grievance will bring it before the House but will give the committee an opportunity to try to make this whole operation more satisfactory to hon. members such as the one who has just spoken.

Mr. Epp: I rise on the same point of order, Mr. Speaker. Members on this side of the House have been questioned from time to time about the use of Standing Order 43. I moved my first motion under Standing Order 43 today because I felt I had a problem in my riding which is of pressing necessity and needs a solution now. On the same basis, I question whether or not that motion was considered at all by members of the government party who out of hand gave a negative answer. However, I realize that, as a backbencher, trying to get the government to act or at

least to listen to the problems that we want to present is very difficult. I suggest that the committee review the whole matter of the question period and at the same time, question very seriously the whole position with regard to Standing Order 43. If there have been misuses, changes should be made, but surely this is a Standing Order which allows a member of the House to rise on a legitimate constituency matter. These attempts to raise such matters are simply being discarded out of hand, so I believe that a change should be made now.

Mr. Cafik: I rise on the same point of order, Mr. Speaker. It seems to me that the point of order was motivated primarily by the feeling of some hon. members that the government has not adequately responded to the increases in the cost of living in Canada.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Cafik: You can cheer after I have finished, if you like. May I continue, Mr. Speaker? It seems to me that the House should bear in mind that in recent days a working paper on social security was brought forward which proposed an increase in family allowances from $7.21—

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I suggest to hon. members that we are going beyond the point of order which was raised a moment ago. My understanding of the point raised by the hon. member for Gander-Twillingate was that there are difficulties in asking questions during the question period. The hon. member for Provencher referred also to Standing Order 43. I am sure it is the feeling of all hon. members that our rules in relation to that Standing Order could easily be improved, and it is hoped that it will be considered by the committee. If hon. members feel we should continue to have a discussion on the point of order, we should, as much as possible, limit ourselves to considerations of a strictly procedural nature. I invite the hon. member to bear this in mind as he proceeds with his point of order.

Mr. Cafik: I apologize, Mr. Speaker, but it did seem to me appropriate to indicate that what gave rise to the point of order was, in my view, not a valid point and that we have been adequate in this regard. So far as the general point of order is concerned in respect of the question period, it would seem to me that a great deal could be achieved if this matter were discussed. I would certainly encourage a serious discussion of it as soon as possible and particularly of the abuses of the rules whereby points of a political nature are brought forward which I do not think are, in fact, valid points at all.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Muir: Politics in the House of Commons!

[*Translation*]

Mr. André Fortin (Lotbinière): Mr. Speaker, I listened with keen interest to your remarks as well as those of previous speakers. The Social Credit group continues to deplore the oral question period, partly for reasons which we share with the Progressive Conservatives. We blame them for taking such undue advantage of the supplementary question system that hon. members of other parties are unable to take an active part in the oral question period.

Mr. Speaker, we deplore the extreme slowness of this House in dealing with problems, specifically at the level of the committee involved. We hope Conservative participation in the committee as well as that of our colleagues from other parties will be serious and positive; that the oral question period may be truly meaningful and, at the same time, offering an opportunity for each and every hon. member to truly carry out his duty, which consists in controlling government action, and also to convey an image of efficiency to the public sitting in the galleries.

It is a sad image that we project of the slowness of the House and the clowning of the Progressive Conservatives. If they would only agree to cease abuse of supplementaries which, when you reach the tenth, have absolutely no relation to the initial question, and were willing to co-operate with the Chair and other hon. members, such an understanding of our proper functions as Members of Parliament, which is not to force our opinions through, but to co-operate for the purpose of healthy legislation, would make the task of the Chair much easier and more interesting and we would be giving an intelligent image of parliament to the people of Canada.

[*English*]

Mr. Speaker: I thank all hon. members for their interesting comments. I noticed that the chairman of the committee in question was listening closely to the advice and counsel he has received from his colleagues in the House, and I hope, as do hon. members, that the matter can be considered expeditiously by this committee.

• (1510)

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

PROTECTION OF PRIVACY BILL

CREATION OF OFFENCES RELATED TO INTERCEPTION OF PRIVATE COMMUNICATIONS BY CERTAIN DEVICES

The House resumed, from Monday, May 7, consideration of the motion of Mr. Lang that Bill C-176, to amend the Criminal Code, the Crown Liability Act and the Official Secrets Act, be read the second time and referred to the Standing Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs.

Mr. A. P. Gleave (Saskatoon-Biggar): Mr. Speaker, I am very much concerned that we should legalize a procedure which I do not think should be tolerated by the ordinary individual citizen. In the society in which we live we should seek to protect and ensure the right of the individual to free communication with other individuals, without the threat or risk of someone listening in on the conversations, and so far as I am concerned this includes law enforcement officers.

I think the Minister of Justice (Mr. Lang), when introducing this kind of legislation, should have fully protected the right of the individual to privacy within his or her home, or anywhere else for that matter. I believe that this bill should end at the proposed new section 178.11 which reads:

> Every one who, by means of an electromagnetic, acoustic, mechanical or other device, wilfully intercepts a private communication is guilty of an indictable offence and liable to imprisonment for five years.

But I do not know whether the penalty should be that stiff. Along with my insistence on the right to privacy goes a dislike of putting people in jail for long periods of time. I do not believe that it does a person much good to be put in jail. I doubt that it improves his disposition, his attitude to society. The type of education that people get in jail is not to be recommended.

During the time which I have served in this House I have noticed that there is a great predilection on the part of ministers of justice, and I suppose on the part of those who advise them, to attach rather lengthy jail terms to the provisions of the various pieces of legislation which they introduce from time to time. I do not wonder that the Solicitor General (Mr. Allmand) has so much trouble with people escaping from jails, in effect walking out and leaving them. Surely, this should convince the Department of Justice that people do not like jails. If one could get this through the rather thick skulls of the people concerned, perhaps they would not put so many other people in jail.

As I say, I do not think we should introduce this type of legislation granting privileges or rights to police forces to use what are loosely called bugging devices, electromagnetic devices and so on, as super-snoops on the public generally. As has been pointed out by the hon. member for Broadview (Mr. Gilbert), if these devices were really effective in the areas where they have already been used, crime would have decreased, but it did not decrease. If crime did not decrease under those circumstances, then what argument is there for using these devices? Undoubtedly, within the bureaucracy and among the perfectionists throughout our land there are significant numbers of people who would like to bring about a perfectly oriented society in which no one does any wrong. But such a thing hardly every comes into being. And when I look at some of the actions that have currently come to my notice I am not at all convinced of the infallibility of those who say they would protect us from malfeasance through the use of snooping devices.

Let me mention the matter of unemployment insurance benefits. I get many letters from people who have applied for these benefits. Now we have what are called benefit control officers. That description tells us something about our society and about the attitudes of government. They are not called inspectors or investigators, which would be good descriptive terms for the job they do. No, they are called benefit control officers. They are the men who work on benefits. I ask, for whose benefit? I get some letters about them. I could produce those letters but they are private. I have one here from a lady who says she did not really mean what apparently she said. She did not really want to incriminate herself to such an extent. Mind you, Mr. Speaker, she is in no danger of prosecution. The danger she faces is that she will be denied benefits to which she thought she was entitled, for otherwise she would not have applied for them.

Not too long ago I raised a question in this House about a labour dispute at a potash mine in my area, to which a member of the police force was sent in plain clothes. I asked the Solicitor General to investigate the matter. He did, and later he replied, in essence, that this sort of practice would not be continued. He did not give me a firm commitment that nothing like this would ever be done again, because I suppose he had to leave his officers the leeway they need. But there was a clear implication that in this case action had been taken which was not necessary. How do we know that people, officers of the Crown or police officers, who have these bugging devices in their hands and under their control, will not abuse them? It is my clear understanding that one party to a conversation can give permission for his end of it to be tapped. But what about the other party? Is he subject to the same procedure, even though he does not give permission? I would have thought the lawyers in this House would have been more critical of this legislation.

● (1520)

The Minister of Justice should examine his conscience pretty thoroughly when he brings this kind of legislation before us. This is the kind of legislation that can be used to suppress the rights of the individual; it is the kind of legislation that can be used to threaten people and it is the kind of legislation which has been used by dictators and authoritarian governments to enforce their will.

I recall at the time of the FLQ crisis in Quebec that the then minister of justice brought in follow-up legislation which made members of the FLQ subject to certain penalties under certain conditions. At that time I asked him how he defined a member of the FLQ but I did not get an answer then nor since, yet identification was crucial to the total approach. To my mind this was an infringement of the potential rights of the individual just as the legislation before us now will permit an infringement of the rights of the individual.

The pertinent clause of the bill, 178.15(1) reads:

> Where the Attorney General of a province or the Solicitor General of Canada or an agent specially designated in writing for the purposes of this Section by the Attorney General of a province or the Solicitor General of Canada is satisfied that circumstances exist that would justify the giving of an authorization for the interception of private communications but the urgency of the situation requires that interceptions commence before an authorization could, with reasonable diligence, be obtained, he may, on such terms and conditions, if any, as he considers advisable, give a permit for the interception of private communications between persons, at a place and in a manner designated by him in the permit.

That is a wide open provision, Mr. Speaker. What is the urgency? At the very least this type of procedure should be hedged with the greatest possible protection for the rights of the individual, not left loose and open.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Gleave: I am surprised that the Minister of Justice would bring such legislation into this House. It has been said that the ineffective parts or the worst parts of this legislation can be dealt with in committee. If Bill C-176 of

last year, which dealt with the marketing of hogs or cattle was before the house then I would be prepared to go into committee and fight the points in question. However, I am not prepared to sit in a committee to debate provisions such as these and decide whether the committee should change them. These provisions should never go to committee; they are too dangerous. I feel it is necessary to put this point forward this afternoon. I think I have made my point and I thank the House for listening.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Prince Albert): Mr. Speaker, I do not want to delay a vote on this or the passage of this bill but there are one or two matters to which I intend to make reference. In my view, there is one section that is most dangerous.

Before going on to that, Mr. Speaker, I do not often congratulate the minister of justice but I do think that in this case the minister deserves congratulations for having brought this matter before the House in the form in which it has been presented. After almost three years of gestation, it comes before us now for consideration. Of course, in the interval it has been before the House. I repeat what I have said outside the House regarding the minister. In the administration of his department, following a course taken by his predecessor, he has been making appointments to the bench that have generally been most worthy. I think it is only fair and proper that when a minister does a good job in the administration of justice he deserves a reference.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Diefenbaker: A minister does not receive too many plaudits or too many words of approbation. However, one subject that in this chamber must always be above reproach is the administration of justice. Without good judges, even though there are good lawyers before them, the citizen is not assured of justice at all times. Sir John A. Macdonald was asked on one occasion what he regarded as qualification for the bench. "Well", he said, "number one, that the individual be courteous and considerate and number two, if he knows some law I would not hold that against him". There is a great deal in that philosophy, because if you have a courteous judge who treats the young members of the bar with consideration it brings about an administration of justice that is respected. Of the appointments that have been made by the minister, it can be said that one of the qualifications has been the maintenance and preservation of that decorum on the part of judges that is characterized by courtesy.

I had no intention of speaking until this afternoon, but I was impressed this morning by an editorial which appeared in the Toronto *Globe and Mail*, which reads:

> The wiretap bill to which the House of Commons addressed itself yesterday will not prevent a Watergate in Canada; but its swift passage would be an earnest that Canadian politicians set their faces against the moral corruption out of which a Watergate could grow.

● (1530)

I do not entirely agree with that. Under the parliamentary system, if we follow British traditions which, after all, are the essence of parliament, I do not think there can ever be a Watergate in Canada. In the United States, and I am not in any way prejudging or saying anything that might be an unworthy observation, the division between the executive and the legislative makes possible what has taken place to the extent already revealed.

As a former prime minister, knowing something of the problems that arise in connection with security and also of producing, as it were, that political atmosphere that is necessary if one is to remain in office, I say without hesitation that nothing bordering remotely on what has been so far revealed in Watergate could happen under our system.

The hon. member who has just taken his seat dealt with this bill in a thoughtful way, but I do not agree with his thesis. I take exception to one section in this bill which I regard as dangerous to liberty and freedom within our country. The Minister of Justice (Mr. Lang) has endeavoured to bring about a bill that will assure that degree of liberty that is necessary for free men, without permitting licence, too often mistaken for freedom, on the part of the individual. By and large I think it has been well done, with the exception of the section to which I will refer.

Before I come to that, I want to mention in general to the speeches which have been delivered in this House. I was not privileged to hear them yesterday, but I have read them. I have always made it a point to read *Hansard* thoroughly. I do not want to say that the other members did not make their contribution, but I am speaking particularly of the new members. The hon. member for St. Paul's (Mr. Atkey) in his speech revealed a tremendous amount of research coupled with political acumen. I thought his speech was a pertinent and material speech. As I say, I did not hear it delivered, but from reading it I regard it as a very fine effort. The same applies to the hon. member for Halton (Mr. O'Connor) and to the hon. member for Peel South (Mr. Blenkarn). I read those speeches. Each, in turn, expressed a viewpoint. Each, in turn, has revealed, above everything, that there has been the fullest study given to the subject. I shall not deal with senior members who are present and have been members of other parliaments. I am restricting myself entirely to the new members, whose contribution did honour to them and to this House.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Diefenbaker: Having said that, I am concerned about a matter that affects all of us. No one who has not been prime minister has any idea of the responsibility that rests on the Prime Minister in the preservation and assurance of security, both within and without the nation. That is something that is with a prime minister at all times, even on vacation. That is something that he must constantly keep before him as he receives from day to day the secret and top secret ideas of those who are engaged in the administration of security.

Danger to the security of the state has been greatly multiplied in the last few years as a result of technological advances. Indeed, the United Nations' report dealing with this matter a few days ago said that some of the wiretapping devices are so small that they could be inserted into

teeth, hidden in flower pots and picture frames and even disguised as dogs' droppings. The report says that this kind of espionage erodes mankind's right to be left alone. An hon. member of senior distinction thought that this subject ought to be included in the Bill of Rights. However, speaking as one who had something to do, after years of advocacy, with the bringing in of that bill, I would not want to see the Bill of Rights have any such term within it.

The security of the state must at all times take priority over the rights of the individual, but at the same time the security of the state shall not be used as an excuse to unnecessarily erode and interfere with human rights. Espionage goes on. The Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) made that clear in one of his rare appearances in the last few days before radio and television, and Canadian Press reported what he said. Yesterday, when he was asked about this by the hon. member for Saint John-Lancaster (Mr. Bell), he said that he made no charge. There is no suggestion that there was a charge in what he said. Let me read what Canadian Press reported. The reports reads:

> Prime Minister Trudeau said Saturday he is certain Americans are spying on Canada but gave no hint that he believes illegal tactics are involved or that he is worried by the practice.
>
> Probably, if we had the wherewithal, we'd be spying on them,' he said . . .

What an amazing statement. I am sure the Americans have a lot of political intelligence on Canada. They cannot help but be disturbed since the Prime Minister's visit to the Soviet Union, when he told Kosygin and Brezhnev that we are afraid of the Americans, that we fear them culturally, economically and even militarily. That statement was understandable in so far as the first two items were concerned. The third part is something that no prime minister should ever have said regarding the one country in the world that today stands to preserve our freedom all over the world.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Diefenbaker: The Prime Minister said, "If we had more political intelligence about them perhaps it would be useful in negotiations on the auto pact and energy and so on." I do not understand that statement. I continue:

> Mr. Trudeau said spying is considered a dirty word but it need not imply sinister overtones if it means gathering information through legal means.

Then, he was asked what he thought of the Watergate wiretapping and bugging scandal, and he said:

> I'd be talking as prime minister and I wouldn't want the president to comment on our politics.

I am glad of that restraint, developed since the Moscow visit. Next, I wish to read a report of the Prime Minister's statement in the Toronto *Star*, as follows:

● (1540)

> Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau refused direct comment during the weekend on the Watergate bugging scandal in the United States but noted that intelligence-gathering is a world-wide phenomenon.
>
> "I think we'd be very naïve to think that only the United States are engaged in bugging or spying on other countries," . . .
>
> "I'm sure the Americans have a lot of political intelligence on Canada," he continued. "Probably, if we had the wherewithal, we'd be spying on them."

What kind of statements are those concerning a friendly country? Is it any wonder that a report in the press states that the United States Embassy has asked for a copy of what was said during this interview over CFTO?

I decided to get a copy of this interview. It took me several hours this morning. I will not go into the detail unless somebody wants to know what happened. My representative was told that a copy would be available to my office in approximately half an hour. An hour went by and we did not hear anything. Time went by and we phoned again. We were told "We are looking into it. We have no typed transcript." At that stage I took a hand in the matter. At about 11:15 we were advised by the Prime Minister's office that Mr. Donnelly would be sending us a copy of what was said. How did Mr. Donnelly in the Prime Minister's office know that I had been in touch with CFTO and had asked for the record? How did he have in his possession, in the Prime Minister's office, the actual report of what had been said? I leave it there, but I have known revisions and changes to have taken place on other occasions. Finally, we got the words actually used. It is a sorry picture. Mr. Fraser Kelly said:

> I wonder if what is happening will affect how we look at the United States. Could we assume that the United States is not spying on us?

I know these questions arise during the progress of these appearances over television and radio. You appear so often and try to answer so glibly that you sometimes trip over yourself. In many cases, that is the objective of the questioner. The Prime Minister said:

> I don't think we can assume that and probably if we had the wherewithal we might be spying on the Americans. "Spying" is a dirty word but you can express it otherwise.

The Prime Minister went on to say, as I quoted from the record of the interview:

> I am sure the Americans have a lot of political intelligence about Canada. If we had more about them it might be very useful in negotiations on the Auto Pact and Energy and so on, so accumulating intelligence is really another word for spying, whether you do it deviously or above board I suppose makes the difference.

Fraser Kelly then asked this question:

> I would hope they are not bugging offices of the other countries.

The Prime Minister replied:

> Well, I would hope they are not, but we would be very naïve to think that only the United States is engaged in bugging or in spying on other countries.

There is the record, unrevised, unrepented and undenied because it cannot be denied. That type of statement is dangerous to Canada's relationship with friendly countries and ought not to have been made.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Diefenbaker: I said a moment ago you can talk so much that you trip over yourself, but Prime Ministers cannot trip over themselves, have an alibi and deny the undeniable whenever it proves to be embarrassing. A record was kept, even though it took me hours to get it.

What is the situation with regard to espionage? I recall that some years ago Canada received a gift of a magnificent clock from the U.S.S.R.. It was the finest piece of antique artistry that the U.S.S.R. could give us. It was set up in the offices of the Canadian Embassy in Moscow. It was not until two years later that it was found it had a bug in it and that everything that was ever said in that room was available to the U.S.S.R.. That was bugging of an advanced character.

We shall have no right to go around and beat our breasts about what is happening in Washington on this subject of bugging if we practice it at all in our own country.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Diefenbaker: I cannot believe we do. Of course, that is a hope. There is nothing more awful than the fear of having yourself examined carefully and everything that you say revealed. I do not personally mind them getting me because they learn some fancy words, but there are others who naturally do not want anyone to interfere with their privacy. Every Canadian has that right, except where the security of the state makes it necessary that something be done to prevent the probability of an offence being committed or the real possibility of that being done. This bill goes a long way toward removing that danger.

When I was Prime Minister and found out there was a suggestion that bugging was going on, I said, "it ends here," period. It ended there. There are some in the administrative process of government who find it a lot easier to be listening in when carrying out their responsibilities than not to have that opportunity. I do not say I was able to eradicate it completely, but if anyone had dared to do bugging, he would have been out. I will say no more as to whether there was, in fact, the use of that authority which must rest on the Prime Minister.

Some parts of this bill, as I said, are very laudable. I think the minister has tried as far as possible to assure that no bugging shall take place, except where an order has been received from a judge. That, of itself, will not always protect civil rights. I seem to remember a Royal Commission headed by a judge of the Supreme Court of Canada.

● (1550)

An hon. Member: Dispense.

Mr. Diefenbaker: I don't want to dispense. Every solitary rule of elementary justice was swept aside.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Diefenbaker: If a justice of the peace had done it he would have been reversed by the first court which had an opportunity to do so. He made available to the press numerous statements of hearsay knowing that in doing so he was breaking every principle, because he saw dangling before him, as I said in the House, the Chief Justiceship of Canada.

Some hon. Members: Shame.

Mr. Diefenbaker: All the judges of the Supreme Court had agreed not to sit on a commission, but he accepted, finally. I asked a question in the House at that time within hours after he had accepted, and made the suggestion I made a few moments ago.

Mr. Bell: Senator Martin got in on it.

Mr. Diefenbaker: Well, my hon. friend from Saint John-Lancaster (Mr. Bell) has an unusual capacity for not only reading another's mind but also for always having the facts.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Diefenbaker: I am not sure whether an individual will be protected, because we have these unusual extra-judicial powers available—writs of assistance are an example of what I have in mind—

Mr. Nielsen: A horrible example.

Mr. Diefenbaker: —by which, on the *ipse dixit* of a judge a person can be searched and have no recourse. I should like the minister to look into this question in his desire for reform, because this is a field which would enable him to make a monumental change as well. But we have lots of judges. I don't know how many judges there are across this country; there must be 400. If we are to have a judge grant, on an ex parte application, the right to bug, why bug it all up by this section 178.15? In my view, that clause ought not to be there. I shall try to explain why. In order to do so I shall have to read a portion of it.

> Where the Attorney-General of a Province or the Solicitor General of Canada or an agent specially designated in writing for the purposes of this section—

Do you just give him carte blanche and say: You are the boy; when there is an emergency, all you have to do is issue a writ for the interception of private communications?

> —is satisfied that circumstances exist which would justify the giving of an authorization for the interception of private communications but the urgency of the situation requires that interceptions commence before an authorization could, with reasonable diligence, be obtained, he may, on such terms and conditions, if any, as he considers advisable, give a permit for the interception of private communications . . .

I ask the minister to tell us specifically why this clause has been included. Have we not enough judges across Canada to whom an application could be made by day, or even by night? Why give to an agent, designated for the purpose, the right to do injustice if he chooses by granting such an order? I go on:

> Where a permit for the interception of private communications is given under subsection (1) the person giving it shall in every case forthwith report thereon with full particulars to the Attorney General by whom he was designated for the purposes of this section or to the Solicitor General of Canada . . .

Well, Mr. Speaker, this agent is above the Attorney General and above the Solicitor General because he can act on his own. He does not need authorization. He does not need any suggestions from them under the wording of this clause. I continue to read from the bill:

> A permit for the interception of private communications given under subsection (1) remains valid, unless sooner revoked either by the person giving it or pursuant to subsection (2),

(a) for thirty-six hours from the time when it is given

Thirty-six hours! What an opportunity for snoopers to snoop. There is no need to go to a judge, though there are multitudes of judges available, but through an agent, and he can do the most terrifying things. I do not fear they would be done under the present Minister of Justice (Mr. Lang) or under the present Solicitor General (Mr. Allmand). I am not so sure about some predecessors of the Solicitor General. But this provision gives the power to destroy by snooping, the power to interrupt communications. And all that results is this: if he gets what he wants, well and good. If he does not, then nobody knows anything about it. In 36 hours you can raise a lot of hell under a clause like that, and I say to the minister in all seriousness: you have started out along the road to do something to preserve under law the rights of individuals. For goodness' sake do not, while on one hand preserving rights, undo all that is being attempted. In 36 hours you can do much to destroy an individual, and with all the force at my command I say to the minister: take this section out. It places the power in the hands of an individual to be designated, an unknown, an inconnu, giving him the right to do that which only a judge can do.

Why include this section? Have we run out of judges? The words are "when an emergency arises". Well, we have telephones today. It would not be very difficult to get hold of a judge. In this clause you destroy your whole objective and purpose. I am asking the minister to look into this because to my mind it is one of the most dangerous powers ever given by parliament, though at the same time in all the other clauses we are endeavouring to ensure that the kind of Watergating which went on in the United States shall be denied here by parliament.

Now, the bill goes on to say that the information cannot be used. You can snoop, you can listen, because you are an agent. You can listen and contemplate for 36 hours. But you can then forget about it. You cannot use the private communication unless the interception was lawfully made, and so on. But information obtained directly or indirectly as a result of information secured by interception of a private communication is not inadmissible. I do not particularly disagree with that clause. It is much the same as the provision that if a search is made under a search warrant, even if the search warrant is illegal, the evidence secured as a result becomes admissible in court. So, there is really nothing in that.

● (1600)

May I sum up, since I do not want to take more time than is necessary. As I say, that section worries me. It looks to me very much as though the person who drafted it thought to himself: "They will be blinded in parliament by what we are doing to make wiretapping legal, and they will give us power under the section to act as we will for 36 hours". I do not want my rights interfered with for 36 hours by an individual unknown and not responsible to parliament.

Hon. members know what has happened recently in the United States. Even making observations about it causes me very deep pain. The President has been a friend of mine for years. I wonder how many people in Canada who were going to abolish the monarchy are having second thoughts now about asking for a president. The president occupies two positions. He is the head of state. He must have honour, otherwise he loses not only his national but his international prestige. Secondly, he is the head of a political party. He surrounded himself with a Praetorian guard that knew everything but honour. Certainly, I cannot believe he had any knowledge of recent events.

I conclude, Mr. Speaker, where I began: what happened in the United States could not happen in Canada under our system where the executive is responsible directly to the legislature. How different it would be were the president not in the dual position under the circumstances that now exist in the United States.

I have nothing further to add. With all the sincerity that I can place before the minister I would ask him to withdraw section 178.15. It will be no retreat, no evacuation under fire, but rather a realization that this parliament must not be asked to place in the hands of an unknown the right to break for 36 hours every rule of the sacredness of the individual. Delete that section and we will have a bill that will, I think, become a model.

On the other hand, I also warn at this point that the United States has laws against wiretapping, which laws have now been proven to be ineffectual. Although not all of the dangers will be cleared up, we will at least show there is determination in this parliament to let Canada, the United States and other nations know that we shall not permit ourselves to take any steps toward a unified state and toward a superior bureaucracy that will determine the rights of individuals.

Mr. John Harney (Scarborough West): Mr. Speaker, one of the disadvantages in rising to take part in a debate that has reached the end is that much of your thunder has been stolen. Of course, when you have to follow one of the great thunderers of all times, then there is very little left for you to talk about. I listened with interest to the address of the right hon. member for Prince Albert (Mr. Diefenbaker), as I have listened to several addresses in the House on this bill, and I found I agreed with many of the points that have been made in terms of suggestions for amending the bill.

Thee is no doubt at all that as we look through the bill we are bound to find problems with it, but I am not going back over the ground already covered by my colleagues and other members who have asked for certain specific changes. Let me simply make one or two points about matters that I should like to see cleared up in the bill.

For example, section 178.11(2) provides:

Subsection (1) does not apply to

(a) a person who has the consent to intercept, express or implied, of the originator of the private communication or of the person intended by the originator thereof to receive it;—

The right hon. member for Prince Albert pointed out what he thought was a very dangerous section, and may I, in my own way, point out this other very dangerous section. For one thing, what is "consent implied"? I understand what "consent express" is, but I do not know what "consent implied" means. I have some knowledge of the English language and I have some knowledge of logic, but I cannot sort out just what that expression means. I concluded it must be a legal term, so I asked two lawyers

today what it meant and they said they did not know what it meant either. There is an enormous difference in meaning between "implied" and "inferred". Is the inference of an acceptance going to be considered to be the same as the implication of an acceptance? Certainly, that is language that ought to be cleared up or perhaps simply removed.

Then a little further down in the sentence there is the little word "or" which is even more worrisome. The section provides that any party to a communication can give acceptance to the interception of that communication. In other words, I could phone up Mr. X and ask a person with bugging or wiretapping equipment to listen in on my conversation with Mr. X since I have, after all, given him permission. It is quite clear in this provision that I, as one of the participants in the communication, can give approval, and therefore what is done is totally and completely legal and not contrary to the act.

Again, it may be a matter of legal language which I fail to understand, but in so far as it is English I think I do understand it and I find it totally unacceptable. As a matter of fact, this confusion and difficulty is expanded in the same provision, where in subsection (3) it is provided:

> Where a private communication is originated by more than one person or is intended by the originator thereof to be received by more than one person, a consent to the interception thereof by any one of such persons is sufficient for the purposes of paragraph (2)(a), subsection 178.16(1) and subsection 178.2(1).

So, Mr. Speaker, you can see the problem compounding itself. Any one person who is party to a multiple communication can give authority to tap the communication and to use the information thus derived for whatever purposes are legal, right and fitting. Surely that cannot be acceptable since at its worst it certainly could lead to framing, perhaps not a legal term but a term that most of us understand, at any rate. I could say to somebody else: "Look, I want to get Mr. Smith. I will call him, up, you listen in and he is bound to trip." After all, even Prime Ministers trip, as the right hon. member for Prince Albert said a while ago, so surely ordinary persons can trip. I could say: "Mr. Smith is bound to give us the kind of information we need to frame him". Surely, this part of the bill is not acceptable.

● (1610)

There are other sections of the bill which worry me. For example, in reference to something mentioned by the previous speaker, there is the question of agents of the attorneys-general of the provinces or the Solicitor General of Canada. Section 178.15(1) reads:

> Where the Attorney-General of a province or the Solicitor General of Canada or an agent specially designated in writing for the purposes of this section by the Attorney-General of a province or the Solicitor General of Canada is satisfied . . .

How many agents will there be in all? Do we have any control? There are several attoneys general in Canada—ten I am sure—and there is at least one solicitor general. That is 11 persons who have the right without condition, without restraint and without control, to appoint agents. How many will there be? We have no idea. There is nothing in this bill to tell us how many there will be. There is nothing in this bill to tell us that there will be some control.

[Mr. Harney.]

I shall not take up the point again at length that was made so effectively by the hon. member for Oshawa-Whitby (Mr. Broadbent) yesterday concerning the definition of subversive activities. How in heaven's name do we define, with safety for the rights of the individual and his self-expression, his liberty, his liberty of speech and action, what subversive activity is? We have never been able to do it. However, under this legislation the wording is there—if the attorney-general or the solicitor general feels there is subversive activity. There could, of course, be a cell of the Progressive Conservative party operating in my riding—which to me would be subversive—trying to subvert me as a Member of Parliament. How do we define it? The problem, I think, has been laid before the House and I am sure the Minister of Justice (Mr. Lang) will take this particular aspect into consideration.

My real point is this: The more I look at this bill the more I am concerned because there are so many parts of it which are questionable. The more I look at the whole question of wiretapping and the legalization for certain purposes of wiretapping, the more repugnant I am to give any support at all to this bill for the series of particular reasons to which I referred just now and the many reasons which have been adduced by other members of the House, but more important than that for the reason that I do not think the state should deliberately sanction this kind of activity within its borders. The state should not be involved in wiretapping.

It was a good number of years ago that the British Parliament threw out forever what was then known as "general search". We now have under our system the provision for search warrants, but search warrants are specific. A search warrant is issued to search the property of a certain specific person for a certain specific purpose at a specific time and with a specific end in view, all of which must be stated before the warrant is issued. Back in the bad old days there was a provision for general search. What the provision in respect of wiretapping on the part of the state, either for reasons of investigating criminal activities or investigating subversive activities, allows or, I should say, recreates, is the general search.

I shall quote here from a very worthwhile, extremely well written article by Stanley M. Beck entitled "Electronic Surveillance and the Administration of Criminal Justice".

> These facts raise the vital issue in police use of electronic eavesdropping. It is that such listening is a return to the practice of the general search, a practice condemned and prohibited by the English courts in the eighteenth century.

It is not proper under our law to have general search, and so if we do not believe that a man's property or his belongings or his private household can be submitted to a general search then we cannot accept that his private life should be submitted to a general and continuing search under wiretapping. But, Mr. Speaker, in the case of general search, as bad as it was, it was usually one man's property, one man's household that was searched, not the households of many. When it comes to wiretapping you are searching continuously and generally everyone who communicates with the person that you are interested in searching specifically.

In order to give an idea of the application, I shall quote from a judgment of the United States Supreme Court because this judgment conveys some idea of how many other intrusions are involved, inadvertently usually, when a wire is tapped through electronic eavesdropping:

> While tapping one telephone, police recorded conversations involving, at the other end, the Julliard School of Music, Brooklyn Law School, Consolidated Radio Artists, Western Union, Mercantile Commercial Bank, several restaurants, a real estate company, a drug store, many attorneys, an importer, a dry cleaning establishment, a number of taverns, a garage, and the Prudential Insurance Company.

Of course, that is bound to happen. If you tap a telephone line and listen in on the conversations of people you will hear all kinds of conversations with people on subjects not at all related to the case in question because what you have done is re-institute the practice of the general search, a practice which was followed under the Star Chamber and which was thrown out two centuries ago. You have re-instituted it in a way and in a manner that the extremely authoritarian Star Chamber could not even have envisioned.

A while ago the right hon. member for Prince Albert (Mr. Diefenbaker) stole some of my thunder by referring to a recent report of the United Nations on electronic eavesdropping. The report is not all that difficult to obtain. It was published in fairly large part in some of Canada's newspapers yesterday. What is described in this report is a mad and absurd world. It refers to listening devices the size of a pin, listening devices which can be inserted by a dentist in your cavity so that you can become a permanent transmitter of everything you say. It refers to listening devices that can pick up conversations miles away. There is a device which uses a laser beam. It can be focussed on your house and from a great number of miles away pick up everything that it is said. There are even madder projects. I shall refer to one which is humourous in a way, absurd in another and horrifying in another way.

● (1620)

> A particularly ingenious device being used by various U.S. intelligence departments is an eavesdropping microphone which quite literally resembles a dog's droppings.
>
> The device, intended for use in the jungles of Viet Nam, is also being used in the United States to gather domestic intelligence on extremist organizations.
>
> The listening device is practically identical to the real thing, including the odour.

If I may interject, Mr. Speaker, what mind can conceive of such devices! Matthew Arnold once said that our most besetting danger is faith in machinery. This is faith in a certain kind of machinery gone absolutely wild. The article goes on to read:

> It can be placed on a lawn near the house of whoever is being investigated, and its powerful transistorized transmitter relays conversations to a nearby monitoring station.
>
> The gadget can transmit to a range of three miles and will remain operable for up to three months. It is weather-proof and flame-proof.
>
> The bug will often go undetected because of its unique form and the deliberate choice of this particular design is based in the natural reluctance to pick up such an object.

Here is where complete madness and the kind of mentality that would produce and use such devices begins to emerge. We were often told in the past that madness is logic carried to its absurd limit. Here it comes:

It is a mad world that produces these things, and I am not sure that we want to help in any way to create this mad world. It seems to me that the best way to make sure that no bugging is being done by private persons or organizations is to make as sure as possible that none of this equipment is around, and the best way to do that is to prohibit it completely because if you produce it for the police, for the armed services or for the state, it will be contrabanded and will find its way into the hands of individuals, criminals and spies.

So the only safe approach is a total prohibitionist one, and as the hon. member for Saskatoon-Biggar (Mr. Gleave) said so well, he would much prefer this act if it came to an end in its first clause which says very simply that it shall be a criminal offence to wiretap in this country, a criminal offence for everybody. I am sure that not too many people will agree with the absolutist position that I am taking. I know what the counter arguments will be. You need this type of thing if you are to protect yourself against organized crime.

Let us stop and look at that argument to see how much sense it makes. First of all, we are obviously not going to use bugging, are we, even if this bill is passed to trace down teenage marijuana smokers. By the way, there is no restriction in the bill—and I will come to that later— and no definition of the kind of crime for which the issuance of a permit would be justified. Let us stay for a moment with organized crime. There is much talk about it and relatively little definition. I return to Professor Beck. He says:

> Organized crime is simply the application of corporate principles to the business of crime. It is sound economics and politics to aggregate human and physical resources into large organizations that provide central management and control, a division of labour, and prudent allocation of profits. In the United States, the Mafia or Cosa Nostra, is the monopolistic crime corporation. Its illegal activities are primarily supplying gambling, narcotics, women, money and liquor to willing customers.

It is important to realize that the basic business of organized crime is the provision of goods and services to customers who want them. We may not approve of their wanting them, but they want them. Professor Beck continues:

> It is now said to be ploughing its huge profits into legitimate businesses.

It is just a different kind of business, more profitable and safer. Actually, it is a little bit more private because if you are in the Mafia you are being bugged all the time. Professor Beck continues:

> All these crimes are, as noted above, crimes without victims, and for that reason are almost impossible to combat. All these crimes involve imposing someone's idea of morality on somebody who has a different idea. It is "coercion to virtue" through the law. If the criminal sanction is of little utility in these areas is it not time we stopped to ask exactly what functions the criminal sanction can perform, and which ones we really want it to perform?

In other words, if you are going to approach organized crime you have to review your entire thinking about crime and the kind of crime that organized crime is involved in performing. Professor Beck continues:

Is it not particularly urgent that we ask this question if in the attempt to legislate morality we have spawned an infinitely worse evil—organized crime?

Even admitting quite clearly that we are not going to go through this deep philosophical review, we should at least be aware of one thing. If we are out to fight organized crime we have to be aware that organized crime cannot exist except where justice agencies dealing with criminals are not at least neutralized and probably corrupted to some degree. That is obvious. According to Professor Beck, organized crime is a large, well organized, well managed criminal business. You cannot operate this kind of large business without detection, and you are going to have detection if justice agencies are not neutralized, if they are active and not corrupted. Everywhere organized crime exists there is at least a strong suspicion, certainly the allegation and very often the fact, that the justice agencies are corrupted.

It seems to me that if you were out to fight organized crime, what you would do would be to restructure and reform the justice agencies that you have working for you. It has been proven time and time again that for all of its ingeniousness electronic eavesdropping is almost totally ineffective as an instrument of prosecution. There have been very few cases in which the direct evidence received through wiretapping has been used successfully in courts. I am not going to take the time of hon. members to cite the many reports that have been produced on this matter, particularly in the U.S., which has had a lot of experience with this type of activity. It is not a terribly effective way of obtaining information. Very often the evidence that is produced is not admissible in courts, so you cannot prosecute anyhow. All you have done has been to scare the rabbit, but you have not caught it. I do not know how many people here have spent part of their youth trying to catch rabbits, but I did and I know you only try once each time. It does not stick around for the second try.

So, what is the point of using all this marvellous gadgetry if it will not bring the effect you want, if it will not result in the effective prosecution of the criminal? All you have done has been to give him a warning. These devices are devilish and ingenious, but there are counter devices. You can bug a bug. It is hard to tell who is the bugee and who is the bugor. You can have a little instrument, Mr. Speaker, which can spoil the bugging. It is only a $10 job. Any high school kid can build an oscillator which will spoil any bugging gimick. So, it is not a terribly effective way of pursuing justice. But what it does is that it creates in this country, in this society, a state of affairs which is totally repugnant, a state of affairs where privacy for the indivdual no longer exists in any meaningful way.

● (1630)

I am sure that I am going to be told that certainly for the security of the state—as the right hon. member for Prince Albert said a while ago, and his was quite a statement—the security of the state overrides all the rights of all individuals. I might just like to add not all of the time and not in all cases, because there is a very large matter of interpretation involved here. However, for the security of the state, we can justify wiretapping. The situation is somewhat parallel to the attack on organized crime. Who are you going to tap? Of course, ideally you wiretap spies to listen in on them. Well, if you are going to be very good at wiretapping spies no one will know about it, particularly the spies you are wiretapping as an act of counter espionage, and in the world of spies and counter spies legality does not obtain. As the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) suggested, although he does not seem to be very well aware of the meaning of the word spy in French or in English, this goes on all the time. But one thing he is not aware of is that no spying is legal. Spying, by definition, is illegal. So here you are into an illegal realm anyhow, and if you are going to try to track down spies surely you will try to do it as cleverly and intelligently as you can.

But to allow into the law the kind of provision proposed in this bill, to look into and listen into people's private lives on the grounds that they might be involved in subversive activities, goes a little too far. What we do, if we allow this, is that in this attempt to preserve what is called the security of the state we throw away what is valuable in our society. Let us ask ourselves are we willing, really willing, to bear this cost?

Let me see if I can make one more distinction which I think is very important, Mr. Speaker. People will say that in this matter I am a prohibitionist, and may say, "But look, what if the use of such a device could at one time save a life?" All right; fine. If you use such a device to save a life and prove to me afterwards that you saved a life by using it, I will say it was an extraordinary thing. I am not going to buy it as a general rule, but congratulations. You did the wrong thing, but you did it for a right and good cause.

But of course if you legislate this fact, then it is not simply a matter of saving a life. It almost becomes a matter of using the device to apprehend criminals. There is quite a difference between using a device to stop a killing and using it to apprehend a killer after the fact. Now, I am not going to go back over all the arguments to show that first of all it is not terribly effective, and secondly that it vitiates an extremely important principle of law, and therefore when we allow ourselves to use this kind of device it interferes with people's privacy. If at any time the government of this country was told by its agents that it had to permit a wiretap for the sake of the security of the country, then I would say that by specific act and specific decision, with full political responsibility, make that decision, and come back and explain to the country what it is you did, and why you did it. Mr. Speaker, we do this kind of thing in several other instances.

Many members in this chamber find the idea of telling a union that it members must return to work a repugnant idea. Certainly, my colleagues in this party find it repugnant in the extreme. Therefore, we will see no law which permits this on a continuing basis. If there is a strike going on which is causing so much harm to the people of Canada that it must be stopped, then we say let this parliament assemble and make that specific, extraordinary decision, because we want it to be just that, and have it known as an extraordinary decision. That is why we brought parliament back from summer recess in September, just to deal with that kind of situation. And when that happens we stand up, perhaps some of us with delight, but I know many of us with distaste and repugnance, and say to the workers, "You shall go back to

work." But what we have done on such occasions is that we have not only created a better situation by putting people back to work and removing distress from the country, but we have also underlined and sanctified the principle that there shall be no continuing legislation, no continuing law permitting people to be sent back to work against their will. I think the same kind of reasoning ought to be applied to this case.

I will end with one more point. It is a very general one, and it may be considered philosophical by members of the House. But surely it is not beyond some of us to be somewhat philosophical. Over the past few months we have been debating the matter of capital punishment. I have not yet had a chance to state my case in this House for the abolition of capital punishment, but I would simply want to say, when my time comes to state my case, that I respect the people who are opposed to my views, and I do not think for a moment that they support the restoration of capital punishment for vengence. Further, many of them will agree with me that the case for deterrence is not proven one way or another. There are facts on one side indicating that capital punishment deters, and facts on the other side indicating that it does not. The most powerful argument of those who favour capital punishment is that society chooses to indicate its abhorrence of certain crimes by inflicting the final, ultimate and absolute penalty. That is the only argument in favour of capital punishment that is worthwhile considering. And there is a counter argument. It is the one which I choose.

Admitting the value of the other argument I go on to say that society will not, by deliberate action of its own, behave in the same way as the criminal did. Society shall underline the value of human life by never taking it. And I add to this fundamental principle this utilitarian and practical point that if the state, within its society, creates an attitude of respect for life, then indeed this action on its part may reduce the level of violence in society, so there will be fewer crimes, fewer violent crimes, fewer killings and fewer murders, which is of course the objective of all those who participate in the debate on capital punishment, for or against.

● (1640)

Mr. Speaker, there is a parallel. If we in this parliament decide in full deliberation that we will permit wiretapping for certain utilitarian needs, for certain specific purposes, then we condone it. We would condone it but we would be much better to condemn it absolutely and have none of it, not for individuals, not for corporations, not for the police, not for the army—for none of us.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

[*Translation*]

Mr. Raynald Guay (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Justice): Mr. Speaker, the legislation before us has been introduced as a result of the state's duty to protect its secrets, information, institutions and policies against spying, carelessness, subversion and secret intervention. On the other hand, we are free to question the efficiency of the organizations and structures that the state has set up to carry out its responsibilities in an area in which the fundamental freedom of the individual may be at stake.

In all countries, security practice involves a whole set of measures. There is an established procedure for classification, safe-keeping, handling and communicating documents and material that must be protected. This involves certain technical devices, and it is in this connection that some anxiousness has been expressed about encroachment by the state, and by individuals and organizations, upon what is commonly called "the right to privacy". This is a vast problem involving, for example, wire-tapping and the use of bugging devices, telephoto lenses, and certain other highly sophisticated devices used by the police and other bodies for detecting crime or for gathering information.

One related practice which seems to give rise to some anxiety is the use of certain technical procedures of investigation to obtain information. Of course, security measures applied, for example, to a staff of employees are an essential part of any efficient system. However, just as ordinary legal procedures can sometimes lead to injustices, so can security practices. Therefore, whatever provisions we draw up for the protection of individual rights, in the last resort, the individual's most important right, which consists in careful and fair treatment, will depend on the existence of a policy. Through that bill we now want to define that policy.

Mr. Speaker, the Official Secrets Act was a rigid piece of legislation written in broad and ambiguous terms. Legal cases which have already come up have indeed shown the haziness of that act and that it was rather lacking in precision and difficult to interpret. As stated in the report of the Royal Commission on Security in 1969 the revised act should protect unclassified information against any attempt at disclosing and gathering data which would be prejudiciable to the interests of the state or would be made with the intent to help a foreign power.

In recent years, people have been questioning the attitude of governments which maintained that administration activities and papers at their disposal should be kept confidential unless and until responsible authorities decide to make them public. However, this situation is much more complex and there are many exceptions, for example, papers dealing with national defense and foreign policy, personal departmental papers dealing with questions relating to social services as well as informal memoranda and drafts. In Canada, since there is no statutory provision other than the Official Secrets Act either forbidding or permitting access to government records, departments have had to treat individual applications on their merits.

Although the Royal Commission on Security recommends legislation in the area, it could not help adding, and I quote:

> We would view suggestions for increased publicity with some alarm.
>
> We think the knowledge that memoranda might be made public would have seriously inhibiting effect on the transaction of public business.
>
> We believe that the process of policy-making implies a need for wide-ranging and tentative consideration of options, many of which it would be silly or undesirable to expose to the public gaze.
>
> To insist that all such communications must be made public would appear to us likely to impede the discussive deliberation that is necessary for wise administration.

In Canada, the bureaucracy is not vast, and the number of serious inquirers quite small.

It seems to us that there is no reason why controlled access to specific administrative files or documents cannot be permitted and arranged on an ad hoc basis when a genuine requirement can be established.

The bill now before us was prepared in the light of these wise recommandations, because the royal commission warned us of some dangers as regards technical security and security of communications; the commission used the following words, and I quote:

One aspect of physical security is generally referred to as technical security, and is concerned with protection against electronic eavesdropping and telephone interception, and with a variety of other technical subjects.

With regard to the security of governmental information transmitted by telegraphic means, we do not believe that there is sufficient awareness, even in senior governmental positions where it is most important, that the telephone is a basically insecure instrument, and that therefore classified matters should not be discussed on the telephone.

Therefore, we have prepared a relatively flexible legislation but also strict enough to meet the requirements of the security of the state while respecting as much as possible the individual rights to privacy.

To those who would be inclined to consider this new legislation still too severe as regards individual freedom against the security of the state, I shall answer the following: the high liberality of American legislation as regards the secrecy of state as often been praised but too much freedom in this area inevitably leads to abuses. And we can see today that the United States have to face the effects of such abuses, so that we do not know at present whether it is the president of the presidency itself that will be eliminated as a result of such a sharp problem.

Therefore, I suggest that we must be careful and forecast such abuses, by introducing an enlightened legislation.

This is why the bill now before us seems essential to me and I support it unreservedly under its present form.

Mr. Gilbert Rondeau (Shefford): Mr. Speaker, Bill C-176 is entitled "Protection of Privacy Act". When I read the first paragraphs of the bill, I agreed fully with their content, but on reading the following paragraphs I agreed less and less to the extent that I for one shall surely be unable to vote for the bill unless it is amended.

The object of the bill, it would seem, is to protect the privacy of the citizens, or so its title claims. But study of the bill reveals—and I shall come back to its study clause by clause in a moment—that it will do exactly the opposite by allowing the state to do the contrary, that is to intrude legally upon the privacy of all citizens.

Before going on to the clause by clause study of the bill, let me refer to the statement the right hon. Prime Minister made in Toronto over the weekend to the effect that spying, through legal means, is allowed. Now it appears that what is illegal will be legalized: spying. To my mind, the state must not be authorized to spy—which is illegal—or to use legal means to do so.

Mr. Speaker, there is a social credit principle which we always put forward to the effect that we are in favour of freedom and the right of every citizen to freedom. Unfortunately, this bill trespasses on the freedom of the individual, even when he is innocent, even if he did not commit any offences against the state or against anyone. I will come back in a while to the clauses which would lead to abuses, because as the bill is indefinite, we do not know where it will all end. We do not know where this bill will end. It is unfortunate that the present sad events which have been headlined for the last few days in the United States are being used, that the publicity psychosis is being used to move a bill which at first glance appears good, but which in practice is extremely bad for the freedom of the individual.

● (1650)

Mr. Speaker, this bill concerns me very much, and I only have to read the recommendation on page 2 which reads:

His Excellency the Governor General has recommended to the House of Commons the present measure to amend the Criminal Code, the Crown Liability Act and the Official Secrets Act respecting the protection of privacy; and to provide that the Crown shall, in certain circumstances, be liable for punitive damages in an amount not exceeding $5,000 . . .

Yet, Mr. Speaker, here we have the Department of Justice, which wants to establish justice in Canada, telling us that if this bill infringes on privacy, or that damages have to be paid by an individual because of the use of an electronic device or other under the present bill, then the state will not be liable for more than $5,000 regardless of the damages which could have been caused.

Therefore, in my opinion, this recommendation contains a clear and definite indication that this bill will be discriminatory against the people who will receive damages of $5,000, when in fact they will have suffered real damages of over $5,000.

That is the first reason, Mr. Speaker, why I cannot support this bill. Indeed, if the state causes damages estimated at $100,000 to an individual, and if we are to talk about justice here in this House, I do not see why the state should not pay for its own mistakes and misguided actions. It seems to me that an individual ought to be compensated for losses caused to him.

In committee, we will again consider the bill, clause by clause. Clause 178.12, as I read it, is in direct contradiction with the purpose of the bill. This clause gives complete freedom to the state or any of its agents. We do not yet know who these agents will be, but we may suppose that once again they will be officials who have never been elected by the people, and who will have the power to interfere as they see fit in the private lives of citizens.

Clause 178.12 states:

An application for an authorization shall be made *ex parte*

This means that when it is desired to search, bug, or wire-tap a private home, the application for leave to do so will be made *ex parte*, which means that the person concerned will not be present and cannot be represented. Authorization will be granted against him *ex parte* and in writing, without his permission, without the help of his lawyer, and even without his knowing about it. The application for an authorization must be made, and I again quote:

. . . to a judge of a superior court of criminal jurisdiction, or a

judge as defined in section 482 . .t . or an agent specially designated in writing for the purposes of this section . . .

But who is the agent? Who is to appoint him? And how long will his term of office last?

And once the authorization has been obtained, and I quote again:

. . . proceedings, if any, may be instituted at the instance of the government of Canada and conducted by . . . the Attorney general . . .

[*English*]

PROCEEDINGS ON ADJOURNMENT MOTION

SUBJECT MATTER OF QUESTIONS TO BE DEBATED

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, please. I am sorry to interrupt the hon. member, but it is five o'clock. It is my duty, pursuant to Standing Order 40, to inform the House that the questions to be raised tonight at the time of adjournment are as follows: the hon. member for Hillsborough (Mr. Macquarrie)—Social Security—Old age recipients in nursing homes—Suggested protection of portion of pensions against rising rates; the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre (Mr. Knowles)—Veterans Affairs—Inquiry as to legislation to increase basic rate of disability pension; the hon. member for Simcoe North (Mr. Rynard)—Health—Status of negotiations with provinces on provision of chronic care in nursing homes.

It being five o'clock the House will now proceed to the consideration of private members' business as listed on today's order paper, namely, public bills.

Mr. Reid: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, I think there would be agreement to consider item No. 4 standing in the name of the hon. member for Comox-Alberni (Mr. Barnett).

Mr. Speaker: Is it agreed that the House will now proceed to the consideration of item No. 4, standing in the name of the hon. member for Comox-Alberni?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

PRIVATE MEMBERS' PUBLIC BILLS

FISHERIES ACT

AMENDMENT TO PROVIDE FOR ISSUANCE OF LEASES AND LICENSES IN ACCORDANCE WITH REGULATIONS

Mr. Thomas S. Barnett (Comox-Alberni) moved that Bill C-23, to amend the Fisheries Act, be read the second time and referred to the Standing Committee on Fisheries and Forestry.

Fishing Licences

He said: Mr. Speaker, it is not often that legislation respecting fisheries comes before the House for consideration. This has been a rather busy day from the standpoint of our interest in fisheries. I have come, from a meeting of the Fisheries Committee on the Pacific Coast Fishery in order to proceed with the discussion of my bill to amend the Fisheries Act.

When the then minister of fisheries and forestry on April 20, 1970, introduced for second reading Bill C-204, an act to amend the Fisheries Act, he had this to say about the Fisheries Act:

● (1700)

It is an act which is as old as confederation itself. Our Fisheries Act was passed during Canada's first session of Parliament. It was passed more than 100 years ago.

He went on to say that the Fisheries Act has, of course, been revised and updated with the passage of time. The announced purpose of Bill C-204, the first major amending bill to the Fisheries Act which had been brought forward by the government for quite a period of time, was to make the Fisheries Act a more flexible and realistic instrument of law in relation to present day fishing methods in Canada and the proper conservation of the fishing resource.

An announced ancillary purpose of that bill was to tidy up some of the more archaic features of the act which had been left sitting over the years since confederation, since the first meeting of the parliament of Canada when the original act was passed. Certain changes along those lines were proposed by the government's amending bill. Incidentally, I may say that after very detailed examination by the committee, that bill was referred back to the House with very considerable changes from the original government draft bill. In my view, and I think in the view of members who were on the committee at that time, the bill was considerably improved.

On the matter of tidying up the bill and bringing it into line with twentieth century thinking, I proposed an amendment in the committee which would have involved deleting the present Section 7 of the act. After some discussion in the committee, my amendment was ruled out of order because it was beyond the scope of the amending bill inasmuch as Section 7 of the act was not opened up. As a consequence of that, and because I thought the matter I had tried to deal with was of some importance, I immediately introduced a private member's public bill which in substance sought to accomplish what I failed to accomplish in the committee. That bill appeared on the order paper in a position where it did not come up for debate. I have reintroduced it at each subsequent session since 1970. This is the first occasion when, through good fortune, it has reached a position on the order paper which gives me an opportunity to actually discuss it on second reading.

What does my bill propose to do? It deals with the matter of the licensing of fishermen in the commercial fishing industry. It seeks to eliminate what I consider to be a very archaic piece of wording in the present Fisheries Act. I am going to quote Section 7 of the act which I seek to delete. It reads:

The Minister may, in his absolute discretion, . . . issue . . . leases and licences for . . . fishing,—

I do not know of any other piece of legislation which has that phrase in respect of conferring powers on a minister. To say that a minister in his absolute discretion may do something, in my view puts him beyond the normal reach of the control of the governor in council. It puts him beyond the normal reach of parliament and sets up a situation which is ideal for a dictatorial type of administration. That was my reasoning in 1970 when I tried to move this amendment in committee and it remains my reasoning to this day. Indeed, I feel that the events which have taken place since 1970 in the field of the administration of fisheries, with particular reference to this matter of fishing licences for commercial fishermen, have borne out the correctness of my argument at that time. The minister and his agents should not have complete discretionary power which is not spelled out by regulation. People should know where they stand. They should know what the rules are and they should at least know those rules cannot be changed without proper action by at least the governor in council. It is a field where regulatory authority is quite necessary and proper.

In the standing committee, I had this to say when I was arguing for my amendment. I quote:

> Mr. Chairman, I think it should be obvious that the purport of my amendment is to create a situation where changes to licensing of fishermen or the issuance of leases can only be made under the authority of regulations passed by the Governor in Council. It does seem to me, Mr. Chairman, that an act which says that the Minister may, in his absolute discretion do something is really out of line with our understanding of our modern concept of the rule of law. Indeed, it strikes me that it is somewhat related to the concept of the divine right of kings and one would say shades of James I. I am sure the Minister is quite aware that this arises out of a situation that has developed in the last year or so on the Pacific Coast of Canada. The Minister has been changing the regulations as they affect salmon fishermen on the Pacific Coast by press releases. Quite apart from the merits or demerits of what the Minister has been doing, it has created a state of confusion. One day we have a proposal that such and such is going to happen under a certain phase of the Minister's program for changing the system of licensing and the next minute we have another press release issued from his office which says, "We are not going to do it quite this way but we are going to do it in this way".

I went on to argue a bit further for consideration of my amendment in the committee. The events that have taken place since that time in relation to the licensing of salmon fishermen on the west coast, the situation which has subsequently developed on the Atlantic coast in relation to the position of the salmon fishermen there and the kind of statements that have been made to me and many others by fishermen, indicate there is a growing disenchantment with the situation. The minister is allowed to exercise this completely dictatorial authority without any guidelines laid down so that a person can see in black and white under what terms and conditions he is or is not entitled to a licence to fish.

I am in agreement with many of the thrusts that the development of policy has taken under the present minister. With regard to some of the emphasis which has been placed on moves toward a new realm of a law of the sea, I give the minister some credit for the fact that Canada appears to be taking a much more vigorous stance than in the early sixties. It may be true that some improvement has taken place in the management of our fisheries and in the husbanding of our marine resources, but it seems to me there is still lack of recognition of the fact that commercial fishermen are human beings and that they have a right to know where they stand in relation to the industry from which they make their livelihood; they ought not to have their livelihood taken away from them at the whim of the minister or of one of his agents in the field who might not be properly knowledgeable of the extent and purpose of certain aspects of fishery management.

● (1710)

The section of the act to which I have referred provides the minister with that kind of authority. It is an authority which, to the best of my knowledge, no other member of the government possesses. If anyone can cite another statute which contains the phrase that a minister may at his absolute discretion do this or that, I should like to know about it, because I have not been able to find it. That is why I welcome this opportunity to raise the matter formally by way of introducing a bill for second reading, and I hope hon. members will give it the kind of consideration I feel it deserves.

I might say in passing that clause two in my bill is somewhat redundant at the moment, though it was relevant when I originally introduced it. There was an oversight on my part inasmuch as the change I proposed has in fact been made in the Fisheries Act. This is a slight modification of the provision in the act which provides for the making of regulations. I believe that all the questions surrounding the issuing of such licenses should be laid out in black and white by way of regulations, changeable only by the formal action of the Governor in Council, and that the authority contained in this bill provides an adequate basis for rational arrangements to be developed in respect to the issuance of licenses or leases. In effect, the archaic section 7 of the act is redundant, unnecessary and unwarranted in the context of our present-day concept of democracy.

Mr. William Rompkey (Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Fisheries): Mr. Speaker, this amendment to the Fisheries Act seems, in my opinion, to be a retrograde step in the light of present-day requirements for living resource management and development both of inshore and off-shore fisheries. The issuing of licences still remains one of the most effective instruments available to provide for the development of sound management practices. It is becoming increasingly necessary in the light of the position we are taking at the Law of the Sea Conference and at various international agency meetings. Canada is presently taking the position that we should have control over the whole of the continental shelf surrounding our shores, 200 or 400 miles out, wherever it ends. As a matter of fact we are claiming control over the continental shelf to the end of the continental slope. If we are to retain credibility, not only among the nations of the world but with all sections of the industry within our own nation, we must display an adequate and reasonable measure of control and management of our fish stocks. We are looking ahead toward the management of these living resources on the continental shelves and this will require the introduction of new concepts in licence control.

Our renewable resources are among the most valuable we possess. Non-renewable resources have been disappear-

ing, but our renewable resources constitute a wealth upon which we can rely for many years to come and it thus behooves us to bring in measures for sound management control. We can only do this properly if fish stocks are wisely managed and protected. It is true to say that research into the fishery is more difficult than research into certain other aspects of our natural resources. For example, it is easy to see what is above the ground. It is easier to conduct research involving forestry or mining, as I think most scientists will agree, than it is to determine exactly what is happening beneath the surface of the sea. This is a further reason why more emphasis is placed on licensing.

Legislative jurisdiction over the fisheries of Canada is a federal responsibility under the terms of the British North America Act. This jurisdiction goes back from the Canadian parliament to the British parliament, because the resources of the sea are used not only by the host nation but by other nations of the world. Let me stress that the host nation, or the nation which possesses the resource off its shores must have control over the stocks and must have a preferential right in the fishery. It is for this reason we must ensure that licensing procedures are satisfactory. At the present time, under constitutional law, the federal parliament has exclusive legislative authority over the fisheries. This authority is exercised by the government in co-operation with the provinces, and in many provinces the regulations set out by the federal government are administered locally.

I indicated earlier the benefits which could result from sound management programs and I referred to licensing in this context, but such beneficial results, financial and otherwise, cannot be achieved unless the methodology of sound management is complete. Let me give hon. members an example. Our fishery stocks, because of the possibility of over-exploitation, demand very close monitoring in order to meet national and international commitments. Because of the tremendous strides made in fishing technology, it is quite possible for entire year classes of herring or salmon to be completely annihilated by a few non-conservation-minded fishermen who decide to disregard previously established quotas or fishing times. Most fishermen, I might add, respect the quotas and respect the regulations.

In my own province, most of the fishermen do not need to be told what the law is, or what the regulations are. Like others who live close to the sea, or to the soil, they are naturally conservationists; they do not really need to be regulated. On the other hand, there are some who do, and the threat of a rapid decline of stocks is so great that unless there is a control we can exercise at a moment's notice it may be too late. It might be said we should go through the process of appeal to the courts, or take action through committees. It may be too late to wait for that. We must have control that we can exercise quite speedily in order to ensure that stocks are not rapidly depleted.

● (1720)

If we were obliged to resort to long drawn out procedures we would, in effect, be doing nothing more than practising management on a retroactive basis. As I said before, we must ensure that we have that protection, that policing and licensing capability, the capability of taking away a licence if something goes wrong in order to retain our credibility both with other fishing nations of the world as well as with the industry in this country. We are becoming more and more concerned with scientific management principles for many species, and the authority to issue leases and licences should not be restricted in any way. It is possible for a species to be decimated to the point of no return; therefore, the retention of section 7 is important.

The authority to issue licences provides a readily available and relatively simple control measure to regulate the size of the fishing fleet by regulating unit effort. It gives us the ability to control the entry of vessels and to control quotas and seasons. Licensing has also improved our awareness of the condition of the fishing fleet and the statistical information which forms a basic part for a sound management policy.

In addition to having and exercising control over our stocks, through licensing we can obtain additional information which helps us to employ sound management procedures. I have alluded to the other important aspects of licensing policy—that is, to regulate and control the entry of vessels, quotas and seasons, and to gather statistics so that we may be better informed and may modify our policies in light of the statistics we gather.

As you are aware, Mr. Speaker, there are now a number of restricted fisheries and, of necessity, there may be more in the future. The control of licensing is basic to the control of a restricted fishery. It is a simple, effective and readily adoptable method of regulating. No one wants to bring in these restrictions, but everyone will agree that you can only fish a resource to a certain point. There is a point of no return. There is a point where you deplete your resource so that it is no longer renewable. This is why we must have quotas.

From talking to people in my riding, people who have thought this thing out—and most of them do—I know they agree that there have to be quotas; they understand the reasons for them. Nobody likes them, particularly the people in my province, since for years they have become used to the freedom of access they have had to a number of renewable resources. For example, men might fish during the summertime a number of different species, as many of them still do, and then go into the woods in the wintertime to do some hunting or even to become loggers. They engage in a number of aspects of the exploitation of renewable resources, but I think all of them realize quotas have to be set and that licensing must be retained for this purpose.

The use of various types of gear is controllable by licensing. We issue licences for mesh size, for types of net, for total length of nets, for seasons, for seines, for trawls, for species, for areas and for many other reasons. The importance of licensing cannot be stressed too much, and it will be used increasingly in coming years as a control measure.

The conditions under which leases and licences are granted are continually changing. In this connection the fishing public demand immediate action. I made the point briefly previously that we should get to the stage where, if the law is broken, action must be taken right away. Or if we come across a similar situation to that which existed in

Placentia Bay, Newfoundland, a while ago, where we had high mercury or phosphorous content in the water, action must be taken right away to make sure the resource is protected from pollution of the environment. In this regard, it is very important that we have the proper licensing procedures to put a stop to serious situations such as these.

Let me for a moment visualize a situation where the Minister of Fisheries does not have the absolute authority to grant licences. I think that such a situation would place the minister in a very difficult position whenever occasion arose to cancel licences for flagrant infractions. I have previously discussed many such cases. The minister must be able to face a situation head on.

I am confident of the desirability of these policies in view of over-harvesting and the need to place the fishery in the hands of the real and genuine fishermen who depend on the fishery as a main source of livelihood. These measures have been effective and on the whole have been well received by the people whose main source of income is derived from fishing. Without the exclusive authority provided in section 7 of the Fisheries Act, these restrictive programs would not be sufficiently effective.

This amendment would raise doubt as to who exactly had the authority to grant licences. For example, if the minister is not to have authority, where would the authority lie? The bill proposes it revert to the Governor in Council. Does this mean, in effect, that cabinet would deal with licensing? Or does it mean the House of Commons would? Does it mean that a section of the department would issue licences? I think it is important that we know who does have authority, and that we know that this person can exercise the authority at a moment's notice if a serious situation requiring action were to develop.

With regard to revoking the authority to issue licences as provided in section 7, the proposed new paragraph (g) does not make it clear that anyone can issue licences. It seems to presuppose that someone can issue them, and indicates that the Governor in Council is empowered to deal in a general way with the terms and conditions under which licences and leases may be issued, without enabling the Governor in Council either to issue licences or to prescribe their actual terms and conditions. I do not think that ministerial discretion can be equated with arbitrary or unreasonable action, and the present paragraphs (f) and (g) appear adequate. A function as basic and general as the issuing of licences should not be left to regulation; its proper place is in the statute.

I agree that there should be some appeal procedures. I think people must have the right to appeal, and appeal committees have been set up already for certain species. Possibly they should be set up for other species as well. If a person loses his licence, he should have the right to appeal that loss and to justify his case. But we must be sure where authority lies and ensure that speedy action is taken if that is necessary.

There are a number of examples of where to illustrate the necessity for that authority in the past. I do not want to go into them at this time but I do think that if the authority were taken away from the minister this would be a restrictive step rather than a forward step. We have also seen that licensing has enabled us adequately to set regulations relating to vessels that are used to catch various species of fish. Nowadays, with the development of a multipurpose vessel, with men moving from lobsters to scallops to groundfish, there is still a large percentage following the historical and traditional way of life. It therefore became apparent that a restrictive-type policy would be a step forward towards harmonious development. A licensing program based on the authority invested by section 7 of the Fisheries Act was therefore introduced whereby vessels which had fished in excess of 100 traps became category "A" and could fish up to the maximum of 400. Vessels which had fished 100 traps or fewer became category "B" and could not fish more traps than previously. If a vessel had fished only 75 traps, not more than that number could be fished.

It was necessary to select the trap criterion because catch statistics were not available in the required precision. The catches may be sold over the rail, buyers may move amongst the fleet. We are moving toward a more realistic criterion based on catch value, but for the time being the described classification will prevail. Only category "A" vessels can be replaced or sold. Category "B" vessel licences are non-transferrable. When the present owner ceases fishing, the licence is gone except in the most extenuating circumstances to be determined by a review committee. Based on a licence control program for conservation reasons, a freeze was placed in 1970 on all herring fishing units with the exception of gillnets on the Atlantic coast. The policy stipulated that only those units such as purse seiners, weirs, traps, bar seines and midwater trawlers which fished in 1968 or 1969 would be licensed. Replacements can be made on a ton for ton basis with more extensive restriction in the Bay of Fundy area where overfishing became evident. There is inherent in this licensing policy a provision for entry into the fishery of additional units in all areas except in the Bay of Fundy where it can be clearly proven that herring are being produced for food and not for reduction purposes. The policy also provides for taking into consideration the status of the stocks.

• (1730)

To sum up my key points, I think modern fisheries resource management is based on quotas, restrictions of unit effort, area closures and gear restrictions. Decisions very often have to be made quickly, even on a day to day basis. To restrict the authority to implement management decisions by deleting provisions for licence control that now exist would serve to reduce and seriously impair the effectiveness of our management policies.

Hon. J. A. MacLean (Malpeque): Mr. Speaker, I have a few remarks to make on this rather interesting bill that is before us. The question of licensing, of course, applies to any resource or privilege which is nationally owned and is not possessed as a matter of ownership by an individual. A farmer, for example, owns the land on which he carries on his operation. He is free, within limitations, to do whatever he likes because it is his property. However, in the realm of publicly owned benefits or assets which belong to the state in general, of course some system of licensing must be designed in order to determine how the resource or benefit shall be exploited. This is the reason it is

necessary to have licences allowing people to establish television and radio broadcasting stations. Only a limited number of people may exploit this resource or privilege which is owned by the state in general.

In the same way, the fisheries belong to the nation as a whole. Therefore, it is logical and indeed necessary in the present day that those who exploit this common resource should be licensed so that it may be determined to what extent and under what conditions certain individuals will have that privilege which in theory belongs to every citizen of the state. This, of course, is done through government.

If I understand the intent of the hon. member's bill, it has nothing to do with the abolition or the reduction of the necessity for licensing of the fisheries, because in this way and in this way only can exploitation of the fishery resource be carried on in a reasonable and beneficial way not only for the benefit of the people engaged in it but for the general benefit of the nation. Therefore, if my interpretation of the hon. member's purpose is correct, much of what the parliamentary secretary said is beside the point. I think what the hon. member who introduced the bill is attempting to do is not to reduce, restrict or abolish the issuance of licences or leases but, rather, to determine by regulation the conditions, the classes of people and the circumstances under which licences will be issued or cancelled. In other words, there would be a general framework in which the minister is required to operate when issuing licences. The explanatory note of the bill reads:

> The purpose of this bill is to provide that leases and licences for a fishery or fishing shall be issued by the minister only on terms and conditions previously prescribed by regulations made by the governor in council and not in his absolute discretion as presently provided.

The section of the present act to which the hon. member takes exception is section 7. Section 9 of the act reads as follows:

> The minister may cancel any lease or licence issued under the authority of this act, if he has ascertained that the operations under such licence were not conducted in conformity with its provisions.

This is a subsidiary authority given the minister to cancel licences which is almost as arbitrary as his authority to issue them, although he can cancel them only for cause. This brings me to a point which is of particular interest to lobster fishermen on the east coast where, I think due to the probably unnecessary arbitrary authority vested in the minister, the lobster fishermen have appealed to the minister and have asked him to cancel licences where regulations have been broken. This is a request which came from the fishermen. In those terms it is a very sensible and admirable request, because nobody should have the privilege of holding a licence unless he is prepared to live by the regulations. However, I think the application of the method of applying the subsidiary penalty for breaking a fisheries' regulation was not thought through sufficiently. I have reference to the breaking of a regulation, for which a fishermen is taken to court and fined under the standard system of justice which we all enjoy. This is fine.

However, we also have the additional penalty by which a fishermen forfeits his licence for a given period. I think this has been brought about because, due to economic conditions, it was felt that the fines and penalties imposed by the courts were not adequate to deter the breaking of the law. I am all for clamping down on illegal fishing of any kind, so long as it is done justly and so long as the penalty fits the crime. But we have a situation involving a number of anomalies which I believe affects unjustly some individuals.

I might take the extreme case of a person who owns or acquires a few lobster traps but has no licence. He is an out-and-out poacher. He decides to catch lobsters. This also applies to skindivers who go out and catch lobsters while skindiving. If these people are caught, they are fined. They receive the usual penalty and that is the end of it because they have no licence to be cancelled. However, the situation is different in respect of the fisherman who tries to abide by the law, and most of them do. I might say there is a possibility of error if a person is out on a stormy day attempting to measure a lobster to see whether it is inside or outside the allowable size. Toward the end of the season it must be remembered—at least this is the case in my constituency—the majority of the lobsters are undersized and the fisherman has to throw them overboard. Sometimes he may make an error.

● (1740)

I should like to mention a case in my constituency. Last year a fishermen had a catch of 160 pounds. Fishermen are allowed 10 undersized lobsters for each 100 pounds of catch, but in this case the fishermen had a catch of 160 pounds which under the regulations would allow him to take a maximum of 16 undersized lobsters. It so happened that he had 19. He was taken into court and he pleaded guilty. This year he found that his licence was suspended for two weeks, which amounts to a quarter of the season. In my area this represents perhaps as much as 50 per cent of the catch and it means an economic penalty of around $3,000 on this individual for having three undersized lobsters too many.

It seems to me that the granting and suspension of licences is a very blunt instrument when used in that way. I agree with the parliamentary secretary that there should be some sort of local board which can give advice to the minister as to whether a licence should be suspended. When you have a lobster fisherman who is an unregenerate breaker of the regulations and who gets caught, you find that nobody has any sympathy for him. The feeling is that he had it coming to him. But when minor or borderline infractions of the law take place and it is a first offence, the suspension of a licence for an arbitrary two-week period is unjust.

I might add that in addition to his licence being suspended, the livelihood of his helper is taken away from him, a person who in all likelihood had no direct involvement in the infraction. I cite that case as a borderline case where I think the penalty was much too severe. It is over and above the ordinary penalty under the law, and one from which there is no effective appeal.

In this regard I have a great deal of sympathy for what the hon. member for Comox-Alberni (Mr. Barnett) has suggested, namely, the creation of a framework or some sort of terms of reference which should be adhered to in the granting, suspending or cancellation of licences of

fishermen. It seems to me that the granting of a licence to a fishermen is a privilege. It should be done in conformity with national interests in the broad sense and the protection of the resource; in fact, all the things to which the parliamentary secretary referred. Certainly the granting of licences must meet all these requirements in the public interest.

However, I think that what the hon. member is suggesting has merit. He is trying to ensure that situations where injustices are unintentionally perpetrated do not occur. I know that these things are done with the best intentions in the world, and I am not being critical of what the Department of Fisheries is trying to do. I am referring to unintended, but unreasonable punitive penalties imposed upon first offenders in borderline cases. Although the bill of the hon. member may be deficient and imperfect in many ways, I think that what he is trying to do has some merit.

Mr. G. A. Percy Smith (Northumberland-Miramichi): Mr. Speaker, I wish to congratulate the hon. member for Comox-Alberni (Mr. Barnett) for bringing Bill C-23 before the House. I believe it has a lot to recommend it. My understanding of the bill is the same as that of the hon. member for Malpeque (Mr. MacLean), namely, that its intention is not in any way to decrease the necessity for careful management of this renewable resource or of conservation measures which we all agree must be strictly enforced, but to give more certainty to fishermen who prepare for the fishing season, probably at great expense, and who perhaps a few weeks before the season starts find that their licences are not issued for some reason.

The hon. member for Comox-Alberni also objected to the minister having absolute discretion is this matter. He feels it would be better if regulations were made by order in council. The argument in the bill seems to boil down to allowing greater flexibility in the enforcement of regulations. If the decision were to be strictly up to the minister, this would be less cumbersome. However, I would point out that so far as I know, certain authority and discretion rests with the regional director of the Department of Fisheries to alter fishing season—to close the fishing season, in other words—when an emergency occurs such as the pollution of a river as a result of a spill, a flood or some other unexpected condition.

I know that this authority was exercised recently on the Miramichi River, in connection with the salmon fishing season, by the regional director of the Department of Fisheries in Halifax. In fact, it was exercised to the extent that he altered the season by two weeks. It had the effect of pretty well cutting the salmon fishing season in half. In spite of the fact that the regional office has used this authority, I contend that it was wrongly used in that case in 1971, and there is enough flexibility in the regulations under which regional offices operate in cases of sudden emergency.

● (1750)

Perhaps the question of seasons should have been included in this bill because it is closely related to the question of licensing. It is useless for a fisherman to obtain a licence, either from the Minister of Fisheries or through the authority of the governor in council, if somebody else has the authority to cut the season or eliminate it altogether. Therefore the bill might have included some reference to seasons.

I think we all realize that in this very large country where there is an important fishery on the west coast, a very important fishery on the east coast, and the inland fisheries, there are too many details with respect to licensing and seasons for one minister to give them all his personal attention. If these matters were handled by order in council, other ministers of the Crown would be involved, possibly including ministers from the areas in question. In essence, I suppose this is an argument in favour of the bill.

If the minister undertakes licensing, as the present act says, at his "absolute discretion" he must rely on his own department; therefore he would rely on the regional office which has responsibility for the waters in question. I have had some experience with the Atlantic regional office in Halifax and I must say I would hate to leave the matter entirely in their hands. If the minister is unable personally to oversee these matters, then automatically it devolves upon him to look to his regional offices for advice on licensing and seasons.

I have given one example of where the regional office in Halifax cut the salmon season practically in half, apparently without any reference to the minister or to anyone else. I could give many more examples. Going back to the question of licensing, I can cite the present situation on the east coast where there is a commercial salmon fishing ban. About a year prior to the announcement of the ban, a policy statement was issued by the minister restricting licences and transfers of salmon fishing licences. It provided that to be a bona fide salmon fisherman or to obtain a salmon fishing licence you must not be engaged in any other industry, or not have a steady job in any other industry.

Many licences were cancelled as a result of this directive. However, in order to relieve hardship in certain cases the minister did agree that anyone, even though employed steadily, who was receiving a very small annual salary would not be considered to be steadily employed and therefore would be permitted to continue to hold a salmon licence. To deal with people who appealed on this basis he set up a licence review committee in the Atlantic provinces. It consisted of somebody from the Department of Fisheries, somebody representing fishermen and a third, independent citizen.

On the Miramichi, this committee set up by the minister to relieve hardship did in fact give relief in 13 cases. But the departmental officials from Halifax objected to the action of the licence review committee and, presumably, advised the minister. The result was that the minister upset the ruling of his own committee in nine out of the 13 cases. To me this is a matter of great regret. I only raise the matter to point out the insensitivity of regional offices, on the one hand, to the fishermen and apparently, on the other hand, to the wishes of the minister himself. So I would have to agree with and support the bill unless there is some way in which the minister can better control the actions of his regional directors and regional offices. I could give another example, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Bell: Six o'clock.

[*Translation*]

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Boulanger): Order. The hour appointed for the consideration of private members' business having expired, I do now leave the Chair, until eight o'clock. I hope you will enjoy your dinner.

At six o'clock the House took recess.

AFTER RECESS

The House resumed at 8 p.m.

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

PROTECTION OF PRIVACY BILL

CREATION OF OFFENCES RELATED TO INTERCEPTION OF PRIVATE COMMUNICATIONS BY CERTAIN DEVICES

The House resumed consideration of the motion of Mr. Lang that Bill C-176, to amend the Criminal Code, the Crown Liability Act and the Official Secrets Act, be read the second time and referred to the Standing Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs.

Mr. Gilbert Rondeau (Shefford): Mr. Speaker, at five o'clock, I was commenting Bill C-176, and particularly clause 178.12 which reads as follows:

> An application for an authorization shall be made *ex parte* and in writing to a judge of a superior court of criminal jurisdiction,. . . . or an agent specially designated in writing for the purposes of this section . . .

What puzzles me, Mr. Speaker, is that we are still on second reading, and I suppose it will be possible to make amendments or clarifications to this bill, which is certainly in a good cause at face value, that being the protection of the individual's privacy. However, when we take the bill clause by clause, we see that its definitions are too comprehensive and not specific enough. Clause 178.12 *a*) says:

> proceedings, if any, may be instituted at the instance of the Government of Canada and conducted by or on behalf of the Attorney General of Canada, or

And it says below that this can be done by a provincial Attorney General or by an agent.

The bill does not tell us who the agent will be,—and I should not like to draw any false conclusions—but I think it would be unfortunate to see some provinces appointing a political organizer of any sort.

Certain individuals will be authorized to install bugging and wire-tapping devices; if the agents are officials who, in some provinces, may be political organizers, this could lead to serious abuses and have even more dire consequences for individual privacy.

Mr. Speaker, clause 178.15 (1) also deserves our attention. This is another section that could lead to abuses. Clause 178.15 (3) says that it will be permitted to investigate for 36 hours before obtaining an authorization. It

would be unfortunate to have people investigating, using electronic eavesdropping devices for 36 hours before obtaining authorization to install these devices. The legislation gives to anyone who has to use wiretapping 36 hours to get his permit or a writ from a judge, an attorney general, a substitute or an agent that we don't know yet; a citizen will be pestered for 36 hours before the person concerned may obtain a proper licence. I think that this is giving the legislation too much leeway and this might still result in most serious abuses.

On page 10, clause 178.18 (2), one may read about the exceptions:

> (a) a police officer or police constable in possession of a device or component described in subsection (1) in the course of his employment;

Mr. Speaker, this bill is extremely serious; an authorization is given to all police officers in Canada. I would like to trust our police officers, but I think that the bill is too comprehensive and that we will unfortunately witness some breaches of confidence. Indeed, some individuals can enjoy pestering other persons in certain areas for all kinds of reasons. We see that police officers are *ipso facto* exempted under the legislation; they can, as they see fit, connect tapping devices on telephone lines or elsewhere. I think that this will give rise to much abuse.

The government is also empowered to use those devices or tapping apparatus as are police officers, authorized persons and officials.

I trust the members of the committee will amend this bill which, to my mind, is far too dangerous as it stands: limits must be set. If we do not want the bill to lend itself to abuse, we must amend it in several respects. At the present time, the bill could make spying legal, so to speak.

On the other hand, the bill limits to $5,000 only the punitive damages to be paid to the aggrieved person against whom wiretapping has been used abusively. As I said this afternoon, in every other field, when a person inflicts damages upon someone, in a car accident or otherwise, the law requires that individual to be penalized according to the damages he, in fact, inflicted; this is normal. This respects the spirit of justice. But in the case of wire-tapping, if an individual suffers damages worth $50,000 or $100,000, the legislation will prevent his obtaining damages exceeding $5,000.

In its present form, the bill was designed to protect privacy but actually, unless major amendments are made, it will place all Canadians at the mercy of government searches conducted by public servants. Each Canadian, Mr. Speaker, is entitled to privacy and the bill purports to protect privacy. However, it will allow government violation of privacy and pave the way to the creation of a police state in Canada.

It may be that the sponsors of this bill have no intention of creating a police state, but the bill will open doors and within a year there will be penetration of areas other than that of criminality and it is likely that in future the government, or National Revenue officials, taking advantage of new amendments, will use wire-tapping to achieve their ends.

● (2010)

It is against such abuses that we do not want to see, and against the scope of this bill that we are protesting. I wish the government would propose amendments so that, in future, those who want to obtain search warrants or the authority to tap telephone lines would not be led to abuses. If this bill applied only to the field of organized crime and was only intended for the security of the state, we would be satisfied with it. Unfortunately, the people who will be called upon to enforce this act will be facing unlocked doors and we will see abuses such as the ones we deplore at present.

However, I have all confidence in the committee which will be considering this bill again. I hope it will be clarified further in the way suggested by the Police Chiefs Association, and by various other organizations which have at one time considered the previous bill, heard evidence in committee and made quite valuable recommendations. I will not say that the government has tried to bypass the recommendations of the various organizations in Canada, but I believe this is a new opportunity, when the bill comes before the committee, to propose the necessary amendments, in order to ensure maximum freedom to the individual, while allowing the government to use this instrument to control organized crime and to ensure the security of the state, rather than allowing them only to proceed with general searches and allowing officials and other persons exempted from the provisions of this bill, to make ill use of it.

[*English*]

Mr. Robert C. Coates (Cumberland-Colchester North): Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to participate in a debate that, to judge from the speeches of hon. members who have already participated, is of significant value to the Minister of Justice (Mr. Lang). I believe this type of issue is not partisan and the government is not so committed to its position that it will not show a degree of latitude in listening to, I will not say criticisms but constructive suggestions from members of all parties, including the government party. This debate will allow the minister to take a second look at the legislation. This measure has been before parliament on a number of occasions over a number of years; therefore we can end up with a very good piece of legislation that will be of use and benefit to the government and country in the days ahead.

First let me say that merely because we shall pass this bill in whatever form it may finally take does not mean that the law will provide real protection to the people of this nation. It will not protect us unless the government sees that the law is carried out completely and in every sense in the form in which it is passed. Provisions which allow for latitude in the use of wiretapping equipment in certain circumstances, or in the use of equipment that can reproduce sound, must be at all times implemented in the strictest sense so that those authorized to give permission for the carrying out of any form of surveillance which intrudes upon the privacy of any individual will provide to the public the greatest degree of protection possible.

There are a number of general things I wish to say. At present, in North America and throughout the free world, as a result of the Watergate scandal in the United States we find ourselves in an environment in which we can fully appreciate the terrible consequences of misuse of the type of technology that is available today for invading the privacy of the individual. As Canadians we ought to be aware that it really does not make much difference if there are laws preventing the use of complicated computerized methods of invading privacy. If people and governments are determined to use these devices to invade the privacy of individuals, then the privacy of individuals will be invaded.

It is therefore the great responsibility of the Minister of Justice, whoever he may be, and of the Solicitor General, because he has control over and responsibility for most of the sources of producing information that may be required by the state in certain circumstances, to see that the right to privacy of the individual is guarded just as jealously as is humanly possible. I think that is the first lesson that we as Canadians must learn. Merely because laws are passed does not mean that those laws will be obeyed.

The second thing we must consider, and here we must depend to a great degree on the Minister of Justice, whoever he may be at the pertinent time, is that although the security of the state may be more important than the freedom of the individual, the Minister of Justice will need to be very careful in making sure that the security of the state is really endangered; in other words, he must be certain that it is endangered before contemplating action which will allow invasion of the privacy of the individual to take place. We, as Members of Parliament, must be careful that we do not allow in this legislation any degree of latitude to the Minister of Justice under which he might use his powers against an individual or group of individuals under the guise that he is doing so to protect the security of the state.

● (2020)

Also, in a parliament such as this we must be very concerned about the fact that there can be complication in the mind of the party in office in a minority government where the security of the state is mixed up with the security of the party which happens to form the government of the day. I especially want to emphasize this fact. The government of this day, the government of this country since 1968 has been, and has a record of being, a very secretive government. It has been very concerned about retaining as much information as possible about itself and making available to the public as little as possible of such information.

The government's jealousy about its own actions was one of the main reasons for the proliferation of leaks that occurred during the past two or three years. These leaks gave all Members of Parliament a great deal of concern. If they had happened too often and at too great a rate, there would have been a breakdown in the system of government as we know it and in the system of secrecy that must be expected from public servants, especially those who hold the highest offices in this country and who at all times should be subservient to the elected members of the cabinet or the executive who run this country.

I believe that Members of Parliament have shown real appreciation of what this legislation means. They have indicated real appreciation of what we should do to pro-

tect the right to privacy of the individual as well as what the security of the state means. As the hon. member for Fundy-Royal (Mr. Fairweather) pointed out in his speech, by initiating the constructive suggestions our party has made with regard to this legislation the people of Canada would have a right to know that is every bit as important as the right of the government to protect the security of the state.

There have not been many occasions when the present government and its predecessors have been willing to take the people of this country into their confidence and tell them what is happening. All too often we wrap up anything that appears to be the least bit political, anything that appears to have the least bit of political implication associated with it, no matter whether the public should know about it or not. We wrap it up and stamp it as classified, secret or top secret so that it can be kept away from the public. If a government becomes too jealous about this sort of thing, public servants are put in the position where they become the conscience of the nation. We do not have any right to put public servants in that position. Unfortunately, when we reach that point there is demoralization within the public service that is bad for any government, as well as for the people of this country.

If by this legislation and the approach the government takes to it there is an indication that we wish to protect the security of the state, protect the freedom of individuals and let the people of this country know what they want to know and should know, there will be an elimination or shrinking of the leaks which occur. There will be a degree of confidence, in the minds of Canadians, about parliament that will be truly beneficial to parliament and the parliamentary system of government.

When the right hon. member for Prince Albert (Mr. Diefenbaker) spoke today he said that the type of thing that has happened in the United States associated with the Watergate scandal could not happen in Canada. He should know a good deal more than I do because he was prime minister of this country for a long time. He had to deal with many top secret, security matters. He knows parliament better than anyone else in Canada and he knows what parliaments can do. He said that the Watergate scandal or something akin to it could not happen in Canada. I believe he must be right because I do not think there is a better man to make a judgment on that matter.

I say to the government that when we on this side of the House rise to ask questions which at times seem obnoxious to them, those who sit on the treasury benches should thank God that we have an opposition in this country. If it is an effective opposition, there is no way we will get into the kind of mess that today exists in the United States. That is very important. This is one of the reasons I have always been a strong proponent of a constitutional form of monarchy in this country.

We have a cabinet and an executive that is answerable in the House of Commons five days a week to the elected members who are here to ask questions. At times they may not like our questions. Maybe we ask some questions that get them into trouble. We hope so. However, we ask questions which we hope will show that the government of the day is honest in the efforts it is making on behalf of the Canadian people. That is really important. While we may be obnoxious, if we keep the government honest, if we eliminate the possibility of things like Watergate, then in the end we wind up with a much better system of government than any other which exists, even if it is not perfect or near perfect.

● (2030)

In recent days we have asked a great many questions of the Solicitor General (Mr. Allmand) about the organization known as the security and research planning group. We have asked these questions, not because we are implying that some great, new spy network is being set up in Canada but in order to find out precisely what this organization is; and we are making these inquiries with a great deal of justification. When the Minister of Supply and Services (Mr. Goyer), who is sitting in the House now, was Solicitor General he enunciated certain aims and objectives for this organization which was known as the research planning group. The organization has now changed its name and has enlarged its scope. If we do not ask questions there is no way of finding out just what its area of responsibility might be. If we do not ask these questions we shall be failing in our duty as an opposition.

While the government appears to get uptight because we are asking these questions, all we are really saying to them is, "Tell the people of Canada what you are doing." As my hon. friend from Fundy-Royal said, Canadians have a right to know. I say that any police organization set up in this country which enlarges its responsibility over a two-year period, changes its name, adds people to its staff and says it will make judgments on classified information and train people for security positions in the organization or in government, is a legitimate target of inquiry.

I do not say there is anything wrong with this organization, but I do say that people have a right to know what it is all about. Yet every time a question is asked on this subject, government spokesmen give the opposition and the people a lot of double-talk, and the minute people hear double-talk they begin to be worried lest there is something going on that the government does not wish them to know about. It is the responsibility of any party in opposition, especially when it comes to the setting up of a new type of police force, to see that the people know everything about that police force, because such a police force might be invading the privacy of Canadians in one way or another.

If it is doing so, the people have a right to know why it is being done. We in the opposition intend to make sure they have all the information which can possibly be secured, regardless of how it is obtained, whether by placing questions on the order paper, through making speeches in the House or by asking questions orally during the question period. It is the right and the duty of all members of the opposition to see that the facts are placed before the people as clearly as possible. Certainly, as a member of the House I intend to see that those facts are made available.

I should like to return now to an aspect to which I referred earlier. It is one thing to pass a law and it is quite another to see that people respect it. If people are to respect the law, then the government has to set an example. The government has to see that for its part the law is

carried out to the letter. From this point of view I should like to refer to the legislation which presently stands on the statute books with regard to the trial period for the abolition of capital punishment except in certain specific circumstances. I sat through the debate in the House when this legislation was passed. I had formerly been a retentionist, but I accepted what the government was saying and agreed to support the legislation for the five-year trial period which was proposed.

I was deceived, just as every other member of this chamber who supported that legislation in similar circumstances was deceived. The government did not live by the law. It lived by its own conscience. It paid no attention to parliament. It made a mockery of the law because it declined to carry out the terms of the legislation. Since that time there has been a rapid deterioration in all aspects of justice in this country. A question was answered in the House recently in relation to the number of escapes from penal institutions. Here are some statistics in that regard. In 1968 there were 108 escapes, in 1969 there were 174, in 1970 there were 293, in 1971 there were 485, and in 1972 there were 684.

Mr. Speaker, if this continues we shall have more prisoners outside the institutions than in them, and we shall be hiring more guards than there are inmates. As a matter of fact, that is almost the situation at the present time. This is just one example of the way in which all aspects of criminal law have deteriorated. This is because the government, for reasons best known to itself, would not live up to the law which was passed by parliament. Yet they have the outstanding nerve to come here and ask us to continue the five-year trial period in connection with a piece of legislation which was never put into effect in the first place. There are many examples of the deterioration to which I have referred. I believe the right hon. member for Prince Albert was right today when he said to the Solicitor General that we must have a royal commission, an over-all inquiry carried out as soon as possible.

● (2040)

I have in my hand information about an inmate in a penal institution who was sentenced to 18 months for trafficking in a controlled drug. This individual was a correctional officer at a penal institution and was trafficking in a controlled drug in the institution. In other words, he was trafficking in a drug in a most despicable way because he was selling the drug to inmates of a penal institution. He broke his trust as a correctional officer and endangered the lives of all his fellow correctional officers in the institution, as well as many of the inmates. He was sentenced to 18 months, and served only 27 days in jail before he was allowed out to work. We cannot have that kind of justice in this country. We must put justice back on the rails or there will be no justice in Canada.

I do not know whether I have used up all my time, Mr. Speaker, but may I just say this. I believe that the legislation proposed is very important. I believe the House of Commons has approached the legislation in a considered, non-partisan manner in the hope that we will arrive at the best possible legislation dealing with one of the most delicate matters that exists in this or any other nation. I believe the Minister of Justice is the kind of minister who will give every possible consideration to all criticisms that

have been made or that will be made during the committee stage. In the end I think we will have a good statute.

Nevertheless, it will only be as good as the government makes it by honouring the law that is passed. There are many dictatorships in the world with constitutions as fancy as words can produce and granting all kinds of freedoms, whereas in fact no freedom at all exists in the country. After we have put these words together and arrived at the best possible legislation, the Minister of Justice will have the grave responsibility of seeing that the legislation is honoured in every sense of that word.

If that is the case, then there will be protection for the individual in this country. There will be protection for the state and there will be a degree of justice in Canada of which we can be proud. We shall always be able to hold our heads high with legislation such as this under our system of government and we will not be concerned with the kind of international embarrassment which the United States is facing at the present time.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, please. If the Minister of Justice (Mr. Lang) speaks now, he will close the debate.

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Justice): Mr. Speaker, may I begin my short closing remarks by expressing my appreciation to hon. members of the House for their participation in this debate. If I may do so without presumption, may I also express my appreciation of their analysis of certain key areas of the bill before us which I know will receive further and serious consideration in the committee.

It is true, as the hon. member for Cumberland-Colchester North (Mr. Coates) has just said, that much of the approach has been in a non-partisan manner, since certainly members within the same party have not always necessarily agreed upon the exact approach that should be taken. I think this has been typical in the discussion of this matter initially in committee, in the House and in committee last year when the same subject matter, essentially the same bill, was before the House.

The main thrust, the key and central portion of this bill is an attempt to increase the protection of privacy in Canada by making illegal in a general way the use of a whole series of devices, particularly mechanical and electrical devices, that can intercept conversations of people who do not want them to be intercepted. As I see it, this key, central part of the bill has received general support.

I think it is worth noting that the placing in the hands of law enforcement officers, upon whom we depend for the effective operation of this legislation, the power to attempt to control the use of such devices strengthens their position; indeed, we are also making it illegal to have in one's possession or to sell, except in certain limited ways, such devices. This controlling of possession and of sale is one of the effective ways of limiting the availability of these devices in the country, except when those devices are used in an authorized manner.

It has been said by a number of hon. members that making wiretapping or interference with privacy illegal does not by any means completely put us out of the danger that it will continue in an unauthorized and illegal manner. Indeed, it is interesting to note that one or two

members commented that it is not the making illegal of such practices that will protect us as parliamentarians, as members of a democratic society, from the use of such devices in the democratic process. I am sure all hon. members would agree that none of us in this House would have tolerated the use of these devices by one of us upon the other, even during the period when there was no illegality. But this would be on the basis of our political ethic rather than on the basis of the law itself. It is that political ethic, that standard of conduct that we have come to expect from members participating in the democratic process which is by far our greatest protection.

A great protection also exists in our democratic process in the quality and the ability of our enforcement officers and in the way in which they go about the business of attempting, on our behalf, to protect us in a general way by maintaining law and order under the direction of the political authority which must take the responsibility for their actions in enforcing the law. I shall say a little more about that later.

My point is that making wiretapping illegal does not necessarily end it entirely. I think it would be a safe prediction to say that those elements engaged in the most serious crimes, the most organized elements of the criminal world, are still apt to make use of such devices even though use of those devices will be illegal. In other words when, in my hypothesis, these people are engaged in criminal activity, they will use these devices notwithstanding this change in the law. Thus, it will be important for our enforcement officers to attempt to come to grips with this problem, and here again we will rely on the quality of our enforcement officers, subject of course, as I say, to the responsibility of the political officers under whom they operate.

● (2050)

For this reason it is extremely important that in the committee we face up to the need to retain for our enforcement officers the ability themselves, in the course of their enforcement duties, to use devices which otherwise are illegal in this country, so that they may have such mechanical devices available to them as will assist them to the highest degree possible in the performance of their duty in the protection of law and order generally and, therefore, the protection of our democratic society. That this bill endeavours to do. It endeavours to do it in a way which retains the political responsibility which requires that applications for any such use by law enforcement officers be on the responsibility of an elected person, either the Solicitor General in the case of federal operations or, in by far the greater number of cases, the provincial attorneys general who have the general obligation of supervising police activity and the enforcement of the criminal law throughout this country.

I emphasize this, because it is not a matter of us as members of the government saying that you can rely in every way, in terms of political responsibility, upon us to do our job as individuals or persons. We are saying that we ought to be able, in this democratic process, in the provinces and in the federal government to rely on the political responsibility of the properly elected officials. I am indebted to the hon. member for Cumberland-Colchester North for having said that that is the key to the proper operation of our system.

We are here saying we must rely upon the political responsibility of the provincial attorneys general for the greater part of the operation of this bill, that is, on the question of how many times and how frequently such applications or uses of these devices are in fact made. We do, of course, include reporting provisions so that we in advance attempt to put into the political process some ability such as may be reasonable and consistent with the use of the devices themselves with the power to control, supervise and see whether or not the devices are being used in a proper way. I will be eager in the committee to consider with members ways to improve and strengthen this ability to ensure that political control is really there in terms of the supervision by the Solicitor General, or by the provincial attorneys general, of the applications for these devices.

We make clear in the bill that these devices are not to be used as standard devices even by our law enforcement officers, but only when other techniques have been tried and failed or are unlikely to succeed. In other words, they are available as a fall-back position. That we do because we think they have obligations associated with them; they are evidence-gatherers which gather evidence beyond the matter that may be at hand in the law enforcement itself. In the bill we suggest a judge. We had initially said a judge of the superior court. The committee, when deliberating last year, added judges of the country court because of the concern that there should be access to judges by the police and by law enforcement agencies when they need quick action by a judge.

Some hon. members have suggested it would be better if we did not have a judge at all and relied totally on the political responsibility. I think it is better, in fact, to have it as we do, with the political responsibility in terms of the application proceeding and then, admittedly, a pro forma check—which may be all it can be in many cases because it is on an ex parte application—on the procedure by a judge. I think that could be helpful. I do not wish to go to any current or neighbouring cases to indicate when or how it could be helpful, but I think it could be and I shall be glad to pursue that matter further with the committee. Members of the opposition have suggested it would be better if a judge were not involved in that situation. Members opposite have suggested it.

Mr. Woolliams: Not me.

Mr. Lang: I am happy to hear the hon. member for Calgary North (Mr. Woolliams) say it was not him. Nor, indeed, I think, was it the right hon. gentleman from Prince Albert (Mr. Diefenbaker) whom I want to thank for his very kind intervention in the debate this afternoon. He attached great importance to the intervention of a judge in this process. He was very critical of the existence in the bill of the emergency permit which could be applied for by and on the responsibility of the Solicitor General or a provincial attorney general alone. So he is clearly on the side of wanting a judge to be involved. I am quite content to discuss that matter further and reach a conclusion in the committee as we try to come forward with the best possible bill.

However, I would like to say, in answer to the remarks of the right hon. member for Prince Albert, that emergency permits may be necessary. I could say that generally about the need for the police authorities to use these devices in certain circumstances. There may be cases when it will come to the attention of an enforcement agency that there is apt to be soon some major criminal activity. Let us say, for instance, that it comes to their attention that there is a possibility that a significant shipment of heroin is about to be brought into this country. They may know by whom, but they may not know when. They may want to use a device like this, in such circumstances, quickly to determine the "when" in order to stop the import of the drug with all the terrible effects which can flow therefrom.

It may well be that in certain circumstances a judge is not available in time and that the emergency provisions in section 178.15 of the bill should be used. I draw to the attention of hon. members, again, that here too we have put in a political safeguard, not only that the application must be authorized by someone specifically authorized for the purpose by the Solicitor General, or by an attorney general, but there must also be reports upon the uses of such emergency permits so that they will be open to later examination and questioning about the extent to which they have been used.

What we cannot know at this stage is the extent of organized crime, whether it be related to drugs, kidnapping or hijacking, and whether it be national or international in scope, where our enforcement officers may need to have every mechanical device available to them in support of law and order in our society. It is there that I hope members of the committee will seriously consider the obligation to leave it open for our enforcement officers to have such devices as are ordinarily illegal in this country when it is necessary for them to have them in the course of apprehending or detecting serious criminal activity.

The same principle applies, of course, to the major crimes of sabotage and treason. There has been comment about the exact wording of the section referring to subversive activity. I will be very happy to consider that question with hon. members, and the nature of the words which should be in the section in order to provide adequate scope to deal with situations we cannot now foresee and at the same time properly to protect against the abuse of the use of these devices. There is, of course, still the political responsibility, and there too we can look at the question of whether we can strengthen the way in which political control is available if devices are used in that particular area.

Mr. Speaker, hon. members have generally agreed that the subject matter of this bill is important. It goes now to the Standing Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs. I look forward to the resolution there, once again, by hon. members who compose this House of Commons of some of these key issues and the prompt return to the House and passage into law of this very important piece of legislation.

● (2100)

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Is it the pleasure of the House to adopt the said motion?

[Mr. Lang.]

Some hon. Members: On division.

Motion agreed to, bill read the second time and referred to the Standing Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs.

* * *

CANADA WILDLIFE BILL

PROVISION FOR RESEARCH AND CONSERVATION AGREEMENTS, CONTRIBUTIONS TO COSTS AND PURCHASE, ACQUISITION OR LEASE OF LANDS

Hon. Jack Davis (Minister of the Environment) moved that Bill C-131, respecting wildlife in Canada, be read the second time and referred to the Standing Committee on Fisheries and Forestry.

He said: Mr. Speaker, Bill C-131 deals in relatively simple and straightforward terms with a very important subject, the protection and wise management of the wild living resources in this country. We have not had a wildlife act in Canada. We have had several pieces of legislation which have been used to manage our wild living resources reasonably well, but we need more comprehensive legislation to protect endangered species and to permit the federal government to purchase lands and manage the wildlife on those lands in a truly effective manner.

As most hon. members know, the management of most kinds of wildlife is a responsibility of the provincial government. The management of migratory birds is an exception. There is the Migratory Birds Convention Act, for example, which has been used very extensively by the Canada Wildlife Service in order to protect ducks, geese, seagulls, etc. Otherwise, the protection and wise management of wildlife in Canada has either been provincial in nature or as a result of co-operation between the federal government and the provinces, with the federal government frequently providing the research support, equipment, land and management techniques but with provincial law being used almost exclusively—that is, with the exception of the Migratory Birds Convention Act—for the safeguarding of wildlife in general.

Wild living things in many ways may be referred to as our first line of defence against pollution. There are many species of wild living things which are much more vulnerable to toxic substances, exceptional quantities of waste, and so on, than the human animal is, and when we see wildlife being destroyed we get our first inkling that we, as another living species on this planet, may be in trouble. But the protection of wild living things is important for another reason. It must be a determined objective of all levels of government, of all individuals and of all organizations in this country to preserve as much variety in nature as we possibly can. This is one of the several purposes, I would suggest—perhaps the most important purpose—which can be served by a Canada wildlife act such as is envisaged in Bill C-131.

I have mentioned legislation which has been used in the past, such as the Migratory Birds Convention Act. I could also have mentioned the Financial Administration Act. In fact, lands have been purchased, usually outright, by the federal government, or wildlife habitat sometimes have been gifted to the federal government, sometimes pur-

chased by the provinces or purchased co-operatively by the federal government and the provinces. But in the cases where the federal government has purchased these lands, under existing legislation it has not had the power, for example, to forbid private individuals entrance to those lands and obviously to protect certain species, particularly protect those which are now relatively scarce. It is essential, at least at times, to in effect insulate these lands from human activity or guard it from undue exploitation by curious visitors. This shortcoming, this inability under the federal law at least to properly manage lands will be overcome by the passage of this legislation.

There is another important aspect. It is important, I believe, from both the parliamentary point of view and the budgetary point of view. It is preferable to use legislation passed explicitly by this House, such as the Canada wildlife act, in order to defend the raising and spending of public moneys, rather than to use a more general piece of legislation such as the Financial Administration Act. In other words, parliament, should it pass Bill C-131, will give proper, full and explicit authority to the government of the day to spend moneys on, for example, research or demonstration projects, for the purchase of lands upon which wildlife can live and be protected, in which indeed it can be managed an l the populations expanded. In other words, the passage of this bill will give us a clear mandate from parliament to do a number of things which have been done under other legislation, and certain things which we have been unable to do under legislation passed previously.

I have mentioned the jurisdictional problem in many cases in respect of many species of wildlife, which is that the provincial power is paramount. However, provincial administrations usually rely on the Canadian Wildlife Service for advice and frequently look to the federal treasury for financial assistance. They often look to Ottawa for funds for the purchase of lands, not only for the management of bird life including migratory birds but animals and other kinds of wildlife as well.

The provinces are convinced that explicit support from parliament for legislation of this type, legislation which I hope will make additional funds available for the protection of wildlife, is highly desirable. There has been a history of not only co-operation, but in the last decade advocacy on the part of the provinces of a wildlife act at the federal level. Of course, many kinds of wildlife are interrelated in the normal ecological scheme of things. To manage one species in isolation is usually impossible, and of course for this reason a divided jurisdiction between Ottawa and the provinces has been awkward.

● (2110)

Beginning in 1961 at the Resources for Tomorrow Conference, a resolution was passed by the representatives of all levels of government recommending legislation of this kind. The Canadian Council of Resource Ministers in 1965 passed a resolution to the same effect. The bill now before hon. members has been discussed at length with all the provincial administrations responsible for recreation, conversation and protection of wildlife and is endorsed by all ten provincial administrations.

Essentially, this is a bill which, while it permits us to do certain things unilaterally in respect of migratory birds, generally envisages close co-operation with the provinces and in respect to other kinds of wildlife requires the federal government to consult closely with the provinces, and in many instances, unless there is a clear national involvement or concern, to obtain a positive recommendation from the provinces before, for example, buying land on which the management of wildlife can take place, land which is essential for the protection and preservation of a particular species.

There are four major aspects to the bill. The legislation will enable the federal government, (1) to acquire, control and manage lands for migratory bird conservation, interpretation and research. That is a federal responsibility. It will enable the federal government, (2) to acquire, control and manage lands for conservation and interpretation of and research on wildlife species other than migratory birds in co-operation with provincial and territorial governments.

It will enable the federal government, (3) to enter into co-operative arrangements with any province, territory, organization or person for matters of wildlife conservation, interpretation and research, and for the operation of lands and facilities related to wildlife resources, and (4) it will enable it to take any necessary action, in co-operation with provincial and territorial governments, required to protect endangered species of wildlife.

There are a number of species of wild living things in this great half continent of ours which are in serious difficulties. They have been wiped out over large parts of Canada. They include the cougar, the peregrine falcon and the bald eagle in the eastern half of the country, and the California big horn sheep, the whooping crane and the sea otter in the west. The latter which had been wiped out is now, hopefully, being re-established there. The survival of these species in this country is in many ways a matter of national concern and perhaps even a matter of continental and worldwide concern. That is one further reason for including a clause in this bill which relates to endangered species.

The Canadian Wildlife Service has performed many functions, has carried out a great deal of research and has done a great deal of work rehabilitating endangered species. For example, much of the pioneer work in respect of mercury was done by the Canadian Wildlife Service. It was picked up later by the federal fisheries service. The pioneer work done by the Canadian Wildlife Service had a lot to do with heading off a serious mercury problem, both in Canada and in the United States. Not only has the Canadian Wildlife Service carried out a great deal of research but it has published a great deal of informative material. Its personnel are well known. Many of them have international reputations. They have been responsible for a lot of the basic material which has been presented to the public through the media, television and otherwise. This is one of the reason why Canadians, relatively speaking, are well informed about wildlife in this country.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to refer more specifically to the responsibilities of the Canadian Wildlife Service. With the passage of this legislation it will have control of all

wildlife on public lands which have been purchased by or assigned to the government in general and the Department of the Environment in particular. At the request of other federal departments or agencies, the Canadian Wildlife Service will take charge of wildlife research, provide advice, establish facilities, and so on. The wildlife service will continue to act in an advisory capacity to the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development on the national parks, and more particularly will continue in its provincial-type responsibilities in the Northwest Territories and in the Yukon.

Nothing in this legislation should be taken as restricting the rights of our Indian people except on those lands acquired by or assigned to the department by the governor in council. At the request of the Indian people, the Department of the Environment will continue to provide advice and assistance in developing and implementing measures for the wise use of wildlife resources on Indian lands.

Mr. Speaker, this is a short bill. It is a very important bill. I hope it will soon be referred to the standing committee. I know that hon. members will be very interested in many aspects of the Canadian Wildlife Service, in its plans for expansion and indeed in related plans of provincial departments and provincial administrations, plans which are often based on the findings and recommendations of the Canadian Wildlife Service. Our people in the department must be congratulated for the leadership they have shown in this very important field. I trust that this legislation will be passed promptly, because we at the federal level should be showing more leadership in this very important field.

Mr. Barnett: Before the minister concludes his remarks, would he permit me to ask him one question? Could he say a word on the application of this legislation to lands under the administration of the national parks service in respect of the national wildlife resources within the national parks of Canada? So far as I could follow his remarks, he made no reference to that matter in dealing with the various ramifications of this bill with respect to provincial and other agencies.

Mr. Davis: As long as national parks remain under another department, as is the current arrangement under the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, the direct line of responsibility for management must rest with the parks branch and that department. The Canadian Wildlife Service of the Department of the Environment acts in a consultative or advisory role. The opinion of its experts is always sought in respect of scientific aspects of wildlife preservation and management.

● (2120)

In a sense, the territories and the Yukon administrations are in the same position as provincial governments, where the direct responsibility over species of wildlife and migratory birds rests with the provincial type of administration which we have in the Yukon and the territories.

Hon. J. A. MacLean (Malpeque): Mr. Speaker, I think all hon. members appreciate the thinking that has evolved over the years on the question of wildlife, its preservation and relationship to humanity and the web of life. Generally speaking, I believe the House welcomes Bill C-131 which gives a formal federal presence in this very important field of the preservation of endangered species and the control and management of our wildlife resources. I think it is exactly the same as Bill C-191 which was introduced last year and which died on the order paper, but we welcome its reappearance.

As the minister says, the main purpose of the bill is to enable the federal government to carry on what it has been doing under legislation, in a coherent manner with the co-operation of the provinces where that is essential. As the minister said, the care and preservation of wildlife lies primarily within provincial jurisdiction with the exception of migratory birds. In general, the bill is praiseworthy but it needs to be studied in the committee where suitable witnesses can be heard and where the purposes and the methods envisaged can be more carefully explained.

In the past there has been a lack of realization that humanity itself is part of the web of life. Throughout the world in general, even in Canada, we have been experiencing a population explosion of the human species. The balance of nature, if you like, has been upset and the detrimental effect of this imbalance on other species has been accentuated by the fact that the human species is by far the most destructive of the general environment of every species of life there is on this planet, earth.

The destruction of the environment by humans, of course, not only affects humanity's prospects in the future and the quality of life which will be available to it, but it affects other species as well. If any other species suffer extinction this, of course, is detrimental to the quality of life which is available to man. For example, in many areas of the country where certain species of wildlife formerly existed they are no longer found. I think we should not be satisfied with the objective of preventing the extinction in the whole country of the species, but where practical a habitat should be maintained for as many species as possible in as widespread an area of the country as possible.

In my little province of Prince Edward Island many species that were indigenous to the area have been extinct for perhaps a century, such as black bears, bobcats, etc. Unfortunately, in some cases they have been replaced by species introduced by man which are less desirable, such as skunks and racoons which were not native to Prince Edward Island to begin with.

It is not my intention, Mr. Speaker, to take much time on this bill because I think the House generally approves of it. I want to commend the minister on the concept of dealing with the provinces in the case of endangered species. As he said, some species that were unique to Canada have been exterminated—the type of walrus that existed in the Gulf of St. Lawrence at one time, for example, and various types of flightless birds which existed in Newfoundland, and there are endangered species such as the Ipswich sparrow whose only habitat is Sable Island.

It is important to preserve these species unique to Canada, but it is also important to preserve species which are endangered in Canada but which may exist in other places and to try to retain species in danger of becoming extinct in some parts of the country where their continuation might be practical. I must confess that I had a special

thrill four or five years ago, if I may use a personal incident, when I went for a walk in the woods in winter and found the track of an otter. This mammal was thought to be extinct in Prince Edward Island for many, many years but apparently there are a few survivors.

I think it is sad for Canada when we find that there are fewer whooping cranes, for example, in the whole country than there are Liberals in the House of Commons! I think that is unfortunate, if I may mix metaphors on both scores.

Mr. Davis: It sounds like an argument for more Liberals.

Mr. MacLean: No; for more whooping cranes. I want to say a few words about migratory birds. It has long been recognized that due to their habit, migratory birds are the special responsibility of the federal government and come under the international treaty on migratory birds. In the first instance, migratory birds were thought of chiefly as game birds. Then, of course, concern for birds which had little economic value, such as the whooping crane, came into the concept.

However, I think that as far as the future quality of life in many parts of the country is concerned, more consideration should be given to other types of migratory birds whose chief value is the pleasure they give to people living in a given environment. I do not mean just bird watchers, but people who live almost anywhere and enjoy migratory songbirds living in the same environment. In this regard I think there is perhaps a tendency for government, in trying to take action, to say, "We must acquire the habitat; we must have complete and full control over it". There is a place for that sort of approach, of course. However, I think there may also be a place for another concept under which the federal or provincial governments, acting singly or jointly, could procure easements on privately-owned property in cases where that property happens to be a remaining remnant of a suitable habitation for some type of migratory bird.

● (2130)

I know of woodlots in Prince Edward Island, which are small and are being decimated in many cases, which are the habitat of thrushes. I am sure that if those habitats were destroyed, the birds would be destroyed. In a few exceptional cases of this sort thought should be given to arrangements being entered into between owners of private property and governments so that the habitat of the wildlife concerned will not be destroyed. Some small rental might be paid, for instance, for preserving the habitat in its present form, or similar arrangements might be entered into.

Generally, I commend the minister for the bill. It is not a controversial one. I hope it lives up to the expectations that we all have for it. When the bill goes to committee it will be further studied and there will be a further determination of what can be expected of it.

Mr. Randolph Harding (Kootenay West): Mr. Speaker, Bill C-131, an act respecting wildlife in Canada, is legislation which is welcomed by our NDP group and will receive our support on second reading. This legislation is long overdue and will be acceptable to most conservation groups in Canada. Many Canadians are surprised to find that although we have had a Canadian wildlife department for many years, there has never been a Canada wildlife act on our statute books.

Bill C-131 again outlines a major problem facing Canadians in the constitutional field. It clearly shows the trouble we are having in an area where there is mixed jurisdiction. This is probably the main reason for this legislation coming in at such a late date. Wildlife resources are primarily under provincial jurisdiction and, while the federal authorities have been co-operating for years in various undertakings, this legislation will tidy up federal operations and I trust will lead to increasing joint ventures with the provinces in wildlife research and conservation.

The section of the bill dealing with agreements between the federal and the provincial governments also includes possible agreements with municipal authorities, organizations and individuals on wildlife research, conservation and interpretation programs and measures. This is a most important feature of the legislation and could result in real benefit to our wildlife resource if carried out in an imaginative and co-operative manner. It could cover a host of projects both large and small, and be a real vehicle in the conservation fight going on throughout the country.

Another interesting aspect of the legislation is that which deals with public participation in wildlife conservation plans. I feel the success of any measures in the wildlife field will depend largely upon the understanding, co-operation and general knowledge of the Canadian public. The legislation indicates that the minister may undertake, promote or recommend measures for the encouragement of public co-operation in wildlife conservation and interpretation. This dissemination of information to the general public can be brought about by initiating conferences and meetings on the problems facing us in the wildlife field.

The legislation indicates that the minister may undertake programs for wildlife research and investigation and establish and maintain laboratories and other necessary facilities for that purpose. It also indicates that advisory committees may be appointed to advise the department on programs and policy. I feel this is a very important aspect of dealing successfully with wildlife conservation problems and trust that something meaningful will come out of this attempt to actively involve the general public in our over-all conservation plans. There is no doubt about the growing interest of Canadians generally in wildlife conservation, and I am pleased to see that an effort will be made to not only promote the need for wildlife conservation but also to utilize the vast amount of practical knowledge which can be contributed by many Canadians who are experts in this field.

May I again bring to the attention of the minister a suggestion which I have raised many times in the House of Commons. It deals with the setting up of an environmental council which is wholly independent of government. The council would report upon environmental problems throughout the country. It would report, without fear or favour, its findings in the environmental field. It would have adequate research facilities and should be in a position to examine government policies, or lack of them, and

to indicate where changes should be made. It would be able to propose courses of action and outline areas where priority measures were required and where immediate action should be taken. It would, naturally, deal with many aspects of wildlife conservation and could give guidance to government and the general public alike as to the measures and the cost involved to meet the ever increasing challenge to our valuable wildlife resource.

There is another serious problem facing wildlife conservationists not only in Canada but in practically every country in the world. That is the need to protect endangered species. For too many years governments at all levels have neglected to adequately protect the environment until we have reached the stage where a very large number of animals and birds are on the verge of extinction as a result of our activities. The protection of endangered species is a very complex problem. It involves not only man's encroachment on wildlife habitat and his unwise cropping of certain species, but it involves primarily man's activity in the economic field. We have used the air, the land and the water as receptacles for effluents which come from our factories and industries. Massive amounts of pesticides have been used without adequate research being done to know if they could be safely used. As a result there is an increasing number of endangered wildlife species to be found everywhere, and Canada is no exception.

Some steps have been taken to rectify this situation, but far more money must be poured into research than ever before and more stringent measures must be used to enforce strict environmental controls if these endangered species are to survive. Time is of the essence and I suggest to the minister that this is one of the priorities in the wildlife field. Through man's economic activities we are endangering the very existence of a number of species. It must be obvious that man himself is in danger, for we depend upon similar food chains in our environment for continued existence.

Other members of our group, Mr. Speaker, will be dealing with specific aspects of the legislation currently being debated. Before closing I would like to speak briefly about the wildlife service which will be administering this legislation. There are a number of highly qualified individuals in the wildlife service. I trust the passage of this bill will indicate that the minister intends to increase the staff of this service so that it can adequately handle the many problems facing it in various parts of Canada.

I would first draw to the attention of the minister the lack of full and proper ecological studies being carried out in our Canadian Arctic. We are all aware that certains studies are being carried out by various government departments, chiefly in connection with the proposed oil and gas pipelines from the north. While some useful information will certainly come from these studies, most of them are crash programs designed to test the feasibility of pipelines down the Mackenzie valley. Competent biologists feel that we still have no adequate program of publicly-sponsored fundamental research. This type of research is essential as it will determine the baselines of an ecological system and would assist us in predicting what stresses can or cannot be placed upon it.

[Mr. Harding.]

● (2140)

I would point out to the minister that most of the current research is going on in the Mackenzie River valley. There are other areas in the north which have never been touched and where there is great need of environmental research of all types. All Canadians know the increasing economic activity being carried on in the north, and I suggest there should be no further delay by any department of government in getting the basic research started for the whole of our valuable northern territories. It will take many years to complete, but it will assist us to avoid the many mistakes which have already been made in several parts of our Arctic territory.

In the report released just over a year ago by the Environmental Protection Board, a so-called independent body of experts, it was stated that Canada's level of ecological research in the Arctic was abysmally low. Their work was carried on primarily in the Mackenzie River valley where, as I previously stated, a number of environmental surveys have been made or are currently going on. If the environmental and ecological research in that area is classed as abysmally low, then it is obvious that the rest of the north continues to be virtually ignored.

I understand that under the department there is the Canadian Wildlife Service's Arctic ecology unit. It was established primarily to monitor how northern activity affects wildlife and to isolate wildlife areas needing special protection. This Arctic ecology unit was set up in 1970 but up until a year ago at least it was a one-man affair. According to a report made by Pollution Probe, in Toronto, in April of last year the scientist in this unit has been so busy keeping an eye on oil companies and their seismic and drilling operations that he has not had much chance to do any short-term let alone long-range ecological studies.

I remind the minister that the complete unit was originally intended to comprise 12 men, which would be the minimum number required to start a proper research program. These individuals must be highly specialized in order to set up and carry out the type of research which is urgently required by Canada in our Arctic areas. I would ask the minister if any additional staff has been added to the Arctic ecology unit this year, and why he has been so slow in staffing this extremely important research unit. Perhaps, Mr. Speaker, this bill will help to provide the necessary funds for this type of research which is especially required. May I again urge that priority attention be given to this matter.

This research in the Arctic is closely tied in with this wildlife bill. I am fully aware of the conflicting jurisdiction in the north in so far as both the territorial councils and other federal departments are concerned. On a number of occasions I have pointed out and protested the real lack of authority which the Department of the Environment has over environmental affairs as far as the north is concerned. The chief federal administrative body in the north is the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, and there is no doubt that the Department of the Environment plays a very secondary role even where matters of conservation are concerned. I consider this a major weakness in our federal environmental administrative structure. It should be corrected.

The need for additional skilled staff in our Arctic ecology unit might be best illustrated by the greatly increased oil and gas mineral exploration which is going on in our Arctic areas. The program is accelerating and there is increasing urgency for basic ecological research to be carried out and evaluated before immense damage is done to our Arctic ecology.

I believe the following quotation from a paper delivered at the Twentieth Alaska Science Conference in 1969 by R. A. Hemstock, the Arctic co-ordinator for Imperial Oil Ltd., clearly outlines the needs of the oil industry in our Arctic areas as of that date. He said:

> In summary, the 470,000 square miles of potential oil lands in the Canadian Arctic will require for development: (a) Extensive geological reconnaissance; (b) reconnaissance and detailed geophysical surveys for a total of 150,000 miles; (c) drilling of 700-1400 exploratory and 6,000-12,000 development wells for petroleum; (d) construction of 4,000 miles of access roads and 4,000 miles of trunk roads based on northern Canada experience of 1 mile of road per well; (e) construction of 8,000 miles of gathering pipelines and many miles of large trunk lines to market or to marine terminals; (f) construction of camp, town, airfields and sport facilities for an additional population of 10,000 oil workers.

This is only part of the program of northern economic development and I have dealt with it in a very general manner. I trust, however, that the Canada wildlife act will be the instrument by which a federal government can initiate research, not only in Arctic areas but in every part of our country, to ensure that future generations will be able to enjoy the wonderful wildlife resource which nature has given to Canadians in abundance and which it is our duty as legislators to try to protect for future generations. In closing, I intend to support the bill on second reading, as will other members of the New Democratic Party.

Mr. Donald W. Munro (Esquimalt-Saanich): Mr. Speaker, my party has been accused on a number of occasions of not being constructive in respect of legislation. I do not accept that charge. On this occasion I take great pleasure in supporting this bill. I take a personal interest in this bill because in many respects I feel it is the culmination of the life of a member of my family. The chief migratory birds officer for western Canada during the twenties and thirties devoted his life to the objective that this bill is outlining. I spent many summers in his home, where I saw gathering together that collection of species and other variances which on his death James Alexander Munro gave, and which now reposes in the National Museum of Canada at the foot of Metcalfe Street here in Ottawa. Tribute was paid to him in the form of a plaque. I am very pleased to be able to pay tribute in this House to his memory.

● (2150)

There are other features of the bill with which I should like to deal. I have two comments to make, and I shall be brief. I feel that at last, through clauses 3(b) and 3(e) taken together, the federal authority will have the power to eliminate what is sometimes described as an inhumane trap. I do not know quite what the correct word would be; "inhumane" is not exactly the right word unless we go into anthropomorphology. Perhaps "inanimal" would be a more appropriate adjective. I refer to the claw trap which was used during part of our development.

Now, happily, a new type of trap has been developed in connection with the economic management of the wildlife of our country. It is known as the conibear trap and it permits the taking of animals for their fur in a manner which does not injure the animal to the same extent. The old claw trap which we sometimes used when we were younger, when we lived on the prairies, and which we used to trap gophers and other small animals caused excruciating pain and lingering death to these helpless creatures. Man is able to fend for himself, and he does so, but wildlife is not so fortunate in an environment inhabited or frequented by humans. Therefore, as a mark of civilization I feel we should take certain responsibilities upon ourselves.

In many respects the legislation now brought forward will enable the authorities of this country to protect and manage our resources upon the basis of which, let us not forget it, this country developed. Canada developed through the fur trade and we still profit by the fur trade. But let us accept modern developments in the management of that trade. I believe clauses 3(b) and 3(e) will enable federal and provincial authorities to insist that these resources are carefully controlled not only for economic reasons, the value in dollars produced, but because of their environmental impact.

We hear so much these days about the quality of life. Those of us who have time at this time of the year and a little later in the year might be happy to go out in some of the parks around here and see a phenomenon on which our country stands and has stood from its very beginning—the beavers building their dams. This is one of the delights which those of us who have become overurbanized often forget. Let us not destroy such pleasures. Let us remember that they can be preserved.

My other comment concerns clause 9. I suppose this particular clause was aimed at preserving those migratory animals which spend part of the year in Canada, and I am delighted to see that with shrewd judgment it can be used to do even more. I asked a question in the House on April 16 which hon. members will find reported at page 3328 of *Hansard*. It concerned the importation into Canada of the pelts of endangered species from Mexico, Brazil and other exotic lands. It was my understanding that some of these pelts were imported into Canada because of the ease with which they could enter this country due to the nature of our tariff policies and our customs regulations. The minister indicated in his reply that Environment Canada had taken a leading role in international discussions on this subject.

Clause 9 will enable those discussions to be even more fruitful and will help prevent this sort of thing happening. I have seen some of the statistics published in the papers concerning the numbers of pelts brought into this country for reshipment to other countries where they can be made into fancy jackets and fancy long coats. This involves the pelts of species which are endangered in the exotic lands. They are noble creatures whose preservation we must seek, and I am happy to see that facilities to ensure such preservation exist in the legislation before us.

Mr. Knight: Mr. Speaker, may I call it ten o'clock?

Adjournment Debate

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

Mr. Baldwin: Mr. Speaker, I wonder whether there is someone in authority on the government side who can say that in the event of this bill passing reasonably early tomorrow, as I expect it will, we shall still be dealing with the fisheries bill and afterward with the CNR bill as recently announced.

Mr. Lang: That is right, Mr. Speaker.

PROCEEDINGS ON ADJOURNMENT MOTION

A motion to adjourn the House under Standing Order 40 deemed to have been moved.

SOCIAL SECURITY—OLD AGE RECIPIENTS IN NURSING HOMES—SUGGESTED PROTECTION OF PORTION OF PENSIONS AGAINST RISING RATES

Mr. Heath Macquarrie (Hillsborough): Mr. Speaker, on January 29 I addressed a question to the Minister of National Health and Welfare (Mr. Lalonde) concerning the increase in rent imposed upon senior citizens subsequent to, or indeed in some cases prior to the increase in old age security pension payments. The question as it appears in *Hansard* makes reference to a recent proposal from a number of very prestigious deliberative bodies. This is actually an error. What I referred to was a member of a very prestigious body, namely, the Senate of Canada, referred to frequently in this chamber as the other place. This is an expression whose procedural antecedents are difficult to trace.

Since the question was raised by myself and other members of the House we have heard a statement from the Minister of State responsible for housing (Mr. Basford) to the effect that he had disseminated his views to the proprietors of institutions under federal responsibility—I presume directly or indirectly.

There are many institutions across the land, operated by provincial governments, which have in fact received considerable assistance, as far as their construction is concerned, from Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation. It would seem to me that the concern for the kind of practices to which this question refers may properly be expressed by the Government of Canada because of its practical and helpful involvement through CMHC.

I hope the parliamentary secretary or whoever will reply to me tonight will be able to indicate what has been the outcome of representations made by the minister directly responsible for reporting for Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation, and what his own minister has been able to do in the field of moral suasion.

● (2200)

The plight of our senior citizens is a most serious one, Mr. Speaker. Today's shocking statistics on the rapidly accelerating cost of living, particularly in the field of food

[Mr. Knight.]

at home and housing, should cause grave anxiety to anyone who has concern for the welfare and well-being of the senior citizens of Canada. Indeed, the past decade has constituted a painful assault upon the security of the aged, on those on fixed income and certainly on those in the low and middle-income range.

As I pointed out when I spoke at the time of the introduction of the amendment to the Old Age Security Act, we have been literally taking it out on the older people because they have borne, without adequate relief, the debilitating burden of runaway inflation. As I pointed out, had the actual cost of living been added to the old age security pensions from 1963 on, the figure would be slightly less than $107. Therefore, the increase to $100, while certainly better than the addition of 42 cents a month which was considered adequate before October 30, is in fact something a good deal less than a burst of generosity or a real solution to the struggle of our senior citizens to cope with the reality of today's inflated living costs.

I have reason to believe, from correspondence which I have received from all across the country, that they are again being subjected to new hikes in their rent so great as to leave them really no better off than they were before the passage of the amendment to the Old Age Security Act. I had a letter not long ago from a lady living in a provincially-operated senior citizens' home, or unit, who told me that her rent was to be increased, effective in June, from $46 per month to $102. Can you imagine, Mr. Speaker, what this sort of increase will do to the life pattern, the life style of a Canadian who has contributed to this our country for decades and who now seeks to live out her closing years with some degree of security and some relief from the anxiety of financial burdens!

It is a sad commentary on our present-day government that while its spokesman in this field, the Minister of National Health and Welfare, can talk of programs of a long-range nature—three, four and five years—the same minister can have such difficulty in grappling with the immediate needs of our senior citizens. The same, indeed, could be said about those who are not senior citizens. What a help it would be if the new family allowance legislation proposal could be put into legislation immediately and a contribution thereby given to many of our people with families who just cannot provide the basic needs of food and shelter for their children. But the earliest on this from the government seems to be January 1, 1974.

The latest figures of the cost of living index have already eroded the increase which the senior citizens received in their April cheques. Something must be done about this. We cannot continue to allow these people to be victimized. A way must be found to protect the senior citizens of this country from further threats to their economic and financial security.

We now use the expression "old age security". Once it was called an old age pension. The newer expression is more euphoneous and perhaps more pleasing. But there is not much security involved if, when the present government provides even a meagre increase—and the most recent pension increase was a meagre one—somebody else immediately takes away the benefit of that increase which the Parliament of Canada voted. This is a shameful, dis-

turbing, distressing, unpleasant and unnecessary situation. I would suggest that careful thought be given to this matter and that in this day of gnawing, nagging, terrible increases in the cost of living a way be found to translate the concern of this House—I trust the House is concerned—into meaningful action to protect such security as our older citizens have the right to expect.

Mr. J.-Roland Comtois (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Finance): Mr. Speaker, the Minister of National Health and Welfare (Mr. Lalonde) and the members of this House share the hon. member's concern for the pensioner in this situation, though the rising cost of living presents problems to persons on limited incomes whether or not they are in nursing homes. The federal government has actively encouraged the provinces and has provided financial support under the Canada Assistance Plan to supplement the incomes of pensioners and others who are unable to maintain themselves in relation to their needs.

Under CAP agreements, all provinces provide financial assistance to residents of nursing homes and other types of homes for special care as required to meet their individual costs of maintenance. Federal contributions for this purpose exceed $150 million annually. Other provisions of the agreement concern the shared-cost comforts allowance which the resident may spend as he wishes, as it need not be applied to the regular cost of care.

We must remember that prior to federal cost-sharing many welfare institutions had no comforts allowances. It is encouraging to find more of them now. An approach used by two provinces to date is to cover specified health care costs in nursing homes under provincial health insurance. The resident then pays only a fixed portion of the cost toward the residential cost. Such costs are within the capability of most OAS pensioners and do not fluctuate automatically each time the pension is increased.

The hon. member should know that Ontario has just raised the basic rate from $3.50 per day to $4.00 per day in spite of the federal government's expressed wish that the rate not be increased at the time the pension was increased to $100. The Minister of State for Urban Affairs (Mr. Basford) instructed the authorities in homes under the jurisdiction of CMHC that no such raises would be approved. Finally, it does not appear to be a situation where federal legislation is appropriate, as the matter is clearly under provincial jurisdiction.

VETERANS AFFAIRS—INQUIRY AS TO LEGISLATION TO INCREASE BASIC RATE OF DISABILITY PENSION

Mr. Stanley Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, the Minister of Veterans Affairs (Mr. MacDonald) in the few months he has been in his portfolio has established a good record and has won the confidence of all of us in this House who are interested in the welfare of our veterans. He has to his credit the piloting through this House of a bill to amend the War Veterans Allowance Act. He also has to his credit the fact that he has made clear to the members of the Standing Committee on Veterans Affairs that he supports the report of the joint study group on the basic rate of the war disability pension.

However, Sir, I confess I am beginning to feel a bit of concern over the time it is taking for the minister to bring to this House a bill to amend the Pension Act to implement the report of that joint study group. I therefore use this "late show" period tonight to raise the matter, not to heap criticism on the minister's head but to let him know that he has the support of this entire House with regard to this matter and also to let him know that we want him to persuade his cabinet colleagues to let him bring in that bill without further delay.

The fact is that on Tuesday, January 9, as recorded in *Hansard* at pages 88 and 89, the minister said that the report of the joint study group would soon be referred to the Standing Committee on Veterans Affairs. He kept his word. This was done on Thursday, February 15, as recorded at page 1322 of *Hansard.*

• (2210)

On Friday, February 23, as reported in *Hansard* at page 1585, the standing committee reported back to the House indicating its endorsation of the recommendation in the report of the joint study group. In the meantime, on Monday, February 19, as recorded in *Hansard* at page 1432, the Minister of Finance (Mr. Turner) had indicated that the government was simply waiting, so far as war disability pensions were concerned, for the report of the Standing Committee on Veterans Affairs.

On Friday, March 16, as recorded in *Hansard* at page 2298, the minister assured me that the legislation would be forthcoming soon. When Wednesday, April 4, came along and it still had not appeared I asked him again, as recorded in *Hansard* at page 2968, whether we might expect it soon and in particular whether he would try to get it before us before Easter. The minister said that he would try to do so.

However, yesterday, with the Easter recess now over, I questioned the minister again and to my regret he was not able to make quite such a positive statement as to when this bill might come in. If the delay is because the minister is having trouble getting his cabinet colleagues to agree to a recommendation that calls for the basic rate to be tied to certain categories within the public service, I am prepared for him to take a little longer to win that principle. What we do not want is for him to bring in just a dollar figure that leaves unresolved the matter that veterans have been fighting for for 50 years.

This is an extremely important matter. I know the minister's heart and mind are in the right place, and if the trouble he is having is inside that cabinet I hope he can let his fellow ministers know that this House is on his side. Indeed, I ask him to draw the cabinet's attention to an editorial in the May issue of *The Legion*, the monthly magazine of the Royal Canadian Legion, entitled "Keeping the Faith". The first part of the editorial commends the minister, the government and the opposition on what was done with respect to improvements in the War Veterans Allowance Act. But then the editorial says this:

> We hope the government will soon give evidence of its awareness of a similar responsibility to Canada's war disability pensioners by the establishment of a basic rate tied to an index of salary schedules for unskilled workers in the public service. The joint study group report recommending such a basic rate of pension has been given unanimous approval by the parliamentary committee

on veterans affairs and now awaits action by the government in the form of a bill amending the Pension Act. In the past, increases in disability pension rates were nearly always announced simultaneously with increases in war veterans allowances. Consequently disability pensioners are getting concerned about the lack of any announcement of the government's intentions, particularly since their pensions are based on a very special relationship which exists where the individual has served his country and in return was given assurance that compensation would be paid.

I am sure that the sentiment of that paragraph reflects the thinking of the House. I am sure, also, it reflects the thinking of the minister. It is an excellent report that was produced by the joint study group. The Standing Committee on Veterans Affairs was behind it 100 per cent and so is this House. But I hope the minister will soon be able to say that he has won the battle of his life with the cabinet and that he will be able to bring in a bill that relates the basic rate of the war disability pension to selected salary schedules in the public service so that war disability pensioners in the future will not, as they have over the years, slid behind year after year. The minister has our full support and we hope he will give us the right answer soon.

Hon. Daniel J. MacDonald (Minister of Veterans Affairs): Mr. Speaker, hon. members will, of course, not expect me to make any announcement of new policy at this time. I would, however, remind the House that the report on basic rates of pensions was prepared by a joint working group comprised of government officials and of representatives of veterans' organizations. The government has the whole subject under active consideration, and I have already indicated that I shall be happy to inform the House in further detail when I am in a position to do so. I expect this to be quite soon.

I should emphasize that the government has been keeping the Pensions Act, like other items of the veterans' charter, under regular review. Two years ago the government introduced and parliament enacted amendments which were the result of the most thorough review of the Pension Act in the past 50 years.

Just last year at about this time the government introduced budget measures which provided for the automatic increase of pensions in line with changes in the cost of living. Pursuant to this legislation, pensions were increased by 3.6 per cent effective January 1 of this year. A further automatic increase can be expected next January. It will therefore be clear that the government has continued to recognize and fulfil its responsibility under the veterans' charter and I assure the House that we will continue to do so.

HEALTH—STATUS OF NEGOTIATIONS WITH PROVINCES ON PROVISION OF CHRONIC CARE IN NURSING HOMES

Mr. P. B. Rynard (Simcoe North): Mr. Speaker, I rise to speak of the need for chronic care nursing homes and on the necessity for people who have to go to those homes to be included under OHIP the same as if they went to acute treatment beds in hospital. A witch hunt is being made for someone to blame for rising health costs. There is negligence at both levels of government in not seeing that beds for the chronically ill are available. My sympathy has always gone out to the ill, many of them decrepit, mentally depressed and unable to help themselves. It is for this reason that I am not impressed with the fencing of the Minister of National Health and Welfare (Mr. Lalonde) and his provincial counterparts. It is surely the responsibility of the federal government to see that health care is universal across Canada.

[Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre).]

That health care costs are getting out of control needs no comment; it is a fact. Citadels of medical teaching and training continue to accord a low priority to the dire need for education in this field. The increased care in and the mounting costs of general hospitals make it imperative for chronic disease hospitals to cope with many complex problems. There should be established fellowship training programs in geriatric medicine, all in the setting of a chronic disease hospital.

How do we reduce the length of stay in hospital? The first thing is to keep people out of hospital. This means that we must have proper facilities in chronic care nursing homes so that patients can be discharged from hospital. Bottlenecks are occurring in hospitals. In my own hospital, bottlenecks are occurring now where people have applied for chronic nursing home care but are still waiting.

Who is going to build the needed chronic care nursing homes? Surely it is the responsibility of the federal government and provincial governments to see that funds are available for private organizations to build them. This should be part of the medicare program and should be shared equally with the federal government.

We can reduce the length of hospital stay by practising preventive medicine and preventing long, disabling illness by treating it before it becomes firmly established. This means that we must have sufficient doctors to do general practice and enough to practice preventive medicine before the illness becomes either acute, or results in a hospital case.

Many people today who are going to the emergency departments of hospitals could in many cases be treated in doctor's offices. Probably only 25 per cent of those appearing in the emergency wards of hospitals today need that type of treatment. The rest could be equally well treated in doctors' offices. To do this it is necessary to obtain an adequate supply of doctors. Medical schools should be operated so that a doctor is graduated in four years instead of six years, which would reduce the overhead costs of graduating a doctor and have him earning money and paying income taxes approximately two years before he would with the horse and buggy course that most medical schools are following today and which are getting us into trouble.

• (2220)

McMaster University now graduates a doctor in three years and other schools in five years, but most in six years. The cost per doctor across Canada varies in many cases. Surely the grants from the federal government should be made specifically on a per capita basis in relation to the number of doctors graduated at the school. This would lead to far more efficiency. Reducing the time of the course would allow a doctor to be in practice two years earlier. It seems to me that a doctor could be given an interim certificate for a period of three to five years and

then sent to areas where a doctor is needed for general practice, which would cover a lot of regions in desperate need of doctors.

An incentive could be given to the doctor who goes into these areas by an income tax reduction or other means. You would then have a doctor with far more experience in general practice and of much more value if he became a specialist. He could make up his mind whether he would be a general practitioner and/or a specialist and, faced with these facts, would make a better choice.

Getting people out of hospital is simply one way in which extended care should be available to all patients capable of being discharged and the long wait by chronically ill patients for the necessary accommodation to become available would be reduced. This should be paid for on the same basis exactly as acute care. Both of these points are essential—to get people out of hospital and give them adequate care, and increase the availability of beds when they are ready to be discharged from active treatment hospital beds.

Mr. Speaker, the cost of chronic care or extended care is approximately one-quarter the cost of acute care in a hospital, of which one-quarter is paid by the old age pensions in a chronic care home. This will indicate the necessity of grappling with this problem and solving it in Canada. Surely it is not an insurmountable problem. It is very unfair for the minister and his provincial counterparts to be hunting all over for somebody to lay the blame on, when it is very simple: first you try to get them into hospital for adequate medical care; second, get them discharged as quickly as possible and have chronic care beds waiting. Hospitalization should cover both. Hospitalization and chronic care would cost roughly 25 per cent of what acute care costs. Surely there is a tremendous saving there and this parliament should see that it is done.

Mr. J.-Roland Comtois (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Finance): Mr. Speaker, the hon. member knows that a federal-provincial conference is being held today to arrive at such an agreement concerning health care costs and cost-sharing. He must know also that it is generally accepted that we must combat the rise in these costs.

A new financing formula was proposed to the provinces in January, and again today, under which payments are to be made on a per capita basis. The annual increase in costs are to be held down to the same level as the yearly GNP increase, rather than the present 13 per cent rate. This new agreement presents a change in emphasis, more toward a global budgeting concept, leaving the provinces the flexibility to decide how to apportion the funds according to the needs of their population. It is understood that basic standards of comprehensiveness, accessibility, universality and portability would have to be maintained.

I should like to add that preventive medicine is already a stated priority of the federal government. Emphasis, on the fitness side, of the Department of National Health and Welfare and the tripling of the fitness and sport budget in the next three years demonstrate this. Also, fitness, sport and recreation have been transferred to the health side of the department, echoing this change in emphasis.

We all share the hon. member's concern about the escalation in costs. We also realize that expensive hospital beds are not the solution. Finally, we hope for agreement from today's conference because the situation warrants immediate action by the federal government and also by the provincial governments.

Motion agreed to and the House adjourned at 10.28 p.m.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Wednesday, May 9, 1973

The House met at 2 p.m.

[*Translation*]

ELECTORAL BOUNDARIES READJUSTMENT ACT

TABLING OF REPORT OF COMMISSION FOR PROVINCE OF NEW BRUNSWICK

Mr. Speaker: It is my duty, pursuant to Section 19 of the Electoral Boundaries Readjustment Act, Chapter E-2, Revised Statutes of Canada 1970, to lay upon the table of the House a certified copy of the report of the electoral boundaries commission for the province of New Brunswick 1973.

[*English*]

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

INDIAN AFFAIRS AND NORTHERN DEVELOPMENT

CONCURRENCE IN SECOND REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

On the order: Motions:

April 4, 1973—Mr. Howard—The following proposed motion:—That the Second Report of the Standing Committee on Indian Affairs and Northern Development, presented to the House on April 4, 1973, be concurred in.

Mr. Speaker: Stand.

Mr. Howard: Mr. Speaker, if I could get unanimous consent to move this motion with the understanding that there would be no debate, I think it would be lovely for parliament to express itself on this matter.

Mr. Speaker: Stand.

Motion stands.

* * *

FINANCE

TABLING OF FEDERAL POSITION ON CONTROL OF EXPENSES OF HEALTH SERVICES AND POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION PRESENTED TO CONFERENCE WITH PROVINCIAL MINISTERS

Hon. John N. Turner (Minister of Finance): Mr. Speaker, under the appropriate Standing Order of the House I wish to table, in English and French, the federal position taken at the conference yesterday relating to the control of expenses of health services and post-secondary education.

[*Later:*]

Mr. Baldwin: Mr. Speaker, my point of order is in connection with the documents tabled earlier by the Minister of Finance. I wonder if I could ask the House at this time if it would be willing to have these documents printed as an appendix to today's *Hansard*. I assume they are brief, having in mind the nature of the proceedings.

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

[*Editor's Note: For text of documents referred to above, see Appendix A*]

QUESTIONS ON THE ORDER PAPER

(Questions answered orally are indicated by an asterisk.)

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE PUBLICITY EXPENDITURES

Question No. 68—**Mr. Nystrom:**

1. What were the amounts of money spent by the Department of Justice on publicity and/or information in each of the fiscal years 1968-69, 1969-70, 1970-71, 1971-72?

2. What were the names and addresses of firms or individuals who received these contracts, what amounts of money were spent in each case and what was the purpose of each contract?

3. What contracts for publicity and/or information were awarded in the current fiscal year, what are the names and addresses of contractees, what are the amounts of money involved in each case and what is the purpose of each contract?

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Justice): 1. 1968-69, $5,150.00; 1969-70, $5,200.00; 1970-71, $5,440.00; 1971-72, $15,429.60.

2. McConnell, Stevenson & Kellogg Ltd., 2015 Peel Street, Montreal, Quebec, $5,500, assisting the Department of Justice and Information Canada in publicity and information matters with respect to the National Conference on the Law during 1971-72. Balance not contracted. Design, printing and distribution done by Federal Government departments.

3. No contracts were let to firms outside the government. Internal printing of press releases will be approximately $3,846 and a booklet "Justice in the North" will cost about $1,785 for a total of $5,631.

Order Paper Questions

MACHINERY REMISSION PROGRAM

Question No. 171—**Mr. Rodriguez:**

1. What were the names of corporations which received subsidies under the Machinery Remission Program (MACH) in each of the fiscal years 1968-69, 1969-70, 1970-71, 1971-72, 1972-73 to date, and what were the amounts of money remitted in each case?

2. What are the objectives of the above Program?

3. Has the department conducted any evaluative study of the Program and, if so, what was the date of the latest report?

Mr. Herb Breau (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): 1. There are no subsidies granted under the Machinery Program (MACH) as this is a tariff remission program. The Machinery and Equipment Advisory Board receives approximately 18,000 applications for remission of duty annually and it would not be practical to list individually all the approved applications. However, each year the Public Accounts includes a listing of the numbers of the Orders-in-Council which approved remissions under the program, together with the total amount actually remitted under each remission order.

2. The Machinery Program came into effect on January 1, 1968, along with other changes in Canadian tariffs arising from the Kennedy Round. Under the program the duty otherwise payable on machines, accessories, attachments, control equipment, tools and components imported under Tariff Item 42700-1, may be remitted if such goods are not available from production in Canada. In the budget of June 18, 1971, the provisions of the Machinery Program were extended to importations under Tariff Item 41100-1 covering machinery for use in sawmills and logging. The objective of the program is to increase efficiency throughout Canadian industry by enabling machinery users to acquire advanced equipment at the lowest possible cost, while at the same time affording Canadian machinery producers tariff protection on what they manufacture. In addition, Canadian machinery producers are protected by a single statutory rate of duty which applies immediately when they are in a position to supply.

3. Each year, a report of the results of the Machinery Program is published and distributed to manufacturers and users of machinery. The report covers imports of machinery not available from Canadian production, on which duty has been remitted, and which could represent new manufacturing opportunities. It provides a breakdown of the types of machinery being imported, their value and country of origin. The latest report covers imports of machinery during the year 1971.

DURHAM COUNTY—NAMES OF LAWYERS WHO PERFORMED SERVICES FOR JUSTICE DEPARTMENT, 1972

Question No. 673—**Mr. Lawrence:**

What were the names and addresses of all lawyers and law firms in the County of Durham, in the Province of Ontario, who performed services for the Department of Justice during 1972 and what was the total amount of money paid to each one?

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Justice): The following lawyers and law firms in the county of Durham, Ontario, acted as agents of the Attorney General of Canada on behalf of client departments in 1972: Bonneville, Fitzgibbon & Good, 11 Mill St. N., Port Hope, $1,368.61; Fitzgibbon, C.D., 11 Mill St. N., Port Hope, $3,520.00; Honey, Brooks & Harrison, 114, Walton St., Port Hope, $1,597.95; Lovekin, E. R., Box 9, Commercial Bldg., Newcastle, $570.00.

DURHAM COUNTY—NAMES OF LAWYERS WHO PERFORMED SERVICES FOR JUSTICE DEPARTMENT, 1971

Question No. 674—**Mr. Lawrence:**

What were the names and addresses of all lawyers and law firms in the County of Durham, in the Province of Ontario, who performed services for the Department of Justice during 1971, and what was the total amount of money paid to each one?

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Justice): The following lawyers and law firms in the county of Durham, Ontario acted as agents of the Attorney General of Canada on behalf of client departments in 1971: Bonneville, Fitzgibbon & Good, 11 Mill St. N., Port Hope, $1,262.30; Fitzgibbon, C.D., 11 Mill St. N., Port Hope, $3,636.35; Honey, Brooks & Harrison 114 Walton St., Port Hope, $1,866.90; Lovekin, E.R., Box 9, Commercial Bldg., Newcastle, $1,172.95.

NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY—NAMES OF LAWYERS WHO PERFORMED SERVICES FOR JUSTICE DEPARTMENT, 1972

Question No. 675—**Mr. Lawrence:**

What were the names and addresses of all lawyers and law firms in the County of Northumberland, in the Province of Ontario, who performed services for the Department of Justice during 1972, and what was the total amount of money paid to each one?

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Justice): The following lawyers and law firms in the county of Northumberland, Ontario, acted as agents of the Attorney General of Canada on behalf of client departments in 1972: Clarke, James H., 39 King St. E., Cobourg, $433.50; Funnell, John P., 20 King St. W., Cobourg, $347.10; MacDonald, G. H., 304 Division St., Cobourg, $293.57; McCullagh, Mrs. D. A., Q.C., 20 King St. W., Cobourg, $5,402.05.

NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY—NAMES OF LAWYERS WHO PERFORMED SERVICES FOR JUSTICE DEPARTMENT, 1971

Question No. 676—**Mr. Lawrence:**

What were the names and addresses of all lawyers and law firms in the County of Northumberland, in the Province of Ontario, who performed services for the Department of Justice during 1971, and what was the total amount of money paid to each one?

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Justice): The following lawyers and law firms in the county of Northumberland, Ontario, acted as agents of the Attorney General of Canada on behalf of client departments in 1971: Clarke, James H., 92 King St. E., Cobourg, $301.00; Funnell, John P., 20 King St. W., Cobourg, $1,330.00; McCullagh, Mrs. D. A., Q.C. 20 King St. W., Cobourg, $6,963.25.

IMMIGRATION APPEAL BOARD—NUMBER OF PERSONS ON VISITORS' PERMITS

Question No. 758—**Mr. Paproski:**

1. How many persons in Canada on visitors' permits were ordered to return to their country of origin as of January 1, 1973?

2. How many cases are now waiting to be heard by the Immigration Appeal Board?

3. What is the current waiting period for the hearing of an appeal from deportation or other immigration ruling?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. While no precise figures are available, it is estimated that during the calendar year 1972, 4,000 persons in Canada on a temporary basis were ordered deported.

2. As of December 31, 1972, 11,875.

3. For appeals being heard now the waiting period is from two weeks to three years. For appeals being filed now the waiting period would be considerably longer.

STUDY OF DREE OPERATION

Question No. 970—**Mr. Howie:**

Is a study of the operation of the Department of Regional Economic Expansion now in progress and, if so (a) what is the purpose of this study (b) is it being conducted by any persons outside the Department (c) how much money was paid to outside personnel in this connection, and to whom was it paid?

Mr. Marcel Prud'homme (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Regional Economic Expansion): There is no study of the "operation" of the Department of Regional Economic Expansion in progress. As announced some time ago, there is in progress a review of policies and programs and steps are being taken to further decentralize the organization of the department.

TRUCK SUFFERANCE WAREHOUSE

Question No. 988—**Mr. Reynolds:**

1. Has Thomas Lindsay Ltd. applied for authority to open a 3B Truck Sufferance Warehouse in Richmond, British Columbia and, if so, was this request refused and on what grounds?

2. Is United Truck Terminals the only 3B Truck Sufferance Warehouse in the Vancouver, Burnaby, Richmond, Delta area?

3. Who are the owners of United Truck Terminals?

4. Has United Truck Terminals applied for permission to raise their storage rates and (a) if so, by how much (b) if not, do they need such authority to raise their rates (c) does the government approve such control?

5. What is the National Harbours Board charge for space as Rail Sufferance?

Mr. John M. Reid (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): I am informed by the Department of National Revenue and the Ministry of Transport as follows: 1. Yes. Application was refused on the basis of existing department policy of one Highway Sufferance Warehouse per Customs Port but applicant was advised that the question of a second Highway Sufferance Warehouse in the Vancouver area is under review.

2. Yes.

3. Records of the Department of National Revenue do not contain this information.

4. No. (a) N/A; (b) No; (c) No. There is no authority in any existing law for the Government to approve changes in rates charged by operators of Sufferance Warehouses.

5. The National Harbours Board is not involved in Rail Sufferance.

LIP GRANTS

Question No. 1,180—**Mr. Kempling:**

1. What non-profit corporations, incorporated under Division III of Quebec Corporations Act, have received LIP grants and what is the size of the grants involved?

2. What are the dates of their incorporation under the above Act?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): This information is not available in the records of the Local Initiatives Program.

OWNERSHIP OF FUNERAL PARLOURS

Question No. 1,199—**Mr. Towers:**

To the knowledge of the government, how many funeral parlours in Canada are controlled by (a) United States-based firms (b) firms based in countries other than the United States?

Hon. Herb Gray (Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs): Information in the office of the Director of Investigation and Research, Combines Investigation Act, indicates that there are 40 funeral parlours in Canada controlled by two United States-based firms, one with 14 and the other with 26 funeral parlours in Canada. There is no record of any other foreign-controlled funeral parlours in Canada. This information, however, is not regarded as exhaustive.

NATIONAL MUSEUMS POLICY—PARTICIPATION OF MANITOBA MUSEUMS

Question No. 1,206—**Mr. Rowland:**

1. How much money is available to Canadian museums under the terms of the National Museums Policy announced on March 28, 1972?

2. How many Manitoba museums have made application to participate in the program?

3. How much money was involved in the submissions made by Manitoba museums?

4. How many applications have been approved?

5. What is the total amount of money now approved for disbursement to Manitoba museums under the terms of the policy?

6. (a) In the case of submissions approved, what has been the average amount of time between the receipt of the submission and its approval (b) what has been the average amount of time between the approval of the submission and the receipt of the money requested by the applicants?

7. What is the average amount of time that the submissions not yet disposed of have been under consideration?

Hon. James Hugh Faulkner (Secretary of State): I am informed by the National Museums of Canada as follows: 1. $8,100,000 in 1972-73.

2. Thirty-two.

3. $1,229,047.02.

4. Thirteen.

5. $629,360.

6. (a) Two to four months; (b) One to two weeks.

7. Two months.

APPLICATION FOR GRANT UNDER LIP CONCERNING PROJECT H-2308

Question No. 1,222—**Mr. Beaudoin:**

1. On what date did the government receive an application for a grant under LIP concerning project No. H-2308?

2. On what date was the application either approved or refused?

3. What were the reasons set forth by the government for its refusal or approval of said project?

4. If the project was accepted, what was the amount granted by the government to finance it?

5. How many jobs were created by the implementation of this project?

[*Translation*]

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. November 17, 1972.

2. Approved on December 12, 1972.

3. This project was one that best combined the dual objectives of job creation and a realistic and identifiable contribution to community betterment.

4. $44,109.

5. Three hundred and seventy-seven man-weeks of employment.

[*English*]

APPLICATION FOR GRANT UNDER LIP CONCERNING PROJECT H-2084

Question No. 1,225—**Mr. Beaudoin:**

1. On what date did the government receive and application for a grant under LIP concerning project No. H-2084?

2. On what date was the application either approved or refused?

3. What were the reasons set forth by the government for its refusal or approval of said project?

4. If the project was accepted, what was the amount granted by the government to finance it?

5. How many jobs were created by the implementation of this project?

[*Translation*]

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. November 15, 1972.

2. Approved on December 13, 1972.

3. This project was one that best combined the dual objectives of job creation and a realistic and identifiable contribution to community betterment.

4. $33,384.

5. Three hundred and twelve man-weeks of employment.

[Mr. Faulkner.]

[*English*]

APPLICATION FOR GRANT UNDER LIP CONCERNING PROJECT H-6439

Question No. 1,238—**Mr. Beaudoin:**

1. On what date did the government receive an application for a grant under LIP concerning project No. H-6439?

2. On what date was the application either approved or refused?

3. What were the reasons set forth by the government for its refusal or approval of said project?

4. If the project was accepted, what was the amount granted by the government to finance it?

5. How many jobs were created by the implementation of this project?

[*Translation*]

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. January 16, 1973.

2. Approved on February 13, 1973.

3. One of those projects that best combine the dual objectives of job creation and a realistic and identifiable contribution to community betterment.

4. $9,857.

5. Eighty-six man-weeks.

[*English*]

APPLICATION FOR GRANT UNDER LIP CONCERNING PROJECT H-3270

Question No. 1,332—**Mr. Allard:**

1. On what date did the government receive an application for a grant under LIP concerning project No. H-3270?

2. On what date was the application either approved or refused?

3. What were the reasons set forth by the government for its refusal or approval of said project?

4. If the project was accepted, what was the amount granted by the government to finance it?

5. How many jobs were created by the implementation of this project?

[*Translation*]

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. November 29, 1972.

2. Rejected on January 12, 1973.

3. The department received a far greater number of applications than funds were available for. All applications were carefully assessed and many difficult decisions not to approve had to be made.

4. N/A.

5. N/A.

[*English*]

APPLICATION FOR GRANT UNDER LIP CONCERNING PROJECT H-3411

Question No. 1,334—**Mr. Allard:**

1. On what date did the government receive an application for a grant under LIP concerning project No. H-3411?

2. On what date was the application either approved or refused?

3. What were the reasons set forth by the government for its refusal or approval of said project?

4. If the project was accepted, what was the amount granted by the government to finance it?

5. How many jobs were created by the implementation of this project?

[*Translation*]

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. November 27, 1972.

2. Rejected on February 19, 1973.

3. The department received a far greater number of applications than funds were available for. All applications were carefully assessed and many difficult decisions not to approve had to be made.

4. N/A.

5. N/A.

[*English*]

APPLICATION FOR GRANT UNDER LIP CONCERNING PROJECT H-3728

Question No. 1,336—**Mr. Allard:**

1. On what date did the government receive an application for a grant under LIP concerning project No. H-3728?

2. On what date was the application either approved or refused?

3. What were the reasons set forth by the government for its refusal or approval of said project?

4. If the project was accepted, what was the amount granted by the government to finance it?

5. How many jobs were created by the implementation of this project?

[*Translation*]

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. December 5, 1972.

2. Rejected on February 14, 1973.

3. The department received a far greater number of applications than funds were available for. All applications were carefully assessed and many difficult decisions not to approve had to be made.

4. N/A.

5. N/A.

[*English*]

APPLICATION FOR GRANT UNDER LIP CONCERNING PROJECT H-3741

Question No. 1,339—**Mr. Allard:**

1. On what date did the government receive an application for a grant under LIP concerning project No. H-3741?

2. On what date was the application approved or refused?

3. What were the reasons set forth by the government for its refusal or approval of said project?

4. If the project was accepted, what was the amount granted by the government to finance it?

5. How many jobs were created by the implementation of this project?

[*Translation*]

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. November 24, 1972.

2. Rejected on February 16, 1973.

3. The department received a far greater number of applications than funds were available for. All applications were carefully assessed and many difficult decisions not to approve had to be made.

4. N/A.

5. N/A.

[*English*]

APPLICATION FOR GRANT UNDER LIP CONCERNING PROJECT H-3764

Question No. 1,341—**Mr. Allard:**

1. On what date did the government receive an application for a grant under LIP concerning project No. H-3764?

2. On what date was the application either approved or refused?

3. What were the reasons set forth by the government for its refusal or approval of said project?

4. If the project was accepted, what was the amount granted by the government to finance it?

5. How many jobs were created by the implementation of this project?

[*Translation*]

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. December 6, 1972.

2. Rejected on January 10, 1973.

3. The department received a far greater number of applications than funds were available for. All applications were carefully assessed and many difficult decisions not to approve had to be made.

4. N/A.

5. N/A.

[*English*]

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION—NUMBER OF FULL-TIME EMPLOYEES, 1970

Question No. 1,449—**Mr. Knight:**

1. How many full-time employees were there as of January 31, 1970 in the Public Service Commission?

2. How many of those employees were earning more than $15,000 annually, distributed according to $1,000 intervals?

3. How many full-time employees were there as of January 31, 1973 in the Public Service Commission?

4. How many of those employees were earning more than $18,000 annually, distributed according to $1,000 intervals?

Hon. James Hugh Faulkner (Secretary of State): I am informed by the Public Service Commission as follows: 1. One thousand four hundred and thirty-four full-time employees.

2. $15,000 to $15,999, 47; $16,000 to $16,999, 29; $17,000 to $17,999, 19; $18,000 to $18,999, 6; $19,000 to $19,999, 14; $20,000 to $20,999, 5; $21,000 to $21,999, 10; $22,000 to $22,999, 7; $23,000 to $23,999, 3; $24,000 to $24,999, nil; $25,000 to

$25,999, 1; $26,000 to $26,999, nil; $27,000 to $27,999, nil; *$28,000 to $28,999, 1.

3. Two thousand three hundred and five full-time employees.

4. $18,000 to $18,999, 56; $19,000 to $19,999, 30; $20,000 to $20,999, 28; $21,000 to $21,999, 13; $22,000 to $22,999, 22; $23,000 to $23,999, 14; $24,000 to $24,999, 10; $25,000 to $25,999, 7; $26,000 to $26,999, 1; $27,000 to $27,999, 1; *$28,000 to $35,000, 7.

———

*Not separated to $1,000 intervals in order to protect privacy of salary information in accordance with T.B. Circular 1969-206.

BILLS DRAWN UP IN 28th PARLIAMENT

Question No. 1,480—**Mr. Matte:**

1. How many bills were initially conceived and drawn up in French in the last Parliament (28th)?

2. How many bills were introduced by the government and how many were translated from English to French?

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Justice): 1 and 2. The Department of Justice has no information regarding the language in which the 252 bills that were introduced by the government in the twenty-eighth Parliament were initially conceived. However, the practice has been for the original draft of a bill to be prepared in the first instance in English, after which a French version of the draft would be prepared for consideration by the legal officers in the French-speaking unit of the Legislation Section. Both drafts would then be considered from the point of view of their implications in relation to the civil law, and from the point of view of whether each version corresponded with the other version accurately. In numerous cases following the consideration of a draft by members of the French-speaking unit of the Legislation Section and following consultation with the English-speaking members, changes were made in the draft, either in the French or the English version, or in both versions. After these changes were made, a final draft bill in fully bilingual form was prepared for review by the Cabinet.

USE OF FIREARMS IN CRIMES OTHER THAN MURDER

Question No. 1,483—**Mr. Hueglin:**

1. How many cases came before the courts in 1968, 1969, 1970, 1971, 1972 which involved the use of firearms in crimes other than murder?

2. Of the total number of charges laid, how many of those charged were found guilty of the crimes in question and what was the average sentence for use of firearms in commission of a crime other than murder during the same years?

Mr. Herb Breau (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): Statistics Canada reports that: Statistics Canada does not collect data on the use of firearms in the commission of other criminal offences, by type of offence unless the use of the firearm was the most serious offence. When several offences are committed by a person, police departments only report the most serious offence committed in each incident. For example, if a person is arrested for breaking and entering and is carrying an offensive weapon, only the breaking and entering would be reported under the Uniform Crime Reporting Program. Also, in reporting the number of persons indicted and convicted of offences relating to offensive weapons and sentences for such, only the most serious offence committed by the person is recorded.

DEPARTMENT OF SECRETARY OF STATE PERSONNEL

Question No. 1,497—**Mr. Knight:**

1. How many full-time employees were there as of January 31, 1970 in the Department of the Secretary of State?

2. How many of those employees were earning more than $15,000 annually, distributed according to $1,000 intervals?

3. How many full-time employees were there as of January 31, 1973 in the Department of the Secretary of State?

4. How many of those employees were earning more than $18,000 annually, distributed according to $1,000 intervals?

Hon. James Hugh Faulkner (Secretary of State): 1. One thousand and seven.

2. $15,000 to $15,999, 41; $16,000 to $16,999, 21; $17,000 to $17,999, 30; $18,000 to $18,999, 13; $19,000 to $19,999, 4; $20,000 to $20,999, 4; $21,000 to $21,999, 2; $22,000 to $22,999, 6; $23,000 to $23,999, 2; $24,000 to $24,999, 1; $25,000 to $25,999, 2; $26,000 to $26,999, 1; $27,000 to $27,999, 2; *$28,000 to $32,000, 1.

3. One thousand eight hundred and eighty-four.

4. $18,000 to $18,999, 56; $19,000 to $19,999, 27; $20,000 to $20,999, 21; $21,000 to $21,999, 34; $22,000 to $22,999, 6; $23,000 to $23,999, 5; $24,000 to $24,999, 10; $25,000 to $25,999, 3; $26,000 to $26,999, 6; $27,000 to $27,999, 2; *$28,000 to 35,000, 5.

———

*Not separated to $1,000 intervals in order to protect privacy of salary information in accordance with T.B. Circular 1969-206.

FINANCIAL POSITION OF CANADA, 1971-72

Question No. 1,518—**Mr. Gauthier (Roberval):**

Did Canada have a surplus or a deficit during (a) the first quarter of 1971 (b) the second quarter of 1971 (c) the third quarter of 1971 (d) the fourth quarter of 1971 (e) the first quarter of 1972 (f) the second quarter of 1972 (g) the third quarter of 1972 and, if so, what was the amount for each period?

[*Translation*]

Mr. Herb Breau (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): Statistics Canada reports that:

The following table shows Canada's current account balances and over-all balances for the periods requested.

	Current Account Balance[1]	Over-all Balance[2]
	(millions of dollars)	
1971		
1st quarter	+161	+ 58
2nd quarter	+107	+ 7
3rd quarter	+297	+142
4th quarter	—168	+580

	Current Account Balance[1] (millions of dollars)	Over-all Balance[2]
1972		
1st quarter	−465	+ 60
2nd quarter	− 91	+322
3rd quarter	− 62	+ 3

[1] + is a surplus − is a deficit.

[2] Change in official reserves less allocation of special drawing rights. + is an increase.

Order Paper Questions

[*English*]

DREE—REQUESTS FOR GRANTS FOR ABITIBI CONSTITUENCY

Question No. 1,529—**Mr. Laprise:**

For each year since its establishment, has the Department of Regional Economic Expansion received requests for grants from the constituency of Abitibi and, if so (a) from whom (b) which ones were accepted and in what amounts?

[*Translation*]

Mr. Marcel Prud'homme (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Regional Economic Expansion): Yes. (a) The Department of Regional Economic Expansion, in considering grants under the Regional Development Incentives Act, undertakes to keep all applications confidential until such time as an offer of assistance has been made and accepted by the applicant at which time it is formally announced by the Department.

(b) Details of Accepted Offers in Abitibi Constituency, Quebec
August 7, 1969 to February 28, 1973
Department of Regional Economic Expansion

Applicant's Name	Location of Facility	Year of Acceptance	Total Offer
			$
Fédération Régionale des Chantiers Coopératifs de l'Ouest Québecois	Taschereau	1972	966,000
Howard-Bienvenu Inc.	La Sarre	1972	584,160
J. H. Normick Inc.	La Sarre	1972	190,100
J. H. Normick Ltée	La Sarre	1970	595,750
J. R. Lumber Co. Ltd.	Amos	1972	94,000
M & M Auto Parts Inc.	Amos	1971	104,070
Roberge & Fils Inc.	La Sarre	1971	14,300
Scierie Gallichan Inc.	Launay	1971	12,715
Scierie Gallichan Inc.	Launay	1972	25,040

[*English*]

CANADIAN ARSENALS LTD.—MONEYS CONTRACTED TO EACH OF FIVE REGIONS

Question No. 1,539—**Mr. McKenzie:**

1. In the fiscal years 1968-69 to 1971-72, how much money was contracted to each of the five regions of Canada by Canadian Arsenals Limited?

2. What was this in per capita terms for each region?

Hon. Jean-Pierre Goyer (Minister of Supply and Services):

	Regions	1968-69	1969-70	1970-71	1971-72
		$	$	$	$
1.	Atlantic Provinces	—	—	—	—
	Quebec	1,459,326	1,849,224	931,903	490,741
	Ontario	1,299,089	1,358,515	1,307,592	796,719
	Prairie Provinces	—	—	—	—
	British Columbia	—	—	—	558
2.	Atlantic Provinces	—	—	—	—
	Quebec	243.87	309.03	154.98	81.41
	Ontario	174.28	182.25	171.22	103.43
	Prairie Provinces	—	—	—	—
	British Columbia	—	—	—	0.26

CANADA COUNCIL GRANTS TO SYMPHONY ORCHESTRAS

Question No. 1,550—**Mr. Bawden:**

1. What grants have been allocated to symphony orchestras across Canada for the year 1972-73?

2. For each of the above, what was the percentage relationship between the grant obtained and the orchestra's total operating budget?

Order Paper Questions

3. What criteria are used by the Canada Council in the allocation of grants to symphony orchestras?

Hon. James Hugh Faulkner (Secretary of State): I am informed by the Canada Council as follows: 1. The following grants have been allocated to symphony orchestras by the Canada Council for the year 1972-1973: Toronto Symphony Orchestra, $435,600; Montreal Symphony Orchestra, $440,000; N.A.C. Orchestra, $120,000; Vancouver Symphony Orchestra, $286,500; Calgary Philharmonic Society, $70,800; Edmonton Symphony Society, $157,500; Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra, $212,500; Hamilton Philharmonic Society, $80,000; Quebec Symphony Orchestra, $182,000; Atlantic Symphony Orchestra, $212,500; Victoria Symphony Society, $32,000; Regina Symphony, 18,000; Saskatoon Symphony Society, $12,000; National Youth Orchestra, $42,000.

2. For each of the above, the percentage relationship between the grant obtained and the orchestra's total operating budget was: Toronto Symphony Orchestra, 19.5; Montreal Symphony Orchestra, 18.9; N.A.C. Orchestra, 11.7; Vancouver Symphony Orchestra, 25.5; Calgary Philharmonic Society, 13.4; Edmonton Symphony Society, 27.7; Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra, 26.3; Hamilton Philharmonic Society, 16.0; Quebec Symphony Orchestra, 25.3; Atlantic Symphony Orchestra, 35.0; Victoria Symphony Society, 12.1; Regina Symphony, 8.1; Saskatoon Symphony Society, 17.2; National Youth Orchestra, 22.1.

3. Canada Council grants to symphony orchestras are allocated on the basis of professional quality; the audience served by the orchestra and its financial need are also taken into account.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE COMMISSION PERSONNEL

Question No. 1,551—**Mr. Knight:**

1. How many full-time employees were there as of January 31, 1970 in the Unemployment Insurance Commission?

2. How many of those employees were earning more than $15,000 annually, distributed according to $1,000 intervals?

3. How many full-time employees were there as of January 31, 1973 in the Unemployment Insurance Commission?

4. How many of those employees were earning more than $18,000 annually, distributed according to $1,000 intervals?

Hon. Robert K. Andras (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. Five thousand seven hundred and seventy-eight.

2.

Salary $	No. of Employees
15,000	7
16,000	11
17,000	1
18,000	5
19,000	3
20,000	4
21,000	8
22,000	0
23,000	3
24,000	1
25,000	1
*28,000-35,000 (SX-3)	1

3. Six thousand and five.

4.

Salary $	No. of Employees
18,000	12
19,000	21
20,000	14
21,000	7
22,000	10
23,000	8
24,000	5
25,000	4
26,000	3
27,000	2
28,000	0
*25,000-31,000 (SX2)	1
*28,000-35,000 (SX3)	3
*34,000-40,000 (DM1)	1

* Not separated to $1,000 intervals in order to protect privacy of salary information in accordance with T.B. Circular 1969-206.

CONTRACTS SIGNED PURSUANT TO SECTION 6 OF ADULT OCCUPATIONAL TRAINING ACT

Question No. 1,553—**Mr. Godin:**

Did the Minister of Manpower and Immigration sign any contracts during the 1972-73 fiscal year with employers or companies pursuant to Section 6 of the Adult Occupational Training Act and, if so (a) how many were signed with employers in Quebec (b) what were the names and addresses of employers or companies concerned (c) what was the duration of each contract (d) what was the total number of jobs created by this program (i) in Quebec (ii) in Canada?

[*Translation*]

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): Yes. (a) In the 1972-73 fiscal year 5,590 Training on-the-Job contracts and 723 Training-in-Industry contracts were signed with employers in Quebec. (b) Providing this voluminous information at this level of detail would require an inordinate cost. (c) See (b). (d) The Training-in-Industry Program is not a job creation program per se. Through Training on-the-Job contracts, in the fiscal year 1972/73: (i) 22,276 jobs were created in Quebec (ii) 61,284 jobs were created in Canada.

[*English*]

TERMS OF CBC CONTRACT WITH VISUAL EDUCATION CENTRE

Question No. 1,675—**Mr. Schumacher:**

1. Has CBC negotiated an extension of its contract with the Visual Education Centre and (a) if so, what are the terms of such contract (b) if not, is it the intention of CBC to negotiate further contracts with the Visual Education Centre?

2. What amounts are paid by the Visual Education Centre to CBC for the exclusive distribution rights of material which it enjoys?

3. Does the CBC contract with Visual Education Centre include rights to material produced by provincially-generated educational broadcasts and, if so, what contra-arrangement, if any, is made with the provincial education department concerned?

4. Does CBC negotiate special contracts with (a) actors (b) authors (c) production units for educational type material and, if so, what is the nature of such contracts?

Hon. James Hugh Faulkner (Secretary of State): I am informed by the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation as follows: 1. An extension to CBC's contract with the Visual Education Centre has not been negotiated. (a) The contract runs until April 30, 1974, but there is provision for extension on the agreement of both parties. (b) The decision to extend the term of the Visual Education Centre contract has not yet been considered as between CBC and VEC.

2. CBC has not been required in the past to reveal the terms of contracts where it is in competition with others.

3. The CBC contract with VEC covers programs exclusively owned by CBC. Where another rights holder, such as a provincial department of eduction, has a shared right on the program it would not be released through the Visual Education Centre contract.

4. (a) and (b): In many cases CBC's collective agreements cover the extension of rights to include educational use. In some cases individual negotiation with actors and authors is necessary. (c) In some cases CBC can obtain from production units or companies the right to release a production for school use. In some other cases the production company prefers to retain the right in order to exploit it in the schools itself, and in some cases education rights are not available.

CHANGES IN CALCULATING CONSUMER PRICE INDEX, INDUSTRY SELLING PRICE INDEX AND GENERAL WHOLESALE PRICE INDEX

Question No. 1,708—**Mr. Kempling:**

What changes have been made to, or contemplated for, the detailed basis of calculating (a) the Consumer Price Index (b) the Industry Selling Price Index (c) the General Wholesale Price Index specifying precisely detailed changes in all procedures, indexes used as a basis and pricing techniques involved in the calculation of each of the indexes specified for each of the months (i) December, 1972 (ii) January, 1973 (iii) February, 1973 (iv) March, 1973?

Mr. Herb Breau (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): Statistics Canada reports that: No changes have been made to, or are contemplated for, the basis of calculating the published (a) Consumer Price Index, (b) Industry Selling Price Index, (c) General Wholesale Price Index in any of the months (i) December, 1972, (ii) January, 1973, (iii) February, 1973, (iv) March, 1973. However, Statistics Canada will introduce the next periodic revision of the Consumer Price Index, probably in June, 1973. The base period will remain 1961 = 100, but the expenditure basket will be changed to 1967, replacing the 1957 weights used up to now. The index calculated on the present basis remains the official index for the period up to the introduction of the index derived with the new methodology. As far as the Industry Selling Price Index is concerned, Statistics Canada plans to publish sometime in 1975 a new series of industry price indexes from 1971 forward, calculated on a 1971 time and weight base, and aggregated within the framework of the 1970 standard industrial classification. Regarding possible changes contemplated for the computation of the General Wholesale Price Index, a start has been made in the development of a new system of commodity indexes that will be designed to measure price change of all commodities traded below the retail level. This set of series will probably be developed from 1961 forward, but the timing, completion and publication will depend on the resources available for this work. Whenever there is a revision in the methodology of computing price indexes, it has been, and it remains, the policy of Statistics Canada to (a) document, in published form, all details explaining such a revision in methodology; (b) and to publish comparisons of the revised and the unrevised series for a period of overlap, in order to show what the changes in a series would have been using either the unrevised or the revised methodology. The period of overlap refers to past months or years, depending on the availability of price data defined in terms of the revised methodology but relating to past periods.

PUBLICATION OF CHANGES IN CONSUMER PRICE INDEX, INDUSTRY SELLING PRICE INDEX, AND GENERAL WHOLESALE PRICE INDEX

Question No. 1,709—**Mr. Kempling:**

Has Statistics Canada made public details of all changes made or anticipated in the basis of calculating (a) the Consumer Price Index (b) the Industry Selling Price Index (c) the General Wholesale Price Index made in the twelve month period prior to and including March, 1973?

Mr. Herb Breau (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): Statistics Canada reports that: No changes have been made, nor are anticipated, in the basis of calculating the published (a) Consumer Price Index; (b) Industry Selling Price Index; (c) General Wholesale Price Index; in the twelve-month period prior to and including March, 1973. However, see also reply to question 1,708.

PUBLICATION OF CHANGES IN CONSUMER PRICE INDEX, INDUSTRY SELLING PRICE INDEX AND GENERAL WHOLESALE PRICE INDEX

Question No. 1,710—**Mr. Kempling:**

Since 1968, has it been, and will it continue to be, the policy of Statistics Canada to publish all details of changes in the basis of calculating (a) the Consumer Price Index (b) the Industry Selling Price Index (c) the General Wholesale Price Index?

Order Paper Questions

Mr. Herb Breau (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): Statistics Canada reports that: Since 1968, it has been and will continue to be, the policy of Statistics Canada to publish all details of changes in the basis of calculating the published (a) Consumer Price Index, (b) Industry Selling Price Index; (c) General Wholesale Price Index.

CHANGES IN CALCULATING CONSUMER PRICE INDEX, INDUSTRY SELLING PRICE INDEX AND GENERAL WHOLESALE PRICE INDEX

Question No. 1,712—**Mr. Kempling:**

Where there have been any changes in the detailed procedures or basis of calculating (a) the Consumer Price Index (b) the Industry Selling Price Index (c) the General Wholesale Price Index, what would the index figures have been, calculated on the basis of the procedures used in December, 1972, for each of the months (i) December, 1972 (ii) January, 1973 (iii) February, 1973?

Mr. Herb Breau (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): Statistics Canada reports that: There were no changes in the procedures or the basis of calculating the indexes in question.

STATISTICS CANADA—PERSONNEL

Question No. 1,713—**Mr. Knight:**

1. How many full-time employees were there as of January 31, 1970 in Statistics Canada?

2. How many of those employees were earning more than $15,000 annually, distributed according to $1,000 intervals?

3. How many full-time employees were there as of January 31, 1973 in Statistics Canada?

4. How many of those employees were earning more than $18,000 annually, distributed according to $1,000 intervals?

Mr. Herb Breau (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): Statistics Canada reports that: 1. There were 3,110 full-time employees as of January 31, 1970 in Statistics Canada.

2. Two hundred and fifty-six of those employees were earning more than $15,000 annually and distributed according to $1,000 intervals, there were:

41	earning	between	$15,000	and	$16,000
54	"	"	16,000	and	17,000
15	"	"	17,000	and	18,000
28	"	"	18,000	and	19,000
46	"	"	19,000	and	20,000
29	"	"	20,000	and	21,000
13	"	"	21,000	and	22,000
11	"	"	22,000	and	23,000
17	"	"	23,000	and	24,000
Nil	"	"	24,000	and	25,000
2	"	"	25,000	and	26,000

3. There were 3,771 full-time employees as of January 31, 1973 in Statistics Canada.

[Mr. Kempling.]

4. Three hundred and eight of those employees were earning more than $18,000 annually, and distributed according to $1,000 intervals, there were:

39	earning	between	$18,000	and	$19,000
45	"	"	19,000	and	20,000
58	"	"	20,000	and	21,000
21	"	"	21,000	and	22,000
13	"	"	22,000	and	23,000
60	"	"	23,000	and	24,000
12	"	"	24,000	and	25,000
24	"	"	25,000	and	26,000
10	"	"	26,000	and	27,000
20	"	"	27,000	and	28,000
5	"	"	28,000 (SX-3)*	and	35,000
1	"	"	34,000 (DM-1)*	and	40,000

* Not separated to $1,000 intervals in order to protect privacy of salary information in accordance with T.B. Circular 1969-206.

CANADIAN WHEAT BOARD

Question No. 1,715—**Mr. Lambert (Bellechasse):**

1. Is the Canadian Wheat Board financed through votes in the estimates?

2. Do grain producers make any contribution to its financing?

3. What is the annual budget of the Board for the current fiscal year?

[*Translation*]

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Justice): 1. No. The Canadian Wheat Board Act does provide that the government will pay deficits in the board's pool accounts for wheat, oats and barley when the returns from the market, less marketing costs, are insufficient to cover the initial payments established by the government. Since the board's inception in 1935 there have been three deficits in the barley pool account, two deficits in the oats account and one deficit in the wheat account. The government also pays storage charges under the Temporary Wheat Reserves Act on Canadian Wheat Board Stocks of wheat in commercial storage in excess of 178 million bushels.

2. Yes, except as mentioned above, producers pay all costs including salaries of the commissioners and other employees.

3. The expenses and revenues of the board vary with market demand and the volume of sales by the board which in turn may fluctuate significantly over short period of time. The board does not prepare annual fiscal year budgets.

[*English*]

CANADA COUNCIL GRANTS

Question No. 1,737—**Mr. Stewart (Okanagan-Kootenay):**

1. (a) How many Canada Council grants have been awarded since the inception of the Canada Council (b) who were the recipients (c) how much was each grant?

2. Does the government intend to change the terms of reference for awarding Canada Council grants and, if so, in what respect?

Hon. James Hugh Faulkner (Secretary of State): 1 (a), (b) and (c). I am informed by the Canada Council that this information is given in the Canada Council's annual reports, the first of which was published in 1958.

2. No.

NATIONAL PROTECTIVE SERVICE

Question No. 1,789—**Mr. Latulippe:**

1. How many years has National Protective Service had the contract for guard service at the National Gallery of Canada?

2. What was the amount of the contract for each year (a) 1971 (b) 1972 (c) 1973?

3. What is the minimum number of employees specified in the contract, who must be assigned directly for surveillance of works of art (a) during open hours of the Gallery (b) during closed hours?

4. What is the maximum number of hours specified in the contract that an employee can work each week?

5. For each Thursday since January 1, 1973, how many employees directly assigned to surveillance of works of art worked from 6 to 10 p.m.?

6. What is the penalty for non-compliance with the terms of the contract?

Hon. James Hugh Faulkner (Secretary of State): I am informed by the National Museums of Canada as follows: 1. Thirteen years.

2. Approximately 135,000 guard man hours per year; (a) 1971 at $2.05; (b) 1972 at $2.27 until June at $2.48; (c) 1973 at $2.48.

3 (a) and (b). This information must be considered confidential for security reasons.

4. Nil.

5. This information must be considered confidential for security reasons.

6. The Contractor's Performance Bond may be forfeited and the contract may be cancelled.

CONTRIBUTIONS BY CORPORATIONS TO POLITICAL PARTIES

Question No. 1,794—**Mr. Lewis:**

What were the total amounts and detailed amounts (e.g. contributions to political parties; see p. 33 of Statistics Canada publication "Corporation Taxation Statistics, 1970") reported by corporations for 1965 as "non-allowable current expenses", distributed by nine industry groups and cross-classified by control (foreign, Canadian)?

Mr. Herb Breau (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): Statistics Canada reports that the information is not available for the year requested.

Order Paper Questions

CONTRIBUTIONS BY CORPORATIONS TO POLITICAL PARTIES

Question No. 1,795—**Mr. Lewis:**

What were the total amounts and detailed amounts (e.g. contributions to political parties; see p. 33 of Statistics Canada publication "Corporation Taxation Statistics, 1970") reported by corporations for 1966 as "non-allowable current expenses", distributed by nine industry groups and cross-classified by control (foreign, Canadian)?

Mr. Herb Breau (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): Statistics Canada reports that the information is not available for the year requested.

CONTRIBUTIONS BY CORPORATIONS TO POLITICAL PARTIES

Question No. 1,796—**Mr. Lewis:**

What were the total amounts and detailed amounts (e.g. contributions to political parties; see p. 33 of Statistics Canada publication "Corporation Taxation Statistics, 1970") reported by corporations for 1967 as "non-allowable current expenses", distributed by nine industry groups and cross-classified by control (foreign, Canadian)?

Mr. Herb Breau (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): Statistics Canada reports that the information is not available for the year requested.

CONTRIBUTIONS BY CORPORATIONS TO POLITICAL PARTIES

Question No. 1,799—**Mr. Lewis:**

What were the total amounts and detailed amounts (e.g. contributions to political parties; see p. 33 of Statistics Canada publication "Corporation Taxation Statistics, 1970") reported by corporations for 1971 as "non-allowable current expenses", distributed by nine industry groups and cross-classified by control (foreign, Canadian)?

Mr. Herb Breau (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): Statistics Canada reports that the information requested is not yet available for 1971.

VIOLATIONS OF ALIEN LABOUR ACT

Question No. 1,812—**Mr. Neale (Vancouver East):**

1. What investigations have been made of possible violations of the Alien Labour Act as a result of employment of aliens on the car ferry Travetal?

2. What were the findings of these investigations?

3. What action has been taken as a result of these findings?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. The Department of Manpower and Immigration has not carried out any investigations of possible violations of the Alien Labour Act as a result of employment of aliens on the car ferry Travetal.

2. N/A.

3. N/A.

Order Paper Questions

GRANTS UNDER SOCIAL ACTION PROGRAM

Question No. 1,842—**Mr. Stackhouse:**

1. How many grants, at what total value, have been awarded under the Social Action Program to foster the development of Canada's French and English speaking minorities and to promote good relations between Canada's two official language groups?

2. How many, at what total value, have been awarded (a) to French speaking groups (b) to English speaking groups (c) in each of the ten provinces and each of the two territories?

Hon. James Hugh Faulkner (Secretary of State): 1 Since the Social Action Branch was established in the fall of 1969, 708 grants totalling $7,089,504 have been awarded.

2 (a). 576 grants totalling $6,322,348; (b) 132 grants totalling $767,156.

(c) Province	Number of grants	Amount $
Newfoundland	7	15,234
Prince Edward Island	16	102,060
Nova Scotia	27	339,358
New Brunswick	76	727,615
Quebec	67	494,006
Ontario	191	1,975,106
Manitoba	53	785,420
Saskatchewan	60	423,545
Alberta	61	462,051
British Columbia	19	236,771
National (projects including several provinces)	131	1,528,338
N.W.T.	Nil	Nil
Yukon	Nil	Nil
Total	708	7,089,504

FEE-CHARGING EMPLOYMENT AGENCIES—PILOT PROJECTS

Question No. 1,848—**Mr. Reynolds:**

1. With the reference to the answer to question No. 987, what are the names of the fee-charging employment agencies with whom pilot projects are being conducted in Toronto and Montreal?

2. What are the names of the employment agencies in Vancouver, British Columbia and Halifax, Nova Scotia with whom pilot projects will be conducted?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. Toronto: Star Personnel Limited, 11 Adelaide St. W.; Personnel World Limited, 30 Bloor St. W.; Harold Miller Business Consultants, 37 Touraine St.; J. M. Personnel Limited, 2390 Eglington Ave. E., Scarborough. Montreal: Aline Hooper Associates Inc., West Island Mall Shopping Centre; DOT Personnel Services, 550 Sherbrooke St. W.; Marie Selick Associates Ltd., 1155 Dorchester St., W.; The 500 Selection Services Canada Limited, 615 Dorchester St., W.

2. These have not yet been determined.

[Mr. MacGuigan.]

LIP PROJECTS—MUNICIPALITY OF ST. THURIBE

Question No. 1,852—**Mr. Matte:**

Have the Municipality of St. Thuribe or other organizations of that Municipality submitted projects under LIP and, if so (a) what were the projects (b) were they accepted and if they were rejected, for what reasons?

[*Translation*]

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): Yes, one. (a) Plaisirs d'hiver; (b) The department received a far greater number of applications than funds were available for. All applications were carefully assessed and many difficult decisions not to approve had to be made.

[*English*]

SURVEY OF HOUSING REQUIREMENTS ON INDIAN RESERVATIONS

Question No. 1,854—**Mr. Korchinski:**

With reference to the answer to Question No. 858, on what date does the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development expect to receive the results of the survey as to the housing requirements on Indian Reservations?

Mr. Len Marchand (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development): The following completion dates are expected for each region. Maritimes, May 15, 1973; Quebec, May 1, 1973; Ontario, May 15, 1973; Manitoba, May 1, 1973; Saskatchewan, May 1, 1973; Alberta, May 1, 1973; Yukon, May 1, 1973; British Columbia, May 1, 1973. Final national figures are not expected until approximately the end of June.

CROWN ASSETS DISPOSAL CORPORATION POLICY

Question No. 1,863—**Mr. Forrestall:**

What is the general policy of the government with respect to applications made by provincial authorities or incorporated municipalities for land to be disposed by Crown Assets Disposal Corporation in terms of right of refusal?

Hon. Jean-Pierre Goyer (Minister of Supply and Services): In so far as Crown Assets Disposal Corporation is concerned: The general policy of the government with respect to applications for land to be disposed of by Crown Assets Disposal Corporation is to provide the first priority to federal government departments or agencies and then accord the right of first refusal to provincial authorities and to municipalities in that order. This right is extended on the understanding that fair market value will be paid and that the land sold will be for public use.

EMPLOYMENT VISAS ISSUED TO AIRCRAFT PILOTS

Question No. 1,865—**Mr. Nesbitt:**

1. How many work permits have been issued to Canadian employers of aircraft pilots to date in 1973 by the Department of Manpower and Immigration and to whom?

2. Were work permits issued to (a) Skocdopole Brothers Aviation Limited of Olds, Alberta (b) Walker Flying Services of Edmonton, Alberta in 1973 so that each firm could rehire non-residents that they employed in 1972?

3. If work permits were issued to the above-named Companies in 1973, were all the registered unemployed Canadian pilots with the appropriate experience and qualifications contacted by Man-

power and made aware that positions existed prior to the issuance of these work permits?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. Employment visas or "work permits" are issued to non-immigrants wishing to accept employment in Canada and not to Canadian employers. Twenty-three employment visas were issued to aircraft pilots between January 1 and March 31, 1973 for employment with the following companies, TransQuebec Helicopters Limited, Pacific Western Airlines, Okanagan Helicopters Limited, Northward Airlines, Rainy Lake Airways Limited, Atlantic Aviation, Heli-Voyageur, Alaska International Air, TransNorth Turbo Air (1971) Limited, Lambair Limited, North American Air Training College, Inexoc Oil Company (Canada) Limited and Northern Transportation Company Limited.

2 (a) No. (b) No.

3. N/A.

NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY ORGANIZATION—CONTRIBUTION OF EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES

Question No. 1,875—**Mr. Laprise:**

1. Since the establishment of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, what amounts did Canada contribute directly in military equipment and supplies to various members of the Organization (a) what countries benefited from such gifts (b) what amounts were received by each?

2. Did Canada receive any gifts in equipment and supplies from the Organization under the same agreement and, if so (a) from what countries (b) in what amounts from each country?

[*Translation*]

Hon. James Richardson (Minister of National Defence): 1. Since 1950-51 Canada has allocated military equipment and supplies to various NATO members as follows:

v

(a) Country	(b) Value ($000)
Belgium	$114,634
Denmark	43,459
France	142,314
West Germany	46,935
Greece	95,142
Italy	189,525
Luxembourg	1,527
Netherlands	122,481
Norway	34,894
Portugal	81,187
Turkey	161,595
United Kingdom	172,503

2. No; (a) and (b) not applicable.

[*English*]

LIP GRANTS

Question No. 1,879—**Mr. Cossitt:**

Were any LIP grants given to any of the following (a) Service Secours, 2383 Grand Trunk St., Montreal (b) Service Secours Inc., 254 St. Catherine East, Montreal (c) Fairshare Inc., 1295 Laprairie Street, Montreal and, if so (i) what were the amounts of such grants (ii) on what dates were they made (iii) what was the reason in each case for giving such grants (iv) does the government consider such recipients to be in competition with private businesses in any way whatsoever?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): (a) Yes; (b) Yes; (c) No; (i) $42,588 for (a); $142,327 for (b); N/A for (c); (ii) December 19, 1972 for (a); December 19, 1972 for (b); N/A for (c); (iii) (a) and (b) were projects that best combine the dual objectives of job creation and a realistic and identifiable contribution to community betterment; (iv) No.

CANADIAN ARMED FORCES—PILOT TRAINING RECRUITMENT

Question No. 1,890—**Mr. Howard:**

On what date will applications for pilot training in the Canadian Armed Forces be opened to persons holding either a senior matriculation or a junior matriculation graduation?

Hon. James Richardson (Minister of National Defence): Applications for pilot training in the CAF under the Officer Candidate Training Plan—Men (OCTP-M) are currently being accepted from servicemen whose medical profile qualifies them for eligibility in this competition and who hold either senior or junior matriculation status. A total of 60 vacancies are being offered this year under this plan and the competition is not expected to close until December 1, 1973. It is not intended to offer these vacancies to civilian applicants until it can be determined that the number of fully qualified in-service applicants will not be sufficient to meet the stated objective by December 1, 1973. Recruiting for pilot training outside of service resources is currently limited to applicants holding a university degree and/or a diploma from a recognized institute of technology. Under this Direct Entry Officer Plan, selections and enrolments are proceeding until 18 vacancies have been filled.

LOGO FOR CANADIAN-OWNED CORPORATIONS

Question No. 1,891—**Mr. Blenkarn:**

1. Has the government considered the proposals by Can Ad Promotions Limited in connection with a distinctive logo for Canadian-owned corporations?

2. Is the government prepared to give financial encouragement to a buy from Canadian-owned companies promotion as envisaged by Can Ad Promotions Limited?

Mr. Herb Breau (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): 1. There is no record of a proposal by Can Ad Promotions in connection with a distinctive logo for Canadian-owned corporations.

2. Not applicable.

Order Paper Questions

DREE—GRANT TO LES ENTREPRISES IDLU LTÉE, GRANBY, QUEBEC

Question No. 1,892—**Mr. Lambert (Bellechasse):**

1. Has the new plant of Les Entreprises Idlu Ltée of Granby, Quebec, benefitted from a grant of $135,000 from the Department of Regional Economic Expansion?

2. Is the capital stock of this firm 100 per cent Canadian-owned?

3. What are the Christian names and surnames of its directors?

4. On what date was this firm established?

5. On what date did it begin its operations?

[*Translation*]

Mr. Marcel Prud'homme (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Regional Economic Expansion): 1. Yes, the company has accepted an offer of a development incentive in the amount of $135,500, although no momey has yet been paid.

2. Under the Canada Corporations Act, the names of the shareholders of a corporation are not public information.

3. Emile Verdier, Jacques O'Keefe, Jean-Marie Dubé, Yves Pépin.

4. Incorporated under Part I of the Canada Corporations Act, July 4, 1972.

5. Not yet in commercial production.

[*English*]

NATIONAL DEFENCE—STRENGTHS AT CFB GAGETOWN AND CFB VALCARTIER

Question No. 1,894—**Mr. Howie:**

What was the civilian strength at CFB Gagetown and CFB Valcartier on the first day of March in the years 1971, 1972 and 1973?

Hon. James Richardson (Minister of National Defence):

	CFB Gagetown		CFB Valcartier	
	Continuous	Casual*	Continuous	Casual*
1 March 1971	542	106	604	168
1 March 1972	605	352	642	759
1 March 1973	628	143	634	237

*These figures include those employed under the Federal Labour Incentive Program.

CBC PRODUCTION PERSONNEL

Question No. 1,908—**Mr. Yewchuk:**

1. How many persons on the CBC production staff are of (a) French descent (b) British descent (c) other descent (d) native speakers of a non-official language?

2. How many CBC employees involved in program production planning are of (a) French descent (b) British descent (c) other descent (d) native speakers of a non-official language?

Hon. James Hugh Faulkner (Secretary of State): I am informed by the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation as follows: 1 and 2. The Corporation does not have this personnel information. Under the Canada Labour Code, questions as to race and national origin, colour or religion are not permitted to be asked of any applicant seeking employment.

CANADIAN FILM DEVELOPMENT BOARD ETHNIC GROUPS

Question No. 1,911—**Mr. Yewchuk:**

1. Since the government's policy on multiculturalism which ethnic groups have (a) asked (b) received financial assistance from the Canadian Film Development Board for making films relating to their respective ethnic backgrounds?

2. To date, how much money has been provided by CFDB to each of the ethnic groups interested in making these types of films?

Hon. James Hugh Faulkner (Secretary of State): I am informed by the Canadian Film Development Corporation as follows: 1. (a) None; (b) None.

2. Not applicable.

* * *

QUESTIONS PASSED AS ORDERS FOR RETURNS

DEPARTMENT OF SECRETARY OF STATE PUBLICITY EXPENDITURES

Question No. 79—**Mr. Nystrom:**

1. What were the amounts of money spent by the Department of the Secretary of State on publicity and/or information in each of the fiscal years 1968-69, 1969-70, 1970-71, 1971-72?

2. What were the names and addresses of firms or individuals who received these contracts, what amounts of money were spent in each case and what was the purpose of each contract?

3. What contracts for publicity and/or information were awarded in the current fiscal year, what are the names and addresses of contractees, what are the amounts of money involved in each case and what is the purpose of each contract?

Return tabled.

NUMBER OF INFORMATION SERVICES PERSONNEL EMPLOYED BY GOVERNMENT PRIOR TO ESTABLISHMENT OF INFORMATION CANADA

Question No. 586—**Mr. Mather:**

1. In the month prior to Information Canada establishment, what was the total number of persons employed by all departments of government in information services capacities, including clerical or other staff?

2. What was the same number for the month of December, 1972?

Return tabled.

DREE—GRANTS TO FIRMS IN PORTNEUF CONSTITUENCY

Question No. 1,499—**Mr. Godin:**

Has the Department of Regional Economic Expansion invested funds in the constituency of Portneuf and, if so (a) what is the total amount since the Department was established (b) what is the full list of the firms which received grants (c) what are the details of the agreements entered into in the said constituency since the establishment of this Department (d) did any firms which received such grants go bankrupt and, if so (i) how long after receiving a grant (ii) what amount has the government legally recovered?

Return tabled.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO POLITICAL PARTIES BY CORPORATIONS

Question No. 1,797—**Mr. Lewis:**

What were the total amounts and detailed amounts (e.g. contributions to political parties; see p. 33 of Statistics Canada publication "Corporation Taxation Statistics, 1970") reported by corporations for 1968 as "non-allowable current expenses", distributed by nine industry groups and cross-classified by control (foreign, Canadian)?

Return tabled.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO POLITICAL PARTIES BY CORPORATIONS

Question No. 1,798—**Mr. Lewis:**

What were the total amounts and detailed amounts (e.g. contributions to political parties; see p. 33 of Statistics Canada publication "Corporation Taxation Statistics, 1970") reported by corporations for 1969 as "non-allowable current expenses", distributed by nine industry groups and cross-classified by control (foreign, Canadian)?

Return tabled.

NUMBER OF UNEMPLOYED

Question No. 1,815—**Mr. Orlikow:**

1. What was the number of unemployed in each province in May, June, July and August of 1971?

2. What was the number of high school and university students unemployed in each province in May, June, July and August of 1970 and 1971?

Return tabled.

NUMBER OF PERSONS BETWEEN AGES OF 60 AND 65, MARCH 31, 1972

Question No. 1,897—**Mr. Lambert (Bellechasse):**

1. As of March 31, 1972, how many persons were between the ages of 60 and 65?

2. How many such persons were male and how many were female?

3. What was the breakdown of such categories by province?

Return tabled.

MOTIONS FOR PAPERS

Mr. John M. Reid (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): Mr. Speaker, notice of motion for the production of papers No. 213 is acceptable to the government subject to the usual reservations concerning confidential documents and to the authorization of the governmental authorities concerned.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Speaker: Subject to the reservations and conditions mentioned by the parliamentary secretary, is it the wish of the House that the notice of motion No. 213 be deemed to have been adopted?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

[*English*]

QUEBEC CROP LOSSES, 1972—TABLING OF CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND QUEBEC MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE

Motion No. 213—**Mr. Lambert (Bellechasse):**

That an humble Address be presented to His Excellency praying that he will cause to be laid before this House copies of all documents, correspondence and agreements exchanged or signed between the federal Minister of Agriculture and the Minister of Agriculture of the Province of Quebec concerning grants offered to Quebec agricultural producers who suffered crop losses due to heavy rainfalls in the summer of 1972.

Motion agreed to.

Mr. Reid: Mr. Speaker, would you be so kind as to call notice of motion No. 194.

"HMCS RESTIGOUCHE"—REPORT OF BOARD OF LEGAL INQUIRY

Motion No. 194—**Mr. Rowland:**

That an Order of the House do issue for a copy of the report of the Board of Inquiry into damages done to *HMCS Restigouche* during refit.

Hon. James Richardson (Minister of National Defence): Mr. Speaker, boards of inquiry are designed to enable senior authorities within the Department of National Defence to obtain information on matters within internal military administration and as such are considered to be "internal departmental memoranda" as referred to in the guidelines tabled in the House on March 15, 1973. Under these circumstances I ask the hon. member to withdraw his motion.

Mr. Rowland: Mr. Speaker, I cannot comply with that request since there have been allegations of deliberate damage having been done to the ship during its refit, in addition to the accidental damage done to its feed water system. It involves additional costs to the Canadian people approaching $1 million. I think the matter must be debated.

Mr. MacEachen: Transfer for debate.

Mr. Speaker: Transferred for debate.

[*Translation*]

Shall the remaining notices of motions stand?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

[*English*]

ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

THE CANADIAN ECONOMY

COST OF LIVING INCREASE—GOVERNMENT POSITION ON RATE OF INFLATION

Mr. James Gillies (Don Valley): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Finance. Given the fact that prices rose almost twice as much last month as was

the case a year ago, with accelerating increases in such essentials as food, housing and clothing, and given the fact that the government has said it rejects the conventional idea of slowing down inflation by tightening up the money supply, and has rejected the idea of any sort of incomes policy, can the minister tell us whether this rate of inflation is satisfactory to the government and, if not, what the government intends to do about it?

Hon. John N. Turner (Minister of Finance): No, Mr. Speaker, of course it is not satisfactory to any member of the House. The government has already acted to increase the disposable income available to Canadians by our last budget measures through the reduction of income tax, the elimination of the sales tax on food and non-alcoholic beverages, by reducing the tariffs on $1,300 million worth of goods, and by agreeing to set up a food prices review board. The government will continue to watch this situation very closely.

● (1410)

INCREASE IN CLOTHING PRICES—INQUIRY AS TO GUIDELINES AND MEASURES TO COMPENSATE—SUGGESTED MEETING WITH INDUSTRY

Mr. Allan Lawrence (Northumberland-Durham): Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question for the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs concerning the increase in clothing prices. In light of the 1.4 per cent increase last month and expectations of even sharper increases in clothing prices in the months ahead, has the minister or the government formulated any guidelines for clothing prices this year and any measures to avert or compensate for escalating clothing prices in this very essential area?

Hon. Herb Gray (Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs): Mr. Speaker, any new policy in this area will be announced in the House in the usual manner.

Mr. Lawrence: Has the minister made any inquiry of the clothing industry about their price intentions, and does the government find their intentions to be acceptable? If not, is the minister now going to at least meet with them on this important subject?

Mr. Gray: Mr. Speaker, I have not made any specific inquiries. I try to keep informed about the situation, and I will be happy to take the hon. member's suggestion under consideration.

PROPOSED PRICES REVIEW BOARD—INQUIRY AS TO INVITATIONS TO SERVE AS MEMBERS

Mr. Terry Grier (Toronto-Lakeshore): Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question for the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs. In replying to a question put by the Leader of the Opposition on Monday the minister said that no trouble was being experienced in finding people to serve on the Prices Review Board but that the work of identifying potential members had not been completed. May I ask the minister whether any people have yet been specifically asked to serve on this board and have they agreed?

[Mr. Gillies.]

Hon. Herb Gray (Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs): Mr. Speaker, I have made no specific requests or invitations yet. I am still discussing with my colleagues who the appropriate personnel should be.

Mr. Grier: Mr. Speaker, in that case I should like to ask the minister how he can assure the House that there is no trouble finding people to serve on the board if in fact he has not yet asked anybody to do so?

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Gray: Mr. Speaker, I think it is clear that my answer is quite consistent with what I said the other day. One cannot say there is trouble in finding people until one approaches someone and that person indicates an unwillingness to serve.

Mr. Hees: There is a Martinesque statement if ever I heard one.

[*Translation*]

SUGGESTED PAYMENT OF DISCOUNT ON RETAIL PRICE OF GOODS—PRIME MINISTER'S POSITION

Mr. Réal Caouette (Témiscamingue): Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary for the right hon. Prime Minister.

In view of the increase in the cost of living and the continuous inflation, would the Prime Minister consider enacting payment of a discount on the retail price of goods, in agreement of course with Canadian retailers, and this in order not to resort to a freeze of prices and salaries?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I shall have to look into the matter to ascertain whether the government, within the framework of its constitutional authority, would have the power to take such action.

[*English*]

INCREASE IN FOOD AND SHELTER COSTS—GOVERNMENT POSITION RESPECTING IMPLEMENTATION OF CONTINGENCY PLAN

Mr. James A. McGrath (St. John's East): Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question for the Minister of Finance. May I ask the minister if the government now finds the present rate of increase in food costs and shelter costs unacceptable and, if so, can he tell the House whether the government has agreed on a contingency plan and whether that contingency plan will be implemented if prices continue to increase?

Hon. John N. Turner (Minister of Finance): Mr. Speaker, since the hon. gentleman frames his question in terms of the rise in food prices, which affects all of us in this country, I must respond to him by saying that a system of price and wage controls would not solve that problem. It has not been solved by any prices system in the United States or the United Kingdom. The problem of food is a problem of world shortage of basic commodities—coffee, grains, meat and so on.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The Chair will recognize the hon. member for St. John's East for a supplementary and then try to complete the first round of questions.

Mr. McGrath: If the present trend of increases in the cost of living continues, will the government implement its contingency plan?

Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton): Mr. Speaker, both the preamble to the question and the substance of the question are hypothetical.

Mr. Baldwin: So is the contingency plan.

* * *

HEALTH

GOVERNMENT PROPOSALS TO PROVINCIAL FINANCE MINISTERS TO REDUCE HEALTH COSTS

Mr. David Lewis (York South): Mr. Speaker, I had hoped that the Minister of National Health and Welfare or the Minister of Finance would have made a statement on motions informing the House as to the conference that took place yesterday. In the absence of that, may I ask the Minister of National Health and Welfare whether the federal government made any proposal to the conference for improvements in the health delivery system for the purpose of reducing health costs, or was the federal government's proposition limited to financial haggling with the provinces?

Mr. Lalonde: Mr. Speaker, I missed the last words of the question.

An hon. Member: Was there haggling?

Mr. Lalonde: Mr. Speaker, would the hon. member please repeat the last part of his question?

Mr. Lewis: Mr. Speaker, I asked the minister whether the federal government made any proposals with regard to a new, changed or improved health delivery system to reduce the costs of health care, or whether the federal proposal was limited to financial haggling or negotiations, if you like, with the provinces?

[*Translation*]

Mr. Lalonde: Mr. Speaker, the government's offer to the provinces was of course related to financing of health services, but its specific purpose was to introduce much greater flexibility, enabling provinces to improve their services and also to control the increase in health costs.

[*English*]

Mr. Lewis: Mr. Speaker, as a supplementary may I ask the minister exactly what proposals the federal government made that would assist the provinces in reducing their health care costs, or was it simply the federal government's intention to pull out from under the escalating health costs despite the fact that the provinces were introduced into the scheme by a federal law?

Mr. Lalonde: Mr. Speaker, the fact that we were making an offer that, even according to the projections of costs made by the provinces, would result in about $1.1 billion more for the provinces over the next five years, should show that the federal government was not trying to get out of this, but was trying to ensure better service to the Canadian population in this field.

Mr. Lewis: In view of the fact it is obvious to anyone that that kind of settlement with the provinces cannot in any way control costs within the provinces and that costs may go up away beyond the offer made by the federal government at any given time, no matter which government is involved or at what time, and in view of the fact the escalation in health costs is the result of increased and excessive doctors' incomes and other incomes and the unavailability—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member is running short of time. Perhaps he should ask the question. We have to make some progress.

Mr. Lewis: As I say, it is also due to the unavailability of alternative health homes for people who now occupy hospitals. I want to ask the minister whether the federal government has made a study of health costs with a view to installing in Canada some new form of health delivery?

Mr. Lalonde: Mr. Speaker, there have been several such studies made, in particular the study on community health centres that was made public last year. Once more, the whole gist of the federal offer was to answer the problem raised by the provinces to the effect that the present system favoured the development of acute care hospital beds and medical treatment. The whole gist of our offer is to make sure that the provinces will have all the flexibility they need better to control costs, but the control of costs is their responsibility.

HEALTH CARE—REQUEST FOR ASSURANCE THAT UNIVERSALITY, PORTABILITY AND QUALITY WILL BE MAINTAINED

Mr. P. B. Rynard (Simcoe North): I have a supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. In view of the haggling over health costs, which are 4 per cent lower than the government's cost of operation, between the federal minister and his counterparts, can the minister give an assurance that there will not be any sacrificing of the principles of universality and portability or the quality of health care across Canada?

Hon. Marc Lalonde (Minister of National Health and Welfare): Mr. Speaker, the assurance that has been very clearly given all during these negotiations with the provinces is to the effect that the basic standards of comprehensiveness, accessibility, universality and portability would have to be maintained under any new scheme of health financing. As far as the rest is concerned, our proposals are aimed at giving the provinces all the flexibility they need in this area to do whatever they feel is appropriate to control costs and provide better services.

Oral Questions

● (1420)

EDUCATION

GOVERNMENT INTENTION RESPECTING SUPPORT FOR UNIVERSITIES

Mr. R. Gordon L. Fairweather (Fundy-Royal): Mr. Sepaker, I wish to direct a question to the Secretary of State on another aspect of yesterday's conference. Will the minister state for the university community that the federal government has no intention of withdrawing from its undoubted national and constitutional responsibility for funding post-secondary education, despite any frustrations felt from yesterday's meeting?

Hon. James Hugh Faulkner (Secretary of State): Mr. Speaker, the proposal I put forward yesterday on behalf of the federal government, which was received with such widespread support from the provinces, does in fact reflect the commitment of the federal government to continue the support characteristic of the past for post-secondary education. If the particular formula I offered yesterday is not acceptable, we are quite willing to revert to the continuation of the present scheme which seems to meet with more favour from some provinces.

* * *

HEALTH

HOSPITAL AND MEDICAL CARE—INQUIRY AS TO GUARANTEE IN PROPOSALS TO PROVINCES THAT FEDERAL GOVERNMENT WILL PAY HALF THE COST

Mr. T. C. Douglas (Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a supplementary question to the Minister of National Health and Welfare. Is there anything in the proposals he placed before the provinces which will guarantee to the provinces that half the cost of providing hospital and medical care will be borne by the federal government?

Hon. Marc Lalonde (Minister of National Health and Welfare): Mr. Speaker, I am afraid I will have to refer the hon. member to the documents that have been tabled today by the Minister of Finance and which were put before the conference. I think they will show that there is no such guarantee with regard to two specific programs. However, as I said, we have used the provincial projections of cost over the next five years and the offer we made arrives at a result that is $1.1 billion more favourable to the provinces than the continuation of the present scheme. Therefore I do not think we should have too many fears in this regard.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. A considerable number of members are seeking supplementaries on this subject. I bring to the attention of hon. members that we have not yet concluded the first round of questioning. In fairness, I think the Chair should be allowed to recognize—

[*Translation*]

the hon. member for Témiscamingue, after which, if hon. members so desire, we shall return to consideration of this matter.

[Mr. Lalonde.]

[*English*]

For the moment, I think the Chair should recognize the hon. member for Témiscamingue.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Réal Caouette (Témiscamingue): Mr. Speaker, I had intended to ask a supplementary to the Minister of National Health and Welfare, but I yield to one of my colleagues.

* * *

SOCIAL SECURITY

REPRINT OF GOVERNMENT'S WORKING PAPER

Mr. Gérard Laprise (Abitibi): Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the hon. Minister of National Health and Welfare a question which is not necessarily related to the debate that has just taken place.

Since certain members rushed to pick up the working paper on social security in Canada after it was tabled in the House, can the minister tell us if additional copies will be made available to the public, which has asked for them?

Hon. Marc Lalonde (Minister of National Health and Welfare): Mr. Speaker, I am happy to note that there is still interest in that paper and I have ordered a new printing so that hon. members may have as many copies as they wish.

* * *

[*English*]

NATIONAL SECURITY

REPORT THAT SOVIET EMBASSY STAFF MEMBERS OBTAINED ACCESS TO SECRET REPORTS IN EXTERNAL AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT

Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Prince Albert): Mr. Speaker, arising out of the Prime Minister's homily on espionage the other day, I wish to ask the Secretary of State for External Affairs whether or not two staff members of the Soviet Union's Ottawa embassy entered the east block of the parliament buildings very recently, waited until the security guards were looking the other way, raced upstairs, asked for top secret reports in the room in which they are kept, had turned over to them reports from Moscow which they asked for, and at the end of two hours, having read them, thanked those in charge and left?

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, I listened with great interest to the paraphrase of the article in the Toronto *Star* that I also read. There is no substance to the report whatever.

Mr. Diefenbaker: Mr. Speaker, the report was by Mr. Reguly of whom a former government had the same view when he made a statement. Has he been communicated with to find out whether or not the statement he made, as reported in the Toronto *Star* in detail, is correct? What has been said to him? Has the minister been in touch with any

of the officials who advise they are most embarrassed by what did not take place?

Mr. Sharp: Mr. Speaker, the right hon. member will understand that after this report appeared in the Toronto *Star* there was very great concern that there might be some foundation to the story.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Sharp: Therefore, most careful inquiries were made, and as far as we can ascertain there is no foundation whatsoever to the story.

Mr. Donald MacInnis (Cape Breton-East Richmond): Mr. Speaker, my question follows the question put by the right hon. member for Prince Albert but it is directed to the Minister of National Health and Welfare. Considering the debate that took place in the House yesterday on security matters, can the minister explain why confidential matters from his department are brought to my attention?

Hon. Marc Lalonde (Minister of National Health and Welfare): No, I cannot, Mr. Speaker.

* * *

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

VIET NAM—POSSIBILITY OF WITHDRAWAL OF CANADIAN PERSONNEL FROM CONTROL COMMISSION IN LIGHT OF FURTHER ATTACK

Mr. Perrin Beatty (Wellington-Grey-Dufferin-Waterloo): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Secretary of State for External Affairs also. In light of a report in today's newspaper of a further attack on Canadian ICCS troops, may I ask the minister whether this incident is enough to convince the Canadian government that the time has now come to get out of Viet Nam?

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, I only heard the report on the radio this morning and we have not had a direct report from Saigon. This is another deplorable incident, if it is true, as I expect it is. As I said in reply to a similar question the other day, this is accummulating evidence that we will have to balance when we make our decision.

Mr. Beatty (Wellington-Grey-Dufferin-Waterloo): May I ask the minister how many more Canadian lives it is going to take before he abandons this disastrous role?

Mr. Sharp: Mr. Speaker, may I answer this question by repeating what I said in commenting on the tragedy when Captain Laviolette was killed, that the problem is not how many Canadians might be killed. There are always risks involved in any operation of this kind. The test is whether there is anything useful being done as a result of our activities there.

Oral Questions

HOUSING

REQUEST FOR MORATORIUM ON CERTAIN FORECLOSURES BY CENTRAL MORTGAGE AND HOUSING CORPORATION

Mr. Eldon M. Woolliams (Calgary North): Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask a question of the Prime Minister. I put a similar question recently to the Minister of State for Urban Affairs who is responsible for housing. In light of the fact that a number of foreclosures are now being proceeded with by CMHC where the equity of the owner is substantial, in some cases as high as $10,000 and the arrears are less than $400—I have examples—and since instructions that take place have not only been issued but foreclosures are taking place in such cases, would the Prime Minister consider imposing a moratorium on this kind of foreclosure, particularly when the cost of housing this last month went up 6 per cent over the same period last year?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I will inquire into the allegation and see whether the hon. member's question can be answered.

Mr. Woolliams: When the Prime Minister is investigating this matter, would he look into the case of certain legal firms in Canada that were appointed on a straight patronage basis and where the amount of arrears on the mortgage was $358 and the legal bill to collect that amount of money was $597? I can understand my socialist friends being worried because they are the highest paid counsel for the labour unions.

● (1430)

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

* * *

INDIAN AFFAIRS

SENDING HOME OF DEAD INDIAN CHILD IN CARDBOARD BOX—UNAUTHORIZED AUTOPSY

Mr. Lorne Nystrom (Yorkton-Melville): Mr. Speaker, my question is to the Prime Minister. In view of the shocking revelation yesterday that the body of an Indian baby, Belinda Manybears, who died in an Edmonton hospital, was sent home to the mother in a cardboard box and also that an unauthorized autopsy was performed on the body, and bearing in mind the clearcut responsibility of the federal government for the Indian people, has the government investigated this incident and, if so, can the Prime Minister tell us what action is being taken?

[*Translation*]

Hon. Marc Lalonde (Minister of National Health and Welfare): Mr. Speaker, if you will allow me to answer, this question has already been the subject of an investigation and everything seems to indicate that it comes under exclusive provincial jurisdiction. The Alberta Minister of Health has himself stated that he was making a thorough investigation on the matter.

[*English*]

Mr. Nystrom: In view of the fact that three other incidents were also revealed yesterday in one small Alberta

community, and in view of the fact that an Indian spokesman said this morning that there may be others as well, is the federal government taking action to ensure that nothing like this will occur in the future?

[*Translation*]

Mr. Lalonde: Mr. Speaker, we will certainly communicate and, in particular, with my colleague from the province of Alberta on this matter.

* * *

[*English*]

SOCIAL SECURITY

REQUEST FOR EARLY INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION TO INCREASE FAMILY ALLOWANCES

Mr. Heath Macquarrie (Hillsborough): Mr. Speaker, my question is addressed to the Minister of National Health and Welfare. In the aftermath of yesterday's collapsed dominion-provincial conference and in an effort to take some steps to counter the seriously accelerating rise in the cost of living, will the minister give consideration to bringing in immediately his measure to increase family allowances, the legislative expedition of which my party has pledged itself to already?

[*Translation*]

Hon. Marc Lalonde (Minister of National Health and Welfare): Mr. Speaker, as I have already indicated many times, we are trying to introduce this bill in the House as soon as possible.

[*English*]

Mr. Macquarrie: May I ask the minister whether in light of the serious increase in the cost of living he and his very important department are taking any steps to ameliorate the effects of this shocking increase?

Mr. Lalonde: The question not only affects my very important department; it also affects my very important provincial colleagues with whom I have to consult and work in this respect.

* * *

HEALTH

REQUEST FOR ASSURANCE THAT QUALITY OF MEDICAL CARE WILL BE MAINTAINED

Mr. S. Victor Railton (Welland): Mr. Speaker, following the remarks by the hon. member for York South, which I cannot accept—

Some hon. Members: Split!

Mr. Railton: —and knowing that the majority of illness cannot be prevented and must be skillfully treated, I should like to ask the Minister of National Health and Welfare to reassure me that his department is spending enough on maintaining quality medical care and not spending its money entirely on preventive medicine?

[Mr. Nystrom.]

Hon. Marc Lalonde (Minister of National Health and Welfare): If my hon. friend would look at the estimates of my department, the total cost of medical care and hospital insurance will clearly indicate that these two programs still eat up a very substantial part of the funds allocated to health care in this country.

MEDICAL CARE—REQUEST FOR FULL PARTICIPATION BY REPRESENTATIVES OF TERRITORIAL COUNCILS IN FUTURE FEDERAL-PROVINCIAL CONFERENCES

Mr. Erik Nielsen (Yukon): Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary for the Minister of National Health and Welfare. Since the people of the north, not forming part of the provinces, are very concerned about medical and health care, as are other Canadians, can the minister assure those living in the Yukon and the Northwest Territories that at future federal-provincial conferences they will be invited, through their elected territorial councils, to take part as full participants rather than attending merely as observers?

[*Translation*]

Hon. Marc Lalonde (Minister of National Health and Welfare): Mr. Speaker, I am sorry but I do not think that, with regard to conferences dealing with health matters, I could differ from the procedure prevailing at all other federal-provincial conferences; on this question, the matter does not come under my jurisdiction.

* * *

[*English*]

AIRPORTS

PICKERING TOWNSHIP SITE

Mr. Ron Atkey (St. Paul's): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Prime Minister. Last spring, the right hon. gentleman promised residents of the Toronto region that he would cancel the Pickering airport development if more than 50 per cent of the people in Metro Toronto were opposed to it. Since the NDP last night in the Standing Committee on Transport and Communications voted to give the government support for money to push ahead with this project—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member might ask his question directly without reference to proceedings in a committee. It might be easier, at least from a procedural standpoint and from the point of view of the Chair, if the hon. member could ask his question directly.

Mr. Atkey: Very well, Mr. Speaker. In these circumstances is the Prime Minister prepared to treat this NDP support as indisputable evidence of public opinion in Toronto being in favour of the airport or would he consider taking into account the recent public opinion poll published—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member for Prince Edward-Hastings.

NATIONAL DEFENCE

PAY OF ARMED FORCES PERSONNEL ON VIET NAM SUPERVISORY COMMISSION

Hon. George Hees (Prince Edward-Hastings): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the President of the Treasury Board. As the Treasury Board has not yet taken any action on the very logical and fair request by Canadian Armed Forces personnel serving in Viet Nam for increases in their special allowances to bring those allowances up to a level comparable with those paid to External Affairs personnel serving in the same area, will the minister advise the House when the government intends to take action on this request and, in so doing, preserve the principle of equal pay for equal work in which it professes to believe?

Hon. C. M. Drury (President of the Treasury Board): The present scale of pay and allowances for the military in relation to the civil side of the public service was arrived at after a study lasting a year and a half designed to produce this kind of over-all equivalence. On an over-all basis it was found that the military service suffered a balance of disadvantage as compared with the civilian employees of the order of about 3½ per cent. Consequently, military pay and allowances were set at about 3½ per cent higher in general than those of civilians. The military pay and allowance system is structured on the basis of peace-keeping operations which carry a higher operations risk component than civil foreign service, and this is rather unusual for people in the foreign service class who have not entered into military service. Consequently there are special allowances for civilians in respect of Viet Nam.

An hon. Member: Would you mind repeating that?

Mr. Hees: Since one man's life is just as important as any other man's life when serving his country, would the minister consider taking another look at this matter and giving our armed services personnel a fair break as they have very logically requested?

* * *

TRANSPORT

PROPOSED NEW TANKER ROUTES ON ATLANTIC COAST—CONVENING OF MEETING BETWEEN OIL INTERESTS AND FISHING INDUSTRY

Mr. Lloyd R. Crouse (South Shore): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct my question to the Minister of Transport. Has the minister taken any steps to convene a meeting between the oil interests and the fishing industry, especially the lobster fishing industry, before the establishment of new tanker routes along the Atlantic coast? If so, when can we expect a report on the areas to be covered by these new routes?

[*Translation*]

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, if I understand correctly, I am supposed to have summoned all parties interested in lobster fishing. I am not aware that the department has issued such a summons.

[*English*]

[*Later:*]

PROPOSED NEW TANKER ROUTES ON ATLANTIC COAST—CONSULTATION BETWEEN DEPARTMENTS OF TRANSPORT AND FISHERIES ON EFFECT ON FISHING

Mr. Charles E. Haliburton (South Western Nova): Mr. Speaker, my question bears on that raised by the hon. member for South Shore and is also directed to the Minister of Transport. In view of the fact that a meeting is going on today in Halifax at the call of officials of his department, can the minister assure the House that consultations have already taken place between officials of his department and those of the Department of Fisheries with respect to the effect these proposed tanker routes will have on fishing activities and on the lives and safety of fishermen in the area concerned?

[*Later:*]

[*Translation*]

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, senior officials from my department are participating in these meetings. It is certainly not my department which decides what routes the oil tankers must follow, especially as regards pollution. I think that this comes under the jurisdiction of the Department of the Environment.

* * *

[*English*]

CONSUMER AFFAIRS

INCREASE IN STRUCTURAL STEEL PRICES—REQUEST THAT MINISTER INTERVENE

Mr. David Orlikow (Winnipeg North): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs. In view of the serious consequences to the construction and manufacturing industries which will result from the increase in structural steel prices announced yesterday by the major producers, and in view of the fact that profits of the steel companies showed an increase this year compared with last year of more than 60 per cent, would the minister consider discussing with the steel companies the maintenance of the current price level and the forgoing of this unconscionable new price increase?

Hon. Herb Gray (Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs): I shall be happy to consider that suggestion.

* * *

● (1440)

CANADA DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

REQUEST FOR GOVERNMENT ACTION TO ENSURE LOCATION OF HEAD OFFICE IN VANCOUVER

Mr. Douglas Stewart (Okanagan-Kootenay): Mr. Speaker, I should like to pose a question to the Minister of Finance. Is the government of Canada prepared to use its authority as the sole shareholder of the Canada Develop-

ment Corporation to ensure that the corporation's head office is located in Vancouver as promised?

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Provencher.

Mr. Stewart (Okanagan-Kootenay): On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, I am not sure the Minister of Finance heard my question.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

An hon. Member: He heard it all right.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

An hon. Member: And you are going to hear about it too.

Hon. John N. Turner (Minister of Finance): I heard the question, Mr. Speaker, but I was just waiting to see whether you would allow me to respond.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Hees: And hoping he would not.

Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton): By statute the decision as to where the head office of the Canada Development Corporation should be located is a decision for the board of directors. I have, however, made it clear to the president and chairman of the board of the Canada Development Corporation that the government favours locating the head office of the corporation in western Canada.

An hon. Member: How far west?

Mr. Hees: That's not going to be enough.

Mr. Nielsen: I live in the most western city in Canada.

An hon. Member: You will have to put more on the platter than that.

* * *

INDIAN AFFAIRS

FORT ALEXANDER RESERVE—NON-ATTENDANCE OF CHILDREN AT SCHOOL—PROVISION OF ADEQUATE FACILITIES

Mr. Jake Epp (Provencher): Mr. Speaker, in view of the absence of the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development I should like to direct this question to his parliamentary secretary. As school children on the Fort Alexander Indian reservation in Manitoba have not been attending school since last Friday and have only been attending half time since March 6 because of the lack of facilities and school space, and as we have contacted the department on a constant basis over the last week, will the minister now direct officials of his department to provide adequate school facilities for the children on that reservation?

[Mr. Stewart (Okanagan-Kootenay).]

Mr. Len Marchand (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development): Mr. Speaker, there really are some policy decisions involved in this question which will require me to take it as notice. I do like to give complete answers but I will take it as notice and bring it to the hon. minister's attention when he returns tomorrow. We are very much aware of the situation at Fort Alexander and we have taken measures to correct certain things that we could correct. There is still a shortage of proper building facilities in certain areas, particularly at the north end. There are some very good and adequate facilities at the south end. We did take measures to correct the water situation in the north end. There were some problems with the water there, but recent tests have shown that the water system has been totally rectified. The coliform counts are now low and satisfactory. We have taken some measures—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I was going to say that I was pleased the hon. member did not have an answer, but that might have been unfair to him.

Mr. Epp: Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a supplementary question to the parliamentary secretary. Will the department relay that information to the leaders of the Indian band at Fort Alexander and convince them that it is so?

Mr. Marchand (Kamloops-Cariboo): Yes, Mr. Speaker.

* * *

AGRICULTURE

SEIZURE OF MANITOBA EGGS IN BRITISH COLUMBIA—ACTION BY NATIONAL FARM MARKETING COUNCIL

Mr. Jack Murta (Lisgar): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Agriculture. Since at this time we appear to be seeing the unfolding of another chapter of the so-called chicken and egg war, I shoulk like to ask the minister whether or not the National Farm Marketing Council has taken any positive action in respect of the seizure of Manitoba eggs in the province of British Columbia? If so, what does the national council intend to do about this, and will we see a move toward the free interprovincial movement of products in Canada?

Hon. E. F. Whelan (Minister of Agriculture): Mr. Speaker, I have talked with the chairman of the National Farm Marketing Council who has been in touch with the president of the egg marketing group. I have asked him to make sure that harmonious relations are rebuilt if they are showing signs of breaking down, because I feel it is most important that they work together for the betterment of all egg producers in Canada.

Mr. Murta: In view of the minister's reply and as it seems that at the present time the council is not acting with any kind of force or determination in the matter, I should like to ask whether this very serious problem will go to the courts if it cannot be solved by the council, and, if so, will this not partially destroy the credibility of the National Farm Marketing Council in respect of future negotiations?

Mr. Whelan: Mr. Speaker, all I can say is that many of these people on the different provincial boards and the national board seem reasonable and responsible, and I am sure they will come to some happy conclusion.

[*Later:*]

Mr. Jack Horner (Crowfoot): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a supplementary question to that posed by the hon. member for Lisgar to the Minister of Agriculture regarding the chicken and egg war between Manitoba and British Columbia. Has the minister ascertained whether or not Manitoba producers had in fact overproduced their quotas and, if not, has the marketing council some authority to demand compensation for the eggs that were sold as broken eggs in British Columbia?

Mr. Whelan: Mr. Speaker, I have asked for a detailed report from the chairman of the National Farm Marketing Council. I think this falls within his duties and authority under the legislation. I have not received that report yet, but I will inform the hon. member and the House as soon as the report is submitted to me.

Mr. Horner (Crowfoot): The minister has expressed a desire to lower food prices and tariffs between Canada and the United States. Is he making every effort to lower tariffs between the provinces in order that we may have lower food prices in Canada?

Mr. Whelan: Mr. Speaker, my main concern is to see that the producers of eggs and the consumers get a fair deal.

Mr. Horner (Crowfoot): You should make sure that the producers in Manitoba get a fair deal.

Mr. Whelan: That has been the aim and drive of the marketing board in respect of eggs or any other product that may come within its jurisdiction.

* * *

ELECTION EXPENSES

INQUIRY AS TO INTRODUCTION OF BILL

Mr. Les Benjamin (Regina-Lake Centre): Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask the government House leader whether he can give the House an approximate date when he expects to bring in the government's election expenses bill, and can he indicate whether the bill will include two omissions of last year, namely, a limitation on parties and some measure of disclosure of contributions?

Hon. Allan J. MacEachen (President of the Privy Council): Mr. Speaker, I cannot give the hon. member a definite date, but I expect that the bill will be introduced well before the end of the current session.

Mr. Edward Broadbent (Oshawa-Whitby): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a supplementary question to the Prime Minister. In view of the report from Manitoba today that the Conservative and Liberal parties have combined in four constituencies to campaign against the NDP, will the Prime Minister assure the House that if such an understandable organic union takes place at the federal level we will be told before the next election is called?

An hon. Member: Slander.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

An hon. Member: Ask Lewis about the organic union.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

* * *

[*Translation*]

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

STUDY OF DECENTRALIZATION OF OFFICES—REQUEST FOR REPORT

Mr. André Fortin (Lotbinière): Mr. Speaker, I would like to put a question to the Minister of Manpower and Immigration.

When will he be in a position to give this House details on the implementation of the decentralization program of the Unemployment Insurance Commission?

[*English*]

Hon. Robert K. Andras (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, the basic program was announced very recently, and so far as I know the details of the basic program were sent to all hon. members. I will double check to make sure, and if they were not I will make sure that they are.

* * *

NATIONAL DEFENCE

RECONSIDERATION OF POSSIBLE PURCHASE OF BRITISH SCORPION TANK

Mr. J. M. Forrestall (Dartmouth-Halifax East): To show you how fair I am, Mr. Speaker, if the answer to my question is in the affirmative I will not ask a supplementary. I should like to ask the Minister of National Defence whether he can confirm the very welcome rumours to the effect that Canada is very seriously reconsidering its decision to purchase the light Scorpion tank from the United Kingdom?

● (1450)

Hon. James Richardson (Minister of National Defence): Mr. Speaker, we are giving consideration to extending the service life of the Centurion as an alternative to buying the Scorpion, but no decision has been taken yet.

Oral Questions

NATIONAL SECURITY

REPORT THAT SOVIET EMBASSY STAFF MEMBERS OBTAINED ACCESS TO SECRET REPORTS IN EXTERNAL AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT

Mr. Tom Cossitt (Leeds): Mr. Speaker, since the question that I intended to ask has already been asked by the right hon. member for Prince Albert, I should like to ask a supplementary. In view of the fact the Secretary of State for External Affairs told the House a moment ago that there is no foundation to reports that members of the Soviet embassy staff entered the east block and examined confidential documents, I would ask the Solicitor General if the reason the government does not know anything about such an incident is that the Police and Security Planning and Analysis Group, which we have been told is responsible for the security of government buildings, was too occupied otherwise investigating and compiling information on certain Canadians including members of this parliament.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member for Edmonton East. The minister rises on a question of privilege.

Mr. Allmand: On a question of privilege, Mr. Speaker, I have stated to the House on several occasions that the Police and Security Planning and Analysis Group in my department does not investigate Members of Parliament or anybody else.

An hon. Member: What do they do?

Mr. Cossitt: Mr. Speaker—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. Will the hon. member resume his seat. Is the hon. member rising on the question of privilege?

Mr. Cossitt: Yes, Mr. Speaker. In reply to the minister on the same question of privilege, he stated that his group does not do these things. I think it is about time the minister gave the House a complete and full explanation of what his group does do.

Mr. Allmand: I have done this several times.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

* * *

[*Translation*]

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

LEBANON—MEASURES TO ASSURE SECURITY OF CANADIANS

Mr. Claude Wagner (Saint-Hyacinthe): Mr. Speaker, I should like to put a question to the Secretary of State for External Affairs.

In view of renewed hostilities in Lebanon, can the minister report on the condition and security of Canadians who may be in the area where war is being waged?

[*English*]

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Yes, Mr. Speaker. As a result of the outbreak of violence in Lebanon we sent inquiries to our office in Beirut and they report that Canadian nationals do not seem to be in any danger, but we are keeping the situation under review.

[Mr. Richardson.]

* * *

IMMIGRATION

INQUIRY AS TO AMENDMENTS TO ACT AND ENLARGING OF APPEAL BOARD

Mr. William Skoreyko (Edmonton East): Mr. Speaker, may I ask the Minister of Manpower and Immigration when the House can expect amendments to the Immigration Act and if those amendments will include enlarging or expanding the Immigration Appeal Board to increase the facilities throughout Canada?

Hon. Robert K. Andras (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, I hope that amendments to the act will be introduced in the House shortly. I am negotiating vigorously with the House leader to give this matter high priority. As regards what the bill will contain, that will be disclosed when the bill is brought in for first reading.

* * *

CONSUMER AFFAIRS

USE OF VEGETABLE PROTEIN IN PROCESSED MEAT PRODUCTS—CONSULTATION WITH MINISTER OF HEALTH ON ISSUANCE OF TRADE INFORMATION CIRCULAR

Mr. A. D. Hales (Wellington): Mr. Speaker, I address my question to the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs. Has he consulted his colleague, the Minister of National Health and Welfare, regarding the issuance of a trade information letter on the use of vegetable protein used in particular in processed meat products?

Hon. Herb Gray (Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs): Mr. Speaker, officials of our two departments have been in contact about this.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. Hon. members will appreciate that we have reached the end of the question period. Perhaps the hon. member might ask a supplementary question, following which I will recognize the hon. member for Nickel Belt and perhaps another questioner.

Mr. Hales: Has agreement been reached between the two departments concerning the wording on the lable to be used on such products as superburgers, etc.?

Mr. Gray: This is being discussed between the two departments, and obviously when the trade information circular is released it will indicate the agreement in question.

LUMBER SHORTAGE AND INCREASED COST—GOVERNMENT ACTION

Mr. John Rodriguez (Nickel Belt): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs. In view of the demand for Canadian lumber in Japan and the United States and the shortage in Canada, with escalating costs to Canadian consumers over the past year, is the minister aware of the situation and what does the government intend to do about it?

Hon. Herb Gray (Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs): Mr. Speaker, the matter of export controls comes under the jursidiction of the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce. I believe he answered a question about this yesterday.

Mr. Rodriguez: I have a supplementary question, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Lethbridge will be recognized, and then I will have to call orders of the day. Perhaps we can pursue the matter raised by the hon. member for Nickel Belt tomorrow in priority to other matters.

* * *

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

VIET NAM—NOTICE REQUIRED FOR CANADIAN WITHDRAWAL FROM CONTROL COMMISSION

Mr. Ken Hurlburt (Lethbridge): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Secretary of State for External Affairs. In view of the fact that in a statement in the House on May 7 regarding ICCS the minister stated that Canadian participation would continue until the end of this month, can the minister state whether Canada is not in fact bound by agreement to give 90 days notice regarding withdrawal and in reality we must participate at least until the end of August regardless of the decision taken on May 30?

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, the answer to that question is no. As I explained in the House on several occasions, we made a specific reservation on that point.

Mr. Speaker: Orders of the day. Is the hon. member for Scarborough West rising on a question of privilege?

Mr. Harney: My point of privilege, Mr. Speaker, has to do with the remarks contained in the question of the hon. member for St. Paul's which you quite appropriately ruled out of order on the grounds that it reflected on a vote in a committee. Nevertheless, it is a matter of record in the House and in the minds of the public that he has alleged that my party voted in favour of the Pickering airport last night when the matter came up in the estimates. That is not at all the case. We voted against his motion. I myself am still opposed to the Pickering airport, and I think this matter should be made clear.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. Will the hon. member for St. Paul's kindly resume his seat. I will recognize him in a moment. The point raised by the hon. member shows the difficulty by importing into our debates the proceedings in committees. We might go on for some time, I suppose, trying to ascertain what happened exactly in a committee of the House and why certain members of the committee voted in one way rather than another, which shows the difficulty and the danger of bringing into the debates in the House the debates and proceedings in committees. That is why I thought I had to rule the original question out of order. I would hope there would be no further debate on the point.

Mr. Atkey: I rise on the question of privilege, Mr. Speaker. I appreciate fully the comments you have made. There was not in any way any attempt to rehash the matter before the committee last night.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Atkey: The result in the committee last night did change substantially the position of the government in view of public statements made by the Prime Minister. Also, I think I should clarify, for purposes of the allegation made by the hon. member for Scarborough West, the fact that my motion said that they have given the government support for the money to push ahead with the project.

Some hon. Members: Order!

Mr. Atkey: Those were my words, and—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

• (1500)

[*Translation*]

Mr. Fortin: Mr. Speaker, I am rising on a point of order, as House leader for our party.

We have had numerous meetings with other parties to discuss setting up offices and secretariats in ridings. Agreements had been concluded, serious discussions had taken place and we had arrived at conclusions. Now that the House has resumed its business, it seems that everything has been upset and nothing is operating anymore.

My point of order is to ask the President of the Privy Council (Mr. MacEachen) if the deals that are taking place now are serious and what they are specifically, since I have no other means to find out what has been said during the parliamentary leaders' meetings.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member raises this matter as a point of order. It is a question that could have been asked during the oral question period; I have no objection, providing the House gives its consent, against it being asked to the President of the Privy Council (Mr. MacEachen), providing we eventually come to the business of the House.

[*English*]

Hon. Allan J. MacEachen (President of the Privy Council): Mr. Speaker, I would be happy to discuss the matter privately with my hon. friend because most of the

discussions have been conducted in that manner and I hesitate to break that practice at the moment.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Speaker: Does the hon. member wish to ask a second question?

Mr. Fortin: I rise again on a point of order.

It is precisely there that lies the problem. Those discussions were held in camera but when we reach the House matters are different. Once and for all things should be done in public and we should not be afraid to provide the Canadian people with an adequate service. Anyhow, we are in 1973.

Mr. Guay (St. Boniface): Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for St. Boniface is rising on a point of order.

[*English*]

Mr. Guay (St. Boniface): Mr. Speaker, I think my point of order is very important because it relates to the discussion on the various points of order and questions of privilege that came before Your Honour a few moments ago. I would like to say that the hon. member, when speaking to his motion which was defeated last night in the committee, made it very well known in the committee that his motion did not preclude that he was against the Pickering Airport—

Mr. Speaker: Order please, I call on the co-operation of hon. members. I think that nothing at all can be gained by raising alleged questions of privilege and alleged points of order during the question period. I call orders of the day.

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

CANADA WILDLIFE BILL

PROVISION FOR RESEARCH AND CONSERVATION AGREEMENTS, CONTRIBUTIONS TO COSTS AND PURCHASE, ACQUISITION OR LEASE OF LANDS

The House resumed, from Tuesday, May 8, consideration of the motion of Mr. Davis that Bill C-131, respecting wildlife in Canada, be read the second time and referred to the Standing Committee on Fisheries and Forestry.

Mr. Don Blenkarn (Peel South): Mr. Speaker, I rise to speak on Bill C-131 which recognizes the responsibility of the Government of Canada to protect our heritage in this nation in terms of wild animals and other resources that were here prior to our coming, some of which have almost disappeared. This bill recognizes, also, that it is important that, if we are to justify our occupation of this half of the North American continent we must look after those things that are naturally here, so that they will be available for our children, our grandchildren and those who come after us who will develop and make Canada the great land that it has the capacity to become.

I commend the minister for the suggestion in this bill that the Canadian Wildlife Service will extend its work in research and pathology in connection with toxic substances and other matters affecting wild animals and wildlife generally. I hope the minister will deal with the serious question of trapping. I have received many letters from young children in my riding decrying the use of the leg-hold trap in the taking of wild animals by trappers and others, decrying the injuries caused to animals whose legs are torn off or they are trapped in these devices and suffer for days before their frozen bodies are picked up and taken to be skinned. We have now developed the Conibear trap, but even with it I understand there are problems in that it is heavy to move around and sometimes the effect of this trap, which is supposed to kill wild animals instantaneously, results in the whole of their face being mutilated. We need an investigation or inquiry into new forms of trapping that will not be as injurious to animals as the existing devices.

The work done by the minister in connection with migratory birds has been excellent. I hope that in developing the thesis behind this bill he will extend this conservation work to other forms of migratory animals, indeed to animals of the high seas in the northern part of Canada where sometimes it is difficult to know whether we own land or sea.

I commend the minister for bringing this whole matter to the attention of the House of Commons, but having inspected the bill I find that it is one the most loosey-goosey pieces of legislation to come before the House for some time. It gives the minister powers. It provides that he "may" do all sorts of things. He may undertake, promote and recommend measures; he may initiate conferences; he may undertake programs of research; he may establish advisory committees; he may co-ordinate and implement; he may take charge of this or carry out measures with respect to that. There is only one place in the bill where it says the minister "shall" do anything. That is in clause 11, which provides that the minister shall spend wisely money given to him, in accordance with the provisions laid down when it is given to him.

What we are really doing in this legislation is giving the minister authority to conduct almost any kind of program that he wishes. The minister can go charging off in one direction one day; the next day he can determine that that is not his priority and go charging off in another direction. At no time is he under any obligation to come back to the House of Commons and say what the priorities should be and where the limited amount of social capital available should be used in promoting and doing something for the preservation of wildlife.

I think it is high time we established some mandatory priorities. The minister should bring legislation before the House in which he says, "Members of Parliament, I want to do certain things and these are my priorities. These are the wildlife species I want to preserve. This, Members of Parliament, is the problem and this is specifically what I am asking you to authorize me to do." But legislation in this loosey-goosey fashion is not fair to the House and is not fair to the people of Canada.

There are provisions in the bill under which agreements can be made with the provinces for joint undertakings and agreements can be made with private organizations, with the permission of the provinces. I think it is proper that the minister should have permission to make certain agreements but we must ask, what kind of agreements? Agreements to do what; to preserve what? To say "just to preserve wild animals," in the total picture, is not definitive enough. It does not specifically set out to the House what the minister is really going to do. What we have is motherhood legislation. Wild animals are popular, it is nice to have a bill on wildlife, so we have a nice bill on wildlife that does not say a darn thing.

There is one problem that really disturbs me about this bill. It comes with clause 13, which provides that the governor in council may make regulations prohibiting certain things, specifying measures, and so on. The clause 14 reads:

Every person who violates any provision of this act or the regulations—

Mr. Speaker, there are no compulsory or mandatory provisions in the bill, so clause 14 must mean regulations.

—is guilty of an offence punishable on summary conviction.

What we have is criminal law introduced with criminal sanctions upon summary conviction, without even the regulations, rules or even the aims and objects of the regulations and rules brought before the House of Commons. The minister may make a regulation, he may even make a regulation to cover something that happened in the past, and the person who broke that regulation would be guilty of an offence and subject to punishment upon summary conviction. This kind of thing should not appear in legislation; it is the type of activity that should be stricken from this bill. If the minister has rules and regulations and if they are to carry with them penal results, they should be set out in detail so that the people of Canada know what laws they are likely to break.

● (1510)

I want to make some suggestions with respect to this bill, Mr. Speaker. I think it should set out in detail the extent of federal government involvement in the preservation of wildlife. It should set out in detail to what extent it is a matter of federal authority and to what extent the federal government is looking to the provinces, the counties and the territories of Canada to do their part under the legislation.

In my view, Mr. Speaker, federal responsibility clearly encompasses those animals and birds subject to large migration, and in particular migration across provincial boundaries. That may well apply to the caribou herd and presumably it applies to whales in our inland seas. It may well apply to other animals and birds with which I am not too familiar, although I am sure the minister has in his department people who are familiar with them.

The whole question of wildlife in the territories should be brought under this legislation. In answer to the hon. member for Comox-Alberni (Mr. Barnett) last night, I presume the minister was really saying that wildlife in the territories is a matter for the territorial council. Mr. Speaker, the territories are not yet provinces. I suggest that the assets and resources of the territories belong to all of Canada; thus they are the direct responsibility of the minister and should be specifically set out as being within the federal competence. The minister should also make it quite clear that it is a federal responsibility to co-ordinate research carried out by provincial and other authorities in connection with wildlife. To some extent that is contained in this bill, but it is not clear and specific.

The whole question of wildlife within federal parks is a loose one. The Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development (Mr. Chrétien) is responsible for federal parks and apparently has staff looking after wildlife in those parks. But we should have one minister to look after wildlife problems in Canada. Surely, if we are going to have a wildlife act it should set out that the Minister of the Environment is responsible for wildlife in all federal parks and all federal public lands.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, I think the legislation should set out what the endangered species are, and it should set out clearly what the minister should do and is directed to do with respect to the preservation of those endangered species. When legislation provides for a grants system to provinces and private organizations, surely this House should have an opportunity to know what kind of grants the minister has in mind. Perhaps the legislation should be specific and set out the type of projects that the federal treasury will sponsor or in which it will share the costs of the provinces and private organizations. In my opinion and in the opinion of some others it is not good enough to give the minister the right to make grants or agreements, because it leaves the whole matter open to the question of who knows whom; who has a project; is money available, if so, make an application and if it is politically sound, money will be made available. This is just not good enough, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Alexander: That is Liberal patronage.

Mr. Blenkarn: Yes, it is political patronage. One of the problems in Canada is that of overlapping jurisdiction. This occurs in many areas, and in the management of wildlife it is a real plague. For example, the township where I have my cottage licences hunting and the county provides bounties for bush wolves, so both the county and the township are specifically involved in the management of wildlife. The province has myriad rules with respect to hunting and conservation, and now the federal government comes into the act with two ministers looking after wildlife.

Mr. Jamieson: Three.

Mr. Blenkarn: Perhaps it is three: we have the territorial government, the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, and now the Minister of the Environment. This results in a waste of the taxpayers' money on overlapping and conflicting authority. It is time the Government of Canada showed leadership and set out what it is going to look after and what it expects the provinces and the territories to look after with respect to wildlife. Perhaps we could get out of this conflict and overlapping of authority that occurs not only in this field but in many other areas such as health care and fire prevention. Frankly, Mr. Speaker, my constituents and, I suggest, yours are tired of paying taxes to governments which all do the

same thing and all take credit for it. Here we have a motherhood bill. I am sure the Minister of the Environment (Mr. Davis) sincerely wants to do something to protect our wildlife, but he should get down to it and set out just what that is. He should not present us with a bill that is all-encompassing and gives him power to go off in one direction or another without regard to the cost or the jurisdiction he takes unto himself. This is the problem we face here and in other fields of legislative competence.

The problem with this bill is that it allows the minister to enter into new programs without a budget, without any limit and without any real legislative control. It is not a responsible bill and does not reflect concern for the citizens' tax dollars. It permits the minister to enter into one program today and another one tomorrow, to go whichever way the *Globe and Mail* tells him to go, to get involved in something that is popular now and, if it is not popular in a year or two, to get involved in another program. We have had too many of these new programs and it is time we got down to the question of priorities.

● (1520)

The people of Canada are among the most heavily taxed in the world and are rapidly becoming the most regulated in the world. It is time the government looked at the concept of wildlife preservation in all its aspects and considered it as a total package. It is time the minister and the government gave this country leadership for dealing with our resources and preserving them so that our children and grandchildren will benefit from them. This kind of loosey-goosey legislation, this kind of motherhood bill really will do nothing to build a better Canada.

Mr. Frank Howard (Skeena): Mr. Speaker, we in the NDP—and my remarks do not pertain exclusively to my group—have for a long time been concerned about wildlife and wildlife management. We are concerned about preserving the natural habitat of wildlife in this land and the respect that should be paid to nature itself. We appreciate the bill and realize that it tends to deal with an area that is largely under provincial legislation not only with respect to wildlife but to many matters which affect wildlife. For instance, provincial governments have jurisdiction over general questions involving land and land use or the misuse of land. That area of concern has an effect upon wildlife. The question of waters under provincial jurisdiction also may involve matters which have serious effects upon wildlife. Activities involving forestry, logging, mining, recreation in provincial parks and camping grounds, hunting, fishing and logging which come under the jurisdiction of the provinces impinge in one way or another upon species of wildlife.

In his opening statement the minister indicated that this bill has been the subject of discussion with provincial governments and that each of the ten provinces has endorsed it. I did not grasp clearly, from what the minister said last night in response to a question asked by the hon. member for Comox-Alberni (Mr. Barnett), the relationships involving the federal government, this bill and the territorial governments of the Yukon and Northwest Territories. The minister intimated that the approach taken with respect to those territories was the same as that taken with respect to the provinces, but his statement was not clear and I think requires clarification. To my mind, at least, there ought to be a clearer understanding of how this bill involves the territories, particularly in light of oil and natural gas discoveries in the northern areas and the dangers that those discoveries can bring not only to wildlife but to the terrain itself.

I am of the opinion that the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development should not be given jurisdiction, under this bill, with respect to national parks; I do not think there ought to be duplication of responsibility in these areas at the federal level. I think we should make that clear now. This legislation ought to apply to wildlife in the national parks, otherwise two approaches to protection may be taken and the matter may involve different jurisdictions.

The pressures upon wildlife in this land are very large, very impressive, very dangerous and largely unknown. The bulk of our population are city folk. They live in an urban setting. I do not say this in an unkind way. However, people who live in rural areas come in contact daily with nature and know more of nature than do people who live in cities. As I said, the bulk of our population lives in cities and works in cities and only rarely, at vacation time or the odd weekend, are city people able to go to the country. So, often they do not really understand what wildlife is and do not have adequate knowledge of it. In the sense that we do not understand the effects of all aspects of human activity, the pressures on wildlife are largely unknown.

Sometimes we build dams, as happened in my province, as the minister knows, and we create artificial lakes, thereby flooding thousands of acres. Sometimes we flood moose pasture and elk pasture and destroy food sources for antlered animals. This tends to kill them off or drive them away to other areas. This, in turn, creates additional pressures on foods available in other areas. Also, the operations of logging companies drive fur-bearing animals from the area. The consequences of indiscriminate logging, coupled with dry summers and forest fires, create additional dangers to animals and birds in the forests.

Although hunting from helicopters is not permitted or authorized under provincial law, as I understand it, one hears of hunters using helicopters to hunt. They may come either from within or without Canada. These people are able to charter helicopters, and they fly around the mountain tops and ridges and pick off mountain sheep and goats as if catching the proverbial fish in the proverbial barrel. This sort of indiscriminate hunting indulged in for the acquisition of heads and horns, and not for meat, indulged in because the hunter simply wishes to kill something, continues and endangers the wildlife of this land.

We are familiar from reading, if by no other way, of the effects of pesticides, herbicides, chemicals and effluents which are discharged by industrial plants. We know that fertilizers which used to contain phosphates and detergents have been flushed down into the ocean where they have contaminated fish and birds who feed upon those fish. Those chemicals are destructive and injurious. Therefore, because we must concern ourselves about these matters we endorse the principles contained within the bill.

We know that because in this country there are different provincial jurisdictions, one set of rules and concepts

will apply in one province and may not apply in another. These concepts at the provincial level may alter from time to time. The provinces may adopt more rigid views at any given moment in preserving wildlife, or their thinking may become not so rigid. There is a good thought within the bill to the effect that we may be able to develop—and I hope we will—uniformity of concept with respect to preserving wildlife throughout all the provinces and territories.

I am a bit unhappy that the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development is to be free to go its own way, because that way may or may not coincide with the way the Minister of the Environment (Mr. Davis) wants to go. Apart from that, I am a bit unhappy about the provisions of clause 9, which provides that the minister may, in co-operation with one or more provincial governments, do certain things. I assume from what the minister said last night that he conceives that to also mean in co-operation with the territories, but the bill does not say that and I think it excludes it. I would like to know just what that clause means. In any event, it provides that the minister may, in co-operation with the provinces, take whatever measures he deems necessary for the protection of any species of non-domestic animal in danger of extinction.

● (1530)

The phrase "in danger of extinction" is not clear. It makes one think that only when a species of wildlife reaches the stage of being in danger of extinction will a move be made to correct the situation. In many ways, when that state of affairs is conceived and understood, it is too late; the damage has been done. We all know of species which make an almost superhuman effort just to keep alive the process of propagation.

I would like to see the clause altered so that it does not carry the implication that we only move at the last possible moment. That is what the phrase "in danger of extinction" means to me. It does not give any clear indication of the basis for deciding whether a species of wildlife is in danger of extinction. Also, the bill does not take into account what species of wildlife may be in danger of extinction in one area or another. I refer, for example, to islands. Some species are peculiar to certain islands. Any undue hunting, industry, use of pesticides, helicopters, or any of the other things I mentioned earlier, such as mining and logging operations, could not only place wildlife in the area in danger of extinction but could extinguish it completely.

There are areas of northern British Columbia where the grizzly bear is now extinct. Because of new roads and people, he is moving farther and farther away. Even though we have different ideas about the grizzly bear, it is a rather shy animal, as are most animals in the forest. They want to keep out of our way as much as we want to keep out of theirs. When an animal hears a person in the bush, it gets out of his way; it is not interested in meeting him. Because of road building, logging and aircraft, more people are moving into these remote areas.

Grizzly bears are feared and hunted. This is the concept we have of someone who is hunting a grizzly bear. It is ridiculous, because usually the hunter is in a blind in a tree some distance from the grizzly bear. He has a high-powered rifle with a powerful telescope. The poor grizzly bear, hundreds of yards away, does not have a clue what is going on until he has been shot. The "fearless" hunter then climbs down from his safe position and collects his trophy of a grizzly bear head or skin. This lack of respect for wildlife is indicative of what is happening to species such as the grizzly bear.

This is also true of black bears. In many respects they are very gentle souls. They wander all over the streets of Jasper and Banff. They are a bit of a nuisance at times because they scrounge from garbage pails. However, they have some protection. When they wander along the road they are likely to be shot by someone travelling in a car. The purpose is merely to cater to that individual's desire to kill something.

The words contained in clause 9, which imply that action will be taken only when animals are in danger of extinction, should be changed. Action should be taken before that time in order to preserve our wildlife. Also, there should be research with regard to preserving wildlife species so they may grow and develop. There is a need for herds to enlarge. Such research should take into account not only biological questions which impinge upon propagation of the species, but harvesting for food and hunting for trophy purposes. I am not the least bit interested in supporting the idea of trophy hunting. In fact, I would like to see the federal and provincial governments promote the idea of people hunting with a camera instead of a gun. This would attract a different group of people from those with the killer instinct. I would like to see people preserve on film what they see, rather than having a moose head on the wall, collecting dust, to which a hunter can point with pride. In most cases these poor, defenceless animals are shot from a distance of great safety.

In addition to the biological question, research should involve the economic question. With regard to hunting, there are a number of guides who earn their living guiding people into hunting areas. They earn their living by showing others what wildlife is all about. This research should involve recreational forest areas in a way similar to what I was saying about cameras a moment ago. I do not think the concept of research being carried out entirely within the minister's department or in conjunction with the provinces will be satisfactory. It would be much more fruitful if grants were made to people outside the government service to do research in this field. I cannot think of a group of people who know more about wildlife and are more intimately involved than our native Indian people. They know what wildlife is all about.

● (1540)

In this area, I believe extremely useful research work could be done if we were to draw on the experience of our native Indians. Grants for research work might also be given to guides and trappers who live a large part of their lives in the bush in the same habitat as the animals we now seek to protect, as well as to wildlife foundations, rod and gun clubs and other groups which by their activities have shown concern for the wildlife of this land.

When the bill gets before the committee I hope it will not be rushed through. I hope an opportunity will be given for people whose lives are closely associated with nature and wildlife to make suggestions and representations for improving the measure, for making it function in a better way than is conceived from the point of view of the lawyers who drafted it or from the point of view of the minister who determined policy questions with regard to it. Legislation of this nature concerns itself with something beyond the normal comprehension of most of us in this House or, indeed, in our society today. We must draw on the knowledge, experience, feelings and understanding of those who of their own volition live a life which respects the wild creatures around them. If we do this, I am sure we can produce a measure which will be a credit to this land for a long time to come.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Craig Stewart (Marquette): Mr. Speaker, I would like to make some brief remarks on Bill C-131, an act respecting wildlife in Canada. I realize that it is just enabling legislation, but there are several points affecting the prairie provinces which I think should be stressed at this time. Many of the points contained in the bill came out of the Resources for Tomorrow Conference which was held over ten years ago. I am glad the government has brought forward this legislation because it is long overdue. All Canadians wish to do everything possible to preserve our wildlife. Nobody appreciates wildlife more than people who live in the rural areas of Canada, because they live so close to nature.

One concern I have about this legislation is that no mention is made of the dollars for wetlands program. This program was introduced by the Progressive Conservative government in the early sixties and was established to encourage farmers in the prairie provinces not to drain sloughs and potholes on their farms. I felt it was a very effective program. As we are all aware, in the early 1960s grain sales were good and farmers wishing to increase production were trying to put as much of their land under cultivation as possible. This meant that many potholes and sloughs were being drained. The situation became so serious that water tables in many areas were affected. Not only did this occur, but as these sloughs and potholes were vast breeding grounds for the duck population in North America there was a distinct possibility that if the trend continued it could result in the extinction of the ducks.

The government of the day was aware of this possibility and introduced the dollars for wetlands program. Under the program the government paid an annual incentive to farmers who agreed not to drain their land. The farmer was compensated for loss of income incurred through not putting land into forage or grain production. The program was very effective when it was introduced. However, in 1969 and 1970 the government at that time decided, for some unknown reason, that there should be a cutback in the program. The cutback was in fact so severe that very few farmers participated. Another problem was that no change had been made in the amount of incentive paid to farmers since the program was introduced. We are all aware of the increases in costs to our farmers, and at that time we urged the government to double the incentive paid because their rates were out of date. But the government would not listen. The irony of the situation is that in the year that we saw the biggest cutback by the government in the dollars for wetlands program, we also saw the introduction of the program known as Lift.

Here was a situation in which one department of government was paying the farmer not to grow wheat and encouraging him to take the land out of production, while at the same time another department of government was discontinuing a very effective program which was achieving the same result in addition to protecting the environment. This paradox was brought to the attention of the government, but in their arrogant way members opposite would not listen. I hope the dollars for wetlands program is completely reinstated and that farmers will be paid enough compensation to encourage them to leave their sloughs undrained. The area of Manitoba which I represent is one of Canada's largest duck breeding grounds. If these breeding grounds are to continue to exist, farmers will have to receive proper compensation. I know they are prepared to co-operate.

Ducks feeding on farmers' crops in the field present a very real and costly problem on the Prairies. This has been mentioned in the House many times. As a result, because of their heavy losses a number of farmers view the duck population with concern. The government has, it is true, taken some steps to ease this situation. Farmers are sometimes criticized for the position they take in this regard, but I can imagine how loudly any retail merchant would holler if birds were allowed to eat produce off his shelves. If wildlife is to be protected, farmers will have to receive sufficient compensation for damage to their crops. This is a "must" if the bill is to be effective.

One other point I should like to make concerns damage by wildlife to crops which have been left in swath during the winter due to poor harvest weather. Riding Mountain National Park is in my constituency. It is more than 1,200 square miles in area. Many farms border the park or are in its vicinity. If these farmers are obliged to leave crops out in swath for long, the damage done by wildlife from the park is almost unbelievable. When they complain about their losses either to the province or to the federal government, each level of government claims it has no responsibility. I hope the bill before us will see that proper compensation is paid to farmers for damage done to crops by wildlife.

Mr. John Harney (Scarborough West): Mr. Speaker, in commenting on the bill before us I should like to address my remarks in particular to clause 9 to which my hon. friend from Skeena (Mr. Howard) was referring a while ago. If I might make a suggestion in all humility to the Minister of the Environment (Mr. Davis), it would be that he consider looking at Bill C-165. My humility is, of course, increased as I note that this particular bill relates closely to a private member's bill submitted by myself for the consideration of the House. It is entitled "an act respecting the protection of endangered species." The material in that bill certainly relates closely to clause 9 of the bill we are presently studying. For the interest of the House I shall read the brief clause 9 of the bill before us. It is entitled "Endangered wildlife" and provides:

● (1550)

The minister may, in co-operation with one or more provincial governments having an interest therein, take such measures as he deems necessary for the protection of any species of non-domestic animal in danger of extinction.

I humbly submit, Mr. Speaker, that although the intention and the spirit of the clause are good, the clause is still a relatively weak one. As the expression often goes in this House, it is a provision without teeth. The only teeth that this provision would have are to be found in the mouths of the poor animals who are supposed to be protected. There are no specific provisions as to how action is to be taken. There is nothing in the clause about sanctions and there is, indeed, very little definition.

As a suggestion to the minister and to the committee I should like to put forward some distinctions and definitions which are contained in Bill C-165 which I think are more specific and useful. There is an attempt to define "endangered species" in this way:

—"endangered species" means any wild mammal, wild bird, amphibian or reptile which by regulation is declared by the minister to be threatened with extinction—

Further on there is a definition of that last phrase, "threatened with extinction":

—"threatened with extinction" means a species or subspecies which is either unlikely to continue to survive without special protective measures—

I think this underlines the point that the hon. member for Skeena was making so effectively.

—or occurs in such small numbers and/or in such a restricted or specialized habitat that it could easily disappear.

In other words, this kind of definition is, I think, more useful than the very general statement that is contained in the present bill and I think meets the kind of concern expressed by the hon. member for Skeena. However, it is not enough for us in Canada to think only of the wildlife of this country as isolated from the rest of the world. In this case as in so many others we must have an international approach to the concern we feel. It may be that practices followed in this country can have a nefarious effect on wildlife in other countries. In order to make my point I should like to read from an article that appeared in one of our daily newspapers this winter, from a United Press source. It is brief and reads as follows:

U.S. Attorney Robert Morse and Assistant Secretary of the Interior Nathaniel Reed said yesterday in Brooklyn federal court the largest ring of traffickers in illegal animal pelts ever uncovered had been smashed.

You might ask, quite rightly, Mr. Speaker, what are illegal animal pelts? How would we define them as being illegal in this country? I suggest it would be difficult since we do not have a law in this country that defines trafficking in certain animal pelts as illegal. The article continues:

A major company which admitted $5 million worth of purchases and sales of threatened species, including ocelot, otter, leopard, cheetah, jaguar and puma, faces a $500,000 fine.

That is a fairly stiff fine. But the next paragraph is the one that should really startle us:

Reed—

That is to say, the Assistant Secretary of the Interior, Nathaniel Reed.

—said these illegal pelts are shipped to storehouses in Canada and Switzerland because these countries do not now prevent the purchase and sale of these skins.

It is rather nice to have some international attention, but there are some times when we get attention that we could do without. This is certainly one of those times. Canada and Switzerland are about the only two countries left in the North Atlantic world, as it were, which do not prevent by law trafficking in skins and pelts of endangered species. I wish this bill did have some more teeth in it particularly with this point in mind.

Referring again to Bill C-165, which I submit is a better defined document, it contains a provision regarding international concern in the objects of the bill. The bill states:

It is hereby declared that it is necessary to assist on an international and domestic level in the preservation of species threatened with extinction and that there is illegal traffic on an international and national scale of skins of wild mammals, wild birds, amphibians and reptiles which threatens the survival of many rare species.

Again we have the balancing effect of supply and demand here: if we can cut off the supply, we will stop the demand—effectively. But as long as Canada remains a warehouse for this kind of trafficking it will always be possible for traffickers, whose trade is illegal in other countries such as the United States, to come to this country and set up operation. For this I do not think we should hold up our heads with too much pride.

I know I keep quoting from Bill C-165, Mr. Speaker, but there is this provision in the bill which is quite specific:

The minister

(a) shall determine to the extent possible through consultation with foreign countries, interested persons and organizations what species and/or subspecies are threatened with extinction either on a worldwide basis or a habitat basis; and

(b) may seek the advice and assistance of scientific organizations and specialists in the fields of zoology, ornithology, and herpetology, without restricting the range of advice and assistance to the said scientific fields.

Then in the operative part of the bill there is the provision that no person shall sell, purchase, store or import into Canada the skin of any endangered species. I think many members of this chamber would have more confidence in Bill C-131 if clause 9 contained provisions of the kind I have just cited from Bill C-165, where there is clear instruction as to how the minister is to proceed, what advice he is to seek, on what basis he may declare a species an endangered species, and there is a clear prohibition against the sale, trading, warehousing, exporting or dealing in the skins and pelts of endangered species. Then beyond the prohibition there is the calling for a sanction as follows:

Any person violating any provision of this act or any regulation is guilty of an offence punishable on summary conviction and liable for each offence to a fine of five thousand dollars and imprisonment to a term not exceeding five years or to both.

Put this kind of provision in the bill, Mr. Speaker, and obviously you will have teeth in it. Left as it is, I think clause 9 will do very little other than express finer sentiments. It does very little more than give vent to our feelings, offering no real likelihood of any effective action being taken.

It is very rarely in this House that we debate the interpretation part of a bill, but I should like to suggest

that some of the interpretative material in Bill C-131 is rather vague. In the interpretation clause, clause 2, it says that "wildlife" means any non-domestic animal. I suppose the obverse is true and that any domestic animal is one which is non-wildlife. You have a definition here which with its counterpart is, of course, completely tautological. It is comprehensive but it is not very deprecative. There are certain species that clearly fall either within one of these categories or within another of these categories.

Mr. Rose: The horse.

● (1600)

Mr. Harney: I hear my colleague from Fraser Valley West (Mr. Rose) exclaim from his bench, "The horse". In Canada we have domestic and wild horses, and there have been recent cases in the handling of horses both wild and domestic for export which should cause us to bow our heads in justifiable shame. Some time ago—I forget exactly when, but well over a year—the Department of Transport did inaugurate a fairly good code for shipboard transportation of horses. Members of this House may not be aware that horses are shipped live out of this country, ostensibly, in many cases, for the purpose of breeding and rearing in Europe, and in other cases for the purpose of slaughter. I understand that the code does stipulate in part that horses over 11 years of age may not be shipped out of the country for the purpose of slaughter.

Several societies concerned with the humane treatment of animals looked into these shipments and came away rather alarmed at the way these animals are treated on shipboard. It is obvious to anyone who looks into the situation that horses are shipped to Europe, there to be slaughtered and their flesh to be served on the tables of Europeans. If those people want to eat horse meat, I suppose that is their business. What we should be concerned with in this country is the situation when these animals are shipped out of Canada for this purpose.

I would take a much more simple approach to the matter, Mr. Speaker. I suggest that no horses should be shipped live out of this country for the purpose of slaughter overseas. Then we would know absolutely that these animals would be killed humanely here and that our handling of them would be sound and humane. No matter how well we supervise this—and I doubt that we do or can supervise it well—I do not suppose we will ever be able to assure ourselves that these animals are humanely treated once they have left the port of Montreal or Halifax and are on a ship somewhere in the middle of the Atlantic.

Horses can fall ill and die, and horses that are too old obviously cannot suffer the sea passage safely. Some horses may have foals that are too young to be treated in this fashion. Others simply have not been trained and are not sufficiently docile. Many horses have been reported to have been treated most inhumanely during shipment. Perhaps when we review this bill in committee we can consider the rather vague definition of "wildlife" and expand the bill to the consideration of this kind of situation.

Someone might tell me that my intervention is a little out of order, but I know there have been allegations made to the effect that wild horses from Alberta have been shipped to Europe under these conditions. If we want to take that very sound view and make that distinction between wild and domestic animals, we should at least take steps to prevent this kind of inhumane treatment.

Let me end by saying there is something very biblical about this event. The expressed concern on the part of the government and hon. members of this House for the well-being of animals is something which dates back to the very beginning of biblical times. According to the first book of Genesis we were put on this earth to tend the garden, and we were expected to tend this garden with respect. In a very significant way, the manner in which we deal with the creatures with which we share this earth is a reflection upon ourselves. If I may interpret, as indeed has been done many times before, the first verse of Genesis, the first thing that Adam did was to name the animals. I suppose this is what the minister proposes we now do in a modern way. We are not going to name them, we are going to research them. Let us hope that our research goes beyond the mere expression of idle curiosity and becomes an expression of our concern for our fellow creatures on this earth.

Mr. P. B. Rynard (Simcoe North): Mr. Speaker, I should like to say a few words about this bill, and I congratulate the minister for bringing it in. In dealing with wildlife in Canada the bill covers many things. It provides for agreements with the governments of the provinces, so it covers provincial, municipal and township matters. It deals with organizations or persons associated with wildlife research. I think this is a very important matter as we are always faced with problems of research, particularly in the area of our wildlife kingdom. It deals with payments and contributions in respect of the cost of measures resulting therefrom, and provides for the purchase, acquisition or lease of lands. It also provides for the costs incurred in administration of the legislation to be paid out of moneys to be appropriated by parliament, and relates to other matters in connection with the administration of this legislation. I think this is a very good measure in that it deals with these aspects and covers a tremendous area of the country.

We all know what happens if we do not maintain the balance of wildlife in this country. We are also aware of the disappearance of many species of wildlife. We know there is a great deal of importance in maintaining this balance of life. I have in mind the fact that the wolf population in the northland kills the crippled, the lame, the halt and the blind of our caribou and deer populations. These animals would encounter untold suffering if it were not for wolves killing them humanely and mercifully. I think the ecology of the north would be very much upset, particularly in the Northwest Territories, if we did not have wolves to kill off the mice. Mice destroy all kinds of vegetation in that country. The same applies to foxes and rabbits, and one might include in that chain hawks who live on mice and other small animals, and other carnivorous species.

I should like to refer to an article which goes back to the 1950s when the Dutch elm disease threatened some of the trees which line the streets of many mid-western towns. In 1954, Michigan State University, which has a large number of elms on its East Lansing campus, began to spray with DDT to kill the beetles that spread the disease. The beetles began to die, but so did a large number of

robins. Soon zoologists discovered that earthworms ate the DDT-covered leaves that fell to the ground, the worms in turn were eaten by the robins, causing them to die of nerve poisoning. This example covers three species and stages in the ecological chain.

Michigan State's experience is a demonstration of the phenomenon known as biological magnification. While the DDT concentration in one area may be microscopically low, it can multiply through the food chain. Several birds along the Great Lakes, including the American eagle, were threatened with extinction because of the use of DDT, because DDT causes the liver to produce enzymes that attack the hormones governing the production of calcium. I should like to quote the following from the *Globe and Mail* of July 7, 1969:

● (1610)

When the eagle's system produces less calcium, the eggshells become thinner, causing more frequent breakage and fewer baby eagles.

The osprey, peregrine falcon and mallard duck have problems similar to those of the eagle. And the Minks Ranchers Association believes that DDT may be affecting mink reproduction.

I think this covers quite a field, and it goes to show how we can destroy wildlife by using controls such as pesticides. The article goes on to read:

Humans seem to eliminate DDT once it reaches a level of 10 or 12 parts per million. (Most North Americans apparently have that level in their bodies).

Experiments in feeding prisoners massive DDT doses have uncovered no measurable dangers—

But in treating mice they did run into problems which showed that it might be harmful. The experiments also indicated that DDT might interfere with the productivity of wildlife.

I want to congratulate wildlife groups, people in fish and game clubs and rod and gun clubs for the part they have played. In my area there are such clubs, particularly fish and game clubs and conservation clubs, that have done very useful work. They have bought up land here and there and have stocked it with wild animals and birds. These animals and birds are multiplying under these normal conditions, just as if they were free. It is a beautiful sight to see these animals and birds, some of which are being released into the woods because of overpopulation. I cannot stress sufficiently the important part these organizations have played in building such sanctuaries. They have aroused public opinion, which is very important. Public opinion has been aroused on the very subject that the minister has been smart enough to put into legislation and bring before the House.

I want to refer for a minute or two to the remarks of the hon. member for Marquette (Mr. Stewart) who commented very ably on the wetlands and how they could be used. The same thing applies to Ontario, where we could protect our bush and similar areas that are unfit for agriculture but would make excellent havens for wildlife. The other day I was in the bush, a woodlot of about 200 acres. There were deer there, bears, raccoons and beavers; a stream goes through the lot. This was very interesting to me. Here was preservation of animals by people, without any compulsion at all. They did it because they like to protect the wildlife of the country.

I would also like to refer to the comments of the hon. member for Scarborough West (Mr. Harney) who dealt with the problem of wild and tame horses. This is certainly a problem that affects us all, and it probably distresses a good many people when horses are caught and shipped abroad. Many times they are injured on the way, and a few times they have had colts during shipment. One such case was reported to me, and when one case is reported there are usually many others. This matter could be taken care of by the federal branch dealing with the health of animals. As is the case when any type of thoroughbred or other animal is shipped out of the country, a health certificate should be required for the animal. Regulations could be brought in barring any animals from being shipped overseas that were not going there for breeding purposes. It is as simple as that. If there happened to be too many wild horses, they could be slaughtered, frozen and then shipped. Let us not do this by the back door in an underhand way. Let us be fair and honest in our approach to the problems connected with wild horses and wildlife.

In conclusion, I want to congratulate the minister. I know that he will have the support of all members of the House on his progressive legislation.

Mr. Gordon Ritchie (Dauphin): Mr. Speaker, I would like to say a few words on second reading of this bill. It is perhaps one of the few bills that will receive unanimous agreement from all sides of the House and from all the public. If there are any misgivings, they would only be that the bill does not go far enough and is not sufficiently extensive to satisfy many people.

In his speech the minister gave a good resumé of what the bill hopes to accomplish. I think the public is becoming increasingly aware of what only a few generations ago only the conservationist was aware of, namely, that man as a species of animal himself must be increasingly aware of the fact that he is limited by many of the boundaries of nature within which other animal species are restricted, and that he is finding the same peripheries to his activities that nature applies to other animals.

The multiplication of a new species creates a new balance. This seems to have been true since the world began. Rather belatedly, the human species is realizing that the preservation of many animals is desirable and even necessary for our survival. Of course, we have our domesticated animals which have come from the wilds, but as well there are many other animals that are not domesticated, and we desire to have them protected. In North America, for instance, the deer population was at an all-time low around the 1900s, but through wise management it is now in substantially greater numbers than previously and there are no signs of their dying out. It is now obvious that most animal life and bird life on this continent can be preserved, and may even thrive, if man would only apply some relatively minor and modest measures of control. However, these are rather meagre.

A few years ago, when I first came to the House in 1968, I asked what research was available on upland game birds in the prairie provinces, Unfortunately, I found that very little research material was available and I was referred to research material accumulated by the Americans in the Dakotas and Montana. But even in that area the American research was quite meagre. For my own interest I was able

to procure some native varieties of seedling plantings for birds from the government station at Indian Head, and I believe that the government officials in the dominion nursery there have made a creditable start in this area. They are to be congratulated for having made a start in finding suitable plantings which will sustain game bird populations in the prairie area.

The problem with wildlife programs at both the federal and provincial levels has been the apparent lack of continuity of the programs once a project was under way. For instance, the government had a program of poghole preservation in western Manitoba which fell afoul of the government's austerity measures in 1969. The farmers at that time, since they had an excess of grain on hand, were glad to preserve some of the potholes for waterfowl preservation because of the income involved from the leasing; but at this time when grain is not so abundant—it is in short supply and it can all be sold—it will be more difficult to convince farmers to set them aside and leave them as a sluice for waterfowl preservation.

I would like to say that although the setting aside of selected areas as refuges has a good deal of advantage, I think that for the preservation of wildlife this should be done throughout the whole of the country, interspersed with farms, agricultural units, and so on. To do this we need the co-operation of the provincial and federal governments but, most importantly, we need the co-operation of rural councils. Speaking of my own area, there will not be much progress there unless the co-operation of rural councils is enlisted. Their help will have to be planned in the matter of restrictions, easements, perhaps direct tax relief measures, etc., which will have to be agreed upon in order that a suitable habitat for wildlife may be made available. It is quite true that a relatively small effort to maintain these habitats will be necessary to support a substantial wildlife population.

● (1620)

I am always amazed at the statement that the English countryside sustains a higher population of wild animals per square mile than any other country in the world. In Canada, and in the prairie provinces especially, with the severe winters wildlife population may not be extremely high but there is no doubt that with proper management surprisingly good results could be anticipated.

There is a problem in my area, which I think would be prevalent in many other areas, regarding hunting rights of the native people. Tensions are heightening between the Indian people and the rural communities surrounding reserves over the question of all-year hunting and what is considered a particularly unsportsmanlike method of hunting, night-lighting, by Indians on private property. Although Indians have a right to hunt during the year on reservations or on Crown land, there is actually little Crown land available, so that most hunting is done on private property. The original purpose of allowing Indians to hunt for food has long since lost its validity in the southern parts of the country, as all the game available could provide only a slight amount of food for the Indian population.

The double standard of having some people able to hunt all year round while others cannot hunt at all, particularly when hunting is carried out on private land, has caused intense animosity in my area between the Indian people and the surrounding farm population and sportsmen. It is wisely pointed out that all the violations of night-lighting, and so on, are not caused by the Indians. Of course, the problem is complicated by the fact that the preservation of wildlife is under provincial jurisdiction. While the treaties which guarantee the Indians their right to hunt were made by the federal authority, up to the present time there has been no obvious attempt made by either the federal or provincial authorities to sort out this delicate problem.

It is a problem that will have to be solved. I urge the minister to have his department study this problem as well as having the Department of Indian Affairs study it so that meaningful discussions with the provinces and with the Indian bands themselves will lead to some kind of solution. Otherwise, I am afraid that the animosity may lead to violent solutions that we will all regret, and that will endanger the working out of satisfactory relationships between the Indians and their rural neighbours. This may not be a very widespread problem but it is a severe one. It goes to the root of the original treaties and also to the root of the enforcement of provincial game laws. I congratulate the minister on this bill and I wish its purpose success.

Mr. Mark Rose (Fraser Valley West): Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased to be able to take part in the discussion on Bill C-131. Perhaps my initial observation will be similar to that of others who suggested that this is umbrella legislation. One of the problems with umbrella legislation is that it tends to be full of holes, in that it allows a minister to do a great deal or to do virtually nothing.

I realize that the problem of wildlife protection, management and enhancement in Canada is fraught with certain difficulties which are largely jurisdictional, and even with the best will in the world the federal government would have to seek the co-operation of provinces and municipalities before it could achieve its objectives. I also think that the matter of the regulations to flow from this bill is of major concern. Because of the very general nature of the bill, it seems to me that the regulations will determine whether or not Bill C-131 is to be effective or just window-dressing.

Without those regulations, or knowledge of them, we really cannot draw too many conclusions about this legislation, except that it is a statement of fine intentions. This is a continuing problem with a great deal of legislation presented to this House. I recall that a couple of years ago, when we were discussing the problem of protection of the boreal ecology with respect to the Yukon mineral bill, until we were sure which set of regulations would be accepted we in parliament were in a very poor position to make any intelligent comment on the nature, scope and possible effectiveness of that bill, and so with many other pieces of legislation. But in saying that, I think we can be pleased that we have this legislation before us, of course recognizing the limitations and also recognizing the fact that it is really up to the minister or the government to determine how much effect this will have in preserving and enhancing the kind of natural wildlife which abounds in Canada.

It is interesting, I think, that wildlife legislation took so long to arrive at the federal level. I believe it is here now because of a growing concern over and a recognition of the fact that we as men, as humans, are really "part of" rather than "apart from" the whole ecology of this planet. We have too long stood above the planet as its masters, but now we find that our mastery has not really been very masterful. We, like the animals, are part of the whole ecosystem, and man's transgressions are the most threatening to it.

About 20 years ago the standard text for general science in British Columbia was called "Mastering our Environment." I doubt whether a text with that title would ever find its way into the school system today because our whole attitude with respect to man's relationship to the environment has changed, perhaps due to the pioneering efforts of people such as Jack Miner dealing with birds, Grey Owl dealing with beavers and of writers who published interesting outdoor stories. Today more and more people are recognizing the validity of preserving the often limited and definitive parameters or boundaries of what survives in terms of wildlife, not only animal life but plant and marine life.

I do not intend to go into great detail in a clause by clause review of this bill. As I said earlier, I feel the bill is very general and that it is really up to the minister to determine what flows from it. Whether or not it is used to the benefit and preservation of wildlife really rests with the minister and his government. I would like to note—I will list some things in a moment and perhaps discuss them in detail later—some of the threats to wildlife which I think have brought us to the point where we must now consider this preservation legislation. The first thing we have to consider—and this is largely, by the way, centred around modern man—is the destruction that development of all kinds causes to wildlife. There is also the destruction of predators, which in turn destroys the food chain. There is the suffering and destruction due to the various kinds of savage traps that we use to catch animals. There is the destruction of animal life caused by chemical pollutants, herbicides, pesticides and various waste products. There is the destruction caused by government department ignoring another government department. I will amplify this later. Finally, the destruction of animals, both lethal and sublethal, having to do with the reproductive capacities of those animals, birds and fishes which is due to radioactive fall-out.

● (1630)

Mr. Speaker, it is rather pointless for us to be considering this legislation at all if we do not take a long strong stand on matters such as technological development, chemical and nuclear pollution and the ignorance of one government department compared to another. Unless we take all these things into consideration, we are only uttering a lot of fine sentiments and the result will be gradual extinction of more and more species. I have heard it said that we are losing one species of animal per year in the world. This figure is nothing for human beings to be proud of.

In British Columbia we have examples of destruction due to developments such as the Roberts Bank coal port. The bulk loading facility happened to be set in the only Mediterranean marine climate that exists in British Columbia. Many people opposed that port because of its situation within to marinetide flats and wetlands which is where the life of the sea starts. Any further depradation of this limited and unique Mediterranean marine area in Canada would be a definite loss not only for recreation but for those forms of marine and fish life that depend upon such areas to reproduce. This includes shellfish and other types of commercial fish.

I am pleased that now when we consider the construction of coal ports and such things as airports, we first embark upon environmental studies. I do not know how sophisticated these studies are, but at least greater consideration is being given to the environmental impact. No explicit references to environmental studies for annual protection before embarking on major developments are to be found in this bill. Another thing that concerns many B.C. people is the possibility that the mudflats east of the Second Narrows bridge on Burrard Inlet may be destroyed for the development of port facilities. I would oppose any such move because I believe we should try to preserve mudflats for the reasons I have mentioned in connection with Roberts Bank.

There have also been doubts about the development of the Mackenzie valley. I have in my file some material from the Canadian Wildlife Federation which came to me a couple of years ago when I was speaking about the Yukon Minerals Act. At that time we were as concerned about exploration and development by mining companies as we are today about the development of oil pipelines. In the winter, 1971, issue of *Wildlife News* appears the following comment:

> Statements made recently in the House of Commons imply that the Canadian Wildlife Service is actively involved in research on the effects of pipelines on ecology in general and on wildlife in particular. Except for an inventory of sensitive wildlife areas, and a general reconnaissance of the types of damage being done by oil exploration—

And coming to the operative part of the statement, Mr. Speaker.

> —the Canadian Wildlife Service has neither undertaken research of the type implied nor does it have funds for such research during the forthcoming year.

I hope the minister can tell us that is no longer true, or else everything contained in Bill C-131 is nonsense. Lack of funding reminds me of the Canada Water Act which was to provide the establishment of river basin boards. To my knowledge none has been set up, mainly because there was no provision for funds to cover them. It is all very well to have research into sensitive ecological matters, but if funds are denied we might as well forget the subject. There are some other interesting comments in the Wildlife Federation leaflet which bear not only on the attitudes of Canadians but also on North American or western European values. On page 2 appears the following:

> But, as the Canadian Wildlife Federation points out in its current National Wildlife Week program, the earth is not without its limits—limits which we have known for several centuries. We have long since "conquered" the wilderness and "subdued" the last inhabitable frontiers. Our technology exploits forms of energy which gives to each of us power equivalent to hundreds of times the impact on our environment. The wastes and even the products of our rapidly growing, diversifying technology are too often released into the biosphere to upset the eons-old balance of natural systems.

In other words, the Canadian Wildlife Service, a branch of government, is complaining that we are using the air as a sewer. We are. If we continue to do this it is bound to have a much more pernicious effect on our animal life than we can overcome by setting up any reserve for the resting of wild ducks. There exists the larger question which is important and one which goes beyond this legislation. I should like to read one more paragraph from this excellent bulletin because it relates to the larger question:

> Clearly, our devotion to the growth ethos, the outmoded conventional wisdom that proclaims "bigger" to be "better", has been too complete for too long. Now that bigger populations, more products and by-products of technology, greater use of resources and proliferation of wastes are lowering the quality of our lives—perhaps even threatening our survival—it is surely time to make intelligent choices which, at best, may preserve a reasonable quality of life and, at worst, will avoid disaster for our species.

I think it is implied here that our species are inextricably linked with all other species on this planet. Perhaps I have said enough about that, but it reflects the attitude of many people and I am sure that in the main, though perhaps not completely, it reflects the attitude of the minister.

The next point is the destruction of predators which in turn destroy our food chain. For too long we have been chasing "the big bad wolf"—we allow the rodent to multiply, and so the whole ecosystem gets out of balance. A lady from my riding has written to me on this general topic and I should like to quote from her letter. She writes:

> Our wildlife plays a vital part in our ecosystem—all wildlife—even the predators, that hunters and stockmen would have us believe are an "extra entity!" But then "self-interest" tends to make one's views a bit biased, wouldn't you say? Or to carry the thought further "man is the extra in the ecosystem!" He contributes little and feels justified in taking all he can get at the expense, in many instances, of the environment. The destruction of predators (so-called) is the irreversible first step toward destruction of land and the ecosystem. As the predators disappear, the rodents increase; as the rodents devour the roots of the grasses, the grass cover dies—causing erosion. With the destruction of the natural growth of grass cover, the so-called noxious plants take over—productive land becomes a desert!

From recent information we know that because of overgrazing, poor management practices and perhaps even a change in climate, the Sahara desert is growing by one mile per year and it could conceivably cover a huge portion of Africa in our lifetime. From our biblical studies we know, too, that the Holy Land was once a very lush and productive place but because of malpractice and lack of concern for environment we see what some areas have degenerated into.

● (1640)

Perhaps, Mr. Speaker, I have said enough about the destruction of predators and how we have been blind to the necessity of maintaining a balanced ecosystem in our world. We can see what happens if you shoot the coyote, as the shooting of the coyote and his relatives meant that there were far more gophers who ate our grain and, consequently, caused a great deal of erosion, creating a potential wasteland where no life survives.

I should like to speak now for a moment about the destruction and suffering due to the savage and cruel trapping methods employed in Canada. I am not scorning those people, such as native peoples and others, who trap for a living. What many do not know is that perhaps half the leg-hold traps are sold in urban areas are for catching pigeons, cats and other kinds of bothersome creatures around the city. It may be interesting to note that in the last few months there has been established an all-party, House of Commons animal welfare committee, the establishment of which was prompted by the efforts of Mr. Tom Hughes of the Animal Welfare Foundation. The committee has met once informally and will probably meet again. It is attempting to deal in a rational and reasonable way with the welfare of animals. At the moment the committee is chaired by my colleague, the hon. member for Surrey-White Rock (Mr. Mather) and, if it is successful in its endeavours, we hope that our work will lead to the development of a more healthy approach toward animals generally, and specifically help to stamp out the cruelty which is involved in the use of the leg-hold trap.

Especially since a number of grisly television documentaries on this subject were aired, interest in more human trapping methods has been growing. A class of school children from Port Coquitlam in my province wrote to me about this matter some weeks ago. They say:

> We, the grade seven students of Irvine Elementary protest the use of leg-trapping of animals. Our class had a discussion on this subject and found there is another way such as the Conibear trap which kills instantly. Why couldn't the trappers use it?

The letter is signed by the students of that class. It seems to me that if students like those are beginning to realize what is happening, recognize the cruelty involved and display that sort of sensitivity and concern toward animals so that there may be safer and a more humane approach to their slaughter, if their slaughter is necessary, it bodes well for us, as does this legislation. After all, these children will be our future decision-makers.

This legislation is a reflection not only on the minister but on the times in which we live. I do not think the children are quite accurate in their assessment of traps. The Conibear trap, the supposed substitute for the leg-hold trap, does not meet all the necessary conditions entirely. It does not quite meet the ideal of being a perfect trap. I do not suggest that people who depend for their livelihood on the leg-hold trap should be denied its use until another one is developed, but the leg-hold trap should be sold to bona fide trappers only and kept out of the city.

Certainly, if there are to be grants and awards under this legislation the minister should consider, as a first priority, awarding grants for the development of a more humane kind of trap to be used on wild animals. A good place to start would be with the Conibear trap. In any event, whether it is important or not, I wanted to say it because many people whom I represent would want me to say it, as they are concerned about this subject.

I should like now to deal for a moment with the destruction caused by chemical pollutants such as the various herbicides, insecticides and various waste products that flow from our technological society. I reiterate, there is not much point in dealing with the lack of resting spots for the wild goose if we do not at the same time deal with pollutants. So long as we continue to pollute ourselves and our world, what is the point of a bill that encourages research into this and that, and will establish some sort of

resting place, in co-operation with the provinces, for geese? There is no point to it.

Take the matter of herbicides. We use phenoxy herbicides. Chemicals such as 24D, 245T, 245TP, Mecoprop, and so on, contain some of the chemical female hormones in addition to chlorinated hydrocarbons. Some of these chemicals have been around for years; others have been used most recently as defoliants in the Viet Nam war. Canada joined 58 other nations to secure the ban of these defoliants because they are dangerous, not just because they take leaves off trees in Viet Nam but because they are dangerous to humans and animals. Canada, along with 58 other nations of the United Nations asked for these chemicals to be banned. At the same time, although Canada has asked for these phenoxy herbicides to be banned in Viet Nam, our Canadian Department of Agriculture has authorized their use in Canada.

What do these chemicals do, Mr. Speaker? I am told that they are capable of causing bronchitis, myocardial damage, kidney and liver damage, neuritis, fatigue, depression, nervousness, headaches, disturbed sleep, attacks of giddiness, muscular aches and pains, edema, disturbances in memory, loss of weight, disturbances in concentration, uncontrollable bleeding involving the eyes, nose and other body openings and internal organs, cancer and deformed babies. The fumes can be as deadly when ingested. But, unbelievably, our Department of Agriculture authorizes the use of these chemicals in Canada.

If those chemicals used in Viet Nam are so thoroughly damaging to humans in the manner I have just outlined, what on earth will they do to animals? The damage caused by chemicals like these will far more than offset any benefit that may accrue to animals as a result of this legislation unless we are concurrently prepared to deal with that pollution. I hope the minister and his department will deal with them. Certainly, he ought to interest the Minister of Agriculture in reviewing his authorization of these chemicals. That is part of his job. If he does not do that, then this legislation is just so much tokenistic nonsense.

Consider for a moment what has happened in Texas. May I read an excerpt from a letter written by a lawyer in New Mexico who has this to say about the effects of certain chemicals:

> Shortly after the spraying, the cattle of both of my clients began dying. The remaining cattle are emaciated and do not gain any weight although they are being fed in excess of the normal food ration. Calves have been aborted by mother cows; and, those calves that have been born alive since the spraying are only the size of large dogs.

If sprays can do that to domestic animals, what can they do to wild animals? The use of these chemicals has escalated because of continued tax-free pressure by the chemical lobby and various other lobbies. When we use these chemicals we remove one source of trouble and cause others. We are attempting to control one kind of horror with the use of another horror, and this will have to stop.

What about the case of the plastic waste in England which caused the shells of gulls' egg to become much thinner and severely limit reproductive capacity of these gulls? If these things continue to happen and we take no steps to control them, we shall be in great difficulty. What about the mercury in fish? What about pulp mill pollution in British Columbia? For years I have been trying to obtain from the minister his records of monitoring pulp mill effluent of the Fraser River, a very important part of our salmon resource, but with no success. And here the minister comes in with a bill that, as he says, will save the animals. It is difficult to reconcile those words with his past actions.

Also, let us consider the destruction caused by one department of government to wildlife as a result of ignoring the aims of another department of government. This week I received a request for an extension of a LIP project. That project is six weeks late. I suppose the LIP project could be made fun of and satirized. However, a number of people are devoted to building artificial nests around Pitt Lake for wood ducks an endangered species. Funds for the project came late and an extension was requested. If no extension is approved, the project will be eliminated or those involved will have to pay for it out of their own funds.

● (1650)

This is a case where the Minister of the Environment (Mr. Davis), in consultation with the Minister of Manpower and Immigration (Mr. Andras), who is in charge of LIP funds, can make certain this project goes ahead. I am pleased to see the Minister of Manpower in his place because I have not yet made a personal representation to him on this subject. However, I have made representations to his department for an extension because this project deals with an endangered species. At the moment the project is in jeopardy, as is the species. One department of government must co-operate and communicate with the others. It is essential. Let me give another example which I mentioned earlier. Through the United Nations, the Secretary of State for External Affairs (Mr. Sharp) asked for a ban on herbicides in Viet Nam. The Minister of Agriculture (Mr. Whelan) allows this same product to be used in Canada. That is a contradiction I find hard to reconcile.

There is another matter of interest. The Department of Transport authorized that a part of Pitt Meadows in my constituency be used as a helicopter practice range. This is precisely over the nesting area of an endangered species known as the sandhill crane. There are now only three or four pairs left in the area. When the sandhill crane is nesting, the helicopters disturb them and they fly away from their nests.

The concluding item on my list of destruction of wild animals and wildlife in general is the destruction caused by radioactive fall-out. There are both lethal and sublethal effects. I do not think anyone realizes the extent of genetic damage caused by this. This is one reason why since coming to this House I have been doing everything I can to discourage the obscenities of further nuclear testing whether underground or on the water. I do not think people realize the amount of radiation pollution we have been ingesting since World War II. I have a paper which was prepared by Professor Gordon Edwards, department of mathematics, University of British Columbia. I will read from it briefly. I would like to make it as interesting as possible, which is a difficult thing when quoting. It reads:

During the atmospheric testing of the 1950s, the AEC predicted (correctly) that much less fallout would reach the ground in arctic regions than in temporate regions of the United States. They concluded (incorrectly) that Eskimos would not be in danger of accumulating dangerous amounts of fallout. They didn't know that food chains can behave in peculiar ways. Lichens . . . have no functional roots, and often grow on rocks rather than soil. They absorb their mineral nutrition in the form of dust taken directly from the air. As a result they absorb radioactive fallout directly, without the dilution and discrimination processes which operate when fallout is absorbed through roots. Caribou eat great quantities of lichen (many times their own body weight) and therefore take up excessive amounts of radiation from fallout. At the end of the food chain, caribou meat makes up a substantive portion of the Eskimo's diet, producing the unexpectedly large amounts of fallout radiation in their bodies.

This is not only true in the Arctic. It applies to milk and other products. There are dozens of other examples. If radiation is a threat to humans, it naturally follows that there exists a threat to animals. The government has to move in the direction to grapple effectively with radiation. Unless they do, the sentiments expressed in this piece of legislation will fall far short of reality.

Someone called this a motherhood bill. I think that is a bit cruel. Bill C-131 at least recognizes the problem of endangered species and does so for the first time. In British Columbia some wags may take the term "endangered species" to mean the Liberal party. Nevertheless, my party intends to support this bill. The bill, however, makes little mention of the points I have raised and seems to be deficient in explicit power to prevent abuses. Before setting down I also would like to congratulate the rod and gun clubs as well as groups such as SPEC and the Coquitlam River Committee for bringing the nature of the problems directly to the attention of legislators. Without the private interest groups and environmental groups there would certainly have been less motivation to have wildlife legislation considered during this session.

I will try not to be cynical, but I wonder what impact this bill will have on the massive environmental rape known as the James Bay project. How will this bill protect the animals in that area? If the minister will excuse me for accusing him for being a bit lethargic on the matter of the Skagit, I wonder how it would have helped the animals in the Skagit valley. How would this bill have helped predict the difficulties associated with the Bennett Dam in the Athabasca basin?

These are extremely important matters since wildlife protection does not deal with single issues. They are broad and comprehensive. They are not just limited to wildlife. Our reactions are determined by the attitudes and traditions we have. It is about time we changed some of them. I do not want to appear unduly sanctimonous, but we are all products of the habits of how we have been raised. Talking and reading about new attitudes and new realities is how they gain general acceptance.

In conclusion, possibly the House might consider the private member's bill of my colleague, the hon. member for Scarborough West (Mr. Harney), Bill C-165 which, as he stated, broadens the definition of "endangered species." With the minister's co-operation, possibly Bill C-165 might be sent to the committee at the same time as Bill C-131.

I am pleased to have had the opportunity to speak on this bill. I congratulate the minister for bringing it forward. I hope some real action will flow from it.

[Mr. Rose.]

Hon. Walter G. Dinsdale (Brandon-Souris): Mr. Speaker, the debate that has resulted from the presentation of Bill C-131 has been largely a ritualistic exercise. I do not think anyone is going to oppose this bill because the principles it espouses, the wise management and possible use of renewable resources, has long been accepted by the federal government, provincial governments, municipal governments and the people of Canada. Indeed, I feel that the people of Canada are ahead of governments in this regard. It is only by continuing pressure that we now have harmonized in the bill before the House these principles vital to the preservation and conservation of our renewable resources.

● (1700)

My contribution this afternoon will be brief. I do not intend to outline a grandiose policy of wildlife management. I do wish, however, to pay tribute to some of the pioneers whose efforts have made this bill possible. We have just come through National Wildlife Week which occurs annually during the early part of April. I am sure all members will be aware that it is a tribute to the pioneering work of Jack Miner who founded one of the first migratory wildfowl sanctuaries in the southern part of Ontario. This parliament eventually recognized the pioneering work of the Miner sanctuary and passed legislation which made the annual observance possible.

In addition, I should like to refer to the Resources for Tomorrow Conference of 1961 which I think was a high-water mark in the emergence of the legislation now before the House. As the minister told us in his opening remarks, one of the resolutions which came out of that conference urged upon governments, particularly at the provincial and federal levels, the passing of wildlife legislation which would attempt to deal with problems which had already been defined. One of the pioneers in this effort was the Canadian Wildlife Service itself. Canada has been well served by this branch of government and some of the men who have served as directors of the department over the years must be mentioned as largely responsible for the legislation before us today. I shall not mention any names. I shall simply indicate that during the past two or three decades the directors of that department have called attention in season and out of season to the necessity for legislative action to ensure that wildlife, as part of our renewable resources, is wisely managed.

The Resources for Tomorrow Conference also led to the establishment of a resource ministers' council. It is my opinion that there is lack of appreciation of the role this council has played and can play in its important responsibility of co-ordinating wise management measures in all areas affecting renewable resources. For example, the hon. member for Kootenay West (Mr. Harding), speaking in the debate last night, as reported at page 3543 of *Hansard*, referred to the effort which he says he has made many times in the House to bring about the establishment of an environmental council wholly independent of government and entrusted with reporting on environmental problems throughout the country.

Mr. Speaker, we already have such a council—the resource ministers' council which brings together annually, and more frequently if necessary, all the provincial ministers across the country in council with the federal

minister so that they may achieve some measure of co-ordination in an area where it is most difficult to achieve co-operation because of the constitutional jurisdictional problem. The headquarters of the council were deliberately established outside the city of Ottawa so there would be no suspicion of any direct connection with government at any level. The council operates out of Montreal. It has a highly qualified secretariat and its function is to do exactly what the hon. member for Kootenay West is apparently advocating.

So the council already exists, and the fact that a Member of Parliament is not aware of it indicates that it has hardly been given the prominence that its important responsibilities deserve. It was in 1965 that this council passed a resolution reinforcing the resolution which came out of the Resources for Tomorrow Conference of 1961 urging legislative action to carry out the responsibilities of wise management of Canadian wildlife resources. We should pay tribute here this afternoon to those who have pioneered in the resources ministers' council and who perhaps have not received the measure of support which the importance of their work merits and who, in particular, have not received the financial support necessary if we are to achieve positive results under this program.

Another emanation of the Resources for Tomorrow Conference was the Canadian Wildlife Federation. That body was born from the conference. It was hailed at the time as one of the important achievements of the conference. The federation brought together the fish and game associations across the country and it has, I believe, been one of the major influences in urging governments at all levels to act in making possible the production of the legislation now before the House.

We all realize that legislation of itself will not achieve positive results unless there is initiative and action on the part of all governments. This follows from the jurisdictional problem to which I have already referred, one which makes it extremely difficult if not impossible to get action in the area of policies affecting conservation. The hon. member for Fraser Valley West (Mr. Rose), who spoke just before me, outlined programs and policies which he said might be activated by the federal government. The federal government can activate nothing unless it gets the co-operation of the provinces, hence the importance of the resource ministers' council. I feel the provinces are ahead of the federal government in this regard.

● (1710)

I am reminded, for example, that the resource minister for Quebec who served on a committee of the Resources for Tomorrow Conference in 1961 was a politician by the name of Rene Levesque. Perhaps he might have become more closely associated with matters of national unity had there not been so much delay in implementing the resolution of the Resources for Tomorrow Conference in this respect.

Mr. Davis: Judging from one of his speeches, he was a separatist then.

Mr. Dinsdale: Yes, I was there. The Minister of the Environment (Mr. Davis) has suggested that Mr. Levesque was operating as a separatist even at the Resources for Tomorrow Conference. I would remind him that the chairing of the resource ministers' council operated on the rotating principle. After the federal minister, which was myself at the time, the first chairman of the general council was Mr. Spooner, who was then minister of resources for Ontario. His successor was the Hon. René Lévesque, who was minister of resources for the province of Quebec. He was willing to preside over the intergovernmental body that had been created to get around jurisdictional problems.

Perhaps I can relate here my first contact with Mr. Levesque as resource minister for the province of Quebec. He arrived in the middle of steering committee preparation because he replaced the Hon. Paul Earl as minister of resources for that province. Mr. Earl was not of the same inclination as his successor. Mr. Levesque objected to the presence of a federal minister—perhaps there were some separatist sentiments evident in that regard—presiding over the steering committee since Ottawa did not have jurisdiction over renewable resources. When I was chairman I indicated that I was also functioning as minister of northern affairs. He shrugged in his inimitable fashion and said I could continue as minister of northern affairs since Ottawa had jurisdiction, but not as minister of resources. This was a diversionary tactic which must always be exercised when it comes to dealing with the provinces in these matters if positive results are going to be achieved.

We now have legislation that all hon. members who have spoken this afternoon have concurred is long overdue. It is merely enabling. Nothing will happen unless funds are available. And here is where the crunch comes. I think that if Ottawa is going to make the legislation effective, in positive terms it must indicate what its funding priorities are. I have already intimated that the vitally important resource ministers' council has been inhibited and hampered in its work because adequate funds have not been available. As already mentioned here this afternoon, it is significant that one of the programs that fell under the measure of austerity of 1969 was the excellent pothole leasing project. It was very difficult in the first instance to get farmers to co-operate in leasing land to preserve the potholes of the Prairies where most of the duck population is generated, and I think it was a retrograde step of some proportion for Ottawa arbitrarily to cancel a program of this kind just when it was receiving ready acceptance from the prairie farmers.

I hope that programs such as this will be restored and enlarged upon, because it is this kind of leadership in the field of federal funding that is going to ensure the effectiveness of the act and the continuing co-operation of the provincial governments. One of the hopeful aspects of the wholly new attitude toward wise management and multiple use of renewable resources is the leadership being provided by young people. I think the generation that is now coming upon the scene will be much more positive than that which is gradually leaving the scene of action.

When we get this bill into committee I hope, since some members have suggested that the bill needs strengthening, we might give some attention to replacing some of the "mays" with "shalls", always of course being aware, as the bill is aware, that provincial agreement must be reached in

all cases, and also aware that the public of Canada is way out in front of governments in supporting legislation of this kind. It is the public who pay for programs in terms of taxation, and I am sure that any funding initiative on the part of Ottawa would be cordially received by the public of Canada.

Mr. Ian Watson (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of State for Urban Affairs): Mr. Speaker, I want to join other members in welcoming Bill C-131. The bill will provide for a program of rehabilitation, habitat preservation and research for rare and endangered species within Canada. I am disappointed, though, that the bill does not include some provision for prohibiting entry into Canada of species of animals that are endangered throughout the world. I realize the rationale behind not doing so. There is a convention presently being drafted by the International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources, and I understand we are waiting for the completion of this convention before preparing legislation which, in a sense, will be complementary to Bill C-131 and will deal with the importation of endangered species into Canada.

In the meantime, however, things are going on which are contributing to the continuing decline in population of a wide range of species of animals and reptiles. If allowed to continue for another year or two at its present rate, these species will be pushed past the point of no return, and certainly into extinction within five or six years. It seems to me that we could by order in council now take certain measures that could contribute, at least as far as Canada is concerned, to stopping the drain on these irreplaceable species of wildlife.

I have had a bill before the House of Commons for three sessions now relating to the protection of endangered species of animals. The object of the bill that I have introduced—its present label is Bill C-88—is to protect species of animals and also birds, amphibians, reptiles, mollusks and crustaceans which are in danger of extinction. The bill would do this whether they are endangered on a worldwide basis or on a local habitat basis, and this is an improvement over a couple of earlier bills. It is very important that we make this distinction because some species, although they may not be endangered on a local basis are in danger of elimination from even one hemisphere or another, and any legislation or order in council we have here in Canada must take this into consideration.

● (1720)

To achieve the objective of protecting these species in danger of extinction, the bill which I propose would prohibit the importation into Canada of not only the furs, skins, etc., of these species but any part thereof or any product manufactured from a part thereof. This would include a cosmetic product that was manufactured from the oil of an endangered species of whale and it would include perhaps costume jewellery manufactured from endangered species of molluscs, etc.

This would go much further, in my view, than we are likely to see in any convention which is presently being drafted by the International Union for Conservation of Nature and National Resources. I have been in touch with our customs people who have been studying the matter, and I gather from talking with our own customs officials

that it would be possible for the Canadian government to now or very quickly enforce restrictions under schedule C of the Customs Tariff. I understand this has been discussed with the national body drawing up the convention, but I gather that the body drawing up the convention is concentrating on sources of exports rather than on imports. Because of the world trend today toward simplifying procedures of customs varification through spot checks, it just does not make practical, common sense to try to do very much about imports. I take issue with this and I think they are seriously underestimating the strength of public opinion in this regard.

I would urge strongly that Canada take steps on its own through an order in council to prohibit the importation of all endangered species or parts thereof. I would suggest that even though we may have customs spot checks, as we now have, that arouse public opinion, hon. members of this House could find very many groups in their ridings who would go out policing to make sure that any endangered species of animals which appears on any store counter, or any cosmetic sold in any drugstore which contains a part of an endangered species, a whale for example, would be brought to the attention of the competent authorities. I feel that public opinion would provide much more effective policing than any customs check we could develop. We need not kid ourselves that customs could handle this completely, effectively or in an airtight way, but we do not have to depend on customs. Let us get the law on the books and we will leave it up to the public and the various environmental groups which exist in this country to enforce it; and I am convinced they can.

I should like to bring to the attention of the minister—he may already be aware of it—a very serious abuse that has occurred within the last month and a half because we do not have any import regulations of this kind in Canada. The state of New York in particular, as well as the United States in general, have a very tough endangered species act which prohibits the importation into the United States of skins, furs, etc. Approximately six weeks ago a very important shipment of illicit skins from South America came into Canada and was exported to the United States, circumventing the U.S. customs officials. Through some very effective detective work this circumvention was discovered. These illicit traders are using Canada right now as a means to circumvent the severe import restrictions which exist in the United States.

I feel strongly that we should be taking steps now—and we could through an order in council—to prohibit absolutely the importation into Canada of these endangered species. We could bring this regulation in now, and when the international convention is in final form and we approve it by legislation, that could take the place of whatever order in council or regulation we may have enacted.

I hope the minister will be receptive to the suggestion of having at least the substance contained in both the private member's bill submitted by the hon. member for Scarborough West, Bill C-165, and my Bill C-88 referred to the committee which will be considering Bill C-131. I do not ask, necessarily, that the bills themselves be referred to the committee, but if we could have the subject matter referred by unanimous consent it would be useful. We

could perhaps bring in a number of witnesses to give their opinion as to precisely the most effective type of measure we could adopt here in Canada to contribute to the cessation of this illicit trade in endangered species or parts thereof.

Mr. William Knowles (Norfolk-Haldimand): Mr. Speaker, I rise to participate in the debate on Bill C-131 relating to wildlife services in Canada because of the very direct application it has to the area I represent, namely, the county of Norfolk. The Wildlife Service has only recently purchased a marsh in the area of Long Point from the Big Creek Company, and is presently making a survey of the area for the purpose of administering it to the best advantage of the people of the area and the wildlife which inhabit the marsh.

Let me refer specifically to clauses 3(a) and 3(e) wherein the word "co-operation" appears twice. It refers to the co-operation in wildlife and interpretation thereof and co-operation with the government of the province having an interest. In this particular instance, side by side with that area of the marsh acquired by the Wildlife Service is another area formerly owned by a local resident, Mr. Lee M. Brown, a very ardent conservationalist, comprising about 60 acres. This was recently given to the Long Point conservation authority which administers conservation activities throughout Norfolk and Haldimand counties. This provides an excellent opportunity for the co-operation which is mentioned twice in the bill.

I bring this to the attention of the minister and members of the House because I feel a very grave injustice has been done to Mr. Brown, the conservationalist to whom I referred, in that he was found guilty and fined in a local magistrate's court for contravention of the Migratory Birds Convention Act. Mr. Brown, as I said, has been a lifelong conservationist and is recognized throughout the area as such. He built up a sanctuary for Canada geese there, rivalling in a small way Jack Miner's sanctuary already referred to by the hon. member for Brandon-Souris (Mr. Dinsdale). Crowds are flocking there to see wild geese during the migratory bird season.

● (1730)

I referred to the injustice done to this man, and I think it is best illustrated in a letter written to the editor of the Simcoe *Reformer* of Tuesday, April 17, part of which I would like to read into the record. It is written by a former editor of that paper, a lifelong resident of Norfolk and a friend of Mr. Brown. This is what he said in part:

> In any case it seems a strange reward to Lee M. Brown for his generous act in deeding the sanctuary and about 60 acres of surrounding property free of charge to the conservation authority. His conviction and the levying of a fine against him is surely a peculiar way to express gratitude to one of Norfolk's leading conservationists and a man who has given many years of his life to building up a sanctuary for Canada geese and other bird life and who has expended many thousands of dollars of his own resources in feeding the thousands of birds and otherwise caring for them—

I will conclude with the following paragraph:

> Now the outcome of this court case must give Mr. Brown occasion to wonder at such an expression of public gratitude for his unremitting work over the years in providing a haven of a unique character for birdlife in the Long Point area. Certainly he had good reason for discouragement in carrying out any further plans of this kind or to turn over more property to an ungrateful officialdom.
>
> His many friends will resent the injustice done to one of Norfolk's most devoted conservationists.

I knew that this case was coming up so I wrote to the Wildlife Service here. Some of the men in the service are personal friends of Mr. Brown. I thought that in light of what I have already stated it would be only fair and just that this action against him be withdrawn. After all, there is the spirit of the law as well as the letter of the law to observe. I refer again to the co-operation which I trust the legislation proposed in Bill C-131 will bring about among men like Mr. Brown, the Long Point conservation authority under the provincial government, and the Wildlife Service of Canada, and prevent such an incident from ever happening again.

All Mr. Brown was doing was thinning out the male population of blue billed ducks in that area at the time of the mating season, because often they would destroy the nests, kill the females and prevent the proper incubation of eggs. For this act he was technically and legally found guilty and was fined. But, after all, the spirit of the act should be applied as well as the letter of the law. We admit that justice must be done but, most important of all, justice must be seen to be done—and this certainly was not the case with respect to Mr. Brown.

So in supporting this legislation, as we all do, I appeal to the minister to ensure that when the regulations under the act are drawn up and the act is administered, there be some spirit of understanding and of humanity toward those people who are already doing great work in the field of conservation which this bill proposes to assist and increase.

There is more I could say, Mr. Speaker, but I know other hon. members wish to make a contribution to this debate and therefore I will close my remarks.

Mr. Don Mazankowski (Vegreville): Mr. Speaker, I also want to join my colleagues in supporting Bill C-131 and the principles and objectives contained therein. It is encouraging to note that the bill authorizes the minister to promote wildlife conservation, engage in various research activities and establish the entering into of agreements with advisory committees, the provinces, municipalities and individual persons.

However, my purpose in entering the debate is specifically to point out what I consider to be a grave injustice done to many farmers in western Canada, particularly those who are located adjacent to bird sanctuaries in areas where waterfowl make their habitat. It is rather disturbing to note that there is nothing in the bill to provide for what I consider to be the basic ingredient in the maintenance of our wildlife, namely, food. For many years ducks and geese have been sponging off the farmer, to his financial and economic detriment and I believe that a great injustice is being done to the farmers directly affected.

It is no great secret that the wildlife of which we are all proud is a natural asset enjoyed by all people. However, I do not believe that the burden of maintaining ducks, geese and waterfowl which migrate should fall totally on the farmers. Millions of dollars worth of damage has been

done throughout the years and very little constructive effort has been made to compensate farmers for their losses.

In my own constituency of Vegreville there are two bird sanctuaries, the Beaver Hill sanctuary and the Whitford Lake sanctuary. I believe it is reasonable to assume that the wildlife there is the property of the Canadian people and therefore it should be up to the Canadian people to contribute to its maintenance. I think that the damage done by waterfowl is described very specifically in a booklet that has been put out by the Western Canadian Wildlife Advisory Committee, entitled "Uninvited Guests". To many producers in western Canada, ducks and geese, particularly in the wet fall season, are truly uninvited guests.

In the province of Alberta a fund has been established by the sportsmen of the province for the purpose of defraying some of the losses that the farmers have suffered. This fund was reimbursing $15 per acre over the years, but because of the heavy drain on it this amount has been adjusted to 86.15 per cent of $15, which works out to $12 or $12.50 per acre. I have a claims settlement sheet which was issued to a farmer in my constituency, a gentleman by the name of George Kucher who had 55 acres of barley totally damaged. It was inspected by the inspector of the Alberta hail and crop insurance board. To compensate him for his 100 per cent loss he received $710.74. That is a far cry from what he could have received had he been able to harvest this crop, which was barley. Fifty-five acres of barley would produce roughly $40 to $45 an acre. A reasonable estimate would be $40 an acre, and it would result in this producer obtaining some $2,200 out of his 55 acres of barley. However, because of the damage done by ducks he had to settle for some $710.74.

He lost another 85 acres in the same manner and received $1,098 to cover his loss—a far cry from what he could have received had he been able to harvest the crop. It seems to me that this particular gentleman, as well as many others who are trying to make a living from their efforts at farming, should be entitled to more adequate compensation than they have received, and I believe the federal government and the provincial governments should share the burden.

There are many ways in which this could be done. Perhaps a more effective lure program could be provided. But in addition to the loss which is sustained, each time a producer has to have an inspection it costs him $25 to have an inspector come from the Alberta hail insurance board to inspect his crop. In a particularly wet year he may end up having two or three inspections, depending on the length of time the harvest takes. In this particular case, in the crop year of 1971 Mr. Kucher had to pay out something like $75 for three different inspections made by an inspector of the Alberta hail insurance board.

● (1740)

I do not want to prolong this debate. I simply say to the minister that I hope some mechanism will be provided whereby adequate compensation will be made available to people who are afflicted by loss of crops due to damage by migratory waterfowl. I believe that the payment of $15 per acre is totally insufficient. It should be something in the order of $35 to $40. I believe that the fee of $25 per inspection should be abolished. I also believe more sufficient lure crops and more adequate arrangements for areas situated close to bird sanctuaries should be provided so that losses would not be sustained year after year. Wet years are not uncommon in Canada and losses can occur year after year.

I hope that the minister, in co-operation with the provincial governments and municipalities, will be able to arrive at a suitable arrangement so that these people may be better compensated, thus creating a much greater understanding between those who support our wildlife by providing food and those who enjoy the advantages of our wildlife.

Mr. John A. Fraser (Vancouver South): Mr. Speaker, I would like to begin by saying, on behalf of all my colleagues, that we welcome this piece of legislation and I congratulate the minister for bringing it before the House. It has been said that it is a decade or so late, but better late than never. I think it is, or can be a useful piece of legislation.

The second thing I would like to say is in connection with the remarks of the two hon. members who have introduced bills which deal with the abolition of the trade in the pelts and skins of endangered species. Through you, Mr. Speaker, I wish to convey to both of these colleagues, who are on different sides of the House, the fact that they will have my absolute support in bringing their bills forward and I will do everything within my power to expedite the passage of those bills. Having said that, perhaps some discussion might take place afterward so that this can be achieved.

Having said some nice things, I now want to ask all members of the government side of the House to pay attention for just a few minutes while I say something that I believe they should hear. Let there be no mistake about it, Mr. Speaker; this bill does not do very much more than has been done in practice in the past. Secondly, I am concerned, and I think all hon. members ought to be concerned, that apparently the minister is treating the federal jurisdiction north of 60 degrees, so far as the problem of initiating action under this bill is concerned, as though he were dealing with provinces. I remind all hon. members of the government side that that area comprises 44 per cent of the land mass of Canada and over that 44 per cent we do have federal jurisdiction.

Please let us not back away from the authority we have when we are dealing with a matter which is becoming as vital as the preservation of our wildlife, something which we are now starting to recognize is not an inexhaustible resource, something which is a priceless resource. From the speeches made today it can be seen that we all agree about this. I beg hon. members on the government side to take this message back to their colleagues. Do not back out of an area of jurisdiction and the authority you already have, since this bill can be so useful in that area even if it has its difficulties elsewhere.

I also want to comment that this bill will only be as successful, so far as dealing with the provinces is concerned, as its funding is in order to entice the provinces into the programs envisaged. As a consequence, I hope

hon. members will keep pressure upon the government to make sure that there is sufficient funding from time to time.

There is one other comment I would like to make before I close. Reference has been made today to just about everything one can imagine in the environmental field, but I single out one which I ask all members of the House to consider. That is the question of the leg-hold trap. Hon. members have said that they have received letters from children, adults, organizations and societies pointing out the cruelty of the leg-hold trap. Again I want to say that I will support any legislation to ameliorate this situation. I recognize that there are problems involved, but I ask the government to give it serious consideration and as soon as possible bring something before the House so that we can at least to some degree remove the cruelty that exists under the present trapping system.

I thank you, Mr. Speaker, for the privilege of speaking in this debate. I thank hon. members for their attention. Again I congratulate the minister for bringing this bill before the House, and again I ask that the caveats which I have mentioned be considered by all hon. members in the spirit in which they are given.

Mr. Thomas S. Barnett (Comox-Alberni): Mr. Speaker, it is not my intention to discuss at length the principles of the legislation before us. They have been pretty well covered by other hon. members. I would just like to underline what I think has been put before the House in the form of a suggestion. I hope the minister will indicate some willingness to have the subject of two other bills considered conjointly with this particular bill when it reaches committee stage, namely, Bill C-88 standing in the name of the hon. member for Laprairie (Mr. Watson), and Bill C-165 in the name of the hon. member for Scarborough West (Mr. Harney).

I have been looking at these two bills as they interrelate with Bill C-131. While I realize this is not the place to go into any detailed discussion of the clauses, I would like to draw attention to clause 9 in the bill before us which is headed "Endangered life" and which provides authority for the minister to take measures in co-operation with one or more provincial governments. I think that the thrust of the other two bills I have mentioned might relate to that matter in such a way that the authority proposed in clause 9 could be extended, at least for the time being, to provide authority directly from parliament for the minister to co-operate with other governmental authorities outside Canada.

It is in that context that I think the implications of the two private members' public bills might be considered by the committee. Perhaps something could then be sorted out, with the agreement of the minister, whereby some of the ideas in them could be incorporated into this bill, at least pending any further developments such as were referred to by the hon. member for Laprairie when he made his remarks.

• (1750)

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Boulanger): Order, please. I must notify the House that if the hon. minister speaks now, he will conclude the debate.

Wildlife Protection

Hon. Jack Davis (Minister of the Environment): Mr. Speaker, I want to conclude my remarks before six o'clock because I hope this bill can be sent to committee and there dealt with promptly. Everyone who spoke on this legislation has endorsed the basic principles underlying the bill. Essentially they said that it is good but that perhaps it does not go far enough, and they have asked for clarification.

The hon. member for Peel South (Mr. Blenkarn) charged my ministry and the Canadian Wildlife Service in particular with dashing off in all directions. I might remind him that the amount of money available to the Canadian Wildlife Service in recent years in my view has been too small. It has been increased in the last half-dozen years, but still roughly $10 million a year is not enough to do the job which I believe it should be doing in the next few years.

The hon. members for Skeena (Mr. Howard) referred to species in danger of extinction as if these were the only animals and birds with which the Canadian Wildlife Service is concerned. I am sure he knows of many instances such as the North American duck population which is now several times its original size. The Canadian Wildlife Service has had a major hand in the protection of that species and also in the wise management of much larger populations.

The hon. member for Scarborough West (Mr. Harney) raised the question of trade in skins, trophies, etc., and of endangered species originating in other parts of the world, with a view to their protection. I might tell him and other members that Environment Canada, and in particular the officials of the Canadian Wildlife Service, have been very active in the drafting of an international convention on endangered species. That convention is in draft form, has been initialled by Canada and will shortly be signed by Canada and a number of other countries. Once it has been endorsed by a large number of countries, which I hope will happen in a matter of months, then in fact under our existing trade and commerce regulations we have the law necessary to put its major stipulation into legal effect in this country, and import and export controls as required will be implemented by this government.

The hon. member for Fraser Valley West (Mr. Rose) referred to various projects in this country and suggested that because of financial restrictions the Canadian Wildlife Service was not able to participate adequately in environmental appraisals in the Mackenzie River corridor. The budget over a three-year period is half a million dollars a year, so it has been funded handsomely to carry out that particular job. The three-year program will be completed this fall. Other appraisals have also been undertaken. For example, he referred to the James Bay investigations which are in their third year and in which the Canadian Wildlife Service has participated. He used some of the current phraseology in describing James Bay. I hope he attends the meetings of the committee and cross-examines our experts on wildlife. I will be surprised if he finds them giving evidence that there will be extensive damage to migratory birds, for example, as a result of the James Bay development.

The Peace-Athabasca delta problem has been investigated very carefully and we expect that, at a cost of $2½

million, we will be able to return it to a state of nature. Whether we will be able to collect the $2½ million from British Columbia Hydro remains to be seen but we will try.

The hon. member for Brandon-Souris (Mr. Dinsdale) spoke about pothole leasing. That program was researched carefully for several years but is not regarded as very productive by our experts. The hon. member for Vegreville (Mr. Mazankowski) talked about crop depradation. I do not know how well the government in Alberta communicates with hon. members of the federal Conservative party, but a new crop depradation program has been in effect for a year. It was worked out in close consultation with the province. The federal contribution is $1 million per year. This program for the feeding of ducks, geese, and so on, flying backwards and forwards across Canada has worked to the satisfaction of the provincial government and the farmers.

The hon. member for Vancouver South (Mr. Fraser) made an important point. We said that the administrations in the Territories and the Yukon should not be treated as if they were provincial governments. Were he to make the same speech in Yellowknife or Whitehorse he might find a different reception than that from members who live in the Ottawa area. The old-fashioned imperialism which used to see decisions made in the national capital, and very few made in the Territories, has long passed. I believe that the Territorial administration and the administration in the Yukon should be given as much latitude as possible to determine the use of local resources. The Canadian Wildlife Service will provide as much advice as it can, and the hon. member has my assurance that I will step in wherever I believe it necessary in order to avert catastrophe in respect of a particular species.

That is the sum and total of my remarks, Mr. Speaker. I hope this legislation can now be referred to the appropriate standing committee.

[*Translation*]

Motion agreed to, bill read the second time and referred to the Standing Committee on Fisheries and Forestry.

[*English*]

Mr. Howard: Mr. Speaker, I wonder if I might rise on a point of order to propose to the House something that has been the subject of discussion with a number of hon. members. It relates to Bill C-88 standing in the name of the hon. member for Laprairie (Mr. Watson), and Bill C-165 in the name of the hon. member for Scarborough West (Mr. Harney), both of which refer to the question of endangered species. As I understand it, there is general agreement that the subject matter of those two bills be referred to the committee as companions to the government bill. Accordingly, I would seek the unanimous consent of the House, seconded by the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre (Mr. Knowles), to move:

That the subject matter of Bills C-88 and C-165 respecting the protection of endangered species be referred to the Standing Committee on Fisheries and Forestry.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Boulanger): The Chair must ask for the unanimous consent of the House to this presentation. Does the House agree?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Boulanger): Is it the pleasure of the House to adopt the said motion?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Motion agreed to, order for second reading discharged and Bills C-88 and C-165 referred to the Standing Committee on Fisheries and Forestry.

At 6.05 p.m. the House adjourned, without question put, pursuant to Standing Order.

APPENDIX "A"

Minister, Health and Welfare Canada

Ottawa, Ontario, K1A 0K9.

April 18th, 1973.

My dear Minister,

Re: New Financing Arrangements In The Health Care Field

As you will recall, a revised federal proposal for new financing arrangements in the health care field was presented to the Joint Meeting of Ministers of Health and the Federal/Provincial Committee of Ministers of Finance and Provincial Treasurers on January 19, 1973. Provincial ministers at the time were asked to study the revised proposal with a view to reconvening with us in about two months' time for the purpose of trying to reach agreement on the amount of the federal contribution for health services. Telegrams were recently sent to all provincial ministers concerned advising that this further meeting will take place on May 8 and 9.

In the discussion immediately following presentation of the revised federal offer, provincial ministers commented on the financial features of the proposal. They stated their concern about the adequacy of the escalator and questioned whether the newly introduced risk-sharing feature would provide sufficient protection should there be unexpected escalation in costs at a rate in excess of the escalation in the federal contribution. Subsequently, in the course of the technical discussions which took place after January 19 officials of several provinces likewise raised these two issues and elaborated on the reasons for their being a cause of concern. A criticism of the proposed risk-sharing formula related to its non-cumulative characteristics, i.e., it made no provision for repeating in subsequent years any federal contribution in respect of excess escalation in costs that a province might experience in a particular year. There was, of course, a reason for this. In relation to long term cost projections for hospital and medical services and the improved effectiveness which provinces should be able to achieve in providing health services as a result of being able to use the federal contribution throughout the entire range of services, the federal government considered that its contributions under its previous proposal would be adequate. The availability of a large block of thrust funds to assist provinces to develop and introduce more economical methods of delivering services provided further support for this view.

Notwithstanding the above considerations the federal government now has further reviewed these two aspects of the proposal and taking into account the possibility of provinces encountering unexpected situations, has approved further modifications as follows:

(a) The declining 1 per cent adjustment incorporated in the escalator to be advanced from 1974-75 to 1973-74. The following illustrates how the escalator now proposed compares with the one contained in the January 19 proposal:

Fiscal Year	Escalator Now Proposed	Escalator in January 19 Proposal
1972/73	Base Year	Base Year
1973/74	G.N.P. + 1 per cent	G.N.P.
1974/75	G.N.P. + .80 per cent	G.N.P. + 1 per cent
1975/76	G.N.P. + .60 per cent	G.N.P. + .75 per cent
1976/77	G.N.P. + .40 per cent	G.N.P. + .50 per cent
1977/78	G.N.P. + .20 per cent	G.N.P. + .25 per cent
1978/79	G.N.P.	G.N.P.

The base year would continue to be 1972/73 with present arrangements maintained in 1973/74 and thrust funds made available in that year. However, it is necessary to escalate the 1972/73 federal per capita contributions to provinces pursuant to the formula through 1973/74 in order to determine the 1974/75 per capita contributions. You will appreciate that improving the escalator in 1973/74 by advancing the declining 1 per cent has a significant effect on the level of the per capitas, and consequently on the gross contributions in the years thereafter. In particular, it creates a rate of escalation in the federal contribution that matches more closely the rate of escalation in the estimated provincial costs during the early years of the new arrangements.

(b) The risk-sharing formula to be cumulative but on a diminishing basis. In this way, the federal government would be able to take account of certain important provincial concerns, but without abandoning the fundamental objectives of the new financing formula.

Under this approach risk-sharing payments made in a particular year under the "75-50-25" formula contained in the January proposal would be phased out in subsequent years in the following manner:

—a risk-sharing contribution made in the first year, i.e. 1974/75, would be followed by payments equal to 3/4, 1/2 and 1/4 of that contribution in the second, third and fourth years respectively;

—a further risk-sharing contribution or one made for the first time in the second year, i.e., 1975/76, would be followed by payments equal to 2/3 and 1/3 of that contribution in the third and fourth years respectively;

—a similar type of contribution made in the third year would be followed with a payment equal to one-half of that contribution in the fourth year;

—contributions towards excess expenditures in the fourth (1977/78) and fifth (1978/79) years of a new health financing agreement would not be followed by additional payments in subsequent years.

(Note: An illustration of this revised approach is contained in the attached folder).

This modified risk-sharing feature recognizes that excess expenditures i.e., the value of the difference between the rate of escalation in the federal contribution and provincial costs, incurred in a year might recur in whole or in part in succeeding years. This revised approach would relieve the provinces of a portion of the additional financial burden accruing to the provinces in succeeding years as a result of unexpected additional expense in one year. The principle of phasing out risk-sharing payments recognizes that, if a province spends at a rate that exceeds federal contributions in a year, such a province should be able, through economies in other parts of its health program, gradually to de-escalate costs to its original target rate of expenditure. Furthermore, the revised risk-sharing provisions assume that provincial administrations, with the use of thrust funds, will be in a better position to prevent excess expenditures by the last few years of the proposed new arrangements.

Finally, in assessing this revised proposal, provincial ministers no doubt will recall that federal contributions under the risk-sharing formula will be in relation to total health expenditures as defined.

Another issue briefly raised at the January 19 conference and further discussed in the subsequent technical meetings related to the loss of federal contributions under the Canada Assistance Plan that occur when a province changes the basis for its support to health or health related services (such as nursing home care) from a needstest basis to an insured or universal basis. A policy that results in the loss of CAP contributions when a province introduces changes of this nature in the health services field might be inconsistent with the basic objectives of the federal proposal for new financing arrangements. Accordingly, the federal government is prepared to agree that where a province participating under the new arrangements chooses, or has chosen, to make available health or health-related benefits on a universal basis in an area in which there has been federal cost-sharing under the Canada Assistance Plan, that province will be entitled to receive similar levels of federal financial contributions as it would have received had it not introduced the universal program. You will appreciate that this is a rather complex subject and, consequently, the mechanism for implementing this principle has to be worked out jointly. I will be prepared to explore with my provincial counterparts alternative methods for its implementation.

With these additional modifications, I believe the federal proposal now provides a full and reasoned response to the principal concerns which certain provincial governments have enunciated respecting the proposed new health financing agreement.

As for the form of the federal contribution, a number of provinces have suggested that this should be by way of a transfer of tax room. If the newly revised proposal on the quantum contained in this letter is accepted by provincial governments, the federal Minister of Finance remains ready to discuss in detail, at our meeting of May 8-9, the possibility of some transfer of tax room. In this regard I am attaching a copy of a separate letter that Mr. Turner has written to his provincial counterparts.

I am also attaching folders which contain new calculations reflecting the latest cost projections that we have received from the province, recent revisions to our assumptions concerning the future performance of the gross national product and the modification in the escalator described on page 2 of this letter. You will note that on the basis of the assumptions made with respect to future health cost trends of your province and the GNP rate of growth, it is calculated that the basic federal contribution to your province (i.e., excluding the risk-sharing provision) under the proposed new arrangements compares favourably with the estimated contribution that would be made if present arrangements were retained. These figures exclude the additional contributions that would be available should it become necessary to invoke the risk-sharing formula.

You may recall that some months ago I forwarded to you in mimeograph form copies of Dr. A.P. Ruderman's report which formed an appendix to the Report on Community Health Centres prepared by the committee under the chairmanship of Dr. John Hastings. Dr. Ruderman's report now has been printed in final form and I am pleased to forward two copies of it to you.

I look forward to renewing our discussion on the very important subject of new financing arrangements in the health care field, and I hope that this new proposal will meet with your approval and enable us to finalize the matter very soon.

Yours truly,

Marc Lalonde.

Attach.

The Secretary of State, Canada

Ottawa, May 1, 1973.

You will recall that the Prime Minister wrote to provincial First Ministers on November 9, 1970, suggesting that the post-secondary education fiscal transfer program be extended for two years, in order to provide time for a review of the present arrangements. Following further discussions between my predecessor, the Honourable Gérard Pelletier, and the Council of Ministers of Education, as well as with individual Ministers of Education, it was decided that the 1967 program should continue until March 31, 1974, with a national rate of growth in the federal contribution not exceeding 15 per cent per annum.

The present program of fiscal transfers in support of post-secondary education will therefore have been in operation for seven years when it expires on March 31, 1974. It may be useful, in light of the examination which we have carried out since that time, and of comments of other interested governments, if I were to review briefly a

few of the major considerations relating to the development of the program to date.

First, it is significant to note that annual operating expenditures have risen at a rapid rate during the life of the program, especially in the early years when for example the percentage increases were of the order of 25 per cent between 1967-68 and 1968-69, although they declined thereafter to an estimated 7.9 per cent between 1972-73 and 1973-74. It is also noteworthy that, in line with this growth pattern, federal contributions increased substantially in each succeeding year of the program and that the value of transfers to the provinces in respect of post-secondary education will have reached an estimated cumulative total of some $5.3 billion by March 1974, as indicated on an annual basis in table 1.

With the assistance of these transfers the provinces and the institutions were able to set in motion an unprecedented expansion of post-secondary instruction. As shown in table 2, the number of full-time students in universities and colleges and other post-secondary institutions across Canada increased during the first five years of the program by 60 per cent to a total of 497,000. In addition to full-time students, an estimated 250,000 persons were attending post-secondary institutions in Canada on a part-time basis in the fifth year of the program and costs relating to a further 200,000 at the senior matriculation level were also eligible for federal contributions under the program.

A number of demographic factors have also been and will continue to be of major importance. Of particular relevance is the size of the 18-24 age group which up to now has been the source of more than 80 per cent of all full-time post-secondary enrolments. When the present fiscal transfer program went into effect the ranks of Canadians in the 18-24 age group were growing at a record-breaking pace, and by 1971 their number had reached 2.7 million, an increase of 552,000 over a five-year period. As shown in table 3, however, the rate of growth of this age group will be progressively slower in the present decade until approximately 1983 when the number of 18-24 year olds will begin to decline in absolute terms.

The above-mentioned factors indicate, I believe, that the present program was established in 1967 to respond to a very special set of circumstances in the post-secondary education sector, Furthermore, in our view, the program has on the whole been successful in meeting the objectives which were foremost in the governments' minds in 1966. At the same time, we are of course aware that there may have been certain shortcomings in the existing arrangements and that from time to time the program has been the subject of criticism by provincial governments. For example, some provinces are of the opinion that the arrangements have represented a pressure on their priorities and that unavoidable rigidities inherent in the formula may to some degree have inhibited innovation and adaptation of educational structures to changing needs. We are also aware that the program may have permitted certain inequities, in that it allows those provinces in which the greatest amounts are spent to claim the largest federal transfers.

In the circumstances, the federal government has given careful attention, in the course of its review, to ways and means of removing these shortcomings and of introducing improvements which would result in a more satisfactory arrangement from both the provincial and federal points of view. In particular, we have examined a number of alternative financing formulae which might assist in meeting more adequately the generally accepted objectives of interregional and interpersonal equity.

At the same time, we are aware of and accept the continued importance of adequate financing of post-secondary education in Canada and believe that funding should continue at a level which will enable governments to meet their obligations in this sector. As a result, the federal government considers it of prime importance to provide a level of contributions which will ensure that the needs of the provinces can be adequately met on both a medium- and long-term basis.

In light of all the above considerations I should like to propose to provincial governments a conversion of the present program of fiscal transfers into a system of provincial per capita entitlements based on the size of the 18-24 age group in each province and escalated at 7 per cent per annum, subject to a levelling provision designed to bring all provincial per capita entitlements to parity over a ten-year period. Such entitlements would continue to be met through a combination of the present tax points relating to post-secondary education and adjustment payments, and the conversion formula would be in effect for five years commencing April 1, 1974.

The formula would be based on eligible actual operating expenditures for the fiscal year 1973-74 calculated according to part VI of the Federal-Provincial Fiscal Arrangements Act, 1972. Table 3 indicates that, on the basis of current estimates it is likely that the fiscal transfer will amount in that year to approximately $1,066 million. Table 4 illustrates the estimated entitlement for each province for the year 1974-75 and for each of the four subsequent years. According to our present calculations, an escalator of 7 per cent per annum multiplied by the population 18-24 will produce an average national annual increase in the federal contributions during the next five years of some 9.4 per cent as compared with the latest estimate of a 7.9 increase in eligible operating expenditures on post-secondary education between 1972-73 and 1973-74.

I hope the above proposals will be satisfactory to all provincial governments and I look forward to hearing your reaction at the Federal-Provincial Conference of Ministers of Finance, Health and Education on May 8 and 9. I understand that the question of the post-secondary education fiscal transfer will be dealt with on May 8 in the afternoon.

Yours sincerely,

J. Hugh Faulkner

Encls. (4)

FINANCING THE FEDERAL SHARE OF HEALTH SERVICES

Notes for Remarks
by Finance Minister John N. Turner
to a Joint Federal-Provincial Meeting
of Finance and Health Ministers
Ottawa, May 8, 1973

Introduction:

Mr. Lalonde has just explained the modification in the basic federal formula for determining the amount of the federal financial contribution for provincial health care services and substantial improvements in the so-called "risk-sharing" provisions. He has also given assurances that provinces will retain federal sharing now paid under the Canada Assistance Plan when they switch a health or health-related program from a needs test basis to a universal basis.

The federal proposal thus provides for a reasonable rate of growth in basic federal payments. And it includes a risk-sharing provision which takes account of a number of suggestions we have received from provincial governments. Perhaps most importantly, provinces will be free to spend federal payments throughout the entire range of health services, so that they will be able to plan their programs according to their own priorities. This additional flexibility, together with thrust funds, will assist provincial governments in the development of more effective and economical systems of health delivery. The fact that federal payments will no longer be related to costs will also, of course, mean an end to the detailed federal audit.

As I indicated to provincial ministers of finance in a letter of April 18, if provincial governments are now prepared to agree to the formula which Mr. Lalonde has proposed on behalf of the federal government, I would be ready to consider with you in some detail the form of the federal contribution. In this regard, a number of provincial governments have expressed the view that the federal payment for health services should be via a reduction in federal government taxes. This would enable provinces to increase their rates, with no increase in the tax burden borne by Canadians.

Principles Underpinning Tax Transfer

Accordingly, I should like to make a specific proposal to you today. It is predicated on the condition that provinces are able to agree with the new formula approach for determining the annual federal contribution to provincial health care programs. Before outlining the specific details, however, I want to set out the principles which underlie the tax transfer proposal.

First, the size of the reduction in federal taxes must take into account the expected rate of growth in revenues from the tax room being transferred; it must also take account of increase in the federal contribution for health services. Perhaps this is a point which is not well understood and I should make clear what is involved. Suppose the federal government were to cut its taxes today by the exact number of personal income tax points required to cover the federal contribution for health services in this year and provinces were to raise theirs by a commensurate amount. That number of tax points would, in less than a year, over-compensate provincial governments by a very large amount. The reason, of course, is that the value of tax points is growing more rapidly than the expected rate of growth in provincial spending on health services and the anticipated federal payments for these services.

As a concrete example to illustrate this point, let me take the recent proposal put forward by the Government of Quebec for a 28-point income tax point transfer to cover the federal payment for hospital insurance, medical care and post-secondary education. Our calculations show that such a transfer would, by the end of the decade, yield provincial governments a cumulative sum of more than $10 billion over and above the amount of federal payments otherwise available. Moreover, at that time, the excess payments would be growing at a rate of about $3 billion annually. It was never intended that a transfer of tax room to cover federal obligations under existing shared-cost programs should be used as a mechanism for a large-scale transfer of fiscal revenues from the federal to the provincial level. That is an issue which we have always maintained should be resolved on its own merits, and not determined as a more or less accidental result of new financing arrangements covering shared-cost programs.

Second, we remain convinced that it is in the overriding national interest for the federal government to continue to occupy a large position in the personal income tax field. This is fundamental, if the federal government is to continue to bear the main burden of responsibility for economic stabilization, to maintain harmony in the over-all national tax system, and to fulfill its responsibilities for the distribution of income among Canadians and among the regions of Canada.

Third, as Mr. Lalonde has already mentioned, if the federal government is to cut taxes to pay for its share of health services, this would have to be based upon firm undertakings that the basic principles of the existing hospital and medical legislation remain unaltered. I refer here to the principles relating to the universality and comprehensiveness of services; the accessibility of these services to the Canadian people; their public, non-profit nature; and the portability of coverage for individual Canadians moving from one province to another. The importance of maintaining these conditions has been emphasized in the past and, from earlier discussions, I believe there is a consensus in support of this position.

Let me add one further important point. The transfer of tax room can only be made operative if all provinces accept the new financing arrangements. We cannot see our way clear to implement the necessary tax cut unless it can be applied across the country. Otherwise, there would be different basic levels of federal taxation from province to province. This is a situation which we would regard as injurious to national unity and the growth and efficiency of the national economy.

Details of Proposal

Bearing these principles in mind, we would like to suggest a transfer of tax room in two parts, together wiith a continuation of cash adjustment payments for as long as they may be required.

First, we would be prepared to reduce the rate of federal personal income tax by 6 percentage points. These tax points would be equalized to the national average under the existing provisions of the Fiscal Arrangements Act. The federal government would give a firm undertaking to effect this transfer. But, for reasons I shall explain in a moment, we do not think it would be practical, or desirable to make it operative until January 1, 1977. An appropriate cash payment would therefore be continued during this transitional period.

Second, we would be prepared to eliminate the existing federal excise taxes and duties on domestic and imported tobacco products, spirits, brandy, wine and beer. Provincial governments would then be able to move into this tax room without any increase in costs to consumers. It would be possible to implement the federal tax cut effective on January 1, 1975. The additional revenues that provinces could obtain from these revenue sources would also be equalized to the national average. Provincial governments, of course, already obtain large amounts of revenues from these two tax sources. Federal withdrawal would thus enable provinces to consolidate their revenue position in these areas.

Third, to the extent that the value of the tax cut is not sufficient to pay for the federal contribution for health services, as determined under the GNP-escalated formula, the federal government would make this up by a cash adjustment. In due course, and at varying dates, the growth in the yield of the taxes transferred would provide revenues to each province equal to and higher than the federal payment otherwise due.

Mechanics of the Tax Proposal

Let me elaborate a little on the important question of the mechanics of the tax transfers proposed.

With respect to the personal income tax, I must make clear, at the outset, that for reasons which are well known to all of you the federal government will not effect its tax cut through the abatement system. Rather, the tax cut would be implemented through the introduction of new federal and provincial rate schedules. When the federal government reduces its rate, provincial administrations will be able to obtain the federal revenues foregone by increasing their tax rates. There would be no additional burden on taxpayers.

However, as I have already indicated, we do not think it desirable to try to implement this major change in the federal rate structure until January 1, 1977. There are two reasons for this. The first is that Canadian taxpayers have only recently been subject to some fairly extensive changes in the structure of the personal income tax system. This is the first year in which they will have an opportunity to become accustomed to new forms and new schedules. In addition, a number of provincial governments have recently introduced changes in their own personal income tax systems in the form of property tax credits, school tax credits and so forth. We think it is very desirable to give the tax system a chance to settle down before any further major changes are made. Second, by 1977, we will have had some years of experience with the new tax system. We need that experience to obtain more adequate information respecting the system. That date appears to me as the most appropriate time at which the transfer could be formally effected. Naturally, provinces would be paid in the form of cash until the federal income taxes are cut.

As for the proposal respecting excise levies, the federal government would amend the Excise Act, the Excise Tax Act and the Customs Tariff in order to remove the special excise taxes and duties on tobacco products and alcoholic beverages. This includes the excise element of the customs duties on imports of such goods.

In the case of tobacco products, the repeal of federal excise levies would allow the provinces to increase provincial sales taxes on these goods by an equivalent amount without increasing tobacco prices. The provinces would thus acquire additional revenue equal to the amount of federal revenue foregone.

In the case of spirits and wines, the provinces, by holding constant their retail prices on these beverages, would acquire the federal revenues foregone because of the elimination of the federal excise taxes and duties on these products. The transfer of revenues from spirits and wines would thus be effected through an implicit increase in provincial mark-ups. In provinces where certain Canadian wines are retailed through manufacturers' outlets, the recovery by the province of federal levies on such wines might require the introduction of a special provincial tax.

The transfer of federal revenues on beer could be effected by provinces increasing their levies on breweries simultaneously with the repeal of the federal excise taxes and duties.

I understand that the value of the tax room provided to each province through a repeal of excise taxes and duties would be relatively simple to measure. Excise rates on alcoholic beverages and most tobacco products are expressed as fixed amounts per unit or gallon. Accordingly, the value of the tax room in each province would be determined by multiplying those rates by the quantities sold in each province. I should add that the elimination of excise levies on alcoholic beverages would not mean that federal supervision over quality control in the production of these products would end. The federal government would continue to maintain supervisory personnel in distilleries and breweries to ensure quality control.

We would also propose that any additonal revenues which flow to the provinces as a result of higher provincial tax rates on personal income, alcohol and tobacco, would be equalized automatically under the general equalization formula in the Fiscal Arrangements Act. The amount of equalization would of course be treated as an integral part of the federal payment for health services to the seven provinces receiving equalization.

In the case of Quebec, there is already in place a special 16-point personal income tax abatement which constitutes a part of the federal contribution for hospital insurance in that province. If the provinces agree with our proposal and the federal government goes ahead with a reduction of 6 points of personal income tax, I shall want to consult with the minister of finance for Quebec concerning the future status of the special abatement.

Financial Aspects of the Proposed Tax Transfer

I want to say a word now about the financial implications of the proposed transfer of tax room. The year 1975 is the first year in which the federal duties and taxes would be eliminated. In that year, I estimate the value of the proposed transfer of excise tax room would be worth about $1.4 billion, including associated equalization. I estimate this $1.4 billion will be a little more than half the proposed federal contribution for health services in that year. Fiscal year 1977-78 would be the first complete year in the new health financing agreement in which both the excise taxes and personal income tax transfers would be effective. In 1977-78 I estimate that, for the country as a whole, about 85 to 90 per cent of the federal payment will be covered by the tax transfer. This percentage will vary somewhat from province to province, but it would appear that, in 1977-78, all provinces will receive at least 75 per cent of the federal payment through the proposed transfer of tax room.

You are all aware that the value of personal income tax points grows rapidly, whereas revenues from alcohol and tobacco taxes grow relatively less quickly. By combining the two, I believe we have a package which will provide an appropriate rate of growth of revenue to pay for health programs. Over a period of years, as the value of the personal income tax component grows relative to the excise room, the value of the tax cuts by the federal government will gradually reduce the required cash adjustment. In due course, provincial governments can reasonably anticipate that the tax transfer will more than cover the federal commitment.

Of course, I do not want to suggest that provincial governments would have to increase their tax rates by the precise amount of the federal cut. Provinces can raise their levies more or less than the federal reduction, as they see fit, and they obviously could alter the mix between personal income tax or their taxes on alcohol and tobacco.

Our estimates are no more than estimates. It is still not possible to be precise about the yield of the personal income tax under the new tax system. Furthermore, any projections about the future value of tax points are based heavily on estimates respecting the future growth of the economy. If the value of the tax room transferred should grow very rapidly, then the date when the value of tax room exceeds the amount of the federal contribution would arrive sooner. If the growth rate in the tax room being transferred turns out to be less than we estimate, provincial governments will receive larger cash adjustment payments.

Conclusions

Let me summarize the essential points in the federal proposal respecting the formula and the tax transfer. The proposal would enable provincial governments to spend the funds they receive as they see fit. The additional flexibility provided will enable them to introduce and operate more economic and effective ways of delivering health services. The amount of the reduction in federal taxes will, in due course, enable them to administer their programs without direct federal financial support. In fact, provinces may experience a "surplus" relative to the federal government's financial commitment respecting provincial health costs.

I understand that this subject will be on the agenda of the first ministers' meeting later this month. I recognize that not all of you will be able to comment in detail today on the proposal which I have put before you. However, it would be helpful to get preliminary reactions from you.

I believe that if we can reach an agreement on the federal payment, thus making it possible to implement the tax transfer, we shall have taken a large and important step forward. The winner, as a result, will be the Canadian people—both as taxpayers and recipients of health services.

FINANCING FEDERAL AID TO POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION

[The attached statement by Finance Minister John N. Turner to the joint federal-provincial meeting of finance and education ministers responds to a letter from the Honourable Saul Miller, Manitoba Minister of Colleges and University Affairs. Mr. Miller's letter, written on the behalf of the provinces' Council of Education Ministers, proposed a transfer of additional tax points to the provinces to finance post-secondary education.]

I would like to address myself to three points made in the letter: (1) the suggestion that the federal government should transfer additional personal income tax points to the provinces in the form of a tax abatement to finance post-secondary education; (2) that these tax points should be equalized to the value of the tax in the province with the highest yield; (3) the implication that this program should be used as a means to transfer a greater share of revenues from the Government of Canada to provincial governments for general purposes.

The letter outlines the reasons why the transfer of additional tax points is being requested. Essentially, it is argued that a transfer in the form of tax points would avoid interfering with the ability of individual provinces to determine their own priorities. It would also allow provinces greater flexibility to achieve greater efficiency and improvement in services. Finally, it would eliminate the administrative complexities of the present arrangements, related to such things as the definition of shareable costs, settlement of final payments and apparent inconsistencies in practice from province to province.

I might say at the outset that the formula Mr. Faulkner has presented to you this afternoon will overcome the problems just described. Under the new formula, which relates the federal contribution to factors other than actual program operating costs, provinces would be freed from the administrative intrusion that inevitably results when contributions are related to actual program practices and costs. Provinces would have all of the freedom and flexibility they needed to develop their own programs as they see fit.

The suggestion that additional personal income tax points be transferred from the Government of Canada to provincial governments does not appear to me to be justified. At the present time, the 4.357 points of personal income tax and the one point of corporate taxable income,

both equalized to the national average, which form part of the federal payment to the provinces, cover about 55 per cent of the federal contribution. The remainder is, of course, paid out in the form of cash to the provinces. We all foresee that the value of these tax points will increase at a more rapid rate than the rates at which post-secondary education costs will rise. As a result, the value of the tax points already abated to provinces will exceed the federal financial commitment in the foreseeable future. From the day this happens, provinces will in effect be receiving an "overpayment", if I may put it that way, for this program. Moreover, the amount of this "overpayment" will increase each year as the value of the tax points increases relative to the increase in program costs.

A major objective on our part, which I believe provincial governments would share, is to establish conditions that allow provinces the freedom and flexibility they are asking for to manage their own programs of post-secondary education, while maintaining a reasonable growth of federal contributions. By a reasonable growth rate, we mean a rate that is roughly commensurate with the growth in the national economy.

The formula proposed, consisting of the 1973-74 actual federal contribution escalated by the rate of growth of the population group 18-24 years of age, together with the 7 per cent escalation factor, will add up to an annual growth of between 9 and 10 per cent in federal contributions. This formula represents a generous contribution towards provincial post-secondary education costs and is somewhat higher than the growth in costs anticipated for the current fiscal year. It provides an adequate margin for improving provincial post-secondary education programs, over and above what might be needed to meet rising prices. A transfer of additional tax points, as I pointed out, would involve a much higher rate of federal contribution and would jeopardize the goal of reasonable growth. Alternatively, the transfer of additional tax points would merely mean that this program was used as a device for transferring resources to the provinces, for purposes other than post-secondary education. I do not see how we could justify such a step on either grounds.

The second point in Mr. Miller's letter I would like to comment on is the suggestion for a new system of equalization based on the province where the yield is highest. The basic principle underlying the general equalization program contained in the Fiscal Arrangements Act, and generally accepted by both recipient and non-recipient provinces alike, is that the lower-income provinces should receive a federal grant to enable them to finance a national average level of services. This is still a valid national policy objective. The suggestion in Mr. Miller's letter is in conflict with this principle. Moreover, I would note that equalization of some tax points to the value in the province with the highest yield, rather than to the national average, value would imply that post-secondary education programs have a higher priority than we may, in fact, be prepared to accord them. I would put these programs in a privileged position vis-à-vis other programs competing for national resources. I fail to see the justification for such special treatment.

The last point I want to comment on is the implication that post-secondary education programs should be used as a means to transfer more tax revenue from the federal to provincial governments in order to meet growing cost pressures. I take it that these "growing cost pressures" relate to programs other than post-secondary education. Recent experience has shown considerable easing in the rate of growth of expenditures on post-secondary education.

If the problem is pressure on government programs generally, it seems to me that the post-secondary education program should not be used as a vehicle for meeting it. Rather the case for more revenues should be argued on its own merits. As I said this morning, it was never intended that a transfer of tax room to cover federal obligations under existing shared-cost programs should be used as a mechanism for a large scale transfer of fiscal resources from the federal to the provincial governments. This morning I proposed transfering all of the excise taxes and duties on tobacco and alcohol plus 6 personal income tax points to the provinces to help in the financing of health programs. I fully appreciate the views and concerns of provinces who have requested tax room to finance well-established programs, and this has been reflected in our proposal this morning. At the same time, we have to move carefully in this direction so as not to erode seriously the ability of the federal government to use the tax system as a major instrument of economic policy.

In this connection, I can only repeat what we have so often maintained in the past: that the federal government has a responsibility to maintain sufficient control over the income tax system to permit it to effectively manage the economy and to achieve a greater degree of equality in the distribution of income between provinces and between individuals.

I might also draw to the attention of our provincial colleagues that the recent federal budget contained three major measures making for larger provincial revenues or tax room. First, the personal income tax was cut substantially, in the order of $1.3 billion, and these amounts have no termination date. Second, the rapid economic upswing that is developing from the budgetary measures will increase provincial revenues in the order of $400 million accumulated over a period of two years. Third, the inclusion in the general equalization system of municipal taxes imposed for local school purposes will add about $190 million beginning this fiscal year to the seven lower-income provinces. In all, I think it fair to say that these moves have assisted provinces during this current year in financing their growing budgets without generalized tax increases.

These conclude my comments on the suggestions in Mr. Miller's letter.

THE GUARANTEE OF PROVINCIAL REVENUES

Notes for Remarks
by Finance Minister John N. Turner
to a Joint Federal-Provincial Meeting
of Finance Ministers and Treasurers

You will recall that the revenue guarantee was originally proposed as a device to ensure that provinces, which

adopted income tax legislation conforming to that of the federal government, would receive no less in tax revenue under the new system of tax reform than under the previous tax system, had it remained in place. We could not know the precise effects of tax reform, or be certain whether a province would suffer a loss of revenue by adopting the new system.

The best estimates at the time indicated that the tax base upon which new provincial personal income tax rates would be levied would be about 8 per cent lower than the so-called federal "basic tax" employed under the old tax system. Accordingly, our calculations suggested that provinces levying rates in the proportion of 30.5 over 28 of their 1971 rates would be receiving about the same amount of revenue under the new system as under the old. If it turned out that the calculations of the federal government were wrong, and the provinces received more revenue under the new system, they would retain this benefit. On the other hand, if the provincial revenues received from applying the new, higher converted rate to the lower base were less than the amount estimated to be received under the old system, this difference would be made up as part of the guarantee. The guarantee, you recall, covers the combined yields of the personal and corporate income taxes, including associated equalization. Thus, as long as provinces continued to conform to the federal income tax legislation and expressed their provincial income taxes on the federal base, the guarantee would be operative.

I have been reviewing the revenue guarantee in the light of its original intent, and taking account of developments since its inception in January, 1972. I must admit that the guarantee has become an exceedingly complicated issue, both in technical terms but, more importantly, in its broader context. The original intent of the guarantee was to encourage provinces to conform to the new federal income tax legislation. If provinces conformed and expressed their tax rates on the basis of federal tax payable, the federal government was prepared to guarantee the yield of the new system to be at least equivalent to that of the old. To this end, the federal government calculated new converted tax rates, designed to yield revenues equal to the old system and guaranteed that the application of these rates would yield revenues equal to the old system.

It can be argued that the guarantee should not compensate for any changes in the tax system subsequent to January, 1972. If changes did occur to the federal tax base so as to affect provincial revenues, the provincial tax rates ought to be adjusted to yield the same revenues as before the changes, in the manner followed at the beginning of 1972. While these arguments have some merit, I am of the view that the position we have adopted respecting the changes announced for 1972 and 1973 is appropriate.

In the budget of February 19, I proposed a number of changes which would reduce the personal income tax burden on Canadian taxpayers. These included increases in personal expemptions from $1,500 to $1,600 for single persons and from $2,850 to $3,000 for married persons effective January 1, 1973. I also proposed that the exemptions and tax brackets would be automatically increased each year by reference to changes in the consumer price index. This indexation of the personal income tax system, which is to begin in 1974, is designed to relieve taxpayers of increased income taxes which arise not from gains in productivity, but from the interaction of inflation and the progressive nature of the tax system.

I announced at the time of the budget that the reduction in provincial revenues arising out of the increased exemptions for individual taxpayers would be covered under the provisions of the revenue guarantee contained in part IV of the Federal-Provincial Fiscal Arrangements Act, 1972. This action parallels a similar decision taken in May, 1972 when I announced that the measures reducing both personal and corporation income taxes would also be covered by the guarantee.

Still, the indexation of the personal income tax, to begin in 1974, appears to me to differ in substance from other changes that have been proposed or enacted. In essence, the indexation proposal reduces the tax burden on individuals which arise out of inflationary, not real, gains and adds a greater degree of fairness to the tax system. As a corollary, governments will no longer be able to spend tax money arising from inflationary gains, but will be required to increase tax rates explicitly, in order to carry out more ambitious spending programs.

The indexation proposal was well received by Parliament and by Canadian taxpayers generally. I am not surprised by this reaction, since the proposal constitutes a major advance in the fairness and equity of the tax system. We all recognize that this advance is not without cost. The proposal means that governments will receive somewhat less revenue than they would otherwise have obtained from a continuation of the present system. This is necessary to give meaning to the indexing feature. I would emphasize, however, that the only revenues thereby foregone by governments are those which the tax structure would have imposed on inflationary, and not real, gains in income. Under these circumstances, it seems to me entirely inappropriate for provinces to expect compensation for those foregone revenues. I would not expect provincial governments to ask the federal government to increase its taxes on Canadian taxpayers, who have had their burden relieved by indexation, in order to make payments to provinces, equal to inflationary revenue gains they would have received in the absence of indexing.

Admittedly, the entire subject of the revenue guarantee is complicated, and I will want to consult with each of you over the coming several months, to arrive at some commonly acceptable solution. There is a particularly difficult problem of adjustment for all provinces when the guarantee comes to an end in 1976. I have been giving some further thought to the situation both immediate and forthcoming. In due course, I would want to consult with you with some concrete proposals. Perhaps we will find it advantageous at an appropriate early date to have some technical aspects of the matter explored by our officials.

I would welcome comments from you on this matter.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Thursday, May 10, 1973

The House met at 2 p.m.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

NATIONAL RESOURCES AND PUBLIC WORKS

Second report of Standing Committee on National Resources and Public Works—Mr. Hymmen.

[*Editor's Note: For text of above report, see today's Votes and Proceedings.*]

* * *

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

TABLING OF INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS TO WHICH CANADA HAS BECOME A PARTY

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, I have the honour to table in the two official languages the texts of some 37 international agreements to which Canada has become a party since the last time I tabled similar agreements.

* * *

INDUSTRY

TABLING OF REPORTS ON DOUBLE KNIT AND WARP KNIT FABRICS AND BROAD WOVEN POLYESTER FILAMENT FABRICS

Hon. Alastair Gillespie (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): Mr. Speaker, pursuant to Standing Order 41(2) I should like to lay on the table of the House in both official languages copies of a report on double knit and warp knit fabrics and a second report on an inquiry respecting broad woven polyester filament fabrics.

* * *

URBAN AFFAIRS

TABLING OF OUTLINE OF DETAILS OF FORTHCOMING TRI-LEVEL MEETING AT TRENT UNIVERSITY

Hon. Ron Basford (Minister of State for Urban Affairs): Mr. Speaker, under the provisions of Standing Order 41(2) I wish to table in the two official languages an outline of the details of the forthcoming tri-level meeting in Ontario which will take place on May 28 and 29 at Trent University in Peterborough.

* * *

ENERGY

CRUDE OIL PRICE INCREASE—REQUEST FOR UNANIMOUS CONSENT TO MOVE MOTION

Mr. T. C. Douglas (Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands): Mr. Speaker, under Standing Order 43 I desire to present a motion concerning a matter of urgent and pressing necessity.

Imperial Oil Company Limited has increased the price of crude oil by 25 cents a barrel effective May 1. This and other recent increases have no relation to increased costs of production and are related entirely to the oil shortage in the United States of which the oil companies are taking an unfair advantage.

In view of the fact that the area west of the Ottawa Valley has been made a captive market for western oil by act of parliament and that consumers are entitled to protection from unjustified increases in the price of crude oil and gasoline, I move, seconded by the hon. member for Kootenay West (Mr. Harding):

That the government take immediate steps to introduce legislation empowering the National Energy Board to set fair and equitable prices for all crude oil produced and sold in Canada.

Mr. Speaker: The motion proposed by the hon. member under Standing Order 43 requires unanimous consent. Is there unanimity?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

Mr. Speaker: There is not unanimous consent. The motion cannot be put.

* * *

FISHERIES

AGREEMENT WITH UNITED STATES ON RECIPROCAL PRIVILEGES—REQUEST FOR UNANIMOUS CONSENT TO MOVE MOTION

Mr. Frank Howard (Skeena): Mr. Speaker, I should like to rise pursuant to Standing Order 43 to propose a motion to the House based upon an urgent and pressing case. In April, 1970, Canada and the United States signed an agreement relating to reciprocal fishing privileges in certain waters adjacent to each other's coasts which carried with it certain benefits and rationalizations in terms of fishing. There have been some discussions about this matter

between the two countries and the negotiations have come to an end. As a consequence there is a possibility in the very near future that the agreement will terminate, which will be a disaster for the fishing industry. Therefore I should like to move, seconded by the hon. member for Comox-Alberni (Mr. Barnett):

That the Standing Committee on Fisheries and Forestry be authorized to inquire into, and give priority to, the question of the agreement between the government of Canada and the government of the United States of America on reciprocal fishing privileges in certain areas off their coasts signed in Ottawa on the twenty-fourth day of April, 1970, the expiration of which is imminent.

If there is agreement to that motion, Mr. Speaker, I propose—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

Mr. Speaker: There is not unanimity. The motion cannot be put.

* * *

RAILWAY ACT

PROVISION FOR MANDATORY PUBLIC HEARINGS ON APPLICATIONS TO REMOVE STATION AGENTS, CARETAKER-AGENTS OR CARETAKERS

Mr. Bill Knight (Assiniboia) moved for leave to introduce Bill C-179, to amend the Railway Act (deviations, changes and removal).

Some hon. Members: Explain.

Mr. Knight: At the present time, Mr. Speaker, section 120 of the Railway Act does not provide for a mandatory public hearing to be held when railway companies make application to remove any regular station agent, caretaker-agent or caretaker. This amendment would provide for the requirement of a public hearing. At the same time there is no requirement for the type of service that must be provided by the railway's personal contact. This amendment would spell out the services to be included by such company representative if permission has been granted for the removal of regular station agents, caretaker-agent or caretaker. Therefore this bill would help protect the consumer—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

Motion agreed to, bill read the first time and ordered to be printed.

[Mr. Howard.]

ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

THE CANADIAN ECONOMY

INCREASE IN FOOD COSTS—STATEMENT BY MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE—GOVERNMENT POLICY

Mr. James A. McGrath (St. John's East): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the right hon. Prime Minister. I refer to the latest lecture the people of Canada have received from the Minister of Agriculture and specifically to the statement by the minister accusing price-conscious consumers of being spoiled by low costs. Was the minister expressing the policy of the government in this statement and, if not, would the Prime Minister tell the House exactly what the policy of the government is or who is enunciating government policy? I think we have arrived at a time when the people of Canada should know what the policy of the government is.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

● (1410)

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The first part of the hon. member's question is, of course, in order, and the Prime Minister will be given the floor for the purpose of answering.

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, the particular part of the speech that the hon. member refers to is obviously not a matter of policy; it is a matter of opinion whether the people are spoiled. It is a matter of judgment. The policy of the government on all these matters is shared by the Minister of Agriculture and the rest of his cabinet colleagues.

Mr. McGrath: Mr. Speaker, will the Prime Minister clear up this matter and tell the House precisely what the policy of the government is with regard to the continuing increases in the cost of living?

Mr. Trudeau: Mr. Speaker, if the hon. member will stay around today he will hear the Minister of Finance and other spokesmen for the government give answers to this question.

GUIDELINES TO BE GIVEN PROPOSED PRICES REVIEW BOARD

Mr. James A. McGrath (St. John's East): Mr. Speaker, may I direct a supplementary question to the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs. Would the minister tell us exactly what guidelines the government proposes to give to the Prices Review Board which is in the process, we believe, of being set up? Will the policy enunciated by the Minister of Agriculture prevail, or exactly what guidelines will be given to the Prices Review Board?

Hon. Herb Gray (Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs): Mr. Speaker, the guidelines are reflected by the statement I made on April 27 announcing the decision of the government to create such a board.

REQUEST FOR STATEMENT ON MEASURES TO STABILIZE

Mr. G. W. Baldwin (Peace River): I have a supplementary question, Mr. Speaker, for the Prime Minister. In light of what the right hon. gentleman has said and the statement by the Minister of Finance to the joint meeting on Monday that the federal government is to continue to bear the main burden of responsibility for economic stabilization, and as the Prime Minister cannot tell us today what he is going to do, would he take the first opportunity on motions to make a statement indicating by what means the government intends to exercise this responsibility and give absolute priority to the question of economic stabilization rather than merely to the survival of the government?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I repeat, I believe that this is the very subject which is going to be discussed later today as a result of the motion to be put by the opposition. Members of the House and, indeed, the people of the country will see that the government is very much concerned about this problem. The answers and explanations of our position will be contained in the statements by the Minister of Finance and other spokesmen for the government later this day. I hope the hon. member will see his way clear to staying around and listening to some of the excellent speeches which will be made on this side of the House.

INCREASE IN PRICE OF CRUDE OIL—SUGGESTION THAT ENERGY BOARD FIX PRICE FOR PRODUCT PRODUCED AND SOLD IN CANADA

Mr. T. C. Douglas (Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands): Mr. Speaker, may I direct a supplementary question to the right hon. gentleman. In view of the fact that the price of crude oil in western Canada has gone up by 55 cents a barrel in the last six months, and in view of the fact that the area west of the Ottawa Valley is a captive market since it does not enjoy the benefit of competition from offshore oil, may I ask the Prime Minister whether the government is giving consideration to a two-price system by which the National Energy Board would be able to fix a fair and equitable price for crude oil produced and sold in Canada?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, on the question of whether the government is giving consideration, the answer is that the government has indeed considered a great number of measures and counter-measures. On whether there will be any policy on this or on other aspects of the energy question announced, I want to say that the minister responsible is presently in Europe attending a very important conference on the problem of energy in the western world, and he will be able to answer the hon. member as to any plans he has in future.

INCREASE IN FOOD PRICES—REQUEST THAT FAMILY ALLOWANCES BE INCREASED IMMEDIATELY TO HELP THOSE ON LOW INCOMES

Hon. George Hees (Prince Edward-Hastings): Mr. Speaker, may I direct a supplementary question to the Prime Minister. As the Minister of Agriculture has stated that one-third of the Canadian people, those on low incomes, are hurt by rising food prices but will be helped by increases in old age pensions and family allowances, is it the intention of the government to increase immediately family allowances and old age pensions, specifically to compensate for the fast rise in food prices, or must these people wait for another six months?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, we certainly want to make sure that these measures are implemented as soon as possible. I repeat my regret that the measure is not in existence now, in the case of family allowances of $20, because we had hoped that it would be applicable since January 1 of this year. Unfortunately, members sitting on the opposition front benches did not see fit to go along with that legislation.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. Obviously, we are going to have debate on this point. The Chair will recognize the hon. member for Prince Edward-Hastings, the hon. member for St. John's East and the hon. member for Egmont on supplementaries, and return to this subject after we have completed the first round of questioning. The hon. member for York South.

Mr. Hees: Mr. Speaker—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member will be given an opportunity to ask his supplementary later.

Mr. Hees: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, I asked the Prime Minister a perfectly sensible, non-controversial question. The Prime Minister made a wisecracking reply and a misleading statement, but that is no reason why at this stage of the game I should not be allowed to ask a normal supplementary question to a good first question.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I apologize to the Prime Minister. Hon. members appreciate the difficulty of the Chair in attempting to complete the first round of questioning. The hon. member says he has a perfectly legitimate supplementary. I do not quarrel with that. I am sure it will be quite in order when he is recognized for that purpose. Other members wish to ask supplementaries. The hon. member for Champlain is waiting for his turn to ask a question. I do not see why hon. members should object to the Chair trying to complete the first round of questioning and then return to this very important matter.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Speaker: This is why I recognized the hon. member for York South.

Mr. Hees: Mr. Speaker, my point of order is that the Prime Minister did not give me a factual answer. On a question of privilege, I request the right to straighten out this matter.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Hees: My question of privilege is this. The Prime Minister knows there was nothing to stop the government bringing in that bill if it had wished to do so. It could have brought in bills to increase old age pensions and family allowances at any time during the past four months. The Prime Minister knows he is misleading the House and the Canadian people by making a statement that is absolutely untrue.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Trudeau: Mr. Speaker, I heard the member for Edmonton West say I deliberately misled the House. I do not believe he should have said this. I would ask him to withdraw.

Some hon. Members: Withdraw!

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. Perhaps at this point hon. members will appreciate what I thought was basic wisdom a moment ago when I tried to continue with the questioning in an orderly way. I think the hon. member could have waited a moment to ask a supplementary. There was not much point in rising on what he called a question of privilege. On his question of privilege, the Prime Minister says he heard a member say he deliberately misled the House. Of course, no member can say that. With all the noise that prevailed in the House. I certainly did not hear the hon. member for Edmonton West or any other member make that statement. I am not sure whether it will appear in *Hansard*. The hon. member for Edmonton West appeared to want to rise a moment ago. If the words were spoken, I am sure he will want to agree with me that they are not parliamentary.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): Mr. Speaker, I wish to reply to the question of privilege. I appreciate the difficulty in which Your Honour finds himself, having experienced the same difficulties in the past, in not hearing words exchanged. I will avow, Mr. Speaker, that I did say the Prime Minister deliberately misled the House.

Some hon. Members: Shame!

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): On this score, either the Prime Minister is ignorant of the facts and has ignorantly misled the House or in making the statement he has induced the House, but with intention.

Some hon. Members: Shame!

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): I will say this in reply—

● (1420)

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

An hon. Member: Let him continue.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): If I have transgressed the usage of language in saying that the Prime Minister has deliberately misled the House I will apologize to Your Honour and to the House for using those words. But I will not withdraw the words that he was ignorant of the facts.

[Mr. Hees.]

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member can charge another member with ignorance, of course.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Speaker: I do not think that is unparliamentary. I would even go further and say that the hon. member does not have to apologize. I very often hear hon. members who are charged with uttering unparliamentary language rise and make an apology. What is required is not an apology, because that is perhaps going too far. The hon. member has not been asked to do that. He has been asked to withdraw the words, and I gather he does so. I would hope that we could again try to continue with the question period. I understand the point of view of the hon. member. He makes a distinction between what he said and what he wanted to say. He withdraws what he said and asserts what he wanted to say, and I guess we would all agree to that.

Mr. Trudeau: Mr. Speaker, I should like the withdrawal to be unequivocal. I must say that if the hon. member has some doubt—

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Trudeau: —I am prepared to see the matter brought before the Committee on Privileges and Elections and I will gladly appear before the committee. I do not consider that he has withdrawn the statement.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. May I appeal to hon. members. I really thought that the hon. member's withdrawal was unequivocal. That is the way I understood it.

Mr. Hees: Certainly, it was.

Mr. Speaker: I consider it that way.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Speaker: I think the hon. member for Edmonton West said he withdrew those words. He said he withdrew the words that the Prime Minister deliberately misled the House. That is my understanding. I will read *Hansard* tomorrow to see whether it is confirmed. I indicated to the hon. member a few moments ago that that was my interpretation of his words, and he confirms that impression; he asserts this in looking at the Chair. I accept this. I am entirely satisfied with what the hon. member has said. What more can we do? We could go on debating for a long time whether there has been a withdrawal. The Chair has to make the interpretation of the words of explanation given by a member who utters unparliamentary language. My ruling was that the language was unparliamentary. The hon. member, who knows the rules better than I do, recognizes it and has withdrawn. I would hope we could now go on to hear the hon. member for York South who has been waiting patiently in the wings.

Mr. MacDonald (Egmont): On a point of order, Mr. Speaker—

Some hon. Members: Sit down!

Mr. MacDonald (Egmont): Just listen, for a change. I think the importance of the point of order should not be lost on all members of the House.

Mr. Reid: It is certainly lost on you!

Mr. MacDonald (Egmont): Twice during the last three days the Prime Minister, in answer to a direct question about immediate action on the proposal to increase family allowances put forward by the Minister of National Health and Welfare recently, replied with an answer that had nothing whatever to do with that question. He attempted to indicate that members on this side of the House were opposed to that proposition and, in addition, he attempted, in a manner which is well known not only to members of this House but to people generally, to indicate that the program which was being discussed here in this place this week was the same program as had been advanced by the government last year, which it definitely was not. I think that if the Prime Minister wishes to resort to this kind of childishness he could be spending his time in better places, perhaps with my five-year old in kindergarten.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Fortin: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a question of privilege.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member for Lotbinière always speaks with lots of wisdom, and I will hear him with pleasure.

Mr. Fortin: Thank you, Mr. Speaker,—

[*English*]

An hon. Member: On a point of order—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. We might allow another member to rise on a point of order, and that is the hon. member for Lotbinière. He has asked for the floor on a point of order and he is recognized for that purpose.

[*Translation*]

I apologize to the hon. member for Lotbinière. He has the floor.

Mr. Fortin: Mr. Speaker, I would once again like to urge my colleagues to ensure that the first speakers during the oral question period do not ask supplementary questions, in order to do justice to all parties in the House, and to stop wasting time.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to say on behalf of our party that you can count on our support in your efforts to maintain order in the House, and I once again draw the attention of the Progressive Conservatives to the sad show they give, asking them to cease wasting time in the House during the question period.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): Is this not the same as your points of order?

Mr. Caouette (Témiscamingue): Why not give a chance to others, you bunch of egoists!

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): When it is one of your points of order, it is all right.

Mr. Caouette (Témiscamingue): We are the parliament, not you.

[*English*]

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member for York South.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Speaker: May we have order, please. I hope we have gone beyond points of order and questions of privilege and will return to trying to complete the first round of questioning. I want to assure hon. members to my left who want to ask supplementaries that they will be given this opportunity in a moment, including the hon. member for Prince Edward-Hastings. The hon. member for York South has the floor.

* * *

INDIAN AFFAIRS

GRASSY NARROWS AND WHITE DOG RESERVES—MERCURY CONTAMINATION OF FISH—GOVERNMENT ACTION—PROVISION OF ALTERNATIVE FOOD

Mr. David Lewis (York South): Mr. Speaker, I was tempted to rise on a point of order but may I pose some questions to the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development. The minister knows that there has for some considerable time been a problem with the mercury pollution of a river system which has affected the residents of White Dog and Grassy Narrows reserves in northwestern Ontario. I have met with some of the leaders of these reserves—

Mr. McGrath: Mr. Speaker—

Mr. Speaker: Is the hon. member rising on a point of order?

Mr. McGrath: Yes, Mr. Speaker. The rules apply equally to all hon. members of this House. The hon. member for York South is not permitted during the question period to make a statement, and that is precisely what he is doing now.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member is right. I agree with the hon. member for St. John's East that no member should make statements, allegations or declarations while asking a question. That is why I objected earlier, I thought very gently, when the hon. member for St. John's East asked a question, and I will with equal kindness ask the hon. member for York South to ask a question and not make a statement.

Mr. Lewis: With great respect, I object to Your Honour agreeing with that perfectly unjust statement. I was not making a statement. Instead of saying "in view of the fact that there has been" I said "there has been". That is all I did, and I really do not appreciate this kind of nonsense on the part of the hon. member.

As the minister knows, there has been a problem for some years with mercury pollution of a river system affecting the residents of two reserves in northwestern Ontario. I wish to ask the minister whether his depart-

ment has been in touch with the situation, has made tests of the inhabitants of those two reserves, or has taken any other action to assist the residents of those reserves?

[*Translation*]

Hon. Jean Chrétien (Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development): Mr. Speaker, we have been aware of this problem for many years and I know that on several occasions it was necessary to see to it that Indians of this region change their fishing habits.

I think that my department's officials have communicated with the provincial authorities about the causes of such pollution. I have not yet received any report on its effect on the Indians of that region, but I shall inquire from the Minister of National Health and Welfare who looks after the health problems of the Indians and find out if he might give a reply to the hon. member.

● (1430)

[*English*]

Mr. Lewis: Mr. Speaker, may I direct a supplementary question to the Minister of National Health and Welfare. Has his department been in touch with the residents of those two reserves, White Dog and Grassy Narrows, and have any steps been taken to supply the residents of those two reserves with alternative food to the fish they cannot now use in health?

[*Translation*]

Hon. Marc Lalonde (Minister of National Health and Welfare): Mr. Speaker, the Ontario government played a very prominent role in that field, especially because it seems that the pollution was caused by a company which dumped a considerable amount of mercury in the river and lakes concerned. The Ontario government was responsible for the situation and my Ontario colleague followed the matter closely.

In addition, a special team of doctors from my department was sent to the area to study the situation and make additional tests with a view to establishing whether or not the health of the persons affected is in fact threatened. These tests have not been completed. My department and the Ontario Health Department have been working very closely in conjunction with this matter for several weeks if not several months.

[*English*]

Mr. Lewis: Mr. Speaker, may I ask another supplementary question, and I go back to the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development. Even though Ontario has jurisdiction over the waters concerned and also the health question, working together with the federal department, in view of the fact the federal ministry still has a responsibility under the BNA Act and the Indian Act for the welfare of these people, I should like to ask the minister whether discussions have taken place to make available to the residents of those two reserves other nearby lakes or waters where they can continue their fishing habits and occupations?

[*Translation*]

Mr. Chrétien: Mr. Speaker, I am taking the hon. member's recommendation under advisement and shall see whether it would not be possible to implement it in order to improve the lot of the Indians of that area.

* * *

MANPOWER

LOCAL INITIATIVES PROGRAM—CRITERIA FOR EXTENSION OF PROJECTS—MINISTER'S POSITION

Mr. René Matte (Champlain): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the hon. Minister of Manpower and Immigration.

In view of protests raised as a result of application of certain criteria for granting extensions of local initiatives projects, can the minister indicate whether he is considering changing such criteria?

[*English*]

Hon. Robert K. Andras (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): Not at this stage, Mr. Speaker. We are reviewing these matters at all times and if there is any change in the program we will be announcing it.

[*Translation*]

LOCAL INITIATIVES PROGRAM—MONTREAL—SUGGESTION THAT SEASONAL UNEMPLOYMENT RATE BE ADOPTED AS CRITERION FOR APPROVAL OF PROJECTS

Mr. Gilbert Rondeau (Shefford): Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask a supplementary question.

Given the fact that the Montreal area is disqualified for local initiatives projects because the unemployment rate for that region in March was 6.7 per cent instead of 6.8 per cent, according to the project acceptance criterion, could the hon. minister responsible for this program consider the seasonal rather than the monthly unemployment rate for March as the project acceptance criterion, thus allowing the Montreal area to benefit from the Local Initiatives Programs in 1973?

[*English*]

Hon. Robert K. Andras (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, we are using the same yardsticks consistently throughout all regions of the country. Incidentally, by that same calculation the rate for the Montreal Canada Manpower Centre area is not 6.7 per cent but rather 5.9 per cent.

[*Later:*]

[*Translation*]

Mr. Rondeau: Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask another supplementary question.

Could the hon. minister—he did not answer my question a moment ago—consider the seasonal rather than the monthly unemployment rate for March as the project acceptance criterion for local initiatives projects?

[*English*]

Mr. Andras: The problem is that we would have to change the basic criteria all the way through. Every one of these is a relative matter and I doubt very much if it would make any difference in the end.

LOCAL INITIATIVES PROGRAM—NATURE OF EXTENSION OF PROJECTS

Mr. Jack Marshall (Humber-St. George's-St. Barbe): Mr. Speaker, in view of the announcement by the minister that LIP projects will be extended by an amount of $30 million to $40 million and as letters from the minister's officials indicate that the time will be extended but not the funds, could the minister clarify this?

Hon. Robert K. Andras (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, I think that the release which was sent to all hon. members did indicate several categories of eligibility for extension of local initiative programs that had been under way as of now and as of May 31. One of the categories was the kind of project that had not been completed due to any reasonable delay—the weather, that kind of thing. We say they can be completed where no further funds are allowed, but there are several other categories that will also be eligible.

[*Translation*]

LOCAL INITIATIVES PROGRAM—MONTREAL—SUGGESTION THAT RATE OF UNEMPLOYMENT BE CONSIDERED IN APPROVAL OF PROJECTS

Mr. Jacques Guilbault (Saint-Jacques): Mr. Speaker I wish to direct a supplementary question to the minister.

Could he tell the House if he foresees the possibility, in an area as large as Montreal, of taking into consideration the high unemployment rate in some Montreal districts as opposed to those with a lower rate, instead of putting all districts on an equal footing without considering the unemployment rate?

[*English*]

Hon. Robert K. Andras (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, as usual, we will take all these representations into consideration.

* * *

IMMIGRATION

ALLEGED PREMATURE DEPORTATION OF MALLAPPA REDDY

Miss Flora MacDonald (Kingston and the Islands): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Manpower and Immigration. Can he tell the House whether an investigation is now under way as to why Mr. Mallappa Reddy of Montreal was prematurely deported before all his appeal procedures were exhausted, as this action could seriously affect many others in similar circumstances?

Hon. Robert K. Andras (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, there are several circumstances I think should be brought out about this case, and with your indulgence I will try to be brief.

First of all, as was publicized in the paper this morning, Mrs. Reddy arrived in Canada as a visitor fully ten months after her husband had been ordered deported. Mrs. Reddy arrived, it has been established from inquiry, with $5,000 in her possession. His deportation order was upheld by dismissal of his appeal in November, 1972. He was given 25 days to effect his deportation voluntarily which he did not do. Before executing the order, deportation authorities checked with the Supreme Court authorities to see if any appeal has been made, since the Federal Court appeal had already been dismissed, and the execution order was in fact implemented on that basis. In spite of all this, if all else fails and there is real hardship we are quite prepared to assist Mrs. Reddy through financial measures, but we must consider the fact that she had a fair amount of money in her possession when she came. We will assist her to get back with her husband.

* * *

[*Translation*]

SPORTS

MONTREAL OLYMPIC GAMES, 1976—INQUIRY RESPECTING DECISION ON GOVERNMENT FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Mr. Claude Wagner (Saint-Hyacinthe): Mr. Speaker, I should like to put a question to the Prime Minister.

Could he tell us whether it is true that the Cabinet has taken a decision about financing the Olympic Games? If so, could he tell the House what is that decision?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Yes, Mr. Speaker, a decision was taken by the Cabinet at the end of January to the effect that bills would be introduced in the House to authorize a certain financing plan essentially based on the issuance or sale of coins and stamps. This legislation, I hope, will be introduced in the House before the end of May.

[*English*]

MONTREAL OLYMPIC GAMES, 1976—LEGISLATION TO AUTHORIZE MINT TO PRODUCE SPECIAL COINS—DIVISION OF SEIGNIORAGE

Mr. Don Blenkarn (Peel South): Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question for the Prime Minister. Is he aware that the mint is presently organizing and ready for the production of Olympic coins, and is there any legislation contemplated to allow the mint to be in a position to produce these coins?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I am not aware of the premise to the question, but I repeat my previous answer that legislation will be introduced by the government enabling the mint to proceed with the scheme along those lines.

Mr. Blenkarn: Mr. Speaker, is the Montreal Olympic Committee going to be allowed to retain all of the seigniorage in connection with Olympic coins to be produced by the mint?

Mr. Trudeau: Mr. Speaker, this is a complex subject and the government will put its position before the House at the time it introduces the legislation and it is debated. I hope that the complexity will be understood by the opposition and that they will be in favour of it.

An hon. Member: If you can understand it, we can.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

● (1440)

Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Prince Albert): Mr. Speaker, the Prime Minister referred to the complexity of the question and in doing so he was pointing in my direction as if it were something he expected we could not understand. Does it not amount in fact to the people of Canada having to put up, because they will not receive the benefit of the coinage, some $200 million by indirect instead of direct contribution?

Mr. Trudeau: Mr. Speaker, the answer to the question is no, but I think the fact that it was asked proves, indeed, that the complexity of the question is not understood by the right hon. gentleman.

Mr. Diefenbaker: Mr. Speaker, I approach the altar of the Prime Minister's arrogance with great diffidence. The Prime Minister should treat the House with a little more consideration and not be egregiously contemptuous. I ask him whether or not the plan is, as originally stated, that the mint will receive some $70 million for the actual cost of the production of the coinage and the difference between the cost and the value thereof will go to the Olympic committee? Is that not a simple question even for an uncomplex person such as the Prime Minister?

Mr. Trudeau: Mr. Speaker, on the preamble to the question I must point out that the hon. member chose to intervene because he said I had pointed at him. I must say that I did not. I was gesticulating in the direction of the hon. gentleman who asked the question. But if he wants to see himself involved I will gladly repeat my answer to him, that the facts he stated in the first question have no for an answer and indeed it proves that the question is very complex. If the hon. member wants a longer statement, we would have to revert to motions.

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Mr. Trudeau: I would only be prepared to speak on motions at the time the legislation is given first reading. If we get permission at the time of first reading to make a statement on motions I shall indeed be glad to make it.

Mr. Diefenbaker: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a question of privilege. I am not thin-skinned like the Prime Minister but invariably when he wants to be contemptuous he refers to me as the "honourable" member. I always refer to him as "right honourable" despite the fact that he is not a member of the Imperial Privy Council and only Mr. St. Laurent and I are.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. Would the hon. member for Peel South resume his seat. We are running short of time. Hon. members will appreciate that we are on only the third or fourth question. I would ask the indulgence of hon. members not to have too many supplementaries on each subject. The hon. member for Peel South has a supplementary to his question. The hon. member for Fraser Valley West wants to ask a question. I will recognize the hon. member for Peel South for one supplementary and the the hon. member for Fraser Valley West. That will take us quite far along in the question period.

[Mr. Trudeau.]

Mr. Blenkarn: Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I object principally to the Prime Minister's suggestion I cannot understand and that members of this House cannot understand the question of seigniorage. The right hon. gentleman from Prince Albert explained it in detail to the Prime Minister—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member should resume his seat when the Speaker takes the floor. This is elementary. I recognize the hon. member for the purpose of asking a supplementary. I think he should try to ask a supplementary rather than debate the matter. We have had a mini debate on a subject that is very mysterious to the Chair, but the hon. member should ask his question.

Mr. Blenkarn: Mr. Speaker, will the Prime Minister advise the House when this matter will be brought before the House in terms of legislation authorizing the issuance of these coins and other things?

Mr. Trudeau: Yes, Mr. Speaker. In a previous answer a few moments ago I indicated that it would be our intention to bring it before the House before the end of the month.

MONTREAL OLYMPIC GAMES, 1976—GOVERNMENT POLICY REGARDING SUPPORT—ADVANCEMENT OF FUNDS TO CITY

Mr. Mark Rose (Fraser Valley West): Mr. Speaker, I shall not try your patience with a series of supplementaries, but I should like to direct a very uncomplicated supplementary to the Prime Minister. In view of the fact that the Treasury Board's study of the Montreal Olympics of about six weeks ago revealed that an estimated deficit would perhaps accrue of somewhere in excess of $200 million, I should like to ask whether or not the government has changed any policy decisions regarding federal support for the Montreal games and whether or not any funds have already been advanced to the city of Montreal for the purpose of the Olympics through any department of government?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, on the first part of the question the answer is no. The policy of the government remains as I stated in my statement to the House at the end of January or the beginning of February. On the second part, whether any funds have been paid out under the provisions of that statement, I do not have the answer; I have every cause to think the answer is no, but I will look into the matter. Finally, I want to assure the House that when I talked about complexity I did not mean to insult anyone's intelligence. I was referring very much to a very complex question indeed, and I hope the House will understand that.

[*Translation*]

YOUTH

OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUTH PROGRAM—SUGGESTION THAT PROJECTS REFUSED TO BE REVIEWED

Mr. Charles-Eugène Dionne (Kamouraska): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the hon. Secretary of State.

Has he considered and accepted a formula for review of Opportunities for Youth projects which were rejected although they are obviously meaningful to the young people sponsoring them?

[*English*]

Hon. James Hugh Faulkner (Secretary of State): No, Mr. Speaker. I regret as much as the hon. member the difficulty faced by those whose projects were rejected, but frankly I am not considering further funds for those at the moment. I think that is the short answer to the question.

* * *

TRADE

SUGGESTED VISIT BY PRIME MINISTER TO EUROPE TO PRESENT CANADIAN POSITION

Mr. Peter C. Bawden (Calgary South): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Prime Minister when he is listening. In view of the success achieved by the President of Mexico in appearing last month at the European Economic Community in Brussels and the announcement that President Nixon will be visiting Europe this fall when he will no doubt press the position of the United States on trade with the European community, will the Prime Minister consider a trip to Europe to put forward Canada's position forcefully to the European community?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Yes, Mr. Speaker. I appreciate the hon. member's suggestion that I do a bit of travelling. I have the intention of preparing travel plans for the coming year.

Mr. Bawden: Mr. Speaker, the Prime Minister said he would be preparing his travel plans for Europe for next year. Would he not consider it more appropriate to be putting Canada's position before the community this year?

Mr. Trudeau: Mr. Speaker, the House should know that the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce was in Europe just a matter of a couple of weeks ago putting this case, and it has been put on previous occasions by the Secretary of State for External Affairs and by various other ministers including the Minister of Finance who was over in Europe. I myself put the case very strongly in the United Kingdom when I visited the Prime Minister of the United Kingdom in December. I can assure the hon. member that the representations are constant and continuous, but that does not preclude, I repeat, my consideration of further travel plans for the year to come.

● (1450)

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. There are just a few minutes left before the end of the question period, and I would ask hon. members to give other hon. members an opportunity to ask questions. Perhaps the hon. member for Calgary South might ask a last supplementary, after which I will recognize the hon. member for Kent-Essex and then the hon. member for Saskatoon-Biggar.

Mr. Bawden: Mr. Speaker, I am aware of the visit of the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce to Europe, but does the Prime Minister not think that an appearance by himself would be more appropriate and have more impact than appearances by his lesser ministers, particularly when so many countries are being represented in Europe by their chief executives?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. That is an argument.

* * *

MANPOWER

FARM LABOUR SHORTAGE—PROVISION OF SUMMER EMPLOYMENT FOR STUDENTS—ACTION TO MEET NEEDS

Mr. H. W. Danforth (Kent-Essex): Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct a question to the Minister of Manpower and Immigration who, I am sure, is well aware of the problem. Because of the fact it is becoming quite apparent that shortages of farm labour for planting and harvesting could seriously jeopardize food production in Canada, and at the same time thousands of students desperately need summer employment to obtain money for their further education, would the minister at this time, or in a statement on motions, indicate if any new initiatives, over and above those used last year, to survey adequately both needs and to resolve this most serious problem are in process?

Hon. Robert K. Andras (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, I will examine the hon. member's representation and give him a more satisfactory and detailed answer later.

* * *

AGRICULTURE

SMALL FARM DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM—INQUIRY AS TO AGREEMENT WITH SASKATCHEWAN

Mr. A. P. Gleave (Saskatoon-Biggar): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Minister of Agriculture. In view of the recent announcement by the minister of a one week deadline for the government of Saskatchewan to agree to the implementation of the small farm development program, can the minister tell the House whether an agreement has been reached by the two governments or whether negotiations are still in progress between himself and the provincial government?

Hon. E. F. Whelan (Minister of Agriculture): Mr. Speaker, I met with the Minister of Agriculture of Saskatchewan in Ottawa on Tuesday. He submitted some ideas or suggestions to me to consider. I am resubmitting them to him in Regina this afternoon, and we have agreed to have these negotiations finalized by next Wednesday.

Mr. Gleave: May I ask the minister whether, in view of the fact several other provinces, including Quebec, have

not yet signed an agreement, he also issued an ultimatum of one week to the province of Quebec?

Mr. Whelan: Mr. Speaker, we are taking them one at a time but they will all be treated the same way.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

* * *

[*Translation*]

INQUIRY OF THE MINISTRY

Mr. Réal Caouette (Témiscamingue): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the right hon. Prime Minister. As usual, the matter is very serious.

Two days ago, following statements by the Leader of the Official Opposition to the effect that prices to fishermen in the east and the west and also to western farmers should be increased, I asked the Prime Minister whether he intended to have the Leader of the Official Opposition examined. Now I notice that for the past two days the Leader of the Official Opposition has not been in the House? Has the Prime Minister had him sent to the hospital for examination?

Hon. Marcel Lambert (Edmonton West): Were you in a mental home when you were absent? Because in fact you were absent, weren't you?

* * *

[*English*]

BROADCASTING

CABLEVISION—REQUEST THAT APPLICATIONS TO CANADIAN RADIO-TELEVISION COMMISSION BE EXPEDITED

Mr. R. E. McKinley (Huron): Mr. Speaker, before asking my question I would just like to say, in view of the remarks made by the last questioner, that I believe the Leader of the Opposition is in Vancouver.

I would like to direct a question to the Minister of Communications in charge of the Canadian Radio-Television Commission. In view of the fact many communities are anxious to have cable television available to them and that the CRTC seems to be dragging its feet in setting hearing dates for applications, will the minister take it upon himself to see what can be done to have the CRTC exhibit some urgency in this matter?

[*Translation*]

Hon. Gérard Pelletier (Minister of Communications): I suggest, Mr. Speaker, that any delay in the holding of CRTC hearings is strictly due to the tremendous workload the commission has to deal with. I do not believe there is negligence on their part; I maintain continual contacts with the members of the CRTC and I transmit to them representations submitted to me by hon. members.

[*English*]

Mr. McKinley: As many applications for cable television service have already been submitted to the commission to which there is no opposition and the applicants have been proven to be responsible and financially stable, could these applications be approved without the necessity of going through a formal hearing?

[*Translation*]

Mr. Pelletier (Hochelaga): I am not sure, Mr. Speaker, that I would dare express an opinion on whether or not the CRTC is bound by law to hold a hearing, but I am convinced it is proceeding as fast as possible. Now, if the hon. member wishes to inform me of special cases or abnormal delays, I shall be happy to bring them to the attention of the chairman of the CRTC.

* * *

[*English*]

TRADE

REPORTED INSISTENCE BY UNITED STATES THAT CANADA ACCEPT ENERGY DEAL IN RETURN FOR ACCESS FOR CANADIAN MANUFACTURED GOODS

Mr. Edward Broadbent (Oshawa-Whitby): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce. In view of the report from Washington which appeared in today's *Globe and Mail* that Secretary of the Treasury George Shultz had intimated that in trade talks between Canada and the United States the United States was taking a package approach and insisting that in return for the U.S. accepting manufactured goods from Canada we would have to accept the U.S. proposal for an energy deal. Is this being discussed in the trade talks right now and, if so, what is Canada's position?

Hon. Alastair Gillespie (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): Mr. Speaker, of course I have not seen the transcript of the secretary's remarks and until I have I cannot comment in any detail. It is true that we have resumed talks. I think that the atmosphere for our discussions has improved very considerably. I think there is an understanding and a willingness on both sides to deal with separate issues on their merits.

Mr. Broadbent: As a supplementary—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The Chair will recognize the hon. member for his supplementary, but we have reached the end of the question period. In fact, with the implied consent of hon. members I have allowed a little extra time because of the points of order and questions of privilege we had earlier in the question period. As I say, the hon. member may ask his supplementary, and then I will recognize the hon. member for Brome-Missisquoi on a last question.

CANADA-UNITED STATES AUTO PACT—SUGGESTED REMOVAL OF DUTY PAID BY CANADIANS ON IMPORTS

Mr. Edward Broadbent (Oshawa-Whitby): Mr. Speaker, my supplementary is on one of those separate trade items referred to by the minister. Could he inform the House whether the governments of Canada and the United States are discussing, as a change in the auto pact, the proposal I made in the House on March 13 to remove the 15

per cent duty that Canadians must now pay if they purchase a car in the United States?

Hon. Alastair Gillespie (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): Mr. Speaker, when I have something more to state with respect to our discussions I will do so in the appropriate way. I think it would be premature at this time to make any statement in respect of these talks.

* * *

PENITENTIARIES

COWANSVILLE—REQUEST FOR INDEPENDENT INQUIRY IN LIGHT OF FURTHER ESCAPE

Mr. Heward Grafftey (Brome-Missisquoi): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Solicitor General. It concerns the escape of yet another inmate from the Cowansville medium security institution while visiting his wife in Montreal. Since one of the officials of the minister's department has said that this inmate can be considered dangerous, will the Solicitor General now order an independent inquiry into the escapes of maximum security inmates from medium security institutions, and into the transfer of these inmates to such institutions? Can he now assure the House that he will establish an independent inquiry in order to find out just what is going on?

Hon. Warren Allmand (Solicitor General): Mr. Speaker, I have said that I have an inquiry under way at the present time and that when I receive that report I will consider the suggestion put forward by the right hon. member for Prince Albert. I want to say that in this case the inmate in question had a child on the day he was arrested, and this was the first opportunity he had to see the child. He was allowed out of the penitentiary on that basis. Unfortunately he breached the trust put in him and escaped from the guard. This incident is also under investigation by the inquiry and I hope to have a report soon.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. A number of hon. members are seeking supplementaries, but I think I should really call orders of the day. I apologize to the hon. member for Brome-Missisquoi who wishes to ask a supplementary, but with his forbearance and consent perhaps the matter could be pursued tomorrow. The hon. member for Peace River is rising on a point of order.

● (1500)

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

WEEKLY STATEMENT

Mr. Baldwin: Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask the government House leader about the business of the House for the next week, but before he comes to his place I think I am entitled to remark on the gratuitous statement made by the hon. member for Témiscamingue (Mr. Caouette). The Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Stanfield), who is the leader of the only effective opposition in this House,—

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Baldwin: —is in Vancouver at the request of a great many people there to outline the alternative policies.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Baldwin: I should like to ask the government House leader—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The Minister for Consumer and Corporate Affairs.

Mr. Basford: Mr. Speaker, on a question of privilege—

Mr. Speaker: The hon. minister rises on a question of privilege.

Mr. Basford: Mr. Speaker, the statement that has just been made is not entirely correct. The Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Stanfield) is not in the city which I represent at the request of that city; he is there because the Conservatives have been flogging $100 tickets all over the place.

Mr. Bell: He didn't say that.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Fortin: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a question of privilege.

[*English*]

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member will have to wait for his point of order.

[*Translation*]

The hon. member for Lotbinière on a question of privilege.

Mr. Fortin: Mr. Speaker, we were deeply hurt by the disparaging connotation of the remark made by the hon. member for Peace River about the hon. member for Témiscamingue (Mr. Caouette). That party should know that the hon. member for Témiscamingue is the leader of the opposition party for Quebec in Ottawa.

[*English*]

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member rises on a point of order. I would hope that the hon. member for Peace River (Mr. Baldwin) would not attempt another reminder of that kind.

[*Translation*]

The hon. member for Témiscamingue wants to raise a point of order.

Mr. Caouette (Témiscamingue): Mr. Speaker, my point of order is to inform the hon. member for Peace River that there are only two Progressive Conservative members in the province of Quebec, and they do not even see eye to eye.

[*English*]

Mr. Baldwin: Having settled that important issue, Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask the government House leader about the business for this week and next week.

When replying I would be grateful if the hon. gentleman would indicate if the government has now composed its differences so that he can tell the House just when the ways and means resolutions with regard to corporate taxes will be introduced. I first asked that question two months ago.

Mr. MacEachen: As the House knows, Mr. Speaker, we will be considering an opposition day today and another tomorrow. On Monday, I would hope to call the amendments to the Criminal Code related to capital punishment, followed by the Fisheries Development Act and the CNR financing bill. On Thursday and Friday of next week, it will be necessary to call opposition days. The timing of the introduction of the corporate tax changes is very much in my mind at the moment.

Mr. McGrath: Mr. Speaker, may I ask the government House leader—and I do so in view of the statement made yesterday by the Minister of Agriculture which is the only statement of government policy we have had on the increase in the cost of living—if the government will give consideration to setting aside the low priority that he has outlined before the House and bring in amendments to the Family Allowance Act so that we can get money into the hands of the poor who have to eat every day, not just once every six months.

Mr. Marshall: Mr. Speaker, if I may put a question to the government House Leader. In view of the fact that we cannot get any enlightenment on the subject of disability pensions from the Minister of Veterans Affairs (Mr. MacDonald), since that was promised six months ago as a priority, would the minister state when he is going to introduce legislation on disability pensions?

Mr. MacEachen: Mr. Speaker, I believe most hon. members would agree that capital punishment and fisheries are priority items, as is action on family allowances and the subject of pensions brought up by my hon. friend. They will be brought in at an early date, and hopefully will be dealt with before the end of June.

Mr. Speaker: Orders of the day.

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

BUSINESS OF SUPPLY

ALLOTTED DAY, S.O. 58—ALLEGED FAILURE OF GOVERNMENT TO TAKE EFFECTIVE ACTION TO DEAL WITH INCREASED COST OF LIVING

Mr. James Gillies (Don Valley) (for Mr. Baldwin) moved:

That this House deplores the failure of the government to take concrete and effective action against the rising cost of living, so evident in the price of shelter, food and clothing; and therefore urges the government to impose an immediate temporary freeze so as to enable it to develop a satisfactory plan in conjunction with the provinces, industry and labour for the purpose of keeping the cost of living within acceptable limits.

[Mr. Baldwin.]

He said: Mr. Speaker, I rise to speak on this motion with the feeling that we are talking about one of the most important problems that is before the Canadian public today, the problem of the high cost of living and what we are going to do about it. It would seem to me that we do not have to debate the subject at length to ascertain that we have a serious inflationary problem in Canada. The consumer price index has increased by 6.6 per cent and the food component of that index has increased 12.9 per cent. All the forecasts we have indicate that inflation is going to be with us in the future. I know that these forecasts can be very difficult. Certainly, the forecast made a year ago by the Minister of Finance (Mr. Turner) in his budget, when he hoped that there would be reasonable price stability during this year, has not come true. I mention that not in a pejorative sense at all, but merely recognizing how difficult it is to make good forecasts in this particular area. I accept the explanation given by the Minister of Finance and the government many times that there have been great difficulties throughout the world in terms of food supplies, rising incomes and the rising expectations of people who are using more food. I accept those statements and would not debate them here today.

What I should like to debate is how we are going to evolve ways to deal with these particular problems in this country, and what we should do about inflation and our monetary and fiscal policy in a general sense. There are those who would argue that we should live with inflation as it is. A conventional part of economic wisdom says that inflation and full employment must go together, that we should go for full employment and be willing to live with the inflation it generates. I think that is a defeatist attitude, a program that is basically unacceptable in any contemporary economy, in any contemporary country. The inflation that could be experienced in a country such as Canada could be so high that we could not expect the Canadian people to bear such an unjust burden. People on fixed incomes are desperately burdened as it is. Those planning a pension or insurance program are already badly hit by inflation. Certainly, the great regional disparities in this country mean that the burdens of inflation fall heaviest on those who live in areas of low income.

We have unleashed in Canada today a series of expectations which bode ill for us in the future. Historically, many countries have found themselves in serious economic difficulties in terms of employment and economic growth because of unbridled inflation. So, we must do something about those inflationary forces in the Canadian economy at this time.

● (1510)

But beside that, and apart from that, the fact that we are experiencing a cycle of inflation in Canada today indicates, I think, that we have not come to grips with the problems of economic management in the Canadian economy. In the last two or three years we have had an inordinate level of unemployment. Our level of unemployment has been among the highest of any industrialized country in the world and we all applaud the reduction of this high level, even by a slight amount. There has been an enormous underutilization of our productive resources, and we have probably lost between $5 billion and $6 billion of

possible production per year because the economy has been operating below capacity.

The same can be said of taxes. We have lost a great amount of tax income which would have been generated by people who would have been working. We have had an economic policy that, very simply, has led to an increasing proportion of foreign control of our own economy. We have operated under an economic policy which simply has not worked for Canada and the amount of inflation from which we now suffer simply underlines this fundamental fact.

What worries the people of Canada and must worry all in the Parliament of Canada is this: As we enter this pattern of upswing and inflation, are we entering into the classical cycle when price expansion will eventually cause economic contraction? Will there be once again lost production, and are we, going to experience a classical business cycle? Analysts are saying that the high costs of today will be reflected in higher costs tomorrow which means there will be more inflation. The situation certainly calls for action right away.

Why are we experiencing the present level of inflation in Canada? There are two major causes of inflation. The first well known cause is cost-push, the cause or the inflation which we experienced last year, a matter which appeared to be a matter of great concern to those responsible for economic policy at that time. They asked, how is it possible that we have both inflation and high unemployment? The answer is, of course, that the inflation was not related to demand factors at all. There was cost-push inflation operating in Canada during the last two or three years, and that cost-push inflation should have been dealt with then. So, we were in the ignominious position of having a high level of unemployment and high levels of inflation.

What has happened now, and the reason that we have such great problems in Canada today, is that the cost-push inflation generated two or three years ago has now been supplemented by demand-pull inflation. Actually, we have both, and because we suffer from both forms, we must simply do something about it. Why has demand-pull inflation come about? One could argue that it has come about because incomes are rising. However, basically and primarily, demand-pull inflation, as we are today experiencing it, has come about as a result of the futile attempt of dealing with the inflationary problems of three years ago, as if it were caused by demand-pull and therefore by introducing high interest rate policies, a slowdown of the economy, and fiscal policies which stopped normal growth. So, we have shortages of supply now. The occurrence of cost-push inflation and demand-pull inflation together are creating inflationary expectations in the economy which the economy simply cannot sustain.

The real question is not necessarily why do we have this inflation, but what can we do about it? What kind of policy can we evolve that will make it possible for Canadians to have reasonably full employment and price stability at the same time? How can we cope with the situation in which the Canadian economy now finds itself? No one would argue, I least of all, that this question can be solved in any simple fashion. At the same time, it appears to me that there are basically three approaches that can be taken to solve this particular problem.

The first is the great, classical approach, the traditional approach, which says that if there is inflation in the economy, you must slow down or dampen the economy, raise interest rates, impose high taxes and cut off excess purchasing power. This supposedly stops the forward movement of the economy and slows down the inflationary spiral. That was the policy followed by the government in 1970 and that is the policy that some of us are frightened the government will follow again. That policy, of course, will not work. It will not stop inflation unless you generate unacceptably high levels of unemployment. We are still suffering from the use of such a policy three years ago. One can give the government great credit for bringing the rate of inflation in Canada down to quite low levels through such a policy. However, in doing so, it paid a cost that was enormously high, a cost Canadians today are not prepared to pay again and inflation was only temporarily checked.

The question one must ask is, why does that classical approach not work now? Why did we end up having high unemployment and inflation at the same time, even though there was a slow down in the economy? The reason the policy does not work is that such a policy is designed to work in an economy which is totally competitive, where competitive forces are operating all the time. The trial of that policy two or three years ago, made it self-evident that the Canadian economy had within it a series of blocks, of power groups which do not respond the way competitive markets do. We do not have perfectly competitive economy. So, we find that the traditional policy for fighting inflation does not work. The Phillips curve that people talk about is not applicable. We do not have acceptable trade-offs between employment and inflation. Consequently, it does not make good sense to follow the traditional policy.

The second thing I wish to say about that policy is that it depends upon enormously good economic forecasting and analysis. I have argued many times in this House that we are not properly organized in Canada for economic policy making. We need a system of competent economic forecasting, but do not have it. I do not want to press that point except to say that if we are to use monetary and fiscal policies alone to create full employment and combat inflation, we must be very sure that we are accurately measuring the leads and lags that take place in the economy. Our estimation and analysis in this country of these leads and lags has been very poor indeed. We just have not been able to predict them. Whether anybody else could do so I am not prepared to say, but the government has not been able to do so. Relying on a policy when we do not have the tools to undertake it is folly indeed. We know that if you follow the classical way to fight inflation in this country, the policy is not going to work. It has not worked in the past and will not work in future, and we must reject the idea that it will.

I do not think anybody in this parliament is prepared to see the Bank of Canada tighten the money supply and raise interest rates to slow down production in order to get inflation under control. That is a perfectly unacceptable way to approach this problem at the present time.

On the other hand, if we do not follow the traditional method, we must do something else. We are not prepared, it seems to me, to accept the rate of inflation prevalent in the economy. It affects expectations involving, among other things, international trade. If we cannot accept it, one must ask, what are the alternatives?

One alternative is calling for voluntary restraints, asking everyone not to raise prices, asking labour not to raise wages and industrialists not to sell labour not to raise wages and industrialists not to sell their goods at higher prices. This was attempted but did not work. The thrust was made, but did not work. What is left?

It seems to me, Mr. Speaker, that, given the structure of the economy and the problems we are facing, we simply have to come to some sort of enforced incomes policy if we are to get rid of the inflation which is doing so much harm to so many Canadians at the present time. Nobody really approaches such a solution to the inflationary problem with any pleasure. I agree with the Minister of Finance (Mr. Turner) that you have to approach the idea of making the policy work with care. However, I and the members on my side of the House, at least, feel strongly that we must do something to contain inflation. The people of Canada, I think, feel the same way. I think the people of Canada are looking for somebody to give leadership in this area and say, "Let us try this, let us make the economy work effectively."

● (1520)

What are the arguments against an incomes policy? What are the arguments why we should not attempt to adopt incomes policy? The first argument is that it will not work. I reject that out of hand. There is no reason to believe we cannot design an incomes policy in this country that will work. One looks at the experience of other countries, particularly the United States and England and it is clear that the record is mixed.

Indications from the British experience are not in, although we know the inflationary rate in that country has been reduced. One has to be careful of international comparisons, but I believe the rate has dropped roughly from 10 per cent to 6 per cent. We know that until they went to phase three in the United States, the American experience worked well. When they went to phase three, it worked badly. I reject out of hand the idea that we are incapable of designing in this country an incomes policy that will work. All we need to have is the will, the courage and the leadership to put it into effect.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Gillies: The second reason it is said we should not have a policy is that it would create a vast bureaucracy to administer the program. No one is talking about an incomes policy today that is comparable to the incomes policy operated in the forties during the war. It is a different situation altogether. Nobody is talking about rationing. We are talking about an incomes policy with no rationing. We could administer and operate an incomes policy in this country with something in the neighbourhood of 800 to 1,000 people. What the figure would actually be, I would not suggest specifically, but we know that when the United States with 225 million people ran its income policy, they ran it with 1,200 people. The argument put forward that we would have a vast bureaucracy does not wash in the present situation.

The third reason that is given for not having an incomes policy in Canada is that we have an open economy. It is said that any country where 25 per cent of the gross national product is generated through international trade cannot make an incomes policy work. Again, it creates some difficulties. My own view is that they are far from insurmountable. Indeed, it would not be a bad idea to look more carefully at our export and import policies at this time, as well as our capital flow problems, and relate them to a growth program in Canada.

Finally, it is argued it would not work because the people are not ready for it and do not want it. What evidence is there? Every Gallup poll you look at, and I do not like to mention Gallup polls, indicates the Canadian people want some sort of incomes policy in this country at the present time. Certainly, most members of parliament found during the Easter recess that the major problem facing Canada today is the cost of living. There is no question about it. How long do Canadians have to wait before some action is taken to deal with this problem? The Canadian people are willing, able and eager to have positive approach taken to lower the cost of living. These are the arguments made against it.

What are the arguments for it? Certainly, the argument of getting the cost of living under control is important. The field of housing, which will be dealt with later, is terribly important. With the rate of inflation today only 6 per cent of the families in Toronto can afford to buy a single family home if they are not to spend more than two and one half times their income on housing. The present rate of inflation in the cost of housing today, if compounded, and I know these figures have been quoted before, means that in the year 2,000 the average selling price of a single family house in Toronto would be $250,000, a quarter of a million dollars. We have to break such inflationary expectations.

An incomes policy would give us time to work out economic policies that would lead to the proper use of our resources, a stable employment program, a stable import-export program, a program that would allow the Canadian economy to move forward the way in which it should. I cannot state how sincerely our party is committed to the fact that now in Canada we should have a 90 day freeze on incomes, prices, rents and dividends as a start in attacking the inflation problem in the Canadian economy.

I want to make it very clear that we think that the 90 day period of time should be used, and in this I agree completely with the leader of the New Democratic Party, to consult with the provinces, leaders of labour, the leaders of industry, leaders of agriculture and leaders of consumer groups to work out a stabilization program. It has never been part of the Conservative party policy to have a 90 day freeze and that's it. We believe an incomes policy has to be an integral part of our monetary and fiscal policy if this country is going to operate with full employment and reasonably stable prices.

We would use the 90 days to develop the program in detail. We think guidelines should be developed for measuring acceptable changes in prices and incomes. We sug-

gest guidelines that are not voluntary, but that are enforceable. When there are productivity changes, these can be taken into account and remedies can be provided for those suffering inequitably because of the program. There is no reason why it cannot be done. We believe it can and should be done. In this economy, we have had enough experience in the old fashioned idea of monetary theory alone and fiscal policy alone, fighting inflation and bringing about full employment. It is not working. How much evidence do we need? We think it is essential to supplement monetary and fiscal policies with an incomes policy right now.

Before 1936, before Lord Keyne's great work, anyone who suggested there were times a government had a responsibility of operating without a balanced budget in order to get full employment was totally rejected. Surely, in the seventies we are not so blind that we are going to allow the Canadian people to be damaged by inflation and accept high levels of unemployment because we are unwilling to concede the proposition that it may be necessary now to supplement traditional policies with an incomes policy.

In this parliament, there has been debate after debate of all kinds of what are responsibilities of government. But surely, no one can argue against the proposition that it is a central responsibility of the federal government to follow policies to provide full employment and price stability. Surely this cannot be argued. It must be the central thrust, the central responsibility of the federal government. This is a responsibility which the government is not accepting, and I hope hon. members on the treasury benches opposite will accept our suggestion, will adopt an incomes policy, relate it to monetary and fiscal policy and get this country moving again.

• (1530)

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Speaker: Before the hon. member resumes his seat, I gather the hon. member for Davenport is seeking permission to ask him a question. He can only do this with the hon. member's permission and on the understanding that the hon. member has not yet completed his speech.

Mr. Gillies: I shall be glad to answer a question. I wish I knew what it was before it was asked, though.

Mr. Caccia: Would the hon. member tell the House what are the components of his prices and incomes policy at the point when the 90-day freeze which he is proposing comes to a conclusion?

Mr. Muir: He has just told you.

Mr. Gillies: I would be glad to answer that question if I were given another 20 minutes.

Some hon. Members: Agreed!

Mr. Gillies: Basically, we believe we should work out a series of guidelines for appropriate increases in incomes and prices. These guidelines would be enforceable and adjustments would be permitted corresponding to changes in productivity. This would be accompanied by policies designed to increase supplies in the market of agriculture products, housing and so forth, so that the forces of supply and demand would operate in an effective fashion again.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Caccia: A further question—

Mr. Speaker: Order. The day is getting short, and I believe there are a number of hon. members who wish to take part in the debate. If too many questions are asked at the end of speeches, the number of speeches possible might be cut down. If members of the House wish, we can, of course, allow further questions, though I believe there is some objection taken to this—perhaps we should allow the Minister of Finance to make his speech.

Hon. John N. Turner (Minister of Finance): Mr. Speaker, we address ourselves to this motion with a recognition that rising prices in this country involve us all in a matter of growing concern—a concern felt by the country as a whole and shared by this House. No one is going to deny that inflation is hurting every Canadian. I must say the government is watching the situation with a commitment to do everything it can to ensure that low income families, in particular, are left with sufficient disposable income to cope with the rise in prices. The economic responses are not easy.

I listened with great care to the hon. member for Don Valley (Mr. Gillies) and I still do not know what economic responses he would make in sufficient detail to allow a considered judgment to be made upon them. I want to suggest to him that there are no magic, clear-cut solutions and it is no use deluding ourselves or the country into believing that a solution is easy. I do not believe posturing is going to provide a solution, nor will rhetoric, nor political cosmetics.

An hon. Member: Talk to the Prime Minister about political cosmetics. He has his hand in the jar.

Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton): Mr. Speaker, this motion glaringly underlines the lack of credibility of the Conservative party in its mounting desperation for power. I am not surprised that the hon. gentleman, when he blurted out the word "poll", should have retreated from it immediately. What the motion does is to propose a vague and ill-defined type of freeze. Its terms certainly do not give the House any clarification of its intent, neither did the hon. member for Don Valley. As I say, it proposes an ill-defined type of freeze on the incomes of Canadians to be followed by further controls of an even more vague and ill-defined nature.

Despite the pertinent question put by my hon. friend from Davenport (Mr. Caccia), we were not able to ascertain the precise nature of what the hon. member had in mind. We are quite willing to recognize the gravity of this problem for Canadians. Our difficulty is in understanding just what policy the hon. member wishes to pursue.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): Look at your budget speech of last year. You haven't done a damn thing about it.

Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton): I submit that the proposal put to the House this afternoon could very well, over the longer term, hurt Canadians far more than it would help them. It is a proposal which could aggravate inflation rather than relieve it and it could, as the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Stanfield) warned in earlier days, substantially increase tensions between various groups in Canadian society. I am sorry the Leader of the Opposition is not here today.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): You have been absent, too.

Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton): I am not complaining about it. I suggest to the hon. gentleman that it will not cost him any money to listen to me this afternoon.

An hon. Member: It is costing the country a fortune!

Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton): The Leader of the Opposition said on January 31, 1971, that "there had been a lot of loose talk about wage and price controls".

An hon. Member: That was two and a half years ago.

Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton): No, about one and a half years ago. I continue the quotation. He said:

—even cabinet ministers are mentioning it these days as the answer to price stability in Canada.

Incidentally, I may say I was a faithful reader of the hon. gentleman's contributions to the Toronto *Telegram* before he entered politics. Even if he is a recent convert, one wonders what his motives are.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Muir: The Prime Minister is a convert, too.

Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton): I continue. This is the Leader of the Opposition speaking:

It is important for us to recognize the far-reaching implications of such controls which, by their very nature, could be nothing better than a short-term solution taken as a final resort after all other means had failed.

They would cause untold resentment among groups and individuals who felt unfairly done by and they would result in a climate of constant confrontation. In additon, of course, they would inevitably lead to a highly centralized and therefore inefficient form of economic planning.

I say as strongly as I can that we must make a further, serious effort at a time when inflation is partially, if temporarily under control. This is the time to act again to set up a pattern for co-operation. And this must be combined with monetary and fiscal policies which will appear credible and workable to the people involved.

I agree with the last few words of that citation. I am sure the knowledgeable members of this House—and by definition every member of this House is knowledgeable on these matters—will recognize the problem of inflation is worldwide in origin. There is no way in which a major international trading nation like Canada can insulate itself from these forces. To suggest that it can do so represents a flagrant attempt to mislead the Canadian people. I say to the hon. member for Don Valley that if this recently-acquired obsession with controls, for whatever motives he might care to have attributed to him—maybe the word "obsession" is a little too strong—

[Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West).]

Some hon. Members: Oh!

Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton): —is based only on the fact that we ought to have wage and price controls in this country in order to give it a try, run it up the flagpole and see if anyone salutes it, to use the old Walter J. Thompson aphorism, then surely he is deluding himself, the House and the people.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton): The hon. gentleman was talking about inflationary expectations. I venture to say him that every time he brings up this matter in the House in these terms he is prompting expectations that if he were in power—fortunately this is an academic question—it would result in a self-fulfilling prophecy and prices would be escalated even more than they have been escalating. I suggest to him that this is a self-defeating type of policy.

● (1540)

Let us analyse the underlying situation. While Canada's price performance has been significantly better than that of most other industrial nations, it has felt the impact of the global increase in food prices and the price of commodities. When I talk of commodities I am talking of international commodities such as wool and cotton which affect our clothing prices. Recent figures published by Statistics Canada indicate that as a result of my budgetary measures the cost of children's clothing did not rise following the relief granted from sales tax. If you look at the figures relating to international commodity prices of lumber, which of course affects the cost of housing, you will see there are world-wide shortages. These increased prices result from adverse weather conditions, failure of world crops or a general increase in world-wide demand—for example, in an affluent country such as Japan, which is becoming more consumer oriented—flowing from a sharp upturn in economic growth as well as an increase in personal incomes. This is a situation that we must recognize. Our economy is vulnerable because we handle large amounts of imports and exports and we are not immune from the contagion of this world-wide problem.

Aside from food, let us look at wages and salaries and other commodities. These have been rising, but they have been rising relatively stably. When I take a close look at what the Conservative party is proposing here, I come to certain conclusions, and they are these. The Conservative party is advocating an immediate temporary freeze. But they do not tell us what is to be frozen.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Baker: Where have you been?

Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton): If hon. members read carefully what the hon. gentleman opposite said today, they will find it impossible to distinguish whether he is talking about a temporary freeze or continuing permanent controls. I invite hon. members to read the exact words that the hon. member used this afternoon. The motion then goes on to refer to developing—

—a satisfactory plan in conjunction with the provinces, industry

and labour for the purpose of keeping the cost of living within acceptable limits.

Again I ask, what do they propose to freeze? In an earlier motion which was put forward by the hon. gentleman's deskmate, the hon. member for Northumberland-Durham (Mr. Lawrence), they proposed a freeze on food prices, except those at the farm gate. I ask you, Mr. Speaker, whom do they think they are fooling? It should be obvious to any aduit Canadian, and certainly to every farmer, that if food prices are frozen at every level in our marketing system except at the farm gate, prices paid to the farmer for his output will be effectively frozen as well.

Mr. Gillies: No one says anything different.

Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton): Let me go on further. The farm gate is the point where most of the upward pressure has originated on food prices because of a shortage of supply to meet demand. Last year increases in the price of meat, fish, poultry, fruits and vegetables at the farm gate accounted for more than 60 per cent of the increase in food prices.

The effective freeze on food prices at the farm gate proposed by the official opposition, the Conservative party, would cause farmers to cut back on domestic production rather than encourage the essential increase in supplies which is sought by the government, and will eventually lead to a renewed price explosion. What hon. gentlemen opposite fail to realize is that the problem of food prices is one of shortage of supply. You do not curb the problem by imposing price controls; you only curb it by encouraging supply, and, as I say, the hon. member has failed to realize this.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): Who wrote this speech?

Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton): Again I suggest to the House that it is impossible to apply a freeze or controls to imported goods. Imported goods in 1972 amounted to $1.2 billion and accounted for some 10 per cent of all food consumed in Canada. I submit it is also impossible to apply a freeze or controls to other imported goods. Last year total imports amounted to $18.5 billion, a substantial proportion of all goods purchased by Canadians.

If there is any doubt intellectually about the fact that the Conservative party proposal could hurt rather than help Canadians at this stage, it should be dispelled by a recent letter dated April 24, 1973 to the *Wall Street Journal* by John Kenneth Galbraith, a distinguished Canadian-born economist, a man who, as hon. gentlemen know, is one of the leading advocates in the United States of selective income controls of a permanent nature. As an exponent of controls, Galbraith wrote to take strong exception to action by the United States administration in imposing a freeze on meat prices. This is what he said, and I want to quote him:

> The purpose of control is to arrest the interaction of wages on prices and prices on wages in that part of the economy characterized by strong unions. As such, it is an essential supplement to fiscal and, in its more limited role, monetary policy. It is nowise a substitute for such action. Controls should not be used where price increases are caused by an excess in aggregate demand or a shortage in the specific supply. If so used, some momentary effects apart, the result will be either random shortages in the retail stores, violations or, more likely, both.
>
> The present behaviour of meat prices, as of numerous other prices, shows every indication of being caused not by wage and cost increases but by the pull of demand. For this the right remedy is to stop playing games with the Congress over who will be responsible for the next tax increase. The need, whatever the prospective level of spending, is now for a prompt increase in taxes.

Not only do the Conservatives propose to compound problems in Canada by imposing a freeze on prices of food and other goods; they also propose to intensify these problems by vastly increasing fiscal and monetary stimulus. If there is one thing that even a student in first year economics should know, it is that if one is to attempt to apply any wage or income or prices policy, one has to have an accommodating fiscal and monetary policy.

Mr. Gillies: Certainly; I agree with that.

Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton): The hon. gentleman agrees. When I presented my budget on February 19 and said that, evaluating the system as best I could, the maximum cash requirements of the government of Canada against the markets of Canada, weighing the problem of unemployment and the rising cost of living, was $2 billion, the hon. gentleman and his friend, the hon. member for Edmonton West, as well as their leader, said that that stimulus was only half as much as it should be, that we should double the deficit from $2 billion to $4 billion. Now, Mr. Speaker, these hon. gentlemen cannot have it both ways. They cannot ask for a policy that will restrain the rise in prices in this country by putting a lid on the economy of this country, and at the same time propose to juice up the fiscal element in the country by twice as much. I think on the basis of better judgment, the hon. gentlemen opposite might well want to reconsider the position they took about two months ago.

I do not think it is difficult for Canadians to understand the consequences of the proposal made by the Conservative party to put fire under the kettle and then increase the pressure of the burners, increasing economic stimulus and hoping that, by holding the lid on, they will prevent the lid from blowing off and a lot of water spilling over. The hon. gentleman is suggesting the imposition of a lid on our price structure in this country, and is in no way suggesting there should be an accommodating fiscal and monetary policy to go with it. I say that such a proposal is absolutely ridiculous.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): You are antediluvian.

Mr. Gillies: It is a cost-push situation.

Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton): The government does not contemplate the adoption of controls under current circumstances. We are only prepared to adopt them if, on balance, controls are supported by conclusive evidence that there would be net benefit to Canadians. We do not believe under the present circumstances that that will be the case.

We can recall the situation in the United Kingdom which faced a critical emergency situation with a rampant increase in prices and wages far exceeding that of most other industrial nations. We pointed out, and I repeat now,

that the United Kingdom exempted food at the farm gate. They also exempted imports from the freeze the subsequent controls.

Mr. Gillies: And look at what has happened in the U.K.

Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton): We have had an even more vulnerable economy. The United States imposed a freeze followed by a control program in August of 1971 to deal with serious domestic and international economic problems of a kind that did not confront Canada. Why was the United States position different from ours? I suggest it was different because their dollar was in deep trouble and their trade figures showed a deficit position with a $10 million deficit on visible and invisible accounts.

● (1550)

While the United States program had some temporary success in curbing inflation, more recently U.S. prices have been increasing more rapidly than in Canada. It is all very well for hon. gentlemen to say that phase one and phase two worked, but a system of prices and incomes control has to be looked at over the entire phase of putting them on and how you are going to be able to take them off. I suggest to the House that these are the effects that have to be looked at.

In March the United States consumer price index was up 8.8 per cent over December, at seasonally adjusted annual rates, compared with 7.7 per cent at seasonally adjusted rates in Canada.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): When ours was 13 per cent.

Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton): Rising food costs were the major, and remain the major, cause of price pressures in the United States in recent months. What is of prime importance in the context of the present debate is the fact that U.S. food prices have soared despite the fact they continued under the more rigorous phase two control program and moved to phase three for most other prices in February. The increase at an adjusted annual rate in the U.S. for food prices, March over December, 16 per cent in Canada, compared to 29.8 per cent in the United States. In other words, despite the fact that there were price and wage controls in the United States for the first three months of this year, at annually adjusted rates the rise in food prices in the United States was double that of Canada.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): That is selective; over the last year ours is in excess of theirs, and you know that.

Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton): Mr. Speaker, as the Montreal *Star* said in an editorial on May 4, 1973:

—if 18 months of controls have been ineffective in breaking the back of inflation in the United States, what hope would there be for the 90-day freeze proposed by Canada's Conservatives?

An hon. Member: Let's have a serious debate.

Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton): When we look at other comparisons, we see there has been a sharp variation in the rate of price inflation in various countries, with a recent acceleration in most during the period from 1970 to the end of the first two months of 1973 inclusive. The over-all increase in consumer prices in Canada of 15.6 per cent was lower than that for all the other 11 leading industrial nations.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): How does that help Canadians?

Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton): I have said that for any price and wage control system to work in this country we need an overwhelming national consensus. I have referred on several occasions in this House to the need for a strong consensus in support of any system of controls if it is to work effectively. I note that the motion speaks of consultation with provinces, industry and labour to devise some kind of undefined plan for control following a freeze, but there is no indication of a consensus among any of these groups in favour of adopting controls under present circumstances. Certainly, the Leader of the Opposition has had no success in persuading the heads of Conservative governments in Ontario, Alberta, New Brunswick and Newfoundland that a freeze-control program should be adopted. As a matter of fact, if the recent budget of his colleagues from Queen's Park can be taken into consideration, the 40 per cent rise in sales tax does nothing to relieve the inflationary pressures in this country.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): What about your tax increases?

Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton): In fact, together with the restoration of the 3 per cent surtax it is equivalent to a 16 per cent rise in personal income taxes in Ontario.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): What about your increases in general corporate tax for 1973?

Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton): Nor is there much evidence of any enthusiasm among other provincial leaders. In its brief to the government in March, the Canadian Labour Congress again made abundantly clear its continuing strong objection to controls. The great bulk of business and farm leaders also made it clear that they do not support the adoption of controls under present circumstances.

An hon. Member: How about the Canadian people?

Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton): I listened with great interest to the hon. member for Don Valley when he tried to flog the strawman of restrictive monetary policy. There is no restrictive monetary policy. The governor of the bank before the committee, and I in the House on two occasions, have repeated that there is no restrictive monetary policy. This is an expansionary monetary policy paying careful attention to the control on liquidity.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): What is the liquidity ratio of the chartered banks today?

Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton): The government's policy, shown particularly by the February budget, is to restrain inflation by easing the pressure of rising prices on budgets of Canadian families through tax and tariff

reductions which will increase take-home pay and moderate the cost of a wide range of consumer products, and will at the same time provide special relief for the elderly, the veterans and their families. In other words, the fundamental aim when there is that type of squeeze is to increase the disposable income of Canadians by tax reductions at the personal and sales tax level and to encourage an increase in supply by the agriculture industry, as well as by international competitive policy. That is the policy the government is currently following.

The real proof of the pudding can be found in a comparison of our costs with the disposable incomes of Canadians. I am concerned that the disposable incomes of Canadians, particularly for lower income Canadians, remains in a position to meet whatever increase there is in the cost of living. The aim of the budget and other government policies is to encourage an increase in supply of goods through an increase in production to meet rising demand; in other words, to deal with the basic source of the problem rather than to try to cover it up with a bandaid of the kind offered to Canadians by the Conservative party.

I want to recite again to the House the specifics of the last budget. They are reduced personal income taxes by the equivalent of 12 per cent to 13 per cent; raising the basic exemption from $1500 to $1600; raising the exemption for married couples from $2,850 to $3,000; cutting the basic federal tax by 5 per cent, providing a minimum reduction of at least $100 and a maximum of $500; indexing personal income taxes beginning in 1974; abolishing the federal sales tax on all children's clothing, footwear and wear-goods and non-alcoholic beverages and the special tax on toilet articles, cosmetics and clocks and watches with a manufacturer's price of less than $50; reducing tariffs temporarily by an average of five percentage points on a wide range of imported foods and other consumer goods totalling $1.4 million in 1972; permitting family farms to pass from one generation to another free of capital gains tax; removing restrictions for tax purposes on the reinvested earnings of small businesses; increasing the old age pensions to $100 a month effective April 1, 1973; raising the combined OAS/GIS to a maximum of $170 a month for single persons and $325 a month for couples; injecting a further $190 million into the economies of the slow-growth regions of Canada by including local school taxes on property in the calculation of equalization grants to the provinces. This represents 26 per cent of school taxes paid by the local ratepayers of the seven receiving provinces which, if it is passed along by the provinces to the local ratepayers, will increase their disposable incomes by that much.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton): We must also consider the measure of my colleague the Minister of National Health and Welfare (Mr. Lalonde) to raise family allowances $20 a child in respect of all families, and the announcement by my colleague the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs (Mr. Gray) of the establishment of a food prices review board to monitor food prices.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Increased Cost of Living

Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton): The combined effect of these provisions in respect of fixed incomes, lower incomes and those with large families is to increase the disposable income so as to combat the rising cost of living. I want to say that the policy of the government at this stage in our economic cycle is to increase the disposable income of Canadians, particularly those with fixed and lower incomes, and to increase the supply of agricultural and manufactured products by combined agricultural policies, tariff policies and fiscal and monetary policies. Our aim is to meet the problems with a sound economic policy and not by 90-day stop-gap measures; a sound economic policy that reflects the international forces applying in this phenomenon of domestic inflation that is apparent to most Canadians.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

• (1600)

Mr. Deputy Speaker: I understand the hon. member for Peace River (Mr. Baldwin) wishes to be recognized for the purpose of asking a question.

Mr. Baldwin: A question of privilege, Mr. Speaker. I just wonder whether the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) would now like to apologize to me for pressing me to stay and listen to what he described as new and exciting ways to deal with the problem of inflation.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order. This seems to be another one of the interjections which have become sort of the order of this afternoon. The hon. member for York South.

Mr. David Lewis (York South): Mr. Speaker, as I begin my remarks, I want to say to my friends in the Conservative party that all of us listened very carefully and very courteously to the interesting speech of the hon. member for Don Valley (Mr. Gillies). I noticed that while the Minister of Finance (Mr. Turner) was speaking, they did not return the same courtesy. I hope they will from now on. If the question of rising prices is as important as the hon. member for Don Valley said, and all of us agree, it seems to me this debate should be carried on with seriousness instead of in the way in which some members of this House have behaved during the past few minutes.

It occurred to me, as I watched the question period and the last few minutes in this House, that the members of the Conservative party think they can overcome the results of the Gallup poll by being negative, destructive and noisy. I want to tell them they cannot do that, Mr. Speaker.

I shall deal with the proposal of the hon. member for Don Valley in a moment, but I want to say to the Minister of Finance that it does not help to resolve the problem now before this House as well as before the people of Canada for him merely to recite again what he told us on February 19 and to make a speech which suggests that all that can be done has already been done, that nothing more should be done. I know of nothing less helpful to the situation in Canada than that kind of entirely unjustified complacent attitude which the Minister of Finance has shown. I could not help but notice when the hon. member for Don Valley spoke, that one of the reasons he gave that it is no longer possible to affect the price situation by creating unem-

ployment is that our economy is no longer competitive. That is what he said. I agree with him entirely. I merely find it very difficult to understand why he supports an economy that grows more and more monopolistic and therefore unable to deal with the real needs of the Canadian people. That is the basic difference between his very thoughtful approach to the problem and the approach which we of the New Democratic Party take.

He says blithely in his speech that countries have been hurt by inflation of this level. I do not know what decade he is talking about. If he is talking about the decade of the 1920's, there is no doubt he is right. But if he is talking about the decade of the 1960's and 1970's, I challenge him to give us an example of that kind of nonsense. Is he talking about Japan? Has its economy gone to pot? Is he talking about Germany? Has its economy gone to pot? Is he talking about any of the western European countries? The fact is, of course, that when you have rising prices throughout the world internationally—I am speaking now not from the point of view of Canadians who are hurt, and I will come back to that point in a moment, but from the point of view of the economy as an economy and from the view of our position internationally—and if the prices in your country are not rising at a level higher than the general situation your economy, in fact, is not hurt. Indeed, the fact is that Canada has not been hurt internationally. If that is the case, then what on earth is he talking about?

The Minister of Finance has already cited from the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Stanfield) a quotation which had been drawn to my attention earlier today, but let me say in general terms that the Leader of the Opposition and members of the Conservative party twitted the government for having a kind of paranoia about inflation, for being preoccupied with inflation and for being obsessed with inflation. The Conservative party spokesmen then were right because one can easily become obsessed with this question in the terms in which the hon. member for Don Valley spoke. The hon. member for Don Valley and the members of the Conservative party today are making precisely the same mistake. They are attempting to impose, if they had the opportunity, a freeze that is meaningless and undefined which would cause immense harm to a large part of the people of Canada, never mind the economy as a whole, and which would, in the first instance, be of particular harm to the farmers of this country.

I have said many times when addressing farm meetings, which I have had the pleasure of doing for many years, that I do not claim to be a farmer but I do claim to know a little about the situation in respect of our farm population in this country. For some three or four years, from about 1969 to 1972 inclusive, the farmers of this country, perhaps like the farmers in many other parts of the world but particularly in this country, were getting the raw end of the stick. Their prices were too low, their costs of production were rising all the time and they were being squeezed by international prices on the one hand which, they could not control, and on the other hand by the cost of production, which they could not control. Their income fell continually year by year. I say as one urban person in this country that if the consumers of Canada were paying higher prices for food only because the farmer was at least getting a decent price for his products, the consumers of Canada would have no right to complain.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Lewis: This is were I part company with the Minister of Finance because my observation of the situation in Canada with regard to food prices and other prices, which I will come to in a moment, is that the purchaser in the supermarket and in other food stores does not pay a higher price now merely because the farmer is at last getting a decent price for his products. The consumer is also paying a higher price because of the monopolistic control of the food packaging, because of the waste in food advertising and packaging and because of the monopolistic control over the processing of food and the monopolistic control by the supermarkets in this country which gouge consumers beyond the point where it would be justified to raise prices because of the farmers' income.

I often go shopping with my wife. Time and time again she has drawn my attention to the fact that she picks a tin of something off the shelf which has a price and a label on it, that she then takes that label off and finds under it another price five cents lower and then takes that label off and finds a third price ten cents lower again. What that means is that the supermarket has had that tin on its shelf for months. It was brought in at a low price and the merchant is now taking advantage of the situation to get what the traffic will bear by gouging the housewife unnecessarily when she goes shopping. It is this kind of consideration that has made us demand a food prices review board and indeed a prices review board generally, if we could have one, because what you would have then would be an agency that would look into the reason for the increased prices; you would be able to expose the unfairness that exists. That is what we should be after. We should be able to expose the unjustifiable increase.

As I will suggest in a moment, Mr. Speaker, if the government took the necessary step, then somebody would have the authority to do something about the situation when prices have been unfairly raised. Everyone in this chamber, when he talks about inflation, is concerned, genuinely I believe— I do not for one moment question the integrity of the hon. member for Don Valley any more than I hope he questions mine—about the low income people in this country. There is one simple, decent, humane, moral way of dealing with that problem, and that is to raise the income of the low income people of this country—

• (1610)

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Lewis: To enter into a massive system of price, wage and incomes control—and I will come back to that in a moment—to enter into a massive system that will freeze injustices where they are and that will create divisions, and to suggest a 90 day freeze during which you can do nothing at all except wait for the whole thing to blow up when the 90 days are over, all in order to assist the low income people, is nonsense. The fact is that the old age pensioners, the families on welfare, and the people on low wages are now poor because our society has not been justly run, because the redistribution of wealth and

income stops at the gate of the Liberals and Conservatives, who are much more concerned with serving their corporate friends than with serving these people.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Lewis: Of course, Mr. Speaker, I was glad to see the increase in the old age pension to $100 a month, but I say to the Minister of National Health and Welfare (Mr. Lalonde) and to the Minister of Finance that if they are concerned, as I know they are, about the condition of the old age pensioner, particularly in an era of rising prices and particularly when those rises are centered in food and shelter, then the way to deal with that is not to boast about an increase of only $13 and some odd cents above what the old age pension would have been, but to increase it much more, as could have been done, because the economy of Canada can well support it.

We supported the budget because it did have some income tax cuts on a very progressive basis for individual taxpayers, and we were glad to see that, but again I say that if we are concerned about the low income people one way to help is to increase their disposable income. There, I agree with the Minister of Finance. I merely disagree with him because the steps which are taken by governments, steps to increase this disposable income, are always puny steps, mincing steps, instead of adequate and humane steps to solve the problem.

Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton): They help to solve the problem.

Mr. Lewis: Sure, they do. If you increase the income of the low income groups, then of course you increase the demand for goods and services and so, at the same time, you have to increase supply.

Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton): You have to have both.

Mr. Lewis: Right. The point I am making is that instead of attempting an impossible and unfair system of price and wage controls, and it really is wages, not incomes, let us deal with the low income people in a way in which they can be dealt with justly and fairly and without harm to the economy.

I reject the idea of a freeze, not only because it is undefined but because it is a meaningless thing. I am not going to accuse the hon. member for Don Valley, as the minister did, that all he was suggesting was a freeze. I listened to the hon. member. I appreciate that what he said was, "Let us have a temporary freeze during which we will work out some policy of controls." I was interested when he said there was no reason why we could not have a system of controls that will work. He said we only need the will, the initiative and the leadership—all the things his party has not got, Mr. Speaker!

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Lewis: He said we only need these things to have a control system that will work. I must admit, Mr. Speaker, that I listened anxiously to him as I sipped a cup of coffee behind the curtain, to hear exactly what that price control system, what that income control system would be; where it would go, how long it would last, what the constitutional problems are with the provinces, how those constitutional problems may be overcome, how long it will take to implement, what kind of bureaucracy will be required to enforce it. Will it apply to farmers, will it apply to wage earners, will it apply to wage increases that are already provided for in collective agreements, because there are such? What are the details of it, and indeed what are the broad outlines of it? And, Mr. Speaker, nary a single word on that from this ex-professor of economics who spoke so eloquently in other ways.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Lewis: The reason there was not a single word is not because the hon. gentleman is not intelligent and doesn't know economics. He is both; he is intelligent and knows economics, and because he knows economics he knows darn well there is no system of controls that has worked in the United States or Britain, or in any other part of the western world, or indeed even in the communist countries where, with all the totalitarian controls they have, they have not been able to do the kind of thing that the hon. member for Don Valley suggests is possible in Canada.

It is significant to note that when the Conservative party first started talking about this they talked about price and wage controls. They never talked about anything else but price and wage controls. Then, the hon. member for Don Valley joined their ranks. He is a much more tactful person, a little more sophisticated and thoughtful person. He saw it was unjust to control only wages, so he said, "Let us stop talking about price and wage control, and let us start talking about price and incomes control." Well, let me tell him, Mr. Speaker, that this is the kind of talk that the President of the United States engaged in, this great President of the United States whom the hon. member for Don Valley wants us to follow, not so far as Watergate, but up to the fence, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton): They have reached their watershed.

Mr. Lewis: Let me inform the hon. member for Don Valley that if you compare the second quarter of 1971, the last full quarter before the Nixon economics were imposed, before the controls were imposed, with the fourth quarter of 1972, the latest full quarter on which I have information, we find that in the United States corporate profits before taxes increased 20.6 per cent, and corporate profits after taxes increased 25.1 per cent. It is true that dividends only increased 5.1 per cent, but undistributed profit increased 50.5 per cent. The profits were undistributed. The large corporations held in their coffers half as much again as the undistributed profits they had before the controls were imposed. Of what value is that to the people of the United States?

Remember there was an increase of 20.6 per cent for profits before taxes and 25.1 per cent for profits after taxes, but average straight time hourly earnings in manufacturing increased only 8.7 per cent on a seasonally adjusted basis. I would point out that the other figures I have given are also on a seasonally adjusted basis.

The reason I feel this talk about incomes control does not apply really to incomes can be put in the question:

how in heaven's name are you going to control the income of the doctor, the lawyer, the architect, the engineer and the accountant? How does the hon. member for Don Valley propose to control the use of the increased profits of the corporations? When these people talk about incomes control, what they really mean is wage control because that is easy to impose. Organized workers negotiate in a glass bowl,—

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Lewis: —in public, and if anybody wants to know what the increase is for the auto workers or the steel workers—

Mr. Alkenbrack: A point of order, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: The hon. member rises on a point of order.

Mr. Alkenbrack: I should like to ask the Leader of the New Democractic Party if he does not recall that federal price controls worked during the second great war and during the postwar period. Would he answer that question for me?

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, please. The question may be answered, but it really is not a point of order. The hon. member for York South (Mr. Lewis).

Mr. Alkenbrack: Mr. Speaker, on a point of order—

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order. There can be no point of order arising from the Speaker's ruling on a point of order. The hon. member for York South (Mr. Lewis).

Mr. Lewis: Mr. Speaker, I say that the wages of organized workers are public knowledge, and if you want to know about an increase all you have to do is get hold of the union or the employers concerned. The wages of the unorganized worker can also be controlled because the government would have the greatest ally in that area, namely an employer who would rather pay less than more.

Those who talk about incomes control are not being entirely honest because they are talking about something that cannot be imposed. What can and would be imposed is control of working people in this country. There are too many working people in Canada making the minimum, and some below the minimum necessary for a decent living, for us to accept the idea of controlling their wages.

I have only two or three minutes left, Mr. Speaker, but I want to make one final point. It is this kind of consideration, the impossibility, the unworkability, the injustice—in fact, the senselessness—of temporary freezes, and the injustices and inequities of a system of control as well as the impossibility of doing it in peacetime that has made us support the idea of a food prices review board and a prices review board generally. If the prices which people have to pay are fair in relation to increased costs, then people just accept that and live with it, but I suggest there is a measure of unfairness in the increased prices and a prices review board could find that out.

Mr. Speaker, I draw your attention to the fact that Imperial Oil, followed by Shell and Gulf, increased the price of crude oil. Imperial Oil increased it on May 1 by 25 cents a barrel; that is a total of 55 cents a barrel since November, just six months, or a 20 per cent increase in the price of crude. Already that increase in the price of crude is being reflected in the increased price of gasoline to car owners. Again, this affects the farmers of Canada because the agricultural industry—although some members of this House may not know it—is the largest user of oil and energy in this country, as an industry. Pretty soon this increase imposed by Imperial and Shell and Gulf will be reflected in increased food prices because farmers' costs will increase as a result of it. Why were these prices increased, Mr. Speaker? Do we not have enough oil in Canada? Was there an increase in the cost of producing the oil? Not at all. They were increased in Canada because Imperial, Shell and Gulf can get a higher price outside this country. That is unfair to the people of this country.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, please. I regret to interrupt the hon. member, but the time allotted to him, plus some extra, has expired.

Some hon. Members: Continue.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: The hon. member may continue if there is unanimous consent.

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: There is not unanimous consent.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Réal Caouette (Témiscamingue): Mr. Speaker, I do not and I did not object to the hon. member for York South (Mr. Lewis) finishing his statement. I am not the one who is stopping him.

An hon. Member: The Progressive Conservatives are.

Mr. Caouette (Témiscamingue): The Progressive Conservatives.

An hon. Member: That is correct.

Mr. Caouette (Témiscamingue): I am not surprised.

Mr. Lewis: I am not surprised either.

Mr. Caouette (Témiscamingue): Mr. Speaker, the motion before the House today is of great importance to the whole country, and hon. members. In fact, it says:

That this House deplores the failure of the government to take concrete and effective action against the rising cost of living, so evident in the price of shelter, food and clothing; and therefore urges the government to impose an immediate temporary freeze so as to enable it to develop a satisfactory plan in conjunction with the provinces, industry and labour for the purpose of keeping the cost of living within acceptable limits.

• (1630)

Mr. Speaker, the day before yesterday I believe, I asked the Prime Minister whether he would recommend the hospitalization of the leader of the official opposition (Mr. Stanfield) for the purposes of a psychiatric examination. The leader of the opposition was in the Maritimes at the

same time as I, some 10 days ago, and he promised that a Progressive Conservative government would improve the conditions over there by getting better prices for fish. He had also made the same promise to the western wheat growers and the dairy producers in Quebec. And upon his return to the House, he proposes freezing prices. This is completely incompatible!

Mr. Speaker, this matter, as I said earlier, is most important because it concerns Canadians. I would bet my shirt that tonight, on the CBC news, instead of reporting on this important item, they will talk about Viet Nam, as usual. They talk about the problems of foreign countries rather than Canadian problems; they forget to talk about our own problems—

Mr. Grafftey: Do you not think there was a problem in Viet Nam?

Mr. Caouette (Témiscamingue): It is certainly not a Canadian problem.

Mr. Grafftey: Not a Canadian problem?

Mr. Caouette (Témiscamingue): It is not a Canadian problem. Our problem is the rising prices in Canada. By all means let us take an interest in what is going on the world, but let us begin by putting our own houses in order, including that of the member for Brome-Missisquoi.

Mr. Speaker, in Canada we have provincial governments. In Quebec, we have a Liberal government, as in Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island. In Ontario, Alberta, New Brunswick and Newfoundland there are Progressive Conservative governments. In the three remaining provinces, British Columbia, Saskatchewan and Manitoba, there are New Democratic governments. Let us go and see if people are better off in those provinces, if prices are lower and if the cost of living is less than we know it to be in Ottawa, if we are to believe Canadian statistics.

Mr. Speaker, it is all very well to say: If I were in power, I would do this or I would do that. But the Progressive Conservatives were in power when inflation was growing in Canada. Why did they not fight it? Why did they not wipe it out? Why did they not take some action? Why did they not introduce legislation?

Mr. Speaker, it is all very well to say to the government: You have not done it right. But what would we do in their place? Even the spokesman for the Progressive Conservative party who spoke just now did not offer any solution. The Minister of Finance (Mr. Turner) said after that: There is no magic solution. So we have to put up with the present state of affairs, because there is no magic solution.

Mr. Speaker, the problem in Canada is not so much prices as the loss of our products. That is the real problem. Prime Minister Trudeau boasted recently that Canadian production would reach $102 billion for the first time in history, while the gross national income, including parliamentary allowances, everything included, would be about $70 billion. Now, I should just like hon. members to ask themselves: how and when can you buy $102 billion with $70 billion? That is a simple enough rule. How and when? Mr. Speaker, it is the system that tends to inflation, that leads us straight to inflation.

Increased Cost of Living

Not long ago Premier Bourassa of the province of Quebec went to the United States to borrow $100 million to finance part of the James Bay development, in the constituency of my colleague from Abitibi (Mr. Laprise); he managed to borrow this sum at 10 per cent interest for a period of 25 years. Here again, those who have done elementary mathematics can easily see that in 25 years we will be paying $250 million in interest alone, and that we will still owe the $100 million capital we borrowed.

Mr. Speaker, did the premier of the province come back from the United States with a cartload of American dollars? No: he came back with what is called a promissary note, a little piece of paper marked $100 million, 10 per cent interest, 25 years, signed Robert Bourassa, the whole thing endorsed by the entire population of Quebec province. So it all works by figures. What did the Americans base their $100 million on? On what they have? The Mississipi, Watergate, Mr. Nixon's election? No! They based the $100 million on the feasibility of the James Bay project. If the project had not been good, Mr. Bourassa would not have got 25 cents from the United States. They studied the project and said: "All right, we will finance it".

Mr. Speaker, that is why we suggest using the Bank of Canada. The governor of that institution can write figures too. Based on what? Inflation? No; based on the James Bay project. He can do the same thing as the Americans. And then, we could lend to the provinces, and not just to Mr. Bourassa, without interest, as we so kindly do for India, Thailand, South America, countries of Europe, Africa, etc. They are interest-free loans for a period of 60 years. Recently a $48 million loan was granted.

Mr. La Salle: For the purchase of Canadian products.

Mr. Caouette (Témiscamingue): Yes. Would the James Bay development project not also permit buying Canadian products? It is the same thing. An agreement to purchase Canadian products can be entered into in Winnipeg, in Quebec, in British Columbia. Obviously, we would not be purchasing all our material in Japan with those $100 million. Let us buy here, in Canada. There can be agreements between the provinces and the federal government. And the Bank of Canada is there for that purpose.

Mr. Speaker, they think that is funny. By the time India reimburses those interest-free $48 million loaned for 60 years, the right hon. Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) will be 115 years old and he will no longer be around. As for little Justin, he will be barely 61. That is about the only change there will be.

Mr. Speaker, there is a solution to fight the current inflation: lower interest rates, make use of our financial institutions, become masters of our credit instead of going begging abroad. Do you think it is pleasant to see representatives of our municipalities going to Europe, to Switzerland, to Germany to borrow money for the development of our natural ressources? It is inconceivable that a government tolerates such a situation. As long as we continue in that direction and keep talking about price controls or control of whatever you want, this will lead to absolutely nothing.

Mr. Speaker, the Minister of Finance talked about a miraculous solution, but there is none. We have been

suggesting for quite a length of time that a compensated discount be granted at the retail level, following an agreement between a national commission and Canadian retailers whereby prices would not change. This would be an agreement not an imposition. Everyone is free to join or not. But if you join, then the government would order the payment of a 25 per cent compensated discount on retail prices, which means that for a $100 purchase the consumer would pay $75 and the government $25 as compensated discount to the retailer. The retailer would have $100 and inflation and price increases would thus be efficiently controlled. But no. Yesterday, the Prime Minister asked me whether that was constitutional or not; to my mind, he did not know whether the matter was constitutional or not. It seems to me we should look into it.

Indeed, I wonder what is keeping the Canadian parliament, which is sovereign, from passing a law to adopt a compensated discount, as was done anyway during the war in the case of milk.

Mr. Speaker, that is no miracle solution but a very normal one. Why does the government hesitate to try it out? What is it waiting for? Why speak of freezing prices which would lead right away to a black market? Why not try the solution advocated by the Social Credit party?

Mr. Speaker, I repeat: this is no miracle solution. The member for York South spoke of increasing the income of low wage earners. He is against price control. He has not always been against it, but now he is. I think that he has heard us often enough to reach this conclusion.

A price freeze is no good, really no good. They suggest increasing the income of workers, those who are drawing a small income. But how are we to increase this income? The hon. member has failed to explain. He has not referred to it.

I am going to tell you how. You must take from the haves and give to the have nots. That is the way to increase the income of the poor, that is the socialist solution.

Mr. Speaker, the Canadian who earns $25,000, $50,000, $75,000 or $100,000 a year does not hide his money in a corner of his bedroom. He spends it, he buys things, he opens a business or something similar. His money is used for something, this is not saving. So, they are going to take it from him and give it to somebody who has less money. The total revenue remains exactly the same; the total national revenue will still amount to $70 billion and they will not be able to purchase the $32 billion worth of goods which are on the shelves, in stores, in wharehouses, in sheds, in back stores as we call them. To take from the rich to give to the poor will not solve anything.

The hon. member for York South stated that his solution would be wage control. This is exactly what I have just said. If you have the chance to make money, the government will watch you and take it away. Thus, private enterprise is killed, the stimulus which drives someone to do something. He is discouraged and then he says: If I have to work for the government, I will give up. This is what happens in private industry. So the solution of the New Democratic Party is not effective.

As far as we are concerned, we say that we should make up the difference between production and national income at current prices, paying at first a compensated discount and then distributing a national dividend to every citizen. This is a solution.

Mr. Speaker, whatever may be said, whether it seems ridiculous or funny, as long as those solutions are rejected, we will continue to beat around the bush. We will always be considering absurd motions as the one introduced today and far-fetched solutions which do not solve anything but create worse problems.

Mr. Speaker, the Creditists are continuing to instil these principles into Canadians so that the products will be available to the Canadian people and allow them to be their own masters.

● (1640)

[*English*]

PROCEEDINGS ON ADJOURNMENT MOTION

SUBJECT MATTER OF QUESTIONS TO BE DEBATED

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, please. It is my duty, pursuant to Standing Order 40, to inform the House that the questions to be raised tonight at the time of adjournment are as follows: the hon. member for Norfolk-Haldimand (Mr. Knowles)—Unemployment Insurance—Commission policy respecting unemployed agricultural workers seeking benefits; the hon. member for Fraser Valley West (Mr. Rose)—Post Office—Steps to increase compensation of rural mail delivery contractors; the hon. member for Peel South (Mr. Blenkarn)—Canada Development Corporation—Request for tabling of details of appraisal of Polymer for sale to Corporation.

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

BUSINESS OF SUPPLY

ALLOTTED DAY S.O. 58—ALLEGED FAILURE OF GOVERNMENT TO TAKE EFFECTIVE ACTION TO DEAL WITH INCREASED COST OF LIVING

The House resumed consideration of the motion of Mr. Gillies (for Mr. Baldwin):

That this House deplores the failure of the government to take concrete and effective action against the rising cost of living, so evident in the price of shelter, food and clothing; and therefore urges the government to impose an immediate temporary freeze so as to enable it to develop a satisfactory plan in conjunction with the provinces, industry and labour for the purpose of keeping the cost of living within acceptable limits.

Mr. James A. McGrath (St. John's East): Mr. Speaker, yesterday and today we directed questions to the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) and the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs (Mr. Gray) to try to establish exactly what the government policy is in this critical area of

inflation and rising prices. On a number of occasions, we asked the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs to outline the government's guidelines for areas within federal jurisdiction or the government guidelines to be imposed upon the proposed prices review board.

Today, Mr. Speaker, the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs said that he announced government policy in this regard and the guidelines when he made his statement on April 27. I read that statement. Nowhere can I find in it any reference to government policy with regard to food prices or the cost of living. Nowhere can I find in it any reference to government guidelines for the new prices review board. In the news stories covering the press conference of April 27, when the minister made this announcement, we are again left in the dark. There is no reference whatsoever to exactly what the government policy is in this regard.

It is interesting to reflect on the circumstances surrounding the announcement by the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs. He chose to make his announcement in the midst of the Easter Recess when parliament was not in session. What is even more difficult to understand, he made his statement coincidentally with the closing of a major federal-provincial conference in Ottawa on welfare. I am sure this announcement was made in the hope that the half-hearted attempt to meet the consensus of the food prices committee, and the growing fears in the country, would be obscured by the statement closing the federal-provincial conference on welfare. That is the only conclusion we can reach.

Mr. Gray: Will the hon. member accept a question?

Mr. McGrath: I am sure the minister will be participating in this debate. My time is limited. I am sure the minister will be able to ask all the questions he wants when I finish my speech. I am sure the minister hoped his announcement on his half-hearted attempt to meet the demands of the food prices committee and half-hearted attempt to meet the New Democratic Party half way would be obscured by the news flowing from this federal-provincial conference on welfare. That must surely be the explanation as to why the minister elected to make his statement at the time when the House was not sitting. Subsequent events have shown there was certainly no urgency.

The minister was trying to say he was treating this matter as one of great urgency. He could have at least waited one more week until parliament was in session and made his statement in the House, thereby allowing the members of this House to respond to the action the government was taking. But no, Mr. Speaker, the minister elected not to take that course. There is a good reason for that. The minister knew that the statement he made on April 27 setting up the prices review board would not be acceptable in this House and would not stand up to the scrutiny of this House. That is why he elected to make this statement when the House was not sitting. The committee recommended and I quote:

> The Committee recommends:
>
> 1. That the Government give consideration to the advisability of introducing the necessary legislation to establish an independent Food Prices Review Board equipped with such powers as are necessary to review prices, and that it report to the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs. In its reports to the Minister, the Board could make recommendations concerning appropriate action to be taken.

The government does not intend to introduce legislation in this House. It does not intend to bring this review board into the House in any way, shape or form. Instead, they circumvent the House by using the provisions of the Inquiries Act to establish this commission. If the government had shown enough courage to meet the recommendations of the committee and to bring legislation before the House something might have been said for it, but the government knows full well it would have been faced with amendments and that these amendments would, at the very least, have had the effect of putting some teeth into the useless board whose establishment is proposed.

● (1650)

Given the situation in which parliament finds itself, the minister knows that the proposed review board, as announced by the minister on April 27, will not be acceptable and that hon. members would, by way of amendment, have considerably strengthened the board in fulfilment of their commitments and responsibilities. As a consequence, no legislation has been introduced. The board is to be set up under the Inquiries Act. What will it do? The provisions of the Inquiries Act will give the board no more power than could be exercised by the Special Committee on Trends in Food Prices. The commissioners will be able to call for papers and persons and examine witnesses. That was precisely the role of the special committee. Obviously there is no future for the special committee, because the special committee is now redundant by virtue of the minister's action.

But even allowing for all the limitations and shortcomings of the review board, surely there must be people in Canada who could be approached to serve on the board. Until yesterday not one Canadian had been approached. Nobody had been invited to participate in this work. No invitation had been extended to any Canadian asking him to chair this board. One wonders what has become of all the expertise which I am sure must be lying around in the bureaucracy of Ottawa left over from the Prices and Incomes Commission. One wonders, in particular, why Dr. Young was not called upon. After all, he must have amassed considerable experience during his tenure as chairman of the Prices and Incomes Commission. I submit he was not consulted because, as a result of his experience, he has reached the conclusion that only some form of income control would effectively halt inflation in Canada. And this, as we all know, would prove embarrassing to the government.

There has been an adverse reaction across the country to the minister's statement. We know it is not acceptable to most of the consumer groups. I refer, for example, to a release by the Women Against Soaring Prices. In a brief dated May 2, this body expressed its views as follows:

> Government guidelines for this Board are incomplete and unsatisfactory. Dependence upon "investigation and publicity" just is not powerful enough to deal with rising prices. Moral persuasion has not worked in the past and will not work in the future. At most, all that can be accomplished is a levelling-off effect on food prices.

That is the reaction of one group and it is re-echoed many times. I am sure the minister is aware of editorial opinion as expressed in the newspapers. The reaction of the editorial writers is consistent with the general reaction across the country. The minister's statement of April 27 was an affront to parliament. It showed contempt for this House and, more particularly, it was an affront to the special Committee on Trends in Food Prices which worked diligently to come up with the recommendations it placed before the House.

In the midst of all this, in the midst of the latest figures released by Statistics Canada a couple of days ago, showing a 2.6 per cent increase in the cost of food for the month of April, what are we doing? What is parliament doing? What are the priorities of the government? At a time when food, shelter and clothing prices are soaring, parliament occupies itself with amendments to the wildlife legislation. What are the legislative priorities for the balance of this week and next week? These open-ended opposition days, where the issue will not be resolved because there is no vote, by virtue of what I consider to be anomalies in the new rules, were designated by the government. They were not designated by the Official Opposition or by either of the other parties. It is the government which manages the business of the House. It was the government which said we should deal yesterday with amendments to the wildlife legislation. And this at a time when the whole country was talking about the scandalous increase in the price of food.

Mr. Gray: You could have had a vote today if you had wanted it.

Mr. McGrath: Certainly, the government is not getting its priorities straight. There is concern about this issue across the country. What shall we be doing next week? We shall be dealing with the question of capital punishment. Mr. Speaker, that bill has been around since this session began. Yesterday the Minister of Agriculture (Mr. Whelan) said the poor were suffering because of high food prices but that the rest of us were spoiled. And, in that statement he recommended that the government should increase family allowances. Surely, in view of this, the government should re-arrange its legislative program in line with the consensus which exists in the House and immediately bring in amendments to increase family allowances thus placing money directly into the hands of the poor.

The Prime Minister, in his continuing efforts to deceive and mislead the House, talks about the fact that increases in family allowances could have been made last year, but for the Official Opposition. I reject that statement as being a gross deception. The Prime Minister, as the leader of this country, should show responsibility as such, and not mislead the House. The opposition did not prevent that bill getting through.

An hon. Member: Yes, you did.

Mr. McGrath: That bill was withdrawn by the government because they were getting flak from the government of Quebec. That is true, and the present Minister of National Health and Welfare (Mr. Lalonde) knows of what I speak because he was the Prime Minister's emissary to Quebec. That was why the bill was withdrawn. They talk about one man holding up third reading of that bill. The fact of the matter is that the House could have sat next day and given third reading to the measure. Or the government could have brought the bill on when the House met in emergency session in September to deal with the Vancouver dock strike. There was a disposition among all members to bring it on at that time.

The situation now is that after five years of study there is no FISP arrangement. It took approximately five years to come up with a Family Income Security Plan and now it is defunct. What do we have instead? We have a policy announced by the minister as a result of a federal-provincial conference under which the family allowance will be increased to $20. He talks about some new mechanism in connection with which he needs the consent of the provinces. I say to the minister: Bring in the increase in the present family allowances right away, as an interim measure. Let us not wait another six months for the new program mentioned by the minister following the federal-provincial conference. Let him bring in legislation now as a means of getting money directly into the hands of the low income group, those with large families and those living on fixed incomes, the people who are feeling the squeeze. The poor cannot wait six months for the minister's bill, they need money now. They have to buy food every day.

Where are the poor of this country? They are in the large cities where inflation is highest. They are in areas of regional disparity where incomes are low and unemployment is high. They constitue a very substantial majority in this country who are suffering from the consequences of the complete failure of the government to relieve the burden imposed on them by inflation. When the Prime Minister rises in this House to respond to questions, I challenge him to place the facts before the House instead of continuing to try to deceive the people of Canada. The fact is that we could have had the family income security plan, and we could have had it before the close of the last session of the last parliament; it could have been in effect now.

I point out that as an interim measure the government can change its legislative program and immediately bring in amendments to the present Family Allowances Act. There is a disposition on the part of members in the House to deal with this matter expeditiously because it would put money into the pockets of the poor, those with large families and on fixed incomes.

The Minister of Finance (Mr. Turner) spoke today, and I listened very carefully to what he said. I am sure that other members on the government side will confirm, and I am sure a reading of *Hansard* will also confirm, that the minister categorically rejected any suggestion of a freeze or any kind of controls as a means of fighting inflation. But I heard no reference whatsoever to what the government does propose to do. There was no mention in the minister's speech of the government's contingency plan. The fact is that there is no contingency plan.

Mr. Cullen: Then, why ask about it?

Mr. McGrath: Because the Prime Minister has said that there is one. The Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs appeared before the special committee on food

prices and said that there was a contingency plan. However, I think the record will bear out that the minister was contradicted in this regard, because when the Minister of Agriculture appeared before that same committee he did not seem to be too knowledgeable about a contingency plan. As far as he was concerned, it was something that was just being talked about and was still evolving.

One gets the very distinct and clear impression that the difficulty about it is that the cabinet is split, that the government is divided on this issue, that there is no consensus within the government. This is why the Minister of Agriculture was allowed to spout off idiotic remarks about consumers never having had it so good, about how the people of Canada are spoiled, and food still remaining the best buy, contradicting the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs who has a difficult enough role to play as it is.

This is just about the first anniversary of the first budget of the Minister of Finance and it is interesting to look back to see what the minister said in May one year ago in his budget speech. He said that the government is committed to reasonable price stability, and that they do not expect food prices will rise as fast in 1972 as in 1971, that the current tendency encouraged them in this expectation. Well, Mr. Speaker, in spite of the minister's expectations and all his subsequent remarks, the food index jumped 2.6 per cent to 156.2 per cent in April from 152.2 in March. This compares with average increases of 0.8 per cent between these two months for the five preceding years. There was also a 12.9 per cent rise in food prices since April 1972, with food consumed at home rising 13.3 per cent and restaurant meals up 10.7 per cent from the preceding month of April 1972. Obviously, the Minister of Finance does not have the policies to cope with this problem.

That the government does not know how to deal with the problem becomes increasingly and painfully evident with each passing day. The government is playing for time. It is playing politics with this most crucial and serious issue in Canada, an issue that is bringing hardship to hundreds of thousands of Canadians. The government is playing for time, for some short-lived political gain. I say that this is disgraceful and the sooner the country is rid of this government, the better.

Mr. Jack Cullen (Sarnia-Lambton): Mr. Speaker, once again the hon. member for St. John's East (Mr. McGrath) has not disappointed us. His speech has run true to form. It was the typical hatchet job that he does so well and which we in this House have come to expect.

I know for a fact that the use of the Inquiries Act, which after all is legislation passed by this parliament, in connection with the major recommendation of the special committee on trends in food prices was a quick and immediate response on the part of the minister. The only attack that the hon. member for St. John's East can seem to summon up is the negative one of saying that it is taking a little more time than he thinks is necessary to find the appropriate membership of the board. He fails to recognize that not only do we have to find personnel for the board, but first it must be determined whether we want on the board consumers, chartered accountants or lawyers. Having made that determination, the cabinet can then select personnel who in their view will best fit that particular role.

Imagine if you will, Mr. Speaker, that the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs (Mr. Gray) had decided to take the other tack—in other words, not do anything while the House was in recess. The first member who would have risen under Standing Order 43 would have been the hon. member for St. John's East, suggesting that nothing had been done about the food prices committee report. If on the first day the minister had introduced legislation setting up the kind of board he proposes to set up under the Inquiries Act, we would have had the opposition members asking why we did not take action under the Inquiries Act because we could move much quicker. This is the kind of situation where the government side cannot win. If it moves too fast, it is accused of not using legislation that would slow up the process. If it does introduce legislation that would slow up the process, given the heavy amount of work on the order paper, the government would be criticized for moving in this way in order to get out from under the report of the food prices committee.

I was also interested to hear the hon. member say so much about the prices review board when it was his party which rejected out of hand the major recommendation of the committee, despite the fact that it had the support of the Conservative government of Alberta. Their terminology was a "monitoring board", but this review board had the support and backing of the government of Alberta and was a suggestion that government made.

The hon. member who preceded me quoted from a statement prepared by Women Against Soaring Prices, the WASP group, but I did not see him jump to his feet when the same group proposed that the consumers of this country enter into a boycott. He was not so quick then to jump on their bandwagon. In point of fact, he thought that they were wrong at that time. I suggest that the WASP group was wrong on that occasion and that they are wrong now. If you want to set up a board with authority to roll back prices, then I suggest you read some constitutional law.

The hon. member referred to editorial writers in this country, and I am just wondering how many of these editorials he has read. He said the consensus among the editorial writers of this country was that there is no point to a food prices review board being set up under the Inquiries Act. I suggest he and I must read different papers. No doubt he reads Tory ones, whereas I read ones that are objective.

To be fair, editorial opinion on this subject is probably divided. But even those who oppose the setting up of this board under the act at least say we should give it a chance to see if it works. If it is successful with food prices, then it might be a pilot project for dealing with other commodities. Although it is easy in an off-hand way to ridicule, it is difficult to come up with any positive suggestions. I challenge the members of this House to read the speech made by the hon. member for St. John's East and find one positive suggestion that he made during the 20 to 25 minutes he spoke. He did not tell us how they would cope with rising prices.

Increased Cost of Living

● (1710)

I read with some interest, but I must say with little hope, the motion proposed by the Conservative party, with a view to determining if it answered the question I had in mind. The hon. member for Don Valley (Mr. Gillies) presented his address, and we are still wondering what, in fact, the opposition parties would do and where they would go after the 90-day freeze. We still do not know what they intend to freeze. We heard a lot of criticism about the NDP and the problems it had with its waffle group, but I suggest the Tory waffling that is being done here makes that NDP group look like a bunch of pikers.

Let us look at the record. In April, 1972, when the Conservatives thought they had absolutely no chance of winning the election but expected to have at least a respectable showing and this was when leadership candidates were rattling their sabres, being more interested in the leadership than politics—what was their view? I suggest the leader of the NDP hit the nail on the head when he said there was no comment about dividends or incomes, but strictly comment about wage and price controls. In any event, in the view of the Conservatives they were not going to form a government and it was quite safe for them to talk in this way. They did not talk about dividends or professional fee control; they talked strictly about wage and price control. After the election in October, 1972, they were as surprised probably as we were when they realized they might be asked to form a government. What was their position then? They still talked about controls if necessary, but not necessarily controls. That has a familiar 1940 ring to it, and I suggest that is where the Conservatives are, about 30 years behind the times.

Then, they saw that this party was going to form the government and they began to hedge their bets a little bit. At that time they said they did not think this was the time for control. We then heard the two financial critics of the Conservative party, Tweedledum and Tweedledee, one saying he would be dumb today because the other was dumb yesterday; one saying this is not the time for controls and the other going on the CTV national network saying the time has come to bring in a temporary freeze all the way down the line, not stopping even at the farm gate.

This was supposed to be a temporary freeze. Then, the people of Canada spoke up and said that you cannot control everything; there are some areas beyond the capacity of Canadians to control. The Conservatives said then they would not control those things they could not control. They did not want to hurt the farmer and the fishermen, so they intended to stop at the farm gate. I suggest that, in fact, is meaningless. You are either going to have controls or you do not have controls. You cannot have half-way measures, and I suggest that proposal does not even go half way but only works to the detriment of the Canadian worker and consumer. I suggest there is no support in the country for that position. I suggest it is very easy, and a good political pitch, for the Progressive Conservatives to say that because prices are going up they intend to impose controls, but when you pin them down you find they do not know where controls are to be put on, how they are to be put on, or what results these might have.

[Mr. Cullen.]

It is interesting to note that this motion provides for discussion with the provinces, industry and labour. The food prices committee carried out such consultations and actually had these people appear before it. That committee had before it representatives from the CLC and we know what their position is. They are against control. That committee and representatives from the governments of Alberta and Manitoba, one Progressive Conservative and one NDP government, and they are also against controls. The committee had a representative from the Canadian Cattlemen's Association before it who also indicated opposition to controls. The committee had representatives of consumer associations appear, and they said this was not the time for controls. Why is there a need for consultation when we already know the position these people take?

Members of the Progressive Conservative party have been saying that we should show some leadership. I suggest we have shown leadership but that they are bankrupt in this regard. They know that no one is in favour of controls but they really have nothing to suggest except a 90-day freeze. They suggest we should put the lid on for 90 days and then watch it blow off after that. They know that we will be in power and that they can hedge their position. This is only a political promise.

What kind of controls are we getting from Progressive Conservative parties? We have seen an example of this in Ontario. Thank God for an effective opposition in Ontario. That government proposed a 7 per cent energy tax, but fortunately the opposition parties were successful in having that tax rescinded. What did that government propose to do about the rising cost of living? It simply increased the sales tax by 40 per cent, and that is not the way I would like to see the federal government act. Fortunately for the people in the rest of Canada, this increase only applies in Ontario. Imagine what might have resulted if the federal government had increased sales tax by 40 per cent instead of dropping it by 47 per cent for those in the $5,000 income bracket.

I do not intend to reiterate what was said by the Minister of Finance (Mr. Turner), but he did highlight the government's aims, for those who were listening to him, although I think there were very few. I wish I had the ability of the leader of the NDP to put the Tories in their place regarding their behaviour and courtesy shown in this House. It was very difficult to hear what the Minister of Finance had to say because of the interjections by the Tweedledums and Tweedledees across the way who realized that the minister was punching holes in the one argument put forward by the Conservatives that might have had at least some merit.

An hon. Member: Who wrote that speech, Jack?

Mr. Cullen: I wrote this one and I think it's pretty good. In any event, the Minister of Finance did outline the highlights, for those in this part of the Chamber, and admitted that there were areas where no control is possible. The hon. member for Don Valley waved his hands and admitted there were areas that cannot be controlled, but apparently he did not want to hear about them. He tried to brush aside those remarks, but he was kind enough to state these were not excuses. He actually conceded there

were reasons for price increases and areas over which Canada had no control.

We in this party do not operate in a vacuum, and Canada cannot operate in a vacuum. We must operate in world markets. Surely, the hon. member for Don Valley recognizes that fact. It might be interesting to go back to the time when the hon. member for Don Valley was addressing his economic students to find out what kind of pitch he was making at that time. I venture to guess that some of the hon. member's lectures on why controls would not work in Canada would be very interesting. I can imagine him putting a question such as this to his students: Give us your views why controls would not work? It is only a guess on my part, but I feel that we might find one or two questions of that kind in his examination papers, or certainly in his lectures. I hope that most of his students were good thinkers and pointed out to him, notwithstanding the fact they might get a failing mark, that what he proposed would not work in theory and would certainly not work as far as Canada is concerned.

I want to state that, as Chairman of the food prices committee, I agree with the hon. member for St. John's East (Mr. McGrath), the committee did work hard. I think we disagreed on only one point. I understand their party is prepared to accept five or six of the recommendations of that committee and only oppose the establishment of a food prices review board. In any event, the committee did work hard, no thanks at least in the beginning to those opposition members who first of all were successful in removing any expertise we might have received from the Senate. I am not particularly given to defending the Senate in this Chamber, but I think members of that place, particularly members such as Senator David Croll, might have played an important role in the work of that committee. Such members might have provided much expertise but, for whatever reason they had, the Conservatives rejected that expertise, and I suggest this has worked to the detriment of Canadians generally.

The leader of the NDP said the Minister of Finance was being complacent when he said that certain things had been done, and nothing more remained to be done. I suggest he was misinterpreting what was said by the minister. The minister not only outlined what had been done, he went on to say what was being done and what would be done in the future. There is no complacency on the part of this government. With a two-seat majority in this House we cannot afford to be complacent but must act in a responsible way in order to win the respect and support of other hon. members.

The minister indicated that we were combatting rising prices by increasing exemptions, lowering taxes, removing tariffs and allowing the transfer of family farms from one generation to another without imposing a capital gains tax. He also pointed out the increase in old age pensions and guaranteed income supplements, veterans' pensions, higher family allowances and higher income supplements for senior citizens, having them tied to the cost of living. All these things have been done and will be done by this party and government, and that is why I am pleased to support it, as I have done for some considerable length of time.

Increased Cost of Living

Much has been said to discredit the food prices committee. It has been suggested that it was a toothless committee and could only come out with recommendations that were toothless. I suggest that the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Stanfield) was breathless when he suggested the committee and its recommendations were toothless. He obviously did not consider the board's powers under the Inquiries Act. If the hon. member were in the underwear business now and decided to raise prices to an exorbitant level I wonder whether he would be somewhat apprehensive about the review board having a look at the situation. Our committee worked well. We never lacked a quorum. I give credit to all hon. members for this. Members of the Conservative party, such as the hon. member for Victoria-Haliburton (Mr. Scott) and the hon. member for Medicine Hat (Mr. Hargrave) made a sincere effort to see that the committee worked.

The Committee had credibility to the point that two provincial governments asked that their representatives be permitted to appear before us. One of them had this to say about our committee and about the fact that such a committee was set up:

● (1720)

> We commend the members of the Committee for their undertaking and for their dedication to objectively review and analyse all this complex situation and set of problems. While we do not assume to have all the answers at hand, we would like to explore with you the philosophy of our government in this area and some suggestions for your consideration.

If that committee was a waste of time, certainly the Progressive Conservative government of Alberta did not think so.

Mr. H. W. Danforth (Kent-Essex): Mr. Speaker, in opening my remarks this afternoon, I cannot forgo an observation that has become so apparent this afternoon. The Minister of Finance (Mr. Turner) when he spoke, the Leader of the New Democratic Party (Mr. Lewis) when he spoke and the chairman of the food prices committee, each in turn castigated this party because they learned nothing about the income regulations that this party proposed. They learned nothing about their scope or their aim or composition. They were speaking from, by their own admission, absolute ignorance when they indicated as their reasoned opinion that such regulation could not work. Mr. Speaker, in my opinion this is absolute hypocrisy because if they make statements like that on a subject that is so serious, they should at least know some of the fundamentals of what is proposed. Had they listened to the various speakers from this party who have endeavoured from time to time in a reasoned and reasonable way to indicate what we believe would provide a solution to one of the most terrible problems facing this country today, they would then have had some indication of what we are trying to accomplish.

What I would like to do this afternoon in the time allotted to me, which is very short, is to show why the people of Canada are not only confused but alarmed at what is happening. I listened with rapt attention to the Minister of Finance. I listened with very careful attention to the leader of the New Democratic Party and to the Chairman of the food prices committee. What struck me as a Canadian was the fact that each of them seemed pre-

pared to accept this tremendous increase in the cost of living. They seemed prepared to accept inflation as a Canadian way of life and as something that was unavoidable. The only solution they put forward, each in his own way, was to give more Canadian tax dollars to an ever-increasing number of Canadians who find that they cannot survive under this government's economic program. This is what will cripple this country. This is what will cripple the New Democratic Party, because their basic support is from the labourers of this country who are the middle income earners. This is the very group which this government is carefully placing as the main target for taxation in its tax reform bill. This is what we are up against. This is what is happening in this country today.

Now, I should like to say what else, in my considered opinion, is confusing the Canadian people. I refer to the statements by the ministers of this government as they travel across this country. The Minister of Agriculture (Mr. Whelan) tells the farmers what they like to hear. He is saying that food in Canada today is a bargain. He is saying that food prices are not too high and no doubt will go even higher. The farmers of this country have to work in close co-operation with the consumers of this country, and I say that in making such statements the minister causes divisiveness between two groups which may be irreparable. He gives the consumers of this nation the impression that the prices they pay in the food stores are the prices the primary producers receive, but there is a great difference between the two. The farmers are not having it that great. The farmers also are consumers.

One of the greatest problems facing farmers is that their input costs today are rising at a greater rate than their selling prices despite the increasing price of food. As soon as the present inventories that the agricultural producers of this country have, which were produced at lower cost levels, are exhausted, the farmers will not be receiving the high income it is alleged they are receiving at the present time.

Then, we have the minister who represents a riding adjacent to mine. He is a neighbour of mine and is a man for whom I have the greatest respect. What did he say? He said that food prices are too high. One minister says they are too high and another minister says that they are not too high. This minister not only says that they are too high but that, because of its great concern, the government set up a special parliamentary committee for the prime purpose of studying the trend in food prices and ascertaining why they are so high. The purpose of this committee was to bring in a recommendation, and it recommended the establishment of a committee to control food prices and, if necessary, roll them back. One minister says the prices are not high enough and another minister has a policy to roll them back.

So, we go to the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau), the leader of this party. What does the Prime Minister say? He says there is no cause yet for alarm, that he does not consider there is any crisis yet. As a matter of fact, he believes there is no need for a contingency measure at this time, although we have had the greatest increase in food prices the consumers of this country have experienced. How can the people of this nation know what the government proposes? They are utterly confused. Perhaps they could accept the suggestion of the New Democratic Party and the Liberal party that we must accept the high cost of living. Maybe the people of Canada could accept this proposition if they knew how high prices would rise. But, Mr. Speaker, from the gravest experiences over the past months, even after the Prime Minister said inflation was licked, people know that it has continued at an ever-increasing rate. What makes me discouraged and alarmed is that the Minister of Agriculture, on behalf of the government, says that food is a bargain in this country. He does not tell the people of Canada that under Liberal administration the dollar has dropped in purchasing power from 100 cents to 69 cents. Not only is the government responsible for the increase in the cost of food, but for a 30 per cent devaluation of the Canadian dollar.

[Mr. Danforth.]

• (1730)

These are the problems we are concerned with when we say there should be some form of income control. It may be all right for various political parties to say, for various reasons, that there should be no control on wages. But talk to the men who are working and earning wages and you will find they are perfectly prepared to accept control if there is also control on the goods and services they purchase. Their constant demand for wage increases is because the dollar is going down in value and the cost of the things they buy is increasing.

I would like to deal with the Minister of Agriculture who speaks on behalf of Canadian farmers. I have the greatest respect for him as an individual, as a farmer and as a gentleman, but I cannot say that of him as a member of the government. Why can't I? It is because he says that food prices are still too low, that they should go up, and that farmers need more for their produce. But at the same time he supported wholeheartedly the budget introduced by the Minister of Finance which removed the tariff on imported food, the purpose of which was to reduce the price of food in Canada, and thereby reduced the price received by the very farmers he is championing.

The Minister of Agriculture goes around the country and says, "Grow more. Produce more. Get with it." At the same time he wholeheartedly supports marketing schemes proposed by the government the sole purpose of which is to control supply, to put quotas on production, to introduce supply management and government-regulated prices. You cannot have it both ways, Mr. Speaker, but that is what this minister is doing. What else is he doing? He is one of those who say that if you want to get ahead as a farmer in Canada, you have to produce, you have to increase efficiency, you have to get with it. But he supported a government which paid people not to grow grain. He supported a government which butchered hundreds of thousands of chickens to prevent them laying eggs.

He is the same minister who supported the national dairy marketing scheme and set it up as a model, the very purpose of which was to allocate dairy quotas to such a degree that for the first time in Canadian history we became importers of dairy products rather than exporters. This is the minister who gets up on a public platform and says, "Grow more. Produce more," but then comes into this House and supports every single measure to reduce the production of farmers and to reduce their incomes.

It is no wonder that the people of the nation are confused. It is no wonder that the primary producers in agriculture are becoming sceptical about the nice, pleasing speeches being made by the Minister of Agriculture. They are businessmen. They would greatly prefer progressive action from the minister on measures to solve their problems rather than pleasant speeches designed to win friends and influence farmers.

When we in this party talk about controls we are not talking about freezing Canadians into a position in which they cannot move. We are not talking about introducing hardship for any group of Canadians. We are trying to bring in some sort of program designed to help this country out of the dilemma in which it finds itself. It is not good enough for any government, let alone a Canadian federal government, to say that because things are going on in other countries, it naturally follows that they must go on in Canada. Somebody has to be a leader. Somebody has to find a solution to these inflation trends. Why can't it be the Parliament of Canada?

The only thing holding the Parliament of Canada back from making progress in fighting inflation and the increasing cost of living is the stubbornness of the government in refusing to accept, even in part, a proposition which the opposition sincerely feels will work. Government members castigate us about a 90-day freeze. They talk about it as if that is the total program. They castigate us for not laying the program out in full.

On a subject as complex as this no man in the world has the capability to discuss the question completely and to illustrate the remedy within a 20-minute speech. I congratulate the hon. member for Don Valley (Mr. Gillies), because in a series of speeches he has done more to illustrate a policy that will work than all the ministers of finance I have had the pleasure of hearing during the last two parliaments. The hon. member for Don Valley made a simple statement that will find acceptance—

Mr. Caccia: Very simple.

Mr. Danforth: —even from the hon. member who interjected. The hon. member for Don Valley said the present economic policies are just not working. If you think they are, just go and ask your constituents. If you do not know what is going on, you had better find out or you will not be here very long. The hon. member for Davenport (Mr. Caccia) insists on injecting himself into the debate. It is to him I allude. If he does not know right now that the increased cost of living is a massive problem in his riding, a riding with which I am familiar, then he is not accepting his responsibilities as a member of this House.

In conclusion, Mr. Speaker, no one in this House can be accused of not being concerned about the problems facing Canadians. No one in this House can be accused of being unsympathetic to the fact that the cost of living is going up at an alarming rate. The only difference between members of the House is on the way the problem should be attacked. If I have any plea to make to this parliament it is to ask members of the other political parties to lay down their partisan, political shields and, as responsible Members of Parliament, show some interest in the principle that we are proposing at this time.

Mr. Caccia: May I ask the hon. member a question?

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Laniel): This can only be done with the consent of the hon. member who has the floor.

Mr. Danforth: I will be glad to receive a question.

Mr. Caccia: In light of the non-partisan plea which the hon. member just made, would he enlighten the House on the remedies he would like to propose?

● (1740)

Mr. Danforth: Mr. Speaker, if the hon. member had been in the House during the course of debates on the economic policies of his government which have taken place in this session alone, he would not have to ask such a stupid question.

Mrs. Grace MacInnis (Vancouver-Kingsway): Mr. Speaker, the terms of the resolution before us are very broad, covering the entire spectrum of the cost of living. I am as aware and as concerned as anyone about the elements that go to make up the cost of living, food, rent, clothing, utilities, transportation and the rest. But on the principle that the longest journey begins with a single step, I will confine my remarks today to cover what can be done about the spiralling price of food which some analysts tell us may increase by as much as 45 per cent. I am well aware that this will not frighten the Minister of Agriculture (Mr. Whelan) nor some other ministers perhaps, but it frightens the people of this country and it frightens me. I am afraid to think about the situation that can occur if nothing is done about food prices in an effective way.

At the outset of my remarks I want to warn the government that it cannot get away with the type of food prices review board which has been proposed. Certainly the skirts of the New Democratic Party may be broad and protective in some regards, but I warn the government that it is not going to be able to hide behind them. We have said that the board as announced by the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs (Mr. Gray) is not adequate and will not pass as far as we are concerned.

I come from a west coast province, and to us the situation in which we are placed today appears as though there has been a big shipwreck and people are tossing about in the water. The government has proposed a search and rescue operation but has confined its terms strictly to the business of search. While people are in the water, the Minister of Finance (Mr. Turner) is telling them that the situation is inevitable and nothing can be done about it because of world conditions of one sort or another, and the Minister of Agriculture is reiterating tiresomely from the shore that food is a very great bargain—if you can get it! In the meantime, the Conservatives are watching the heads bobbing about in the water and are advising the stranded people to freeze for 90 days, but saying nothing about what they propose to do during the 90-day period.

Watching the Progressive Conservative party, I rather wonder if their reticence about bringing forward their 90-day program is because they have no ideas for it. I am afraid all they would do is put on a 90-day freeze and then, like Mr. Nixon, take it off and watch prices skyrocket. I am afraid they have not taken the warning of the late Jan Masaryk, the Czech patriot, who declared: "Excitement is

no program". I think the Conservatives believe that excitement will convince the voters of this country that they have something. But the voters know that at the end of 90 days, prices would go still higher.

An hon. Member: That is nonsense.

Mrs. MacInnis (Vancouver Kingsway): It may be nonsense, but you will have a chance to contribute in your own way. We in the New Democratic Party are firm in our determination to press for more than an investigation. The board as set out by the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs does not have anything like the powers that we asked for and that the people want. Mr. Speaker, neither this party nor the people of this country are going to be fooled by what the board is at the present time. It is just an investigatory board, a toothless wonder.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mrs. MacInnis (Vancouver Kingsway): I am not going to be silenced on the matter, Mr. Speaker. Up to this point the proposed prices review board has been nothing more than the resurrection of John Young's prices and incomes commission, which did absolutely nothing for three years except to spend $3 million of the taxpayers' money and produce reams and reams of paper. It was a waste of time, paper, money and expertise.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mrs. MacInnis (Vancouver Kingsway): That is exactly what is proposed now. Mr. Speaker, I want to put forward our proposals. We believe that the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs should, without delay, bring in legislation to clothe either the board or himself—I do not think it matters very much which one it is—with the power to act on the findings of the board. Anything short of power to act is a waste of time and a deception.

Let me tell you, Mr. Minister, that you are lighting a slow fuse if you think you can get away with a board that is just another investigatory body. You cannot. The people of this country have been led to believe that this committee was a forerunner of action on the part of the government; they have been led to believe that the government is concerned about them. It is not only the people on low incomes who are suffering—although they are suffering most severely—but as costs creep higher and higher, people in the middle and higher income levels are suffering as well. Some of the analysts promise us a 45 per cent price increase in the future.

Mr. Minister, I say that by bringing in a board of this type in your name you would be, in my opinion, betraying the consumers of this country. The consumers trust you with their well-being, and they do not believe that you are going to fob them off with just another investigatory, time-wasting body. I would suggest that you keep your record clean and do not get—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I trust the hon. member will not mind my interrupting, but I must remind her that an effort should be made to address the Chair rather than the minister.

[Mrs. MacInnis (Vancouver-Kingsway).]

Mrs. MacInnis (Vancouver Kingsway): I certainly shall, Mr. Speaker. I am referring to the minister, but it certainly causes me no hardship to put my remarks through the Chair. I shall remember that.

We want the minister or the board to be clothed with powers to prevent unjustifiable prices, to roll back prices which are unjustifiable and to protect the farmers where necessary by price supports or subsidies, or in whatever way is essential. I was rather amused this afternoon to hear one of the hon. gentlemen to my right, who like myself is from the city, suggest that all we need to do is plan for very quick production. I was thinking how the farmers would react to that idea. Presumably, within this 90-day freeze beef could be raised from conception to table. I know it is going to be more complicated than that.

We do not propose that the price of all kinds of meat be controlled, but that there be selective controls on certain foods which, taken together, would add up to a nutritionally sound diet. Don't tell me it cannot be done. I have here a copy of the *Daily Telegraph* of London, England, dated February 22 which points out that in Britain they are exercising very definite control on the price of a particular commodity. That is the Kellogg's firm, which has 60 per cent of the market. The government is telling Kellogg's that it will hold the line on those prices as long as it believes it should do so and prevent their going higher, because higher prices would be unjustifiable.

● (1750)

I want to pay tribute to the chairman of our food prices committee, but in my view he was stretching the point a bit when he referred to the quick response by the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs in dealing with the prices review board. I do not think his response was quick. I agree with the hon. member for St. John's East (Mr. McGrath). Surely, even during these last two or three weeks when he was looking for suitable members for the board, the minister could have found at least one suitable candidate. As well, he might have done something else—met with his opposite numbers in the provinces and discussed with them provisions that would be necessary to overcome any constitutional obstacles in this field, with a view to overcoming them. Even if they did not remove them, we might have discovered what they were.

Mr. Speaker, in this country there have been many areas over which jurisdiction has been divided between provincial governments and the federal government. Governments could not encroach upon each other's jurisdictions. However, when the public wanted action taken in a joint way, it was taken. When the people wanted income taxes to be collected exclusively by the federal government, the provinces were able to surrender the power of taxation to the federal government. These things can be done if the government wants to do them.

My great fear is that this government does not genuinely wish to set up a prices review board that can act. I have not seen evidence of such a desire and that is why I am afraid. I am telling this to the consumers of this country because they must make sure the government realizes how essential it is that the board be in a position to act. Also, I am telling the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs that it will be highly dangerous for him if he does

anything short of giving this board the powers that it needs. That can be done and must be done. Merely because we cannot see all the way through the thicket does not mean that we should not make a start in this area. We must make a start.

Undoubtedly there are some who want to leave things to the workings of the marketplace. I am talking of people like the Minister of Agriculture. That view, I suspect, is also held by some other members of the cabinet, including the affable, knowledgeable and able Minister of Finance. Mr. Speaker, I will tell you what such action would mean today. If you leave these things to the workings of the marketplace it will mean leaving the consumer at the mercy of some large and powerful corporations who will first destroy their weaker competitors and then be in a position to demand from the consumer every cent that the traffic will bear. Those who were on the food prices committee know that and they will be even more aware of this fact when we resume our sittings in a short while.

People must have food in order to live. Consequently, the food industry is highly profitable if you consider it in its entirety. Anyone who doubts that should look at the profits of the great corporate structures underlying the supermarkets and some of the other sectors of the food industry. No wonder prices are going up: profits are going up and profits are there to be reaped.

As long as the food gamblers can sell their wares at a profit, it matters not a whit to them who gets hurt in the process, whether it is the farmer whose existence is threatened by the rising cost of machinery and farm supplies, the low-income families whose children cannot get proper nutritional food, or the middle-income families who are brainwashed, along with the rest, into buying all sorts of things they neither want nor need because of the wasteful ingenuity of those servants of the supermarket, the advertisers. I have noticed that according to press reports advertisers are beginning to worry. They are becoming sensitive because people no longer believe many of their claims about the wares the supermarkets display. They are now saying that they must improve their image.

The purpose of the food prices review board is that of taking a first, real step to transform the food industry from its present status of a gambling venture into what it should be, an industry to supply the needs of people for food at the lowest cost consistent with quality and with the protection of those who are involved in food production, the most vulnerable of whom at the moment are farmers.

Water has always been a public utility. It has been regarded as too important a substance to be cornered by one or two big monopolies for their own private profit. I am glad to say that there is one provincial government that is beginning to look at food a little in that light. The government of British Columbia is beginning to supply the co-operative movement, regarded as an enemy by the great monopolistic private food chains, with funds to build up a co-operative, non-profit alternative to the gambling food chain business which is so deeply rooted in the country in which we live. I am glad to see that this beginning has been made.

May I have two or three more minutes, Mr. Speaker?

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member has three minutes. If it is after six, I would assume hon. members would want the hon. member who has the floor to complete her remarks.

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Mrs. MacInnis (Vancouver Kingsway): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I suggest that the minister look at this board in a way completely different from that in which he has so far viewed it. Consumers have become aware, as the minister no doubt knows, that committees which sit too long merely involve procrastination. Their establishment often means that decisions are put off and that a whitewashing job is done. People will not put up with that any more. I hope the minister realizes that if he does not act there will be retribution. If retribution does not come about in this House, he and those associated with him will suffer that retribution at the hands of the people across this country who trusted this government to do something in solving the problem of food costs. Those costs are part of the cost of living which people must bear. People must have food in order to live. If the government betrays the trust of the people, it is doomed no matter whether it receives the *coup de grâce* in this House or at the hands of the voters.

Mr. Speaker: It being six o'clock, I do now leave the chair. The House will resume this debate at eight o'clock.

At six o'clock the House took recess.

AFTER RECESS

The House resumed at 8 p.m.

Mr. Chas. L. Caccia (Davenport): Mr. Speaker, some 2,500 years ago a Greek philosopher was attributed a statement he once made to the effect that he knew that he didn't know. Presumably it was Socrates who pronounced it. I would like to borrow that statement from him tonight in approaching this subject, because it is of such complexity that it makes one realize very quickly the limits of one's knowledge in attempting to come to grips with it.

I would rather have listened for the duration of the debate. However, the speech made at the opening this afternoon by the hon. member for Don Valley (Mr. Gillies) touched upon certain aspects and this has prompted me to respond to what he said.

In his speech, the hon. member for Don Valley emphasized the importance of introducing a freeze. He called it an "immediate temporary freeze." He mentioned 90 days. It is this kind of conflict to which I take strong exception. What does it mean? Expressed in those terms, it is truly a Conservative philosophy. It says to society, those who are trying to catch up in their income and standard of living with those who have made it, "Stay where you are and accept the fact that for a certain period of time you will not be able to catch up with the rest of society."

Who will be hit? Who is going to suffer? Who is going to be affected by a freeze of the kind proposed through this motion of the Conservative party? It is the working poor, the unorganized worker and the organized worker earning less than $80 a week, such as a hospital worker. It affects

all those in society who are trying to improve their lot and catch up with the others.

This kind of measure would not affect the professionals who earn a reasonable income. This is where the whole question of wage and price controls becomes so intriguing. It is easy to impose controls on the wage earner because the system is set up in a way whereby wages are determined by the employer. With a measure of this kind, whether of short or long duration, experience in other countries has shown that once you introduce a temporary freeze, when the period is over the government finds it necessary to extend it because of the complexity of the situation, and politically it is not easy to remove.

Usually, a measure of this kind affects the wage earner in all sectors of the business world. How would it be possible to introduce a freeze or control without affecting the income of non-wage earners, those who by virtue of their activity are not dependent on a salary? Are you going to say to the professionals that by virtue of this freeze, the lawyer, doctor or accountant should stop seeing clients at a certain point because he has reached his income ceiling? Conversely, will you say to these professionals that once they have reached the ceiling permitted under the measure they should serve their clients free of charge? These are questions that come to mind.

It would be very helpful if the members of the Conservative party would explain to us how they would do this without harming those sectors of society that are trying to catch up with the others, namely, the wage earners, the working poor, the unorganized workers and the organized workers at minimum salaries. How could a measure of this kind work effectively for those who are not wage earners, such as the professionals? This philosophy of the Conservative party says, "Let's freeze everybody in their place. You who are lagging behind, stay there. Those who are doing well can take it. In the meantime we might find a solution." We have not heard from the hon. member for Don Valley, except for a brief answer which lasted a couple of minutes, as to the measures he would introduce at the end of the temporary freeze.

● (2010)

I have no particular knowledge of economics, as you can see perhaps from my exposé so far. I represent the average guy who is looking to parliament for the answers. Today the onus is on the Conservative party to provide the answers, and so far they have not outlined a policy which can convince me they have an alternative to what the government has done so far.

An hon. Member: Nothing.

Mr. Caccia: They have offered only a short-term, temporary proposal without looking to see what would happen at the end of the rainbow.

An hon. Member: Listen to the speech. Read it.

Mr. Caccia: I listened to the speech this afternoon; I do not need to read it. How do you implement controls in a federal system of government unless you have full co-operation at the provincial level? How do you implement controls in a democratic society, in which I suppose one of the motives in life is making a profit, when you have set up your own business and wish to catch up with those who are doing better, or when you are not a member of an organized union and want to catch up with people who are earning a better wage? How do you go about introducing compulsion in a society which fundamentally abhors compulsion?

The other question is, what happens when controls are taken off? Will the level of prices remain unaffected at that point, or is it likely, as has happened in other countries, that when you take the lid off, all that has been gained is lost in a matter of weeks? Have members of the opposition thought this through and, if so, what are their answers? What happens after the 90 days to the weaker segments of society who are trying to catch up with the others? Certainly a doctor earning $50,000 a year will not be affected by the freeze, but a worker in a hospital earning $80 a week is in a different position. How would the Conservatives allow him to catch up with the others, according to their theory?

In searching for an adequate answer we must also realize that Canada is not an island; we cannot isolate ourselves from the inflationary spiral which is sweeping the entire western world. As we all know, we are dependent on trade with other countries. How do we isolate Canada from the inflation we import? This country has to import in order to export. I heard nothing this afternoon about that aspect of the problem. The hon. member for Don Valley mentioned it briefly, but he moved on at once to another subject.

Before we embark on a temporary freeze the people of Canada are entitled to know what will happen at the end of the freeze. It is for us, as politicians, not just to provide answers which will relieve the anxieties of the moment because that course might be politically expedient, but to provide answers which will demonstrate that we have thought things through and that we have a chance to implement a policy all the way through. To me it seems the Liberal approach so far has been as sound and as effective as it reasonably could be.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Caccia: Wait a moment. When your turn comes you will have an opportunity to contribute. The government has done one thing; it has redistributed income by taxation. You take away purchasing power from those with higher and middle incomes and give it to those with low purchasing power, and you do it by means of programs of income support such as old age assistance, the guaranteed income supplement, allowances for children, programs for veterans, the Canada Pension Plan, and so on. This is a form of redistribution of income. You can do this to the extent society is willing to accept it.

When we were considering the capital gains tax in this House, who were opposing it as a measure which was thought to be the end of the world? It was the members of the Conservative party. They were opposing one of the most logical and sensible measures for the redistribution of income to permit those who have no way of defending themselves to be helped through the government's system of redistribution of income by taxation. So you take pur-

chasing power away from certain groups and give it to others by way of social security programs.

A second measure which has been introduced is provision for a cost of living increase in the programs I have mentioned so that those who live on fixed incomes have a chance to keep up with increases in the cost of living through regular adjustments. Another measure is one which was announced recently, the setting up of a prices review board. I am looking forward to seeing how this will work. I really do not know whether it will be able to achieve the objectives the public expects it to achieve. Perhaps it will only serve the purpose of emphasizing the complexity of this issue.

Another measure which is still to come is the introduction of really effective legislation in the field of monopolies, keeping monopolistic trends to a minimum and, if possible, eliminating the fixing of prices. Then, I suppose—and this can be done in several ways through our agricultural policies—we might introduce incentives designed to increase the supply of certain products. I recall a lengthy debate which took place in this chamber until seven in the morning. It was on the introduction of agricultural marketing boards. Members of the Conservative party were strongly opposed to these boards. Do they still think it was such a bad idea? Would they still be opposed to that measure, now that two years have gone? If so, why?

Sometimes memories in this chamber are very short, but it does no harm to raise these matters. I do not know what the answers are to the issues. I am Socratic; I do not know. But I do know the Canadian people are very disturbed by this trend. They want to have correct political answers, sound answers which will stand the test of time—not temporary measures which will serve merely as window-dressing.

In conclusion, since it is they who have introduced this motion I believe it is the responsibility of the Conservative party to tell us what will be done when the temporary freeze comes to an end. Will they renew the freeze for another few months? Having done so, what will they do next? How are they going to enable those sectors of society that are trying to catch up with other sectors to improve their lot, their wages and conditions? How will they deal with inflation which is imported into Canada from other parts of the world? Unless they can, the exercise here today will only have raised false hopes. It seems to me that we can do better than that.

● (2020)

Mr. Eldon M. Woolliams (Calgary North): Mr. Speaker, this is one of those days when, under the rules, the opposition is assigned the right to raise certain grievances. To put the debate on the tracks, as it were, may I refer in my introductory remarks to the motion. We have asked the House to deplore the failure of the government to take concrete and effective action against the rising cost of living so evident in the price of shelter—which I shall deal with in a moment—food and clothing. We urge the government to come forward and impose an immediate temporary freeze on the price of shelter, food and clothing and to hold discussions within 90 days—a factor my hon. friend from Davenport (Mr. Caccia) seemed to miss—with the provinces, industry and labour and come up with some plan to stop the ever-increasing, galloping inflation.

Having listened to the speech of the previous speaker, if I may refer to it for a moment, I took the position that the hon. member had thrown up his hands. He is speaking for the Liberal party, but really he is a Liberal back, not in the nineteenth or the eighteenth century but in the seventeenth century—laissez-faire, let it go. On the one hand he cried about people on small salaries, and on the other hand talked about people with larger incomes. What he was really saying was that there was no revenue.

This parliament has already approved an increase in the old age pension, we have approved an increase in the exemptions of small wage earners, we have improved the pensions of veterans—but by the time the cheques got into the envelopes the inflationary spiral had eaten up the increases granted. The government knows that and the Canadian people know it.

When we came to this House four months ago I do not know whether the government had great hopes, but their only remedy to cure high prices was to set up a special committee to investigate food prices. That special committee recommended that we set up a food and prices review board. I agree with the hon. member for Vancouver-Kingsway (Mrs. MacInnis), who in turn agreed with our member who led off this debate, the hon. member for Don Valley (Mr. Gillies), and also the hon. member for St. John's East (Mr. McGrath) that this board will be useless. It is only an excuse for inaction. It really means more procrastination while Canadians suffer.

I could not help but agree with the hon. member for Vancouver-Kingsway who spoke before supper. After all, this lady is a great parliamentarian of great capacity. She has a feeling for humanity and an understanding, following the tradition of her great father and parliamentarian in this institution. She has been influenced by socialists. This influence must come from her leader and other members of her party. She said that this review board will mean nothing but further procrastination, and there she let the cat out of the bag as far as her party is concerned. She knew this review board would be useless.

We said that a committee that would study the cause of price increases would be useless. This is merely hoping that something will turn up, like Micawber. The Canadian people knew that the cost of living was high. They knew the cost of food was high, and so are rents. Housing is expensive, as is clothing. They know their pay cheques will not meet the demands of their families. They know that now. They also know that prices will go higher because the government has no remedy. This government is bankrupt of ideas.

I was one who criticized the setting up of this committee, not only because I knew its recommendations would not solve the ball of wax of inflation but also because it was too narrow in purpose. The committee was set up to study food prices only. One wonders why it was restricted to that aspect alone, since the cost of living is rising, as is the cost of housing and shelter, which I will deal with in a moment, and clothing. Only last night I read that the cost of clothing during the next few months will go up 50 per cent. So why were just food prices picked out? I think the reason is that there were political implications. The Liber-

al party and another party in this House were frightened of those political implications, so they zeroed in psychologically on food prices in order to move people's minds away from the real issue. But people's minds are on the subject because their pocketbooks are on it. We said this to parliament as early as last January and now, four months later, it has been proven that what we said was correct. What was needed was not parliamentary investigation but responsible government action.

We have put forward a concrete program and we refer to it in our motion. We have recommended a temporary freeze. My hon. friend from Davenport keeps asking what will happen after 90 days. During the 90 days there will be discussions with the provinces, with industry, with labour and with farm organizations.

Mr. Caccia: What happened in the United States?

Mr. Woolliams: My hon. friend asks what happened in the United States. I should like to quote what the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) said. I must say the Minister of Finance (Mr. Turner) rather shocked me today, because I used to shadow his portfolio when he was minister of justice and I got to know him very well. He said that the price index increase in Canada was lower than that of any country in the western world. He had better get together with his Prime Minister; even he seems to be more honest. In answer to a question put by the hon. member for Prince Edward-Hastings (Mr. Hees), the Prime Minister said, as reported at page 3510 of *Hansard*:

> I should like to tell the hon. member that in some countries which have applied price and wage controls the consumer price index has been increasing. It has been increasing in the United States at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 9.8 per cent in the past three months. On a year-over-year basis the increase in the consumer price index in Japan was 8.4 per cent, in Germany, 6.9 per cent, in France 7.0 per cent, in the United Kingdom, 8.2 per cent—

However, the Prime Minister admitted that the rise in the index in Canada over the same period was 13.2 per cent. Britain imposed temporary controls, and the United States has temporary controls. I say there is some record, at least, that they worked; they worked well while in operation. We put that forward as a concrete suggestion.

Before dealing with housing, one of the questions always raised by the Prime Minister—it must have been his favourite subject at university—is the constitution. For too long he has been hiding behind the constitution. I say that under the constitution the government has the power to act in order to implement a temporary freeze on all prices. Pausing there, as the hon. member for Don Valley said, we are living in the year 1973. During the first war, under the terms of peace, order and good government the federal government realized it had the power to stop galloping inflation and declared, not by act of Parliament or by changing the constitution but by judicial decision, that there was a national crisis. If we had a similar judicial interpretation today that there was a national crisis, any government in Canada under that formula would be able to implement some form of price control, particularly in the field of housing.

● (2030)

I am tired of this government.

[Mr. Woolliams.]

An hon. Member: The country is tired of it.

Mr. Woolliams: Yes, the country is tired of its always hiding behind the constitution.

Let me deal particularly with that subject the hon. member for Don Valley (Mr. Gillies) suggested would be raised in this debate, that is, housing. We have in Canada the most serious national housing crisis that has existed during my lifetime or the lifetime of any Member of Parliament sitting in this House. The index refers to a 6 per cent increase in housing. I made 10 or 15 phone calls across the nation today about this situation, and I found in talking with real estate people and those in the house construction business that costs have increased in the major cities in Canada from a low of 50 per cent to a whopping high of 100 per cent since the Trudeau gang took office. Believe me, the people of Canada have not forgotten that this is the same old gang running the country. It may try to create a new image and a new psychology, but its policies are the same. We have the same kind of unemployment, the same kind of inflation and the same bankruptcy of ideas. There has been no change.

An hon. Member: What about the Tory promises?

Mr. Woolliams: The hon. member talks like a seventeenth century economist. In the 1960s, those in the low-income group were able to buy houses in the major urban centres for much less than today. In 1968, a house with three bedrooms and a bathroom and a half cost approximately $15,000. Today that same type of house, whether it is in Edmonton, Calgary, Toronto or Ottawa—there might be a slight difference—would cost $30,000 to $35,000. The cost has increased a whopping 100 per cent. I have checked the price of housing from Vancouver to Halifax and, speaking relatively, these increases have taken place on a pro rata basis. I repeat that the increase has ranged from 50 per cent to 100 per cent in the two cities that have the doubtful honour of suffering the highest increases as a result of this government's policies. In the city of Toronto the increase has been 100 per cent, and in the city of Ottawa it has been 80 per cent. These two cities lead the pack in the increase in housing costs.

This government has merely set up a review board to look at the price of food and investigate the causes of the increase, yet these terrific increases in the cost of housing have taken place. My friends on the other side are always asking for solutions. Let me remind them that the CMHC is guilty of instructing solicitors to commence more foreclosure actions than any other housing corporation in Canada. The leader of the NDP—I see him in the House—has made reference to corporate bums. This state-owned and controlled body, and I have the figures, today has instructed solicitors to foreclose on the little people across the land.

When reading the Toronto *Star* tonight I noted that spokesmen for that socialistic government agency said there were 260,000 homes in respect of which only 2 per cent of the owners were behind in their payments, and with respect to only 1 per cent foreclosure action has been taken. Even I, not being a mathematician, can figure out that 1 per cent of 260,000 is 2,600 homes across the country that are subject to foreclosure action.

Let me deal for a moment with the history of this type of thing. I want to make three points. Only 6 per cent of the wage earners in Toronto can today own a home. The heading of this article suggests that housing in Toronto is a major social tragedy. I suggest it is a social tragedy everywhere. Rents are going up for the old and for the students. I refer to an article which appeared in the *Globe and Mail* of January 29. It reads in part:

Munish Gajadhar moved into a one-bedroom apartment at 230 Oak Street on January 1.

His rent in the morning was $137, and by suppertime it was $152. If that is not galloping inflation, then I have never seen a galloping horse outside the city of Calgary. Let me say a few more words about this great, national agency. I know of a case where a man signed a mortgage on a house in April, 1966, for $12,350. He was a Calgary resident. An action was started in January of this year by a member of a firm appointed as a result of all the compassion this Liberal government can muster. I am sure of that because one of the members of that firm ran against me as a Grit during one election.

This man was three mortgage payments behind; $118 for October, $118 for November and $122 for January—a total of $358. He was out of work, but even so an action for foreclosure was started. He obtained an order from the court, and after consulting certain people he was able to sell the house, as a result of inflation, for $21,000. When he went to pay CMHC his arrears, although they were only $358, the partisan solicitor charged him $579.50. That is the type of thing done by this government which has great feeling for the people! That is quite a collection fee on such a small foreclosure. Of course, the CMHC representative suggests there are only 2,600 foreclosures today in Canada.

I remember when the former leader of the NDP was Premier of Saskatchewan. He has talked about foreclosures in the 1930s. Never was there a corporation in Canada so heartless as the CMHC—and it is under the control of the minister responsible for housing. Let me say to the hon. member on the other side who wants remedies but will not take the medicine when you give it to him, it is time the CMHC ceased to be an independent body and was made directly responsible to the minister, in order that he might control the fate of Canadians living in urban centres.

An hon. Member: You can't blame them for patronage appointments in that regard.

Mr. Woolliams: That is another thing I do not want to get into at this time; it would take too long. This government has appointed so many Grits to so many boards lately that it has run short of jobs for them.

Only the rich can buy a house in Canada. Those in the middle and low-income groups are forced to live in public housing which will be our future ghettoes. Those who oppose this party when its members move motions are now bleating like sheep because they know this government is bankrupt of ideas. They know this government has driven the middle-class and the poor people from their homes into public housing, at high rents. I think Pitt was right when he said that when votes cease to be important, they will cease to be bought. That is what is happening to the Liberal party right now. Members of that party are becoming nervous and jittery.

An hon. Member: Oh, come on.

Mr. Wollliams: Then go to the people and see what happens. Our problem is one of over-all inflation rather than simply rising food costs. We must consider the whole ball of wax, the entire field of inflation. We must make decisions in these terms, rather than continue to bleat like sheep about food prices only. The increase in food prices will continue as long as we have inflation and Liberalism in this country.

Last night in the U.S. news and world report several top economists of the United States, Britain, and I believe one from France—I do not try to hide the fact that other countries are experiencing inflation, but at least they are doing something about it—said that if inflation continues we will have a greater recession in this country than we had in the 1930s. This kind of economic condition spells distress, unrest and war—and, God knows, even in my lifetime we have had enough of that. Surely the time is past due for the Liberals to start moving. If they want to hold power, let them hold it with responsibility and start governing.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Woolliams: What should this government be doing in addition to what I suggested about CMHC? It should act within the authority and power of the constitution and not hide behind it. As the hon. member for Don Valley and the hon. member for St. John's East have said, we should immediately impose a temporary freeze on prices in order that we can initiate discussions at all levels with the groups I mentioned in my opening remarks. While the freeze is on, quick action should be taken to consult the provinces, industry and labour. This is not a selfish race against time but is a step one that must be understood for the economic good of the whole country rather than for any special group with special privileges.

• (2040)

We should repeal immediately the 11 per cent sales tax on building materials so that at least those people I have spoken about will be able to afford new homes. We should produce a new national housing program, making grants to the municipalities to clear away the bureaucratic deadwood and deadlock which exist at all levels of government, and guarantee the little people that the interest rates which they pay on their CMHC mortgages will be no greater than 1 per cent over the prime rate. I am not talking about private lending institutions; I am talking about where the lending is through a government entity. In that case it should never be greater than 1 per cent over the prime rate. I understand that at the present time—if it has not risen today—the prime rate is 6½ per cent. So the rate on CMHC mortgages should not be more than 7½ per cent.

We are not competing for public money with industry, because this government has the ability to gather in millions, indeed billions of dollars through taxation by hitting the middle-class and lower income people of this country. I spoke to the parliamentary secretary to the minister

responsible for housing and said, "Bring in your housing bill." I told him we have two or three amendments to it. I said that the bill is only a band-aid bill, but let us at least get the band-aid on the move. I gave him the undertaking that our party wants to see the Liberals on the move. We want to get the bill to the committee, where we will move our amendments, hope to get some support from government members, move the bill back into the House and get some action. It will not solve much, but it is better than nothing. The Prime Minister tries to say that there have been delays. I cannot say he deliberately misrepresents the facts, but I can say he wanders from the truth.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, please. I regret to interrupt the hon. member, but the time allotted to him has expired.

Mr. Ross Whicher (Bruce): Mr. Speaker, generally it is with a great deal of relish that I speak in the House of Commons. However, tonight I do not have that sense of enjoyment because, quite frankly, this is one of the few occasions in my parliamentary career, when to some extent at least, I have to agree with what has been said by the members of the opposition. The most serious problems we have in Canada today is that of inflation. It is a problem which has been with us for a number of years. One would be less than truthful if he did not admit that.

This is not merely a Canadian problem; it is worldwide. I agree with the hon. member who this afternoon said that just because it is also a problem in the United States, in England, in France and in Germany does not mean that if the people in those countries happen to close their eyes, we in Canada, whether members of the Liberal party, the Conservative party or the New Democratic Party, should close our eyes to the problem. We cannot do that because the citizens of Canada are suffering grievously from this great sickness of inflation and it is up to us to do something about it.

Many arguments have been put forward as to why we do not have a system of controls in Canada.

An hon. Member: We have inept leadership, that is why.

Mr. Whicher: We have somebody with a loud voice on the other side. Please do not interrupt me when I am on your side at the moment. We have been told that there are many arguments against it. The first argument is that it will not work. Mr. Speaker, I am not prepared to accept the lame excuse that controls will not work, because they simply have not been tried in Canada in peacetime.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Whicher: It is true that they have been tried in other parts of the world; no one would deny that. However, it is not true that they have been tried in our chosen country, for which we are responsible. For that reason I say that until they have been tried and proven unsuccessful, I will not accept the excuse that they will not work. I have also been told that controls are unconstitutional and we must obtain the permission of the provinces and get agriculture, labour, industry and everybody else on our side.

[Mr. Woolliams.]

It is high time we had a little chat with the provinces, with agriculture, industry, labour and all the other segments of the economy. If we do not—and this is the question I want to ask members of the House of Commons tonight—what is the alternative? People on my side of the House say that the members of the opposition have not told us exactly what they would do. But I have not heard from my side of the House either, since this Parliament started or during the past number of years, the alternative to controls in Canada. The alternative must be in our lifetime. I say, with sadness, that the alternative is absolute financial chaos in our lifetime if something is not done to stop the runaway inflation we have in Canada.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Whicher: Surely, Mr. Speaker, it is not necessary for one to have been to school or to university to understand this fact. A person earning $10,000 a year now in Canada, ten years from now—with the rate of inflation we have on May 10, 1973—will have an income of $20,000 a year; twenty years from now he will have an income of $40,000. One of my friends on this side of the House, whom I respect, said, "How can you bring in controls when the doctors, certainly, will not care about it?" He said that doctors today are earning $50,000 a year, while hospital workers are earning only $4,000 a year. To that hon. member I say that everyone knows that ten years from today a doctor who now has an income of $50,000 will have an income of $100,000 a year, and the hospital worker will be earning $8,000 a year—if we do not do something about inflation. I think it is high time we did something about this problem.

• (2050)

I think the only people who will agree with me are hon. friends to my immediate right. They say we cannot control things in this country. Only a month ago we put controls on a great Canadian corporation, Bell Telephone. Complaints came from my party, of course, from the NDP in particular and there were at least groans and sighs of dismay from my Conservative friends when the Canadian Transport Commission brought in a recommendation that Bell Telephone be granted a 2.3 per cent increase. The government said that this was too much and that it would have to review the situation. We heard the moans and the groans of the leader of the New Democratic Party about Bell Telephone gouging the public with a 2.3 per cent increase, but only a week or ten days later Ontario Hydro workers were granted a 30 per cent increase over a three-year period, or 10 per cent a year—and the leader of the New Democratic Party did not even give one good grunt.

You cannot have it both ways. Somewhere along the line we will have to face this situation. I am not going to say that Bell Telephone is making too much money, but just compare its increase of 13.5 per cent over the last five years with the 63 per cent increase by the Post Office, which is a nationalized concern, the 50 per cent increase by Ontario Hydro, which is a public concern, and the 39 per cent increase by Quebec Hydro and you will see that public enterprise has not really done too badly.

I only raise this matter to show that we have controls in Canada when we want to bring them into effect, but when

we do not want to bring them into effect we just choose to ignore them. It does not matter whether we are politicians, doctors, teachers, plasterers or painters, whether we are in the agricultural field or wherever else we work—except, of course, if we are on the old age pension or some other pension—the fact is that our salaries, through natural increases, are doubling every ten years. Somewhere along the line somebody will have to tie this whole thing into a bundle and bring us back to the world of reality.

It has been suggested that the introduction of controls would create a great bureaucracy. I am not prepared to accept that philosophy one little bit. I agree that past history seems to show that each time a minister is placed in charge of a completely new portfolio in the federal government or in the provincial government of Ontario or Quebec, he is no good if within one year he does not have 1,000 people working for him. History proves that to be the truth. My hon. friend from Quebec who sits on the front bench opposite would agree with that. He had 1,000 people working for him; he knows what it is all about. But this does not mean that in the serious situation in which we find ourselves—and surely every member would agree that it is a very serious situation—we cannot streamline the bureaucracy and instead of acting as Conservatives, Liberals, members of the NDP or Creditistes, for once, in a state of national emergency, we should start acting as Canadians.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Whicher: When controls were brought in during World War II they were not brought in by the Conservative party or by the Liberal party: they were not brought in just by politicians but by all Canadians working together to win a war. Mr. Speaker, we are at war today. We are in a financial war, an economic war. If we do not do something about it, we are going to be swept under the table, not by countries where there is great inflation, not by countries like the United States but by great countries which in the next 25 or 50 years will really show the way, countries which have controlled economies such as China, Russia and countries of the Far East.

The old ways of controlling inflation simply will not work. Hindsight is a great thing. It is not with any feeling of bitter criticism that I look back on what has happened in Canada during the last three or four years, because I respectfully say that if my hon. friends opposite had been in power, perhaps they would have done the same thing. Perhaps they would have cut back and caused unemployment in order to control inflation. But with hindsight we know that this simply does not work.

Through you, Mr. Speaker, I ask the government: If such cutting back does not work, then what will work? Are we just going to go along with the tide and end up, as one hon. member on the other side has suggested, in the year 2000 with the average house in Toronto costing a quarter of a million dollars? Are we just going to go along with this tide, or are we prepared to do something about it? Again I emphasize that when I say "we", I mean the members of the House of Commons who represent the Canadian people—and they, in my opinion, desire controls; they are crying out for controls because they just do not know what to do at the present time.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Whicher: Mr. Speaker, in case I am criticized by some, and I expect I will be, but I do not mind constructive criticism at all—

An hon. Member: We will look after you, Ross.

Mr. Whicher: You fellows had better look after yourselves. I can look after myself. But in case I am criticized by someone immediately following me who asks what kind of controls the hon. member for Bruce is talking about, I want to say that I mean 100 per cent controls. I mean controls on wages, on salaries, on profits, on rents, on dividends and on prices.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Whicher: There is no easy way. Mr. Speaker, I listened to the hon. member for Don Valley (Mr. Gillies) this afternoon. He is a member for whom I have the highest regard, but I think there is a bit of politics in the attitude of the Conservative party when they urge temporary controls for 90 days because—

Mr. McGrath: A temporary freeze.

Mr. Whicher: Or a temporary freeze.

Mr. McGrath: There is a lot of difference.

Mr. Whicher: In my opinion, a temporary freeze of 90 days would simply not be long enough. We may as well let the Canadian people know the truth right off the bat. There should be controls for two years anyway, because 90 days will not even let us get going. It will give us time to conduct a study, but it will not be long enough.

It has been said that we live in a democracy, that the average Canadian citizen is not ready for controls and that the average Member of Parliament, wherever he may sit in this House, is not ready for controls. I remind you, Mr. Speaker, that sometimes in a democracy you have to give up a little bit of freedom in order to keep democracy in the long run. In my opinion, the citizens of Canada have to give up a little bit of freedom and accept controls, and I am sure they will, in order that we may remain a democracy for many long years to come.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Max Saltsman (Waterloo-Cambridge): Mr. Speaker, if I believed that democracy could be saved by controls I would think more favourably of controls. But I should like to know of a single instance in world history where democracy has been saved by that route. That is the route not of democracy but of disaster and hysteria. There are times in a democratic society when controls are required, but let us not have any illusions about what those controls do over extensive periods of time. If I thought for one moment that controls of one kind or another would further the cause of democracy or assist our society, then as reluctant as I might be I would go along with it. But in my view, Mr. Speaker, there is no evidence to support such an argument.

Increased Cost of Living

● (2100)

All of us would like to think that there is an easy way to end inflation. This afternoon I listened to the hon. member for Don Valley (Mr. Gillies) express the rather wistful hope, with an evangelical appeal, that all we need is good will amongst men and then this thing would work. I only wish it were so. I have the greatest respect for the hon. member but in this particular case I really must question his judgment. The things he suggested are not going to correct the serious problem that inflation has become, not only in Canada but internationally.

To suggest a 90-day freeze is to assume that inflation is a psychological problem—it is in our heads and therefore the Conservative party is going to knock it out of our heads in 90 days. It is sort of a couch for the whole nation on which we get security after 90 days. Surely those of us who have worked on committees dealing with economics know that inflation is a worldwide problem with deep roots, and is not going to be solved in 90 days or cured by psychological attacks on it.

We all read the polls, and it is true that the people of Canada are very much disturbed about the problems of inflation and their security. If you were to ask the people in a straightforward way, without any qualifications, if they want an incomes policy, if they want controls, I think because of this insecurity there would be a tendency to say that they want it. But it is important to follow that question with a series of questions asking to what extent they are personally willing to accept controls on their incomes. We would find then that the percentage of support would drop substantially. I did a poll of my constituents and asked this question. Many of them replied that they personally were not the problem. Mr. Speaker, it is always the other fellow who is the problem. For the worker, the boss is the problem; for the boss, the worker is the problem; for the consumer, it is the farmer; and the farmer remembers the lean years and thinks everybody else is the problem.

Knowing how the people feel, I think we do a terrible disservice to the nation to prey on their insecurity. At the very best, the suggestion of control is a futile gesture and at the worst a cruel joke that will end in frustration and anger. I am not suggesting for one moment that those who are advocating it see it in that light, but I hope hon. friends to my right will excuse me if I express myself forthrightly and say that I see it in that light.

How will it work? After all, some of the people who are advocating this policy are very intelligent. I do not for one moment discount the background and knowledge of the hon. member for Don Valley. I may have reservations about some of his colleagues, but none about him. So how will it work? Would somebody explain that to me because I, too, would like tranquility. I do not like to see prices rising and Canadians disturbed every time they go to the supermarket or buy a gallon of gasoline. I would like to have some kind of wand to wave over the situation—whether 90 days or 120 days—so that the whole thing would go away like a bad dream. I do not know how it would work, Mr. Speaker; all I know is that it would benefit relatively few people.

The first thing that comes to mind is that the old age pensioners must surely benefit from a price freeze. The old age pension is now geared to the cost of living, so perhaps there is less urgency in that direction. But suppose the price freeze had been suggested two or three weeks ago when parliament was proposing to increase the old age pension—would the old age pensioners have benefited, or would they have been frozen into a situation that could not be corrected for a long time? What would have been the answer of government, Liberal or Conservative, in a case like that? We know the Liberal answer. Would the Conservatives have answered in a better way, or would they have said that the 90-day freeze would stick because if an exception was made for one group then another would want to be excepted, so there would be no increase in the old age pension?

I recall when the government of Canada, in one of its most confused states when it had a majority—that always tends to confuse the government of Canada—decided that the most serious problem facing this country was inflation and that they were going to fight it to the death. They did not care how many people they threw out of work, Mr. Speaker—and they threw a lot of people out of work. We kept asking, as did the Conservative party, for an increase in the old age pension, but it was refused because we were in a fight against inflation.

We saw the old age pensioners of Canada held as hostages in that silly and futile fight that could not be won. We might have had an increase in the old age pension two or three years ago had it not been for the attitude of the government that they could not give an inch in the fight against inflation. We think the last election cured the Liberal party, or at least some of them. Is it going to take another election to cure the Conservatives as well?

Take the problem of the poor. Are they to be frozen into a situation they do not deserve? Are they living in affluence now? Are they contributing to inflation? Are they to be penalized because of a freeze? How do you help them when you freeze them? Suppose the government exercised worse judgment than it has in the past and listened to the Conservative party and brought in a freeze. What would it mean to the family allowance? We are trying to get it introduced in July because we do not want to wait until the end of the year. It should be done now. If there were a 90-day freeze, there would be no increase in the family allowance or any kind of transfer payment no matter what the merits of the program. Is this what is being suggested to parliament as an intelligent proposition?

Then what about the farmer? We warned everybody about the problem two or three years ago when the farmer could not even cover the costs of production. Some other members spoke in this House on behalf of the farmer, but we raised the uproar here and in the country when the farmer could not get a decent return for his work. Now that he is starting to get it, are we to decide that he is to be frozen and has to pay the price? Perhaps it could be said that the industrial workers have strong unions and should be stopped because they are making more than other people. Every attempt in this direction has failed. We sometimes point to Sweden as a model of industrial peace and intelligent labour-management relations. Once a year everybody sits down to a discussion. That is all very well, except that in Sweden they have a disease called "creep". This means that if there is a tight labour market and a

particular worker wants a little more money, management will somehow find a way of paying it to him. So where is your freeze?

● (2110)

The only time the marginal worker in our society gets a break is when there is a labour shortage, when there is a tight labour market, at which time inflation rates may be somewhat higher. At such times management may look at the marginal worker and say, "Well, he does not see so well or hear so well and he is not quite as fast as he should be. But, damn it all, we need him and there is a job for him." Then the worker can bargain for better conditions even though he may not be in an organized group. Will you ask this man to pay the price of your intellectual freeze? I would not ask him to do it.

On the other hand, perhaps you will say that the economy benefits. Perhaps stepping on all kinds of people is worth it as long as the economy benefits. What is the evidence in support of that proposition? The evidence is that when Canada has done better than other countries in the fight against inflation, we have had a national disaster. Two years ago Canada had the lowest rate of inflation among industrialized nations, but what did we get for it? We got a rising dollar and the highest level of unemployment in the western world. That is what we got for our successful fight against inflation.

The important question to ask—as my leader pointed out this afternoon and as the hon. member for Don Valley must know—is, how well are you doing in relation to your chief trading partners? I take a serious view of inflation but I would take an even more serious view if our record in trying to control inflation was much worse than that of our chief trading partners, because then we would be in serious difficulty. If we operated under a fixed exchange rate, our position would be serious. However, that is not the case. We are operating under a floating exchange rate and we have been doing as well as, if not better than, our trading partners in this area.

In which way will our economy be helped if we try to control inflation beyond reasonable bounds and thereby impose intolerable burdens on the people as we fight this battle? That is the question I ask. I keep asking myself, what are you to do and how are you to do it? Let us talk about equity and business, and again I shall refer to something my leader said this afternoon. It is easy to control wages because they are open and above board and there is not much elbow-room for the worker. But what do you do about business profits? Who benefits from the freeze? Presumably you attempt to control everything. Are you going to control the businessman and his profits? How? There is no way to control a businessman's profit in that kind of situation.

An hon. Member: What about taxes?

Mr. Saltsman: You cannot even do it by imposing taxes. We tried to impose additional taxes during the war.

An hon. Member: There was the excess profits tax.

Mr. Saltsman: Yes, we had the excess profits tax. But many businessmen did not allow their profits to reach the high point at which they would be taxed. If you are a businessman you make a rational judgment. You see what is happening in your company, and if you find that the government will penalize you heavily if you make profits in excess of, say, 10 per cent you will make darn sure that you never hit the 10 per cent level. There are many ways of disseminating the benefits of profits. You can build nice new buildings with air-conditioned offices. People can have improved amenities; the company cars become bigger and the expense allowances more liberal. Holidays become more frequent. Before you know it, you have destroyed what is a valuable feature of the free enterprise system, perhaps its only valuable feature, the urge to become efficient in order to make profits.

The excess money is disseminated in this way because businessmen will want to make sure the government does not collect it in taxes. How will you force them not to do this? How do you force a doctor to work if he is not satisfied with what he is getting? How can you say to him, "All right, you can make $30,000 a year but no more." If the doctor knows he will not make more than $30,000 a year, he is not going to break his back in order to earn another $20,000 which the government will take. So do you think he is going to keep on working after he has made a certain amount? I hear somebody laughing in the gallery. There must be a doctor there. I wish human nature were otherwise. We in my party hope that some day human nature will be otherwise, but do not be a dreamer and do not tell tales which lack credibility and arouse false hopes in people.

In giving figures this afternoon the hon. member for York South (Mr. Lewis) showed what happens to profits. If they are not paid out in dividends, they go into retained earnings. There are all kinds of ways to get around this problem. For instance, how do you control the rate of return on money; in other words, interest rates? You cannot control them through the Bank of Canada because those rates are an international phenomenon. What would happen if you decided, for instance, to set interest rates in Canada at 3 per cent? What would the people with savings in Canada do? They would immediately take their money out of Canada to where they could get 8 or 9 per cent. In that case you would not be embarked on an incomes policy; you would be watching the border, introducing capital controls and monitoring society in a way that is intolerable. I should like to stop many of these things. Certainly there are many things wrong in our society. But every time I think of stopping them I ask what would be the price. That is the question hon. friends to my right are not asking.

There may be some who would benefit from the conception of a 90-day freeze. At the risk of being misunderstood, let me say there are some politicians who are so committed to power that they are willing to say anything that will benefit them. Some politicians are prepared to play on the legitimate fears of our society. They know people want stability. They know some people want wage and price controls, or think they want wage and price controls. I am not prepared to argue about that. What are you to say to the people? Should you not say, "I know how you feel and I know what you would like, but there are many, many problems associated with trying to do as you would like.

Let me explain this matter to you so that you may know what price you will have to pay if we do as you want."

I suggest that that is the attitude responsible politicians should take to the question of wage and price controls. If you adopt an irresponsible attitude when you know the price that must be paid, but keep quiet and simply feed on the fears of our people, you are not serving society. Even if an election were to be won on that basis, it would be a Phyrrhic victory for the people involved.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Saltsman: Recently the government of a country not far from our own embarked upon that kind of program in order to win an election, and the people of that country are now paying for it. I hope the people of this country will not have to pay the same kind of price.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I ought to bring to the attention of hon. members that there are just about 40 minutes left before the end of this debate. I notice that three hon. members seek the floor, the hon. member for Lisgar (Mr. Murta), the hon. member for Joliette (Mr. La Salle), and the hon. member for Rimouski (Mr. Allard). I hope that, perhaps not necessarily as a result of any formal agreement, there might be an understanding among hon. members on limiting the length of their speeches so that we may bring these three distinguished participants into the debate before ten o'clock.

Mr. Jack Murta (Lisgar): Mr. Speaker, I will endeavour to adhere to the guidelines you have laid down. I should like to speak mainly about farm prices. Food prices have been news in the House of Commons ever since we came back here some months ago. There has been criticism on all sides regarding the rising price of food. As a result of the clamour, a food prices committee was set up. Up to the present that committee has not done much other than recommend the setting up another board. I feel that the kind of proposal the Conservative party has put forward today is workable. This may be very different from what many members of this House think but I believe that, properly explained, this kind of proposal will be accepted by the Canadian people. It is certainly something that is needed. Voluntary controls or restraints up to the present time just have not worked.

● (2120)

Agricultural policy is implicated in the government's failure to deal with inflation. A good many members from all sides of the House spoke this afternoon and this evening. The Minister of Agriculture (Mr. Whelan) should be expected to do the same. Inconsistent and irresponsible statements by various members do not take the place of policy. Our policy is clear. It has been enunciated by a good many members. It is that a 90-day freeze on wages and prices would cover wholesale and retail food prices but would exempt food at the farm gate.

The freeze was never proposed as the stabilization program. It is simply to be the first step. Apart from the effect that such a dramatic step will have in suppressing inflationary expectations, its main purpose is to provide the necessary time to consult the provincial governments, business and labour to devise an equitable, efficient and effective stabilization plan and to develop the organization required to carry out such a plan. During the time the stabilization machinery is being set up, a prices and incomes standstill will prevent any groups taking advantage of increasing their income.

The nature of the freeze has been spelled out quite clearly. It will apply to all incomes, wages, salaries, rents, dividends, fringe benefits and all prices, including interest rates. Only food at the farm gate—I will deal with that in greater detail later—because of the difficulty of counter-productiveness of control would be exempt from such a freeze. Price or income increases scheduled to take effect during the freeze in that case would have to be postponed. The phase to follow the standstill cannot be clearly spelled out, as many members have asked. For one to do so before the stabilization program is put into effect would be to invite pre-emption. For another, since success of the plan will depend on the support of other levels of government and on business and labour, these groups will have to take part in developing the program. Whatever the exact form phase 2 might take, however, there are certain principles which the Conservative party feels should be adhered to.

For the stabilization program to succeed in controlling prices it must be comprehensive. At the same time, this goal should be achieved without creating a massive bureaucracy. It will, therefore, rely heavily on voluntary compliance and co-operation. Such co-operation will not be forthcoming unless the guidelines are reasonable, consistent and equitable. This means that because of changes of weather or the market some prices are particularly vulnerable and this fact should be taken into account. The guidelines must not place any group of the economy at a disadvantage in relation to others, and some flexibility in the income guidelines should be entertained so that low-paid workers will not suffer unduly.

In summary, Mr. Speaker, the following increases in the past 12 months are not acceptable; they cause a real, not a psychological hardship. Vegetables have increased by 22 per cent, poultry by 21 per cent, eggs by 43 per cent and milk over 10 per cent. It must be realized that these increases are not the fault of the primary producers and will not provide a sustained base for establishing a decent income for the average producer. In the past ten years retail food prices have increased by 33 per cent, while farm prices have increased by less than 16 per cent. The producer only receives approximately 40 per cent of every dollar spent by the consumer on farm products.

Comments made by the Minister of Agriculture on this matter are divisive. They are not in the true interest of the producers of this country whom he says he is trying hard to help. First, in the comments he has made he has invited consumers to blame the farmers for high food costs. Second, he suggests that the farmer wants to put his burden onto the backs of the poor. This is not true. Third, in his speeches in this House and in what he has said outside the House he has implied that accelerating retail prices will provide the answer for the producer while the bulk of that increase will go to everyone else.

Our policy is in the best interests of the farmer at the present time. First, it is a national policy. It is a policy that can and will be supported by the whole community, including the housewife. Second, it addresses itself to the

inflation the farmer is experiencing. Third, it is consistent with a new and comprehensive agricultural strategy that will assure improvements, and sustained improvements, in income for producers. In their briefs to the special committee on food prices the Alberta government and others urged this government to establish a food chain intelligence system. Their responsibility would be to maintain a continuing vigilance on the factors that contribute to food costs in all sectors of the food chain. That certainly is not being done at the present time.

In the first three months of this year farm input costs increased by 6.1 per cent, an increase of 10.2 per cent in the past year. How can a government suggest that rising food prices will mean income gains for the farmer, with costs rising at such a rate? How can the government suggest a food prices review board will be able to do anything while farm operating costs are increasing at such an accelerating rate? We propose that these input costs should be frozen for 90 days and a policy introduced to provide permanent relief against such cost pressure.

One very important feature of our proposed stabilization plan is that farm prices will eventually have a ceiling. This must happen if all other segments of agriculture are in the same position and are also frozen. As an example, the input of meat packers would be limited. After the live beef cattle move from the farmer to the packer, the price would be frozen at that point. The ceiling that would be imposed on farm commodities for the proposed three-month period would only be imposed under what this party considers to be emergency conditions such as we are experiencing at the present time. At the present time farm prices are at an all-time high. It should be stressed that there would be absolutely no move to impose temporary controls such as we are talking about tonight if prices of commodities were not at their present high. If prices were not high there would not be the need to take the kind of measures we are talking about this evening.

● (2130)

Food prices are not rising primarily because of accelerating demand and will not be abated by telling people to eat less nutritious food. In this affluent age it is not a luxury, it is not a privilege; it is a right to expect to be able to eat decently, to drink milk, to eat eggs and meat. The greatest single cause of escalating food prices is supply and industrial policies which have failed to assure food production at levels consistent with steadily increasing and predicted demand.

The main source of this failure is the government. In the area of marketing practices the government has displayed an incredible amount of shortsightedness. Instead of marketing boards promoting shortages, as has been the recent vogue, the government should be actively promoting an expansion of production. To ensure that farm incomes remain reasonable, marketing both at home and abroad should be more aggressive. This has been stated many times by hon. members on this side of the House. This is of particular importance in light of the recent emphasis placed by the United States on the expansion of agricultural production.

Canada will find it increasingly difficult to compete with United States' commodities unless our marketing system becomes much more active and much more responsive rather than allowing farmers and consumers to be at odds with each other, as epitomized in the statement by the Minister of Agriculture. Governments should take direct action to head off the major source of the farmers' problems by heading off rising costs. Perhaps the greatest failure has been the government's total ineptness to allay the inflation psychology in this country which is running rampant at the present time. Wage earners, expecting another year of high inflation, have during the first quarter of this year settled for a 7.5 per cent increase in wage rates.

The approach we have taken to the marketing of agricultural products in Canada is anything but market-oriented. Our static view of the market is out of step with a fast and dynamically changing world. Great rewards appear likely to farmers and to the agricultural industry as a whole if Canadians change their perspective in this regard. We on this side of the House have long advocated various methods of expanding the food supply by offering incentives to producers and ensuring, to the best of our ability, that their products will be sold not only inside Canada but in our expanding export market.

Looking at our total trade picture, I see there has been a steady narrowing of the trade balance in agricultural products over the past seven years. Canada exported about $1.4 billion worth in 1968 and imported about $1.1 billion worth. If one excludes wheat, Canada is a net importer of farm products. This situation has changed over the last year, but not as a result of a more aggressive approach to marketing. It is basically because we are running into a situation of short supply throughout the world. No one is talking at the present time about an abundance of farm products; there is a scarcity, as the Minister of Finance (Mr. Turner), continually reminds us. Has the government been working in the last three years to expand agriculture and make it more self-sufficient? No. The government has been working like mad to increase impediments to production.

The Minister of Agriculture delivered a speech on March 4 which, if it was read by many agriculture producers, would have quite a startling effect. He was talking about an area of Saskatchewan and said that pork and beef producers in that area appeared to be gun-shy of marketing boards. He went on to say:

> Frankly, I think producers would be much further ahead to take an objective look at what the system could offer to their industry, and see how marketing boards and agencies could be put to work for them, and not against them.

There has been a lot of controversy about marketing boards. The beef industry has rejected them. However, the Minister of Agriculture appears bent on moving toward a system under which all agricultural products would be covered by such boards. It was also mentioned this afternoon that the Minister of Agriculture, who has been talking so much and who has been the champion of the farmers to such a great extent—

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Murta: —has been in agreement with some of the following measures which have been enacted over the past few years, measures which have restricted the marketing

ability of the industry. One of these was, of course, the Lift program. Another was the amendment to the Farm Products Marketing Act. At the present time this whole question is before the provincial courts. Last year the government spent $2.25 million to reduce egg production, and of course the situation at present is that supply is short. Is this an efficient way to improve the income of egg producers?

Mr. Basford: Yes. They are getting the highest prices in history.

Mr. Murta: To sum up, Mr. Speaker, I think it must be stated again that farm prices would eventually be frozen at the present level. Prices at the farm gate, which would cover live cattle, hogs and so on, and possibly fresh vegetables—any product which had not reached the processor or was still in the hands of the producer—would not be affected. This would allow for any movement of products in North America, that is, the intercontinental movement of products, and in this way agricultural trade would not be impeded. This would last for a three-month period and would only apply if farm prices were at their present levels. As I mentioned earlier, there would be no need to use this formula if agricultural prices were low.

I have two more points. The agriculture committee will be fully involved in all stages throughout the duration of the total plan. Prices of all agricultural input such as seed, fertilizer and agricultural machinery would also be frozen. The selling price of products may be frozen, but on the other hand rising costs will also be curtailed. If our program is to work, all segments of society must be involved. Accordingly, I believe agriculture must play its part and must work along with society. In the present circumstances, having regard to the inflationary spiral which persists today I believe this program would be acceptable.

● (2140)

[*Translation*]

Mr. Eudore Allard (Rimouski): Mr. Speaker, since three thirty this afternoon we have heard hon. members of the opposition and the government speak about inflation. The Canadian people are aware of its existence; it is nothing new, neither to us nor to the Canadian people. But not one of those members was able to suggest a solution to the present problem or tell us how to remedy the situation otherwise than by freezing prices. We Creditistes believe that there is a better way.

The committee on food price trends presented its first report on April 2. It suggested no solution to the problem of increasing food prices. It was unable to do so because it did not tackle the fundamental cause of high food prices. Alerted by the general demands and protests of consumers who have a hard time making ends meet, the government has chosen to create a special committee of the House to fight against increasing prices. And as was to be expected, the committee has brought forth a first interim report advocating, as a solution, the creation of a "super committee" to inquire into price increases. We are not told how this committee will be created, who its members or what its powers will be, but anyway they wanted to give the Canadian people the impression that they had considered the problem of rising consumer prices.

So what happens now? To remain in business, any producer must sell his products at a price at least equal or superior to the total amount he must spend to market them: raw materials, manpower, transport, maintenance and depreciation. All costs and expenditures of the producer must be included in the price of the finished product.

In the course of production, the community has received in the form of payments for raw materials, wages, transport, telephone and heating costs a total amount equal to total costs. Theoretically, consumers can buy the whole production, because the sums expended in the course of production and which are now in the hands of consumers are equal to the total costs and therefore to the total prices. Indeed, this is why the opponent of Social Credit can say that production permits the purchase of consumption, for the moneys paid out during production are equal to the overheads, and are thus equal to the total prices.

Let us take the producer and state the problem as if the producer sold directly to the consumer, without going through any middlemen. The latter do not change the elements of the problem; at worse, they just complicate it a bit. In order to remain in business, the producer must sell his product at a price equal to at least the total production costs. The cost of the raw materials, the cost of financing, the depreciation of plants and tools, the cost of transportation and communications, the cost of insurance and manpower, all the costs involved go to make up the final price of the product.

Taken overall, the community has received during production, in the form of payment for goods, services or salaries, a total amount which is equal to the overall cost of production. This is what we mean when we say that production permits the purchase of consumption, because the moneys paid out during production are equal to the overheads, and thus equal to the sum of the prices.

What about the producer's profit? Let us suppose that the producer wished to receive, not just a sum equalling his production expenses, or overheads, but, by means of the prices he asks, a sum greater than the actual production costs, so as to make a legitimate profit. The total of the prices will then be greater than the total costs or the total production expenses. This means that the purchasers will not have enough money in hand to buy the total production, at the set prices.

The reason for this is that the producer, who is in business to make a profit, does not pay out this profit during production, but obtains it from the consumer, by means of the prices that he sets on his products.

In other words, the retail price of a product is always higher than its actual cost. As only an amount equal to the actual cost is distributed during production, there results a gap in the community's purchasing power equal to the difference between the retail price and the actual cost.

As the community needs the production offered and its purchasing power falls short of the overall cost price, it borrows money, it runs into debts. This is the true reason for the entire community running into debt with finance companies, loan companies and banks.

Thus, the economy manages to work somehow or other, rather badly than well. With the years, debts go on

increasing and reimbursements become harder to make. The costs of those debts are in turn added to the new price aggregates which go on increasing and inflating to such an extent that authorities become upset and finally yield to the hues and cries of disapprobation and appoint an enquiry commission.

Is profit to be eliminated? We cannot control prices. Price is made up of costs. There is no use cooking up figures to lower a price from $10 to $9 if the final cost of a finished product is $10.

Some people suggest to restrain profits, even to eliminate them. It is the drastic solution of Marxists and mini-Marxists; let us abolish profits! But if a manufacturing industry does not allow its owner to make a living or does not allow its directors to issue reasonable dividends to stockholders who finance the industry, it is going to end production and direct its operations toward more profitable areas.

Profits kept within reasonable bounds are an incentive, and encouragement to produce. The effect of good competition is to keep profits within reasonable bounds.

Faced with prices which steadily increase, consumers need more purchasing power. Presently, they are trying to get it by higher wages or higher social benefits. Those higher wages and welfare payments are in turn reflected by prices which will increase proportionately. Therefore that is not the solution we seek, even if specific conditions have to be improved.

What we need is a purchasing power supplement that will go to the consumer without going into prices, namely a new purchasing power directly distributed to the consumer after having been directly created by the state's financial organization.

The other solution proposed by the Social Credit consists in having consumers pay only the actual cost of the product.

If the actual cost of a suit is $80 and it retails for $100, the consumer will pay only $80 for the suit which retails for $100, while the difference between the retail price and the actual cost, namely, $20, will be paid as compensation to the retailer by the central bank whose duty is to establish and maintain a balance between total expenditures related to production and the total cost or the purchasing power distributed in the course of that production.

The only compulsion element to be taken into account in that solution is the profit factor.

But nothing would be simpler than setting a rate of profit for any given type of products, or for any given class of producers.

So that would be a just and worthy solution to the problem, not only food prices but all consumer prices as well.

● (2150)

Mr. Roch La Salle (Joliette): Mr. Speaker, in the few minutes that I am allowed, I wish to thank the member for Rimouski (Mr. Allard) who, I believe, cut short his speech in order to give me a chance to say a few words.

I should like to take part in this debate on the official opposition motion, which deserves the attention of the House. Judging by the speeches I have heard, we are clearly still trying to find out who is responsible for the inflation.

We have heard hon. members making certain criticisms, some fair some not so fair, some rather harsh. I think that when the Minister of Finance (Mr. Turner) ran through all the legislation introduced by the government in the last four or five years, he was quite right in saying that the government had made great attempts to combat inflation, and I think also that we are quite right in saying that, in spite of all its efforts, it was completely inadequate, not to say a total failure to achieve their aim of stopping inflation, which is costing every individual a tremendous amount today.

The Progressive Conservative Party's motion certainly deserves our very close attention. I was very glad to hear the hon. member for Bruce (Mr. Whicher) say: We should not freeze prices for nine months, but for two years. It seems to me that the Progressive Conservative Party has put forward a limited proposal which, as I have said, nevertheless deserves consideration. However, one member claims that for a measure to take effect, it has to be implemented for at least two years.

As for the New Democrats, they naturally disagreed with the Progressive Conservatives. Just now they blamed the government for not having succeeded in fighting inflation, but I did not hear them suggest any real solutions.

The Social Credit Party also gave their opinion. Personally, I do not necessarily believe in the solution recommended by this party. I shall therefore not go too lengthily into the opinions expressed.

With limited time, it is of course difficult to make an in-depth study of the problem. However, I should like to express in this House the concern of Canadians about this problem and the feelings of all hon. members by saying that it would be urgent to refrain from criticism or partisanship regarding such an important issue. Canadians badly need a solution.

Who is in a better position than hon. members to find one? I feel the government has a major responsibility to assume, being in charge of governing the country. Of course, opposition parties, any of them, and hon. members should co-operate and submit the best ideas, the best opinions, the best suggestions to the government. But of course the government would have to be willing to accept suggestions voiced by different members or different parties.

It would be to the government's advantage.

I know it has been meeting businessmen; it should multiply those meetings with businessmen and make them understand that they are heading for disaster if they keep on anticipating such enormous profits.

I also think that the unions should be made aware of the danger involved in certain collective agreements and requirements which necessarily entail salary increases and so on.

We are perfectly aware of the fact that we cannot leave it to agriculture or a few small industries to solve the problem called inflation. We are quite aware that surely a small group is not responsible for it. Businessmen, indus-

trialists and the government are also to blame. The latter should apply the necessary controls. As mentioned earlier, we are always afraid of imposing controls and I think that because of the importance of this problem, the government, as the administrator of this country, should nevertheless discharge its responsibilities and will have to adopt unpopular solutions if we really want to serve the interests of society without partisanship.

It often happens that as members of Parliament, we know that a measure is unpopular but it is our duty as responsible people to adopt this measure. Even though a price freeze may be unpopular for certain groups, I must admit that some members are in favour of it and have the courage of proposing it.

Of course, one might reject this suggestion as inadequate, while acknowledging the major efforts made by the government. Once again we know that huge amounts of money have been invested to improve the unemployment situation, etc., but we also know that in spite of those millions spent over the last five years, unemployment is now three times as high as in 1968.

Is the government the only one to blame? Of course not. Due to circumstances, some problems arise; the economy is unsound but we would often be tempted to justify ourselves by saying that it is worse in the United States, that other European countries are in a worse position, that others have more problems than we do. We would be easily satisfied if we entertained such thoughts.

The government must assume its responsibilities. The whole country hopes that our Parliament, political parties, members of Parliament will succeed in finding again an objectivity which is not often seen in this House. In the face of such an important problem, difficulties and dangers involved, when we speak about inflation and economic uncertainty, which many people are understandably concerned about, I suggest that as members of Parliament, we must go beyond partisanship and try to convince the government and urge it to approve specific measures likely not only to reassure the Canadian electorates, but to introduce changes which might seem to be concessions on the part of the government to the extent that they would be likely to reassure people and strenghten our economy. I believe that we must act in this direction.

Therefore, any proposal, at present, must be seriously considered, because we must admit that the government, in spite of its efforts, has not succeeded in finding the right solution.

For my part, Mr. Speaker, I shall not boast that I have the right solution, but I suggest that important meetings with businessmen, industrialists and union members as well as a price freeze would not be enough, considering the very high level of prices. But I feel that a 90-day period of reflection could be extended, should it prove too short, as we know full well that a long period of price freeze should be accompanied by a wage freeze. I therefore believe that we should weigh carefully the suggestions that have been made. Above all, we tried to be objective, that our Canadian parliament might find a solution to this serious problem.

[Mr. La Salle.]

[*English*]

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, please. It being ten o'clock p.m., it is my duty to inform the House that pursuant to section 11 of Standing Order 58 the proceedings on the motion have expired.

PROCEEDINGS ON ADJOURNMENT MOTION

A motion to adjourn the House under Standing Order 40 deemed to have been moved.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE—COMMISSION POLICY RESPECTING UNEMPLOYED AGRICULTURAL WORKERS SEEKING BENEFITS

Mr. William Knowles (Norfolk-Haldimand): Mr. Speaker, on February 26 I raised a question with the Minister of Manpower and Immigration (Mr. Andras) concerning the activities of the Unemployment Insurance Commission, more particularly the benefit control officers in the area I represent. While three months have passed since then, the whole question of unemployment and the way it is being administered is still quite relevant. As a matter of fact, we received just last month the interim report of the advisory committee on unemployment insurance, and I shall refer to that in my remarks tonight.

The matter about which I am most concerned is the treatment of seasonal agricultural workers in my riding. The county of Norfolk is a cash crop area, perhaps one of the most concentrated cash crop areas in Canada. We are heavy employers of seasonal labour to harvest our crops. A great many of these people are of origins other than Anglo-Saxon, many having come to our country from Belgium, Hungary, Germany, Poland and many other mid-European countries. The people of the first generation of these immigrants are still active in the agricultural industry in this area and many are unable to speak English except in a very rudimentary way. Some can scarcely understand it when it is spoken to them, and they cannot read it let alone write it.

It is against this background that I wish to discuss with the government and the minister, or his representative, the problem that has arisen as a result of this situation. Seasonal agricultural workers have been forced into the unemployment insurance program. Some have been disentitled and disqualified almost on a wholesale basis, chiefly because they are seasonal workers. This is their type of work. They did not want to come under unemployment insurance in the first place, and previously they were excluded. The present situation is that if they work 25 days or less, they do not have to come under the plan, or if they earn $250 or less they are not included; beyond that they are included and have no choice.

● (2200)

I do not want to be critical all the way through, but I would suggest to the government that these people now be

given the privilege they once had of opting out of the program. This would apply only to seasonal agricultural workers. They would have the choice either of coming under the plan or not. They did not want to come under it. They object to having deductions made from wages during the harvest season, which they consider to be found money. Many of them do not need the work too badly in the first place. The employers, largely farmers, detest the bookkeeping involved and if my request were adopted it would remove one of the great headaches that now plague the officers of the Unemployment Insurance Commission. I think this is a reasonable suggestion to make and I hope the parliamentary secretary—I am happy he is here and is paying attention—will take it to the minister, because I believe this could be done through regulation and without a major amendment to the act.

I now wish to refer to the other portion of the problem in my area, which relates to language among the ethnic groups. I refer to pages 8 and 9 of the interim report of the advisory committee on unemployment insurance. On those pages we have the findings of the benefit control officers. By and large they are given a clean bill of health. It is said that they are not harassing individuals interviewed and they try to be as helpful as possible. However, many of these people do not understand English. They do not understand the import of what is being asked. They do not understand the report or statement when it is read back to them.

I would suggest to the parliamentary secretary, and through him to the minister, that a claimant when being interviewed have the privilege of an agent to represent him, either to translate for him or to interpret the meaning of what is being asked and the statement he is making. Benefit control officers by and large try to be straightforward. I do not think they intimidate the people. However, their interrogation procedures are a little questionable. Sometimes the people are asked whether they have a babysitter in a home where the wife is a worker. The wife says that she has not. Obviously, she has not when she is not working. The report goes into the insurance officer stating that there is no child care arrangement, and she is therefore disqualified on the ground that she is not available for work.

A similar situation occurs when they ask whether or not a person has a car for transportation. The person concerned may not have a car now, but if work is available can obtain transportation. However, the person is not asked that type of question. The insurance officer who makes the decision is not the person who carries on the interview. All he sees is a sentence in the statement saying, "No child care arrangement". I do not think this is quite fair or above board. I think this problem could be cleared up if there were an agent with the claimant to advise and to translate for him.

Then on top of that, these people have the fear of many immigrants from iron curtain countries when a government agent comes into their home. They are petrified. They will say anything. They will answer anything and will sign anything in order to get the man out of the house. Then after talking to their neighbours they have a very grave doubts about what was said and done, but it is too late. Along comes the yellow slip from the Unemployment Insurance Commission stating that they are disqualified.

I wish to make one final point. In our area there are a great many people who are financially independent. They have no need of unemployment insurance or seasonal employment. They see their neighbours drawing unemployment insurance benefits because they are unemployed. This is not right. The public sees this and it creates a bad image for the Unemployment Insurance Commission and what it stands for. In order to weed out these people I think there would almost have to be a means test. I do not know whether that is practical; I will leave that to the parliamentary secretary, the minister and his officials to decide. It seems to me it could be done by regulation and that it would be very easy for a benefit control officer to decide whether a person was entitled to benefit. There is more I could say but I have used up my time. I appreciate having had the opportunity to state my case, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, the Unemployment Insurance Commission does not have any program designed to deliberately and specifically disentitle any claimants. However, the commission does make investigations where there are indications that job vacancies do exist in the same or allied areas.

The situation with regard to the hon. member's constituency is that a number of seasonal agricultural workers have been interviewed since January 2 of this year. These persons were mainly employed in the tobacco industry where work is of a seasonal and unskilled nature. Labour force information indicated that job vacancies were available in the area and resulted in the commission's investigations. In other words, from our viewpoint we are not doing anything different with respect to unemployment insurance in the hon. member's constituency than we are in any other. If I understood his submissions, they were in effect that we should do some things differently in his constituency.

With respect to the language problem that the hon. member posed, I am fully in agreement with him. In all parts of the country, where it knows in advance that there are sizeable numbers of people who speak languages other than English or French the commission makes a serious attempt to have there officials who speak those languages, to enable the interviews to be conducted properly. I think this matter should be investigated with respect to the constituency of Norfolk-Haldimand to see if such language fluency is available to UIC officials there.

The other point the hon. member raises, to change the legislation so that these agricultural workers would not be included within the purview of the act, is a more difficult one. I will bring it to the attention of the minister, but I am sure the hon. member realizes that the intention of parliament was to include all people who were employed, and to make any exception might lead to difficulties because it could lead to claims for exemption by other groups. However, this matter will also be reported to the minister and to the commission.

Adjournment Debate

POST OFFICE—STEPS TO INCREASE COMPENSATION OF RURAL MAIL DELIVERY CONTRACTORS

Mr. Mark Rose (Fraser Valley West): Mr. Speaker, over the years in my responsibility as Member of Parliament for Fraser Valley West various problems associated with rural route mail contractors have come to my attention. In certain instances practices relating to tendering and to contract terms have caused frustration, and in other instances real hardship. To be more explicit, Mr. Speaker, because of the nature of tendering, in order to secure a contract often unrealistically low bids are submitted to and accepted by the Post Office Department. Only after the successful bidder has experienced the realities of daily hours demanded, costs required, and the inflation factor, to perform the mail deliveries in a satisfactory manner does he become fully aware of whether or not his bid accurately reflected a fair return for his financial investment and effort.

Should the contractor discover that he has underbid, the contract he has signed makes impossible any upward revision for two years following the signing date, save under exceptional circumstances as laid out in the contract. In a riding of extreme growth, such as Fraser Valley West, the limitations of the contract can so restrict the contractor that long before the termination date his number of stops might have doubled compared with those at the date of signature, with little or no corresponding increase paid for the extra work. In contrast, all construction contracts with the government contain escape clauses to deal with unforeseen circumstances.

The implication involved in the points I am attempting to make is that in some cases at least the local, rural mail contractor is subsidizing the Canadian Post Office Department. Certainly my information leads me to believe that rural contractors, and perhaps subpost office managers, are the only group in the postal delivery system that have no collective organization to bargain on their behalf with the government. The lack of such an organization has perhaps contributed to the fact that rural contractors generally have fallen behind the letter carriers and postal workers in coping with the rising cost of living.

● (2210)

Because I felt this to be of vital interest to many people in my riding, I went into it in some detail. About a month or six weeks ago the minister suggested that all members representing rural or semi-rural ridings should write to him and suggest methods to make the situation of the rural mail contractors more equitable. There are some 23 rural contractors both centrally and peripherally in my riding. I met with them, and I have a number of recommendations that I would like to deal with now. Because they are not organized, contractors suffer from the tender system and from inflation. They do not enjoy the fringe benefits afforded the organized section of the postal system such as UIC, transportation to points of delivery or uniforms.

One recommendation is that they be paid an hourly rate which might be equivalent to that of postal clerks, which at the moment is roughly $4 an hour. That should be part of any future formula considered by the Postmaster General (Mr. Ouellet) and his officials. Another recommendation relates to car allowance. These allowances are decided locally and vary from 12 cents to 20 cents a mile. I recommend a more generous car allowance, perhaps 25 cents per mile plus the additional 30 per cent insurance cost which must be met because the vehicle is used for business. It might be noted here that these people must be bondable; it is a responsible job and an important one.

There should be a fixed formula for the growth factor within a route. It is also seriously suggested that when a route has reached a certain size, it should be split. Perhaps the size should bring in about $10,000, or an average living wage. We should stop thinking of this as a part-time job, because in many cases it is not. It amounts to a full-time job because people have a substantial investment in the vehicles necessary to do the work. They also have duties additional to those of letter carriers because they have to sell stamps and money orders and take out parcels.

The matter of Saturday delivery was also mentioned. However, I am not certain that their customers would accept the deletion of Saturday delivery. Nevertheless, they are not recompensed for the extra time compared to other postal clerks or mail carriers. I think we should have an established tender floor in which no one could underbid. Because of the nature of the tender, too many people underbid and then find that they cannot fulfil the contract on those terms. If morale is low, even on the "mail must go through" theory they feel they are being exploited.

On May 7 I asked the Postmaster General a couple of questions about this matter. I know he has been considering the question very seriously and I am certain that the rural contractors, in my riding at least, look forward to his response.

[*Translation*]

Hon. André Ouellet (Postmaster General): Mr. Speaker, I am extremely sympathetic to the problems currently encountered with respect to some rural mail. And I am in perfect agreement with what the hon. member said and the suggestions he made seem to me to be very appropriate.

However, I would like to remind him that those businessmen are bound by contract with the department and that contract was indeed awarded following the calling of public tenders. So they themselves originally set the amount of the contract. However, it is true that during the period of the contract the contractor can file an application to have his rates adjusted.

Unfortunately, we found that too often the contractor who has to file that application himself does not do so or does so too late and several contractors do not benefit as they could from an increase in their rates. So there is clearly room for improvement and I am prepared to ensure that we will soon come up with a new formula for adjusting rates which will be much more understanding and much more realistic.

Secondly, we will be prepared very soon to base the rates on amounts in line with those paid to members of the Postmasters Association.

Thirdly, it is also our intention to assess all routes as soon as possible in accordance with the new formula I referred to, and we will then make the necessary adjustments so that contractors receive the rates they deserve.

Finally, we think that the ceiling of $10,000 is no longer realistic and we are prepared to recommend an amendment to the act so the amount will be increased to $25,000.

[*English*]

CANADA DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION—REQUEST FOR TABLING OF DETAILS OF APPRAISAL OF POLYMER FOR SALE TO CORPORATION

Mr. Don Blenkarn (Peel South): Mr. Speaker, on March 21 last, as recorded at page 2455 of *Hansard* I asked the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) to file with this House details indicating that Polymer Corporation was sold to Canada Development Corporation at fair market value. The Prime Minister said he would look into the matter and reply in detail, and that he was informed that an independent assessment had been made which was the basis for the price. I assumed the Prime Minister would have filed that material with this House and I did not expect that I would need to appear on the adjournment debate at this time. I expected the Prime Minister to have some respect for this House and its members, to have the material here, or at least to come personally and explain to the House the matter raised by my question. I am disappointed that he is not here.

Finally, after considerable pressure being exerted, Polymer Corporation, through the Minister of Supply and Services (Mr. Goyer), filed its annual report for the period ending December 31, 1972. To give some indication of the profitability of this company and its hopes for the future, let me read an excerpt into the record from that report. In their report the directors of Polymer Corporation said, among other things:

> Polysar has set strategic plans for growth and backed these with operational plans. They are designed to achieve world-wide sales in excess of $500 million, with accompanying gains in profits, in five years' time. The keys to both corporate and personal achievement—the environment, the organization and the systems—have been strengthened. We look forward now with confidence to fulfilling our expectations in the fourth decade in the Polysar story.

This was the corporation that, at a supposedly fair market value, was sold at half the book value. It was illegally sold by this government, Mr. Speaker, because I submit the Canada Development Corporation Act requires that if Polymer was to be transferred, it had to be transferred at fair market value. I repeat, this corporation was transferred at half the book value.

When I asked the question of the Prime Minister I had been led to believe that the deficiency in price below the book value was $42 million. However, after examining the statement of Polymer Corporation for the year ending December 31, 1972, I find that the book value of that corporation was $124,109,000. For $62 million it was transferred. I defy the Prime Minister, the President of the Treasury Board (Mr. Drury), the Minister of Supply and Services and, indeed, any member of the government to show the House one major corporation in the past 50 years of the history of this country that has been sold at half its book value.

● (2220)

Mr. Bell: How about the *Bonaventure*? That went for nothing.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order.

Mr. Blenkarn: They do a lot of things. The Wood Gundy report is suppose to be around. That report supposedly indicates that Polymer was a sad shock and was not worth very much—only half its book value of $62 million, or maybe $72 million if the company was lucky enough to show a bit of profit over a four-year period.

The people of this country have been hoodwinked; they have been defrauded. This transaction is illegal. The Prime Minister does not even have the courage to come here and answer. This is what is called a rip-off. The leader of the New Democratic Party made great gains in the last election by talking about corporate rip-offs. I can understand why he can get into bed with the Prime Minister, because they are both pretty good rip-off artists.

We in this House have been given glowing reports of Polymer Corporation since it was incorporated in the late forties. We have been told of the tremendous investment in growth, patents, development and expertise. If this transaction was at fair market value, Parliament has been misled for many years. The statement given to the minister on December 31 setting out a glowing report of Polymer must be a phony. Presumably the buried report done by Messrs. Wood Gundy was correct and Polymer is a poor goose. I suggest that this House is being goosed and their goose is not being properly prepared. There is something goosey about the whole thing. It is time this House demanded a full accounting of this sorry mess so that we will know what happened to the assets of the people of Canada.

[*Translation*]

Mr. J.-Roland Comtois (Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Finance): Mr. Speaker, one of the objectives of the Canada Development Corporation, as defined in the act, is to help develop and maintain companies which would be managed and controlled by Canadians in the private sector of our economy. Furthermore, the act requires that the CDC achieve its objectives to realize a profit and in the best interests of all shareholders. Given this undertaking to operate in the private sector to realize a profit and since the CDC must also offer Canadians the opportunity of investing in the Corporation and thus participating in this development, the CDC must operate so that all its operations constitute an attractive investment for all Canadians. It is therefore with this in mind that last year the CDC purchased Polymer Corporation from the government.

While there has been much talk about Polymer's profits, several of its operations were found to have made very little profit and some have led to deficits which have affected the efficiency of this company, to the point that they would be made less spectacular for the period preceding the sale to the CDC.

However, Polymer was to be sold to the CDC at a fair and reasonable price, under Section 39(1) of the Canadian Development Corporation Act which reads as follows:

The Governor in Council may sell or cause to be sold to the company, at such fair and reasonable price as may be agreed upon by the Governor in Council and the company, the whole or any part of the capital stock of any or all of the following:

(a) Polymer Corporation Limited;

(b) Eldorado Nuclear Limited;

(c) Panarctic Oils Ltd.; and

(d) Northern Transportation Company Limited

but subject, in the case of the capital stock of Panarctic Oils Ltd., to any agreements relating to the sale of capital stock held by the Crown.

A fair and reasonable price being stipulated, the government requested that an independent appraisal be made of Polymer. This was done by Wood Gundy which made its appraisal on the basis of strictly financial and economical factors. The Wood Gundy report did suggest an order as to size for the value of Polymer which was not different from other internal appraisals made by the Department of Finance and of Supplies and Services. On the basis of these reports, the government negotiated with the CDC management and a fair and reasonable price was arrived at.

The Wood Gundy study once completed was to provide a lot of confidential information. As a result, making this information known to the public would be detrimental to Polymer which could incur considerable damage due to the fact that its competitors would have such information.

I hope, Mr. Speaker, that this House will appreciate that the confidential nature of these appraisals reflects among other things the sincerity of the government and their wish to arrive at a fair and reasonable price.

Motion agreed to and the House adjourned at 10.29 p.m.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Friday, May 11, 1973

The House met at 11 a.m.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

FISHERIES

AGREEMENT WITH UNITED STATES ON RECIPROCAL PRIVILEGES—REQUEST FOR UNANIMOUS CONSENT TO MOVE MOTION

Mr. Thomas S. Barnett (Comox-Alberni): Mr. Speaker, pursuant to the provisions of Standing Order 43 I seek the unanimous consent of the House to move a motion of urgent and pressing necessity which arises from termination of the Pacific salmon talks between Canada and the United States of America relating to a new agreement on reciprocal fishing privileges to replace the one that expires very shortly, and from the desirability of parliament declaring a Canadian position on this matter without delay. Therefore I move, seconded by the hon. member for Skeena (Mr. Howard):

That this House affirms the desirability of future co-operation between Canada and the United States in all matters relating to fisheries conservation and harvesting, which in its view must be based on recognition by both countries of each other's prior right to all fish stocks of its currently declared fishing zones and territorial seas, and of salmon originating in its rivers.

And that this House further affirms that, because of the intermingling of stocks in the fishing waters of the two countries, it is desirable that there be a continuing agreement between the two countries which will provide for an equitable division of the intercepted catch between nationals of the two countries.

Mr. Speaker: Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

Mr. Speaker: There is not unanimity. The motion cannot be put.

* * *

RAILWAY ACT

AMENDMENT TO INCREASE HEIGHT AND STANDARD OF RIGHT OF WAY FENCING IN RESIDENTIAL AREAS

Mr. Stan Schumacher (Palliser) moved for leave to introduce Bill C-180, to amend the Railway Act.

Some hon. Members: Explain.

Mr. Schumacher: Mr. Speaker, at the present time the only requirement for fencing of railway right of way is a four and a half foot fence. While this may have been satisfactory for the nineteenth century conditions under which that section of the act was passed, it is not satisfactory now, particularly for the protection of the life and limb of children who reside near railway rights of way in built-up areas. The purpose of this bill is to provide a higher standard of fencing in such areas.

Motion agreed to, bill read the first time and ordered to be printed.

* * *

CANADA PENSION PLAN

PROVISION OF COUNSEL TO PERSONS SEEKING DISABILITY PENSIONS

On the order: Introduction of Bills:

February 20, 1973—Mr. Coates—Bill intituled: "An Act to amend the Canada Pension Plan".

Mr. Robert C. Coates (Cumberland-Colchester North): Mr. Speaker, I rise on a question of privilege in relation to this bill which for some time now has been allowed to stand. I feel that possibly it should not be stood any longer.

There have been discussions relating to this bill. The objective of the bill was to try to ensure that those people who were applying for a disability pension under the Canada Pension Plan and had gone through the procedures and were without counsel when they reached a certain position would have counsel afforded them. As a result of some difficulties regarding the possibility that this involved the expenditure of money and would upset the balance of ways and means, concern was expressed on the part of the Chair whether or not this was a proper private member's bill.

In the meantime, Mr. Speaker, I have had correspondence with the Minister of National Health and Welfare (Mr. Lalonde), and in that correspondence he has given me certain assurances he will make a technical amendment to the Canada Pension Plan legislation that, in effect, will do what I was trying to accomplish with this private member's bill. As a result of that assurance and as a result of the awareness of the minister of the concerns and problems of people in this position, I would like to withdraw the bill and thank the minister for his kindness in taking this step.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Speaker: Is it agreed?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Order discharged and bill withdrawn.

Oral Questions

ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

FINANCE

PRIME INTEREST RATE INCREASE BY BANK OF MONTREAL—PRIOR CONSULTATION BETWEEN BANKS AND MINISTER—POSSIBLE RETURN OF TIGHT MONEY POLICY

Hon. Robert L. Stanfield (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the Minister of Finance a question relating to the announcement by the Bank of Montreal this morning that its prime rate is being increased from 6½ per cent to 6¾ per cent, following an increase from 6 per cent to 6½ per cent on April 9. In view of the position the minister took yesterday with regard to the government's policy toward tight money, does this announcement follow any consultation between the banks and the Minister of Finance?

● (1110)

Hon. John N. Turner (Minister of Finance): Mr. Speaker, the president of the Bank of Montreal was trying to reach me this morning but I was tied up at a cabinet committee meeting. I notice that, although the prime rate has been raised from 6½ per cent to 6¾ per cent, the bank in its release said that the rate on loans of $100,000 or less to small businesses will continue to be based upon 6½ per cent. Rates on consumer loans are unchanged. What the bank is in effect adopting is a dual rate system to preserve accessibility for small business and consumer loans at the present rate in the market.

I gather that the pressure on the rate follows from the raising of the discount rate in the United States to 6 per cent and the fact that the prime rate in the United States is now 7 per cent which, if you take into account the manner of compensating balances used in the American banking system, puts the effective prime rate in the United States now between 7½ per cent and 8 per cent. What is happening is that this response of the prime rate announced this morning by the Bank of Montreal is a reflection of the pressure of international interest rates.

Mr. Stanfield: I have a supplementary question. I ask it in view of the fact the bank also announced that the mortgage rate under the National Housing Act would be increased in the future. Does this not in fact indicate to the minister and the House that a tightening of money is developing and the banking system is already feeling it necessary to ration loans between large borrowers, for example, and small borrowers? Does this not in fact indicate a reoccurrence of tight money conditions?

Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton): No, Mr. Speaker. The fact remains that pressures on the Canadian banking system are such that as the interest rate differential between the American and Canadian capital markets widens, if it widens too much, the pressure on international borrowing against our own markets deprives Canadian borrowers of what credit allocations they might otherwise have had. What the banks are trying to do is to suggest to their larger accounts, particularly multinational accounts, to go into the regular capital markets and that it is appropriate, particularly on an immediate and medium-term basis, to leave the loan allocations untouched and free for Canadian small businesses, businesses in those areas of the country not favoured by the rapid growth of some of the metropolitan areas, and to ensure that consumer loans remain untouched. Certainly the press release I received from the Bank of Montreal reflects that initiative. The president of the Bank of Montreal said that the objective—

[Mr. Speaker.]

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The minister will appreciate that the reply should not be too long; otherwise we will have to revert to motions.

Mr. Stanfield: I wish to ask the minister whether in fact the rate of inflation that is occurring today does not in itself lead to a tightening of money and pressure on the money supply system because of increases in costs and therefore an increase in loan requirements? Does this inflationary situation, plus tight money, not create a vicious circle that feeds on itself? In view of this, does the minister intend to take any action to cut the cycle and deal effectively with the escalation in inflation that is taking place in order to avoid the continuing development of this tight money situation, or whatever the minister may choose to call it?

Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton): Mr. Speaker, I do not agree with the analysis in the preamble to the question by the Leader of the Opposition. The interest rates reflect two circumstances: First, the international rate structure, particularly in the North American capital markets and, second, a very strong demand for credit, reflecting a tremendously strong expansion in the economy at the moment. What the banking system is reflecting is not a restrictive monetary policy but a monetary policy that reflects the expansion in the economy while maintaining proper liquidity in the banking system.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The Chair will recognize the hon. member for Oshawa-Whitby and the hon. member for Témiscamingue and then the hon. member for Edmonton West and others.

BANK PRIME INTEREST RATE INCREASE—POSSIBILITY OF INCREASE IN NATIONAL HOUSING ACT MORTGAGE RATE

Mr. Edward Broadbent (Oshawa-Whitby): I have a supplementary to the Minister of Finance. In view of what the hon. gentleman has just said, may I ask him whether or not we can expect an increase in the NHA basic mortgage rate to follow?

Hon. John N. Turner (Minister of Finance): I think it would be very unwise for anybody in the House, particularly a Minister of Finance, to speculate on interest rates.

Mr. Broadbent: In view of that highly enlightening answer from the Minister of Finance, can the hon. gentleman assure the House that he will take steps to prevent an increase in the NHA mortgage rate?

Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton): My primary purpose is to ensure that a sufficient amount of money reaches the mortgage market, for reasons of which the hon. member is aware, in order that we can continue with the housing

program which is supplying more houses to Canadians than they have ever had before.

[*Translation*]

BANK PRIME INTEREST RATE INCREASE—EFFECT ON STABILIZATION OF ECONOMY

Mr. Réal Caouette (Témiscamingue): Mr. Speaker, I should like to put a supplementary question.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Témiscamingue for a supplementary.

Mr. Caouette (Témiscamingue): Mr. Speaker, as he often does, the minister told us this morning that interest rates had been increased to 7, 7.5 and even 8 per cent in the United States. Can he say whether it is absolutely necessary for Canada to follow suit, and how the higher interest rate announced this morning will stabilize the Canadian economy and help fight efficiently against inflation?

Hon. John N. Turner (Minister of Finance): Mr. Speaker, it is difficult to start a debate on the relation between current interest rates in the States or in Europe and Canada, but I shall be willing to do so in due course.

[*English*]

BANK PRIME INTEREST RATE INCREASE—SUGGESTED RETENTION OF PRESENT LEVEL AND ADJUSTMENT OF RATES TO PARTICULAR CLIENTS

Hon. Marcel Lambert (Edmonton West): Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question for the Minister of Finance. In lieu of accepting willy-nilly the increase in the prime rates of the chartered banks, would the minister not use his good offices in consultation with them, or through the governor of the Bank of Canada, to see that Canadian banks leave their prime rates at the present level and use discretionary adjustment of their rates to particular clients so as to carry out the policies requested by the government with regard to multi-national companies and larger accounts? In this way, small business would not have to overcome the higher and increasing prime rate.

Hon. John N. Turner (Minister of Finance): It is on the basis of such consultation that the Bank of Montreal has, in effect, introduced the beginnings of a dual rate system. Both the governor and myself, in consultation with the presidents of all the chartered banks, have made it clear that there is not a restrictive money policy, that we want priority given to small business in this country, Canadian-owned small business, particularly in those areas of the country where growth prospects are less favoured.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. A number of members are seeking to ask supplementaries. Perhaps it might be wise to call upon the hon. member for Calgary North to ask the last supplementary on this subject, to which we might return later, and then I will continue the first round of questioning by recognizing the hon. member for York South.

BANK PRIME INTEREST RATE INCREASE—EFFECT ON COST OF HOUSING

Mr. Eldon M. Woolliams (Calgary North): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of State for Urban Affairs responsible for housing. It arises from what the Minister of Finance has said, that there is an undertaking by the banks to lend at the prime rate to borrowers of less than $100,000. There is no one in the country—I am thinking particularly of the people in small business—who can borrow at that rate. Would the minister tell us, since he is the minister responsible for housing and we have reached a social crisis in housing, what effect the increased rate will have on the cost of housing, which has already reached a crisis stage?

Hon. Ron Basford (Minister of State for Urban Affairs): I would urge the hon. member, to the extent that there are any adverse effects, to join with me in passing Bill C-133 as quickly as possible—

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Basford: —so that the benefits of the legislation providing for subsidized interest rates can be made available to the people of Canada as quickly as possible.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Woolliams: With the greatest respect, Mr. Speaker, we have a name for that kind of answer in the City of Calgary, but I shall not use it. Can the minister undertake now that all loans made directly by CMHC will be at a rate not more than one per cent higher than the prime rate so that the little people, the people the Minister of Finance talked about who cannot borrow money under 12 per cent, will be able to purchase houses?

● (1120)

Mr. Basford: Mr. Speaker, all I can do is to give an assurance that it will be at the rate prescribed by the National Housing Act as passed by parliament.

* * *

FEDERAL-PROVINCIAL AFFAIRS

AGENDA FOR MEETING OF FIRST MINISTERS LATER THIS MONTH

Mr. David Lewis (York South): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Prime Minister. Would the right hon. gentleman inform the House whether the agenda for the meeting of first ministers to take place later this month has been settled?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, as of yesterday morning I had answers from eight of the ten provinces, so the agenda has been tentatively settled to that extent. I do not know whether the other two provinces have replied since yesterday morning.

Mr. Lewis: Would the right hon. gentleman inform the House whether the agenda contains an item dealing with the possibility of legislation to follow up the Food Prices Review Board which has been promised, and also whether

any province has asked that the matter of the cost of living be placed on the agenda?

Mr. Trudeau: Mr. Speaker, until the agenda is agreed to it would be uncustomary for me to say what it contains. I will gladly make the agenda public as soon as it has been agreed to. Therefore I cannot answer in detail the first part of the question. On the latter part, I would say I have requested that exchanges be made between the provinces and our government to ensure that we can discuss economic questions, and each participant will, of course, be able to interpret that in the light he wishes.

* * *

FOOD PRICES

INQUIRY AS TO ANNOUNCEMENT OF PERSONNEL OF REVIEW BOARD

Mr. David Lewis (York South): Mr. Speaker, may I ask a further supplementary of the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs. In view of the fact the minister has already asked, I am informed, for nominations for the Food Prices Review Board and has received nominations from at least one source, will there be any further delay in announcing the personnel of that board or may we expect an announcement soon?

Hon. Herb Gray (Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs): I hope there can be an announcement very soon, Mr. Speaker.

[*Later:*]

Mr. Speaker: I believe the hon. member for Vancouver-Kingsway has a supplementary to the question asked a moment ago.

Mrs. Grace MacInnis (Vancouver-Kingsway): Mr. Speaker, I want to ask the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs whether, in picking the personnel for the Food Prices Review Board, he can give us the assurance that consumers, particularly those of low income, will be represented on the board?

Mr. Gray: Mr. Speaker, among the types of people we are considering are people in that category.

* * *

[*Translation*]

COMMUNICATIONS

BELL CANADA RATE INCREASES—GOVERNMENT DECISION ON TRANSPORT COMMISSION ORDER

Mr. René Matte (Champlain): Mr. Speaker, I wish to ask a question of the hon. Minister of Communications.

Could he tell the House whether it is possible that a decision on the Bell Canada rate increases be reached before the end of the 90 day period provided for on April 6?

[Mr. Lewis.]

Hon. Gérard Pelletier (Minister of Communications): I am sorry, Mr. Speaker. I was absent-minded and did not hear the question.

Mr. Matte: I am sorry, Mr. Speaker, that I had to wake up the hon. minister. There seems to be bad communications and, therefore, I repeat my question.

Is it possible that the hon. minister will reach a decision on the Bell Canada rate increases before the end of the 90 days provided for last April 6?

Mr. Pelletier (Hochelaga): It is not impossible, Mr. Speaker.

* * *

[*English*]

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

PROPOSED LAW OF THE SEA CONFERENCE—DATE AND PLACE OF PRELIMINARY DISCUSSIONS AND CONFERENCE

Mr. Lloyd R. Crouse (South Shore): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct my question to the Secretary of State for External Affairs. In view of the importance to Atlantic Canada of the Law of the Sea Conference, would the minister indicate whether a place and a date have been finalized for preliminary discussions this fall among the nations concerned, and whether the final conference will still be held next year in Santiago, Chile?

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Yes, Mr. Speaker, there will be a meeting to discuss the organization of the conference before the end of the year. Present plans are to proceed to have the full conference in Santiago on the dates that have already been indicated.

* * *

AGRICULTURE

DANGER OF GRASSHOPPER INFESTATION IN PRAIRIE PROVINCES—AVAILABILITY OF CHEMICALS TO DESTROY PESTS

Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Prince Albert): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Agriculture and has to do with the report of Statistics Canada regarding the danger of a grasshopper infestation this year in Saskatchewan, Alberta and Manitoba being greater than over a period of ten years. In view of the fact that about 80 per cent of the increase in the areas infested is expected in Saskatchewan, will the minister do what he can to assure the availability of the necessary chemicals to destroy this pest in advance this year when we expect large production and markets? This is a very serious matter.

Hon. E. F. Whelan (Minister of Agriculture): Mr. Speaker, we are aware of the report. I was in Saskatchewan last Thursday and Friday and visited the Minister of Agriculture of Saskatchewan and talked with our officials there. We receive weekly reports on this condition. We are attempting to make sure we do everything humanly and physically possible to control this infestation, particularly

if it amounts to what some people are suggesting could happen in the prairie provinces. We are concerned about making sure that production is not impeded in any way by such things as grasshoppers, politicians or anything else.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Diefenbaker: Mr. Speaker, I am glad the minister included politicians because when he was in Saskatchewan recently he fully qualified as one politician interfering with my possibilities.

Mr. A. P. Gleave (Saskatoon-Biggar): Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question for the Minister of Agriculture. In view of the fact certain chemicals formerly used for grasshopper control have been banned, can he now assure the House there will be sufficient supplies of effective chemicals that can be used in this war against grasshoppers?

Mr. Whelan: Mr. Speaker, I am aware of the different sprays that have been banned and the dangers of using some of them because of the effect on crops, the animal population and byproducts of the animal population. I am told that we do have effective sprays, and that is what I had in mind in answering the right hon. member for Prince Albert. I can only go on what my officials tell me, but if hon. members from western Canada have suggestions on what we should be doing I would be glad to hear them.

* * *

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

SOUTH AFRICA—REASON COMMONWEALTH TARIFF PREFERENCE NOT WITHDRAWN BY CANADA

Mr. Gus Mitges (Grey-Simcoe): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct my question to the right hon. Prime Minister. In view of the fact South Africa has been expelled from the Commonwealth of Nations for some time now, would the Prime Minister tell the House why no plans were ever formulated by his government to withdraw Commonwealth preferential tariff treatment from that country?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I will take notice of the question.

* * *

[*Translation*]

TOURISM

ALLEGED BAD IMAGE OF CANADA IN EUROPE—POSSIBILITY OF CONVENING FEDERAL-PROVINCIAL CONFERENCE

Mr. Eudore Allard (Rimouski): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce.

Is he aware of the discussions held at the last congress of the Canadian Association of Travel Agents during which many people dealing with tourism in Canada complained about the unfavourable image of our country in Europe and the rest of the world? If so, can he tell the House if he intends calling a federal-provincial conference on tourism problems in Canada and, especially, in the beautiful province of Quebec?

[*English*]

Hon. Alastair Gillespie (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): Mr. Speaker, I have already met with the provincial ministers of industry and tourism to discuss joint provincial-federal plans for the development of the tourist industry. I think all members would be most encouraged by the optimism of the provinces and all those associated with the tourist industry. We should be facing a big year.

• (1130)

[*Translation*]

Mr. Allard: Mr. Speaker, on a supplementary.

In view of the answer given by the minister, can he tell us if he will launch in his department a study of the problems which were pointed out at the congress by the representatives of the Canadian tourist industry and could he inform the House of the results of this study before the end of this session?

[*English*]

Mr. Gillespie: We are, of course, examining all proposals and suggestions from those in the tourist industry for the improvement of the industry. If there are any particular proposals the hon. member would like to make to me or to my department in that respect, I would be very glad to have them. In that connection, the estimates of my department were before the standing committee this morning, particularly those in respect of tourism, and I think that record might be of interest to hon. members.

* * *

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

TORONTO—WITHHOLDING OF BENEFITS FROM CERTAIN ITALIANS—REQUEST THAT MINISTER INTERVENE

Mr. Lincoln M. Alexander (Hamilton West): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Manpower and Immigration who is responsible for the Unemployment Insurance Commission. It concerns a situation in the city of Toronto. It is reported from a high official of the commission that some 70 Italians have been deprived of benefits to which they are entitled and that even after two or three representations no action has been taken. Will the minister intervene in this matter in order to see that these benefits are paid and that any orders of disentitlement or that would relieve them of this money are rescinded so they can be brought back in good standing?

Hon. Robert K. Andras (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, there has been some investigation of the complaints, but I intend to examine the record myself and make a decision on it.

Oral Questions

BENEFIT CONTROL—INQUIRY AS TO FURTHER REPORT BY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Mr. Lincoln M. Alexander (Hamilton West): Mr. Speaker, it has been some time since we have heard of the advisory committee to the commission that is examining reported overzealousness. Can the minister give any indication of how far the committee has proceeded with the investigation of claimants' complaints and just how long it will be before its report will be tabled?

Hon. Robert K. Andras (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): I have been advised that the activities of the advisory committee are proceeding well. I understand they have some very specific meetings scheduled for the middle of May and that they are hopeful of giving me their final report before the end of this month.

* * *

[*Translation*]

LABOUR RELATIONS

DAVIE SHIPBUILDING LOCKOUT—REQUEST THAT GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES NOT BE FORCED TO CROSS PICKET LINE

Mr. John Harney (Scarborough West): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Public Works about the present lock-out at the shipyards of Davie Shipbuilding Limited in Lauzon, Quebec.

The staff on his department employed at the dry dock of this yard being in complete sympathy with their coworkers who are barred from work, can the minister assure the House that his department is not pressuring its employees to force them to cross the picket lines?

Hon. Jean-Eudes Dubé (Minister of Public Works): Mr. Speaker, we called on our employees to return to work twice. They refused to do so, saying that they might be subjected to pressures, even physically. So we stopped requesting them to return. We do not intend to bring pressure upon them to force them back to work.

Mr. Harney: Mr. Speaker, is the minister aware that the lock-out at Davie Shipbuilding Limited is now illegal since no lock-out or strike can be staged legally before May 12?

Mr. Dubé: Mr. Speaker, it is not up to us to determine whether it is a lock-out or a strike, or whether it is illegal or not. We merely requested that our employees return to work. They have refused and we have no intention to exert any pressure on them to do so.

* * *

[*English*]

POST OFFICE

STEPS TO DETERMINE CAUSE OF DELAYS IN MAIL DELIVERY

Mr. Doug Neil (Moose Jaw): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Postmaster General. In view of the fact that delays in mail delivery are becoming worse week by week, and in view of the fact I received a letter on Wednesday, May 9, marked "rush" that was mailed at Gainsborough, Saskatchewan on April 28, some 12 days earlier, would the minister advise what steps, if any, are being taken by the Post Office Department to determine the cause of delays in mail delivery, and when can the citizens of Canada expect to begin to receive their mail within a reasonable time after mailing?

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

[*Translation*]

Hon. André Ouellet (Postmaster General): Mr. Speaker, a businessman who can guarantee 99 per cent efficiency of his operation is doing very well indeed. I would remind the hon. member that the Post Office Department deals with some 5 billion items a year, which would justify an average of 16,000 complaints a day. I do not believe we receive such a number. I therefore want to assure the hon. member that postal service on the whole is very good and if this particular incident occurred I regret it and we shall endeavour to find a solution to the problem.

* * *

[*English*]

AIRPORTS

WINNIPEG INTERNATIONAL—SUGGESTED UPGRADING AS ALTERNATIVE TO PICKERING SITE—SECURING OF NEW ROUTES FROM WINNIPEG TO UNITED STATES

Hon. W. G. Dinsdale (Brandon-Souris): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Transport. In view of the government's expressed search for policies to remove discrimination against western Canada, and in view of the opposition of the majority of Pickering residents to the establishment of an international airport there, can the minister inform the House as to what efforts he is making to upgrade the international airport at Winnipeg as an alternative to the Pickering site?

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, we have never considered that Winnipeg would be a substitute or alternative for Toronto.

Mr. Dinsdale: Mr. Speaker, may I ask the minister this question at least. Is he encouraging access to mid-western and western United States cities by Canadian air carriers operating from the strategically located mid-continent international airport at Winnipeg and, if so, when can we expect success from these representations?

Mr. Marchand (Langelier): I think the hon. member knows this is part of the negotiations which are being carried on now with the United States and we hope to obtain new routes and partly from Winnipeg to a certain number of points in the United States.

[*Translation*]

MANPOWER

LOCAL INITIATIVES PROGRAM—MONTREAL—INQUIRY RESPECTING CONTINUATION OF PROJECTS

Mr. Marcel Prud'homme (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Regional Economic Expansion): Mr. Speaker, before asking my question, I am sure I will have the unanimous consent of the House, and your approval, to express our warmest congratulations to the Canadiens hockey club which has once again shown its great superiority and efficiency by defeating the strong American team.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the hon. Minister of Manpower and Immigration.

The hon. minister said yesterday that he was giving his attention to all the representations made by hon. members from Montreal concerning the renewal of local initiatives projects in the Montreal area, and especially in Montreal itself. I should like today to follow up the question put to him yesterday by asking him if there have since been any new developments in his department and whether he has come to a further decision about the demands of the many groups that at present benefit from local initiatives projects in Montreal?

[*English*]

Hon. Robert K. Andras (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, I cannot add to my comments yesterday. The examination of representations continues, but there has been no decision taken yet.

* * *

[*Translation*]

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

REPRESENTATIONS OF PRESIDENT OF BANGLADESH RESPECTING INCARCERATION OF BENGALESE—MINISTER'S POSITION

Mr. Claude Wagner (Saint-Hyacinthe): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Secretary of State for External Affairs.

Does the hon. minister intend to take any action about the distressing incidents that have happened in the last few days in Pakistan, in which thousands of Bengalis wishing to be sent back to Bangladesh were arrested in the middle of the night and imprisoned in Islamabad, since when the President of Bangladesh has called upon other nations to register their disapproval?

[*English*]

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, we are trying to encourage the settlement of a number of outstanding difficulties among the countries of Pakistan, India and Bangladesh. We are doing everything in our power, which of course is not very great, in these matters, but I assure you that our concern is there. This is only one aspect, of course, of a very difficult problem. There is a special emissary coming to Canada—indeed, the Prime Minister saw him yesterday—for the purpose of discussing these questions and others.

● (1140)

[*Translation*]

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Saint-Hyacinthe on a supplementary.

VIET NAM—FINANCIAL SITUATION OF INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION OF CONTROL AND SUPERVISION—GOVERNMENT'S POSITION

Mr. Claude Wagner (Saint-Hyacinthe): I should like to put a supplementary to the Secretary of State for External Affairs, Mr. Speaker.

Is it true that the International Commission of Control and Supervision on the Viet Nam cease-fire lacks financial means to carry on with its mission? If so, does this government intend to increase its financial contribution to this end?

[*English*]

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs): It is true, as is reported in the newspapers today, that the International Commission of Control and Supervision is insolvent. This is a very difficult and serious problem for the commission. It arises out of the failure to agree upon a budget for the forthcoming period. We have requested the parties to the peace agreement to make another advance that will enable the commission to continue its operations. In the meantime, I fully expect that we may have to provide funds that should have come out of the commission itself in order to feed our own contingent. But we are not taking on any other responsibilities.

* * *

PENSIONS

REQUEST FOR REMOVAL OF CEILING ON ESCALATION OF PENSIONS OF RETIRED PUBLIC SERVANTS, ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE AND ARMED FORCES PERSONNEL

Mr. Stanley Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, may I direct a question to the President of the Treasury Board. Now that the government has committed itself to the removal of the 2 per cent ceiling from the annual escalation of pensions paid under the Canada Pension Plan, will the President of the Treasury Board take the necessary action so that the 2 per cent ceiling can be removed from the annual escalation of pensions paid to retired public servants and to retired RCMP and armed forces personnel?

Hon. C. M. Drury (President of the Treasury Board): Mr. Speaker, as the hon. member and the House know, the government is very sympathetic to this proposal but has stated on previous occasions the notion or idea that the change in the escalation rates, both in the Canada Pension Plan and the Superannuation Act should be conterminous.

Oral Questions

CANADIAN NATIONAL RAILWAYS

REQUEST THAT PENSIONS BE EQUATED WITH THOSE OF RETIRED AIR CANADA EMPLOYEES

Mr. Joseph-Philippe Guay (St. Boniface): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the same minister and it is in reference to Canadian National Railways' pensions. Would the minister give consideration to making representations to the CNR that the pensions of its retired employees be put on a parity with those of retired Air Canada employees?

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Yukon.

Mr. Guay (St. Boniface): Mr. Speaker, I believe the minister wanted to answer the question. I should like to repeat it, if the minister did not understand it.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I was looking at the minister and he did not seem to be too anxious to respond. If he wishes to reply now, of course he will be recognized.

Mr. Guay (St. Boniface): I believe the minister did not understand my question. Therefore I would like to repeat it.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Guay (St. Boniface): Would the minister give consideration to making representations to the CNR on behalf of CNR employees so as to give them an opportunity to have parity in their pensions with those of Air Canada employees?

Hon. C. M. Drury (President of the Treasury Board): Mr. Speaker, while this does not come under my jurisdiction, I would be glad to see that the representations are passed on.

* * *

NORTHERN AFFAIRS

NORTHWEST TERRITORIES—PROROGATION OF COUNCIL BY COMMISSIONER—REQUEST FOR REPORT—STEPS TO PREVENT RECURRENCE

Mr. Erik Nielsen (Yukon): Mr. Speaker, what the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Transport has said in his question indicates how little he knows about the responsibilities of his minister.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Nielsen: I would like to direct a question to the Prime Minister which I put to him—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The Chair will have to call on the hon. member for St. Boniface qui invoque le Règlement.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Joseph-Philippe Guay (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, in my view two ministers working together could perhaps make better representations than only one, although I think that my minister is still the best.

[*English*]

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. Before the minister rises on a question of privilege, I will recognize the hon. member for Yukon.

Mr. Nielsen: Cabinet solidarity seems to be split asunder in more ways than one. On February 13 I directed a question to the Prime Minister concerning the unilateral and arbitrary prorogation of the Northwest Territories Council and at that time, as recorded on page 1231 of *Hansard,* he undertook to look into the facts as they were quite important. I wonder if the Prime Minister—and I direct the question to him and not to the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development—has looked into the facts as he stated he would and, if so, will he now say what steps the government is going to take to see that there is no possibility of a recurrence of an incident of this nature?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I undertook to look into the matter, which I did by suggesting to the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development that he ascertain the facts and give an answer in the House, which he can do much better than I could.

[*Translation*]

Hon. Jean Chrétien (Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development): Mr. Speaker, I have had the opportunity of discussing this incident. Of course, there are problems in any democracy and I think that the Commissioner for the Northwest Territories has met with the members of the territorial council and everything seems to be settled. We shall have the opportunity of finding out next month at a new sitting of the territorial council. I intend to be present there in order to discuss these problems at the beginning of the sitting with the members of this council.

[*English*]

INQUIRY CONCERNING AMENDMENTS TO YUKON ACT RESPECTING STRUCTURE OF GOVERNMENT

Mr. Erik Nielsen (Yukon): Can the minister inform the House whether it is the intention of the government to introduce in this session amendments to the Yukon Act to incorporate therein the reforms he has promised to the people of the Yukon in the structure of their government?

[*Translation*]

Hon. Jean Chrétien (Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development): Mr. Speaker, I did not make quite as many promises to the people in Yukon as the hon. member for Yukon did. I want to say that we will introduce legislation at the proper time but at the speed measures are being passed these days, I am not very optimistic about the possibility of having it adopted very quickly.

[*English*]

Mr. Nielsen: I have one last supplementary question.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The Chair will recognize the hon. member but there are only two minutes left before the end of the question period and I see many hon. members who wish to ask questions. I seek the co-operation of hon. members so that we can have as many questions as possible. I will not charge hon. members for the 15 seconds I have just taken.

Mr. Nielsen: Since redistribution would have to take place before the next territorial election a year from this November and any increase in the size of the council would have to be dealt with in this session, can the minister say whether or not he expects to introduce amendments to the Yukon Act with respect to those increases in this session.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Chrétien: Mr. Speaker, of course I intend to proceed as soon as possible, and I believe we will have lots of time because the next election will not be called before 1974.

* * *

[*English*]

LABOUR CONDITIONS

INQUIRY AS TO AGREEMENT WITH PROVINCES ON NEW MINIMUM WAGE

Mr. Duncan M. Beattie (Hamilton Mountain): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Labour. Since the minister has just met with his provincial counterparts, can he inform the House whether any agreement was made on the proposed new minimum wage and, if so, when will the legislation be enacted?

Hon. John C. Munro (Minister of Labour): Mr. Speaker, I wish to thank the hon. member for giving me notice of his question. What took place at the conference of Ministers of Labour was a comparison of minimum wage rates throughout the country, both federal and provincial. There was no effort on the part of the provinces to ascertain the future policy of the federal government relative to the minimum wage other than to indicate that they would like some conformity between our own and their rates. I gave a general indication that we were considering further increases, but no specific time for the implementation of those increases has been determined.

* * *

VETERANS AFFAIRS

INCREASE IN STAFF TO PROCESS DISABILITY CLAIMS

Mr. Harry Olaussen (Coast-Chilcotin): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct this question to the Minister of Veterans Affairs. I understand there is a large backlog of veterans cases to be processed. Can the minister inform us whether he has any intention of increasing the size of his staff?

Hon. Daniel J. MacDonald (Minister of Veterans Affairs): Mr. Speaker, I am very sorry but I did not get the first part of the question. Would the hon. member repeat it?

● (1150)

Mr. Olaussen: I understand there is a large backlog of veterans cases to be processed by the department. Is there any intention to increase the size of the staff in order to deal with them?

Mr. MacDonald (Cardigan): Mr. Speaker, the hon. member knows that we have increased our staff in the past and this is still in process. As hon. members know, it takes time to train staff to understand the legislation, evaluate the medical facts and all the rest. We are looking at this at all times and it is quite possible that we will further increase our staff.

* * *

[*Translation*]

TRADE

RIGHT OF UNITED STATES TO SELL USED CARS IN CANADA—MINISTER'S POSITION

Mr. Jean-Marie Boisvert (Drummond): Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct a question to the hon. Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce.

Can the minister inform the House as to the intention of his department with respect to granting Americans the right to sell used cars in Canada?

[*English*]

Hon. Alastair Gillespie (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): Mr. Speaker, there are no plans to change those rules.

* * *

SUPPLY AND SERVICES

REQUEST FOR ASSURANCE THAT ALL TENDERS WILL BE OPENED IN PUBLIC

Mr. Sinclair Stevens (York Simcoe): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the right hon. Prime Minister. In view of the recent revelation by the Minister of Supply and Services that millions of dollars of goods and services are being purchased by his department through a procedure whereby, while there is tendering, tenders are opened in private, would the Prime Minister assure the House that this unusual practice will cease and that in future all tenders in the minister's department will be opened in public and that those tendering will be given the opportunity to attend such openings?

[*Translation*]

Hon. Jean-Pierre Goyer (Minister of Supply and Services): Mr. Speaker, it is true that it is the practice in my department. I personally wondered why. That was done during the days of the former Tory minister. On December 28 I asked that a study be prepared on the advantages and disadvantages of such a practice and that alternatives be submitted to me if necessary. My officials handed me the report today and I intend to discuss it with them next week.

[*English*]

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The Chair will allow the hon. member a supplementary and will recognize the hon. member for York West and the Leader of the Opposition for the last questions and then call orders of the day.

Mr. Stevens: Mr. Speaker, my supplementary is to the Prime Minister. Does the Prime Minister know of other departments that are following this practice of opening tenders in secret?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): No, Mr. Speaker, I do not know of any such departments in the federal government. I am told that provincial governments follow that practice.

Some hon. Members: Explain!

Mr. Trudeau: I am very satisfied with the answer given by the Minister of Supply and Services who certainly did the right thing in looking into this matter as soon as he became minister. If I understand correctly, it is a practice that began or at least existed in the days of the Conservative government in this country.

* * *

FILMS

AGREEMENT BY FAMOUS PLAYERS AND ODEON THEATRES ON SHOWING OF CANADIAN FEATURE FILMS

Mr. Jim Fleming (York West): Mr. Speaker, I should like to address a question to the Secretary of State. Can the minister confirm the various reports in recent days that an agreement has been made involving the famous Players and Odeon theatre chains to guarantee the showing of Canadian feature films for at least several weeks a year?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. We will assume that the question has been asked directly. The hon. member cannot ask the minister to confirm a report. The minister might reply briefly as if the question had been asked directly.

Hon. James Hugh Faulkner (Secretary of State): Yes, Mr. Speaker. In line with the government's concern about getting wider distribution of Canadian films, an agreement has been arrived at. I am not in a position to outline the details because I still have to finalize some of them with the two chains.

* * *

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

ALLEGED APPOINTMENT IN 1968 BY FORMER MINISTER, EDGAR BENSON, OF FIRM WITH WHICH HE HAD BEEN ASSOCIATED AS AUDITORS OF CMHC

Hon. Robert L. Stanfield (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, I apologize for interrupting the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Transport but I should like to address a question to the Prime Minister. The right hon. gentleman will recall that a number of days ago I directed a question to him in regard to a report that Mr. Edgar Benson, when he was the minister responsible for Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation, had appointed an auditing firm with which he had formerly been associated, but of course is no longer associated, as the auditor for that corporation. I asked the Prime Minister whether the report was being investigated and whether this kind of appointment was consistent with the guidelines of his government in such instances?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Yes, Mr. Speaker, I looked into the matter raised by the Leader of the Opposition and found that, indeed, Mr. Benson, when he was the minister responsible for housing, had appointed a firm of auditors with which Mr. Benson had broken all associations many years before when he entered federal politics. I therefore see no conflict of interest involved in this question.

* * *

SPORTS

MONTREAL OLYMPIC GAMES, 1976—GOVERNMENT POLICY REGARDING SUPPORT—ADVANCEMENT OF FUNDS TO CITY

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Unless there is a supplementary, Mr. Speaker, perhaps I might be permitted to answer a question put to me yesterday by the hon. member for Fraser Valley West regarding the Olympics. He asked me if any federal moneys or advances had been paid to COJO or to Montreal. I inquired from the Treasury Board and the President of the Treasury Board assures me that no such moneys have been paid.

Mr. Speaker: Orders of the day.

Mr. Howard: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a question of privilege. Earlier this week discussions were concluded in Seattle between Canada and the United States relating to an agreement with respect to fisheries, without arrangements being made for further negotiations. If there are no further negotiations the agreement will expire on June 15. If it does, there will be chaos in the fishing industry on the Atlantic and the Pacific coasts.

My question of privilege is that I would have thought, inasmuch as those discussions ended this week and considering the great difficulties and apprehension involved, that the Secretary of State for External Affairs would take the opportunity to make a statement to the House on motions about this question so that the public and Canadian fishermen in particular could understand what their position is with respect to those negotiations and that agreement.

Mr. Speaker: Orders of the day.

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

BUSINESS OF SUPPLY

ALLOTTED DAY S.O. 58—DISAPPROVAL OF GOVERNMENT'S PROPOSED HEALTH CARE COST-SHARING ARRANGEMENTS

Mr. T. C. Douglas (Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands) moved:

That this House disapproves the government's proposal to retreat by stages from the present cost-sharing arrangements with respect to hospital and medical care programs and calls upon the government to fund all health services on a 50-50 basis and to expand the health resources fund to enable the provincial governments to improve their health services.

He said: Mr. Speaker, last Tuesday, May 8, the Minister of Finance (Mr. Turner) presented certain tax proposals to the conference of provincial ministers of finance with respect to the contributions of the federal government to the health services provided in this country. These proposals are of such a complex nature that I am sure most people in Canada are totally unaware of their implications and what effect they will have upon future health services in this country.

It is significant that the provincial ministers of health gave a somewhat hostile reception to the proposals. I intend to examine them and propose the motion now before the House. In my opinion, the tax proposals advanced by the federal government represent an insidious and cynical attempt by the federal government to limit its financial contributions to hospital and medicare programs. I think it would be advisable to take a few minutes to review the fact that there are those in the Liberal party and in the present government who, throughout the years, have been somewhat hostile to the idea of a comprehensive national health program.

● (1200)

The first deliberate commitment by a government for a national health insurance scheme came in the 1945 Green Book proposals. At that time the federal government, having promised during the war that it would make Canada a better place for people to live in, and stimulated by the fact that just a few months before it had had a serious setback in the election when its majority in the House had been reduced to seven members, brought down the Green Book proposals. It is significant that the Liberal party's interest in health insurance has always had a direct relationship to the unsatisfactory state of its majority in the House of Commons.

One of those Green Book proposals was that a national health insurance program be shared jointly by the federal and provincial governments. However, nothing was done about it, and in 1946 the government of the province of Saskatchewan introduced the first comprehensive hospital insurance plan on the North American continent. In 1948, the province of British Columbia did the same, and these two provinces financed hospital insurance entirely on their own from then until 1958.

It is true that in 1956 the Liberal government of Mr. St. Laurent, when the Hon. Paul Martin was minister of national health and welfare, introduced the Hospital

Insurance and Diagnostic Services Act, but it had a joker in it. The federal government would only contribute to hospital insurance if the majority of the provinces, representing a majority of the people of Canada, entered the plan, of course knowing that at that time the two central provinces were not interested in setting up hospital or medical care insurance. The result was that not one dollar was ever contributed to the hospital insurance plans of the provincial governments until 1958 when the government of the right hon. member for Prince Albert (Mr. Diefenbaker) took the joker out of the Hospital Insurance and Diagnostic Services Act, and made a contribution to hospital insurance.

That government also set up the Hall commission on medical care. It brought in its report during the Pearson regime, and it is to the credit of the present President of the Privy Council (Mr. MacEachen), who was then minister of national health and welfare, that the medicare act was drafted and placed on the statute books. May I say that that act sets forth a comprehensive national health insurance program. It recognized that hospital insurance and medicare were only one phase. That legislation provides that, by order in council, the federal government may extend health insurance to cover additional services such as dental care, optometric care, prescription drugs and other health services. May I also say that most of the opposition to that legislation came from inside the Liberal party, particularly from the financial mandarins. As a matter of fact, after the legislation was passed the then minister of finance, now Secretary of State for External Affairs (Mr. Sharp), imposed a five year limit on the agreement which was entered into with the provinces, and that five years will expire in a few weeks.

Instead of expanding the national health insurance proposals as contained in the legislation, the present government has been seeking ways to abdicate some of its responsibilities in this field. Last year the present Minister of Labour (Mr. Munro), who was then minister of national health and welfare, put a proposal before the provinces which they rejected. Last January 19 the present Minister of National Health and Welfare (Mr. Lalonde) put forth a modified version of those proposals. I must say that I was disappointed with that, Mr. Speaker, because personally I have been impressed with the innovations and the energy which the Minister of National Health and Welfare has displayed with respect to the whole question of social security. I thought he would bring the same imagination and aggressiveness to tackle this problem of health insurance. But he did not. He brought down the same proposal which last Tuesday the Minister of Finance put into more concrete terms.

What the Minister of Finance proposed was that, first, the provinces must accept the formula presented to them last January by the Minister of National Health and Welfare. That proposal is that over the next five years the federal government will restrict its contribution to hospital and medical care to its present contribution, plus an escalation based on the Gross National Product, with some slight cushioning in the first few years of the five year period. Last Tuesday the Minister of Finance also offered the provincial governments six percentage points of the personal income tax, and the revenues from the excise tax on the sale of alcohol and tobacco, and if the revenues

from these sources do not provide sufficient to match what the federal government has been paying, then the federal government will give them a cash payment, bringing them up to what the federal government is now paying, plus the GNP escalation.

It seems to me ironic, Mr. Speaker, that for the future financing of hospital and medical care, the provinces are going to have to rely in part on taxes on commodities which ought to be curtailed in the interests of health. The federal government is now embarked upon a program of discouraging people from using more tobacco and more alcohol, and in the years ahead we could very well witness a situation in which the federal government will be advertising and telling people not to smoke so much and not to drink so much, in which case the provincial governments would have less revenues with which to discharge their responsibilities in providing health services to the people of Canada. The Mad Hatter in Alice in Wonderland could not have made a more absurd proposal.

Implementation of the recommendation made by the Minister of Finance will have two effects. First, it will leave the provincial governments with all the risks inherent in rising health costs. At present health costs are rising at anywhere from 13 per cent to 15 per cent per annum. To try to tie the federal government's contribution to the GNP has no relationship whatsoever to what the provincial government's responsibilities will be. Having got the provincial governments into a health insurance program, the federal government is now, by stages, proposing to pull out and leave the provinces with the primary responsibility for providing health care. This will either mean that the provincial governments will have to curtail the health services which they will provide to their citizens or they will have to impose additional taxes. The provinces which will not be able to impose those additional taxes will have a much lower standard of health services.

● (1210)

The Minister of Finance summed it all up in the speech which he made to the provincial ministers of finance last Tuesday when he said:

> The amount of the reduction in federal taxes will, in due course, enable them to administer their programs without direct federal financial support.

If ever there was a start at moving down the road to a complete abdication of its responsibilities with regard to a national health insurance program, that statement represents such a step.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Douglas: The other day the Minister of National Health and Welfare said that the provinces will be $1.1 billion better off over the next five years. The provinces dispute that. They dispute it both on the basis of what these new fields will bring in by way of revenue, and on the basis of what the Minister of National Health and Welfare estimates the increased costs will be.

If the Minister of National Health and Welfare takes part in this debate, I ask him to tell the members of this House whether the $1.1 billion, assuming the provinces get it, constitutes a guarantee that that sum of money will represent 50 per cent of the cost of providing hospital and medical care to the people of this country. Secondly, I ask him if that money, which the minister says the provinces will get, will be adequate to enable the provincial governments to move into phase two and phase three of the national health insurance program and provide the other medical services which were envisaged in the Medical Care Act.

The second effect of the proposal which the Minister of Finance has made is that the federal government is washing its hands of any responsibility for providing health services such as dental care, prescription drugs, optometric care, eye glasses and other health services. The federal government is now seeking to pull out of the game. It is tossing in its cards. it is saying to the provinces, we will give you certain fields of revenue and this should be sufficient to meet your needs. It will be up to each province to decide whether these new sources of revenue will enable them to do two things; first, maintain hospital and medical care at its present level and, second, whether they will have the necessary finances to expand the health insurance program so as to make it comprehensive.

When the medical care legislation came into effect in 1968, nobody in this House felt that we had completed the task of setting up health insurance in this country. Canada is far behind most of the industrial countries of the western world. Small nations much less affluent than Canada, the Scandinavian countries, West Germany, Britain, Israel, the Lowlands, Holland and Belgium, and many other countries have a completely comprehensive health insurance program that covers every aspect of health services for their people. The federal government is now getting ready to wash its hands, abdicate its responsibilities and leave it to the provinces in the future to attempt to provide those services out of revenues which will not be adequate for that purpose.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Douglas: What is going to be the result? The result is going to be that we will end up with a mishmash of health services across Canada. Some provinces may not be able to continue to meet the escalating costs of health insurance and medicare. They may have to start imposing deterrent fees or a means test. Other provinces will not only be able to carry on the other services, but will have the necessary financial resources to expand their health program. However, those provinces will want to impose very severe residence qualifications for those who are going to enjoy the benefits of those services.

We are not going to have a national standard. We are not going to have a comprehensive program that covers people from the Atlantic to the Pacific. This is a complete negation of the whole concept of federal-provincial relations as laid down in the Rowell-Sirois report brought down prior to World War II. That set forth the proposition that every citizen of Canada, no matter where that individual might live, would be entitled to certain basic national standards of health services, education and welfare. That is the only way in which you can have national unity. You can balkanize a country in more ways than by promoting separatism. You can promote national disunity by having some parts of this country more favoured in terms of health

services, welfare and education than other parts of this country. Nothing will tear this country apart faster than to destroy the concept of having a comprehensive national insurance program by which all citizens of Canada, no matter where they may live, will be entitled to all the health services they need, irrespective of their ability to pay.

The federal government's rationale for introducing this tax proposal is that they want to do two things. They want to provide the provinces with flexibility and they want to do something to curb escalating costs of hospital and medical care. I think there is much to be said for flexibility. I support the minister in attempting to do that, but I suggest that flexibility should not be used as a smokescreen for opting out of the federal government's legitimate responsibilities. The federal government can give to the provinces adequate flexibility with regard to which particular health services they will add to those that are now in existence with federal support without the kind of tax proposal which the Minister of Finance has presented.

The other reason they say they have introduced this is in order to curb rising costs. Of course, we need to curb rising costs, but you cannot curb rising costs by throwing the responsibility back on the provincial governments. Does anyone think the provincial governments are spending money like drunken sailors just because the federal governnmment puts up 50 per cent? As a matter of fact, for every dollar which they get from the federal government for medicare and health insurance, the provinces have to put up a dollar. I submit, Mr. Speaker, that the dollars they have put up are much harder to come by than the dollars the federal government puts up. The greatest restraint is that the provincial governments have to match federal expenditures in the matter of health services. If we want to curb the escalating cost of health services, we shall not achieve this result by passing the ball back to the provinces. We can only do it if we are prepared to modernize our health delivery system.

• (1220)

There is no doubt money is wasted under our present health program. We are caring for many people in acute treatment hospitals where the cost is $50 or $60 a day who could be cared for in nursing homes for half that amount. There are many people in nursing homes who could be cared for under a home nursing program. The method of paying doctors may need to be completely revised. Then again, we could reduce much of the cost of medical care by setting up community health clinics where major emphasis would be placed on preventive health care, thereby reducing much of the cost of acute medical treatment.

Thus, I have suggested in this motion that in addition to the federal government funding health programs on a 50-50 basis, it should be prepared to expand the health resources fund and make money available on a continuing basis, not just the six years for which the proposed trust fund is envisaged, but on a continuing basis on the very logical deduction that any money which is paid to provincial governments to put up nursing homes, to establish community health centres, to set up home nursing care programs, will more than repay us in the long run by reducing the annual cost of providing health services.

I do not think, therefore, that either flexibility or a desire to curb the rising cost of the health program requires the kind of proposition which the government has placed before the provinces. The federal government could secure flexibility, it could help curb rising costs, by providing some of the necessary capital needed to modernize the health delivery system while at the same time continuing to do two things which are fundamental. First, the government could assure the provinces that, in one form or another they will be guaranteed that 50 per cent of the cost of any of the health services which are needed will be paid by the federal government and, second, that as they move into other health fields the federal government will be prepared to pay 50 per cent of the cost of those additional programs as well. After all, it is now almost five years since the medical care program came into effect. That program has brought great benefits to the people of Canada and I think the President of the Privy Council (Mr. MacEachen), who was minister of health at the time, has won for himself a place in the history books of Canada for the contribution which he made and which the government of that day made to the better health of the Canadian people.

But we cannot mark time. There is a growing need for dental health programs, particularly for school children and for the aged. Eventually, they should be extended to the whole population. This means spending money, for example, on building dental colleges and training dental assistants and dental hygienists. There is a growing need to move into the field of prescription drugs, particularly to help those who are suffering from long-term illnesses which require drugs to be administered over a long period. We all know, of course, that there are people who require treatment with certain drugs, such as insulin, for as long as they live. There is, too, a growing need for an optometric service, again starting with children and then spreading out over the population as a whole. Such programs as these will not be introduced unless the provinces know that the federal government is prepared to share the costs on a guaranteed basis.

I hope that before this debate is over the Minister of National Health and Welfare and the Minister of Finance will assure the House and the people of Canada that the federal government will continue to guarantee a 50 per cent share of the cost of providing health services to this country, not only in respect of those services which are presently being provided but also with respect to additional services which ought to be provided and which, indeed, must be provided in the years ahead. Unless we take this course, we are virtually telling the people of Canada, through parliament, that the idea of a comprehensive health insurance plan, the concept that every Canadian, irrespective of race, colour or creed, will be entitled to all the health service he needs, has gone out of the window and that we intend to toss back into the hands of the provinces responsibilities they do not have adequate financial resources to meet.

[*Translation*]

Hon. Marc Lalonde (Minister of National Health and Welfare): Mr. Speaker, it gives me pleasure today to deal for the first time in the House with this very important aspect of my department having to do with the field of

health. And I could say in that respect that I do appreciate the fact that the New Democratic Party decided to use this day to move a motion which will allow us to discuss that question so important to all Canadians.

Of course, that does not mean that I agree with the motion, far from it, but I think that it will certainly give us the chance to discuss both the situation that exists with respect to health services in Canada today and the proposals put forward by the federal government in that field in recent years.

[*English*]

I might be tempted to paraphrase, for the benefit of the hon. member for Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands (Mr. Douglas), a statement which was made at the recent meetings by a colleague of his from British Columbia, the provincial minister of health. There was, he said, a great danger when discussing these matters of using concepts and proposals of the thirties to meet problems of the seventies.

Mr. Grafftey: That is another cliché.

Mr. Lalonde: While we agree on the necessity of maintaining our health services in Canada, there is also a very strong feeling among all governments and the Canadian people, that we should get better value for our money and that we could make better use of the available resources in this sector at the present time. I think we can agree that these two major shared-cost programs have been highly successful in achieving their basic objectives of developing and making accessible essential health services of comparable standards on a nation wide basis. They were a necessary prelude to the next phase of rationalizing the comprehensive health care program so as to make it consistent with the particular health needs and the economic realities of today. However, the arrangements of the past, particularly in relation to hospital insurance, have tended to perpetuate our orientation toward high cost services. I was pleased to note that the hon. member conceded this fact.

● (1230)

A new approach is thus required—a rational and flexible approach which rewards efficient and effective provision of services and discourages inefficiency, ineffectiveness and the waste of costly resources; an approach that will encourage the evolution of the present system into one capable of meeting the needs of the future; in other words, a total approach that will result in the improved management of health care resources and their effective utilization through the entire range of facilities and services.

But while criticizing the present cost-sharing arrangements for contributing to an unnecessarily high rate of continuing cost increase, we must recognize that the present programs have served Canadians very well indeed in other respects. For example, the basic standards of comprehensiveness, universality, accessibility and portability have given all residents an outstanding degree of protection which undoubtedly has contributed to the improvements in health status which have occurred since the introduction of the two programs.

For example, on the eve of hospital insurance the Canadian infant mortality rate was roughly 20 per cent higher than that of the United States, 30 per cent higher than that of England and Wales and 40 per cent higher than that of Australia. By the end of 1971, the first full year of medicare for all provinces, our infant mortality rate had fallen to 10 per cent below that of the United States and to virtually the identical rate for England and Australia, although the rate had been dropping for them as well. Similar marked improvements have occurred in our maternal mortality rate as well.

With the introduction of the medical care program, medical practice has become economically viable in any community with a sufficient population to warrant a doctor. Decreased emigration and continuing high immigration of physicians from abroad, and an increasing output from Canadian medical schools, have pushed Canada's doctor-population ratio down virtually to the target which the Royal Commission on Health Services in 1964 despaired of reaching before 1991. The ratio for all active physicians, including interns and residents, was 1 to 661 at the end of 1971. All provinces have experienced a substantial improvement in their doctor-population ratios since the medicare program was first announced and the companion health resources program was implemented to assist in the capital and renovation costs of education and research facilities for health professions.

Thus, we have been getting some value for our money, and I would say good value. However, the combined rate of increase for hospital and medical services still amounts to some 12 per cent per annum and seems likely to continue at this level unless a different approach is taken to the delivery of health care. For example, it is generally agreed that many patients at any given time in general hospital facilities could be equally well cared for in less expensive facilities and that many routine tasks currently undertaken by physicians could be delegated to other professionals.

Many developed countries, including some with better mortality rates than ours, have succeeded in providing high quality health care to their citizens at a relatively lower expenditure than Canada. We believe, therefore, that we must and can improve the cost effectiveness of our present health care system and in this way help make available funds for the many major programs in a variety of fields which the people of Canada desire and need. The federal financial proposals are designed to enable and encourage provinces to take the most effective approach in the management of their health care systems.

The federal government is not proposing or considering abandoning the two great health insurance programs, nor in any way watering down their standards which mean so much to Canadians. What we intend to do is to help make it possible to improve their performance—both cost-wise and benefit-wise—and I am confident that, with the support of the Canadian people, and in co-operation with the provinces, we will succeed in doing just that.

I should like to concentrate for a few moments on the first part of the resolution that has been placed before this House. The first part of the resolution reads as follows:

That this House disapproves the government's proposal to retreat by stages from the present cost-sharing arrangements with respect to hospital and medical care programs—

It is obvious that the first component of the resolution is based on a misunderstanding, or possibly a complete misinterpretation of the objectives, concepts and principles of the federal proposal to the provinces for new financing arrangements in the health care field.

Let me emphasize at this point that the view the federal government is retreating by stages or otherwise from its financial responsibilities towards health care is inaccurate, misguided and misleading to Canadians who have come to rely on the existing insured-benefit program and who, in the final analysis, pay the costs thereof. As I will elaborate, the objective of the proposal for new financing arrangements is to provide greater flexibility to the provinces as well as the incentive to re-organize and create greater rationalization in their health care systems. In proposing a new form of contribution—that is, the per capita payment approach with provinces being able to apply the federal payments throughout the entire range of health services—the federal government is merely using the major instrument at its disposal to exert its force for fundamental change and to play the necessary role of the catalyst in expediting such change.

To understand properly the nature and purpose of the latest federal proposal for health care financing, which my colleague the Minister of Finance (Mr. Turner) and I placed before provincial ministers a few days ago, it would be appropriate to review briefly the circumstances which led to a re-examination of existing cost-sharing arrangements and the history of discussions that have taken place with the provinces on this matter for the past two and a half years. As all hon. members of the House are aware, the rate of escalation in costs of insured hospital and medical services has been a major concern to both the federal and provincial governments for a number of years. Several initiatives for reducing the escalation have been undertaken at both levels and on a joint basis. I am pleased to report that the steps that have been taken jointly with the provinces, and also taken by the provinces alone, have led to a situation in which the provinces have achieved a reasonable degree of success in their efforts to control costs. I feel certain that all hon. members will join me in an expression of appreciation to the provinces for such efforts.

However, these measures will have a short-term impact since they are not directed towards removing some of the glaring inefficiencies in the health care system. A more fundamental and comprehensive approach is required, an approach that will concentrate on the identification and development of less costly but equally effective methods of delivering health care services. The report of the committee on the cost of health services, as hon. members know, contains some 80 recommendations for reducing health costs. The majority of these lie in the sphere of the provincial authorities, and in our subsequent assessment of these recommendations in consultation with the provinces it became evident that the present arrangements did not offer sufficient flexibility to provinces to encourage implementation of many of the more economical methods of providing services.

● (1240)

It was in the light of the foregoing circumstances that the provinces, in relation to the recommendations of the committee on the cost of health services, began to press the federal government for more flexibility in the use of the federal contribution. It was in response to this pressure that my predecessor, the Hon. John Munro, made known to his provincial counterparts at the federal-provincial conference of Ministers of Health on December 10 and 11, 1970, that he was prepared to re-examine the existing hospital and medical insurance legislation in consultation with them, for the purpose of developing a new approach to health care financing.

In stating his views at that time, Mr. Munro emphasized the need for a new approach, a rational and flexible approach which would reward efficient and effective provision of services and discourage inefficiency, ineffectiveness and the waste of costly resources. It was suggested that we should be seeking a form of financing arrangement that would enable the provinces to achieve greater flexibility in determining their priorities in the health care field within the context of national goals and in pursuing the most effective approach in line with these priorities; in other words, to encourage the introduction of more economical methods of providing services and other measures conducive to the development of a total health care system.

This is the objective which we established when we started to review the existing legislation and from which we have never deviated in the cause of formulating the latest proposals that we submitted to the provinces. Indeed, during the course of the many discussions which have taken place during the last two years with the provinces, although they disagreed in varying extent with some of the features of our proposals, never questioned the basic objective.

At this point it might be useful to members of the House if I were to set out more precisely these objectives. I will list six of them. They are: One, to reduce the rate of escalation in the cost of health services without impairing the quality of care, but introduce a form of contribution that would provide a greater incentive for control of costs; two, to give the provinces greater flexibility to determine their priorities in the health care field and to pursue the most effective approach in line with these priorities, consistent with the existing national standards; three, to optimize the use of all health resources; four, to permit the development of special programs like the thrust fund to bring about reorganization of the health care delivery system and thereby improve the efficiency of the system. The fifth objective was to simplify the financial arrangements between the federal and provincial governments, and the final objective was to meet the existing system of comprehensiveness, accessibility, universality and portability in respect of the basic hospital and medical care services and to obtain agreement for the co-operative development of additional standards in the over-all area of health services.

Surely, the establishment of these specific objectives as a basis for developing a new financial arrangement with the provinces and the nature of the discussions that have taken place with the provinces during the past two and a

half years cannot in any way be construed as a move on the part of the federal government to retreat by stages from its responsibility in health care financing. We are attempting to introduce a substitute to the rigid forms of agreements that now exist. There is no question of the federal government retreating in any way from the well-established principles of the existing program, or of reducing its over-all role in the health care field.

Mr. Stanfield: Except financing.

Mr. Lalonde: I heard the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Stanfield) refer to financing and I am coming to this. I should like to say a word about the proposals we put forward. It seems that some people, including the Leader of the Opposition, have found these a little bit complex. I will try to make them a little more simple.

What are the features of this formula? The first is a federal per capita contribution to provinces which would replace existing financial arrangements and which would escalate in relation to the growth in the economy with some adjustments that will be shown. The second is that the per capita contributions would begin in 1974-75 and essentially would be based on shareable cost for the fiscal year 1972-73. These base year costs would be adjusted upwards to reflect the introduction of an optometric benefit, unemployment insurance and, where appropriate, special adjustments for particular provinces.

The third is that the base year per capita payment would be escalated through 1973-74 with reference to the GNP plus one per cent. Contributions to provinces, of course, would also take into account population changes. The fourth would be a levelling of provincial per capita payments to a uniform national average over a 10 year period, a thrust fund totalling $640 million to be allocated to the provinces on a per capita basis and to be available to provinces during 1973-74, to be used at the time they want, after discussion and agreement with us, obviously. There would be provision for additional federal contributions to provinces in instances where provincial health spending would grow more rapidly than the rate of growth in federal payments, and a guarantee to provinces against the loss of federal contributions under the Canada Assistance Plan in instances where a province changes the basis for its support to health related services.

These are the basic features of the financial proposal that has been offered to the provinces. In addition, the federal government has assured the provinces that it will maintain its role in the co-operative development of standards, in the development and promulgation of health educational and promotional materials and in the provision of consultative services as required. Obviously, I do not need to spend time here in saying that the intention is to continue the broad range of services that the Department of National Health has been providing to Canadians in various forms for many years. So, the formula is not really complex, but it is not really simple, either.

An hon. Member: It is confusing.

Mr. Lalonde: Some people may be looking for simplistic solutions to these problems.

Mr. Grafftey: It is a bureaucratic nightmare.

[Mr. Lalonde.]

Mr. Lalonde: The present system would be even more complex than this system. What we are offering here is a solution which will certainly not only streamline the system but make it much more effective.

What about the estimated financial implications of this proposal on the basis of current projections of present shareable costs? The federal contribution under the present proposed formula would be greater by $1.1 billion over the next six years than under existing arrangements, and this is on the basis of the present projection of costs over the next six years. Out of this $1.1 billion I have mentioned the provinces would have available the thrust fund I have mentioned of $640 million. That fund would be provided to assist the provinces in reorganizing their health care systems and, in particular, to assist them in developing and introducing more economical methods of delivery care.

We firmly believe that the provinces will benefit considerably through a new financing arrangement such as we have proposed because the increased flexibility in the use of the federal contribution, combined with the innovation that will be possible through the use of the thrust fund, should enable provinces to reduce the rate of escalation in costs without impairing the quality of service. As will be noted, the proposed new formula includes no provision for the financing of new major programs. In this regard, I think you will agree that most provinces would object to the federal government taking an initiative in the development of new services or programs prior to the rationalization of the health care system and thereby releasing some funds from the existing programs that could be used for new programs. But this not excluded in the future.

● (1250)

The start of new programs like denticare or pharmacare is not excluded even on the basis of shared-cost programs. I would refer the hon. member to the statement made by the Minister of Finance on September 14, 1966 to the meeting of the ministers of finance in Ottawa in which it was said that most Canadians expect the federal government to retain some vehicle to bring about new country-wide social and economic advances in the future. He was referring to the cost-shared program. A constitutional paper was prepared for the constitutional conference entitled "Federal-Provincial Grants and the Spending Power of Parliament". There again it was clearly indicated that the federal government would remain in the area of shared-cost programs, but that this would have to be done on the basis of a clear consensus among the provinces. So, what we have here is a formula which, according to our calculations, —and there is always an element of risk; there is no absolute guarantee—would provide over the next six years an amount of over $1 billion more than the present formula would provide for improving the health services in this country.

I must say I was rather surprised and disappointed to read a report in the press of a statement by the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Stanfield) while he was in Vancouver. I am glad he could make it back for the end of this week. On Wednesday, the day after our proposal was made at the conference in Ottawa, he rejected totally the proposal and called it all kinds of names. I would have thought he might have taken the trouble to have at least read it rather than

depend on some garbled message which may have come through from Queen's Park.

Mr. Stanfield: I rise on a point of order, Mr. Speaker. I am wondering whether the literature which the minister was kind enough to send me of the statements by himself and the Minister of Finance (Mr. Turner) are garbled reports or am I entitled to regard those as authorized versions of the latest gospel?

Mr. Lalonde: Well, I can only conclude that the Leader of the Opposition could certainly have improved his service greatly had he obtained a copy of those statements the next morning in his office rather than in Vancouver. I would rather conclude that his master's voice from Queen's Park took no time to reach Vancouver, no more time than it takes to reach Ottawa these days.

I have only a few minutes, Mr. Speaker, and I wish to talk about the health resources fund. The health resources fund has been created to provide health training facilities in Canada. It provides for an amount of $500 million over the next 15 years. Out of that at the present time, as of March 31, 1973, $217 million have been paid to the provinces in contributions toward the costs actually incurred in creating the new facilities and another $81 million is committed to projects under construction. So, there is a total of $298 million committed to assisting in the creation of more than 150 projects forming the major part of our 16 health science centers across the country. But there is still a significant amount of money available in that category. There is an amount of about $200 million. These funds will be sued for major developments in the health research and training field over the next few years.

I must say that the proposed financial arrangements which are presently before the provinces contain provisions for $640 million for thrust funds which are available for both capital and operating requirements. Capital projects which provide less costly alternatives to acute bed facilities could be provided from these funds. This amount of $640 million would be available over a six-year period and, as I say, even if the provinces were not to use it in the six-year period they could still hold it in reserve. This amount should be compared with the $500 million under the health resources fund which was intended originally for a 15-year period. So, that is not such a bad deal.

The provinces have had placed before them, therefore, a proposal which includes a form of tax-sharing approach to which the hon. member for Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands (Mr. Douglas) referred. I might say I am afraid that, in spite of our efforts to reduce the consumption of alcohol and tobacco, I am pretty sure there would still be fairly substantial sources of revenue there for many years to come. If our campaigns should improve that situation, I could almost turn the argument around and say that we could assume a reduction in health costs because of the reduced consumption of tobacco and alcohol. This would mean, therefore, that the provinces would require less money for expenditure in that field.

Under our proposals the provinces would have referred to them six per cent of the income tax revenue plus the revenue from the taxes on alcohol and tobacco which have been mentioned. During the period when the value to the provinces of these additional taxes is less than the total value of the federal contribution toward health, the difference would be made up by a cash payment to the provinces. At the point in time when the value of these taxes begins to exceed the federal contribution, the provinces would keep the surplus. That surplus could be used for health and any other purposes they might wish.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I have to interrupt the minister at this point for two reasons. First, his time has expired. Second, it is one o'clock. If the minister requires only a few minutes more to complete his comments, and if members would grant him unanimous consent, he might be allowed to continue now or at two o'clock. In this respect, the House is in the hands of members. Perhaps we could have an indication from the minister whether he could conclude in the next few minutes or whether he would prefer to resume at two o'clock.

Mr. Lalonde: We could adjourn now, Mr. Speaker. I would require just a few minutes at two o'clock, if that is agreeable.

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Mr. Speaker: It being one o'clock I do now leave the chair to resume the same at two o'clock.

At one o'clock the House took recess.

AFTER RECESS

The House resumed at 2 p.m.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Lalonde: Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank all my colleagues who agreed to give me those few minutes to complete my remarks. I will deal very briefly with our proposal in the field of fiscal transfer.

[*English*]

I have heard several comments in the House about the transfer of the excise tax on alcohol and tobacco. Some hon. members seemed to feel that this was some kind of "bad tax". I am surprised at this introduction of the new concept of bad and good taxes according to the items which are being taxed and according to some moral criterion which should still be defined. The only thing I can say is that be they good or bad—and I suppose all taxes are bad—nevertheless no one has as yet invented a better solution to finance public expenditures. The fact is that the federal government has been spending large sums of money, I think over one billion dollars, over the last year. I am sure that the province of which the hon. member for Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands was premier would not hesitate to impose a tax on alcohol and tobacco to finance its operations, and the same would be true of the province for which the Leader of the Opposition was speaking a few years before he moved to leaner pastures. The federal offer, therefore—and I want to spend more time on this question—is a response to the provinces, both in terms of program control and flexibility and in terms of the willingness of the federal government to shift tax resources to the provinces as a means of financing federal contribu-

tions to health, on the condition that the existing national standards be maintained.

As a result of the proposal that we have put forward, over the next several years the provinces, through the amount provided under the health formula made up of shifted tax resources and cash, will have the flexibility to make adjustments which should make funds available for other health programs. When the point is reached at which the value of these taxes begins to exceed the contribution under the health formula, the surplus, of course, will be available also at provincial discretion for assisting in total health financing, as I previously mentioned.

Mr. Stanfield: In 1995.

Mr. Lalonde: I think that once more the Leader of the Opposition is quite wrong. I suggest that he sharpen his pencil and he will find out that the cross over for many provinces will be some time in the early 1980s. I am not surprised that the finances of Nova Scotia were in such a bad shape when he left if he used such methods of calculation.

In conclusion, the federal proposal stresses the maintenance of the existing national standards and provides flexibility and thrust funds which will allow the federal funds to be used by the provinces for their total health financing. I think I can also say that several provinces would object in particular to new major shared-cost programs at this time, such as implied by the resolution before the House.

The mover of the motion asked a few questions in his speech, and I would like to spend a minute on them. First of all, he asked whether the $1.1 billion surplus which would be appearing according to our proposal over the next six years will cover 50 per cent of the cost of hospital and medical care. I can only tell him that this excess of $1.1 billion has been arrived at on the basis of figures provided by the provinces after many consultations and meetings with the provinces, and that on the basis of present projections as provided by the provinces over the next six years $1.1 billion more will be coming to the provinces for health expenditures than they would be getting under the continued present system of fifty-fifty sharing under the medicare and hospital insurance acts. I can assure him of that. I for one would say that if I were on the other side and if I were given a bet with odds of 1.1 billion, I think I would be crazy to refuse it. I would certainly not hesitate to take such a bet.

So far as the second question is concerned, as to whether it would be adequate to move into phase two and three of health care, I am not quite sure to what the hon. member was referring. I presume he was talking in terms of denticare and pharmacare, but I am not sure that that is what he had in mind. If that is the case, obviously this financing formula does not provide for those programs, but it has been quite clear from the beginning in our discussions with the provinces that the financing formula was not aimed at covering these plans. If the provinces were to agree with the federal government to embark upon new, substantial programs such as denticare and pharmacare on a universal basis, then there would obviously have to be new agreements, new discussions, and probably new legislation to put such programs into effect. As I have stated before, there is nothing in our proposal that would preclude such an eventuality.

Let me say in conclusion that we believe what we have proposed is a fair and responsible answer to the problem. The moneys available are much more substantial than those available under the existing programs. Obviously, the provinces are free to reject the proposal; that is their right. But the federal offer has been made after over two and a half years of discussion, and if the provinces decide to reject it or refuse to consider it any further, at any rate let us not hear any more about federal rigidity and refusal to co-operate. I think the Canadian public and this House should know at whose door any blame should lie.

• (1410)

Mr. Heath Macquarrie (Hillsborough): Mr. Speaker, I am happy to be able to participate in the discussion of what I think is a most excellent motion presented with a most excellent speech by the hon. member for Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands (Mr. Douglas). It seems to me that members of his party are generally at their best when opposing the government, an exercise in which they are not getting much practice but they can still do it. I listened most attentively to the hon. gentleman and found myself in agreement with the vast majority of his speech and I commend him.

It is an important subject. I notice that the minister said that the motion gave him the first opportunity to discuss this subject. I would say to him that it should not have been the first opportunity; he should have made a statement on motions before this conference or at least he certainly should have made a statement on motions after its dismal collapse. There should not be any reluctance to discuss in this House, before representatives of the people of Canada, the plans which he has made for the very important portfolio which he now holds.

There are so many areas of concern of which we must take note that I wondered which particular segment the hon. member for Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands would choose. There is great concern across the country for the casual, foot-dragging and underplaying with regard to the grave drug situation in this country. There is great anxiety, too, about the need to move quickly toward more efficiency in health care. The proposal of the Canadian Nurses Association is something which I think should commend immediate attention. There is great anxiety with the cynical disregard which there now seems to be for the whole question of medical research. One is appalled at the minute increase in the vote in this tremendously important field in this year's estimates which is just a little over $2,000. The hon. member for Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands, having decided to move into this field, must have had quite an exercise in intellectuality in choosing the area of immediate concern.

In his speech the minister indicated that, in his view, the plan which was so brusquely turned aside by the provinces a few days ago was not in fact a complicated plan. When I read the document I thought it was a bit complicated.

Mr. Stanfield: Deliberately so.

Mr. Macquarrie: After hearing the minister "elucidate" this morning I now know it was complicated.

Mr. Stanfield: Deliberately so.

Mr. Macquarrie: In this I agree with that great organ in the city of Toronto, the *Globe and Mail* which in an editorial this morning said:

> Whether it was another failure or a bargaining ploy by the provinces, one thing is certain: the federal proposals were so complex that most Canadians would not have read them, let alone understood them, which is a bad state of affairs in a democracy.

When I read that I thought perhaps that gray shadowy person behind the legislative process in this country, that "genius" who dreamed up the FISP bill of the last parliament, must have employed himself in the convolutions that went into this plan.

Mr. Stanfield: The same fellow.

Mr. Macquarrie: It may indeed, as some of my colleagues suggest, be more than one. Perhaps it was a group effort or a committee effort and we know what committees can do sometimes. The formula is certainly cumbersome. But one thing about it was crystal clear; it was a bum deal for the provinces which they very smartly rejected on behalf of the people for whom they are trying to provide the best of medical service. I cannot but agree with the course they took.

I noticed with pleasure the reference of the mover of this motion to a document which I have often mentioned in this House, the Rowell-Sirois Commission Report on Dominion-Provincial Relations. It seemed to me that the minister somewhat denigrated this by suggesting that it happened to be a document of some decades ago. I am not one who necessarily believes that those things which are well established are automatically of no value. I think I have read most, if not all, documents on the Canadian constitution since the Rowell-Sirois Commission Report and I have yet to see one which in my judgment has a firmer grasp of the needs and values and priorities of our federal structure than that very fine document.

The only place where I may differ from the hon. member from Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands, is that being an ardent Canadian nationalist, I use the word "dominion" when I discuss these matters whereas he uses the more American expression "federal" but we all know what document we are talking about. I was impressed by what the hon. mover said about the irony of zeroing in on liquor and tobacco. Long ago in the legislature of the province of Prince Edward Island where the tax base is not so broad, Mr. Speaker, and where it is important to find every area you can for revenue, there was a discussion on the estimates and it seemed that the only place where revenues were expanding was from the taxes on liquor. The leader of my party at that time, a very distinguished physician, Dr. MacMillan, said "I still think, Mr. Speaker, that we cannot really drink our way into prosperity". I say to the people of Canada that they cannot smoke and drink their way into improved health.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Macquarrie: I think we have to base our confidence on something a little better than that. I believe, as one who is something of an authority at least in a part of this realm because I gave up smoking long before I even heard of Miss Judy LaMarsh—

An hon. Member: How about drinking?

Mr. Macquarrie: I am here to orate, not to confess. I should like to say that, while we can find our moments of levity as demonstrated by the mover of the motion who has the light touch which I lack, being a dour, serious man on Highland Scottish extraction, the question is in fact a very serious one.

This week we had the very disturbing collapse of an essential dialogue between the two jurisdictions in this country. We had assembled the ministers representing the provinces and dominion in an area of immense importance to all Canadians, the field of health. A two-day conference was arranged which broke up after a one-day meeting, and I think the abruptness of the termination disturbed all of us and disturbed the people we represent. I have been looking over the various news items because I was not allowed into the conference. These things are now held behind closed doors. As I read the items I find room for deeper anxiety. The headlines read: "Federalism endangered by plan, Manitoba says"; 'There's no gain in it for us,' Crosbie says in rejecting proposal"; "No agreement on health costs", and all across the board there is a lack of confidence and a feeling of dismay that on this important question the two jurisdictions were not able to proceed.

The minister closed his peroration with the suggestion that it would not be difficult to place the blame and he implied that it lay with the provinces. I say that the major responsibility for the collapse of this very important conference lies in the inflexibility of the federal government of the day.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Macquarrie: Attitudes like that are revealed in an article by Peter Calamai, one of the most highly informed journalists in this field, which appeared in the Ottawa *Citizen* on May 7. The column is headlined, "No more sweetening of kitty: Lalonde". With an attitude like that at the beginning of a dominion-provincial conference, how in the world can we expect there to be a reasonable and harmonious discussion of this important matter. This government, which I consider as having been in office for one decade, and God knows that is too long, laid upon the provinces rigid restrictions in this field. Into that rigid framework the provinces have had to enter and administer the important and costly program of health care. It ill becomes the representative of the federal government at this stage of the game, after having laid down the rigid rules, to suggest that now he will leave to the provinces these rapidly accelerating costs and try to escape as far as he can from bearing the burden of these costs, many of them geared to the rigid formula inspired here, in Ottawa.

● (1420)

I am sure we all want the people of Canada to have a health care plan that is not only adequate but ample. I agree with the hon. member for Nanaimo-Cowichan-The

Islands. Other countries in the world are ahead of us in this field and there is no reason why they should be. We are now at the stage in our social development where the proper health care of all Canadians is a social necessity. It is a priority under our way of life. We cannot turn the clock back to the so-called glorious days of laissez-faire, because we know that even under our system substantial numbers of Canadians, this day, this hour, are left with inadequate care. One thinks of the permanently handicapped and of those, as the mover of the motion mentioned, who day after day must take costly drugs in order to maintain a viable standard of health.

We are all concerned about the tremendous increases in costs which have occurred in the last few years in this field, and we know that the provinces are bearing a tremendous burden in this field. Again, I agree with the hon. member for Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands. It is outrageous to suggest that the provinces are playing fast and loose with these funds and that they cannot be trusted. That is an outrageous suggestion. If the federal government cannot come up with something more realistic and generous than the complicated program thrown at the provinces the other day, it had better stick to the 50-50 formula. It is far better to stick with that than bring forward the kind of suggestion under which the government might do something in the 1980's to alleviate the situation.

I suppose the only element that could be more ironic than underpinning alcohol and tobacco would be designating the year 1984 as the year when action will be taken.

Mr. Stanfield: Tax sharing might be significant by that year.

Mr. Macquarrie: In the short time at my disposal, and I never like to speak beyond my time, may I say that in my view it is incumbent on the minister and the government, instead of sitting back now in a sulk, to negotiate seriously with the provinces; to start all over again, if necessary, to confess that they have been too rigid, too arrogant, too haughty, and to find a way whereby the federal government may maintain its traditional and proper role in ensuring minimal standards of health care across this country. At the same time, it must provide to the provinces sufficient resources to enable them to develop their own health systems which are geared to their own particular needs. It must give the provinces the administrative elbow room to develop within their own jurisdictions their own health systems so that they can obtain the maximum value for every dollar spent by either or both jurisdictions. We have had too much bureaucratic rigidity, too much of the take it or leave it attitude, too much of, "adopt our view, or go back to your provincial capitals".

I believe that if our government were to display sufficient sensitivity in this area, it would adopt certain priorities. I will name them in my limited time. First, the government should ensure that all Canadians get value for those tax dollars which go to meeting health care costs. We must take these things seriously. Second, it should ensure that each province has a fair and equitable share of tax revenues, either under the tax points system or under some other system, so that the provinces can meet their responsibilities for current health care programs and for those programs which are needed to meet particular conditions within each province. Third, it should ensure what the present plan certainly does not ensure, that provision is made for the relative growth in revenues. These would have to be viewed realistically. Fourth, a sensitive, thoughtful and preceptive federal government would, of course, preserve its own power to use the fiscal system in order to maintain economic stabilization. It will also, and here I echo the Rowell-Sirois Commission whose chief prophet today is the hon. member for Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands, ensure the preservation of the principles of universality, comprehensiveness, accessibility and portability. These principles must be maintained.

Where we are most deficient, it seems to me, is in the lack of reasonable flexibility. When the late Prime Minister Pearson was in the House, he often talked about co-operative federalism. You do not hear that expression so much now and I do not think one sees it practised so much now, either. The federal system, as any historian or political scientist will tell you, is an extremely difficult one to operate. You cannot operate it by ultimata or by dicta. You can only operate it by continuous concession, constant compromise and eternal good will; declarations such as, "This is the last sweetener we are going to put into the kitty, take it or leave it", are recipes for the destruction of federalism. Federalism can crack on matters of social and economic concern as well as on deep political and emotional issues. Here, again, I find myself in accord with the mover of this motion. This is a matter of great importance. This is probably the biggest challenge the minister has faced and, so far, he has failed.

An hon. Member: Ha!

Mr. Macquarrie: If the sudden departure of the representatives of the provinces to their capitals is not a sign of failure, I do not know what more dynamic or dramatic indication one would want. I trust that the Liberal backbencher who laughed at my assertion a moment ago will take this seriously. I think the apparent lack of concern shown by the government has created a major crack in the whole structure of Canadian federalism. I hope, when this matter is taken up again by the first ministers, that we will see a bit more concern, a bit less callousness, more consideration and less inflexibility; otherwise not only our national health plan but our federal structure may be greatly endangered.

● (1430)

[*Translation*]

Mr. C. A. Gauthier (Roberval): Mr. Speaker, I should not like to miss this chance of saying a few words on the New Democratic Party's motion that reads as follows:

That this House disapproves the Government's proposal to retreat by stages from the present cost-sharing arrangements with respect to hospital and medical care programs and calls upon the Government to fund all health services on a 50-50 basis and to expand the Health Resources Fund to enable the Provincial Governments to improve their health services.

Mr. Speaker, I cannot give my wholehearted approval to this motion for the good reason that I see from reading it that it is the product of a socialist mind. I am not one bit socialist myself, but a democrat and where the provinces are concerned, I am for independence, which is why I

cannot accept the whole motion although I am in favour of parts of it.

This motion takes us back to the history of federalism, joint tax programs, and federal government spending power.

I had the privilege today of listening to the speech of the hon. Minister of National Health and Welfare (Mr. Lalonde). I was pleased to hear a former technocrat expressing his view on the profitability of federalism which he has been preaching for some years, as he did especially when he was the great mind behind the Rt. Hon. Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau). And the statements he made today did not surprise me, as I knew nothing had changed, for every proposal made in the House was inspired by those technocrats. Indeed, I have always said that the present Parliament is being led by the technocrats, and that it is they who think up the legislation before asking us to pass it.

The proposals made at the meeting on May 8 were simply a repetition of those made at the meeting on January 19, although some have been slightly amended.

The Minister of National Health and Welfare said earlier that he needed more money. When health is concerned he needs more money and we get less for our money from those services.

I think we should consider carefully the current government proposals modified for the provinces. As recorded in *Hansard* for May 9 on page 3599, the Minister of Finance who was giving details of those proposals stated, and I quote:

> First, we would be prepared to reduce the rate of federal personal income tax by 6 percentage points. These tax points would be equalized to the national average under the existing provisions of the Fiscal Arrangements Act. The federal government would give a firm undertaking to effect this transfer. But, for reasons I shall explain in a moment, . . .

And he gave a few reasons for proceeding immediately with certain transfers. Again I quote:

> Second, we would be prepared to eliminate the existing federal excise taxes and duties on domestic and imported tobacco products, spirits, brandy, wine and beer. Provincial governments would then be able to move into this tax room without any increase in costs to consumers . . . Third, to the extent that the value of the tax cut is not sufficient to pay for the federal contribution for health services, as determined under the GNP-escalated formula, the federal government would make this up by a cash adjustment.

However, when you consider that these proposals have been submitted by the provincial governments we say on their behalf that of course the current proposals are unacceptable to the provinces for the good reason that they will get even less, whatever the minister says, in return for the rights they have given up in favour of the federal government more than 40 years ago. What astounds me is the behaviour of the government which is always making submissions to the provinces whereas under a true federalism, the provinces should express their wishes to the central government. We are doing here what we blame the large unions for, that is, we are entirely forgetting the wishes of the grass roots to consider only those of the leaders. I think that the federal government is asserting itself in the same way as the big union leaders. The Minister of National Health and Welfare said elsewhere in his statement: "If the provinces do not approve of it, all they have to do is reject it." But he failed to add that if they refuse they will have nothing, which is simple. Reference is made to agreements with the provinces. But what is the nature of those agreements? The federal government stands before the provincial governements and says: This is what we want. You are free to accept it or reject it, but if you reject it, you will get nothing. The Minister of National Health and Welfare himself has just repeated those words.

• (1440)

Mr. Speaker, we call this coercion by leaders antidemocracy or dictatorial federalism, and the provinces cannot submit to this any more than union members can accept the conduct of certain union leaders who unilaterally impose their decisions on the provinces without even consulting them. And that is exactly what the federal government has been doing for many years as we witness ever more inquiries and federal-provincial conferences such as that of May 8, with decreasing success. And we witness the clash of brains between officials who are well installed in all departments and who are seeking a new gimmick in order to pester everybody and give more authority to the central government, while provinces are being turned into mere vassal institutions. What is regretable in Quebec is that we do not have a government strong enough to stop this invasion by the federal government. What did all these meetings with provinces bring as concrete results?

Mr. Speaker, one has only to read the newspapers of the day following this famous meeting to see once again the deplorable state of the situation. In the *Montréal-Matin* of May 9, for instance, we read and I quote:

> Ottawa and the provinces on the warpath.

There is nothing new about them being on the warpath and I think they will continue to be because responsibilities are not outlined. I for one have always been opposed to these joint programs. I was glad, in the years of the former prime minister, the late Right Hon. Mr. Pearson, when he informed us that should he stay in office for another two years, there would not remain a single joint program. He had promised to remove them all. But six months later, the Liberal party compelled him to resign and elected another prime minister. Since then, joint plans have been increased threefold, and I say that so long as we have that system without a sharing of responsibilities, we shall have this quibbling. What I am hoping for is that if a province turns any specific field over to the federal government it does so on a 100 per cent basis, and not 25, 40, 75 or 80 per cent, a little game that leads to all this continuous bickering. It is still true that "Ottawa and the provinces are on the warpath". Here is what one can read in the May 9, 1973, issue of *Montréal-Matin*:

> TOTAL FAILURE OF CONFERENCE
>
> SQUABBLING OF FINANCE, HEALTH AND EDUCATION MINISTERS
>
> The double conference of ministers of Finance and Health and Finance and Education respectively ended in total failure. Having been unable to agree on the financing formula proposed, at both levels, by the Trudeau government, the participants decided to go home and refer the whole problem to the premiers who are to meet in two weeks in Ottawa.

As the first lot was unable to agree, the matter will be referred to the provincial premiers, who will agree no better. Like the premier of Quebec, when they return from some conference where they achieved absolutely nothing, they claim to be satisfied and even say so on television programs. This, of course, is to disguise the party's failure, as citizens are inevitably the victims. I continue quoting:

> This dramatic development came about at a time when there were indications, at least according to federal spokesmen, of provincial interest in the federal proposals. But it is now clear that that optimism was forced and that, on the contrary, the provinces demanded a higher degree of flexibility in the fields under their constitutional jurisdiction.
>
> This failure is even more serious for the federal government especially as the minister of Health and Welfare, Mr. Marc Lalonde, had succeeded, a fortnight ago, in obtaining the unanimous approval of the provinces concerning the objectives of his program to review the social security system.

Some approval! How happy Mr. Castonguay said he was, in Quebec, upon his return from Ottawa when he said that at last there had been an agreement. And how! He has left the entire administration to the federal government. Incidentally, with regard to family allowances, that is what we want. That is what the country wants. If the family allowances system is turned over to the jurisdiction of the federal government, then let it take it over 100 per cent and then one will be able to say whether they administer it well or bad, but, let no one say that 40 per cent of the administration will be left to the federal government and 60 per cent to the provincial government or vice versa. Once again, those particulars should be determined clearly, to avoid quarrels.

To go back to my quotation:

> The fact that the dual question of health care and postsecondary education has been referred to the government leaders themselves is a clear indication that relations between Ottawa and the provinces are not at their best.
>
> Generally, the provinces want the federal government to move out of a vast field of taxation to allow the provincial governments to finance their own particular programs without having to beg endlessly and remain in a state of dependence upon the central government.

For that, the provinces and ourselves blame the federal government.

> Before leaving, the provincial minister of Finance, Mr. Raymond Garneau, stated that if Quebec had accepted the federal proposals on financing postsecondary education, it would have lost several million dollars.
>
> As for the financing of health care, Mr. Garneau finds the Turner formula too complex and not generous enough. Instead of the 28 tax points Quebec demanded, Ottawa offers only six—

And the Minister of National Health and Welfare (Mr. Lalonde) spoke a while ago of $1,100 million.

It is nice to talk about an increase of one billion one hundred million dollars over a period of six years, but if, for example, Quebec's expenditures for hospital services were to double, what would this billion be worth? This is very relative. If I am offered a billion tomorrow I would be crazy to refuse it, but we must think in the long term. With regard to the future expenditures of a province, what is this billion worth? It may be worth a trifle and this is why we are not ready to accept such amounts without first knowing, Mr. Speaker, if expenditures will rise or fall.

[Mr. Gauthier (Roberval).]

It is obvious that in the present situation—and I could mention six other items, but I will be satisfied with one—we suggest that the government accept the *status quo*, i.e. what was paid formerly to the provinces, because we must live in this upside down federalism; let us accept the formula of paying in equal parts the expenses of the provinces. This first proposal was much more equitable; by accepting to pay half of the expenses of the provinces, if the expenses increase, it is understood that the payments of the federal government will increase because, after all, it is the role of the federal government. It merely collects taxes to transfer them to the provinces. This is not funny, but it should play that role. Today, it benefits from its situation as collector to impose its will, to become a dictator, and this is why we would prefer the equal share formula for some time while waiting for a true revival of Confederation. We are now living with dictatorial federalism. If we come to a true revival of Confederation, the provinces will have something to say. They will then determine together the activities of the federal government in our country, as was done 40 or 50 years ago. At least, under the equal share formula, the provinces had or still have something to say. They can choose the quality of medical care and improve them and they are always assured that the central government will have to supply its share. In a word, they can still prepare their budget in accordance with the needs of the population instead of gearing health services to the amount that Ottawa will be kind enough to give them. The federal government could withdraw completely from such provincial fields as health and education. Let it withdraw completely and leave it entirely to the provinces—

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Laniel): Order. I regret to have to interrupt the hon. member but the time allotted to him is now expired.

• (1450)

[*English*]

Mr. B. Keith Penner (Thunder Bay): Mr. Speaker, it has come to my attention that there are quite a number of members who wish to participate in this debate. If there is agreement from all sides of the House, perhaps the suggestion could be accepted that henceforth there be a 15 minute limit on speeches, which would enable all members to have an opportunity of speaking before we adjourn for the weekend.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Laniel): Hon. members have heard the suggestion. Is that agreed?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Mr. Penner: Mr. Speaker, as an elected representative from one of the slow growth, developing regions of this country I should like to make a brief contribution to this debate and to express some of the concerns of those I represent. The tone of my arguments will be in direct contradistinction to the hon. member who has just spoken, particularly with reference to the role of the federal government in the health care field.

Any consideration of health care in Canada must, of course, include reference to the quality and and extent of service and the cost of all aspects of any comprehensive

health care program. The Minister of National Health and Welfare (Mr. Lalonde) has proposed to the provinces that existing shared-cost programs under the Hospital Insurance Diagnostic Services Act and the Medical Care Act be replaced by a single program under which the provinces would be free to use federal payments in whatever way would best assist them in the development of their health care programs.

The argument in favour of this proposal is that the provincial governments would have greater flexibility in introducing more effective and more economic methods of dispensing health care. In short, it is suggested that acceptance by the provinces of this scheme would mean better health care at less cost. That is what we want in Canada and it is what we should strive for. But is that what the result would be from this different approach to the financing of health services in Canada?

Speaking personally, Mr. Speaker, I am reluctantly just a little sceptical about the free-hand approach to the provinces, and I should like to try to explain why. I know the contention that this would be a step toward clarifying which government is taxing us to do what; but I am also aware of the tendency of some provinces, especially the one in which I happen to live, Ontario, blatantly to neglect their underdeveloped and remote regions. It is the federal government which has expressed primary concern for regional disparities, and in my view this must apply to health care as well as to economic development.

Rather than seeing less involvement of the federal government in health care services, I would favour a more active presence, particularly in the delivery of health care services in the more remote and underdeveloped regions of Canada. At the present time, as all hon. members know, the federal government is responsible for the health care of native people living on reserves. If you asked any chief or band council whether they would like this responsibility transferred to the provinces, you would get a very quick and strongly worded negative response.

Why is this, Mr. Speaker? Because Indian people know that they are much better served, in most cases, than are their brothers and fellow citizens living off the reserve in a remote area and who come under provincial jurisdiction. Non-native people who witness the establishment of nursing stations on reserves and who know that there are regular visits of medical specialists and dentists to isolated Indian communities quite rightly ask the question: Why can't we have these same services, the same quality of services? It is an empty, hollow answer to tell them that they come under provincial jurisdiction, we are sorry. The indignant rebuttal to that by my constituents is: If that is the way it is, then we, too, want to be under the federal umbrella for health care services; we want Ottawa to provide us with access to health care services which the province refuses to do. To persons residing in more isolated areas where there is a serious lack of hospital facilities and health workers, accessibility simply means the availability of services. It is of very little benefit to a citizen to have publicly financed health insurance coverage if he has only very limited opportunity for reasonable access to necessary and appropriate health care when it is required.

Access to health care is now being identified in a number of charters on human rights. It is my understanding that the primary objective of the existing federal health insurance legislation was to ensure that all Canadians would have access to services, irrespective of their ability to pay and regardless of where they live.

One of the difficulties which I see in the motion that is now before the House is that it calls only for the federal government to issue a blank cheque to the provinces for health care services. It says nothing about insisting that the provinces do a better job of distributing these services fairly and equitably in order to get the money from the federal treasury which is being offered to them. This government has endeavoured to adopt a fairly high profile in doing something about regional economic disparity. I ask them now to adopt an equally high profile in seeing to it that regions like northern Ontario receive much more in the way of health care services and facilities. Leaving the field open to the provinces, giving the provinces a free hand, will likely mean that those who now have will get more, and the have-nots will still be no better off.

From time to time we hear much said about constitutional propriety as related to such responsibilities as health care. That is a fascinating academic diversion, but it does nothing to help the men, women and children who live on the expanding frontiers of Canada and who deserve at least as much as their urban cousins namely the right to medical attention and health care as and when it is needed. It is the federal presence in this field which can guarantee help to those who need it most. If the federal government is seeking to retreat from the health care field—and I hope that is not the case; I have read again the minister's speech and I am assured that it is not the case—if there is any tendency or temptation in this direction, then I urge every possible reconsideration. Instead, I make the plea for a more active, direct involvement by the federal government in this field. To leave the provinces free to use federal payments in any way they like for the development of health care programs will only mean hardship, particularly for those who live in the vast region of northern Ontario.

The Department of National Health and Welfare Act charges the minister of that department with the responsibility for all matters relating to the promotion and preservation of the health, social security and social welfare of the people of Canada over whom the parliament of Canada has jurisdiction. In addition, there is to be co-operation with provincial authorities with a view to co-ordinating efforts made or proposed for preserving and improving the public health. I am not certain that there is a desire on the behalf of the federal government to retreat from this responsibility, but if that were so, then I would certainly oppose such a move. There is a need in Canada for the federal authority to become more closely involved with the provinces in the health care field; to co-operate more in efforts to improve public health; to take more initiatives, not less; to show more leadership and not draw back and give a free hand to a province like Ontario which is hardly aware of its own geography north of Sudbury, Sault Ste. Marie or west of Thunder Bay.

● (1500)

Since the Second World War, one of the most striking developments in the health care field in Canada has been the progressive involvement of the government. It is no

longer accepted wisdom that medicine and government should never mix. The federal government's primary objective in the health field has been to promote and assist the development of essential services on a nationwide basis, the development of comparable standards of service across Canada, and to help make available the human, physical and financial resources required to provide these services. Much has been accomplished, and we do not need to review it all now.

This is not the time, however, to weaken the federal presence in the responsibility for health care; this is a time to strengthen it. To withdraw the federal presence and replace it only with tax points and other financial resources would be wrong. It would be much better, it seems to me, to remain an active participant and see that our 50 per cent share, or whatever it is, is being spent for the maximum benefit of Canadians and is fairly distributed.

The Minister of National Health and Welfare has clearly stated that the basic standards of comprehensiveness, accessibility, universality and portability would be maintained under any new scheme of health financing. I only wish I could share his faith that in giving the provinces more freedom and flexibility the result will be better health services at less cost. Maybe that will be so for British Columbia or Manitoba—I do not know—but as one who comes from northern Ontario I can tell the House that we have absolutely no faith or confidence in the government which presently occupies the seat of power at Queen's Park. Our medical care premiums are among the highest in Canada, yet in vast stretches of the province of Ontario there is little or nothing in the way of health care services.

Whatever the financial arrangements may be that the minister will work out with the provinces, I urge this government to have a strong voice in seeing that the funds allocated are appropriately and equitably used by the provincial authorities.

Hon. Robert Stanfield (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, I do not intend to enter into a debate with the hon. member who has just resumed his seat, except to say that it seems to me a good deal of his speech would have been more appropriately made to the legislature at Queen's Park rather than here.

I should like to address myself to some of the things the minister said. I am sorry he is not here. I am sure he has a valid reason for being out of the House. The minister took a pot-shot at me for being out of the House in the middle of the week. I am sure a pressing engagement has taken him from the House, but I am sorry he is not here. I would feel a little easier saying some of the things I intend to say if he was here to hear them.

An hon. Member: It couldn't be that important.

Mr. Stanfield: We will see how important it is. First let me say that the minister took exception to a comment I made on Wednesday in respect of his proposal, and made the charge that I had made comments without knowing what he had said. The minister has a tendency toward this kind of offhand, snide comment. Apparently he had forgotten that his office, which is much more courteous than he is, had sent me full documentation of the proposals. I had that documentation before me and was able to read and study it.

I may tell the minister through you, Sir, that I have had quite long experience in analysing proposals put forward by the Department of National Health, both here and in connection with my former responsibilities. Although the proposal here is complex, as has usually been the case, it does not take anybody with ten years' experience or more in analysing such proposals to see through them rather quickly. I am sure the distinguished member of the NDP who sponsored this motion was able to analyse the proposals in the same way. I do not take offence easily, but I resent the kind of stupid remark the minister made, when he does not even know what his own officials are doing as far as dispensing information is concerned.

It is very clear that the main purpose of the minister is to restrict federal financial responsibility in this area. That is the main purpose of this whole exercise, although it has been dressed up with a lot of talk about flexibility, and so on. I do not question the earnestness or the desire of the minister or his department to exercise the machinery which exists for controlling the growth of and the expenditure for these programs. I do not question their sincerity, but the whole purpose of this exercise is to limit the increase in the financial responsibility of this government. That is the main thing I want to say this afternoon, and that is why I suggest that any provincial government which accepts this proposal is out of its mind. I put it as simply and as bluntly as that.

The schemes which are in effect today were put forward by the federal government in the areas of hospitalization and medical care. There was no negotiation or discussion about essential matters. The hon. member for Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands (Mr. Douglas) will recall very well, I am sure, that there was no give and take on any matter of consequence. The principles and the main features of these programs were laid down by the federal government, and that was that—the provinces either took them or left them.

Now the federal government has apparently made up its mind that it is not getting full value for the programs it laid out, and wants to restrict its financial liability. It talks about injecting flexibility into the programs but gives no indication at all as to how a province such as Nova Scotia, for example, can finance these measures and achieve flexibility. It is all very well to talk about building nursing homes and a whole scheme of institutions to take care of people, but you first must have the money to do that. For years this government would not even participate in cash grants for the construction of hospital beds. My hon. friend from Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands recalls all this well, as I recall it.

When the Minister of National Health and Welfare (Mr. Lalonde) talks about the federal contribution equalling 50 per cent of the total cost of these programs in future years—and he says it will—I have not the slightest confidence in his projections or his figures, because the whole point of the exercise is to restrict the growth of future responsibility. If that was not the point, the government would not be moving away from the 50-50 cost-sharing arrangement.

There is room for legitimate argument and discussion as to what the federal presence should be in respect of the administration and delivery of health programs, how much the federal government should be involved and how much the provincial governments should be involved. But there can be no room for argument about the responsibility of the federal government to participate fully in these financial responsibilities. The government is welshing on that aspect of the matter, Sir, and that is what angers me. It brought the provinces into these programs and it is now trying to welsh on its financial responsibility and its general responsibility to the Canadian people.

● (1510)

Now the government has introduced, for perhaps some kind of smokescreen, a proposed tax-sharing arrangement which even the Minister of Finance (Mr. Turner) calculates—and I have no more confidence in what he says in 1973 than I had in what he said in 1972—would mean that even in 1977 the amount the provinces would receive under this arrangement would constitute only 75 per cent of the federal financial responsibility. Presumably that means that we would be well into the 1980s before these tax-sharing arrangements would have any real significance to the provinces. Are we to take up time in the House and in discussion between the federal government and the provinces, with all the problems which lie ahead in the 1970s talking about some kind of phony proposal which might possibly have some significance in the 1980s?

In the end we come right down to the fact that an adequate health delivery program is vitally important to every Canadian. There is no doubt about that. I refuse to be a party to any effort by the federal government to welsh on its responsibility and limit its risk, leaving the provinces to accept the full risk in a situation into which the federal government led the provinces, sometimes willingly and sometimes not so willingly.

Be that as it may, we are now operating under programs which the federal government says are not producing results commensurate with the amount of money being spent on them. I say, let the federal government work with the provinces to make the health delivery system more efficient and more valuable to the Canadian people, but let us not have the federal government, under some talk about flexibility and tax-sharing arrangements and guff like that, try to restrict its responsibility and let the provinces wrestle with an increasing financial load which will be felt by the wealthier provinces and which we know is very unfair to the poorer provinces. I wish the minister had not been in such a hurry to leave the House. I would have liked him to be here so that I could have told him personally of these things. If he does not read these comments I hope I will have another opportunity of putting them to him.

Mr. David Orlikow (Winnipeg North): Mr. Speaker, most Canadians and most Members of Parliament have lived with the universal hospital and medical insurance plans which are in effect in every province in Canada for so long that they tend to forget what the situation was before we had them. They have eliminated the worry tremendous debt which could be, and was, incurred by Canadian citizens, and not just those in the lower income brackets, before we had this kind of system. I have read an article by the Washington correspondent of the *New Republic* which appeared in that magazine on February 10, 1973. He compares what happens in countries such as Canada, Great Britain and Finland, where there are insurance plans to take care of hospital and medical costs, with what happens in the United States. I wish to place some of his comments on the record in case some hon. members do not remember what happened a couple of years ago. He quotes from an NBC documentary and says:

> There was this lower-middle-income worker with a heart attack. The hospital took him in, thinking he was covered by California's state health insurance; he wasn't. He cashed his life insurance for $4000 and gave it to the hospital, but he was left with $8000 still to pay. The doctor told him to go home, take it easy, relax, don't worry about anything.

How could he help but worry? The article continues:

> A woman we know went to the hospital recently for an emergency check-up and chose a low-price room; she was discharged two days later—hospital bill $237.10. The American Hospital Association says a day in a hospital now averages $105.30. Health costs have shot up 40 per cent in four years.

That is the situation in the United States where there are no hospital or medical insurance plans. We have such plans in Canada because the CCF government of Saskatchewan, headed at the time by my colleague the hon. member for Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands (Mr. Douglas), did not wait for the other provinces or the federal government but implemented on its own a full hospital insurance plan and, later, a medical insurance plan. Then the federal government came forth with an offer to the provinces to pay half the cost of a hospital insurance plan provided it was universal.

I remember the opposition there was to that proposal from the provinces. I remember a former Conservative Premier of Manitoba, Mr. Roblin who at that time was the leader of the official opposition objecting violently to that proposal. According to him, all that was necessary was that the province of Manitoba pick up the tab for those people who could not afford to pay premiums into Blue Cross, the voluntary hospital plan. However, the people of Manitoba insisted on having a universal plan to cover hospital costs. Now we have it in every province.

I remember that when the Liberal government under Mr. Pearson made its proposal about universal medical insurance coverage and told the provinces it would share half the cost of the program, Premier Robarts, the Conservative Premier of Ontario, objected bitterly. He did not want the plan. However, he finally came into it not because he wanted the province to be part of a universal plan but because the people of Ontario said it was a good idea, particularly if 50 per cent of the cost was to be paid by the federal government. So Ontario and the other provinces came in.

We made a good beginning to this kind of program, but it was only a beginning. We still ought to be thinking about coverage for optical expenses, for dental expenses and for the cost of prescription drugs which are tremendously expensive. We certainly will not get the provinces to think about these things, even if Ottawa were to make such a proposal, because Ottawa is now saying to the provinces that it gave them a cost-sharing program for hospital and medical insurance and now it intends to get

out and leave the provinces to carry the ball. Any provincial government which would think about co-operating with Ottawa to implement a denticare plan, an optical plan or a prescription drug plan, when Ottawa takes this approach to shared-cost programs, would have to be crazy.

The federal government is worried about the escalating cost of the present hospital and medical insurance plans. So it should be. Ottawa is no more worried than is every provincial government in this country because these costs are escalating. There is no questions about it, they are going up at a very rapid rate. So all governments are worried about what can be done. Just as Ottawa has been looking at the problem, the provincial governments have been looking at their plans to see what can be done. A number of suggestions have been made. Many of the suggestions which seem most likely to help reduce costs could be put into action very quickly by the provinces, except that Ottawa is not now committed to pay for alternative care.

● (1520)

Let me illustrate what I mean. The cost of hospitalization in one of our general hospitals is now running at between $65 and $90 a day per bed. If a person in any city in this country is hospitalized, no questions are asked; Ottawa pays half the costs for standard care. But many of these people, particularly after an emergency and following the acute stage of their illness, could be moved into a nursing home until they were ready to go home. Many of them could have some form of home care. Both of these types of care are substantially cheaper than the cost of having a person in a bed in a general hospital.

Why do the provinces not adopt such a plan? It is because even though it is cheaper, it is more expensive than 50 per cent of the costs of operating a general hospital, and Ottawa refuses to amend the legislation to pay 50 per cent of nursing home care or home care. The costs of medical insurance, that is, the amount going to doctors, have risen substantially year by year. They have risen whether or not the provinces agree to a formal increase in the rate.

Almost without exception there is an increase in the amount paid to doctors in every province, every year. I am not blaming the doctors. I am not saying the doctors, working the way they do, are charging too much, but we must consider whether there are not other forms of medical care which can be just as effective, or more effective than the present methods and will cost the community less. We should be looking at the possibility of using paramedical people who can do a great deal of the fairly routine work which doctors undertake.

The federal government commissioned Dr. Hastings of the University of Toronto to look at the whole question of medical care. Dr. Hastings made a report and recommended in it very strongly that we move on a voluntary basis toward a system of community health clinics. Some of the provinces—I know that my province of Manitoba is one of them—are very interested in encouraging the growth of community health clinics on a voluntary basis. There is no suggestion by anybody, that I know, that doctors would have to practice in a community health clinic or that patients would have to go to it, but on a voluntary basis

[Mr. Orlikow.]

the province of Manitoba, among others, is very interested in such clinics.

Is there any suggestion that Ottawa will really support community health clinics? If there is, I have not seen it. We are concerned, the provinces are concerned and the public is concerned about increasing costs. The public and the provinces want to slow down the rapidly increasing costs, but not a single province, regardless of what party forms the government, has agreed or will agree to the unilateral proposal made by Ottawa that it will limit the amount of the increase which it is prepared to give toward the payment of hospital and medical insurance plans to the amount of the increase in the gross national product.

It may be that the proposals of the Minister of Finance (Mr. Turner) would cover 50 per cent of the cost of hospital and medical insurance for the next five years. But what happens after five years? As costs continue to rise, the provinces will no longer be paying 50 per cent; they will be paying 60 per cent, 65 per cent or more. Every province will be hurt. The wealthy provinces, such as British Columbia, Alberta and Ontario, can probably manage in one way or another. The people and the provinces who will be hurt are precisely those who can least afford to carry the costs of hospital and medical insurance.

Therefore I am amazed that a federal government which encouraged the provinces to go into hospital insurance, which forced the provinces to go into medical insurance, is now saying to the provinces: We are no longer prepared to honour the commitment we made to you when we urged this plan on you, that we would pay 50 per cent of the cost of these plans.

The proposal of the Minister of Finance and of the Minister of National Health and Welfare (Mr. Lalonde) cannot be accepted by the provinces. It is a proposal of which those ministers should be ashamed. While they have a right to be concerned about the costs of health services in this country, they have no right to renege on the promises and pledges they made to the provinces that the federal government would pay 50 per cent of the costs of hospital and medical insurance.

● (1530)

[*Translation*]

Mr. Maurice Dupras (Labelle): Mr. Speaker, first of all, I must say how puzzled I was after reading the motion moved by the hon. member for Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands (Mr. Douglas), which reads as follows:

That this House disapproves the Government's proposal to retreat by stages from the present cost-sharing arrangements with respect to hospital and medical care programs.

I wonder, Mr. Speaker, if we should not read it as saying that his party denies to the provinces the responsibility of ensuring the management of health services. It is exactly as if we were denying the provinces the ability to manage their program themselves. And further on, this motion seeks, it seems, to restrict also the federal government's participation while urging that all health services be financed on a 50-50 basis. When one reads the statement made last Wednesday by the Minister of Finance (Mr. Turner) and that of other provincial Ministers of Finance, one can readily see that the 50 per cent will be exceeded, as stated in the motion.

This motion, Mr. Speaker, is not justifiable because provincial governments are denied the opportunity of self-management and of ensuring themselves the management of health programs. What this government proposes in fact, Mr. Speaker, is very clearly stated in the release issued by the minister. It said that the purpose of the federal-provincial meeting was to draw up a new formula in order to determine the annual federal contribution to health services administered by the provinces, that this formula was designed to replace the present cost-sharing arrangement established under the Medical Care Act and the Hospital Insurance and Diagnostic Services Act and would give provincial administrations more flexibility in order to provide more efficient and cheaper health services, while making for reduced health care costs.

That, Mr. Speaker, the spirit of the program as introduced and prepared by the Minister of National Health and Welfare; this has nothing to do whatsoever with the motion introduced by the member of the New Democratic Party who wants that the provinces be denied the responsibility of managing this program.

As was seen, Mr. Speaker, and as was noted in the last few years the costs of medical care increased constantly year after year. One could read recently that those costs actually registered an increase of at least 14 per cent a year.

For the year 1973 or for the rest of the decade we should be mainly concerned with setting up a much more modern system which would provide Canadians in all provinces with much more adequate and cheaper health services.

It is in that spirit, Mr. Speaker, that the plan was introduced; it implements certain recommendations and especially those in the Harding report which, for example, deal with the establishment of community health centre networks to reduce the stay of patients in hospitals. A shorter hospitalization period would mean lower costs for the Canadian taxpayers and would make rehabilitation and nursing medical services much more accessible and at a much lower cost especially for those living in the rural areas of this country.

I am thinking particularly about the people in my riding who for a large part must drive several miles, over 50 in certain cases, to get medical care or hospitalization.

If they could go to community health centres located near their homes in their municipalities the cost of health care in Canada would be considerably reduced.

The Harding report recognized that such centres and services if well designed and administered would contribute greatly to reducing the cost of medical care as well as facilitate its access within a well integrated system. This is what I meant, Mr. Speaker, when I said that medical care would be much more accessible and could be provided cheaper than that administered in hospitals which several citizens cannot easily reach because they live far away from rural centres.

The proposals were described as very complex. Of course, the problem is also quite complex; there is no easy formula which would meet the needs and would be acceptable to all the provinces. We can already see some wavering or reluctance on the part of several provinces to accept the proposal. I think that they want to study the matter in greater detail, before passing judgment on the proposals which was not the case on the part of some hon. members.

Mr. Speaker, although the philosophy of the program has been accepted by the Leader of the Official Opposition (Mr. Stanfield), he refuses to understand all the complexities or the mechanics of the whole program which has been put forward to the provinces.

Last Wednesday, the non. Minister of Finance listed the mechanics for the financing of the program and I should like to correct certain comments that were made earlier by the hon. member for Roberval (Mr. Gauthier), the spokesman for the Social Credit Party of Canada, when he said, for example, that once again, it would be some kind of "big brother's" federalism where provincial governments would be subjected to some authority or dictatorship.

He quoted the formula—or part of it—which had been submitted, but without any further explanation. In fact, he omitted to go on and explain the mechanics of the tax proposal.

With your indulgence, Mr. Speaker, I should like to remind hon. members of some mechanics as announced by the hon. Minister of Finance. He stated that as far as personal income tax was concerned, he would like it to be quite clear that the federal government, for reasons known to the House, will not reduce taxes through tax abatements. He suggests rather the establishment of new federal and provincial tax schedules; when the federal government will reduce its rates, the provincial authorities may collect the relinquished federal revenue by increasing their tax rates. The taxpayer's onus will not be increased, a detail which the hon. member for Roberval (Mr. Gauthier) has failed to point out.

The member for Hillsborough (Mr. Macquarrie) referred to excise taxes levied on alcoholic beverages and cigarettes. I think that it is essential, Mr. Speaker, to read carefully page 3599 in *Hansard* of May 9 last. I quote:

> In the case of tobacco products, the repeal of federal excise levies would allow the provinces to increase provincial sales taxes on these goods by an equivalent amount without increasing tobacco prices. The provinces would thus acquire additional revenue equal to the amount of federal revenue foregone.

Of course we are not giving up that taxation field in order to avoid our responsibilities or a reduction in such tax revenu, believing or foreseeing a reduction of those taxes on account of a general decrease in cigarette and tobacco consumption.

The hon. member for Hillsborough said that he had given up smoking, just like me. Like him I will say that I have not decided yet to give up drinking. I would like to reassure him on the government's intentions as concerns excise taxes on tobacco products and alcoholic beverages which are not likely to decrease in the coming years. If one looks at the development programs of the industries engaged in the production of alcoholic beverages or cigarettes, one can see, Mr. Speaker, that those industries do not expect either a decrease in their sales.

According to the proposal of the hon. Minister of Finance, the province of Quebec through tax abatement or opting out, already enjoys 16 points. It administers and finances a good part of that program and, as far as I know, it is not the worse for it. I believe the proposal that was made to other provinces, Mr. Speaker, the proposed pro-

gram closely resembles that which the province of Quebec has known since 1970 and, as far as I know, the citizens of my province are not the worse for it.

I will quote again what the Minister of Finance (Mr. Turner) said on May, as reported at page 3600 of *Hansard*:

> Of course, I do not want to suggest that provincial governments would have to increase their tax rates—

—as the hon. member for Roberval suggested, this new program would lead in the provinces to a tax increase in order to finance this program. But this is out of question, Mr. Speaker. I keep on quoting:

> . . . by the precise amount of the federal cut. Provinces can raise their levies more or less than the federal reduction, as they see fit, and they obviously could alter the mix between personal income tax or their taxes on alcohol and tobacco.

In the proposal, the government commitments go a bit further and I quote:

> Provincial governments would receive basic per capita grants from the federal government. And if required, the provinces would get further federal risk sharing payments should they spend at a rate above that of the growth of the basic federal grant.

These last lines contain the important part of the proposal. We can see there, Mr. Speaker, all the flexibility of the proposal which has been put to the provincial ministers, a flexibility which will allow the implementation of much more economical and efficient procedures for the provision of health services.

The hon. member for Roberval said that the provinces will not get anything; well, I cannot see the basis for such an argument. If this is really what comes out of the proposals, that the provinces will not get anything out of them, all they have to do is to turn down the proposal, Mr. Speaker, and keep on getting the existing 50 per cent.

I am coming back to the proposal brought forward by the hon. member for Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands (Mr. Douglas). He starts out by congratulating the minister, saying that since taking over the department he has put forth tremendous energy and talent to seek a solution whereby health care will become less costly for Canadians and more readily available. And a little later on he accuses the minister of trying to evade his responsibilities and the federal government of trying to shirk its responsibilities by withdrawing from the program. Such is not at all the spirit or the philosophy of the program when one sees the commitment by the federal government. The minister said it would amount to $1.1 billion over the next six years, not based on the experience of the past two or three years, Mr. Speaker, but on a projection over the next six years. And in addition to that amount another $600 million is to be provided as a trust fund to assist provinces if, for instance, as indicated by the Minister of Finance in his statement, all these amounts should prove adequate.

I do believe there is no occasion to mobilize the finance ministers of the provinces and to stir up the concern of Canadians as to the fate of the health services programs offered to Canadians. In my opinion, health services or health care available to Canadians since 1970 are the best of any offered in industrialized contries. I shall of course make an exception regarding socialist countries, Mr. Speaker, as I should not like to start off a comparison between our services and those offered in socialist countries. However, comparing with western European countries and industrialized countries which respect private enterprise, it will readily be seen, Mr. Speaker, that we have an unparalleled system.

● (1540)

[*English*]

Mr. Heward Grafftey (Brome-Missisquoi): Mr. Speaker, in my view the delivery of humane, adequate and efficient medical health care services will be one of the most important, if not the most important issue facing the Canadian people in the next few years.

[*Translation*]

Let us suppose, Mr. Speaker, that tomorrow morning the aldermen of a town council were to declare it a law that the town hall is to give free bread to each family, and the next morning at 9 o'clock they went and drew up this law; the law would exist, but nobody in the city administration would telephone to the bakery to bake more bread. That, Mr. Speaker, is quite simply what we have done throughout Canada with medical services; the federal and provincial Parliaments have voted billions of dollars for medical services for most Canadians, and especially for poor and aged Canadians, but these services do not exist at all.

[*English*]

It is my contention that medicare in Canada today is purely a financial mechanism, as many members in the House today have already pointed out. It involves the worst kind of federal-provincial joint program. The Liberal governments' consistent approach to medicare has been one involving half socialism and half free enterprise. That is, I believe, why the NDP in Ontario would not, in their brave way, support some of the Liberal plans for that province. The program is half socialism and half free enterprise, and embodies the worst of both worlds. It simply does not work.

The same government that pours millions of dollars annually into this non-system refuses, through the health resources fund we have mentioned today, to make that system effective so that it may benefit people at the local community level. When medicare legislation was introduced into the House of Commons we knew that the only possible way the federal government could implement efficient medical health services at the local community level was by supporting in this House the concept of a health resources fund. What happened? No sooner was the health resources fund established than Treasury Board reduced it. Therefore we wonder why we are faced with the kind of problems which we face today.

What has the federal government done? It has poured billions of dollars, in the form of income supplements, into the non-system while at the same time maintaining a static supply of medical personnel and services. No wonder these services for many Canadians from coast to coast, for the disadvantaged living in rural areas and those living in the cores of cities, have literally collapsed. As hon. members have already mentioned, in many rural and innercity areas, low-income and aged people are not getting any service whatsoever. As they line up for diagnostic services and treatment I am reminded of the bread lines during the depression.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Speaker, quite often in the country it is easier to get a vet to see to animals than it is to get a doctor to see to human beings.

[*English*]

In many rural areas there are no paramedical personnel, no community clinics and no primary care doctors. We warned the government 15 years ago that we would need these facilities. Often it is easier to obtain services of a veterinarian to treat your cat, dog, cow or horse than it is to obtain the services of a doctor to treat your family. That is the situation we are in. This government was warned about the problem when it introduced medicare, and now it is trying to draw away from its responsibilities.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Speaker, we have in the—

An hon. Member: Mr. Speaker—

Mr. Grafftey: Excuse me, but the hon. member has already spoken; I have only 15 minutes to speak about something important.

In the province of Quebec we have Mr. Castonguay's recommendations, which recommend the setting up of community centres and paramedical groups, with more general practitioners and more researchers in our medical schools. But what are the federal government's responsibilities in this field?

Let us take for example the rural area that I represent, Brome-Missisquoi. Before there was medicare in the constituency of Brome-Missisquoi, there were seven permanent doctors; in the town of Farnham, a town without a hospital or a community centre, there were four permanent doctors ten years ago, before medicare. What do we have now, Mr. Speaker? There is not one doctor in the whole constituency of Brome-Missisquoi, and there is just one in the town of Farnham.

[*English*]

This is going on all across Canada.

An hon. Member: Come, now.

Mr. Grafftey: Please do not interrupt. I know how frustrating it is for the hon. member to support the Minister of National Health and Welfare (Mr. Lalonde), but I ask that he please stop prattling.

Doctors have tended to practice in the hospital environment, and I am not blaming them entirely. I am blaming the federal government for the attitude it has taken with regards to co-operating with the provinces in order to effect the efficient delivery of medical and health care services. We have recommended time and again that the health resources fund must be backed up, voted on and supported by this House if the federal authority is to play its proper role in supporting medical and health care services.

● (1550)

I refer to what my leader has already said. Any federal withdrawal must be accompanied by a guarantee of transfer of tax powers to the provinces to allow them to maintain their level of spending, as well as a guarantee that the poorer provinces will not be short-changed by federal government withdrawal. This must not happen. The system has already collapsed for the poor and the aged who have no mobility to get into hospital centres. It must not collapse for all Canadians and it is bad enough now because of lack of federal responsibility in this regard.

The federal health resources fund must be expanded immediately to humanize health services. In particular, there must be more funds for medical research, training, primary care visits and paramedical assistance to develop community clinics, especially in disadvantaged areas. What does a town in my area do with medicare payments when there are no services? Ten years ago in Brome county we had seven full-time doctors, and four in Farnham. Now we do not have any in Brome county, and only one in Farnham. The paramedical people, the primary care physicians and the community clinics that we were told we must have 15 years ago, still are not there.

One cannot imagine what this means to low-income, disadvantaged Canadians and aged people whom medicare was supposed to help in the first place. A cruel hoax has been perpetrated upon them. Now the minister says we are going to withdraw from the program. The Minister of National Health and Welfare came before the Canadian people with a smokescreen, an unintelligible proposition which in effect means: We have pushed you into this program. Now sink or swim. This is irresponsibility of the first order which we cannot tolerate for one minute.

Medical and health care services constitute just one of the many challenges which are not being met by federalism as now practised in Canada.

Mr. Béchard: Is that from your book?

Mr. Grafftey: Yes, but what does that really add to this debate?

[*Translation*]

Yes, this is in my book, but your remarks are not all that intelligent. I am aware of your frustration, but keep quiet. In the province of Quebec, it is a very important matter, believe me.

[*English*]

As I already mentioned, this is the worst kind of joint program. Every time the Minister of National Health and Welfare stands in the House we are told this matter is one of provincial responsiblility. But who initiated it? If any performance underlines the fact that we need basic modernization in this area, the performance today by the Minister of National Health and Welfare underlines it.

Like the challenge of the environment, transportation and living space in our cities, education and all the rest, medical and health care services test the very viability of North American federalism. If Canadian medicare schemes continue merely to be a financial mechanism the complete breakdown of services will come about sooner than we care to think. If doctors' incomes continue to soar, government authorities will have to put them on salaries. If doctors and medical manpower will not go into underserviced areas, surely a decent and humane state has an obligation to make sure medical personnel is equitably deployed.

Public costs mean that public resources should be used to influence the operation of systems that are essential for the health needs of all the people—not just the rich and the advantaged but all the people. Costs will continue to skyrocket if governments, working with the public and medical profession, do not assume their responsibilities in determining that the plant, personnel and services are made ready. If they are not, what was the money voted for in the first place? Was it to make doctors more and more rich, and to make the system collapse?

In my view we have confused our priorities. We have devoted a great deal of effort to the production of material goods, and little effort to the care of the people who produce them. We have rushed ahead with cars, roads, factories and new food technology without really knowing where we are going and why. As a critic of health care services in North America, I say that our health care services are in appalling disarray. It is not good enough for the federal government to say they are spending billions of dollars, putting it into the system and taking no responsibility whatsoever for the effective working and implementation of that system.

We have been faced with real problems, a multitude of them, and we have thrown up our hands in despair. Our society, in terms of decent medical and health care services, suffers from deep social wounds—yet our approach is to put band-aids on them. what the minister suggested today is just another series of band-aids. We are only tinkering with parts of the non-system. That is worse than nothing. We need major surgery. I hope the government recognizes this fact before it is too late.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: By agreement, the hon. member for Gatineau (Mr. Clermont) concedes his place to the hon. member for Dauphin (Mr. Ritchie).

Mr. Gordon Ritchie (Dauphin): Mr. Speaker, I thank the hon. member for Gatineau (Mr. Clermont) for making it possible for me to say a few words before catching my plane.

Mr. Isabelle: I rise on a point of order, Mr. Speaker. It is not the hon. member for Gatineau (Mr. Clermont), but the hon. member for Hull.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: The point is extraordinarily well taken and the Chair apologizes from the bottom of its mistaken heart.

Mr. Ritchie: Mr. Speaker, I too thought you were mistaken. I welcome the opportunity to speak on this matter of health costs and the negotiations going on between the federal government and the provinces regarding paying for health costs. This debate is long overdue.

As one who has spent my life in the health care field, I have observed much of the discussion and the results of the negotiations of governments in this area. It is perhaps understandable that, with the rise of social consciousness, all citizens are entitled to the very best health services and, with rising affluence, to afford more elaborate and more expensive health care.

There has been peculiarly little dialogue on the fact that health care has definite limits of expansion. Politicians and the public have never accepted the realization that there are no bounds to health care. The whole of the national economy could be devoted to health care and there would still be many worthwhile projects undone. I once knew a doctor who had been the personal physician of Pancho Villa and rode with him on his campaigns of civil insurrection in Mexico. To have one's private physician is as close to complete medical care as one can arrive at. But Pancho Villa obviously lacked many other things in the health care field that he might have had, such as hospitals, drugs, and so on.

I believe that the intrusion of the federal government into health care, welfare and, to a lesser extent, the educational field has been one of the very divisive factors in Canadian life. The Fathers of Confederation, very wisely, I think, and displaying much more forward looking ideas than Canadian governments of the past decade, reserved for the provinces health, welfare and education. Perhaps it was not foresight but merely an accident. In a practical way, this was a very farsighted, almost clairvoyant look into the future. They recognized, much more than recent politicians, that essential personal services to the individual are involved. Perhaps in the area of education and welfare, at least in a dollar way, there can be reasonable standards applied so that the costs remain within bounds and that individuals, regardless of where they live in the country, may enjoy reasonable equality of service.

● (1600)

I make no apology for advocating strongly that the provinces must be charged with the responsibility of administration in these three areas, particularly in the health care field. Health care is a personal service and there is an enormously wide variation in what is considered good health care. Basically, to those who are workers in the health care field all citizens must be treated as individuals. This means reasonable and early access to health care personnel. It means, generally, the interplay of one person with one individual doctor who must take an adequate history and conduct an examination which requires time, skill and, above all, an intense preoccupation with the patient. At the hospital level it means reasonable access when needed, and care by competent people. Unfortunately, under the so-called free—for the patient—medical services, all of these things become almost impossible to achieve because of the vast pressures at the entry to the health care system, the physician's office and the hospital admitting room.

I would like to expand much further on this important aspect, but in the limited time available perhaps I should say a word about the financing of health care costs. I think the 50-50 health sharing formula is the worst type of furmula to finance health care that could have been devised. It encourages a vast proliferation of bureaucracy and a tendency for administrators outside the health care field to move in and tell the health care workers how services should be run, and even which services will be provided. This situation came about largely because the federal government under the Pearson administration assumed the "holier than thou" attitude that they alone were capable of ensuring that citizens received adequate health care.

The federal government of the day assumed that all provincial governments were suspect and would not pro-

vide proper health care or use the money wisely. It was a sanctimonious, self-righteous and entirely uncalled for attitude because it assumed that provincial governments were much less capable and much less responsive to their citizens' needs than the federal government. The 50-50 cost sharing basis fulfilled a bureaucratic dream, because executive people in the health care field are great empire builders. Each and every person in the provincial departments of health had his own idea of what would be good, and there certainly is no end to the many good programs; indeed, all programs have some value. There was almost an irresistible urge to spend money and institute programs so it could be shown that their provinces had instituted programs; and of course no province could be left behind in instituting its own particular program.

Health care costs have been escalating much more rapidly than the country can afford. Fortunately, it is now being recognized that there are limits to what can be done. Perhaps the organ transplant era has shown that if this practice becomes widespread, nearly everyone could benefit during a lifetime but it would require an enormous number of staff, buildings and equipment for this relatively small field of medicine—and at what cost! I think the public is now willing to accept that there is a limit to health care services, that health care is a purely personal thing and that what the state is able to provide for the individual may not be nearly all that the individual would desire. I am sure that having arrived at this conclusion we can better deal with the financial aspect of health care. Until there is general acceptance that we cannot do everything, there will not be public acceptance of putting limits on health care spending.

There is great discussion taking place at this time in connection with health care delivery systems. All health care systems carry certain advantages and disadvantages. I cannot mention that the president of the American Medical Society, reporting on an inspection of health delivery systems in European countries and the Soviet Union said he was struck, not so much by their differences from the American system as by the number of complaints about the shortcomings of their systems. In other words, every health care system attracts an enormous amount of criticism.

We are now involved in community health care and community clinic projects, but these still depend on a physician taking time and skill and having his options open to give health care advice. It is doubtful there will be any material improvement in the over-all delivery of health care, although these developments could have a certain limited application. It takes time to see patients, and it seems doubtful that there would be any more time in a community clinic than under any other system.

The attempt by the federal government to give provincial governments more flexibility and responsibility and to work out satisfactory financial arrangements with them is long overdue. The federal government must get out of these 50-50 cost-sharing programs which are an invitation to overspending and poor programming. Federal politicians must leave it to provincial governments to set up standards on the basis of what they feel their citizens desire.

There remains the general fear among certain disadvantaged provinces that their citizens would be short-changed because of a low regional economic base. I should think satisfactory formulae can be devised to allow such provinces to give their people care comparable to that available in other provinces. In any case, I feel it is difficult to set standards in the health care field with any degree of accuracy, and I have found that most so-called standards do not mean a great deal.

The latest federal-provincial conference ended prematurely this week and the provincial finance ministers have spurned the federal government's proposals to get out of these shared-cost fields. Whether they did this so as to have a bargaining tool, or whether the conference was, indeed, a failure, it is generally considered that the federal proposals are very complex and open to a great deal of uncertainty as to what might actually happen before payments finally settle down around 1980. As described in the *Globe and Mail*, it was "a fearfully complicated transitional means of payment" with uncertainty lasting for a decade, leaving the provinces six additional points of income tax, the revenue from excise tax and duties on tobacco and alcohol.

The Minister of Finance (Mr. Turner) has said the package would amount to the equivalent of 20.8 income tax points as these points produce revenue at present, and I think this is important. But Ottawa did not turn over 20.8 tax points, because these tax points will earn more and more money each year. Ottawa really would like to have control over spending.

These three programs were initiated by Ottawa over the objections of several of the provinces, and they were negotiated in areas which the constitution gives to the provinces. The health minister has finally recognized, on behalf of the government, that the provinces have to establish their own priorities and that there should only be minimal national standards. Canada is a very large and regional country. In the health care field Ottawa has been barging around deciding what is best for all. It may well be that the method of rebating federally-collected income tax to the provinces is not the best way of proceeding, and that changes in the provincial income tax system will give a truer view of our problems.

Before lunch today the Minister of National Health and Welfare (Mr. Lalonde) indicated that Canada had a good supply of doctors. However, I would point out that half the doctors in this country came from overseas during the last two decades. Many of the countries from which they came could ill afford to spare them or educate them. Accordingly, we have been looked upon as something of a pariah among western countries for having taken these highly educated people away from their own lands.

My view is that the supply of doctors will not be good in the future, because as time goes on there will be a reduction in the number of young people entering universities to prepare for the profession. Medical training is long and arduous, and those who have been through it sometimes wonder whether it is worth it. If the minister believes the supply of doctors is being maintained, I suggest he should examine this question further.

Health Care

● (1610)

[*Translation*]

Mr. Gaston Isabelle (Hull): Mr. Speaker,—

Mr. Marcel Prud'homme (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Regional Economic Expansion): At last, we are going to hear something sensible.

Mr. Isabelle: Mr. Speaker, I find it very interesting that such important subjects as the motion put forward by the hon. member for Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands (Mr. Douglas) can be dealt with in the House of Commons. It gives us the opportunity to discuss in particular hospital costs, health care costs in Canada.

Mr. Speaker, it is easy for anybody to make much of a relatively recent problem, but its causes have not been analyzed and no attention has been paid to the problem of increased health care costs in Canada. I know that we are the second country in the world where costs rose quite sharply—right after the United States—since we spend 6.8 per cent of our gross national product on health care.

But when one wonders why health costs increased so much, one should make a much more detailed analysis than those I have seen up to now. For many years, in fact, little planning has been done in the field of medicine. It was everyone for himself.

I think this is where we were wrong. I remember that, at least in the province of Quebec—and I believe the same problem existed in other provinces—hospital workers were very poorly paid. I remember that almost anybody hired to do any kind of work with the sick. Maybe it was all right at that time and the matter of salary was not very important. Indeed, it was in the thirties, in the difficult years of the depression.

Anyway, we still have this old concept and when suddenly came prosperity, hospital workers automatically asked for higher wages. I cannot blame them but that really increased considerably the cost of health care in Canada. It is true that physician fees have slightly increased also, but we must think that the medical profession spends a lot of time looking after Canadians in need of their services. Of course, if a physician works 10 or 15 hours a day, he is doing a tremendous amount of work. We know that many physicians are hard workers. Certainly they make more money than those who work only 2 or 3 hours a day.

It is a very difficult profession and because I have been a physician for 25 years, I know what a great physical effort is required to carry out this unending work.

Today, it seems that if health costs are increasing it is because politicians failed to take their responsibilities or maybe they failed to listen to those responsible for health services in Canada. I remember that a physician was always considered as a poor administrator. It may be true but he is the one who predicted that we will have in Canada an escalation of medical needs which would seem unbelievable, because if those needs keep on increasing at the present rate, I think that by year 2000 all the money in Canada will be used for that purpose.

I will not give a historical account of what happened in the field of health care since Confederation. It is a most interesting question and I ask all those unfamiliar with the health care and social security programs implemented in Canada to look into the matter. It is quite interesting and points to the shortcomings and the reasons for the current situation.

The medical associations of Canada have often suggested what should be done to avoid this escalation, namely to build hospitals for convalescents and the chronically ill. I think that if we did this, we would reduce by 25 per cent hospital costs in Canada. Unfortunately, nobody ever thought of that. Politicians have other concerns. For instance, let us consider what happened in Quebec where it was decided to remove the iron bars from the windows of a psychiatric hospital because they were unsightly and because politicians said that it looked like a prison. Should we lock up poor sick people in hospitals that look like prisons? So, the bars were removed and consequently last week three patients jumped through a window. They were not killed but are in serious condition.

This is what happens when politics meddles in a field such as this one—and this happened recently in Quebec, at the Saint-Michel-Archange hospital. Perhaps the hon. member for Louis-Hébert (Mrs. Morin) might check this over the weekend.

In any event, Mr. Speaker, if we are to reduce the cost of health care, we must do something practical, concrete, that is build hospitals for the chronically ill and convalescents.

When a patient is cured or recovering in a hospital, he must of necessity spend some time convalescing. For various reasons—I do not want to go into that now—he cannot leave the hospital on the seventh, sixth or fifth day. Why could he not spend that time, perhaps even a week, elsewhere to convalesce, until he is back on his feet and can resume his normal occupation? But today there are complications which impose a heavy financial burden on the government in view of the large number of people admitted to hospital these days.

Let us take the case of pensionners who are hospitalized at age 78 or 80. If science continues to make progress, I think we will live to be older and older for better or for worse. I think that the average life expectancy in Canada is now 72 and it will certainly go up within the next decade.

So why do we have to hospitalize older people who are prone to catching pneumonia, for instance, or any other similar illnesses which normally do not require them to be confined to a hospital? But because of their ill health, because of their physical state which is deteriorating, they have to be hospitalized. But the fact is that at a certain point, for one reason or another, they cannot be returned to their families. They cannot be returned home because they cannot more around or are suffering from deficiencies due to their illness. So we have to find a place for them to stay.

I know perfectly well that in my riding, for instance, in Sacred Heart Hospital there are many patients who should not be confined to hospital beds which cost $60 or $75 a day when normally they should be in institutions where the costs are $12 and $13 a day. I think we should give much more consideration to that problem.

The questions of cost-sharing is not new. The federal government has always paid its share. That we may want to withdraw might make sense because provinces each have their own priorities. But I would not want our withdrawal from those plans to result in the balkanization of Canada. It is absolutely essential that the federal government show leadership and say, O.K., we are going to withdraw gradually over a certain number of years when you will become entirely self-sufficient, provided that criteria and standards have been set up to prevent the citizen of the province of Quebec from getting treatment in New Brunswick or Ontario, or the citizen of Ontario in Saskatchewan.

Remember the hospitalization problems that arose between the cities of Ottawa and Hull when people from Ottawa would go to Hull for treatment and vice versa. It would be a pity if that became the rule throughout Canada, and we ended up with ten different plans, which would result in moral suffering for many people.

People say that doctors make a lot of money—and it is an easy thing to say—if they work hard, of course they will make money. But if not, they do not make money. It is easy to say. In fact, it is just a smoke-screen. People say that doctors are getting too rich, saying for example that a doctor in Quebec earned $43,000 doing urine tests. Now, I do not know what this doctor actually did, but it seems to me that he cannot have done anything else but urine tests, Mr. Speaker.

In any case, there are always exceptions. There are fools in every profession, maybe more perhaps among politicians. Let us say that there are fools everywhere. We must not get excited over the fact that a doctor is earning $200,000, $100,000 or $30,000 a year. If he earnes $200,000, he is going to pay income tax and the money will come back to the government, which can then redistribute it to the provinces for them to run their hospitals.

To my mind, the problem does not lie there.

I was listening to the hon. member for Brome-Missisquoi (Mr. Grafftey) who quoted his book. I cannot quote from mine: I have yet to write it. But, in any event, he complained about the shortage of doctors. There will always be a shortage of doctors, Mr. Speaker, because . . .

● (1620)

[*English*]

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, please. I regret to interrupt the hon. member, but his allotted time has expired. If it is the wish of the House, he may continue. Is it agreed?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Isabelle: I thank you, Mr. Speaker, as well as my colleagues. This is almost Christian charity, because I would like to insist on one specific point. Some complain about the lack of doctors. In Canada, there is one doctor for 826 citizens. In the USSR, there is one doctor for 413 citizens. But if we really dig deep in the statistics, we realize the situation is not nearly as serious as it would seem. In the province of Quebec, everyone lives either in Montreal or in Quebec City. It is not possible to remove the doctors from Montreal. To my mind, there are too many doctors in that city, as well as in Quebec City. There are quite a few there. They should go elsewhere. Doctors should be conscripted, so to speak; they should be told: You are coming out of the university; you will practice for two years where there is a shortage of doctors, then you can come back to the city.

This applies with regard to specialization; no one specializes on coming out of the university. One does not become a blacksmith after a few courses at a technical school. One must practice medicine to become aware of all its advantages and disadvantages to know how to practice and how to take care of the human being. It is important. One does not treat people like the hon. member for Brome-Missisquoi said. There are too many animals or too many veterinarians in his riding, I don't know. It is easier to obtain veterinarians than doctors.

Mr. Speaker, concerning specialization, the provinces are responsible to see about it. If they do nothing, then we must act. That is why every doctor should practice for three or four years before "embalming" himself in a specialty. If there was such a program, maybe we would maintain equal distribution between those who normally specialize and those who do not and would go as doctors in needy regions. I think this is what we should do.

The third step that should be taken to obtain more doctors, would be to prod universities and medical colleges which have done almost nothing since Canada exists. They are beginning to react a little because they have been prompted a little by medicare and other legislation. They are more careful than before. We should urge universities to lower the standards of admission which are set at about 80 per cent. If you have not obtained 80 per cent in science—not philosophy or catechesis but pure sciences—you cannot be accepted in medicine. What does that mean? It simply means that if you are admitted at medical school with 80 per cent, you are almost a genius. In medicine, so much is not necessary. We badly need people who want to work, tend patients and do something about health care in Canada.

Indeed, anyone cannot be accepted in medical school, but it is also true that current criteria are much too strict and those supermen who complete their studies with 80 per cent all want to become specialists, even psychiatrists. This is another matter which should perhaps be more closely considered, Mr. Speaker.

If we continue to increase the number of psychiatrists, as it has been happening for the past few years, we will be asking questions. We will be wondering whether we are in the right country, Mr. Speaker.

If the provinces are not astute enough to recognize the real problems which have given rise to today's high costs, I think that we should provide leardership and tell them: This is what we are going to do; we will give you some money, the methods may be altered according to your priorities, but the program, the basic system will remain the same.

● (1630)

If we act otherwise, it is the balkanization, the end of Canada as regards this program and others. We speak of the general practitioner, Mr. Speaker, when he made deliveries for $5, nobody spoke about him. Deliveries went from

$10 to $25. This was expensive, this was frightening, only a specialist should have asked so much; at the time, we did not have any. Some were trained; they ask for $225 or $250 and it is not better.

At any rate, nobody spoke about them when they rendered service and now, if things continue the same way, we will find—the English word is probably more accurate—a sort of disincentive, a kind of non-stimulant to work as doctors. I do not know of any doctors who are now very enthusiastic about our laws on social security; maybe it is because we went too far. At any rate, if we want to reduce the costs of health care in Canada, we must opt for or against the programs. As far as I am concerned, we should opt out but we should keep essential bases so that everyone is treated the same way in Canada. To this end we should not put the cart before the horse; doctors must be trained. The approach is overhasty. Our medical personnel must be trained, after which the program can be considered. It is all very well to say that we want to train paramedical staff. I have no objection to a nurse, or anyone else, taking my blood pressure, but when it comes to having midwives officiating at confinements, which is still acceptable at a pinch, and is done in other countries, if any complications develop the doctor must be called, or else they can call the blacksmith, the farmer experienced in calving.

In my opinion the approach to the problem has been inadequate. Time should be laken to think over the problem, instead of practicing demagogy and bandying words one does not quite know the meaning of. It would be much more simple to give the problem intelligent consideration and to define it. The problem of excessive increase of medical care does not rest with the provinces, nor with the federal government. Increasing salaries will not bring about a great change. No hearing has been given as yet to those who are responsible for health care in Canada, it is as simple as that. I may be said to be mistaken, that would not be a novelty, but it might be well to really take into consideration the thoughts of Jules Verne, and see how right he was.

[*English*]

Mr. Cyril Symes (Sault Ste. Marie): Mr. Speaker, I rise this afternoon to support the motion put forward by the hon. member for Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands (Mr. Douglas) which reads as follows:

> That this House disapproves the government's proposal to retreat by stages from the present cost-sharing arrangements with respect to hospital and medical care programs and calls upon the government to fund all health services on a 50-50 basis and to expand the health resources fund to enable the provincial governments to improve their health services.

I support this motion in light of the federal government's proposal to limit for the next five years its contribution to the provinces in the field of health care. This plan would limit the federal government's contribution and contain an escalation clause tied in with the GNP. It would guarantee 6 per cent of personal income taxes, revenue from the excise taxes and, ironically, the taxes on alcohol and tobacco, to promote health care in the provinces.

[Mr. Isabelle.]

• (1630)

The provincial governments have already stated their objection to this plan. Our party, and many speakers from the Conservative party have expressed their opposition. We believe that this program would limit financial spending for medical care, with the result that there would be an end to hope of any co-ordinated national health policy and the end to any progressive changes which are essential in this field. Secondly, it would mean that the poorer provinces would fall far behind those provinces which can afford to expand their health care services.

What has prompted this proposal of the federal government? It seems to me one can reason that the government either believes Canadians are so well off in the health care system which now exists that there is no need for expansion of services, or that the Liberal government, despite its high-sounding phrases, is not fundamentally committed to the concept of government responsibility for health care in the nation as a whole. In other words, perhaps the federal government is attempting to pass the buck to the provinces. I suspect the motive of the government is the latter.

Are we so well off in regard to health care that the federal government can wash its hands and say that now the provinces must look after it. Canadians spend, on average, $260 per capita for hospital and medical care, dentistry and prescription drugs. We are spending more and more on health care, but there is not a corresponding increase in the quality of our health services. One has only to think of the fate of the family doctor and the queues of people in hospital emergency waiting-rooms who are waiting for services which they so desperately need. Are the poor so well off that they do not need extended health care services? Families on low income and the poor of this land may still have to pay a health premium, because some provincial governments are not enlightened enough to include this in the over-all income tax policy. Thank goodness there are three New Democratic provincial governments which have already abolished the premium for health care.

What about the children in this country who have dental problems? Are we to ignore them and say that we do not need to expand health care services in this field? We should consider the cost to families which try to provide proper dental care for their children. When children have poor teeth, their health is affected and sometimes their school work as well. Not only is there the cost of dental care, but also the problem of service. In my area of northern Ontario, this service is sadly lacking. Ours is one of the richest provinces, but communities near mine such as Thessalon and Blind River are without dental care and proper medical services. These are moderately sized towns. What is the situation in respect of the smaller, isolated communities further north which cannot even obtain temporary dental coaches to visit the community to help the people solve their dental problems?

Are pensioners so well off under the provincial health schemes that no improvement is needed in this area? Can they afford eyeglasses, dentures or cardiac pacemakers? The other day I spoke to a pensioner who pointed to his ears and said he was wearing $300 in each year. He had to bear that financial expense from his old age security pension. Is the problem in respect of drug costs so small

that the federal government does not see the need for adequate reform and financial help? Canadians spend $300 million annually on prescription drugs, yet how many people can afford them, especially those with low income and those on pension? Canada, unfortunately, has the highest drug prices in the world, due to the drug manufacturing industry which is very monopolistic and lacks competition, and to the lack of adequate federal legislation.

How, in light of these problems, can the federal government say that things are all right and that it now intends to withdraw from the financial commitment it assumed in the past? How can it say there is no need for a national plan to effectively increase the health care standards in the country, and that it intends to leave this field to the provinces? There is much to be done, and I am afraid that if we leave it, to the provinces we may have no guarantee that each province will make health care its number one priority.

We know that today provinces are beset with all kinds of costs related to things such as roads, job programs, and so on. Perhaps the richer provinces will be able to get by and expand their medical care programs. I have in mind provinces such as Ontario, Alberta and British Columbia. However, when we look at the record of the Conservative government in Ontario, I have my doubts about that province. But what of the poorer provinces, especially those in the Maritimes, and Quebec? The result is that if they are lucky they will be able to maintain the services they have, but may not be able to expand into areas where Canadians need some aid.

What happens to the concept of federalism which the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) so fondly speaks about? How can we end the inequities which exist between the east and west coasts if we have a national health care plan which relies on the provinces to do the best they can with the finances available? I consider it a national disgrace that a country as wealthy as Canada cannot even match the health schemes of some of the poorer western European countries such as the Scandinavian countries, Britain and even Israel. There is need for effective action. There is need for federal government financing for medical care in this country.

The first thing that is needed is a comprehensive, fully publicly-financed medical care program covering not only hospital and doctor's services but also dental costs, private duty nurses, therapists and paramedical people, as well as a program that will deal comprehensively with optical care and ambulance service. Second, there is need for financial assistance to the provinces for the building of more community health clinics. I represent a constituency that was a pioneer in this field. It took the labour movement to get it under way. A health clinic was established to promote preventive care for people before they had need of a doctor or a hospital.

More funds are needed for hospital construction in the provinces. A rich province such as Ontario now is cutting back on its hospital construction program. It is here that there is need for more federal financial aid. Third, we need a program to reduce the cost of prescription drugs in this country. We should establish a Crown corporation to manufacture and distribute generic drugs in competition with private manufacturers, in order to help bring down the high cost of drugs.

Fourth, we need a system of cash benefits for sickness, to compensate for loss of income through illness or accident not covered by workmen's compensation. Fifth, there is need for more financial assistance to the provinces for the education of doctors, dentists and paramedical personnel. I think that is an area which is neglected. If we had more paramedical personnel, they could be handling some cases of sickness rather than tying up the time of high-priced doctors. All these areas need to be expanded, and I cannot see how we can do it under the proposal of the federal government that has been so wisely rejected by the provinces and most members of the House.

● (1640)

In conclusion may I say that too much needs to be done to cut back now. We need a comprehensive national health program, and we need federal aid to the provinces on a continuing basis. We need the guarantee of the federal government to pay 50 per cent of provincial health costs. We hear much about the rights of Canadians these days, but there is no more basic right than the right to good health. I say to the Liberal government that it cannot shun its responsibility in this field and hope to retain the confidence of the Canadian people.

Mr. Norman A. Cafik (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of National Health and Welfare): Mr. Speaker, may I begin by referring to this motion and the comments of the hon. member for Sault Ste. Marie (Mr. Symes) because he was the most recent speaker. I would say that there are really three elements involved in this motion. The first is that there is regret expressed by the mover of the motion, the hon. member for Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands (Mr. Douglas), that we are going to change the present cost-sharing arrangements in respect of the medicare and the hospital care program.

I can understand his concern in respect of that matter, because they have been very successful programs, but at the same time I hope all hon. members will bear in mind that the motivation is only to bring forward suggestions for change in the cost-sharing arrangements and in the formulae in regard to these two programs. The motivation for change is brought about primarily because of a series of federal-provincial conferences on this subject which have taken place over the last 30 months. Constant attention has been brought to bear on this subject by the provinces and by the federal government, and there is a wide degree of unanimity in respect of the need to adjust the formulae to allow the provinces to have an input in terms of their own priority in respect of health care services.

It is very important to underline the fact that in the present arrangements the provincial governments are forced almost by necessity—because we share on a 50-50 basis—to spend more money in the area which is most expensive, such as hospital acute care beds, and so on. In other areas where they want to enter into extended services for ambulatory care and other types of preventive medicine, we do not have arrangements to allow them to do this. It is in response to their request that we are trying to make the program more flexible.

There are a number of ways in which we can approach this question, and clearly people will make different value judgments in respect of it. One is to widen the base of the kind of services that would be eligible under these two programs, or to change the programs themselves so that they become flexible and not tied to a specific type of medical service. Federal-provincial conferences have emphasized the need to do this, and this new formula is an attempt to allow the provinces the kind of flexibility that will give them an opportunity to put more emphasis on various important areas of health care service within their borders. That is really the reason we are bringing forward the formula. It is certainly not being brought forward because we want to vacate the field. There is no intention to do that at all but, rather, to recognize that in our federal system the provincial governments have legitimate concerns in respect of their own priorities. We should respect that principle as much as we can.

However, the federal government is determined, at the same time, that we maintain certain national standards and those national standards would have to prevail whether or not there was a change in the formula. I am referring to standards such as the comprehensiveness of the programs, universality, portability in Canada and accessibility to people regardless of whether they can afford to pay for these services. Those elements must be maintained. I feel that although there is a proposal to change the formula, it is a step forward, not backward. It is a step in the direction, not of balkanizing the country—which was suggested by the hon. member for Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands—but to keep the country together because of the insistence on these national standards which would make sure that Canadians from coast to coast were treated in an equal way.

I believe that if one were to accept the principle of the motion, which would be to give a blank cheque to the provinces and to simply say that we would pay 50 per cent of all health care costs in Canada, that would give rise to the balkanization of this country because we would have stepped out of the picture and allowed the provinces to do whatever they wanted within their own jurisdictions regardless of the effect it might have from coast to coast. It seems to me that we are doing precisely the opposite to what has been suggested by some members of this House. We must maintain controls, we must stay in the field and we must give leadership.

I think that we are recognizing, through this new formula, that in the past the original program was much needed and served Canadians well, but in past years there has been a tendency for the provinces to pay more emphasis to the programs expensive forms of health care such as hospitalization. Now that this question has been taken care of quite well in this country, they need flexibility to move into other areas which would be less costly.

Mention has been made of community health clinics in this country. We should give some emphasis to that question. However, in this respect members always seem to talk about the health resources fund. My understanding of the health resources fund is that it is not established to involve itself in that kind of operation but is primarily for the purpose of educating doctors, nurses and providing institutions for that purpose. If we want to do the kind of thing that hon. members are talking about, then I think we need the thrust fund which we have proposed in our negotiations with the provinces, whereby $640 million would be put forward over a short period of time, namely, five years. This money could be used by the provinces to develop innovative ways of providing services to communities without having to give undue emphasis to the more expensive forms of health care on which we have been concentrating in the past.

The motion implies that the health resources fund is inadequate and that we should provide more funds. I do not know what the hon. member has in mind in terms of additional funds, but let us say it was $500 million more. Would that provide any more available funds today? The fact of the matter is that there is roughly $200 million in that fund which has never even been requested by the provinces. So if more money is required for the kind of things the hon. member wants, it is not required in the health resources fund in my view but, rather, in a new kind of fund which we have called a thrust fund in our negotiations with the provinces.

● (1650)

It has been suggested, too, that in these negotiations the provinces have flatly rejected our proposals. That simply is not true. The fact is that a number of provinces have indicated their willingness to consider this program and to negotiate it. Certainly, some provinces feel that the proposal is not for them at the present time, but what is the alternative? In some cases it is for us to opt right out of the field altogether. As far as I know, that is not what the hon. member who proposed this motion, or anybody else in his party, wants. The difficulties we are having in respect of the federal-provincial conference are not because we are not following this motion, but because we are insisting that we remain in the health care field. I think the hon. member would agree with us on that.

Furthermore, Mr. Speaker, we have not really put the proposal to the provinces and said, "Take it or leave it". That has never been the case, and the Minister of National Health and Welfare (Mr. Lalonde) never said it was the case either in the conference or since. A statement was made to the effect that it would be difficult to put more sweeteners in the pot. I think it is understandable that in any negotiations there has to be a point where you feel you have gone as far as you can in providing funds. These funds are not a step backward. The formula is designed in such a way that no province will lose any amount of money that it presently has by accepting the formula, and under our formula within the next ten years they will receive $1.1 billion more than they would if they had stayed under the existing program.

I referred earlier to the thrust funds. They are designed to help the provinces reduce the cost of health care in this country by innovative programs so that we can get out of the acute care hospital situation. I do not think it is fair or reasonable for any Member of Parliament on this or any other side to say that we are proposing to opt out of cost-sharing. We have simply put forward a different formula for arriving at it, which would provide the kind of flexibility that the provinces desire. I personally cannot see anything objectionable about that approach.

I recognize that some members are reading into this particular motion and into the present situation in the federal-provincial negotiations the idea that the federal government is saying that it does not intend to get involved in pharmacare, denticare, care for eyeglasses, or whatever. This question has not been taken into consideration at the present time. I think it is felt that before we become involved in these areas, we need some agreement with the provinces. As a matter of fact, in previous negotiations the provinces asked us to give a commitment that we would not enter into any new, broad program such as denticare or pharmacare without consultation with them and without a consensus that it was also a priority of theirs. They do not want the federal government to push them into this area. I think they have a point, because they have priorities too and we should respect them.

So, Mr. Speaker, this formula is not designed to take care of any financial expenditures that the provinces may incur in the area of denticare or pharmacare, because if they wish to go in that direction we would want to discuss it and negotiate what kind of arrangements should be made without any reference to the formula we have proposed. This formula does not in any way prohibit our becoming involved in cost-sharing in those areas if agreement is reached with the provinces in the future that this should be done.

Health Care

In my view, if anyone in this country is really trying to opt out of health care in the federal sphere, it is the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Stanfield). In a statement made in the province of Quebec he said—I think I have it correctly—that the federal government must withdraw from shared-cost health programs and give the provinces a greater share of fiscal resources with an appropriate system of equalization. If that is not a suggestion that we drop out of this area and fail to provide the kind of leadership we have provided in the past, I do not know what is. He is proposing a new kind of tax-sharing arrangement with the provinces. It may be different in amount, in terms of the 6 per cent or in a couple of other details. However, the Leader of the Opposition may be proposing something different but for a different reason, because he is saying. "If I were the federal leader of this country I would get out of this field."

We are not saying that. We are saying that we will negotiate with the provinces to arrive at a suitable arrangement which would allow the kind of flexibility that would maintain national standards across the country for the benefit of all Canadians, and that we are going to stay in the health field. We are determined to stay because we feel that although it is largely a provincial responsibility, the federal government has a great deal of input and leadership in the field. I think we have proven that in the past, Mr. Speaker.

At 5 p.m. the House adjourned, without question put, pursuant to Standing Order.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Monday, May 14, 1973

The House met at 2 p.m.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

PRESENCE IN SPEAKER'S GALLERY OF MR. SPEAKER DEWHURST OF SASKATCHEWAN AND MR. SPEAKER DOWDING OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

Mr. Speaker: Before proceeding with routine business, may I be allowed by hon. members to bring to their attention the presence in the Speaker's gallery of two distinguished Canadian parliamentarians from the provincial assemblies who are in Ottawa along with other Speakers, Deputy Speakers and Clerks of the legislative assemblies to attend the annual meeting of the area council of the Canadian branch of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association. Two of these gentlemen felt it might be useful to them and to their assemblies, I suppose, to witness the proceedings of this distinguished House.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Speaker: If hon. members will allow me to signal their presence, I refer to Mr. Speaker Dewhurst of Saskatchewan and Mr. Speaker Dowding of British Columbia.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

* * *

[*Translation*]

ELECTORAL BOUNDARIES READJUSTMENT ACT

TABLING OF REPORT OF COMMISSION FOR PROVINCE OF QUEBEC

Mr. Speaker: It is my duty, pursuant to Section 19 of the Electoral Boundaries Readjustment Act, Chapter E-2, Revised Statutes of Canada, 1970, to lay upon the table of the House a certified copy of the report of the electoral boundaries commission for the province of Quebec, 1973.

* * *

[*English*]

PENITENTIARIES

ESCAPES BY PRISONERS—REQUEST FOR UNANIMOUS CONSENT TO MOVE MOTION

Mr. Erik Nielsen (Yukon): Mr. Speaker, pursuant to Standing Order 43, I rise on a matter of the utmost urgency stemming from the incredible rash of breakouts from federal penitentiaries, the latest being the escape of five dangerous prisoners from St. Vincent de Paul. I therefore move, seconded by the hon. member for Egmont (Mr. MacDonald):

That this House Orders a special committee be immediately set up to investigate all aspects of the penitentiary system, including the operation of weekend leaves, of the Bail Reform Act and, if the committee decides it is necessary, of the National Parole Board, and report its findings and recommendations to this House as quickly as is consistent with a thorough investigation.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Speaker: The House has heard the motion proposed by the hon. member for Yukon. Under the terms of Standing Order 43 the motion requires the unanimous consent of the House. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

Mr. Speaker: There is not unanimous consent. The motion cannot be put.

* * *

FISHERIES

RECIPROCAL ARRANGEMENTS WITH UNITED STATES—REQUEST FOR UNANIMOUS CONSENT TO MOVE MOTION

Mr. Frank Howard (Skeena): Mr. Speaker, I rise to move a motion under Standing Order 43 on a matter of very urgent and pressing necessity. Tomorrow, May 15, is one of the deadlines established by an agreement signed between Canada and the United States on April 19 of this year, the effect of which, if fully consummated, will be to deny Canadian salmon fishermen on the west coast access to certain stocks of United States salmon while opening up the access that United States fishermen will have to Canadian salmon, particularly Fraser River stocks. I therefore move, seconded by the hon. member for Comox-Alberni (Mr. Barnett):

That this House disapproves of the agreement between Canada and the United States of America dated April 19, 1973, which seeks to give salmon fishermen of the United States undue access to Canadian stocks of salmon.

Mr. Speaker: This motion also requires the unanimous consent of the House. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

Mr. Speaker: There is not unanimous consent. The motion cannot be put.

Nuclear Tests

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

FORTHCOMING NUCLEAR TESTS BY FRANCE—REQUEST FOR UNANIMOUS CONSENT TO MOVE MOTION

Mr. Randolph Harding (Kootenay West): Mr. Speaker, I have a motion under Standing Order 43. In view of the impending French nuclear tests in the Pacific some time this month and in view of the mounting world protests, including those from our Commonwealth partners, Australia and New Zealand, I seek, under Standing Order 43, unanimous consent of the House to move a resolution in similar terms to those adopted by this chamber in regard to the Amchitka test by the United States and the nuclear tests by France last year. Therefore I move, seconded by the hon. member for Surrey-White Rock (Mr. Mather):

That the Canadian House of Commons again calls on all nuclear powers to cease all testing of nuclear devices and specifically on the government of France to cancel all its proposed nuclear tests in the Pacific Ocean.

Mr. Speaker: Under the terms of Standing Order 43 the motion proposed by the hon. member for Kootenay West requires the unanimous consent of the House. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

● (1410)

Mr. Speaker: Is there unanimous consent? It is difficult to determine. Perhaps we should call for the "nays" this time.

Mr. MacEachen: Mr. Speaker, I believe there is unanimous consent provided the motion is not debated.

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Agreed.

Mr. Speaker: Is this agreed? Is there unanimous consent to the proposal of the President of the Privy Council?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Mr. Speaker: Since there is unanimous consent, the motion will be put.

Motion agreed to.

On the order: Motions.

Mr. Howard: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a question of privilege. I do so at this time because it appears we are at the conclusion of the item, motions, on our agenda and no one on the government side has risen to make an announcement to the House about a matter of very great importance that I raised a while ago. I refer to the agreement between Canada and the United States signed on April 19 of this year which, effective tomorrow, seeks to bring about a severe restriction of the opportunities for Canadian fishermen on the west coast to fish stocks of United States-bound salmon while enhancing and increasing the opportunity of United States fishermen on the same coast to fish close to shore up to our three mile limit and seriously impinge on the stocks of Canadian-bound and Canadian-owned Fraser River Salmon.

I think it is an affront to the House for the Secretary of State for External Affairs—

[Mr. Speaker.]

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I have to interrupt the hon. member. I realize that hon. members sometimes would like to hear statements on motions from hon. members on the government side, but I doubt very much that the failure on the part of a minister or of the government to make a statement on motions can be brought to the attention of the House by way of a question of privilege. I am not sure whether this is the kind of matter that the hon. member thinks should be referred to the Committee on Privileges, and this in itself may be the best indication that there is not a real question of privilege. The hon. member has made his point, but I doubt that the matter should be pursued by way of a question of privilege.

QUESTIONS ON THE ORDER PAPER

(Questions answered orally are indicated by an asterisk.)

LAWYERS AND LAW FIRMS EMPLOYED BY DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE IN FREDERICTON, N.B.

Question No. 231—**Mr. Howie:**

1. What are the names of all lawyers and law firms in Fredericton, New Brunswick, who performed services for the Department of Justice from January 1, 1971 to January 1, 1973?

2. What was the total amount of money paid to each one?

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Justice): The following lawyers and law firms in Fredericton, New Brunswick acted as agents of the Attorney General of Canada on behalf of client departments from January 1, 1971 to January 1, 1973:

1. Lawyer or Law Firm	2. Amount Paid
	$
Appleby, Olmstead, and Quinn	465.85
Richard B. Cochrane	1,886.35
Hoyt, Mockler and Dixon	58,873.89
W. L. Hoyt	4,480.10
David Hughes	3,561.50
Hughes and Malone	10,890.80
Arthur Limerick	75.00
Eugene McGinley	1,822.30
Brian Malone	7,913.95
Charles A. Sargeant	378.15

LEGISLATION RESPECTING NATIONAL AND ROYAL ANTHEMS

Question No. 256—**Mr. Forrestall:**

1. For what reason was there no mention in the Speech from the Throne of any intention of the government to bring in legislation with respect to our National and Royal anthems?

2. Is it the intention of the government to introduce legislation in this session with respect to these anthems and, if so, on what date?

Mr. John M. Reid (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): I am informed by the Prime Minister's and Privy Council Offices and the Department of the Secretary of State as follows: 1. The Speech from the Throne did not list all items which might be included in the legislative program.

2. The matter is under consideration and it will be announced in due course if such legislation is to be introduced.

CNR—HIRING OF PRIVATE BUSES TO AUGMENT NEWFOUNDLAND SERVICE

Question No. 500—**Mr. Carter:**

1. What were the dates on which private buses were hired by CNR to augment its Newfoundland service since its inception?

2. What were the names of persons and/or companies from whom they were hired and the cost involved?

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): The Management of Canadian National Railways advises as follows: 1 and 2. Information for the period of time prior to 1972 is not available. During the year 1972 buses were hired from the undernoted operators. As to the cost involved it is not the practice to disclose terms and conditions of transactions with other parties. January 3: G. Burke, Parsons, Carpenter & Stroud, Don Adey, Carpenter & Stroud. January 4: S. F. Kelly. January 4: Carpenter & Stroud, Carpenter & Stroud. January 5: Murphy's Transport, Sheppards, Kelly's, Quinlans, Adey's, Carpenter & Stroud, Eddy's Murphy's, Bailey's. January 14: Bugdens (12 Seater). January 28: Bugdens (20 Passengers). January 31: Pike's. February 25: Gladney's. February 26: Gladney's, Bugdens (20 Passenger). February 28: Bugdens (20 Passenger). February 29: Gladney's, Power's, Fleetline, Fleetline. March 5: Murphy's, Murphy's, Murphy's, Fleetline, Fleetline, Fleetline, Fleetline, Pike's. March 31: Hayes. April 2: Carpenter & Stroud, Harbour Motors, Adey's. April 3: Harbour Motors. April 13: Gander Taxi. April 19: Bugdens (20 Passenger). April 20: Metro Bus, Metro Bus. April 27: Metro Bus. May 5: Gladneys, May 12: Gladneys. June:—. July 1: Bugdens (20 Passenger), Bugdens (12 Passenger), Gander Taxi. July 2: Parsons. July 14: Gladneys, Adey's. July 15: Gladneys. July 31: Bugdens (20 Passenger). August 1: Adey's. August 7: Bugdens. August 14: Carpenter & Stroud, Carpenter & Stroud. September 1: Quinlans. September 2: Quinlans. September 4: Sheppards. September 5: Murphys, Fleetline, Osmonds. September 6: Murphys, Murphys. September 8: Bugdens (20 Passenger). September 30: Bugdens (20 Passenger). October 6: Bugdens. October 8: Deer Lake Bus Co. October 12: Bugdens (20 Passenger). October 15: Bugdens (20 Passenger). October 22: Carpenter & Stroud. November 7: Gladneys, Bugdens (20 Passenger), Hayes. November 8: Bugdens (20 Passenger). November 9: Bugdens (20 Passenger). November 12: Harbour Motors. November 13: Quinlans, Fleetline, Fleetline, Adeys, Carpenter & Stroud, Kellys, Fleetline. December 16: Bugdens (20 Passenger). December 23: Gladneys. December 29: Adeys. December 30: Carpenter & Stroud. December 31: Adeys.

Order Paper Questions

MARITIME POLLUTION CLAIMS FUND—MAXIMUM ALLOWABLE CHARGE ON OIL

Question No. 957—**Mr. Harding:**

1. What is the maximum allowable charge for the Maritime Pollution Claims Fund on each ton of oil imported into Canada or shipped from any place in Canada?

2. What rate was charged per ton of oil at the inception of the plan and what is the rate being charged at present?

3. Does the same rate apply uniformly in all parts of Canada over the same period of time?

4. If there are any exceptions to a uniform rate, where are they and what rates apply in these cases?

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): 1. Fifteen cents.

2. Fifteen cents.

3. Yes.

4. N/A.

MARITIME POLLUTION CLAIMS FUND—REVENUE FROM POLLUTANTS OTHER THAN OIL

Question No. 958—**Mr. Harding:**

1. Has any revenue accrued to the Maritime Pollution Claims Fund from any pollutants other than oil?

2. What other cargoes of pollutants are liable for payments to the Fund and what is the rate charged on each different pollutant?

3. Have any of these shipments of pollutants had claims against the Maritime Pollution Claims Fund?

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): 1. No.

2. None.

3. No.

BRYDEN REPORT CONCERNING PUBLIC SERVICE STAFF RELATIONS ACT

Question No. 969—**Mr. Howie:**

How much money was paid for the production of the so-called Bryden Report concerning the Public Service Staff Relations Act and to whom was it paid?

Hon. Allan J. MacEachen (President of the Privy Council): The total amount paid out under contract for the production of the Bryden Report was $39,894.61. This amount was paid out to the following persons: 1. Mr. John Bryden received $29,364.41 of which $6,131.79 was reimbursement for expenses incurred by him.

2. Dr. W. R. Dymond received $3,500.

3. Father Gérard Hébert received $7,030.20 of which $905.20 was reimbursement for expenses incurred by him.

MARITIME POLLUTION CLAIMS FUND

Question No. 978—**Mr. Harding:**

1. How much money is currently in the Maritime Pollution Claims Fund?

2. How many claims, to date, have been charged against the Fund and what was the amount paid on each claim?

3. How many claims against the Fund are pending?

Order Paper Questions

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): 1. $7,947,142 as of March 31, 1973.

2. Nil.

3. No claims against the Fund are pending. Since the Fund is in the nature of an unsatisfied judgment fund, claims are made on the Fund only after other remedies are exhausted; and some claims that are now being disputed with polluters may eventually become claims on the fund.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE COMMISSION—MATERNITY BENEFITS

Question No. 1,018—**Mr. Hueglin:**

With regard to maternity benefits from January 1, 1972 to the latest month for which statistics are available (a) how many women received benefits for the maximum time period under the provision for maternity leave (b) what was the average number of weeks for which maternity benefits were received (c) how many of the women who have taken advantage of maternity benefits under UIC have returned to the labour force?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): (a) and (b). In order to provide the information requested, the Commission would have to prepare special computer programs. This would entail inordinate costs and time in (a) the preparation and testing of the programs (b) the use of computer facilities to extract the information; (c). This question cannot be answered as the Commission has no way of knowing if a claimant returns to the work force or merely stops drawing benefits and ceases to report to the Commission.

FISHER REPORT ON SEA ISLAND

Question No. 1,067—**Mr. Reynolds:**

1. Were the objections in the Fisher Report on the access system expropriation on Sea Island disregarded by the Department of Transport and, if so, for what reason?

2. What review of these reports is made before a decision is reached?

Mr. John M. Reid (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): I am informed by the Ministry of Transport and the Department of Public Works as follows: 1. The objections questioning the need for the proposed roadway and its associated expropriations were examined by the Ministry of Transport, but raised no new evidence to invalidate that requirement.

2. The Minister of Public Works reviews each report before making the decision to expropriate. Before doing so, it is customary for the minister to obtain the views of his cabinet colleagues, especially the minister responsible for the program involved and whose senior officials review the report concerned in detail.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS BY HARBOUR COMMISSIONS IN BRITISH COLUMBIA

Question No. 1,075—**Mr. Reynolds:**

1. Does the Department of Transport lay down ground rules for the publication of financial statements by harbour commissions in B.C. and, if so, what are the requirements for financial detail?

[Mr. Harding.]

2. Does the Department make payments to support the operations of such harbour commissions and, if so, upon what terms or conditions?

3. Does the Department have any role to play in the determination of how harbour commissions may use this income for such purposes as the solicitation abroad of business?

4. Are the detailed expenses of all employees of the Fraser River Harbour Commission available for the years 1967, 1968, 1970, 1971 and 1972?

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): 1. The Department of Transport does not prescribe rules for the publication of financial statements by harbour commissions. The department does, however, prescribe a form of accounts and requires each commission to report to it annually in the form prescribed.

2. No.

3. No.

4. Not available.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE PERSONNEL

Question No. 1,085—**Mr. Paproski:**

1. How many full-time employees were under salary in the Department of Justice on (a) January 1, 1963 (b) January 1, 1973?

2. How many people in each of these years were receiving salaries of (a) under $10,000 (b) between $10,000 and $20,000 (c) over $20,000?

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Justice): In so far as the Department of Justice is concerned; 1. (a) 159; (b) 715.

2. (a) 1963, 131; 1973, 386; (b) 1963, 27; 1973, 185; (c) 1963, 1; 1973, 144.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS PERSONNEL

Question No. 1,092—**Mr. Paproski:**

1. How many full-time employees were under salary in the Department of Public Works on (a) January 1, 1963 (b) January 1, 1973?

2. How many people in each of these years were receiving salaries of (a) under $10,000 (b) between $10,000 and $20,000 (c) over $20,000?

Hon. Jean-Eudes Dubé (Minister of Public Works): 1. (a) 6,030 (estimated); (b) 6,296.

		1963	1973
2.	(a)	5,870	4,579
	(b)	156	1,574
	(c)	4	143
	Total	6,030	6,296

Note: Figures shown for 1963 at 1(a) and 2(a), (b), (c) are approximate as the detailed records for two of the department's regions are no longer available.

LIP—APPLICATION FOR GRANT—PROJECT NO. H-6317

Question No. 1,312—**Mr. Allard:**

1. On what date did the government receive an application for a grant under LIP concerning project No. H-6317?

2. On what date was the application either approved or refused?

3. What were the reasons set forth by the government for its refusal or approval of said project?

4. If the project was accepted, what was the amount granted by the government to finance it?

5. How many jobs were created by the implementation of this project?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. January 12, 1973.

2. Rejected on February 19, 1973.

3. The department received a far greater number of applications than funds were available for. All applications were carefully assessed and many difficult decisions not to approve had to be made.

4. Not applicable.

5. Not applicable.

LIP—APPLICATION FOR GRANT—PROJECT NO. H-6340

Question No. 1,313—**Mr. Allard:**

1. On what date did the government receive an application for a grant under LIP concerning project No. H-6340?

2. On what date was the application either approved or refused?

3. What were the reasons set forth by the government for its refusal or approval of said project?

4. If the project was accepted, what was the amount granted by the government to finance it?

5. How many jobs were created by the implementation of this project?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. January 12, 1973.

2. Rejected on February 15, 1973.

3. The department received a far greater number of applications than funds were available for. All applications were carefully assessed and many difficult decisions not to approve had to be made.

4. Not applicable.

5. Not applicable.

LIP—APPLICATION FOR GRANT—PROJECT H-6320

Question No. 1,314—**Mr. Allard:**

1. On what date did the government receive an application for a grant under LIP concerning project No. H-6320?

2. On what date was the application either approved or refused?

3. What were the reasons set forth by the government for its refusal or approval of said project?

4. If the project was accepted, what was the amount granted by the government to finance it?

5. How many jobs were created by the implementation of this project?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. January 12, 1973.

2. Rejected on February 19, 1973.

3. The department received a far greater number of applications than funds were available for. All applications were carefully assessed and many difficult decisions not to approve had to be made.

4. Not applicable.

5. Not applicable.

LIP—APPLICATION FOR GRANT—PROJECT No. H-6314

Question No. 1,315—**Mr. Allard:**

1. On what date did the government receive an application for a grant under LIP concerning project No. H-6314?

2. On what date was the application either approved or refused?

3. What were the reasons set forth by the government for its refusal or approval of said project?

4. If the project was accepted, what was the amount granted by the government to finance it?

5. How many jobs were created by the implementation of this project?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. January 12, 1973.

2. Rejected on February 22, 1973.

3. The department received a far greater number of applications than funds were available for. All applications were carefully assessed and many difficult decisions not to approve had to be made.

4. Not applicable.

5. Not applicable.

LIP—APPLICATION FOR GRANT—PROJECT No. H-6515

Question No. 1,316—**Mr. Allard:**

1. On what date did the government receive an application for a grant under LIP concerning project No. H-6515?

2. On what date was the application either approved or refused?

3. What were the reasons set forth by the government for its refusal or approval of said project?

4. If the project was accepted, what was the amount granted by the government to finance it?

5. How many jobs were created by the implementation of this project?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. January 17, 1973.

2. Rejected on February 22, 1973.

3. The department received a far greater number of applications than funds were available for. All applications were carefully assessed and many difficult decisions not to approve had to be made.

4. Not applicable.

5. Not applicable.

LIP—APPLICATION FOR GRANT—PROJECT No. H-6537

Question No. 1,317—**Mr. Allard:**

1. On what date did the government receive an application for a grant under LIP concerning project No. H-6537?

2. On what date was the application either approved or refused?

3. What were the reasons set forth by the government for its refusal or approval of said project?

4. If the project was accepted, what was the amount granted by the government to finance it?

5. How many jobs were created by the implementation of this project?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. January 17, 1973.

2. Rejected on February 22, 1973.

3. The department received a far greater number of applications than funds were available for. All applications were carefully assessed and many difficult decisions not to approve had to be made.

4. Not applicable.

5. Not applicable.

LIP—APPLICATION FOR GRANT—PROJECT No. H-6182

Question No. 1,319—**Mr. Allard:**

1. On what date did the government receive an application for a grant under LIP concerning project No. H-6182?

2. On what date was the application either approved or refused?

3. What were the reasons set forth by the government for its refusal or approval of said project?

4. If the project was accepted, what was the amount granted by the government to finance it?

5. How many jobs were created by the implementation of this project?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. January 11, 1973.

2. Rejected on February 16, 1973.

3. The department received a far greater number of applications than funds were available for. All applications were carefully assessed and many difficult decisions not to approve had to be made.

4. Not applicable.

5. Not applicable.

LIP—APPLICATION FOR GRANT—PROJECT NO. H-6448

Question No. 1,320—**Mr. Allard:**

1. On what date did the government receive an application for a grant under LIP concerning project No. H-6448?

2. On what date was the application either approved or refused?

3. What were the reasons set forth by the government for its refusal or approval of said project?

4. If the project was accepted, what was the amount granted by the government to finance it?

5. How many jobs were created by the implementation of this project?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. January 16, 1973.

2. Rejected on February 20, 1973.

3. The department received a far greater number of applications than funds were available for. All applications were carefully assessed and many difficult decisions not to approve had to be made.

4. Not applicable.

5. Not applicable.

LIP—APPLICATION FOR GRANT—PROJECT No. H-3891

Question No. 1,325—**Mr. Allard:**

1. On what date did the government receive an application for a grant under LIP concerning project No. H-3891?

2. On what date was the application either approved or refused?

3. What were the reasons set forth by the government for its refusal or approval of said project?

4. If the project was accepted, what was the amount granted by the government to finance it?

5. How many jobs were created by the implementation of this project?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. December 8, 1972.

2. Rejected on February 5, 1973.

3. The Department received a far greater number of applications than funds were available for. All applications were carefully assessed and many difficult decisions not to approve had to be made.

4. Not applicable.

5. Not applicable.

LIP—APPLICATION FOR GRANT—PROJECT No. H-3967

Question No. 1,326—**Mr. Allard:**

1. On what date did the government receive an application for a grant under LIP concerning project No. H-3967?

2. On what date was the application either approved or refused?

3. What were the reasons set forth by the government for its refusal or approval of said project?

4. If the project was accepted, what was the amount granted by the government to finance it?

5. How many jobs were created by the implementation of this project?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. December 11, 1972.

2. Rejected on February 19, 1973.

3. The Department received a far greater number of applications than funds were available for. All applications were carefully assessed and many difficult decisions not to approve had to be made.

4. Not applicable.

5. Not applicable.

LIP—APPLICATION FOR GRANT—PROJECT No. H-3988

Question No. 1,327—**Mr. Allard:**

1. On what date did the government receive an application for a grant under LIP concerning project No. H-3988?

2. On what date was the application either approved or refused?

3. What were the reasons set forth by the government for its refusal or approval of said project?

4. If the project was accepted, what was the amount granted by the government to finance it?

5. How many jobs were created by the implementation of this project?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. December 11, 1972.

2. Rejected on February 22, 1973.

3. The Department received a far greater number of applications than funds were available for. All applications were carefully assessed and many difficult decisions not to approve had to be made.

4. Not applicable.

5. Not applicable.

LIP—APPLICATION FOR GRANT—PROJECT No. H-3991

Question No. 1,328—**Mr. Allard:**

1. On what date did the government receive an application for a grant under LIP concerning project No. H-3991?

2. On what date was the application either approved or refused?

3. What were the reasons set forth by the government for its refusal or approval of said project?

4. If the project was accepted, what was the amount granted by the government to finance it?

5. How many jobs were created by the implementation of this project?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. December 11, 1972.

2. Rejected on February 6, 1973.

3. The Department received a far greater number of applications than funds were available for. All applications were carefully assessed and many difficult decisions not to approve had to be made.

4. Not applicable.

5. Not applicable.

LIP—APPLICATION FOR GRANT—PROJECT No. H-3990

Question No. 1,329—**Mr. Allard:**

1. On what date did the government receive an application for a grant under LIP concerning project No. H-3990?

2. On what date was the application either approved or refused?

3. What were the reasons set forth by the government for its refusal or approval of said project?

4. If the project was accepted, what was the amount granted by the government to finance it?

5. How many jobs were created by the implementation of this project?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. December 11, 1972.

2. Rejected on January 12, 1973.

3. The department received a far greater number of applications than funds were available for. All applications were carefully assessed and many difficult decisions not to approve had to be made.

4. Not applicable.

5. Not applicable.

LIP—APPLICATION FOR GRANT—PROJECT No. H-3989

Question No. 1,330—**Mr. Allard:**

1. On what date did the government receive an application for a grant under LIP concerning project No. H-3989?

2. On what date was the application either approved or refused?

3. What were the reasons set forth by the government for its refusal or approval of said project?

4. If the project was accepted, what was the amount granted by the government to finance it?

5. How many jobs were created by the implementation of this project?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. December 11, 1972.

2. Rejected on January 24, 1973.

3. The department received a far greater number of applications than funds were available for. All applications were carefully assessed and many difficult decisions not to approve had to be made.

4. Not applicable.

5. Not applicable.

[*English*]

CONDITIONAL AND ABSOLUTE DISCHARGES

Question No. 1,485—**Mr. Hueglin:**

1. By what method does the government determine the number of (a) conditional (b) absolute discharges dispensed by the courts in Canada since the inception of the law relating to them?

2. How and when can various organizations in Canada involved in monitoring such matters secure the information relating to the number of absolute and conditional discharges granted and what

supervision of these discharges is carried out by the federal authorities involved?

Mr. John M. Reid (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): I am informed by Statistics Canada and the Department of Justice as follows: 1. (a) and (b) As a result of the new law passed on July 15, 1972, the forms used by the clerks of the adult courts and juvenile courts to report information to Statistics Canada, were redesigned for 1973 to include the items absolute and conditional discharges. Data are collected on an individual basis according to the statutes in each province under which an individual is charged. For the remainder of the 1972 calendar year (after the law was passed) the clerks of the adult courts were requested by circular letter to report the additional information on the forms already in use for 1972.

2. Data from adult courts for 1972 should be available for all provinces except Quebec and Alberta, by December 1973. Data for Quebec and Alberta should be available by mid 1975. Information was not collected from juvenile courts for 1972. Data from adult and juvenile courts for the first quarter of 1973 should be available by December 1973. Data pertaining to the second, third and fourth quarters of 1973 should be available 60 days after the end of each quarter. Revised court forms were introduced on April 1, 1973 and will be processed by computer which explains why data from the first quarter will take longer to process than for the following quarters. There is no supervision of these discharges carried out by the federal authorities involved.

FIFTH CAR RENTAL CONCESSIONAIRE IN AIRPORTS

Question No. 1,496—**Mr. Hellyer:**

1. Has a decision been reached to allow a fifth car rental concessionaire in Department of Transport airports and, if so, what are the reasons for allowing a fifth car rental concessionaire to compete for the already over-crowded facilities at DOT airports?

2. Have blueprints been prepared which show the location of the fifth concessionaire in some DOT air terminals?

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): 1. No, the department has not received any application from a fifth car rental company for permission to operate at DOT airports.

2. No.

COST OF PRINTING AND MINTING AND PRINTING BANK NOTES AND COINS

Question No. 1,506—**Mr. Matte:**

What percentage of the nominal value of bank-notes and coins does the cost of printing and minting thereof represent?

[*Translation*]

Hon. John Turner (Minister of Finance): The 1973 coinage contract between the Department of Finance and the Royal Canadian Mint provides for the following minting charges: Nickel dollar, 50 cents, 25 cents, and 10 cents coins—20% of the face value of the coin. 5 cent coins, 55 per cent of the face value of the coin; 1 cent coins, 70 per cent of the face value of the coin; Silver dollar coins, 60 per cent of the face value of the coin. The Statement of Assets and Liabilities of the Bank of Canada published in its 1972 Annual Report shows notes in circulation amounting to $4,806,241,000. In the accompanying Statement of Income and Expense bank note costs for 1972 are shown as $8,195,000.

[*English*]

SECOND REFINERY AT COME-BY-CHANCE, NEWFOUNDLAND

Question No. 1,511—**Mr. Nystrom:**

1. Is there any government financial involvement in the second refinery at Come-by-Chance, Newfoundland, announced on February 26, 1973, by Shaheen Natural Resources Company of New York and, if so, to what extent?

2. Are there any federal tax concessions being granted to the Company?

Mr. John M. Reid (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): 1. No.

2. No.

CANADA STEAMSHIP LINES—PACKAGE FREIGHT SERVICE

Question No. 1,515—**Mr. Orlikow:**

1. Is the Department of Transport aware that Canada Steamship Lines has announced that it is ending its Package Freight Service by ship to lake ports including Montreal, Valleyfield, Port Credit, Sarnia and instituting a substantial cut in this service in its Lakehead operations?

2. Is the Department of Transport exploring with other Canada shipping companies the possibility that they provide this type of service, particularly in view of the large facilities for such service at the Lakehead provided by the government at the time of the building of the St. Lawrence Seaway?

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): 1. Yes.

2. Not at this time. Canada Steamship Lines Ltd. has been well equipped with specialized vessels to provide this service for many years but has now found it necessary to reduce its over-all service. It is our view that any additional service which may be required can best be provided by the private sector in response to shipper demands, either by Canada Steamship lines or by any other Canadian shipping company.

AIR TRAFFIC CONTROLLER ASSISTANTS

Question No. 1,516—**Mr. Reynolds:**

1. How many Air Traffic Controller Assistants are there in Canada at the present time?

2. How many were there in 1969, 1970, 1971 and 1972?

3. How many hours of overtime have been worked by the Air Traffic Controller Assistants in 1969, 1970, 1971, 1972 and 1973 to date?

4. How much was paid in overtime in 1969, 1970, 1971 and 1972?

5. What are the present salary levels of Air Traffic Controller Assistants?

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): 1. Three hundred and eight.

2. 230; 237; 257; 275.

3. 15,167; 26,426; 28,787; 30,605; 3,206.

4. $78,026; $136,657; $202,109; $224,647.

5. CR 3—$6,707 to $7,372; CR 4—$7,496 to $8,238; CR 5—$8,569 to $9,415.

FOREST INDUSTRY IN BRITISH COLUMBIA—BOXCAR SHORTAGE

Question No. 1,523—**Mr. Reynolds:**

Will there be shut-downs and curtailment of production in the Forest Industry in British Columbia because of a boxcar shortage and, if so, what is the government doing to solve this serious problem?

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): Both major railways are taking steps aimed at providing an adequate supply of cars during this period of exceptionally high demand for the products of the forest industries of British Columbia. New equipment is being purchased while efforts are being made to secure the prompt return of lumber cars from the United States. At the same time, the railways have held discussions with the producers to investigate ways and means of optimizing equipment utilization. In short, the railway companies are taking all possible steps to avoid dislocation of the British Columbia forest industry. The effectiveness of these efforts depends upon a number of factors, one of which is the B.C. forest industry itself. It is difficult to foresee whether the future will be free of delays or other problems but it must be stressed that the railways are making every effort to eliminate or minimize any disruption.

LANDING RIGHTS AT CANADIAN AND UNITED STATES AIRPORTS

Question No. 1,679—**Mr. Munro (Esquimalt-Saanich):**

1. What are the names of the airports in Canada at which United States airline operators exercise landing rights on scheduled flights and which airlines exercise those landing rights at which airports?

2. What are the names of the airports in the United States at which Canadian airline operators exercise landing rights on scheduled flights and which airlines have these landing rights at which airports?

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): The Canadian Transport Commission advises as follows: 1. Vancouver, United Airlines, Western Airlines; Calgary, Western Airlines, Hughes Air Corp.; Toronto, United Air Lines, American Airlines, Eastern Airlines, Allegheny Airlines, North Central Airlines; Montreal, Delta Airlines, Eastern Airlines, Allegheny Airlines; Ottawa, Eastern Airlines; Winnipeg, North West Airlines; Prince Rupert, Alaska Airlines; Whitehorse, Wien Consolidated Airlines; Thunder Bay, North Central Airlines.

2. Seattle, Pacific Western Airlines; San Francisco, CP Air; Boston, Air Canada; New York, Air Canada; Chicago, Air Canada; Cleveland, Air Canada; Los Angeles, Air Canada; Tampa, Air Canada; Miami. Air Canada; Honolulu, CP Air; Pittsburgh, Nordair Ltd.

Order Paper Questions

CANADA-UNITED STATES LANDING RIGHTS

Question No. 1,680—**Mr. Munro (Esquimalt-Saanich):**

1. Do any Canadians airline operators enjoy landing rights on scheduled or charter flights to United States airports which they do not exercise and, if so, which ones and in what locations?

2. Do any United States airline operators enjoy landing rights on scheduled or charter flights to Canadian airports which they do not exercise and, if so, which ones and in what locations?

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): The Canadian Transport Commission advises as follows: 1. Yes; Fairbanks; CP Air.

2. Yes; Gander; Seaboard World Airlines, Pan American World Airways, Trans World Airlines. There are no specific points or routes assigned to charter operations.

URBAN MAIL SERVICES

Question No. 1,744—**Mr. McKenzie:**

1. How many more trucks, full-time and part-time drivers and total employees does the Post Office Department use in the operation of urban mail services in each of the cities of Vancouver, Edmonton, Calgary, Regina, Winnipeg, Toronto, Montreal and Halifax as compared to the period up to April 1972 when private contractors handled the collection and distribution of mail service?

2. What was the total cost of the Task Force Report on Mail Transportation submitted to the government in June 1969, by Samson, Belair, Riddell and Stead Incorporated?

Hon. André Ouellet (Postmaster General): 1.

	Trucks	Drivers		Total Employees
		Full Time	Part Time	
Vancouver	1 more	44 more	18 less	14 more
Edmonton	7 less	14 more	9 more	17 more
Calgary	5 more	20 more	17 more	31 more
Regina	5 less	9 more	5 less	3 more
Winnipeg	1 more	13 more	18 less	3 more
Toronto	44 more	58 more	1 less	100 more
Montreal*	10 more	48 more	14 less	160 more
Halifax	1 more	9 more	7 more	19 more

*Montreal was actually taken over by Post Office on April 1, 1970. Figures shown above reflect difference between standing as at March 31, 72 and February 28, 73.

2. $239,472.91.

LICENSED CIVILIAN FLYERS

Question No. 1,768—**Mr. Stewart (Okanagan-Kootenay):**

1. How many licensed civilian flyers are there in Canada?

2. How many were licensed in each of the years 1960-72 inclusive?

3. Does the government subsidize the licensing and training of civilian flyers and, if so, to what extent and what was the cost in each of the years 1960-72 inclusive?

4. Is it the intention of the government to continue a program of flying assistance grants for civilians?

5. Is the program open to men and women and, if so, at what age can they apply and receive government assistance?

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): 1. As of December 31, 1972, there are 39,351 Canadian Pilot Licences in force.

Order Paper Questions

2. Summary of Pilot Licences issued for the Years 1960-1972 inclusive. 1960, 4,246; 1961, 4,759; 1962, 3,763; 1963, 3,169; 1964, 3,329; 1965, 4,013; 1966, 6,251; 1967, 7,549; 1968, 7,671; 1969, 6,698; 1970, 5,975; 1971, 5,599; 1972, 5,975.

3. No; with the termination of the scheme of assistance to private pilots on March 31, 1969, and to flying clubs and schools on March 31, 1970, the MOT no longer provides any form of assistance for the training of private pilots. The cost of the scheme was as follows:

Fiscal Year	Amount	Fiscal Year	Amount
	$		$
1960-61	606,000	1966-67	546,239
1961-62	360,000	1967-68	631,600
1962-63	249,074	1968-69	651,600
1963-64	239,126	1969-70	188,400
1964-65	241,894	1970-71	1,600
1965-66	311,518		
		1971-72	No scheme of assistance
		1972-73	No scheme of assistance

4. A loan program to assist pilots in obtaining advanced flight training is under consideration by the Ministry.

5. The proposed program would be open to both men and women. The age requirement has not yet been determined.

CAR FERRY "TRAVETAL"

Question No. 1,814—**Mr. Neale (Vancouver East):**

1. Is the car ferry *Travetal* operating under Canadian registry and, if so, on what date was it registered?

2. What financial assistance has been provided by the government towards the operation of this vessel?

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): The Ministry of Transport advises as follows: 1. No. The Canadian Transport Commission advises as follows:

2. For the fiscal year 1972-73 and based on $12 per ton of general cargo carried between Halifax and St. John's or other Newfoundland ports. $368,100 has been paid by the federal government up to and including March 4, 1973.

ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE RECRUITMENT

Question No. 1,826—**Mr. Stewart (Okanagan-Kootenay):**

Has there been any increase in the past three years in the number of recruits for Royal Canadian Mounted Police and, if so, how many have been recruited?

Hon. Warren Allmand (Solicitor General): Recruitment for the Royal Canadian Mounted Police during the past three years was as follows:

Fiscal Year	Recruits Engaged
1970-71	844
1971-72	808
1972-73	681

[Mr. Marchand (Langelier).]

ISSUANCE OF COMMEMORATIVE STAMP—CALGARY 1975 CENTENNIAL

Question No. 1,827—**Mr. Bawden:**

Does the Postmaster General intend to issue a commemorative stamp on the occasion of the 1975 centennial of the founding of Calgary?

Hon. André Ouellet (Postmaster General): The 1975 centennial of the founding of Calgary is one of the subjects recorded for consideration in due course, but a final decision regarding the 1975 postage stamp program will not be made until late in 1974.

PROVINCIAL BORROWING ABROAD

Question No. 1,831—**Mr. Blenkarn:**

1. To what extent has the government advised the provinces and provincial treasurers not to borrow money from foreign bankers, trust companies and other lenders in 1969, 1970, 1971 and 1972?

2. Is the government prepared to accept responsibility for increasing international exchange rates in connection with borrowings made by provinces in foreign markets that must be now repaid at current exchange rates?

3. Is the government prepared to direct provinces and municipalities that they may not, without specific permission from the Minister of Finance and/or the Bank of Canada, borrow money in foreign markets?

Hon. John N. Turner (Minister of Finance): 1. The former Minister of Finance, the Hon. E. J. Benson, requested provincial governments and agencies to limit their foreign borrowing in June 1970 at a meeting of federal-provincial ministers of finance following the floating of the Canadian dollar on June 1. The first formal request to Canadian borrowers to explore fully the Canadian capital market before floating issues abroad was included in a statement on economic policy by Mr. Benson on October 13, 1970 during debate on the Speech from the Throne. A letter was sent by the Hon. E. J. Benson to provincial treasurers and finance ministers and to investment dealers most active in international underwriting transactions on April 22, 1971, reiterating his request that foreign borrowing be kept to a minimum. A copy of the text of this letter was released April 23, 1971. The minister alluded to this request on several other occasions in the latter half of 1971. The subject was again discussed by federal and provincial senior officials at a Federal-Provincial Continuing Committee meeting in June 1972 and shortly thereafter the Minister of Finance visited his provincial counterparts to express concern over the level of foreign borrowing. From time to time through this period, the minister and his officials have been in touch with individual borrowers and investment dealers to discuss individual borrowings in relation to the minister's request. The Governor of the Bank of Canada made reference to the minister's request and concurred with this request in speeches made by the Governor in October 1970 and April 1971. The Bank of Canada also made note of this request in its Annual Reports for 1970, 1971 and 1972.

2. No.

3. No.

CANADA DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION BOARD

Question No. 1,836—**Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre):**

What fees and salaries have been paid to each member of the Board of Directors of the Canada Development Corporation since the Board was established?

Hon. John N. Turner (Minister of Finance): Pursuant to Section 31 of the Canada Development Corporation Act the CDC is not an agent of Her Majesty or a Crown Corporation. The directors' remuneration is determined by the board of the CDC which has not made the information public. Consequently the information sought concerning fees and salaries of directors is not available.

*BOOKLET ENTITLED "PROPOSALS FOR A COMMUNICATION POLICY FOR CANADA"

Question No, 1,851—**Mr. Douglas:**

1. How many copies were printed of the booklet "Proposals for a Communications Policy for Canada" issued by the Department of Communications?

2. What was the cost of printing this booklet?

3. What was the method of distribution and to what categories of persons was the booklet distributed?

4. What firm did the lay-out and copy for this booklet and at what cost?

Mr. John M. Reid (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): Mr. Speaker, in view of the length of this answer perhaps it might be printed in *Hansard* today as having been read.

Mr. Speaker: Is that agreed?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

[*Editor's note: The answer referred to above is as follows:*]

1. Eight thousand copies.

2. The cost of printing was $11,510.13.

3. Some 900 copies of this booklet were distributed to Senators and Members of Parliament, provincial ministers responsible for communications, as well as to the parliamentary press gallery on the day it was tabled in the House. Other copies were mailed the same day by the Department of Communications and the Canadian Radio-Television Commission to departments, organizations, associations, companies, industries, broadcasters, cable undertakings, media and individuals, the names of which appear on the distribution lists of the Department of Communications and the CRTC. Two thousand other copies were offered for sale in all provinces by Information Canada.

4. The lay-out, type specifications and calculations, design and printing of screens, type composition for the covers and title pages and "camera ready" lay-outs were done by Gilles Robert et Associés, in Montreal. The cost was $1,154.72 (including federal taxes). Information Canada printed the booklet at the cost shown above.

Order Paper Questions

NATIONAL FILM BOARD—FILMS FOR GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES

Question No. 1,853—**Mr. Dinsdale:**

1. Since the announcement of the Secretary of State on July 4, 1972 "that the National Film Board will no longer be the exclusive recipient of government commissions" (a) how many film contracts have been awarded by federal departments and agencies to private film producers (b) how many films were produced in the same period by the Film Board for federal departments and agencies?

2. As provided for under the National Film Act, is the National Film Board still responsible for allocating all film contracts for federal government departments and agencies and, if not, what agency has been set up to handle this responsibility?

3. As it is impossible both to compete and control, is it the intention of the government to amend the National Film Act so that the National Film Board "will now have to compete with private producers for all film contracts awarded by a federal department or agency" as outlined in the Secretary of State's announcement of July 4, 1972?

Hon. James Hugh Faulkner (Secretary of State): 1. The announcement by the Secretary of State on July 4 was a statement of intention on the part of the government and so far no legislation has been changed. The National Film Board is still responsible, under the National Film Act, for allocating all contracts for government departments and agencies. I am informed by the National Film Board that (a) 36 contracts were issued by NFB on behalf of government departments to private film producers for the period July 4, 1972 to March 31, 1973; (b) 52 government department film projects were assigned to NFB Production for the period July 4, 1972 to March 31, 1973.

2. Yes.

3. As a follow-up to the policy statement concerning the film contracts awarded by the federal government, a committee presided over by Treasury Board and including representatives of the National Film Board and the Secretary of State Department has been set up to consider various matters respecting the implementation of this new policy. The committee is also examining private producers' views on this matter. This may result in amendment to the National Film Act.

LIP—TOTAL NUMBER OF APPLICATIONS

Question No. 1,862—**Mr. Forrestall:**

1. By province, what was the total number of applications received by LIP for assistance in the fiscal year ended 1973?

2. By province, of those received, how many applications were exercised by the applicants?

3. What was the total operating cost of the program for the same period (a) exclusive of grants (b) inclusive of grants?

4. What was the average cost, based on the above cost exclusive of grant payments, of each decision made by the program on applications (a) received (b) accepted (c) rejected?

[*Translation*]

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. See attached Schedule, Col. 1.

2. See attached Schedule, Col. 2.

3. (a) Estimated $2.7 million. Actual costs will not be available until May 1973. (b) Estimated $98.7 million have been paid out in the fiscal year ended March 31, 1973.

4. Costs of the various types of decisions cannot be identified separately. The average cost covering assessment, monitoring and other administrative functions for the year ended March 31, 1973 was $462. per project approved.

Local Initiatives Program

1972/73

	Applications Received (Col. 1)	Applications Exercised (Col. 2)
Newfoundland	1,309	327
Nova Scotia	1,098	358
Prince Edward Island	251	95
New Brunswick	960	408
Quebec	5,635	1,724
Ontario	2,617	1,247
Manitoba	533	242
Alberta	733	277
Saskatchewan	379	182
Northwest Territories	78	41
British Columbia	1,640	911
Yukon Territory	58	34
	15,291	5,846

[*English*]

ESTABLISHMENT OF CHARTERED BANKS

Question No. 1,886—**Mr. Matte:**

Can the provinces apply for the establishment of a charter bank and, if so, under what conditions?

[*Translation*]

Hon. John N. Turner (Minister of Finance): No. Provisional directors applying for incorporation of a bank under the Bank Act must be subscribers for stock of the bank and a province may not be a subscriber or registered owner of shares of the capital stock of a bank.

[*English*]

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION RECRUITMENT

Question No. 1,914—**Mr. Dick:**

1. Did an advertisement appear on March 17, 1973 in the Economist under International Appointments, stating that the Public Service Commission of Canada was seeking Management and Financial Auditors for the Audit Service Bureau, under reference number 73-ASP-F1-2?

2. Will these persons work in Canada and, if so, will they be moved to Canada at the taxpayers' expense?

3. For what reasons is the Public Service Commission recruiting outside of Canada, especially taking into consideration the low levels being recruited?

4. How many positions are to be filled from this competition?

5. What efforts have been made by the Public Service Commission or the department involved to staff from within its own ranks, or from Manpower Resources of Canada?

6. Did the advertisement appear in Canada and, if so, where and on what date?

7. Who waived the requirement that the applicant should be first a Canadian citizen, and second, a landed immigrant?

[Mr. MacGuigan.]

8. What would be the cost of transferring the successful candidate, his or her family, and household effects?

9. Is there a probationary period for the successful candidate, and if he is not successful, will he or she be returned to England at government expense?

10. Who has authorized the funding for this recruitment commitment?

11. Will this competition require a recruitment officer to travel to London, England to interview the candidates?

Hon. James Hugh Faulkner (Secretary of State): I am informed by the Public Service Commission as follows: 1. An advertisement appeared on March 17, 1973 in the Economist under International Appointments, stating that the Public Service Commission of Canada was seeking Management and Financial Auditors for the Audit Services Bureau under reference number 73-ASP-FI-2.

2. Qualified candidates who are offered employment and who accept the offer of employment will work in Canada. They will be moved to Canada at the taxpayers' expense.

3. The Public Service Commission, after exhausting internal manpower resources and conducting 11 separate "open" recruitment programs within Canada during the period of March 1972 to March 1973, did not meet the manpower requirements of departments at the entry level of the auditing group.

4. There are 30 positions to be staffed by means of this overseas recruitment campaign.

5. Extensive training programs have been under way in the four main user departments and have been the prime source for appointment at the entry level. However, the resource is insufficient to meet the current demands. As noted in item (3) above, 11 separate "open" recruitment programs for auditing positions at the entry level were conducted by the Public Service Commission within Canada during the period of March 1972 to March 1973.

6. The advertisement referenced was directed specifically towards auditor recruitment in the United Kingdom and therefore did not appear in Canada. However, 11 advertisements were placed in major Canadian newspapers and journals periodically over the last year (see item 3).

7. Section 17, subsection (4) (iv) of the Public Service Employment Act authorizes the Commission to recruit other than Canadian citizens when qualified Canadian citizens are not available.

8. It is not possible at this time to state a cost. This will only be possible when the successful candidates are known; the granting of removal expenses is a departmental responsibility.

9. Yes, there is a probationary period. In the event that a candidate did not complete successfully his/her probationary period, the decision to grant the candidate any removal expense to return to England would be a departmental responsibility.

10. The Public Service Commission has authorized the funding for this recruitment campaign.

11. One officer of the Public Service Commission and two officers of the Department of Supply and Services will interview candidates in London, and possibly other centres in the United Kingdom.

COAL SUBSIDIES

Question No. 1,926—**Mr. Arrol:**

Do the coal mining companies of Canada receive a subsidy for each ton of coal mined and, if so, what is the amount paid per ton?

Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): No.

STUDY OF GRAIN TRANSPORTATION AND HANDLING

Question No. 1,944—**Mr. Mazankowski:**

1. What was the total cost, to the government, of the Study of Grain Transportation and Handling?

2. Who were the consulting firms that carried out the study and what were the amounts paid to each firm for its services?

3. How were the firms selected?

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Justice): 1. Total cost was $587,950.

2. Personal Service Contracts & Computing Services, $40,000; Grain Industry Personnel on Personal Service Contracts, $94,950; Country Grain Elevator Study, University of Manitoba, $12,000; Country Grain Elevator Study, P. S. Ross, $27,000; Cost Ascertainment Study, Thunder Bay & Pacific Terminals, P. S. Ross, $15,000; Eastern Terminal Grain Elevators, P. S. Ross, $19,000; Farm Trucking Costs, University of Manitoba, $5,000; Commercial Trucking, Trimac Transportation System, $5,000; Inland Terminal Design, P. Foody & Co., $45,000; Cleaning and Storage Study, P. Foody & Co., $50,000; Saskatoon Terminal Study, P. Foody & Co., $5,000; Economic Effects of Rationalization of Prairie Communities, Underwood McLellan & Assoc., $44,000; Grain Handling and Transportation Costs in Canada, P. S. Ross, $25,000; Grain Transportation in Eastern Canada, Kates, Peat, Marwick, $46,000; Costing of Terminal Elevator Design, Barnett McQueen, $5,000; Solids Pipeline for Grain Study, Hedlin Menzies, $3,000; Testing of High Speed Cleaning Machine, P. Foody & Co., & Saskatchewan Wheat Pool, $147,000; Total $587,950.

3. In most instances special knowledge of grain handling systems was required in carrying out the research. Work was contracted out to individuals and organizations having the requires experience or demonstrated competence. Where more than one group met these requirements, contracts were awarded by competitive bidding.

FARM CREDIT CORPORATION POLICY RESPECTING POLITICAL MOVEMENTS

Question No. 1,946—**Mr. Mazankowski:**

What is the policy of the Farm Credit Corporation in respect of Corporation officials participating actively in federal election campaigns and openly supporting specific political movements?

Hon. E. F. Whelan (Minister of Agriculture): The Farm Credit Corporation advises as follows: It shall be a condition of every appointment that except with the approval of the chairman and subject to such conditions as the board may prescribe the appointee shall not be a candidate or actively participate in work for or against a candidate for election to the House of Commons, the legislature of any province or the Council of the Yukon Territory or the North West Territories or for or against any political party.

* * *

QUESTIONS PASSED AS ORDERS FOR RETURNS

DEPARTMENT OF SOLICITOR GENERAL—PUBLICITY EXPENDITURE

Question No. 80—**Mr. Nystrom:**

1. What were the amounts of money spent by the Department of the Solicitor General on publicity and/or information in each of the fiscal years 1968-69, 1969-70, 1970-71, 1971-72?

2. What were the names and addresses of firms or individuals who received these contracts, what amounts of money were spent in each case and what was the purpose of each contract?

3. What contracts for publicity and/or information were awarded in the current fiscal year, what are the names and addresses of contractees, what are the amounts of money involved in each case and what is the purpose of each contract?

Return tabled.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE COMMISSION—RESEARCH EXPENDITURES

Question No. 114—**Mr. Nystrom:**

1. What was the total amount of money spent in each of the fiscal years 1968-69, 1969-70, 1970-71, 1971-72 by the Unemployment Insurance Commission on contracts to outside persons and organizations for research, development and other consulting services?

2. What are the names and addresses of these outside persons and organizations and what amounts of money were involved in each contract?

3. What was the purpose of each contract and title of each report submitted?

4. What are the names and addresses of outside persons and organizations who were awarded contracts for research, development and other consulting services in the current fiscal year, what are the amounts of money involved in each case and what is the purpose of each contract?

Return tabled.

LAWYERS AND LEGAL FIRMS EMPLOYED BY JUSTICE DEPARTMENT IN QUEBEC

Question No. 538—**Mr. Wagner:**

1. What were the names of lawyers and legal firms in the Province of Quebec who were employed by the Department of Justice January 1, 1972 to January 1, 1973?

2. What specific work was done by each?

3. What amount was paid to each in (a) salaries (b) disbursements (c) travelling expenses?

Return tabled.

PUBLIC WORKS PROJECTS

Question No. 856—**Mr. Korchinski:**

1. How many public works projects were there in each province in 1972?

2. What was the total amount spent on these projects in 1972?

3. Of these projects, how many were post offices?

4. What were the locations of these post offices in Saskatchewan?

Return tabled.

GOVERNMENT ADVERTISING EXPENDITURES, 1972

Question No. 964—**Mr. Mather:**

What was the total in dollars of all government advertising in all media outlets in 1972?

Return tabled.

LIP PROJECTS—DRUMMOND CONSTITUENCY

Question No. 1,006—**Mr. Boisvert:**

1. What Local Initiative Programs were approved for the constituency of Drummond in 1971 and 1972?

2. What were the amounts paid to each project?

3. Who were the co-ordinators of each project?

Return tabled.

PUBLIC SERVICE—APPOINTMENT OF SPECIAL ASSISTANTS

Question No. 1,028—**Mr. Matte:**

1. How many special assistants are there in the various departments?

2. What departments have special assistants?

3. (a) Who are the special assistants (b) how were they appointed (c) do they all draw the same salary and (i) if so, what is it (ii) if not, for what reasons?

Return tabled.

CITIZEN ADVOCACY GROUP PROGRAMS

Question No. 1,171—**Mr. Macquarrie:**

1. What grants have been given to citizen advocacy group programs (a) in what centres (b) in what amounts?

2. What measure of non-financial assistance is given by the Department of National Health and Welfare to such programs?

3. In so far as the knowledge of the Department goes, how many such programs are in existence in Canada and in what centres?

Return tabled.

PERSONNEL ATTACHED TO OFFICES OF ALL PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARIES

Question No. 1,270—**Mr. Cossitt:**

1. What are the names of all persons employed by, on loan to or attached to, the offices of all Parliamentary Secretaries and in each case (a) what are the duties performed by such individuals (b) what are their salaries for the current fiscal year, in dollars?

2. Do any of these persons receive indirectly government funds paid as research monies to the Liberal Party of Canada and, if so, who are these specific individuals and how much do they receive?

Return tabled.

[Mr. Korchinski.]

LIP PROJECTS

Question No. 1,293—**Mr. Matte:**

What are the titles, locations and amounts of LIP projects approved in the constituencies of (a) Champlain (b) Portneuf (c) Trois-Rivières-Métropolitain (d) Saint-Maurice (e) Berthier (f) Villeneuve?

Return tabled.

LIP PROJECTS—PROVINCE OF QUEBEC

Question No. 1,441—**Mr. Caouette (Témiscamingue):**

1. How many projects were received from the Province of Quebec under the Local Initiative Program?

2. How many projects were submitted from each constituency in the Province?

3. How many of these were (a) approved (b) rejected?

Return tabled.

CHARITABLE ORGANIZATIONS

Question No. 1,818—**Mr. Stewart (Okanagan-Kootenay):**

1. How many charitable organizations have been incorporated in each year 1960 to 1972 inclusive?

2. (a) How many charitable organizations have ceased to operate in each year 1960 to 1972 inclusive (b) what are the names of each (c) where was each located (d) for what reason did each cease to operate?

Return tabled.

LIP GRANTS TO ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION

Question No. 1,829—**Mr. Marchand (Kamloops-Cariboo):**

1. How many Local Initiative Program grants were made to branches of the Royal Canadian Legion across Canada since 1971?

2. To what branches were these grants made and what was the amount of each grant?

3. What was the nature of each project?

Return tabled.

Mr. Diefenbaker: Mr. Speaker, I have four or five questions on the order paper, all of which may have embarrassing results for the government, but that does not excuse the delay in answering them. One is starred question 1,800 which has been on the order paper since March 29. It reads as follows:

1. On what dates since January 1, 1973, did the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce communicate with the Secretary of Commerce of the United States regarding possible or potential trade action by the United States against Canada?

2. Have letters of protest to the United States government been sent by either the Prime Minister or the minister and, if so, on what dates and to whom?

No matter how free one is from suspicion, the fact remains that this answer could have been given long ago. The answer would be very simple. I think it is that no communication has taken place, and that is the reason there has not been any answer.

Mr. Gillespie: Mr. Speaker, I shall be very pleased to look into this question. Quite frankly, I thought it had been answered and I regret it has not.

Mr. Diefenbaker: Then I would suggest a little better communication among members of the Cabinet.

Mr. Cossitt: Mr. Speaker, last March I placed a number of questions on the order paper on the subject of the Police and Security Planning and Analysis Group. All these questions were answered within what I consider a very reasonable length of time with the exception of one question, namely, No. 1,769. If the other questions could be answered as quickly as they were, I fail to see any valid reason for the delay in answering this particular question, which simply asks who were the employers during the previous five years of the 17 persons whose names the government has admitted in an answer to one of my previous questions and who comprise the Police and Security Planning and Analysis Group. If there is no reason for the government to desire to hide what these people were doing before they went to their new positions, would the parliamentary secretary give the House some indication when this question will be answered?

Mr. Reid: Mr. Speaker, I will get in touch with the minister and report back to the hon. member.

MOTION TO ADJOURN UNDER S.O. 26

FISHERIES

RECIPROCAL PRIVILEGES WITH UNITED STATES

Mr. Thomas S. Barnett (Comox-Alberni): Mr. Speaker, I rise pursuant to the provisions of Standing Order 26 to move, seconded by the hon. member for Skeena (Mr. Howard):

That this House do now adjourn for the purpose of discussing a specific and important matter requiring urgent consideration, namely: the impasse which exists between Canada and the United States of America for a continuing agreement on reciprocal fishing privileges in each other's fishing zones, and what further steps are necessary to secure a new agreement or, alternatively, what steps are necessary to protect Canada's fishing interests if the United States will not renew the agreement on equitable terms.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Comox-Alberni has given the Chair due notice of his intention to request leave to move a motion to adjourn the House in order to discuss the subject matter of reciprocal fishing rights and privileges in the Pacific between Canada and the United States. It should also be said that the background material appended to the hon. member's notice was found to be most useful. I will add also that the Chair appreciated the hon. member's co-operation in placing for the consideration of the Chair a motion in a proper form without argument and supporting material in the motion itself.

● (1420)

There can be little doubt, of course, of the importance of the matter raised now by the hon. member for Comox-Alberni and by other hon. members during motions. The desirability of carrying on further negotiations with the United States is probably indisputable. However, as has been said often in the past, it is not the importance and urgency of the matter itself which the Chair ought to consider primarily, but the urgency of the debate.

In making a determination whether or not the matter should have urgent consideration under the provisions of Standing Order 26, the Chair must have regard to the probability of the matter being brought before the House within a reasonable time by other means. It does seem to the Chair that there are a number of steps available to the hon. member to bring on a discussion and consideration of the substance of the matter which he has requested be set down for debate. In my view, the proposed motion does not meet one of the basic requirements of the Standing Order and of our practice, and consequently it cannot be put to the House at this time.

ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

PENITENTIARIES

ESCAPES FROM ST. VINCENT DE PAUL—REQUEST FOR REPORT ON CIRCUMSTANCES—SECURITY PROVISIONS TO PREVENT FURTHER INCIDENTS—TYPE OF INQUIRY

Hon. Robert L. Stanfield (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, I had a question for the Solicitor General but he seems to have escaped from the House today.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Stanfield: Perhaps I might direct my question to the Prime Minister or to the Minister of Justice. I would ask whether either gentlemen can report any progress in respect of the capture of the five dangerous prisoners who escaped yesterday from St. Vincent de Paul penitentiary, and what security provisions are being undertaken at this time to avoid any further escapes from this penitentiary?

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Justice): Mr. Speaker, the Solicitor General would have very much liked to be here to meet hon. members but longstanding commitments in Victoria, including a meeting with the John Howard society, have kept him away. The matter of escapes and additional procedures is, of course, receiving very careful attention. At the same time, a decision has been taken and the commissioner will be authorizing an inquiry under Section 12 of the Penitentiary Act into the circumstances surrounding these escapes. The whole matter will be pursued with the vigour which I know the hon. Leader of the Opposition has come to expect of the Solicitor General.

Mr. Baldwin: That is what worries us.

An hon. Member: Give us an explanation.

Mr. Stanfield: Mr. Speaker, I am sure the Solicitor General does the best he can in view of the people he has to work with.

An hon. Member: That is a reflection on public servants.

Mr. Stanfield: Would the Minister of Justice say whether the government has received any detailed explanation as to the latest escapes? Has it received any explanation of why a guard tower 30 feet away from the point where the men are said to have gone over the wall was empty at the time?

An hon. Member: He was at a luncheon.

Mr. Stanfield: Can the minister say whether this guard tower and others at this penitentiary are now being manned continuously? What assurance can the minister give the House?

Mr. McGrath: They shouldn't be allowed to escape during the lunch hour.

Mr. Lang: Mr. Speaker, it is true it appears that two of the towers in question were unmanned at this particular point in time. It is also a fact that this was directly contrary to instructions which were given again in writing as recently as May 1 that these towers were to be manned at all times.

This discrepancy in conduct compared with the directions which existed is part of the elements which have led to the need for an inquiry.

Mr. Stanfield: As I understand it, the inquiry referred to by the minister relates to prisons, security and breakouts in the province of Quebec. I should like to ask the Prime Minister or the Minister of Justice whether the inquiry will be broadened so as to include the penitentiary system in the whole of the country, either in the form of a royal commission as proposed by the right hon. member for Prince Albert last week or in the form of an inquiry by a special select committee of the House as proposed today by the hon. member for Yukon? Will the government broaden the inquiry to include the whole penitentiary system in Canada and all its aspects?

Mr. Lang: Mr. Speaker, the inquiry to which I referred a moment ago was specifically in relation to the incidents that took place over the weekend. The Solicitor General reacted in quite a positive way to the suggestion of a broader inquiry in terms of the consideration he wanted to give to that suggestion when put to him in the House the other day. I am sure he will include in his consideration of the appropriate inquiry the suggestion contained in the motion of the hon. member for Yukon.

ESCAPES FROM INSTITUTIONS—REQUEST FOR BROAD JUDICIAL OR OTHER INQUIRY

Mr. David Lewis (York South): I have a supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. In view of the fact the escapes reported in the last day or two are the most recent of a number that have taken place in the last number of weeks or months, and in view of the fact one may reasonably suspect there is some kind of loss of discipline or morale in the system at the moment—I address this question to the Prime Minister—can we have from him an assurance today that there will be a broad independent judicial or other inquiry into the whole system of the guards and supervision of penitentiaries in Canada?

[Mr. Stanfield.]

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, the Minister of Justice just gave the answer I would repeat to that question, that the Solicitor General did indicate his sympathy with the suggestion. He referred to other inquiries that had been made in recent years into the penitentiary system. He indicated he would want to consider all these and then give his opinion to cabinet and make a statement to the House, if necessary.

Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Prince Albert): Mr. Speaker, my question really follows that of the hon. member who preceded me. This is a matter directly for the Prime Minister. I ask the Prime Minister whether consideration is being given to the suggestion I made two or three weeks ago, concerning the open-door proclivities that are becoming part and parcel of the penitentiary service today so far as inmates are concerned, I asked for the setting up of a royal commission. This is a very serious matter and one in respect of which the administration of justice is being widely criticized?

Mr. Trudeau: Mr. Speaker, it seems to me the question is an elaboration of the question just asked by the Leader of the New Democratic Party and my answer, I must say, is along the same lines.

Mr. Diefenbaker: It seems hard to get an answer from the Prime Minister. I do not want him to draw on his imagination for his facts, but I am wondering whether he could answer the question. Has the subject been before the cabinet and I would like an answer instead of these smart-aleck answers the Prime Minister regularly gives the House?

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Yukon on a supplementary.

SECURITY IN PROVINCE OF QUEBEC—REQUEST THAT TERMS OF REFERENCE OF INQUIRY COMMISSION BE BROADENED

Mr. Erik Nielsen (Yukon): Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary for the Minister of Justice. In light of the announcement by a spokesman for the Solicitor General that a three-man inquiry commission will be set up this week to investigate penitentiary security in the province of Quebec and in view of the obvious reluctance of the government to broaden that inquiry to include the whole of the country, will the minister at least assure the House that the inquiry will be prepared to examine recent disturbances at Millhaven, Cowansville, St. Vincent de Paul, Dorchester and Prince Albert penitentiaries as well as its existing terms of reference?

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Justice): Mr. Speaker, I can certainly discuss that representation with the Solicitor General. I should think that the objective in maintaining a somewhat narrower ambit for this particular inquiry is to deal with the very specific issues that are involved here. The broader questions are important and the Solicitor General attaches great importance to the questions involved as he indicated to the House earlier, including the over-all question of morale, and is considering the

nature of the broader inquiry which may be required with regard to these matters.

● (1430)

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I am sure I can spot ten members rising on supplementary questions. All these hon. members cannot be recognized on the very first question, but perhaps we might have two or three further supplementaries. The hon. member for Yukon has a supplementary. He will be recognized, and so will the hon. member for Skeena. We will then try to complete the first round of questioning and return later to others who want to ask supplementaries on this subject.

Mr. Nielsen: I have one last supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. In view of the delays in previous inquiries into prisons by this government, would the Prime Minister assure the House that the report of this particular inquiry or commission will be submitted directly to the House rather than to the minister or to the government?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): No, Mr. Speaker. I cannot give that assurance.

ESCAPES OF PRISONERS—REQUEST FOR INQUIRY INTO COMPETENCE OF COMMISSIONER FAGUY

Mr. Frank Howard (Skeena): I should like to direct a supplementary question to the Minister of Justice, Mr. Speaker. Inasmuch as there is obviously a need for two types of inquiries, one into the escapes a few days ago and the other into the general competency of the penitentiary service, will the Minister of Justice or the Solicitor General cause an inquiry to be undertaken into the competency of Commissioner Faguy, because that is where the problem seems to stem from?

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Justice): Mr. Speaker, I would not want to accept the premise of the hon. member's question, at least to the extent of prejudging the very issue of the inquiry and the many factors which may be at work in creating the difficult problems that exist. I think it would be a mistake to start with a prejudgment about the nature of the problem.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I will recognize the hon. member for Saint-Hyacinthe on a last supplementary question, after which we will continue the first round of questioning. I will recognize the hon. member for Burnaby-Richmond-Delta, the hon. member for Calgary North and others later on this subject.

[*Translation*]

ALLEGED ISSUANCE OF SPECIAL PASSPORTS TO ESCAPED PRISONERS—REQUEST THAT NO NEW PASSPORTS BE GRANTED

Mr. Claude Wagner (Saint-Hyacinthe): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a supplementary question to the Secretary of State for External Affairs.

Considering that one or several escapees now being sought were issued special passports on the occasion of their most recent evasion, did the minister give specific instructions that new passports not be issued?

[*English*]

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs): No, Mr. Speaker, I have not given any such instructions. The hon. gentleman will recall that when this was done in the past it was in order to help to apprehend the criminals, and they have been apprehended.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

[*Translation*]

Mr. Wagner: Mr. Speaker, I have a further supplementary question for the Secretary of State for External Affairs.

Is it the minister's intention to issue a passport if the police force asks for it?

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member will agree that the question asked in these terms is hypothetical.

* * *

[*English*]

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

INQUIRY AS TO LEGISLATION RESPECTING PUBLIC SERVANTS

Mr. David Lewis (York South): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the President of the Privy Council. He has informed us that he intends to present a bill dealing with conflict of interest of members of the House of Commons. I should like to ask him whether he is also in the process of preparing legislation to deal with the conflict of interest of public servants, particularly in the higher ranks?

Hon. Allan J. MacEachen (President of the Privy Council): Mr. Speaker, the present plan is to produce, some time in this session, a general statement on the question of conflict of interest relating to Members of Parliament, ministers and public servants. The reason that legislation may be desirable for Members of Parliament and Senators is that this particular field has already been dealt with in various acts of parliament. The objective would be to reconcile and probably update some of these acts of parliament. At the moment, according to the present situation it would be intended to reflect the procedures with regard to conflict of interest in the case of public servants in the form of guidelines rather than legislation, but that is a tentative judgment at the moment.

ALLEGED HOLDING OF BELL CANADA SHARES BY MEMBER OF TRANSPORT COMMISSION

Mr. David Lewis (York South): Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question arising out of a statement by the chairman of the Canadian Transport Commission on a television program yesterday in which he indicated that there is a section in the National Transportation Act prohibiting members of the Canadian Transport Commission from having an interest in transportation or communication enterprises with which the CTC has to deal. May I ask the President of the Privy Council whether he is aware of the fact that one member at least, and perhaps more than one, of the Canadian Transport Commission has or has had and continues to have shares in Bell

Canada? If he is not aware of it, will he undertake to make an inquiry and inform the House as to that fact?

Hon. Allan J. MacEachen (President of the Privy Council): I am not aware of any such situation. I will discuss the matter with the Prime Minister, and if there is any further report to be made to the House it will be done.

POSSIBILITY OF GUIDELINES FOR CABINET MEMBERS DISTINCT FROM THOSE FOR OTHER MEMBERS OF HOUSE

Hon. Robert L. Stanfield (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, my supplementary question is directed to the Prime Minister. I should like to ask him whether it is intended to produce any guidelines in respect of members of the cabinet as such as distinct from ordinary members of the House of Commons, and whether it is intended to do this by the publication of guidelines or by statute?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, following the answer just given by the President of the Privy Council, my answer would be yes, we do intend to make public guidelines applying to ministers as well as to members of the House, senators, public servants and, indeed, appointees in general by order in council. As to the second part of the question, legislation is not contemplated at this time for any of the other categories but Members of Parliament and Senators who, as the President of the Privy Council said, are presently dealt with by legislation.

APPOINTMENT IN 1968 BY FORMER MINISTER, EDGAR BENSON, OF FIRM WITH WHICH HE HAD BEEN ASSOCIATED AS CMHC AUDITORS

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I do not know if there is a follow-up question, but I would like now to correct an error I made in answer to a similar question on Friday or Thursday when I said that Mr. Benson had resigned or severed any connection with a chartered accountants firm upon his entry into politics. The answer should have been that he resigned or severed such connection when he became a member of the cabinet. There is a two-year period between the two dates. I might have said also that the appointment was made by cabinet rather than by the minister, as indeed it is an order in council appointment.

Mr. Diefenbaker: Mr. Benson would still have a benevolent interest.

* * *

[*Translation*]

YOUTH

OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUTH PROGRAM—ROLE OF MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT IN SELECTING PROJECTS—FURTHER APPROVALS

Mr. René Matte (Champlain): Mr. Speaker, I should like to put a question to the Secretary of State.

Some ten days ago the minister sent to the members a list of Opportunities for Youth projects definitely approved by his department. Could he tell us what effect could the members' recommendations have on projects from their own constituency?

[*English*]

Hon. James Hugh Faulkner (Secretary of State): Mr. Speaker, that is a matter of opinion. As I have said before, the responsibility for rejections is in all cases one that I assume as Secretary of State and is not a responsibility of Members of Parliament. We consulted Members of Parliament who were free to offer advice if they wanted to. Some took advantage of the opportunity and some did not. But I want to emphasize that the refusal was my own and that of my department.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Matte: Could the minister tell us whether another list of approved projects will be drawn up?

[*English*]

Mr. Faulkner: No, Mr. Speaker.

ALLEGED PROMISE OF REINSTATEMENT OF OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUTH PROJECT AT LAC MEGANTIC IF CROWD PROVIDED FOR PRIME MINISTER'S VISIT

Mr. Joe Clark (Rocky Mountain): Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question. Has the minister ordered an investigation into the report in Saturday's *Globe and Mail* that sponsors of an OFY project at Lac Megantic were promised by a Liberal organizer that their program would be reinstated if the project sponsors provided a crowd for the Prime Minister's visit, and will the minister undertake to advise the House of the full results of that investigation?

• (1440)

Hon. James Hugh Faulkner (Secretary of State): Mr. Speaker, that is the first I have heard of it. It sounds like patent nonsense to me, but I will look into it.

Mr. Clark (Rocky Mountain): As a supplementary—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The Chair will recognize the hon. member for his supplementary, but I think we should try to proceed in an orderly fashion if we can. There are still supplementaries on the first and second questions and further supplementaries on the third question. Perhaps we should set a full 40 minutes aside just for supplementaries. However, the Chair will recognize the hon. member for Rocky Mountain for his supplementary and then we will have supplementaries on the first question asked by the Leader of the Opposition.

Mr. Clark (Rocky Mountain): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Will the minister tell the House, categorically and for the record, that no Liberal organizer is in a position to cause any OFY application to be accepted, rejected or reinstated, and will he introduce a statute for the opportunities for youth program to help avoid this kind of abuse?

Mr. Faulkner: Mr. Speaker, I answered the first part of that question in my response to the hon. member for Champlain. The decision was taken by myself and the people in my department. With respect to the second part

of the question, we have gone into that proposition at length before the standing committee and my position remains unchanged.

* * *

PENITENTIARIES

ESCAPE OF JEAN-PAUL MERCIER FROM ST. VINCENT DE PAUL—REQUEST FOR STATEMENT ON CIRCUMSTANCES AND POSTPONEMENT OF CAPITAL PUNISHMENT DEBATE

Mr. Eldon M. Woolliams (Calgary North): Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask a question of the Minister of Justice or the Prime Minister. It concerns one of the escapees, Jean-Paul Mercier, who pleaded guilty last week to the murder of two game wardens, Mederic Coté and Ernest Saint-Pierre. He committed those crimes, to which he pleaded guilty, after escaping from the penitentiary where he had been serving 24 years for armed robbery and attempted murder. In light of that fact I ask, and I say this with a kind of respect to the ministers, will they now make a categorically clearcut statement to the House with reference to this person and the circumstances surrounding the escape of this man who has been found guilty of two murders, one attempted murder, and one armed robbery?

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Justice): Mr. Speaker, the escapes include this individual and others about whom one could make very serious statements in regard to their being at large. This is one of the reasons for the inquiry. The Solicitor General, I think, indicated to the House in the case of this particular institution, with the inclusion in it of persons requiring great security, that greater security provisions were made. Part of the problem, of course, is that some of them were not in fact in place at the time.

Mr. Woolliams: In light of the circumstances I have set out, would the minister now advise the House, with respect to the plea of guilty by this particular individual, whether he pleaded guilty to non-capital murder or capital murder and whether he pleaded guilty to capital murder while the temporary abolition of capital punishment was still in operation?

Also, In light of these circumstances and until all this is clarified, would the minister undertake to see that the debate on capital punishment is further adjourned in view of these horrible, terrible, tragic facts until they are all straightened out and a statement made to the House so that debate can proceed in an orderly fashion?

Mr. Lang: Mr. Speaker, I must say I am glad that we will have an opportunity this afternoon to examine the rather serious lack of logic in some of the remarks by the hon. member. With regard to his inquiry respecting the circumstances of a particular plea and so on, I will be glad to seek this information from the provincial Attorney General under whom the prosecution would have taken place.

Mr. Allan Lawrence (Northumberland-Durham): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Justice. Can he inform the House how long the guards' coffee breaks are?

Mr. Lang: I imagine, Mr. Speaker, that the Solicitor General, who is still appearing before the committee with his estimates, would be glad to discuss this matter.

BRITISH COLUMBIA—REQUEST THAT INSTITUTION BE BROUGHT UP TO DATE TO FACILITATE REHABILITATION

Mr. John Reynolds (Burnaby-Richmond-Delta): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Justice. In view of the deplorable conditions at the British Columbia penitentiary which I visited last week, and in view of the fact that a stabbing took place in that prison last Wednesday which has yet to be reported, can the minister advise when this prison will be brought up to date so that it and other prisons will be more acceptable for rehabilitation purposes instead of being training grounds for escapes and further criminal activities?

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Justice): Mr. Speaker, I know that the Solicitor General will welcome the interest of the hon. member in support of his hopes for improving the conditions of prisons in this country and for the way in which, as a result, we will be able to deal with the rehabilitation problem.

Mr. Reynolds: Mr. Speaker, I could not agree with the minister more. We all hope for rehabilitation, but this prison is 100 years old. I am asking when we can expect some action in that area so that prisoners can be rehabilitated instead of what is going on right now. We still have not had the stabbing explained that took place in that prison last week.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The Chair will now recognize the hon. member for Annapolis Valley who has a supplementary to the second question, and after that the hon. member for Kootenay West.

* * *

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

APPOINTMENT BY FORMER MINISTER, EDGAR BENSON, OF FIRM WITH WHICH HE HAD BEEN ASSOCIATED AS AUDITORS— GUIDELINES FOR CABINET MINISTERS

Mr. J. P. Nowlan (Annapolis Valley): Mr. Speaker, I direct my question to the Prime Minister. It deals with cabinet ministers and conflict of interest. Did he look at any papers in regard to the severance of Mr. Benson from his former firm to ascertain whether there was any residual or beneficial interest retained by him in the firm or, just like another political leader not too far away from us, did he take the word of someone else when ascertaining the facts? Further, while I am dealing with cabinet ministers, in view of the question by the hon. member for York South about the Canadian Transport Commission, does the Prime Minister intend to develop guidelines or present legislation to define the present situation of cabinet ministers and any holdings they have that are related to applications to the Canadian Radio-Television Commission so that there can be no doubts, in view of the recent allegation in St. John's about one particular cabinet minister and the potential conflict of interest there?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, the hon. member put so many questions in one that I am afraid I will not be able to do them justice. I can just say that the guidelines applying to ministers will be one thing. The guidelines applying to public servants and order in council appointees will be something else. The general approach will be the same. The principles will be the same for everyone, but they will have different applications as they apply to Members of Parliament, members of the cabinet, members of the public service, and order in council appointments.

With regard to the other part of the question, I looked at the papers and the evidence which were put before me and I have no cause to believe they contain anything erroneous, but if the hon. member has any grounds for suspicion I feel he should see it his duty to inform me of it and not let this kind of innuendo circulate.

Mr. Nowlan: In order to avoid the possibility of any innuendo, would the Prime Minister consider tabling the papers he looked at so that all members of the House could look at them? Also, in order to avoid any innuendo in the second part of my question which dealt with the CRTC, would he or someone in his cabinet in the near future please define the position of cabinet ministers who have holdings as a result of CRTC decisions or licences given by the CRTC so that there is no misunderstanding?

* * *

TRANSPORT

PROPOSED NEW TANKER ROUTES ON ATLANTIC COAST—DISCUSSIONS WITH DEPARTMENTS

Mr. Randolph Harding (Kootenay West): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Transport. In view of the environmental threat posed by any oil tanker route along our Canadian coastline, and in view of the fact that oil refineries are being established on the Atlantic coast of Canada and must be supplied by oil tanker fleets, are discussions going or or have discussions been held with his or any other government department as to the routes which these oil tankers must use in supplying these refineries?

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): Yes, Mr. Speaker. There are discussions with environment and even with external affairs, and in the case of the west coast I think we are discussing it with a committee of the UN to make sure that the coasts are protected and the fisheries too.

Mr. Harding: Mr. Speaker, I indicated that my question referred primarily to the Atlantic coast. Has the fishing industry been involved in any of the discussions relating to the oil tanker routes?

Mr. Marchand (Langelier): Yes, Mr. Speaker. There was a meeting last week at a very low level in Halifax, a meeting which I was not aware of and which was referred to by two members on the other side of the House. I think they are to receive a letter to this effect. It was to that meeting that the provincial government was invited. The industry was invited, and they were discussing the impact of the tanker route on the fishing industry.

● (1450)

Mr. Harding: What is the basis of the discussions taking place? Do they include safety measures, including the limiting of the size of tankers in certain areas?

Mr. Marchand (Langelier): Mr. Speaker, unfortunately I have not received a full report on the meeting that took place in Halifax. As soon as I have it I will be happy to indicate what it is. It was a public meeting, Mr. Speaker. I am waiting for a report from my officials who were there. It was not a secret meeting, as was indicated in the newspapers, because even the provincial minister who was referred to was at that meeting. Nothing secret was going on there. As soon as I have the report I will be happy to communicate the conclusions of the officials attending the meeting.

Mr. Lloyd R. Crouse (South Shore): I have a supplementary question, Mr. Speaker, related to one I asked last week. In view of the concern expressed by the fishermen of Atlantic Canada, especially the lobster fishermen of Nova Scotia, about the proposed new tanker routes, will the minister or his officials be holding still further discussions with the oil industry and representatives of the fishing industry before any of these proposed routes become finalized?

Mr. Marchand (Langelier): Mr. Speaker, I think I have to answer that I do not intend to have special routes for tankers; routes must be determined for all ships, including tankers. What we are interested in is the impact on the fisheries, and that is what has been discussed in Halifax. If it is necessary to have different routes for tankers, probably we will have a recommendation to that effect. I do not have the report yet, but these are the questions we are looking into.

* * *

[*Translation*]

REGIONAL ECONOMIC EXPANSION

DESIGNATION OF MONTMAGNY AREA AS SPECIAL ZONE—DISCUSSION WITH QUEBEC

Mr. Adrien Lambert (Bellechasse): Mr. Speaker, I should like to put a question to the Minister of Regional Economic Expansion.

Can he tell the House whether he has initiated negotiations with the Quebec government to designate Montmagny and suburbs as a special area?

[*English*]

Hon. Donald C. Jamieson (Minister of Regional Economic Expansion): No, Mr. Speaker, not yet. However, I will be meeting with the government of the province of Quebec on Wednesday or Thursday of this week and I have no doubt that will be one of the matters that will be up for discussion.

FINANCE

REQUEST FOR STATEMENTS ON INTEREST RATES AND GOVERNMENT'S FISCAL POLICY AND ON EFFECT OF INTERNATIONAL MONETARY SITUATION

Hon. Marcel Lambert (Edmonton West): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Finance. In light of the announcement by the Bank of Canada of an increase of half a per cent in the bank rate and of the announced or expected increase in the prime rate, would the minister make a statement tomorrow on the whole of the Canadian financial scene in so far as it affects interest rates and the government's fiscal policy in travelling again, shall we say, this old route in its fight against inflation?

Hon. John N. Turner (Minister of Finance): Mr. Speaker, I do not accept the implications in the preamble but I will take the general intention of the question into consideration.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): I should also like to ask the minister to make a statement either tomorrow or later this week with regard to the effect on Canadian interest rates of the international monetary situation, the high price of gold and the same dreary symptoms we are now seeing of the crises we have had twice in the last year, and on just what this is going to do for the whole Canadian financial picture, so that the minister and the government can come clean with the Canadian public.

Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton): Mr. Speaker, we have already got a very open government.

Mr. Baldwin: What about the tax cuts?

REQUEST THAT GOVERNMENT HOLD DOWN INTEREST RATES ON MORTGAGE LOANS

Mr. Stanley Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, may I direct a supplementary question to the Minister of Finance based on the announcement today by the Royal Bank of Canada that its prime rate for loans of over $200,000 is being raised to 7 per cent. In view of the fact the Bank of Canada is encouraging this two-rate system, and in view of the fact that many borrowers at the prime rate are mortgage and trust companies, will the government commit itself to a policy of holding down the interest rates on mortgage loans?

Hon. John N. Turner (Minister of Finance): Mr. Speaker, I will take the general tenor of the hon. gentleman's remarks into consideration. Obviously, the day to day responsibility for the monetary policy of the country rests with the Bank of Canada. It is only when the general thrust of that policy comes into conflict with that of the government that the Minister of Finance has to intervene.

Oral Questions

OIL

PROPOSED WEST COAST TANKER ROUTE—GOVERNMENT POLICY IN LIGHT OF RECENT STATEMENTS BY U.S. OFFICIALS AND PREMIER BARRETT'S PROPOSAL

Mr. John A. Fraser (Vancouver South): Mr. Speaker, my question is addressed to the Prime Minister. In view of some recent statements by United States officials about Canadian energy and oil policy being in a quagmire and nothing but fantasy, can the Prime Minister tell the House whether it is government policy to give the Alaskan oil tanker route the green light, as published on Thursday?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I am not aware of the publication on Thursday that the hon. member refers to. I can say that government policy has not changed in this regard. It is that we do not favour the route from Alaska which would take oil tankers over the ocean into waters that are very narrowly confined between the United States and Canada. That is still our policy, and our policy is still to indicate that the Mackenzie route is one which we would be prepared to consider if there is application made in the proper form, and that we would be very happy to follow up on that.

Mr. Fraser: In view of the Prime Minister's reply, can the Prime Minister tell the House why the government is presently studying Premier Barrett's alternative oil and gas route through Alaska, the Yukon and British Columbia? Does that indicate some change in government policy?

Mr. Trudeau: Mr. Speaker, I am not even sure of the premise of the question. As of a week ago we had not received the studies behind Premier Barrett's proposal, although we had asked for them repeatedly. So we cannot say that we are studying them. We have not received them. This may have changed in the past week. The minister is to return from Europe today and he no doubt will be in the position to supplement this answer when he is in the House tomorrow.

* * *

INCOME TAX

ALLEGED DELAY IN ISSUING REFUNDS

Mr. A. D. Hales (Wellington): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of National Revenue. It arises from a number of inquiries I have received, and I am sure many other hon. members have received similar inquiries concerning the delay in income tax refunds. Can the minister advise those people when they may expect their refunds?

Hon. Robert Stanbury (Minister of National Revenue): Mr. Speaker, that would depend on when the returns were filed and whether there were errors in the returns. However, there have been close to four million refunds processed and these should be now in the hands of some four million Canadians. The others are being processed very quickly. I hope that all refunds on returns which were properly completed and submitted on time will be in the taxpayers' hands within the next two weeks.

Oral Questions

AIR CANADA

CONSTRUCTION OF NEW COMPUTER CENTRE AT DORVAL—EFFECT ON WINNIPEG CENTRE

Mr. Dan McKenzie (Winnipeg South Centre): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct my question to the Minister of Transport. It concerns the construction by Air Canada of a new computer centre at Dorval Airport. Can the minister assure the House that the building of this new facility will not render the Air Canada computer centre in Winnipeg obsolete?

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, I will be glad to ask for a report from Air Canada on this.

Mr. McKenzie: During that inquiry, will the minister find out whether all Air Canada reservation and computer services are eventually to operate from Dorval?

* * *

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

VIET NAM—REPORTED SHELLING OF CONTROL COMMISSION OUTPOST—EFFECT ON CANADIAN PARTICIPATION

Mr. Doug Rowland (Selkirk): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Secretary of State for External Affairs. Has the minister any definite information he can present to the House respecting the reported shelling of an ICCS outpost in Viet Nam, and can he say whether this incident has in any way affected his judgment about how long Canada should remain there?

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, the answer to the first part of the question is that we have no direct information yet from Saigon. We are expecting it at any time.

VIET NAM—REQUEST FOR DEBATE ON CONTINUING ROLE OF CANADA IN CONTROL COMMISSION AND PLIGHT OF CIVILIAN PRISONERS

Mr. Andrew Brewin (Greenwood): I have a supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Will the minister take this opportunity to say whether or not an opportunity will be given to the House soon to debate the whole question of the continuing role of Canada in the ICCS and another question that is disturbing many Canadians, the plight of civilian prisoners in that country?

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, before the end of the month the government must, of course, make a decision whether we will continue to participate in the International Control Commission. I will make that announcement in the House. On the question of whether it would be desirable or necessary to have a debate at that time, I certainly have a sympathetic attitude and will give the suggestion very careful consideration, as I said some weeks ago. With regard to the question of civilian prisoners, very slow progress is being made. There have been some exchanges of a few hundred prisoners on each side recently. Both sides charge, of course, that there are hundreds of thousands of civilians still incarcerated. Unfortunately, very little progress is being made. This is one of the aspects of the peace agreement that is so disturbing.

* * *

• (1500)

[*Translation*]

INDUSTRY

ESTABLISHMENT OF OFFICES IN PROVINCES TO PROMOTE SMALL ENTERPRISES—MINISTER'S POSITION

Mr. Eudore Allard (Rimouski): Mr. Speaker, I wish to ask a question of the hon. Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce.

With reference to discussions held at the last federal-provincial conference of ministers of industry, trade and commerce, can the hon. minister inform this House if he intends to take the necessary steps to establish as soon as possible offices of his department in each province so as to give further assistance to small undertakings?

[*English*]

Hon. Alastair Gillespie (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): Mr. Speaker, I did discuss this question with the provincial ministers. I indicated there would be additional regional offices opened in the course of the present fiscal year.

* * *

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

PROVISION OF AID TO WEST AFRICAN NATIONS STRICKEN BY FAMINE

Hon. Alvin Hamilton (Qu'Appelle-Moose Mountain): Mr. Speaker, I wish to address my question to the Secretary of State for External Affairs. In view of the urgent appeal from the Food and Agriculture Organization for help to relieve the famine in the five western African nations where some 10 million people are either dead or in a state of malnutrition, is there anything the minister can do to take the lead among Canadian ministers and among other countries by bringing some help to this hard-pressed area?

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Yes, Mr. Speaker. We have already anticipated this question. As I announced in Moncton on Friday, we have already given $2.5 million in food aid to the area surrounding the Sahara. We are looking very sympathetically at requests for help because this is a very serious situation.

NATIONAL CAPITAL

POSSIBLE ESTABLISHMENT OF TASK FORCE TO STUDY FEASIBILITY OF NATIONAL CAPITAL DISTRICT

Mr. Walter Baker (Grenville-Carleton): Mr. Speaker, my question is to the Minister of State for Urban Affairs. Has the government made a decision with regard to the appointment of a special task force to study the feasibility of the development of a national capital district, that task force to be headed by Mr. Douglas Fullerton, the present chairman of the National Capital Commission?

Hon. Ron Basford (Minister of State for Urban Affairs): Mr. Speaker, there will be a more precise announcement made later, but there has been a feeling within the government of the need at this time for a study of the future administration of matters relating to the national capital region. The person who has asked to head that is the chairman of the National Capital Commission. However, a more formal announcement will be made in due course. The report of such a task force will be useful for something I have felt the need of for a long time, as have as other members, namely, a parliamentary inquiry into the operations and the role of the National Capital Commission and what changes in the law should be made.

* * *

AGRICULTURE

REQUEST FOR INCREASED QUOTAS FOR CREAM SHIPPERS—GOVERNMENT POSITION

Mr. Stan Schellenberger (Wetaskiwin): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Agriculture. In light of the fact Canada has imported some millions of pounds of butter, and in light of the fact we have a surplus of skim milk in this country, can the minister inform the House at an early date as to how he intends to help cream shippers to continue or perhaps increase quotas in this country?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The minister might be allowed to give a brief reply to the question asked by the hon. member. I would not want him to make a lengthy statement which normally should be made on motions. After the minister has replied, the Chair will recognize the hon. member for Comox-Alberni and then the hon. member for Davenport.

Hon. E. F. Whelan (Minister of Agriculture): Mr. Speaker, my answer will be as short as possible. Most of this policy is set by the Canadian Dairy Commission. It will be in a better position to do this soon because I am recommending an appointment from western Canada.

* * *

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

STATUS OF DISCUSSIONS ON RECIPROCAL FISHING ARRANGEMENTS WITH UNITED STATES

Mr. Thomas S. Barnett (Comox-Alberni): Mr. Speaker, I wish to address a question to the Secretary of State for External Affairs with regard to our reciprocal fishing arrangements with the United States. This will give the minister an opportunity to do something more than move his head back and forth in a north-south direction. Precisely what arrangements has the government made with regard to having further discussions with the United States on the matter of the reciprocal fishing arrangements which are in such an uncertain state at the present time?

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, I can agree with the hon. member. We have had some very difficult negotiations with the hon. member. We have had some very difficult negotiations with the United States. They are not yet concluded. We expect to meet again with the Americans before the end of the month, well in advance of the June 15 deadline that is provided in the agreement. In a related matter, we have also had discussions about salmon in particular which, if anything, are even more difficult. It is the intention of the government to resume these negotiations in due course.

UNITED STATES RIGHT TO CATCH FRASER RIVER SALMON—REQUEST FOR TABLING OF MAY 8 COMMUNIQUÉS—GOVERNMENT POSITION

Mr. Frank Howard (Skeena): Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question. Will the Secretary of State for External Affairs inform the House whether Canada intends to take an unequivocal position with regard to the claim by the United States that it has rights in perpetuity to catch Fraser River salmon?

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of States for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, I always hesitate to make public announcements about a negotiating position. I do not intend to do so on this occasion. I can tell the hon. member we will defend the rights of Canada just as strongly as he.

Mr. Speaker: The Chair will recognize the hon. member for one last supplementary on this subject, then the hon. member for Davenport, and perhaps we will have one last question before calling orders of the day.

Mr. Howard: Will the Secretary of State for External Affairs table the two communiqués dated May 8, one from Canada and one from the United States, that resulted from the last talks in Seattle where the question of the claim by the United States about rights in perpetuity to Fraser River salmon was discussed? Will he table those communiqués?

Mr. Sharp: Certainly, Mr. Speaker. If there were communiqués I will see that they are tabled so that all members will know what was agreed upon.

* * *

MANPOWER

LOCAL INITIATIVES PROJECTS—POSSIBLE BROADENING OF CRITERIA FOR GRANTING EXTENSIONS

Mr. Chas L. Caccia (Davenport): Mr. Speaker, my question is addressed to the Minister of Manpower and Immi-

gration. Is it the minister's intention to broaden the criteria for granting extensions to local initiatives projects?

Hon. Robert K. Andras (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, I have nothing further to add to the statement I made the other day.

* * *

DRUGS

MEASURES TO INFORM PUBLIC OF DRUGS NOT THERAPEUTICALLY EQUIVALENT ACCORDING TO QUAD STANDARDS

Mr. J. R. Holmes (Lambton-Kent): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of National Health and Welfare. In view of the fact many patients are continuing to use drugs that are not therapeutically equivalent as determined by QUAD analytical standards, will the minister indicate to the House the measures being taken by the government to inform the public of these potentially ineffective drugs so that appropriate substitution can be made?

[*Translation*]

Hon. Marc Lalonde (Minister of National Health and Welfare): Mr. Speaker, the QUAD program is in operation and the department will issue another publication next year, with an additional list of drugs.

[*English*]

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I notice a number of members are seeking supplementaries to previous questions. Perhaps the Chair might be allowed to note the supplementaries of the hon. member for Lambton-Kent, the hon. member for Hamilton West and the hon. member for St. Paul's and give them some kind of priority tomorrow, although in fairness I think I should recognize the hon. member for Lambton-Kent now for one supplementary.

Mr. Holmes: Will the minister indicate if the government has plans to reimburse those patients who have found it necessary to discard a drug that has failed to pass one or more of the QUAD analytical standards? I refer in particular to those on fixed incomes such as our old age pensioners?

Mr. Lalonde: Mr. Speaker, I cannot agree with the implication of the question, and the answer is no.

Mr. Speaker: Orders of the day.

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

CRIMINAL CODE

REINSTATEMENT OF LAW RELATING TO CAPITAL PUNISHMENT THAT EXISTED PRIOR TO DECEMBER 30, 1972

The House resumed, from Tuesday, February 20, 1973, consideration of the motion of Mr. Allmand that Bill C-2, to amend the Criminal Code, be read the second time and referred to the Standing Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs.

[Mr. Caccia.]

Mr. Speaker: When this debate was adjourned some weeks ago, the hon. member for Vaudreuil (Mr. Herbert) had the floor.

Mr. MacEachen: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. In view of the fact that a large number of members wish to participate in this debate, I wonder whether the House would agree to limiting the speeches to 20 minutes. If we impose this restraint, it will provide an additional amount of time for other members who wish to speak.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Speaker: Is it agreed and so ordered?

[*Translation*]

Mr. Fortin: Mr. Speaker, our party will not agree with this suggestion as long as we shall not come to an understanding regarding the use of Thursday as an opposition day.

[*English*]

● (1510)

Mr. H. T. Herbert (Vaudreuil): Mr. Speaker, I began this speech on February 20 by indicating I would vote for second reading of Bill C-2 in the belief that detailed discussion of the subject in committee would probably result in the passing of amendments. I also indicated that I believed the vote should reflect the will of the majority of Canadians, just as my vote will reflect the majority opinion of my constituents.

I had been presenting different opinions, and today I should like to read two more. The first is an extract from an article which appeared in *Le Devoir* on February 6 by Fr. Guy Bourgeault. He said:

[*Translation*]

> . . . I could quote various studies for the benefit of our bilingual members of Parliament . . . they all go to show that the abolition of the death penalty has no noticeable effect on crime.
>
> Despite the progress made by the abolitionist movement, and despite all the studies that have been made into the subject, there are still many who wish to retain capital punishment. They see it as primarily a means of intimidation and dissuasion, and consequently, a means of protecting society against criminals. But the experience of many countries demonstrates that the death penalty does not have the intimidating effect that we tend to suppose it has, and that abolition does not bring about an increase in crime.
>
> For society to protect itself, it will have to prevent crime by applying the necessary socio-economic adjustments.
>
> . . . sub-human socio-economic conditions are an important factor in crime. In other words the criminal is often—perhaps always—both a victim of existing social disorder and the cause of a new social disorder. Or again, to quote the title of a once-famous film, we are all murderers. For collective responsibilities are not only sub- or super-personal ones; they are also personal responsibilities. All of us together are . . . responsible for the continuation of unjust social structures which prevent some individuals from fulfilling their possibilities. If these people end up committing murder, dare we judge them and punish them just like that?
>
> However, those who seek to justify the death penalty invoke much more than societys need for protection by intimidating the potential killer. It becomes a requirement of justice; the murderer shall be put to death, the Bible said . . .; and St. Paul considered the prince raising the blade to the murderer as "a minister of God

carrying out vengeance on him who has done evil"... "Killing sinners is not only allowed, but necessary, if they are harmful or dangerous to the community", Thomas Aquinas was to say later...: the part must be sacrificed that the whole may remain healthy...

... for the Christian these are evangelical landmarks that he cannot easily ignore; they tell him what, in God's eyes, is the value of any human life. The value that God puts on man's life was revealed to man in Jesus Christ: his life and his death. And his ressurection.

[*English*]

I should like also to read extracts from the brief on capital punishment submitted by the Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police. First, on deterrence:

The threat by society to punish must not be an empty one.

And on the possibility of error:

The safeguards which presently exist and the principles governing the judicial system virtually guarantee freedom from error.

And on the question of justification:

Is society justified in taking away a life? This question can be answered by another question— "Is society justified in making war?" There is a fundamental answer which even from the philosophical point of view cannot be refuted. Society does have the right to protect itself by whatever means are necessary.

From a booklet on capital punishment produced by Mr. Guy Favreau when he was Minister of Justice in 1965, I should like to read the following:

Some persons approach the issue of a death penalty from a straightforward moral viewpoint, the abolitionists among them believing that it is wicked and unwarranted for the state to take a human life in any circumstances and the retentionists believing that the crime of murder is so heinous that death is the only punishment which is consonant with a sound moral sense in the community. Neither of these groups is likely to change camp upon considerations of deterrent effect; the conclusions are deeply and subjectively rooted in background, training, philosophy and religion.

Further on in the booklet we read, and I underline this statement:

The rights of the individual must not be considered as sacred to the point where the rights of society are subjugated thereto.

And another extract which is relevant:

If a threat is an empty one which cannot or will not ever be actualized, it will not influence conscious or unconscious deliberations of the individual. It is, therefore, not a question as to whether society imposes capital punishment or life imprisonment for murder, it is whether those sentences are actually carried out.

Five thousand of my constituents replied to a questionaire on this subject. Only 22 per cent of them favoured abolition. Thirteen per cent supported the limited retention, provision for which is made in the bill before us. An overwhelming 65 per cent supported the death penalty for all first degree murders. I have presented a selection of the opinions which have been material to me in reaching my own decision. As one medical doctor in my county stated, an abolitionist cannot vote for retention of capital punishment even if that is the majority opinion of his constituents. Possibly, one day, I shall vote for abolition, but while I am willing to send a man to die before enemy guns, and while I believe the rights of society cannot be subjugated to the rights of an individual, I shall continue to support effective measures to protect society, including the death penalty for all first degree murders.

● (1520)

Mr. Heath Macquarrie (Hillsborough): Mr. Speaker, this is a most important subject and a most difficult one. I think it is the third debate on capital punishment in which I have engaged, and I find that, generally, members are more inclined to bare their souls in a debate of this sort, which I think is all to the good. I am always pleased when we in this chamber have what we call a free vote. I think the less frequently we have the laying on of the party whip, the more mature becomes our deliberative assembly.

I find this a question of extreme difficulty, a sentiment a number of my colleagues have already expressed. Last October, a reporter from one of Canada's great newspapers called me up in Charlottetown and asked me for my views on this question. I told him it was not easy to give my views but I tried to give him a balanced statement. A few weeks ago a reporter from another distinguished Canadian journal asked me the same question, and I gave what I thought was the same balanced answer. I may say that neither of these answers ever saw the light of day, because to be moderate in one's view is not the way to get in the press.

I am not able to be dogmatic or precise on the matter, not because I have not thought about it, but because I have thought much about it. When I spoke in this chamber seven years ago I confessed then that I entered the debate with a feeling far removed from supreme over-confidence in the rightness of my view. I may say that I have not moved toward any greater dogmatism in the years since; nor have developments in our society made the question any easier of adjudication. Indeed, it seems to me that this present time is an unfortunate time to be discussing an issue with such ramifications.

This very day we find great anxiety about what is going on in our penal institutions. We have an aura of violence which is disturbing. We have very serious assaults upon our police forces. Indeed, I thought earlier in this session that probably it would have been the course of wisdom for some agreement to be found to extend the provisions of the present act for a year or two and then to bring it up again, perhaps more hopefully, at a stage in our society which was a little more stable and which would be conducive to a little easier in-depth study of this very fundamental question.

In addition to the basic challenge in dealing with a question which has broad sociological, philosophic and indeed moral aspects, we have in the Canadian situation and in the bill before us some other factors which add grave difficulty for those trying to make up their minds. One which comes to mind is this, that for years in this country, no matter what the law said, no matter what the Code decreed, we had *ipso facto* abolition of the death penalty. Every Canadian knew this, every legislator knew it, and that historic fact makes this kind of debate totally academic. Even in cases involving the death of policemen, wardens and the like, and in the absence of any appeal for clemency, the sentence of death has been commuted without exception year after year. So, in a sense, we know in our hearts that we are talking in vacuum.

Another matter that disturbs people is that in today's reality life imprisonment means something quite different from life imprisonment. We find that a short passage of

years is sufficient before one who is committed to life imprisonment is again moving about in society, and this of course adds to the gravity and the seriousness, of the matter, as well as to the perplexity and concern of the Canadian people.

The present bill also has an obvious, easily recognized and patent inconsistency which makes it extremely difficult to be enthusiastic about it, or certainly to use a logical approach to it. If capital punishment is abolished because it is not a deterrent and that generally is the reason given for its abolition—then why is capital punishment retained for the murder of certain citizens? If the death penalty is viewed as a deterrent to the murder of police and penitentiary officers, why is it not considered a deterrent to the murder of other members of society? This seems to me to be a logical question that should present itself immediately to the members of the House. Because we cannot have it both ways. If the death penalty deters, why limit its deterring effect? If it does not deter, why pretend that as against certain members of society it in fact does?

I take second place to no one in my regard for the police forces of the nation, nor in my appreciation of the tremendous responsibilities and risks that they are taking in the protection of the generality of society in an age where violence if far too rife and tranquility far too rare. I have paid especial attention to the representations from the various police organizations that have come to me, as they have come to all other hon. members. If I were convinced that the death penalty helped diminish the risk faced by our police forces, I would support its return. But if I were that convinced, then I would not limit this protection to our police forces only; I would draw the mantle of that protection over all members of society, over all my fellow citizens.

I listened with interest to the speech made by the right hon. member for Prince Albert (Mr. Diefenbaker) on January 30 when he addressed himself to this particular aspect of the bill. As reported at page 787 of *Hansard*, the right hon. member said:

> If a man goes to Government House and assassinates the Governor General, he is liable to be sentenced to life imprisonment. If in running away he fired a shot, not towards the police officer who is following him but ahead and the bullet ricochets off a plate on a tree and kills the policeman, he is guilty of capital murder.

He then went on to say he was opposed to the system of selective condemnation for murder as an expedient that would not work and which has not worked. I find that a compelling observation. As the hon. member who preceded me mentioned, all of us have received numerous representations. One which moved me greatly was a very, very perceptive and sensitive letter from a group of pupils in a junior school in my constituency. I was impressed by their interest and in the clarity of their thought. Many have written to us and brought forward moral reasons for their point of view, and they have prevailed upon us to take a similar point of view.

Some people in Canada are convinced that the execution of a citizen by the state is immoral and that should end the matter. They contend that the basic ethical underpinning of our social structure is vitiated by the taking of a life by those placed in authority over society. I have the greatest respect for the sincerity of those people who feel so convinced, and I wish today, as I wished in 1967 when I last spoke on this subject, that I could base my judgment so firmly on moral and religious grounds and be so sure of the rightness of my presentation.

Others have written to us quoting Holy Writ as leading ineluctably to the imposition of capital punishment. Happily my church, the Presbyterian Church of Canada, does not lay upon its members any directives in the matter, but a recent issue of the Church's publication, the "Presbyterian Record," produced something which I found extremely interesting. I quote:

● (1530)

> A recent news item included the following quotation from the minutes of the Presbytery ... of ... "Whereas the word of God teaches that capital punishment is the will of God for those guilty of murder, the Presbytery of ... of the Presbyterian Church in Canada urges the government of Canada to reinstate the death penalty for those found guilty of murder."

The writer of the article to which I referred of April, 1973, in the *Presbyterian Record* went on to state:

> The presbytery is quite correct. The word of God teaches that "the murderer must be put to death." As a matter of fact the word of God tells us that whoever strikes or reviles his mother or father, whoever commits witchcraft, beastiality, adultery, incest or homosexuality should also be put to death. Furthermore, the story of Ananias and Sapphira strongly indicates that those who lie or withhold any possessions from the church should also fall under set sentence of death. If the Canadian government asked the Presbytery of ... to state the word of God regarding these offences it would appear that the presbytery would have no choice but to state it is the will of God that the entire population of Canada be executed!

This writer did not think of it and I do not know why I did not, but I remember Christ defining adultery in a very broad way. He said that he who lusted after a woman committed adultery with her in his heart, so that would take quite a wide sweep, I am afraid. He then went on to say that St. John said anyone who hated was in fact a murderer. There are very few people in our society who have not at one time or other said they hated this, hated that, hated him or hated her.

This was all serious, but in a much more profound delineation of this argument, this writer went on to state:

> If any murderers should be executed it should be those who murdered the Son of God.

For those, even Christ himself proclaimed not death, but forgiveness. I do not want to use my whole time as this is a very important debate and there are many people who wish to talk about this matter, but I have read a great deal of material on the subject. One of the best articles was the second research report of the Solicitor General's department brought out by Mr. Fattah. He opened with a foreword which is a quotation from a great literary man of our time, Boris Pasternak, and I quote:

> If the beast who sleeps in man could be held down by threats—any kind of threat, whether of jail or of retribution after death—then the highest emblem of humanity would be the lion tamer in the circus with his whip, not the Prophet who sacrificed himself.

That is a powerful quote, one which should cause some reflection. He then quotes George Devreux as follows:

> The theory of capital punishment is the most conspicuous instance of hedonistic rationalizations and the most convincing example of its fallacious nature. The failure of capital punishment

as a deterrent is rooted in a peculiar aspect of human psychology. I refer to man's inability to conceive of his own death.

That too is a pungent comment, Mr. Speaker.

John Bright was one of the great figures in British history, he said:

A deep reverence for human life is worth more than a thousand executions in the prevention of murder; and is, in fact, the great security of human life. The law of capital punishment whilst pretending to support this reverence, does infact, tned to destroy it.

This, too, I find impelling.

As I see it, Sir, we all must in the long run leave our representations, our notes and our Gallup polls aside and make up our own minds. As I see it, the basic question is whether the death penalty is a deterrent to the crime of murder. I do not belong to those who argue that the right to impose death is beyond the ultimate right of the state. I think the state, in the interest of the safety and security of its members, acting in the interests of its members, may impose the ultimate sanction. If I were convinced beyond a reasonable doubt that a state hangman would make for a more safe and more secure society, I would support his return as a move toward the over-all good of the members of society. If the evidence which I have studied led me to that ineluctable conclusion I would support that return, but I have to come back to the essential question: Is capital punishment a deterrent to the crime of murder?

The statistics here are no more persuasive, although almost as pervasive, as the scriptures. The data I have checked would lead me to believe there is not a clear-cut case that the imposition of the death penalty is a deterrent to murder. With all the inadequacies I have mentioned, and I hope that some improvements may be made in the committee, where we can put ourselves on a level with something closer to our view, I am prepared to support the measure for another five years.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Macquarrie: One of the pieces of evidence which impressed me most was that again found in the first conclusion of Mr. Fattah's report as follows:

If the increase in homicide were solely due to the suspension of capital punishment then it should be limited to this offence. Other offences of violence for which there has not been a change in punishment should show no increase or at least a lower increase than that in criminal homicide. Our data amply show that this is not true. Actually the increase in criminal homicide is the *lowest* among all crimes of violence studied, a fact which indicates that such increase can neither be attributed nor related to the suspension of capital punishment.

I think that is a very important observation because we are all much disturbed by the rise in violence in our society, and it compels us to look with greater clarity than ever before for the real reasons. I believe that if we came to the easy conclusion that society generally would be better with the return to capital punishment we would be misreading our society's needs and intentions, and perhaps seeking a form of relief which in effect would not be efficacious.

So, Mr. Speaker, without any degree of self-righteousness or any abundance of surety on the matter, I have come to the conclusion, after the most careful and earnest thought, and after as much reading and consultation as one can do, that in the circumstances the best course of action I can carve out for myself, thinking of the people of my riding and the people of Canada, is to move on to the committee stage with this bill.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Norman A. Cafik (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of National Health and Welfare): Mr. Speaker, the subject of capital punishment has been an agonizing one for me. Before I was elected to the Parliament of Canada and before the FLQ crisis, I had a very distinct and positive position. I was opposed to capital punishment. During the capture of Pierre Laporte and his subsequent murder, I must admit that I thought the whole question over again. It did not seem proper to me that, under the law, one who would kidnap someone like Pierre Laporte should be subject to the maximum penalty of life imprisonment and yet, if that person were to murder Laporte, as happened in that particular case, he would be subject to the same penalty. This gave rise to a whole rethinking of this question.

Having rethought the matter, I have come now to the conclusion that capital punishment, in spite of these considerations, is something I cannot support. I say that after very careful consideration of the question. I believe that the problem I alluded to a moment ago, that is the disparity of penalty between kidnapping and murder, can be corrected without the use of the ultimate penalty of death itself.

I should like to address myself specifically to the bill before us. The intention of Bill C-2 is to extend the five year moratorium on capital punishment for murder, with the exception of prison guards and police officers, which was introduced in the year 1967, to expire on December 31, 1972. Following second reading which we are considering at the moment, the matter will be referred to the standing committee for further consideration and possible amendment. In my remarks here today, I should like to suggest certain specific amendments that I believe should be undertaken by the committee or which might be suggested by the committee which affect not only the Criminal Code and offences under it, but also penal reform generally and the whole question of parole. I think it is quite clear that every man in society really believes in certain basic, fundamental principles which relate to this question.

● (1540)

First of all, it is paramount today that we, as legislators, give consideration first to the protection of society itself. I think every person we represent really believes this is our first priority. Second, we must make sure that whatever laws exist in the Criminal Code must exist not only to protect society but also to provide a deterrent to others so that they will not commit crime. That is really what the Criminal Code, in my view, is all about.

In addition, I think most people believe in the rehabilitation of the criminal. That is what penal reform, parole and so on are all about. But the rehabilitation of the criminal, important as that is, should not take precedence over the protection of society. I believe it also goes without saying that revenge has no place in our Criminal Code. The prevention of crime is really the name of the game.

This embraces a respect for mankind, a respect for the individual's rights, a respect for an individual's freedom and respect for his property. Indeed, if we have any respect at all for man we must have a basic respect for life itself, not only my life or your life but all life, including that of the criminal. We must respect life, in so far as it is humanly possible without destroying the basic principle of protecting society itself.

Bill C-2 deals specifically with murder, culpable homicide, and not murders by reason of passion or manslaughter. So, arguments in respect of crimes of passion and a person in that particularly agitated state being deterred from committing a crime because of the existence of capital punishment are not relevant to the bill in front of us. I think it is clear, however, that persons committing crimes of passion are not affected by any penalty that might be imposed because such persons are to some degree insane, are not in control of themselves and certainly not thinking rationally of all the consequences which may befall them if caught. In any event, we are talking about culpable homicide, murder, within very strict terms.

Basically, I am opposed to capital punishment unless there is no other way to protect society. Man clearly has the right to protect himself by using any means that is essential to do so. It is quite obvious that one could easily think of a case where an individual, in order to protect his wife and family, would have the right, if it were absolutely essential, to commit an act of murder. If this is true in respect of an individual, I would think that, at least in theory, it would also be true of the state. I do not really subscribe to the argument that the state does not have the right to impose capital punishment. I believe it has that right if that is the only course available to it. I would argue, however, that it is not the only course it could follow in order to achieve its essential objective of protecting society.

Clearly, the policeman or the prison guard is an instrument of the state. In cases of robbery or attempted murder, surely a policeman has the right to protect society by shooting the criminal if that should be the only way to prevent him pursuing his illegal end. That point alone surely is sufficient proof that the state, under certain circumstances, not only has the right but possibly the obligation to exercise that right. However, we are not talking about that temporary resort to violence in order to protect society. We are speaking here of a person who has been convicted of a crime. At that point, hopefully, he is safely in jail and has been taken out of society. We must judge whether we have the right to impose capital punishment on him. Admittedly, in such circumstances the man has already been taken away from society, and society for at least that moment is adequately protected.

Unfortunately, the question of capital punishment is being discussed today against the vivid background of what I would call the permissive society. Many people are moving toward the re-instatement of capital punishment because they are really fed up with the permissive society. Many people feel that capital punishment is advisable because they suspect it is the only way to protect themselves. They feel that a person who is found guilty of culpable murder, is sentenced to life imprisonment but in fact, in a few years he is back in society, able to impose his particular views on society and possibly to murder again. It is against that background that we must look at the question. I think it is in that area we must take some kind of corrective action. There is a feeling that we are far too lenient in rehabilitating the criminal, and that too little cognizance is being given by the Parole Board and by others to the real principle of protecting society. There is a lack of trust in those particular institutions. In my view the question of capital punishment can be properly considered only as a part of the over-all question of the law and penal reform. I hope that the committee which reviews this question will bear in mind this important point.

Earlier I referred to the Laporte case and I should like to talk about it in some detail. I mention that case because it has caused me great concern. In looking at the Criminal Code, we find that the maximum penalty for kidnapping is life imprisonment. The court does not have to impose life imprisonment, but that is the maximum penalty. In respect or murder, the maximum penalty and the minimum penalty are the same, life imprisonment. Let us look at these two things in the concept of someone who would kidnap a person, as happened in the case of Laporte. The penalty would be different if the men kidnapped him or kidnapped him and murdered him. The fact is that in murdering him they did not expose themselves to any further penalty. Given that example, I think we must take some kind of reasonable action. We must look at the maximum penalties and see them in relation to parole.

Under the present law relating to kidnapping, if one is sentenced to life imprisonment one is eligible for parole in a period of seven years. In the case of non-capital murder, which means the murder of anyone other than a policeman or prison guard, one is eligible for parole in a ten-year period. This means that in terms of eligibility for parole, there is only a three year difference between the time when a person sentenced for murder is eligible for parole and the time when the person sentenced for kidnapping is eligible for parole. I think that situation has to be corrected somehow or other. If the person guilty of kidnapping were given less than life imprisonment, then that person would be eligible for parole after the expiration of one third of his sentence or four years, whichever comes earlier, with a minimum amount to be served of nine months. Therefore, a person who is found guilty of kidnapping and is given, say, six years, would be eligible for parole after two.

● (1550)

Another distinction which I have to point out here is that anyone who is given a life sentence is never really free. He may be out of jail on parole, but the fact of the matter is that he is on parole for the rest of his life. This means that any violation of that parole will put him back in jail, which is a very important point to recognize.

Let us have a look at some of the offences for which imprisonment for life becomes the maximum penalty. They are: hijacking according to section 76(1) of the Criminal Code, endangering the safety of aircraft in flight, causing injury with intent, rape, causing death by criminal negligence, capital murder, non-capital murder, manslaughter, attempting to commit murder, kidnapping, abortion, robbery, breaking and entering with intent of committing offences in the dwelling. All of these, and

some others, carry with them the maximum penalty of imprisonment for life. It seems to me to be inappropriate that in the case of culpable murder, whether it be of a policeman or whoever, the maximum penalty is exactly the same as for some of these other offences. I have illustrated that point before, and I will make some proposals to try to correct that problem.

I will not propose capital punishment. I think what the situation calls for is the imposition of some minimums, some mandatory regulations in respect of parole in respect of murder. I will suggest that all those who are guilty of culpable murder, whether the person murdered is a prison guard or a policeman or any other member of society, shall not be eligible for parole under any circumstances within a 15 year period. That is a change from 10 years to 15 years. Some people to whom I have spoken feel that perhaps it should be 20 years. It is difficult to make a value judgment on what it ought to be. I am simply saying that my personal view is that it should be 15, but I am willing to recognize that others who perhaps know more about the problem might want to change it, and if the change were from 15 to 20 years I would certainly go along with it.

Second, I should like to propose that all who commit murder while in the process of committing another criminal offence which carries with it a maximum sentence of life imprisonment shall not be eligible for parole in less than 20 years. This means, first, that a person who murders a policeman while committing armed robbery would not be eligible for parole in less than 20 years. Second, it means the same thing in most cases of the murder of prison guards, although there is a flaw in the formula which I think the committee should consider. My definition, while committing another crime which carries with it life imprisonment, would not include the person who, in attempting to escape from prison, commits murder. A specific reference would have to be made to that case, and I would be willing to go along with that. In my view this would provide a deterrent, and would provide a significant difference between a sentence of life imprisonment for offences other than murder and a sentence of life imprisonment for the offence of murder.

I would like to deal for a moment with the question of whether the death penalty is, in fact, a deterrent. I indicated earlier that I believe the state has the right to protect society. I believe that it has the right to impose the death penalty. But I do not believe that it should impose the death penalty if there is any other alternative available which is equally effective, and I believe that there are other alternatives available which are equally effective. In my view the death penalty for the offence of murder is certainly not a deterrent. People can argue this in both directions, but let me quote some of the statistics which have been quoted in the House before but which have led me to believe that the death penalty does not provide a deterrent. The study which I have before me reads:

New Zealand abolished capital punishment in 1941, restored it in 1950 and again abolished it in 1961. During the 1961 debate on the Crimes Bill, the Minister of Justice, the Hon. J. R. Hanan, noted that although the penalty for murder changed three times, in 1935, in 1950 and in 1957, the figures for murder were not affected. During seven years of capital punishment (1951-1957) 22 murderers were convicted. Eight of the murderers were hanged. In the nine years following the suspension of capital punishment the figure was 24.

In New Zealand, from 1936 until 1941 the death penalty was never carried out in practice. If as a starting datum the year 1936 were taken, then it would be found that in the 15 year period during which the death penalty was not imposed in New Zealand (1936-1950) there were 148 murders; in the 15 year period before 1936 there were 154. In other words, there was a reduction of six in the number of murders after executions had stopped. This figure is very significant if examined in relation to what was happening to the population of New Zealand. At the beginning of the 30 year period in 1920, the population was approximately 1,250,000, and in 1950, the end of the 30 year period, the population was about 2,000,000. Such an increase demonstrates that the decline in the murder rate was substantial although the difference in the number was only six.

That certainly indicates to me that at least in that country, the abolition of capital punishment did not give rise to an increase in the murder rate. The same conclusion can be reached from a study of almost all the statistics you want to find. I believe the murder rates in the death penalty states and in the abolitionist states of the United States have been cited. The rate in the abolitionist states per one million of population was .510. In the death penalty states it was .570. So, it would seem to me that those figures as well would tend to lead one to believe that there is no direct relationship between abolition and the incidence of murder.

I should like to quote further in respect of this:

With regard to the United Kingdom figures, an article commenting on criminal statistics for 1966 said:

"In the statistics covering the first year since the suspension of the death penalty, the murder figures naturally attract particular attention. The murders recorded during the year numbered 143 which was 10 less than in 1965 and 12 fewer than 1964. Such a variation is within the normal range of variations in the crime over the years, and appears only to confirm the experience of this and other countries that the presence or absence of capital punishment makes little difference to the number of murders committed."

● (1600)

I think that ought to be enough to indicate that capital punishment does not have any significant effect on the number of murders committed. If it is not a deterrent then why use it, unless you want to use it as some form of revenge, adopting the argument of an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth? It seems to me governments should not exercise themselves in that kind of moral judgment.

Our responsibility is to protect society and we have to use every means available to us to do that, but we must never use the absolute punishment of death unless it is the only means available. I do not believe it is. I think the death penalty is a very effective deterrent with respect to some crimes, and to use a *reductio ad absurdum* argument, if you applied it for exceeding the speed limit, you would certainly cut down on the number of offences. But it would be an inappropriate penalty. You could impose the death penalty for all kinds of minor crimes. As a matter of fact, many countries do that, and it can have a great effect. However, in respect of murder, the worst of crimes, I do not believe that it has any effect at all. In cases where it does have a deterrent effect, I think it is totally inappropriate.

Over the passage of the last few thousand years, we have moved away from the idea of corporal punishment which was carried out with great abandon in many countries. People guilty of certain crimes had their right arms

cut off, and people guilty of other crimes had their left arms cut off. People had their eyes plucked out, or the foreheads were branded to indicate to everybody in society to beware of them because they had previously committed a crime. That kind of corporal punishment is frowned on today. I do not think that anybody in our society would say we ought to cut off both the legs of a murderer, but surely that kind of punishment is something less than putting him to death. If we do not subscribe to putting out his eyes or cutting off his limbs, how can we subscribe to breaking his neck? I really don't understand that.

In summary, Mr. Speaker, I am opposed to capital punishment because, (1) it is not a deterrent to murder; (2) it is unnecessarily severe and we do not have to go to that length to protect society; (3) society can be properly protected without the use of capital punishment and I have outlined some changes in the parole system and Criminal Code which would assure that, and (4) there is too much room for error. If one looks at the statistics in respect of the hanging of innocent people, one will find they are much more significant than one might have thought possible. I find it reprehensible that any society would take such a final step, in many cases on the basis of hearsay evidence or in conclusive evidence. Those who advocate capital punishment consider wrongful conviction as only a limited possibility. But although most mistakes are prevented by the judicial system and executive clemency, some occur due to mistaken identification, inadequate circumstantial evidence, perjured testimony, overlooking and suppressing of evidence and unreliable expert evidence, not to mention excessive zeal on the part of investigators or prosecutors.

In a 40 year period, 12.3 per cent of the 406 persons sent to Sing Sing prison for execution were found, upon reconsideration, to have been sentenced in error. Hartung found that in Michigan, which does not have the death penalty, judges and juries erred in 10.9 per cent of 759 life imprisonment convictions for murder in the first degree from 1942 to 1951. I suggest that it is inconceivable that we in this parliament could advocate such a final solution to a problem, considering the enormous possibility of error and the fact that the error can never be repaired. Under these circumstances I, personally, refuse to be the hangman for society. I have too much respect for human life, and I have too much concern for society itself to think that it is necessary to impose that kind of solution on a problem that can be solved in a less dramatic way.

Mr. Elias Nesdoly (Meadow Lake): Mr. Speaker, lest there be any doubt, first of all I would like to stipulate that I am an absolute and total abolitionist. I make no apologies for it, and I have no qualms about it. Perhaps it is because I am an impressionable person, or was very impressionable when I was young. I remember that in the 1930's a young man was convicted of murder and sentenced to hang. All the people in the area signed petitions and requested clemency. I remember people going around looking for dollar bills, even for nickels and dimes to help this man. There was very little money in those days. That man was hung, and I heard many of the neighbours say that they wished capital punishment would be abolished once and for all. Not too long ago I talked to some of the signers of the petitions. Many of them are still ardent abolitionists. However, a few of them now say that they want the death penalty. It seems that the further people are removed in space and time from the act of putting a man to death deliberately, the more likelihood there is that they will be in favour of capital punishment.

Several months ago, when this debate began, one of the members of the Conservative party indicated that his party would be the only party that would have a truly free vote on this issue. I want to assure that hon. member that the members of this party will also be free to vote as they wish. Each member of the NDP will vote according to the dictates of his conscience. I am an abolitionist and I will vote for Bill C-2, although it still has provisions for capital punishment for the murderers of prison guards and policemen. I think that this provision should also be removed.

Statistically, the likelihood of a policeman or prison guard, who is doing his job, losing his life is about three in 10,000. The likelihood of a miner doing his job and losing his life is about 11 in 10,000. and the likelihood of a farmer losing his life when in the fields working with farm equipment is about six in 10,000. That is one of the occupational hazards. I want to point out that abolition has been party policy with us for years. One reason I am a New Democrat is that my party has policies. I would not doubt that most NDP members will vote for this bill, although I understand that several of them are seriously thinking of not voting for it. Most of the members of my party will vote for this bill because they know this is one of the things the NDP stands for, and that is perhaps one of the reasons that brought them to our party in the first place.

● (1610)

Our party has adopted policies which originated at our conventions. I remember that policies on abolition were adopted as long as 25 or 30 years ago. Of course, these policies have formed the basis of our action in the political arena, whether it be the House of Commons, a provincial legislature or our own constituencies. Other parties have policy conventions, but I have heard it said, or read somewhere, that they have made it a habit to burn their policy statements after a new leader is chosen.

Let me now turn to the question of abolition. Why am I an abolitionist? I am an abolitionist because in periods of crisis, and whenever reactionary elements become more powerful, it becomes too easy for society to make hasty judgments as to the innocence or guilt of a man. Let me preface my remarks by saying that from 1881 to 1960, on the average, approximately 52 persons out of 100 convicted for murder were in fact hanged; the other 48 had their sentences commuted. In other words, 52 per cent of those convicted were executed.

Now, let us look for a minute at the years 1931-35. Here, we find that there were 83 executions out of 106 death sentences. The percentage of executions in death sentences was approximately 83. This was the highest percentage of executions in Canadian history. The period between 1931 and 1935 was also an age of reaction, counter-reaction and discontent. These were the days of the depression, drought, unemployment, riots, the Ku Klux Klan and the communist scare. Many authorities have pointed out that there were several executions during this period which were probably not justified, since some of

the accused were immigrants not cognizant of their rights. The translators used were not always the best, either, and because of the lack of proper defence counsel in some cases it was believed that not all evidence was brought to court. In passing I should mention that this was the age in which the Co-operative Commonwealth Federation was born.

I am an abolitionist because, once in a while, I like to take a leaf out of the thoughts of certain minority groups in this country; in this particular instance I am referring to the original Canadians, the Indians. Many Indian tribes in Canada never did believe in capital punishment and they never practised it. The Indian people feel that one murder does not justify another murder by the state. They feel that a murderer should have an opportunity to regain his honour. This presupposes that an execution does not take place. I also know that Indian people accept a paroled murderer in their midst far more readily than white society does; indeed there are many instances of the acceptance of a murderer after parole even by close relatives of the victim. I know of such cases in my native north-western Saskatchewan.

I am an abolitionist because there are many deaths in our society which in many instances are tantamount to murder but which are not considered in this light, and the perpetrators get off scot-free. We, in this House, do not prohibit cigarette advertising; yet how many people in this country die each year of lung cancer? How many deaths are there because of the sloppy work of some doctors? Yet, what sentence is meted out to these doctors, if any? There have been instances when bridges under construction have collapsed and many men have been killed. Subsequent investigation has revealed that inferior materials had been deliberately used; yet the presidents of these companies got off scot-free. There have been instances where improper shoring or no shoring at all was used when sewer trenches were dug and men have died; yet no one was charged with murder. There are mines in this country where conditions are conducive to silicosis and lung cancer. Miners die, yet many people who could do something to solve hazards in mines do nothing about them. This includes Members of Parliament.

I am an abolitionist because society collectively breeds murder and when a murderer is guilty, we are all guilty to a degree. Many here consider me as a bleeding heart. I do not think I am one. In 1967, there were 29 murders in Saskatchewan; nine of these occurred on August 15, 1967, when a family of nine were ruthlessly shot down in the early morning hours. Within several days the murderer was apprehended because of the astute work of the RCMP. The murderer was 21 years old and evidence produced at court later showed that he had symptoms of schizophrenia when he was six years old. In the murderer's own words "he had to kill, and kill, and kill", because he felt he was acting as the agent of the devil. He was a patient in a mental hospital from May 29 to July 26 of that year. He was discharged, partly because the psychiatrists thought there was some regression of schizophrenia and partly because there was a great deal of pressure being put on the hospital by the government of the day to cut down on medicare and hospitalization costs. He was found not guilty by reason of insanity. However, if he had been kept in hospital awhile longer this tragic event may not have happened. Immediately after this crime, the mental hospital authorities took steps to screen their discharges a lot more carefully than they had in the past.

On January 30, 1969, seven people were slain with an axe in a community in northwestern Saskatchewan. The suspect was apprehended almost immediately and in the wake of the slaying the Saskatchewan government liquor board store was closed and a scheduled showing of the murder-mystery "Beserk" in a local movie house was cancelled. It turned out that the suspect was found not guilty by reason of insanity. Long before the murder, he confided that he had thought about killing mounties. No one really suspected he was mentally ill and he was never treated. During the trial his mother was described as a woman who drank all the time and was never married. He had three brothers and five sisters, most of whom were from different fathers. In his youth he was inadequately clothed and did not have enough food. He was taken away from his mother at age 11 by the Department of Welfare and lived in a series of foster homes from which he usually ran away. The only happy foster home he had was at Swift Current. But he felt lonely and missed the north country.

I have mentioned these two cases, Mr. Speaker, because to me they illustrate that if somehow the environmental circumstances of these two murderers could have been changed, then perhaps these tragedies could have been avoided. I am an abolitionist because, despite the basic integrity of our judicial system, I sometimes question its infallibility. Judges and juries have been known to make mistakes and the utter finality of capital punishment leaves no room for correction of them. In England, in 1953, Timothy Evans was hanged for a murder he did not commit.

I am an abolitionist because it is in keeping with my personal Christian beliefs. Many retentionists quote from Genesis to justify capital punishment, as do various church groups. They say, "Whoso sheddeth man's blood, by man shall his blood be shed." However, I think of Jesus Christ and the prostitute who was to be stoned by the crowd, and Christ said, "He that is without sin among you, let him first cast a stone . . .". Somewhere in the Bible the statement, "Vengeance is mine . . . saith the Lord" also appears. Consequently, as a Christian, I feel that a murderer should be segregated from society and God, in His ultimate wisdom, will pass final judgment on him.

● (1620)

Retentionists argue for the death penalty. They say that ultimately it will save more lives because of the deterrent effect. However, I remind hon. members that many more lives could be saved by more intensive research into the causes and cure for cancer and heart research, alcoholism rehabilitation centres, providing conditions in mines which will make it less likely that miners will die an early death as a result of silicosis or lung cancer, enforcing safety regulations in our construction industry and so on. We can save many more lives by other methods than by capital punishment.

All violent crimes have been on the increase. Most of these are increasing at a faster rate than murder. Of course, we are not suggesting capital punishment for assault and battery. I believe in law and order and in

maintaining the integrity of our police forces. There is one area in my constituency where women and children are afraid to go out after nightfall. One individual has been charged with assault on three different occasions. Each time he obtained a suspended sentence. He has so little respect for the police now that he deliberately flaunts them and makes the whole business of law enforcement very difficult.

Surely our courts should give a little more support to the police, especially if the evidence is foolproof. Letting a man off once on a suspended sentence is fine. In many instances, that is all that is required. However, when the same man repeats the same offence a couple more times, surely the man should be removed from the community for a time. It also behooves me to say that a little more regard should be given to the appointment of judges. This should be done on the basis of merit rather than on the basis of political affiliation. Under these circumstances, perhaps it might be possible to have a little more uniformity in the application of our laws.

Someone in this House stated today that we have a permissive society. This is so because of permissive parents and permissive institutions. We live in an age of violence. I wish to give an example of what happened several months ago in a hockey game between Portage la Prairie and Humboldt. It was a junior hockey league series for the Centennial Cup. Humboldt withdrew because of excessive violence. One Humboldt player was severely maimed at Portage la Prairie. He may never be able to play again. While on the ice, the players were slashed and speared. It seems that the players on the opposing team were trying to perform deliberate mayhem. The Canadian Amateur Hockey Association reprimanded the coach and players of the Humboldt team for withdrawing from that series.

Here we have a form of legalized violence in a national sport. I feel that for this sport and many others, laws should be made to protect people whether they are on or off the skating rink. Any hockey player causing violence deliberately should be criminally prosecuted. This is a difficult decision for many Members of Parliament. Many have conducted polls in their constituencies. I have never conducted a poll, but I have received many letters on the subject. Fortunately, my choice will be much easier than that of many members. Approximately 60 per cent of the correspondence I received is from people basically in favour of Bill C-2. The only point they have made, and this is in keeping with what was said by the hon. member for Ontario (Mr. Cafik), is that life imprisonment should be just that. After deliberately committing murder, a person should not be eligible for parole after six or seven years. The people who wrote to me feel that life imprisonment should be at least 20, 25 or 30 years. They also feel that more care should be taken by the parole board before letting a murderer out on parole. These people have expressed some reservations about granting leave to a supposed murderer a few months after being convicted and put in prison.

Many Canadians are frightened because justice is not always administered as it should be. I agree with having a humane prison system as well as granting leaves to certain types of murderers. I also believe in training for those who have committed offences against society. However, we have an important duty to preserve the safety of the communities of this country.

[Mr. Nesdoly.]

Mr. John Reynolds (Burnaby-Richmond-Delta): Mr. Speaker, many previous participants in this debate have remarked that at this stage most members have already made up their minds and it is hardly likely that their attitudes will be changed in the course of the debate, even by the most eloquent speeches. I am sure this is probably true, but I hope many hon. members will be listening to the speeches because perhaps some of them can be swayed.

I, personally, during my election campaign told the people in my constitutency that I would support the abolition of capital punishment. During the period after the election and before this House opened, I took it upon myself to do a lot of research into this subject because I knew it would be coming up. I read many books, I interviewed inmates from our federal penitentiaries and, after this procedure, I have changed my mind.

I will speak on some of the reasons why I have changed my mind in a moment, Mr. Speaker, but I would not be doing my duty as a member of this House if I did not mention my concern over the government presenting this bill to this House as a priority item when we still have over 500,000 people unemployed and many old age pensioners and other people on fixed incomes having a hard time with the cost of living rising from month to month. I cannot understand this government bringing in this bill. Why do I say this? Since the Trudeau government was first elected in 1968, capital punishment has been abolished. As a matter of fact, there has not been one single person hanged since this government came into power, so what is the big rush to get in this bill? I say the government is wasting time, stalling. They should be dealing with positive programs to stop high unemployment and high inflation. Where is their contingency plan for price and income controls?

I should like now to get back to some of my reasons for changing from an abolitionist to a retentionist. We must realize that when we are talking about the criminal element in our federal penitentiaries in this country, we are only talking about 1/30 of 1 per cent of all the people in Canada. It seems strange to me that this House has to spend so much time on the death penalty and bail reform debates when we are only dealing with 1/30 of 1 per cent of all the people in Canada. I think it is time we got a little tougher with these people who cannot conform in society and did a better job of looking after the 99 29/30 per cent of the people who are not in our penitentiaries.

● (1630)

When we talk about capital punishment, we are not talking about hanging everyone who commits murder. We are talking about the hard-core criminal who premeditates and decides he is going to kill somebody. This is the man we are talking about. We are not talking about the man who commits murder in a fit of passion, the man who is insane. We are talking about the hard-core criminal who cheats the public, breaks the laws to make his living, who doesn't want to change and who looks upon murder as part of his business. I say that these murderers who murder for a living should be eliminated from society. Like most

Canadians, I am heartsick at listening to the quotes of so-called research experts who will go to any length to rehabilitate, at the expense of the taxpayers, killers who in many cases have proven themselves, by repeated crimes, unworthy of such consideration.

I ask the government to prepare a plebiscite for the next national election on the abolition of capital punishment. Let the people of Canada decide what they want to do with their murderers. To this end, I have introduced a private member's bill, No. C-117, an act to provide for a national plebiscite on the abolition of capital punishment. I hope the government will see fit, before my bill comes up for debate, to adopt this proposal for the next election so that the people of Canada can decide on this very serious moral issue.

I certainly believe in rehabilitation of the criminal, but some of the acts of this government in the past four years have just gone too far for the average Canadian to take. I should like, just for a couple of minutes, to discuss our new bail reform laws.

The Minister of Justice (Mr. Lang) in a press release issued a few weeks ago stated, and I quote:

Although the new bail laws have not been in operation long enough to judge accurately the impact and results, there was general agreement across Canada that the new regulations were working well and offered a significant improvement in personal liberty over the previous existing laws and practices.

Where has the minister been? Certainly not out in British Columbia. Has he talked to any judges or policemen? The new Bail Reform Act is a farce, and I suggest to the minister that he must be having too many meetings with the so-called research experts. The government should stop listening to these bleeding hearts. Mr. Speaker, can you believe that four convicts in British Columbia were given a $10,000 LIP grant to do a study on heroin? The result of the study, other than many free hours outside their cells, was a recommendation by the four convicts to legalize heroin and abolish prisons! I guess this could seem humorous to some people, Mr. Speaker, but I feel it is totally irresponsible. Donald Anderson, who is 48 years old and head of the project, disappeared with a 17-year-old girl and $3,000 at the end of the program.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order. I hesitate to interrupt the hon. member in the midst of his speech, but it does seem to me he is straying away from the question of capital punishment. I ask him to address himself to the subject under consideration.

Mr. Reynolds: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am just trying to show, with the aid of these examples, why the present bill is not working.

Now, I would like to get down to some facts. Many members in favour of abolition stood up and said the whole world is abolishing the death penalty. Well, Mr. Speaker, the fact is that Canada is one of 58 countries which retains the death penalty. At last count, authorities in 27 countries had given up the death penalty either by law or by virtue of simply not executing anyone. That is a fact. Another fact: two countries are experiencing strong support for the return of the death penalty. In Britain, where capital punishment was abolished except for treason after a five-year period in 1969, and also in West Germany, there is strong feeling for the return of the death penalty. I think the reason for these reinstatement movements in Britain and West Germany is that the people of these countries feel like the people of Canada—that the hard-core criminal who does not want to live by the standards society sets should go to jail, and that a hard-core murderer who wants to murder an innocent victim should pay with his own life.

Mr. Speaker, I would like now to review a couple of murder cases in British Columbia. The first is that of a Mr. Rene Castellani who was sentenced in 1966 for the murder of his wife. His method of murder was putting arsenic in milk shakes during a period of 13 months. Our laws state that 10 years must be served before parole, but Mr. Castellani is living in Abbotsford, B.C., and working in a bookstore. I understand he checks into the prison once or twice a week, and punches the time-clock like a regular working man. What kind of punishment is this for a man who committed such a brutal crime?

The second case, Mr. Speaker, concerns Mr. Lorenzo Hiscock who was sent to Kingston in December, 1962, for the murder of his first wife. This charge was later reduced to one of manslaughter and he was sentenced to 14 years. Mr. Hiscock was paroled from Joyceville on January 19, 1968. He was readmitted to penitentiary in British Columbia on July 5, 1972 and has been charged with the murder of his common-law wife. This case shows that the death penalty can be a deterrent.

In one of my previous comments I mentioned the words "research experts" once or twice. I think I would refer to them rather as bleeding hearts. I would like to read into the record of this House of Commons a letter I have in my possession. It is written on Canadian penitentiary stationery. The heading is: British Columbia Penitentiary, Box 150, New Westminster, B.C. The letter is addressed to the District Representative, The National Parole Service, 2nd floor, 32988 South Fraser Way, Abbotsford, B.C. The reference number is 3808—Head CDG. Mr. Speaker, the comments in this letter are about Charles Head, the same Charles Head who has been mentioned in this House of Commons by some hon. members many times; the Charles Head who on four different occasions was convicted of brutal, sexual assaults on girls between the ages of six and nine years.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order. The hon. member poses an interesting question. It is usually the practice here that when a document is read into the record, a letter, for example, the author is identified. Perhaps the hon. member could assist me in reaching a decision as to whether the letter should be read into the record. Is he prepared to identify the author?

Mr. Reynolds: I do not have the name of the author but I do have a copy of the letter in my files. If you wish, I could paraphrase the letter.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: It seems to me that it names somebody who has been before the courts and who has been convicted of the crime of murder. I really should like to hear some argument from hon. members before I would be prepared to permit the hon. member to read a statement which has apparently been written about somebody else

by a fellow inmate in a penitentiary, for example. Am I correct in my understanding?

Mr. Reynolds: It was not written by a fellow inmate, Mr. Speaker, but by somebody who works for the parole service. I think it important that I should read the letter and get my message across that the rehabilitation facilities in prisons are not doing their job.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Would the hon. member be prepared to name the person who wrote the letter?

Mr. Reynolds: No, Mr. Speaker. I think I could get it later, but at the moment I do not have the name of the person who wrote the letter.

An hon. Member: Carry on.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Really, I think I should hear further argument on this point. My feeling is that under the rules which govern us, and which have governed us in the past, I should ask the hon. member not to read the letter. However, I am prepared to hear argument. I gather the hon. member for Yukon wishes to assist the Chair to reach what I regard as an important decision.

Mr. Nielsen: Yes, Mr. Speaker. It is the practice of the House for members to be permitted to read such correspondence into the record when the hon. member himself, and no one else, takes responsibility for what he is reading. Quite apart from that, the letter deals with an individual whose background and activities are notorious. They are public knowledge. Individuals have been named over and over again in this Chamber, and correspondence related to them cited without the names of the authors having to be read into the record. I submit it is not in accordance with our practice to insist that this be done. Even if that were not so, the subject matter with which the hon. member is dealing in this debate is a person by the name of Head, whose character, reputation and activities, both past and current, are notorious throughout the length and breadth of this country.

● (1640)

Mr. Deputy Speaker: The hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre on the point of order.

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Just a brief word, Mr. Speaker. May I begin by agreeing with the statement made by the hon. member for Yukon that it has been the practice of this House for a member to be permitted to read a letter without giving the name of the author if he is prepared to make the ideas in the letter his own.

Mr. Nielsen: That is what I said.

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): But at that point I am afraid I must part company with the hon. member for Yukon. It is not simply a case of taking responsibility; he must give the ideas as his own. It seems to me that the hon. member for Burnaby-Richmond-Delta is trying to give the House the contents of a letter that has come from outside the House without giving the name of the author. In fact, he admitted that he does not have the name before him at the present time. Therefore, I think the hon. member is perfectly free in argument to say that certain ideas have been presented to him with which he concurs; but to read the letter so it goes into *Hansard* in fine print as though it were a piece of evidence from the outside would not, I think, be appropriate in this case.

Mr. Nielsen: If I might add to that—

Mr. Deputy Speaker: The hon. member for Yukon has already spoken on the point of order. Are there any other contributions to the point of order?

Mr. Nielsen: A question of privilege, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: The hon. member for Yukon on a question of privilege.

Mr. Nielsen: I just want to point out to the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre, through you, Sir, that what I said was that an hon. member who reads such correspondence into the record must take responsibility for doing so. I meant precisely the interpretation that was put upon it by the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre, namely that the hon. member adopt the ideas as his own.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: That is not a question of privilege and the hon. member really should not have raised it as a question of privilege. Are there any other hon. members who would like to make a contribution to the point of order?

Mr. Bell: Mr. Speaker, in order to get around a little bit of difficulty here, I understand that the hon. member has quoted from a letter which, as a matter of fact, has some very great significance. It is apparent that, for various reasons, the latter part of the letter is not available. I suggest the best way out of the difficulty is this. It is too late for the hon. member to paraphrase it, as he could have in the first instance, so I suggest he simply adopt the thoughts as his own in some way that might be akin to paraphrasing, which would get us out of the hole. The letter as such does not have to go into the record.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: I thank hon. members for their contributions. Whether the person referred to in the letter has a reputation of the utmost notoriety or has no reputation whatsoever which would interest anybody, the fact is that the Chair cannot, of course, make a ruling on that ground. I think it is the duty of the Chair and the responsibility of all hon. members to see that people are treated within the proper limits.

I would ask the hon. member for Burnaby-Richmond-Delta if he is prepared, as suggested by the hon. member for Yukon, the hon. member for Saint John-Lancaster and the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre, to paraphrase what is in the document and make the comments his own responsibility in regard to what somebody felt about this particular person. This would be permitted by the Chair, but this is the responsibility that now rests on the hon. member for Burnaby-Richmond-Delta. That is the ruling of the Chair.

Mr. Reynolds: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I want to say that I have not quoted anything from the letter as yet. If I may repeat my previous comments, I was talking about the same Charles Head who, on four different occasions,

was convicted of brutal sexual assaults on girls between the ages of six and nine years; the same Charles Head who, during the time he was under a life imprisonment sentence, was once declared criminally insane and had the sentence reduced to 15 years; the same Charles Head who, on a weekend pass, raped, mutilated and murdered Tanya Bush, a girl of seven years, who was the daughter of a prison guard.

I believe, as many others do, that Tanya Bush was killed because there is no death penalty at present for the murder of the wives or children of our prison guards and policemen. There would have been a death penalty if the same Charles Head in his vendetta had killed the prison guard, the father of the little girl. I suggest that by separating prison guards and policemen, we put their families in jeopardy against vicious attacks by these hard-core killers.

I suggest that some of the comments made by people in the parole system about inmates are of interest, and I should like to refer to some comments made about Charles Head:

> This inmate from Mountain Prison was seen today at his request. He had also been reported as becoming emotionally upset again. On the whole, Head has adjusted well to his institutional life at Mountain Prison, and he states he had a short pass to visit his mother at New Year's, 1972. Physically, he looks well, much better than he was when he was confined to the protective custody unit here for several months.
>
> Attention is drawn to my memo to the Vancouver office of the National Parole Service dated—

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order. May I ask for the co-operation of the hon. member. He is obviously reading from some kind of statement that has been sent to him, a statement of which he himself says he does not know the authorship. It would, therefore, seem to me impossible for the hon. member to vouch for the facts contained therein, since he would have no way of checking their authenticity. I think perhaps he has made his point about the person to whom he has referred and I do not think it would help debate in this parliament if reports such as this, of which there is no authorship, are put on the public record; I do not think that would help our institution at all. We do want to have fair play on matters that are of public interest, so I would ask for the hon. member's co-operation in not reading the document he has before him.

Mr. Reynolds: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and I shall abide by your ruling. I should just like to say from my own knowledge that this same man, Charles Head, of whom I am speaking, four months to the day before he killed Tanya Bush was recommended for parole. This recommendation was made by one of the so-called research experts. This is the point I am trying to make. I should like the minister to ascertain who is the author of this letter, and I can supply him with the first page of it. I think people of this sort are the ones who are causing this problem, these so-called "bleeding hearts".

I might also mention at this point that I support the motion moved this afternoon by the hon. member for Yukon (Mr. Nielsen) to set up a parliamentary committee to review our prison system. We should not foist this off on a royal commission or leave it to our judges. The members of this House who have been elected by the people of this country should solve this sort of problem.

The case to which I have referred proves there is an argument in favour of having a deterrent; I think it is a fine example. Who knows how many people capital punishment has deterred from committing murder?

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Before I recognize the next speaker I should like to thank the hon. member for Burnaby-Richmond-Delta. It is an extraordinary situation, one in which passions run much higher perhaps than is the case in the ordinary type of debate that we have. I do thank him for complying with the wishes of the Chair.

• (1650)

[*Translation*]

Mr. Gérard Laprise (Abitibi): Mr. Speaker, it is quite interesting to hear the speeches on a bill being examined in our spare time. Since there is nothing else for us to do, I would like to make a few remarks on Bill C-2, to extend the abolition of the death penalty for another term.

Mr. Speaker, when similar debates took place in 1966 and 1967, I was not at all convinced that the abolition of the death penalty could solve anything concerning the problem we want to solve in Canada. After a five-year experiment, I am not more convinced. The government itself, the supreme authority, has decided to abolish the death penalty for criminals, but we unfortunately have had to realize that these individuals have continued to apply the death penalty. I think, Mr. Speaker, that the law is society's safety valve and without the law, there would be only anarchy.

The events which have taken place, especially in the past two weeks, concerning a host of prisoners condemned to life imprisonment, or very long imprisonment, have shown us that, whether we like it or not, we were unable to have them serve the sentence which had been imposed upon them.

This very morning, we heard that a bunch of prisoners—for when a group of about half of dozen escape, I suppose you can call that "a bunch"—have escaped from prison while outside the prison with a large number of others, which could only make it easier for them.

We see a steady rise in crime in Canada, and the death penalty as we have known it since 1961 applies to premeditated murder.

Listening to the liberal member speak just now, I got the impression that he was speaking as if we were still living at the time of la Corriveau. But since then, there have been many amendments to our penal code, among them that, since 1961, the death penalty applies only to premeditated murder. And I am in favour of capital punishment in such cases. There are a number of points I should like to take up in a few minutes that are allotted to me. I should like to draw the attention of the House to the way in which justice is carried out in Canada. Not so long ago, during the 1970 October crisis, a man—and not just anyone, but a minister of the Crown—was kidnapped and strangled. I do not know if it is because the police are unable to find the perpetrators of this crime, or because the courts are unable to apply strict laws to those who are

believed to be the perpetrators, but in any case, nothing has been done so far to punish this abominable crime.

Some time ago, another "crime" took place near where I live, in La Sarre, Abitibi. A father who was out of work snared, not a minister, but a hare in the woods, and he had to pay a $25 fine, plus $16 in court expenses. Now, in all fairness, I think that the man who killed a hare in his snare was more harshly punished than the man who strangled a minister. This leads one to wonder about the enactment of justice in Canada.

In the last few years the laws have been made much more lenient.

Mr. Speaker, I think I should point out that it is five o'clock, so that I may continue my remarks at eight o'clock.

[*English*]

PROCEEDINGS ON ADJOURNMENT MOTION

SUBJECT MATTER OF QUESTIONS TO BE DEBATED

Mr. Deputy Speaker: It is my duty, pursuant to Standing Order 40, to inform the House that the questions to be raised at the time of adjournment are as follows: the hon. member for Rocky Mountain (Mr. Clark)—National Parks—Banff and Jasper—Lack of accommodation for summer employees—request for statement on housing; the hon. member for Selkirk (Mr. Rowland)—Supply and Services—CF-5 Aircraft—Reason for additional purchases; the hon. member for Winnipeg South Centre (Mr. McKenzie)—Post Office—Request for tabling of Samson-Belair report.

It being five o'clock, the House will now proceed to the consideration of private members' business as listed on today's order paper, namely, notices of motions.

Mr. Reid: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, I think there might be agreement to take item No. 16.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Is there such agreement?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

PRIVATE MEMBERS' MOTIONS

INCOME TAX ACT

SUGGESTED AMENDMENT TO PERMIT DEDUCTION OF TAXES AND MORTGAGE INTEREST ON PRINCIPAL RESIDENCE

Mr. Trevor Morgan (St. Catharines) moved:

That, in the opinion of this House, the government should consider amending the Income Tax Act to provide that an individual, in computing his taxable income for a taxation year, may deduct from his income for the year (a) the amount paid by him in that year in respect of municipal taxes or $500.00, whichever is the lesser (b) the amount paid by him in that year by way of mortgage interest on his principal residence or $2,000.00, whichever is the lesser.

He said: This motion is aimed at what I consider to be one of the fundamental needs of the people of Canada today, and that is shelter. I submit that in the way it has been framed it favours no one. This is ensured by the limitations.

If one considers present government policy in respect of housing, or perhaps I should say the lack of it, in conjunction with interest rates and the oppressive tax structure under which people suffer at the present time, he will see that there is no doubt that it is impossible for low and average income families to purchase homes. Home ownership has been a dream of many people in this country, but this government makes this just a dream.

Task forces have travelled around this country studying housing problem and have found that 80 per cent of the people contacted would like to own their own homes. This is not possible. This government has an unemployment problem which could be solved easily if something were done to encourage home construction, but this government refuses to remove the 11 per cent tax on construction materials. Surely the government could do something about encouraging people to own their own homes. This could be done by adopting this motion. There is a requirement for homes by 200,000 families.

● (1700)

Any student of first-year economics could tell the government that encouragement of the construction industry would stimulate the whole economy. If the government would adopt this motion it would increase the demand for housing, stimulate the economy and put thousands of people back to work. What is the cost of the interest paid by people who own homes? The interest rate has been raised from 6 per cent to 9 ¾ per cent. That is the rate this government is allowing now. In the last month the bank rate was increased from 5 per cent to 5 ¾ per cent and the CMHC rate increased to 9 ¾ per cent, thus raising the monthly cost to the person owning a home. This, in itself, is inflationary and adds a great deal in the way of interest payments.

To attack the inflation the government could adopt a motion such as this. The major costs of any home to the average man are the interest payments and the amount of money he must pay in the form of real estate taxation. These people should be given a break in respect of reduced cost of shelter which, in turn would reduce inflation. I think this is something this government does not seem to understand. By reducing the interest rate and giving these people a break the government could reduce the cost even of the rental payments on homes. This would reduce the pressure for increased wages, and would stop the cost-push inflation which we have in this country today but which this government cannot seem to recognize. Let us stop the cost-push and keep the inflationary costs down.

The single family dwelling is the best security any Canadian can have against the inflation which this government seems unable to cope with. Some people may ask how we can pay for this. I say simply by the encouragement of new home construction more people would be

paying taxes and this would stop the drain of hundreds of millions of dollars from the federal treasury to the provincial treasuries by way of transfer payments such as the $1,800 million that was required last year because of the high unemployment in this country. What is the experience in respect of this type of approach? This is not a new idea. It has been followed in the United States. It has also been practiced in the United Kingdom. Both countries use this method quite effectively.

I take no credit for originality. I am merely trying to have this government see the direction in which it should move. It appears to me that what we must attempt to do is give the average Canadian some historical heritage. We must give him some roots in Canada and thus enrich his life. I wish all members could read a book by I. H. Asper called "The Benson Iceberg" published by Copp-Clark in 1970. I would refer them to pages 16 and 17 in which he refers to the deductions allowed in the United States. All federal and local taxes are deductible. So also are sales taxes, gasoline taxes and any other taxes. These may be deducted from income when one computes one's federal income tax. This is the type of program we must have in this country.

When the hon. member for Regina East (Mr. Balfour) presented a somewhat similar motion before this House in April certain options were presented. The hon. member for Laurier (Mr. Leblanc), who replied on behalf of the government, obviously read a prepared statement because he did not reply to what the hon. member for Regina East had to say. He started off by making some rather irrelevant and inaccurate remarks about the Progressive Conservative party and the hon. member for Regina East. The hon. member for Laurier said that there had been more housing built in Canada from 1968 to the present time than in the last 20 years. The logic of this argument must have been mixed up in the translation because I do not understand it. It does not deal with the position of the thousands of people who live above the level at which they would be entitled to subsidized housing. These are the people whom we must help, but that was not apparent obviously to the hon. member for Laurier. However, he took great pride in pointing out to the House that businessmen may deduct their expenses, that if a corporation wishes to buy share-capital it can borrow the money and charge that interest.

Surely the average Canadian has an entitlement to what one might call social capital by way of owning his own home. Surely, that is just as important as allowing corporations to deduct their interest payments when buying share-capital. The average Canadian should be worth as much as any businessman or corporation. He went on to explain that fundamental concept of income tax that expenses are allowed only when they are used to create income. I would invite the hon. member for Laurier, and the government on whose behalf he was speaking, to look at the numerous and varied examples in the Income Tax Act. That will put the lie to that statement. He also said that the basic deductions allowed to Canadians are even better than those allowed in the United States of America. I would invite him to read Asper. All I have to say to that comment is balderdash.

The hon. member for Laurier, speaking on behalf of the government, went on to indicate that Canadians are not charged a capital gains tax on their own residence. It was suggested that the government was being a big brother for not imputing income in respect of a person living in his own home. My, how magnanimous this government is! But we are not dealing with capital gains. We are dealing with the right of a Canadian to own his home and to be encouraged so to do. We are not dealing with the adding of an additional burden to the already oppressed income tax payer. We are trying to lighten his load. The government says there is a difference between the tenant and the owner. I would ask the government to re-read the proposition put forward by the hon. member for Regina East in which the position is adopted that there must be a benefit to the tenant as well as to the owner.

Again the hon. member for Laurier, speaking on behalf of the government, said this provision would be much better for the rich than for the poor because if a man did not own his own home he would not have enough money to receive these benefits. Let me point out to the government, and to the hon. member for Laurier if he has failed to realize it, that if a man is that poor he would be living in subsidized housing. The hon. member dealt with two extremes. First, he dealt with the man who owns his own home whose income is so low that he would not benefit from the deductions. Such a person is already faced with economic doom. There is the other extreme of the person who happens to own an oil well in Calgary. No one would really care if he did not receive the benefit of the full deductions allowed. The fact that this is an item for the rich is merely taken from the textbooks which now have no relevancy due to the fact that we do have subsidized housing.

Are we not trying to take people out of what we may call the beer parlour society and encourage them to build up an equity of which they may be proud so that they will not be living just for today. If a man is renting, the rental people will also receive a deduction from this. I hope that these deductions would permit people to save enough for the necessary down payment. This is what this motion aims to do. The limit on the amount deductible for real estate taxes and for mortgage interest purposes ensures that it will not be detrimental to any other Canadian taxpayer. I am surprised at the hon. member for Laurier who says that this legislation is for the rich and not for the poor. He knows, all too well, the many special favours given to the rich under the Income Tax Act to which the poor or even the average income man is not entitled.

● (1710)

The hon. member for Laurier says that such an item in the Income Tax Act would tend to raise interest rates. People would not care what they paid if they could deduct it. That is nonsense, and he does not back up his statement with any facts whatsoever. It is certainly not the case in the United States where such deductions are permitted. Then, he made the point that people would put a mortgage on their house to buy a new car or a new boat. The hon. member knows very well that this is being done with investment loans, but it can only happen to the rich who cash in their stocks, get some money, buy their boat, or borrow money from the bank, buy the stock and deduct the interest. But only the rich can do that. That puts the lie to that one, Mr. Speaker. I believe the government,

through their spokesman, have made the worst of a very bad argument, but apparently this is the official line. A study must be undertaken immediately. The Carter Commission, having been abolished or abandoned, we now have a patchwork quilt of special subsidies to the rich but not to the average man.

The tax cuts arguments do not make sense because no consideration is given to the fact that people who rent would also get a deduction and would reach the limit put on the amount of those deductions. This relief is needed by the people in Canada who live on fixed incomes, such as pensioners. The provinces have a variety of schemes for deductions from income tax of real estate taxes. Surely, this government must realize that these provisions must be co-ordinated and made fair for all the people of Canada. The government should ensure that the scheme is the same from east to west. I would like to draw attention to the Income Tax Journal of 1967. There is an article there on home owners, in which the whole subject is dealt with in great detail.

The core of this motion is to help the home owners, especially those on fixed and low incomes. They are the ones who need help most. There will be, by way of the property tax, a differential between the commercial and industrial properties, one which is long overdue. People on low and fixed incomes pay a high percentage of their income in real estate taxation and mortgage interest, and I suggest this is not fair. They are burdened with all kinds of education taxes for which they do not get any benefit. I think this is something which can be corrected by this government, if they saw fit to help those people who really need help.

Some people argue that we should give direct aid to municipalities instead, but anyone who has served on municipal councils knows well that if you get an extra dollar from the provincial government you tend to increase the work done on roads and sidewalks within the municipality. The benefit of this dollar will not be passed on to the pensioners, to the fixed and low income group who need the help so desperately. Within the world in which we find ourselves, where high unemployment and inflation exist and where we almost see a technological revolution taking place and oppressive taxation is imposed, this motion would at least make economic survival possible. The young would take a creative step and the old would find some security, but most important of all we would give some social capital to the people in need of a home.

Lastly, the argument put forward by this government has been that the Progressive Conservatives are always complaining about the complexity of the Income Tax Act and that if this motion were adopted it would only make it more complex. In view of the present income tax law, how can this government blithely bleat on and say that this provision would make things that much worse, for that becomes the cruellest joke of it all.

Mr. H. T. Herbert (Vaudreuil): Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to have the opportunity to reply to this motion. In principle, I have always favoured a reduction of the income tax by the amount paid in interest on mortgages on housing as well as of taxes paid on house property. At the same time, however, I have always argued that one must consider priorities, one must make decisions on what one should do first. So, I want to repeat these arguments as I presented them in the past on what would be the effect if we were to introduce a measure of the type proposed.

The Income Tax Act currently follows the principle that deductions cannot be made for personal or living expenses. This extends as well to interest paid on money borrowed to purchase goods and services which are for personal as opposed to business use. It also applies to taxes paid on living accommodation, to provincial sales taxes on purchases, to provincial fees such as car licences, and to municipal taxes and charges of all kinds. In keeping with this principle, a taxpayer may not deduct expenses of repairing and maintaining his residence. If one could deduct all expenses of a personal nature, very few people in this country would have any taxable income at all.

Rather than allow such deductions, the act provides for basic personal exemptions, $1,500 in the case of a single individual and $2,850 in the case of a married couple. The February 19 budget proposes to increase these to $1,600 and $3,000 respectively, as well as to index these exemptions to cost of living increases. Additions to these basic exemptions are granted where there are dependent children, where a taxpayer is over 65 years of age, and where a taxpayer is blind or confined to bed or wheelchair. The deductions granted in Canada are among the most generous in the world. For instance, in the United States the basic deduction for an individual is $750 and for a married couple is $1,500.

● (1720)

The hon. member for St. Catharines (Mr. Morgan) would allow the deduction of municipal taxes to a maximum of $500, and mortgage interest to a maximum of $2,000 if these amounts were paid in respect of a principal residence. In concept, the purchase of a home is no different from the purchase of any other item for personal use, even though such a purchase is usually the largest single expenditure which a taxpayer will make in his lifetime.

When the Royal Commission on Taxation thoroughly reviewed the income tax system several years ago, it recommended that the principle of not allowing a deduction for personal or living expenses be retained. It did not recommend a deduction for municipal taxes or mortgage interest. I also note that there is no mention in the motion of school taxes which in my county in many cases are probably running at least double the municipal taxes. Incidentally, I would like to see these school taxes as a deductible item, if this were possible, but rather than that my own opinion is that school taxes should be removed entirely from residences.

When tax reform was introduced, it was recognized that the encouragement of home ownership was desirable. On the other hand, it was thought best not to deviate from the basic rule regarding deductibility of personal expenses to which I have already referred. The Income Tax Act, therefore, provided two major incentives to home ownership.

The first incentive was to allow a taxpayer to make a capital gain on the sale of his home without incurring tax liability. This is particularly useful to people like myself. I imagine there are many of us at the present time. We are the "do-it-yourselfers" who spend money and time adding

to and improving our residences. The second was to continue the practice of not including in the taxpayer's income the economic benefit which he receives from home ownership. This benefit, which is the value of his accommodation, may be looked upon as the return he has received on the capital he has invested. It should be noted in passing that other countries, including Great Britain, have added this "imputed income" to the taxpayer's income for tax purposes in years gone by.

A comparison between a home owner and a home renter should illustrate this point. Mr. Jones and Mr. Smith each have $20,000 to invest. Mr. Jones buys a house and Mr. Smith buys securities which yield him a return of about $1,000 a year. Each year Mr. Smith has to bring into his income $1,000 while Mr. Jones brings in nothing. But Mr. Smith also has to pay rent for his living accommodation, and of course the rent is not a deductible expense. It is unlikely that the $1,000 per year, after paying income tax, will provide him with equivalent accommodation to that which Mr. Jones has received for his $20,000 capital expenditure. Thus, we can see that Jones is ahead of Smith from a tax point of view.

Suppose that after 15 years Jones' home is worth $40,000 and Smith's securities are worth $40,000. If they each sell, Jones receives all his money free of tax, but Smith would have to bring half his capital gain, $10,000, into income. Thus Jones is again ahead of Smith. Thus, the Income Tax Act at present favours home ownership to a very considerable degree.

If the government adopted Mr. Morgan's proposal—

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Order!

Mr. Herbert: I am sorry. If the government adopted the proposal of the hon. member for St. Catharines concerning a deduction for mortgage interest, Jones would pull even further ahead of Smith because he could buy a more expensive house, getting a mortgage and writing off the interest. His untaxed imputed income would be greater and his potential capital gain would also be greater. So, we can see that accepting such a proposal discriminates against the person who rents.

Mr. Morgan: It is also deductible for him.

Mr. Herbert: This is not made clear in the hon. member's motion.

Adoption of this type of proposal would favour high income tax payers in three ways. First, if a man were too poor to raise a down payment on a house, he could not take advantage of this provision. Second, if a man owns his home but has taxable income of less than his mortgage interest or municipal taxes, he could not take advantage of the full deduction. Third, because of the progressive nature of the personal income tax, the deduction is worth more to a taxpayer with a higher marginal rate than to one with a low marginal rate. The maximum deduction proposed of $500 for taxes plus $2,000 for mortgage interest would be a very generous tax deduction that would result in a very large tax saving to a high income tax payer.

It is a little clearer to me now because of the interjection from the hon. member for St. Catharines, but it was not clear whether the proposal he made contemplated that those who rent would be permitted to deduct a portion of their rental payment, up to $500 per year, but even if this were done the proposed deduction for mortgage interest would benefit only those who own their own home. It should also be noted that Manitoba and Ontario have adopted, with the co-operation of the federal government, a plan to give tax credits to help offset the cost of municipal taxes. But these credits have two important distinguishing features. First, they are constructed in such a way as to give most benefit at the lower income levels. Second, they are a deduction from provincial taxes payable, rather than from federal taxes payable, thus in effect being an indirect grant by these two provinces to the municipalities within their boundaries.

There are two other points which could be made. First, it is possible that a deduction for mortgage interest would force up interest rates on mortgages because there would be increased demand by potential home buyers, and the potential home buyers might be ready to pay higher interest rates since they could deduct the interest. Second, such a plan would encourage people to mortgage their homes in order to raise money for other types of personal expenses, because they could not deduct the interest on money borrowed to buy other personal items.

Mr. Morgan: You did not listen to my argument.

Mr. Herbert: I listened to your argument. Thus, we might be encouraging people to mortgage their homes to buy cars and boats, and to take vacations. We might end up with a situation where the ownership of a house "free and clear" would be indicative of bad tax planning. I say this with all sincerity. In my own case I am in the fortunate position of having a home without a mortgage, a home built over 25 years ago, which I have been able to improve and enlarge substantially over the years. It does not have a mortgage at the present time simply and honestly because the interest on that mortgage would not be deductible.

I suggest, Mr. Speaker, that if this motion were to be carried, and interest on mortgages became deductible I would be one of many, many people who would be seeking a mortgage on my house, and I would have a use for the money. It is a straight matter of economics, that on the use of those moneys in other places I would be likely to get more than the net interest I would be paying for them. An interest rate of somewhere between 9 per cent and 10 per cent for a person in a higher bracket would be an effective rate of something like 5 per cent.

• (1730)

I also suggest that persons whose mortgages are nearly paid off will be thinking about increasing their mortgages for the same purpose. Most of us are perennially short of cash. How do we go about getting cash? We borrow. What better way is there of borrowing than by mortgaging our homes? If this proposal were adopted we would gain the advantage of being able to deduct the interest payments from our income and thus, in effect, we would get cheap money.

The hon. member suggested that his proposal would encourage home construction. As I see it, it would do quite the reverse; it would discourage home construction. Home

building is now going on at a much higher rate than ever before, much higher than that considered essential by the Economic Council, and there is such a great demand for mortgage moneys that the rate of interest has been pushed to a high level. Our efforts, surely, should be directed to bringing that interest rate down. If we increase the demand on available moneys, as this proposal would do, the interest rate would go up and the people who really need this money will be outbid by those who, like myself, are quite willing to pay 10 per cent or more for it provided the interest is deductible from income tax. After all, it is top dollars we are talking about and this money would be deducted from our top rate of tax. As I see it, this is a discouragement to homebuilding rather than an encouragement.

It is very difficult to estimate the effect on revenue of the proposed deductions because it is not known whether those who rent are included. As I understand it, those people are to be included. How many taxpayers would be able to take full advantage of the reductions? To what extent would they rearrange their affairs to take advantage of the deductions, as would happen in a case like mine or in the case of people who want to mortgage their homes or increase an existing mortgage? It is reasonable to estimate that the revenue loss would be well in excess of $1 billion.

If those who rent were not permitted to deduct something on account of municipal taxes, the entire benefit of this tax reduction would go to one class of Canadians, namely, those who own their own homes. It should be remembered that our living styles vary from province to province. Traditionally, there has been a two-to-one ratio in favour of home ownership in the province of Ontario, as opposed to a two-to-one ratio in favour of renting in the province of Quebec. I think it is important to make sure that all sectors of the nation benefit equally. The proposed deductions would have the effect of decreasing not only the revenue of the federal government but that of the provincial governments whose tax revenues are calculated as a percentage of the federal tax.

The hon. member for St. Catharines also spoke of the effect on inflation and suggested that this measure would have a beneficial effect. In my opinion, quite the contrary is true. Force would be exerted on available funds, thus increasing interest rates. This, to me, would be inflationary. We would also run into difficulty in determining the practical application of this proposed legislation to those who rent, particularly to those who live in large properties, multiple dwellings, and so on. It would be difficult to determine precisely how much an individual could deduct.

Of course, there are many ways in which we can help the homeowner. One way, proposed continually by the opposition and supported by myself, involves the reduction or elimination of the 11 per cent tax on building materials for house construction. For years I have spoken in favour of that proposal, although I recognize that any government must decide where the proposal stands on its list of priorities.

At present, house building is at an all-time high. Although I have heard the argument about the cost of homes in certain parts of the country, I read just this past weekend advertisements for beautiful homes being built less than half an hour's drive from the downtown areas of major cities such as Montreal at prices that, if you allow for inflation over the years, can be favourably compared with those charged 20 or 25 years ago. That one can in 1973 buy beautiful homes on beautiful, wooded lots of 10,000 square feet for $14,000, $16,000, $18,000 or $20,000 is an indication that we have nothing to be ashamed of; indeed, it is something we should be very proud of.

The hon. member for St. Catharines contended that when municipal governments receive additional provincial and federal moneys, they increase their spending and thus are not able to reduce municipal taxes. I do not think that is entirely correct. Many of these programs are for essential municipal works which would have to proceed in any event. To that extent there is an offsetting effect in this area and it may not be necessary to increase municipal taxes. Even if additional moneys were to be paid, it must be recognized that at some time the local councils would make their own decision whether to proceed with an additional park or some other program which is being undertaken with federal and provincial aid and, naturally, they would have to raise the necessary funds through an increase in taxes.

I began by saying that on principle I have always favoured the deduction of municipal taxes and interest on house mortgages from income tax. I have also tried to illustrate that everything must be put in some order of priority. With federal expenses running at their present level, I consider that any suggestion which would reduce our revenues by more than $1 billion is improper. That is what would happen if this measure were adopted.

I also suggest that its adoption would be beneficial to the higher income groups. Certainly it would benefit me, and from a personal, selfish standpoint I would be happy to see this proposal go through. As I said earlier, one of the first things I would do would be to get myself a good, hefty mortgage, one large enough to provide me with the $2,000 income tax deduction suggested in the motion. For these reasons I must oppose the proposal brought forward by the hon. member for St. Catharines. Mr. Speaker, I do not think there is anything else I wish to add at this time; I think I have covered all the points raised by the hon. member for St. Catharines.

Mr. A. P. Gleave (Saskatoon-Biggar): Mr. Speaker, having been the owner of farmland and a house for some time, I have a fair amount of sympathy for the objectives espoused by the mover of this motion. He wants more people to own homes. However, I do not think he is going about achieving this objective in a workable way.

● (1740)

If we really wanted more Canadians to own their own homes we would reduce the interest rate on mortgages to 4 per cent or 5 per cent and keep it there. We would do something about the developers who carry out so-called development around our cities. Not too long ago an hon. member described the situation around Toronto. I read at least two magazine articles on this matter. Several development companies pretty well control the land around Toronto that is going to be developed. These corporations will be in the position of charging as much as the traffic

will bear—and this is plenty—for housing to be built in that area.

With the kind of legislation proposed in this motion we would be using the taxpayers' money to help people move into such an area and sign an agreement to purchase a house. Those who would really be benefiting would be the developer and the person lending the money. That is what we would be doing with this kind of program. There would be great inequality, and advantage only to certain taxpayers. I am not only thinking of the very rich and the very poor. I use the example of a young man in his twenties who wishes to purchase a house. Under this proposal he would receive maximum tax relief of $500 plus $2,000, that is, $2,500. If he is single he is entitled to an exemption of $1,600. If he is married he is entitled to an exemption of $3,000. A single man would be entitled to a generous tax exemption—$1,600 plus $500 and $2,000. This amounts to $4,100. If he were married he would receive an even greater exemption.

A person working for a construction company may be very well paid. If he works in a northern area his accommodation may be provided at so much per month. However, he would not benefit from this kind of deduction. He would be taxed much more heavily than his counterparts in Winnipeg, Saskatoon or Edmonton. Surely, it is not our objective to keep our young people in the cities. This motion overlooks that factor. It also overlooks the situation of old age pensioners. In this avaricious and brutal society a person who is able to survive to the age of 70 may still own a house. If not, he will have to pay rent for his accommodation. I suggest we would do a great deal more good if we increased the old age pension from a maximum $170 to $200 or $250.

Mr. Alexander: You had your chance.

Mr. Gleave: That is all right. I have had many chances. That just proves that I am a human being. If we followed the policy that was recommended by the Carter commission, that a buck is a buck, we would get much closer to equality. At the same time, our taxation policy would be equalized. We would be able to make life more pleasant for people in this country no matter whether they are at the top, the middle or the bottom of the income scale.

Under this proposal we would have to contend with another type of problem. Some provinces are moving toward relieving municipalities of the education tax load which they have been carrying. In order to do this the provinces have to move into other fields, such as direct sales tax or income tax. I think the provinces are doing the right thing; this is a logical approach. Education has become expensive and sophisticated enough that it should no longer be charged only to the property owners in the community in which the school is located. Some communities are able to afford a more expensive kind of education than others. The cost of education being carried only by property owners is an obvious inequality. If we want to achieve equalization of income and the opportunity to have good accommodation we should be considering other areas of taxation.

There are inequalities in our present tax system which should be corrected. Allowances should be given to artisans who use rather expensive tools in their trade. We should also give consideration to the evaluation of marketing quotas so that there would be a larger measure of equality on the production side. We should value quotas for taxation purposes in the same way as we do land. Quotas have now become a cost of farming in the same way as the tools of a plumber or an electrician. We could justify changes in our tax structure in areas such as these. Possibly we could justify public parking facilities for trailers. I know workmen in the construction business who live in trailers. In addition to the cost of purchasing a trailer, and the interest, there is the cost of keeping it in a trailer park. That can be very expensive. These people live in trailers so they can live in the community in which they are working.

With all due respect to the mover of this motion, I feel it has too many loopholes. There are too many areas which it does not cover. I think we would be further ahead if we were to raise the exemptions to which workers are entitled, provide additional allowances in respect of children under the family allowance plan, pay more generous allowances to old age pensioners, and so on. If we followed such a course I believe we would be further ahead than if we tried to treat homeowners as special individuals entitled to special allowances. Indeed, in today's society a person who is able to raise the money with which to purchase a home, to put down the initial payment and keep up the mortgage payments, is already a fortunate individual. As time goes on there may be far fewer of them. I am sorry I cannot give this motion the support which the hon. member obviously hoped it would receive in the House.

● (1750)

[*Translation*]

Mr. C.-A. Gauthier (Roberval): Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank my colleagues for giving me at least five minutes to say a few words on this motion which I find very interesting since it invites the government to amend the Income Tax Act to allow the taxpayer, the owner of a single family house, to deduct from his taxes, half or two thirds of his municipal and school taxes up to $500. The limit may be a bit high.

I am in favour of the motion since I have always considered that the fact of not allowing for the deduction from income taxes of at least part of municipal and school taxes on a family house was in fact a way of taxing taxes. The owner of a single family house, for example, does not have the advantage of the builder or the owner of apartment buildings and that is why I always said that our laws favour big capitalists to the detriment of small investors.

If I had houses to rent I could deduct from my income taxes two thirds of my repair costs when people making mortgage payments on a single family house cannot benefit from such a reduction.

So, as far as municipal and school taxes are concerned, big companies settling down in a community as often happens in my riding, can benefit from a municipal tax exemption during 20, 25 or 30 years.

On the other hand, to encourage small industry, to provide employment, the small owner who merely wishes to provide shelter for his family cannot deduct anything in the form of municipal taxes. As soon as he spends $10 or

$100 to become an owner he is immediately taxed and overtaxed while big capitalists are still protected.

In fact, I made a study on the protection given to big capitalists today. Half a century ago, for example, big capitalists paid roughly 70 per cent of taxes in Canada while small taxpayers paid 30 per cent. Today, it is quite the opposite. Small taxpayers pay 72 per cent of Canada's taxes and capitalists whose income has increased ten-fold in the past forty years pay only 28 per cent. That gives you an idea of the protection they have been getting over the years.

Well, I feel there could be a debate about amounts involved in the motion but, contrary to the opinion expressed by the previous speaker that it would not help housing, I believe it would indeed help housing tremendously. Personally, I am interested in building low cost housing because of my savings on interest. In fact, I gain two-thirds of maintenance and interest on mortgages, otherwise on the money I invested to pay for those rents.

It can clearly be seen how interesting that is for those who lend money on a large scale, and how well protected they are. Major money-lenders are allowed to benefit by deductions of two-thirds, which is not at all the case for small home owners since the second part of the motion calls for exemption on mortgage interest. I have always wondered why so few members were interested in the mortgage interest paid by the small owner.

I see, Mr. Speaker, that the time allowed for my speech has expired. In closing, I would like to say that the government should introduce legislation so that we could discuss it in more detail, for it is a problem of interest for the majority in this country, and I think that all small owners would be glad if the government were to present such a bill.

Mr. Speaker: Order. The hour appointed for the consideration of private members' business having expired, I do now leave the Chair until eight p.m.

At six o'clock the House took recess.

AFTER RECESS

The House resumed at 8 p.m.

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

CRIMINAL CODE

REINSTATEMENT OF LAW RELATING TO CAPITAL PUNISHMENT THAT EXISTED PRIOR TO DECEMBER 30, 1972

The House resumed consideration of the motion of Mr. Allmand that Bill C-2, to amend the Criminal Code, be read the second time and referred to the Standing Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs.

Mr. Gérard Laprise (Abitibi): Mr. Speaker, at five o'clock I was just saying that in the last few years especially, our laws have been greatly relaxed. Looking back, we find that in 1967 capital punishment was abolished for five years. Now it is intended to extend this measure, but we are well aware that the government wants to abolish capital punishment completely.

[Mr. Gauthier (Roberval).]

It is also wished to liberalize the use of drugs, to make abortion completely free. Contraceptives have been legalized. Homosexuality has been legalized, and according to a study of the cost of prostitution in Montreal, a study that was requested by the former Solicitor General, it will probably be proposed before long to liberalize prostitution so that prostitutes may contribute to the tax revenue.

Mr. Speaker, when one considers this whole range of abolitions, one wonders where all this will lead us. One wonders whether the Liberal party does not take too seriously the name which makes it different from other political parties.

In an article published by a student of Sir George Williams University, Mr. Robert Rochon, two or three years ago in *La Presse*, one could read the following remarks, and I quote:

● (2010)

What does society exactly mean both for the layman and the intellectual, in concrete terms? Therefore, it is by this last question that I answer, I believe, to the first one, namely: "That value, what is it?"

A society is a group of people gathered in one community by nature, by laws or by a contract. It is a moral union of intelligent beings, grouped in a stable and efficient manner to achieve a purpose that is known to and desired by everyone. This moral union of intelligent beings consists of three things essential to the achievement of that purpose:

1) Unity with regard to a purpose that is known to and desired by everyone

2) Unity of will to achieve that purpose

3) Co-ordination of appropriate means to achieve that purpose, WHENCE the need for an authority obeyed by everyone.

Relations of the members of the social "body" as such are relations that are determined by the purpose of society and governed by the latter. Therefore, this group of men or intelligent beings is a social fact which consists mainly of the behaviour of the subjects. Whence the necessity of conforming to principles, customs and moral or legal rules.

Mr. Speaker, this definition of society seems clear enough to me; let me repeat the three main elements that Mr. Rochon lists:

1) Unity with regard to a purpose that is known to and desired by everyone.

2) Unity of will to achieve that purpose.

3) Co-ordination of appropriate means to achieve that purpose, WHENCE the need for an authority obeyed by everyone.

This means, Mr. Speaker, that we come together and make laws to protect ourselves, and we must accept those laws. But we become aware that one element of the population, certain members of our society refuse the laws which have been set up by and for it. These people disregard the essential principles for achieving the society we desire.

In the book "Law and Order in Canadian Democracy", published by the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, we read on page 9:

The existence and enforcement of "law" in a free country like Canada presupposes "order" as a necessary corollary. Where there

is no law, or existing law is not enforced, the "law of the jungle" obtains—there is no order, and the liberty of a majority of the citizens is assailed without restraint. And so law and order have come to be almost synonymous terms, and the expression conveys a single idea.

Mr. Speaker, those who now apply capital punishment—crooks and criminals—endanger the liberty of other citizens; when you read the newspapers, you see that scarcely a day goes by in just the city or region of Montreal without the most sordid murders' endangering the lives of citizens, to such an extent that you dare not venture into certain districts and certain streets in the evening or at night. It is the same in the larger towns, and very often even in the country. Why is that? It is precisely because a certain number of the individuals who make up society refuse to obey its laws.

Later on in the same book, there is a reflection by Charles Reith, quoted from *The Police Idea.*

The fundamental problem which confronts the world today is the finding of means of providing authority with force which will compel respect for its laws and without which, as all history knows, it must inevitably and repeatedly fail to function.

Now that strength no longer exists nowadays in the police force because it no longer has the authority needed to indict those people and bring them before the court. Even if capital punishment still applies whenever a police officer is murdered, some police officers risk their life every day in attempting to arrest those criminals and when they commit them for trial, those criminals are often released on bail and the following day, those same individuals thumb their nose at the police officers who arrested them the day before and who risked their life doing so. And when those individuals come back before the court, they are sentenced to a few years' imprisonment.

That is what we call a life sentence, which is absolutely false because the maximum is 20 years. And people who committed as horrible a crime as murder seldom serve their sentence. Therefore people are puzzled and rightly so.

Again in the Montreal newspaper *La Presse,* Guy Cormier wrote a very interesting article and I quote:

Most of the arguments for the abolition of capital punishment are acceptable . . .

That does not mean that people in favour of the abolition of the death penalty are always wrong. Our society is ill, that is a fact.

I come back to the quotation:

They have been so often analyzed under so many aspects in books, articles, letters and manifestoes that in trying to summarize them, one could not make head or tail of them. Considering the irrevocable character of a punishment determined by a naturally fallible human reason, that alone would tell in favour of reducing as much as possible the number of cases where it should apply.

In those last words, Guy Cormier recommends prudence and I believe everybody agrees with him. The article says further on:

Because, if any error can be rectified on earth, no one will ever manage to compensate for the loss of life unjustly inflicted. Now, the black book of punishments contains cases where it had been impossible to establish beyond the shadow of a doubt the guilt of the defendant.

Nevertheless, there is an aspect of this matter which should embarrass convinced abolitionists.

Indeed, since the state has relieved the executioner from his duties, one notes that criminals make up the only category of citizens who persist in preserving the former tradition.

I said so a while ago.

Again I quote:

They have not abolished the death penalty; they go on applying it with gruesome briskness. Since 1967, when Canada temporarily ceased to send convicted murderers to the gallows, the criminals have, on their own account, applied the death penalty to the rate of 376 annually. Naturally, we are refering to murders. Those abominations happen in the dark, unwitnessed and even without a semblance of justice.

And I will add without any kind of trial. Mr. Guy Cormier goes on to write:

The victims, you know them, their bodies are on the front pages of tabloids specialized in daily horror. Last week, it was a young girl of 22. She crawled 200 feet before dying. That comes under the heading "miscellaneous".

I would like the tender hearted who are quickly softened by the murderers' fate and the leagues dedicated to the defense of human rights to subdue their campaign addressed to the public, to turn at last towards the real party, that is the murderers themselves. Let them try to convince those people to abandon their barbarous and cruel methods of taking their "law" into their own hands. Because the assassins are the ones who persist in applying themselves capital punishment to the detriment of innocent people most of the time.

● (2020)

Does that mean that we must come back to old, rigid methods and multiply gallows? Certainly not. But we must act with discrimination.

The suspension of capital punishment decided in 1967 for a five year trial period did not apply in principle to bandits killing policemen. That exception is logical: it still is. Because if you do not punish by death the murderer of a policeman there is no reason for having a police force at all in a country. Killers of children should also be sent to the gallows. Cases of kidnapping and piracy should be dealth with the same severity.

Since the beginning of time, humanity had to drag along incurable outcasts. Such people are to be eliminated from society. It is not even worth taking the risk of confining them to a prison that they will leave one day by escaping from it or because of a stupid or complacent official.

We have seen a lot of stupid or complacent officials not too long ago.

Pardoning a man who should be put to death is condemning the widow, the orphans, the parents of the victim to pay taxes to house, feed, clothe, entertain the assassin for the rest of his life. That injustice is added to the first one.

Mr. Speaker, as I said in my opening remarks before the House took recess, I will be voting against Bill C-2 precisely because I have not been convinced that the abolition of capital punishment would meet a need in our society.

The death penalty was maintained for the murder of a policeman or a prison guard.

I personally think, Mr. Speaker, that a bank manager or a drugstore manager or any businessman who are also family heads are as much in danger as any policeman or prison guard because in many cases what criminals are interested in is mainly the money in the cash boxes behind the counters and they will shrink from nothing to try to get it.

One might say that an offender who is going to commit an armed robbery did not premeditate murder, he does not know who he is going to kill. But when an offender arms himself with a fully loaded machine gun, he may not know who he is going to kill, but he has made up his mind to kill anyone who will be in his way and try to stop him from getting what he wants.

In my view, Mr. Speaker, this offender must be considered as the one who has deliberately committed a murder.

One might also say that—as I have already mentioned when I spoke of the flexibility of our laws—if we cannot prevent abortion and homosexuality in some cases, we have legalized them up to a point and if we cannot prevent murder, we should abolish capital punishment. Then, why not say: If we cannot prevent theft, arson and rape, let us legalize them. And if we cannot enforce the law, let us simply abolish it.

Mr. Speaker, I think the trouble is not with those responsible for law enforcement. This uneasiness does not exist in our police forces which have many times shown their efficiency. The trouble is elsewhere. The suggestion is to abolish for 5 additional years capital punishment for murderers. And yet, in our society, we forget that we have still not abolished the life penalty for thousands of people who have to make do with crumbs from the social welfare. Those people are living in the most abject poverty and almost like animals. When they complain to civil servants, they are often treated like dogs.

Quite often those people protest because our society is sick and does nothing to enable them to lead an honourable life, as they have done until then. When they find how much we pay to maintain a prisoner, I wonder whether they are not justified in protesting.

The building only of the Sainte-Anne-des-Plaines prison cost on the average more than $32,000 per inmate, for lodging only. Some reports indicate that an inmate's maintenance costs on the average are $7,000 or $8,000 per year.

Many families must content themselves with a scanty pittance because some of its members are crippled or sick, while people who have chosen to live on the other side of the fence are often treated like kings.

Mr. Speaker, no wonder that our society is sick, something is missing somewhere. As long as it has not been proven to me that abolition of the death penalty can improve society, I will feel compelled to promote its retention in the case of premeditated murder and in that case only.

Mr. Speaker, in due time I will vote against Bill C-2.

[*English*]

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Justice): Mr. Speaker, in the course of this debate you have heard a great deal about individual incidents and specific cases which raise a great deal of concern about law and order in our society. From time to time some hon. members suggest, I suppose, that they are more concerned than other members of this House about law and order in our society.

The hon. member for Abitibi (Mr. Laprise) has just completed his remarks which seem to me to clearly suggest he has serious doubt about the views of the government on this issue and whether members on all sides of the House who favour the abolition of capital punishment really are on the side of law and order, on the side of the good and decent. I would remind you, Mr. Speaker, of a statement during the course of this debate on corporal punishment when a Conservative, whom I will not name because he is not here—but you can check *Hansard*—suggested, in effect, that we were probably on the side of the rapist because we were abolishing the whipping of rapists. I tried to make the point that it was the circumstances in which that kind of punishment took place that was particularly relevant to our view that it should be abolished, and I personally stated that I see a place for corporal punishment, particularly in family or similar circumstances, but not in prison circumstances.

[Mr. Laprise.]

The hon. member for Abitibi says he will not be convinced that capital punishment should be abolished until he is convinced about a lot of things, about how it will improve law and order in our society and how it will result in less murders. That is a case no one will easily try to make. I do not know that I follow the hon. member's logic, where he drew his lines, and why he does not want to go back to the fourteenth century when capital punishment extended to minor theft and where perhaps it had a deterrent effect because of the minor nature of the offences which which it was linked. That, I think, is significant and is something we should bear in mind.

I was distressed in listening to the hon. member for Abitibi—I regret referring to him so often, but I am following him in this debate—if I understood him correctly, when he said there were times when the garbage of society should be disposed of. That is a term I do not think we should apply to any human being because it suggests there is never forgiveness, never a change of opinion or never a change of attitude. I presume that if the hon. member had been with Christ on the day when the adultress was present and Christ said, "He that is without sin, let him throw the first stone," the hon. member would have in fact thrown it because he is more righteous than Christ was in that context. I do not think he would agree to any version of that situation which says that was not an offence of a serious nature. That was not the issue. It is a question of one's attitude toward the whole approach of a human being in our society.

As I approach this question I want to say that there are some, as the hon. member for Hillsborough (Mr. Macquarrie) said this afternoon, who find it straightforward and easy; they say there must, or must not be capital punishment on a doctrinaire basis. To the extent that one can be basically philosophical or doctrinaire on the question, let me state at once that I would, in a theoretical way, defend the right of the state to take the life of a person when that is necessary, reasonable and useful.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Lang: I would not translate that into a duty, and I would particularly demand of the state an examination into the premise that it is in fact reasonable or useful to take a life. Some may wonder why that is a burden which should be put upon those who would argue for the taking of a life. I personally see a great deal in the whole attitude we have toward life, the dignity of the person and the

nature of the individual person charged with an offence, whatever it may be, that leads me to be and to want to be a little careful when it comes to the question of whether or not the state will take that life.

● (2030)

I will not argue that there have been occasions, and that there could be occasions again, when the taking of life as a punishment is necessary for the maintenance of law and order in a particular society. I will hold that as a possibility. The question which we have before us—which those who believe as I do, that this is theoretically possible, have before us—is whether it is indeed a useful, desirable or good thing to do now.

Individual members will refer to cases and they will say: In these circumstances, should capital punishment not follow if it could thereby stop the crime or avoid a future crime of similar import? They will never succeed in making the case that it would in fact have stopped the crime, and indeed in their examples—and I listened to the member for Abitibi who referred to them, and to most hon. members who spoke in favour of capital punishment in Canada—from those offences for which they argue capital punishment they move to others which they argue would not exist if capital punishment was in force. It is there that their logic falls down. They cannot make a statistical case in favour of the deterrent value of capital punishment.

I must say that I will not try to make a case in terms of statistics. I will not do so for two reasons: first, I am less than convinced that this is the basic way of determining the issue and, second, other hon. members who have spoken—notably, today, the hon. member for Ontario (Mr. Cafik)—have done an admirable job of analysing the statistical situation and showing what happens in certain circumstances with or without capital punishment.

The hon. member for Hillsborough referred to the Fattah study and the fact that crime other than murder rose faster than murder in a period of time when capital punishment may have been an issue in this country. These things at least raise the question of whether or not there is, in fact, a significant deterrent element involved. But I prefer to turn instead to the conjectural argument that in many murder situations the emotions that are involved in the committing of the offence are such that the punishment is not present in the minds of the committer of the offence; that often, in those circumstances, whether or not he will get away with it may not be important. I am referring to the husband or wife murder, the family murder, the close friend murder. In these situations emotions often rise to such a pitch that the exact punishment, and even the question of detection, are not likely to be present.

There is a whole range of cases where as a result of mental imbalance the mind is not likely to be focusing very clearly on the murder. There is another range of cases where one could say that the question of the exact punishment may make a difference. There, in any analysis of the thinking of the people involved, one finds that the question of whether they will be detected is far more influential than the question of whether punishment will be 10 or 15 years in jail, or death. The magnitude of 15 years in jail, in terms of the way those people are viewing life, is indeed a pretty significant factor, but the question of whether they will be detected is apt to be a much more important factor.

So we have on this side of it the question of whether there is indeed practical merit and a practical deterrent value in capital punishment. On the other side there are those who ask: Should we pay money to keep alive people who have committed these offences? That becomes a very interesting argument in terms of economics against human life, if you have put the deterrent argument aside. It then becomes a fairly crass argument in terms of economics against human life. But against that, what do we have? We have the fact that in order to maintain capital punishment you must maintain the whole apparatus of execution. You must have someone who is executioner.

Would you, as an honourable man who is prepared to vote for capital punishment, volunteer for the job of executioner? That is an interesting question and I shall come back to certain aspects of it later. You must maintain the apparatus of execution which allows, in a cold-blooded fashion, the termination of a human life. I say "in a cold-blooded fashion" because one of the problems with capital punishment is that it does not happen in the heat of the immediate aftermath of the crime itself. I do not hear hon. members arguing for removal of the trial process and the determination of guilt or innocence, and therefore for the removal of a significant period of time between the time of the offence and the time of execution.

With that time interval in mind, hon. members should appreciate what is involved, that after a fairly long interval a human being who has done something grievously wrong to all of us is then to be dealt with. Is he the same man he was? Is there any place in the process for considering whether he is exactly the same, in terms of the punishment that will befall him, as he was when he committed the offence? That is the kind of thing which leads to a particularly interesting vote on the issue of capital punishment.

Hon. members have been in the habit of putting to their constituents the questions: Are you in favour of capital punishment? That is the wrong kind of question if you want a really careful answer to the issue, because to answer "yes" to it, all you have to do is to be able to imagine a single case where you would be glad to have capital punishment applied—and that single case involves many elements which are not always conveniently present. It involves the absolute certainty that the man to whom you wish the punishment to be applied was in fact the man who committed the offence. It involves the kind of terrible offence where we could not imagine any change at all on the part of the offender. It involves many such things.

The real question is quite different, namely: Do you favour capital punishment in circumstances where the man who is before you probably committed the offence, however horrible it may be, regardless of his present position? I ask hon. members to take a look at a certain piece of evidence when the question is put in that way. Lawyers know that when capital punishment was the usual sentence for murder in Canada, it frequently was not applied because as long as murder led to capital pun-

ishment as the logical legal conclusion, juries, no matter how clear it was when lawyers would say that it was either murder or nothing, would reach to find a manslaughter verdict, a verdict which avoided capital punishment in the specific case before them when they were looking at the individual to whom it was applied, and perhaps when they also had in mind from time to time the issue of whether or not there was serious doubt about the guilt of the man, however probable it was that he was in fact guilty. I think this is the kind of issue which must be before hon. members as they look at this over-all issue.

Recently the supreme court in the United States was discussing the issue of capital punishment. I was surprised to hear the right hon. member for Prince Albert (Mr. Diefenbaker) suggest that we, too, in this country should shift this important and fundamental question from the forum of Parliament to the courts for a decision. I, for one, have always been of the view that it is Parliament, the elected representatives, who should decide fundamental questions, and not a court of nine men, however appointed and wherever sitting. It may be that in some other systems the inflexibility of their constitutions allows for some tolerance of decisions by a small group of men rather than by the parliament of the land. That is not true here. We, as the elected representatives, have the power and the ability on behalf of the people all across the country to decide this issue, and that certainly ought not to be shifted from here to a court.

● (2040)

But I do think it is interesting to notice the reasoning of the Supreme Court in the United States in deciding that in fact capital punishment was no longer to be tolerated within their constitution. They noted the fact that it was not a punishment which was following automatically in cases for which it was defined; that just as here, juries would find ways around it, or appellate courts would find reasons here and there to set aside the punishment, and that in fact, as one of the nine U.S. justices said, it got to the point that whether or not capital punishment applied was like lightning striking. He noted that in fact in some cases it was applied because of the combination of a particular judge, jury and circumstance, while in much worse cases it was not applied because of the particular combination of judge and jury. That was our experience in this country as well; any lawyer knows that that was the experience, that it depended more on the particular judge, jury and circumstance, not related especially to the case which let to the application of capital punishment in a particular situation.

With that kind of random way of applying capital punishment, whether or not we have to maintain the executioner and put into the hands of some individual the termination of a life, without completely to all satisfaction at all times resolving the horrific question of whether or not that person was guilty beyond peradventure, and whether indeed the man himself deserved some further consideration, is the question that has to be decided. The issues of whether or not we should have different, moderately or greatly different systems according to our view of imprisonment, and of whether or not parole should be less easily granted, are conflicting issues; but they are issues which are separate from the main issue of capital punishment itself.

Therefore I say, Mr. Speaker, that we ought not to want to have capital punishment in our country because there is no evidence of any substantial weight that it has a real deterrent value, and that on the other hand the very dignity of our human existence inevitably is involved in the fact of execution itself, and therefore on simple pragmatic grounds in terms of the dignity of man we ought not to have capital punishment here. And I say to the hon. member for Abitibi, who will in other contexts speak in terms of the dignity of the human person, that he should remember that it exists, too, for any person who has been accused.

I will not speak of the problems of rehabilitation and the problems of parole that relate to how our penal systems will be governed. These are the kinds of questions which can be dealt with in the committee. What I do suggest to hon. members is that in this debate we are now on second reading of the bill, and the question which surely hon. members have to consider is whether or not this matter goes to the committee at all. If they think that the law as it stood before 1967, and as it stands again for a time after the five-year temporary law has lapsed, is perfect, beyond improvement, it is only then that they ought to vote against this bill on second reading.

There are, indeed, in the bill some rather minor elements which deserve the serious deliberation of the committee and deserve to be made a part of the law. I think, for instance, of the change from the expression "non-capital murder" to the phrase "murder punishable by life imprisonment." I believe that the expression "non-capital murder" has tended to grate upon people because murder, they say, is always capital, looking at the victim as they do in those circumstances. To treat it somehow as non-capital sounds as if one is treating it lightly; yet life imprisonment is not a particularly light penalty. So the change of words is suggested to improve the way in which we view these particular offences, even if they remain the way they were. I suggest to hon. members that the serious issue of whether or not we need the execution apparatus, of whether or not adequate deterrents are not available without it, is one that deserves their serious discussion in the committee and that this bill should now go to committee and have the considered judgment of members upon it.

As I have personally made clear, Mr. Speaker, I believe that without any fundamental argument about the right of society, of the state, to take a life, in practical and pragmatic terms it is not necessary from a deterrent point of view and that, therefore, the balance shifts in favour of no longer taking those lives and in favour of the argument that avoids execution, in favour of the argument that strikes all of us and that is so fundamental to our whole democratic process, that the dignity of the human being be upheld wherever possible and that that should apply in this area as well.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Boulanger): Does the hon. member for Vancouver South (Mr. Fraser) rise for the purpose of asking a question?

Mr. Fraser: I do.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Boulanger): Does the minister agree?

Mr. Lang: Yes.

Mr. Fraser: Mr. Speaker, I apologize to the minister because I did not hear all of his speech, but I wonder if he would be good enough to answer a question which I think troubles a number of us who are very sympathetic to much of what he has said. If one is advocating the abolition of capital punishment on the grounds that the minister has stated—and other hon. members have spoken along the same line—where is the logical distinction between hanging a frightened man who runs out of a bank and shoots a policeman, and not hanging a man who shoots the prime minister, or who may engage in the diabolical business of killing people for the underground? I would be interested to hear the minister's views on this particular problem.

Mr. Lang: Mr. Speaker, I very much appreciate that question. I think the hon. member for Vancouver South (Mr. Fraser) will appreciate from my remarks that I did not attempt to distinguish in any logical way why one particular type of murder rather than another should have capital punishment attached to it. Indeed, in my remarks I said that essentially I do not believe in the deterrent usefulness of capital punishment, and I may say that applies, in my view, to the situation covering peace officers and prison guards as well.

There have been some peace officers and prison guards who have expressed extra concern about their particular situation in the capital punishment provision, and in the course of the debate in 1967, five years ago, they were heard in the form of the compromise which was adopted by parliament at that time. The argument I make is that if, indeed, it is thought to be so important to them, that they attach so much importance to this particular provision, then I so value their service in their particular role that even while I disagree with them about the real value of the deterrent, I could go along with them in having a special exception for them.

● (2050)

I would say to the hon. member that the logic of my remarks, and my further opinion is that total abolition would be the far better course and that indeed if, as I now believe, prison guards and policemen are more and more moving from the position of wanting special protection, it may well be that in committee hon. members can find a solution. It may be that an assured period of imprisonment prior to any possibility of parole will be a better solution than anything contained in the bill itself. I have spoken in the current context as a total abolitionist but I am willing to look at additional safeguards, to be perhaps under the discretion of the trial judge himself, which would predetermine the period of imprisonment before parole is permissible.

I agree with the hon. member for Vancouver South that I have spoken in this debate as an abolitionist. I am prepared to support the present bill even to the extent that exceptions for police and prison guards be put into it, although that appears to be no longer necessary. I would be happier with another solution which I have mentioned, which would deter the most serious of offences. Perhaps that discretion could be vested in the trial judge himself.

Mr. Reg Stackhouse (Scarborough East): Mr. Speaker, this bill is worth debating in parliament because Bill C-2 is no longer just legislation; it has become a symbol to many Canadians; it symbolizes the permissiveness that they believe is a threat to their safety. To them it symbolizes a "soft on crime" attitude that they believe is encouraging violence. To them it shows the need for a change of direction.

Last spring the Minister of Justice (Mr. Lang)—I wish he were here and not out of the chamber—indicated he saw the need for this change. When speaking to 500 lawyers at the O'Keefe Centre, Toronto, in March of 1972 he said that rising crime figures showed we must have more vigorous enforcement of the law. He said there was need to restore the balance between freedom and authority by effective law enforcement. He said the increase in crimes of violence was particularly significant and cited the testimony of the commissioner of the RCMP to the Senate Committee on Legal and Constitutional Affairs revealing how the crime rate in Canada has doubled in the past ten years.

He did not draw the conclusion that this warranted the restoration of capital punishment in Canada, but many people have concluded that the trend to which he referred merits the need for strong law enforcement, of which the restoration of capital punishment would be one part. I think this is evident in the trend that one sees in the United States, where 36 state legislatures are now considering in their jurisdictions the restoration of capital punishment, and where two states have already enacted that restoration. Certainly, an increasing number of people in Canada are of this mind. According to an article in *Weekend* magazine of October 21, 1972, there were 215 murders in 1963, and 426 in 1971. That kind of development shows the average Canadian that we need strong enforcement of the law. We need to express that conviction by restoring capital punishment.

The conviction is growing among a great number of Canadians that we need the death penalty as one way of reversing the permissive trend of the past decade. Advocates of abolition often speak as if the desire to retain the death penalty shows some kind of blood lust or perverse sadism, but that misjudges the Canadian people. Few citizens of this country find much pleasure in the sight or thought of a fellow human being hanged. But there are many who want some assurance that the law is going to be enforced and the public is going to be protected. They do not want cruelty shown to anybody, but they want the ordinary man, woman and child of this country protected and they want to say to the criminal element of this country that that element is on notice that society is prepared to defend itself. They do not find that kind of assurance in Bill C-2.

I say, Mr. Speaker, that the average Canadian knows this bill is a "nothing bill" which will do nothing to meet the crisis of crime and violence in this country today. It may purport to give protection to police officers and prison guards, but in the hands of a government committed to commute even these death sentences it will not do even that. This bill is a charade. It gives appearance

without reality. It professes to provide for what is called the death penalty to be invoked for murder punishable by death. But the fact is that capital punishment will be suspended entirely for the next five years if this bill passes. The majority of Canadians today oppose that suspension. They oppose it, not because there is some atavistic barbarism in their hearts but because they see it as one more step down the road of permissiveness.

It is evident that most Canadians want capital punishment restored, because they are recoiling from what they regard as the loose administration of justice they have had under this government. They have had enough of releasing kidnappers after a few years' confinement. They have had enough of giving a wife murderer leave that he used to go on an international honeymoon. They have had enough of police officers being shot down and their murderers escaping the penalty they deserve. They have had enough of giving priority to the criminal and neglecting the victim. They have had enough of easy parole and leaves when they find that many parolees become criminals again and leaves of absence become doors of escape. They have had enough of easy bail when they find freedom given to thugs and hoods and addicts who use it to pillage, assault, molest and murder. They have had enough of all this and are saying to parliament, "Change this and give us some protection under the law, the kind of protection that Canadian citizens want and used to be confident of receiving."

In the Speech from the Throne the people were promised changes, but they have not seen any, and Bill C-2 does not offer any. Instead, it shows the same permissive mentality the Canadian people are rejecting. The people want a policy that will put the criminal element on notice that society in this country cannot be attacked with impunity. That is why public opinion polls report that a large marjority of citizens favour the restoration of capital punishment. In the constituency of Scarborough East, for example, of 3,510 who answered a questionnaire on this subject at least 70 per cent indicated support for capital punishment. That is why in the same constituency a petition signed by 225 people, most of them high school students, asks for the retention of the death penalty.

Abolitionists, instead of vilifying these citizens, as some do, should ask themselves why so many people are clamouring for the restoration of the death penalty. Abolitionists should ask themselves why so many good, decent, law-abiding people want the death penalty renewed. These people are not cruel, but they are concerned and they are demanding that their government and Parliament be concerned too.

That raises this question: Would the death penalty do what the public thinks it would? That is a question to which many abolitionist speakers in this House have addressed themselves. Some of us are under the impression that the abolitionists assume that they have all the good cards in their hands. They can point to statistical studies that show the abolition of capital punishment does not result in mayhem, nor does its retention or restoration result in social peace. They conclude, therefore, that capital punishment has no deterrent value whatsoever. With a kind of elitist superiority, which somehow has been evident in this debate, they deride the anxieties of the people, which they do not think need to be taken seriously, and assure the populace that they should calm their fears. It seems that the elite few know more than the commonplace majority.

● (2100)

Let us take another look at this argument. Has anyone ever suggested that capital punishment would prevent all murders? Surely not. Surely we would not expect that, any more than we would expect that not having capital punishment would prevent all murders. There has never been a penalty yet devised that would restrain everyone. To dismiss the death penalty because it does not eliminate murder should logically mean we should abolish prison sentences because they do not eliminate bank robberies. The point is that the threat of capital punishment does deter some people from murder, just as the threat of imprisonment deters some from robbery.

To say that when you have capital punishment you also have some murders is really offering no more evidence than to say that when you have long jail sentences you also have some robberies. We know that. However, just as the imposition of prison sentences does deter some people from robbing, pillaging, assaulting, and so on, we have every reason to believe that the imposition of this supreme sentence, the death penalty, does deter some from the act of murder. I think that is one reason why the average man is supporting the restoration of the death penalty.

You can quote all the statistics you like and draw all the graphs you like; you will still find the common sense of the ordinary Canadian saying that the threat of the death penalty is a deterrent. He knows it is a deterrent to him, and it is a deterrent to others. Let me cite some examples of this reasoning, in a survey conducted in 1970 and 1971 by the Los Angeles police department:

Margaret Elizabeth Daly, of San Pedro, was arrested August 28th, 1961, for assaulting Pete Gibbons with a knife. She stated to investigating officers: "Yeh, I cut him and I should have done a better job. I should have killed him but I didn't want to go to the gas chamber".

Orelius Matthew Stewart, an ex-convict with a long felony record, was arrested March 3, 1960, for attempted bank robbery. He was subsequently convicted and sentenced to the state prison. While discussing the matter with his probation officer he stated: "The officer who arrested me was by himself, and if I had wanted, I could have blasted him. I thought about it at the time, but I changed me mind when I thought of the gas chamber."

Salvador A. Estrada, a 19-year old youth with a four-year criminal record, was arrested February 8, 1960, just after he had stolen an automobile from a parking lot by wiring around the ignition switch. As he was being booked at the station, he stated to the arresting officers: "I want to ask you one question. Do you think they will repeal the capital punishment law? If they do, we can kill all you cops and judges without worrying about it."

George Hewlett Dixon, an ex-convict with a long felony record in the east, was arrested for robbery and kidnapping committed on November 26, 1959. Using a screwdriver in his jacket pocket, he held up and kidnapped the attendant of the service station, later releasing him unharmed. When questioned about using a screwdriver to simulate a gun, this man, a hardened criminal with many felony arrests and at least two known escapes from custody, indicated his fear and respect for the California death penalty and stated: "I did not want to get the gas."

In our country, Edwin Boyd was reported never to have carried a loaded gun because he feared he might use it during a bank robbery and then be subject to the death

penalty. The same article in *Weekend* magazine quotes Paul Gascon, executive secretary of the Solicitor General's component of the Public Service Alliance of Canada, the association which represents penitentiary guards. He is reported to have claimed that the six guards taken as hostages in the Kingston penitentiary riot in April, 1971, may owe their lives to the fact that the death penalty was at least on the statute books. He says:

> The inmates were told that if a guard were killed, the responsible people would be hanged.

I suggest to Parliament it is superficial to think the threat of capital punishment has no deterrent value whatsoever. It is true it may not deter some people, but neither will a prison sentence or any other penalty enacted by law deter them. However, it can deter some people. It should be in the law to say to people it is there to be used if they transgress in this way. It is in the interests of public safety that this penalty be on our statutes, and equally that our government be ready to carry it out.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Stackhouse: Some say it is asking too much of a judge, jury or cabinet to enact this kind of penalty. One could cite the oft quoted statement of the late President of the United States, Harry S. Truman, "If you cannot take the heat, get out of the kitchen." If you cannot assume the responsibilities of the office to which you have been called and which you have freely undertaken, get out. This is part of the responsibility of carrying forward the administration of justice in this country.

But effective as capital punishment may be as a deterrent, it would not be right for society to exact it if it were immoral in itself. Parliament must be satisfied that it is a just penalty before it has a right to impose it. We have no right to put this penalty into our statutes and to enact it if we are in any way doing it for purely pragmatic reasons. We must be satisfied that it is upheld by moral conviction as well. For that reason I have been impressed by the arguments of abolitionists that capital punishment is an offence against the sanctity of life. On the basis of that argument, they try to argue that they must oppose having it in the law. I found those arguments deeply moving, and fully respected the sincerity and values that motivated those contributions to our debate. However, there is another side to the argument. I hope that abolitionists will listen to all speakers who express it.

Capital punishment has been upheld through the centuries because of the very commitment of our society and civilization to the sanctity of life. It is a principle of law that the penalty must fit the crime and in some way make up the deprivation that the crime has caused. Surely that is the basis for having a penal code. It is the conviction that a crime has in some way deprived an individual and society of something that must be made up. The penalty in some way must equalize that which has been taken away from the individual or society.

The death penalty is, surely, based on the belief that taking a life is so great an offence that it may require the forfeit of the murderer's life to meet the demand of justice. It is because life is sacred that murder is the worst of all crimes and requires the highest of all penalties. It is not because those who favour retention of capital punishment have a loose attitude toward the value of life. It is just the opposite. It is because they are convinced that the life of the ordinary person walking home at night in the darkness of a city street has something that is ultimately precious to him, his life. That must be protected by a law that says life is of such value that where it is taken, the penalty must equalize the offence.

In the course of this debate—and it has taken the government a surprising amount of time to get back to it—some hon. members have questioned the state's right to impose the death penalty. They have suggested it is a form of murder itself. However, that reasoning is consistent only if it leads to a radically pacifist conclusion. Such a conclusion would say any taking of life is unjustified. A soldier defending his country and using the arms put in his hands by society would therefore be a murderer if he took an enemy's life. A policeman defending his community and using the gun put in his hand by society would be a murderer if he took a criminal's life.

• (2110)

But Parliament is not ready to reach that conclusion. It is not ready to say we should disarm our armed forces and that we should disarm our police. By the same reasoning, we should not reach the conclusion that the hangman himself, or the executioner is necessarily a murderer. We cannot reach that conclusion, because we know that in this kind of world this country must have those who will bear arms in its defence, that it must have policemen armed to defend its communities and, I put it to you, must equally be prepared to have the executioner ready to carry out the death penalty.

This does not, I submit, contradict the biblical ethic on which must of our civilization is based. That ethic rightly recognizes that there must be authority to maintain order in this kind of world and that this authority must have power to impose its will. The same justice that justifies the soldier or the police officer justifies the executioner. Some hon. members have argued that this ethic requires us to forgive and forbear. Indeed, a reference to that point of view was made by the Minister of Justice, and we have to take very seriously the kind of opinion he expressed.

I would submit to you, Mr. Speaker, two points. One is that one must always distinguish between an ethic which is applied to individual and personal relationships and the ethic that orders the affairs of state and the conduct of society. It is for this reason that throughout history societies have distinguished between the right of the individual to bear arms and the right of the society to call upon soldiers, policemen or others to bear arms in its defence. Certainly, from the time of Augustine onward this has been part of the Christian tradition and it is part of the tradition of this country itself. Laws are enacted restricting the right of the individual to carry arms or use arms in his own interest. Laws also affirm the right, and often the duty, of the individual to serve the state in defending it by the use of arms.

As well we ought to recognize, when considering this point, that if we were to say society has no right to impose the death penalty because society must be prepared to forgive the murderer, surely society would not have the right to impose any kind of penalty on any offender

against the law. Does not every sentence which society imposes involve a certain judgment, a judgment by which society says to the offender: You have disobeyed the law; you have offended against society; you have taken from society that which you had no right to take, and you must now make up for it? By that same reasoning, society has the right to impose the death penalty where it is deemed merited. What gives the state the moral right to incarcerate an offender in prison for years is the same right by which society can say to a murderer that his life may be taken as forfeit for the one that he has taken.

Finally, I would say it is absolutely imperative that parliament recognize the way in which the laws of the country must stress personal responsibility. Indeed, I would say it is part of the biblical ethic upon which so much of our civilization can be, has been and should be based. For that ethic requires us to emphasize the responsibility of each person for his behaviour and to conclude that each offender must be ready to pay the price of his deeds. I have often been very impressed, but more often depressed, by the way in which some hon. members throughout this debate have implied that the murderer represents a failure of society and that society must acknowledge its guilt. They have almost concluded that if a murder takes place, society should be punished and the murderer should somehow receive a large measure of sympathy.

Mr. Nielsen: A Liberal suggestion.

Mr. Stackhouse: I appreciate the importance of social influence and environmental influence for good or for ill. But surely we are not ready to be sucked into accepting the kind of extremist extortion by which we forgo any individual and personal responsibility whatsoever. Altogether, I would hope we would stress the opposite and see that the individual is fundamentally responsible for what he does. I would like to see a restoration of that principle in our ordering of the economy as well as in our ordering of social programs. But equally, indeed more, we must see it in the way we draft the law and in the way we administer it. Otherwise we can have no law and we can have no moral order.

I think one of the most important legal events of our time has been the Nuremburg trials. One of the values of the Nuremburg trials was the way in which they showed to the world that no individual can shrug off on society the responsibility for his behaviour. He may be able to say he was ordered to do something, that he was commanded to do it, that everyone was doing the same thing; but the Nuremburg trials said to him, in effect: You did it; you must accept the responsibility, and you must pay the penalty.

Now we are pleading for an emphasis of that kind in the ordering of Canadian law. We are pleading that Canada will be a country in which each person has freedom but each person has, equally, responsibility under the law.

Recently I read a very interesting and at times revealing story called "The Valacchi Papers." Describing the experiences of a Mafia killer, Joe Valacchi, the story tells how Joe felt everyone was to blame for everything in his life, except Joe himself. That kind of reasoning may be understandable when it takes place in the twisted mind of a hired gun, but it has no place in the reasoning of Members of Parliament and ministers of the crown.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Stackhouse: What we must see is the truth to which the contemporary French philosopher, Jean-Paul Sartre, has borne such articulate and profound testimony. This is that when you have explained all the environmental influences you wish to explain, that when you have accounted for all the effects of society, the individual himself is still left with the final decision as to the kind of life he will lead, and that human behaviour is ultimately and profoundly the result of individual choices. That is why I would wish we might have, always, a system of law which would say to the individual: Yes, we will take account of all the factors which have contributed to what you are, but above all you must recognize that you have made yourself what you are.

We would say to one person who kills another: You judge yourself; you condemn yourself. Someone else may perform the mechanics of the execution, but you yourself have put yourself on the path that has led you to this. If a man dies by execution, he dies a death he has fundamentally chosen and which, fundamentally, he could have avoided.

For these three reasons, Mr. Speaker, I hope that parliament will reject this bill and will reject it soundly: first, because the people of this country want parliament to say that this is a country where the law is enforced; second, because the provision of this law in our statute books is a deterrent to many who might take life; third, because it is an expression of personal, individual responsibility. Let us defeat this bill and return Canada to the legislation of the former Criminal Code. If we do, we shall express the will of the people, who want not permissiveness but order. They are tired of indulgence and they want responsibility.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

[*Translation*]

Mr. Gilles Marceau (Parliamentary Secretary to Secretary of State): Mr. Speaker, I was first elected to Parliament in 1968 and was therefore unable to take part in previous debates on the important matter now before us. And so it is with some anxiety, but also with some satisfaction, that I rise for a few minutes to express my personal opinions on this highly controversial subject, which is nevertheless one of the most important that we have had to debate for a very long time.

Perhaps the first question that arises for me is that of the role of the member of Parliament in a debate as far-reaching as this. Does a member's mandate necessarily require him to act as his constituents seem to wish, or should he be a man who can inform them and lead them to the course he thinks best, should he, in a word, be a leader who is not content to sway with the opinions of his constituents, but assumes the responsibility of trying to help them and applying for them the laws which he believes to be the most appropriate.

I have had the opportunity of myself carrying out an opinion poll among my constituents, since when I have to admit that, to conform to their strong majority opinion, I

would have to vote on unequivocally for the retention of the death penalty. But the poll included also, in addition to the question of whether or not they were in favour of the death penalty, other related questions such as whether they were in favour of the parole system which is at present in effect in this country. Their reply was just as conclusive as to the previous question on the death penalty. My constituents' dissatisfaction about this is perhaps even greater than the dissatisfaction of those who have expressed their desire to keep the death penalty.

I therefore come to the conclusion that the first responsibility of he who represents an electoral riding is to inform his constituents and state clearly that the legislation the government tries to implement meets the needs of a society that we all want to improve, a society in which, on the one hand, individuals will have the right to live, in which they will feel protected and, on the other hand, in which they will feel that all the mistakes they might make, however serious they may be, will not be considered by the state as unforgivable, and deserving to be treated with violence and in a spirit of revenge, but which deserve to be judged fairly, with understanding and with a view to rehabilitating the individual, enabling him to play again his part for the establishment of a better society in which he may have played a part for which he was not necessarily the first responsible.

● (2130)

It is therefore in this frame of mind, Mr. Speaker, that I take part in this debate, after explaining on several occasions to my constituents, in my riding, that in my opinion, it was sad and unfortunate that we have to live in a society where we have to consider reinstating the death penalty taking away the most valuable asset: life—in an attempt to protect society from a minority which tries to destroy it and to deprive it from its most valuable aspect, that unique asset which is life.

Mr. Speaker, it is quite difficult to say to our constituents who may read in newspapers every week and sometimes even more often, the report of horrible things which publicity takes pleasure in making known to the public often without giving explanations, attenuations which would make those acts, at first sight horrible, not justifiable but sometimes explainable.

If I could be convinced, Mr. Speaker, that it is the real criminals we are punishing by death, if I could be given that concrete proof that it is really those responsible for the corruption who are given the penalty they deserve, I might have a different view from the one I express today. But since I have had personally the chance to practise law for about 14 years before entering politics I am in a position to say with profound conviction that I have proof—and that proof is not isolated—of cases where people were condemned because of the incompetence of their counsel, perjury of witnesses and that guilty people were able to avoid punishment because of the ability of their counsel, the money they handed out and which allowed them to avoid punishment under the law.

In a society seeking harmony, people want to be able to walk down the street or stay at home without fear at being bothered, molested or attacked, and we must recognize that injustices allow the real authors of reprehensible acts to avoid punishment.

Mr. Speaker, it is truly a difficult situation for a legislator, for a private member like myself, to try and strike a balance between a society where laws must be enforced and where we must also respect the individual's basic right, namely his right to live, his right to make mistakes, even very serious mystakes. Those two rights, society's right and the individual's right, are putting us in a dilemma which makes it hard for us to take a firm stand.

If I took the position of someone who thinks that society, the protection of structures and law enforcement come first, I would then be in favour of death penalty. I would advocate strict laws which would protect the individual against himself and against those who try to break, deliberately or not, the existing laws.

But if I remember that I am also a human being who has made mistakes, who will make mistakes in the future, then I become again someone who looks at his fellow man: An individual who was placed in circumstances different from mine, who has made mistakes for which he was not always responsible. Then I want to rehabilitate this individual, to understand him, to help him and to find ways for him to become again an individual who will contribute to improve our society. I will try to enable him to become again this essential tool which will help us to prove that we were able to understand the often reprehensible actions of individuals, to accept them and to take steps according to our responsibilities.

It is true that it is a society's duty to have laws strict enough to protect the individual. But I think that we should never forget that when a society has come to the point of considering capital punishment as a solution to its problems, this society, in my opinion—and I say that with a deep conviction and without passing judgment on opinions contrary to mine—does not accept its true responsibilities which are to tackle the root of the problems, to find human solutions where the individual must be punished for his faults but not at the cost of his life.

Everyone will agree, I think, that to take someone's life is the law of the underworld. It is this absolutely irrational and absurd law which says that when a criminal, to use this word, has committed a fault, he must lose his life for the problem to be solved.

● (2140)

Mr. Speaker, I think that this debate is not and should not be political. It was a pleasure to meet some hon. members from other parties and to see the interest they have for the question and that they do not intend to have a political debate. When we talk about a man's life, when we say that our society must be better, this meets the general willingness and this is the majority if not all members.

Tonight, as during the recent days when we had the opportunity to discuss that question, all of us know that what we are going to do is very important and that it will steer the course of our society.

Mr. Speaker, I feel that we must all agree that if capital punishment is an extreme, our parole system is inadequate; several of my colleagues have agreed on that and I would like to say just a few words to support hon. mem-

bers who deplored the way the parole Board allowed the release of those who had seriously broken the law.

If we want to be generous, human, understanding, I think that we must accept as a basic law that a person who has deliberately and seriously broken the law must have a penalty equal to his crime.

Maybe this is the conclusion I draw from the pole I made in my riding where I ask many times the following question: if we had a better parole system, if the people who seriously break the law had to suffer longer imprisonment, would you change your view on capital punishment? I obtained a very positive answer.

However, Mr. Speaker, I would not be in favour of a 25-year imprisonment penalty for instance. I think that we must draw the line somewhere. The offender must have the impression that in time he would be in a position to change that society where maybe he wishes to come back because he has understood that the way he followed was not the one he should have followed.

I think, Mr. Speaker, that imprisonment for as long as 25 years could perhaps satisfy some individuals and bring political support to others. It could perhaps hide behind a smoke-screen the real issue which is primarily to put an end to murders and violence.

Some, Mr. Speaker, refer to statistics in order to attempt to justify retention or abolition of capital punishment. It is true and I think that statistics prove it—that murders have increased since 1967 and this, at first sight, seems to support those in favour of the maintenance of capital punishment.

However, before taking a decision based on statistics, we should ask ourselves how many murders, since the passage of the legislation in 1967, were committed to settle a score. How many of those crimes were committed by people who lived in a social environment where they were contaminated, where they experienced an unhappy childhood, where their parents neglected their education and found themselves in such circumstances that they are not entirely responsible for the murder they did commit.

It follows that statistics can be used to justify either the maintenance or the abolishment of the death penalty. I think that it would be unfortunate to quote a whole series of statistics which can be used in one way or another without setting the basic problem, that is to determine if fear prevails. Indeed I think that all our friends in favour of retaining the death penalty are under the impression that fear of being one day put to death prevents people from committing some reprehensible action.

Mr. Béchard: Fear is the beginning of wisdom!

Mr. Marceau: My hon. friend from Bonaventure-Îles de la Madeleine says that fear is the beginning of wisdom. I hope that this fear will be the beginning of his own wisdom and that he will understand that as a member, a capable notary public and an extremely humane fellow, it would be absolutely absurd for him to preach at home that the law of vengeance and of the underworld would be the one that we ought to comply with. I say that in all friendship for this hon. friend who has never given me the impression that he would go that far in his reasoning.

[Mr. Marceau.]

Mr. Speaker, I would not like to stretch this debate, because I think that others have some extremely valuable opinions to express. In concluding I would like to express a view on the cabinet prerogative to commute death penalties to life imprisonment.

I find it rather stange that, on the one hand, the death penalty is advocated in cases where prison guards or policemen are murdered, that the right to protection is recognized where they are concerned and that their murderers deserve to be put to death, while on the other hand the course of the law can be altered by a political commutation.

Personally, I feel that if we favour some exceptions, as the hon. member for Vancouver South (Mr. Fraser) mentioned in his question a while ago, we should be logical enough to pursue the reasoning to its ultimate limit. In fact, I believe that if this bill, as it stands, is accepted, we should seriously consider qualifying the political intervention for commutation in such a way as to allow the judiciary to really play its role; when society, acting through a jury and judge, has decided to take extreme measures in some cases, the law should take its course or those exceptions should be removed which, to my mind, are no longer exceptions if they are finally cancelled through political interventions.

Mr. Speaker, I should therefore like to close my remarks by saying simply this, as honestly and seriously as possible: The bill under study and on which we shall have to vote seems to me to be a compromise—and this is unfortunate—that we regretfully have to accept in the circumstances because in my very limited personal experience—although I still represent a significant number of voters—I have to come to the conclusion that outright abolition of the death penalty would be an inappropriate step that should not be taken.

However, full retention of the death penalty would, in my opinion, be a solution that would not meet the needs of our present society because first and foremost—and I say it again—I hope that the Canadian society in which we have confidence will understand how urgent it is that we consider total abolition of the death penalty within a few years. Regretfully, the present situation does not allow it; I think that, rightfully because violence still exists to various degrees—a violence we want to prevent and whose progress we want to curb—people criticize us for passing compromise legislation. However, I hope and I am convinced that soon the Canadian society, which is the best and which we all cherish, will be mature enough to abolish definitively the death penalty that places Canadians under the rule of violence and fear. We would like to eliminate forever the haunting idea of the death penalty and get back to a Canadian society in which it will be pleasant to live. I am convinced that this will be done very soon.

[*English*]

Mrs. Grace MacInnis (Vancouver-Kingsway): Mr. Speaker, I wish to express great thankfulness for being able to take part in this debate tonight because I think it is one of the most important debates we have had during the session. This matter has been under discussion since the beginning of this session and, indeed, during almost the whole length of time I have been in parliament. I cannot

forget that prior to the 1967 legislation there were private members' bills introduced. There was a private member's bill introduced on one occasion at least when we went over the whole matter of capital punishment and decided in our own way where we stood and expressed our position. I feel that it is very important that we should do so once again at this time, because this is a debate which is not confined to this House but which is profoundly shaking Canadians and the Canadian conscience from one coast to the other.

● (2150)

I want to say at the outset that I believe the people on both sides of this debate are very sincere and earnest as to where they believe the truth to lie. But I want to say, also, that I was exceedingly grateful for the speech which was made by the Minister of Justice (Mr. Lang) this evening, because I felt that in that speech he did what should be done in a debate of this kind. He gave a very dispassionate, quiet outline of the situation as he saw it and he endeavoured to keep the temperature down. That is what we should try to do in this debate.

I feel that one of the things that has made it very difficult, both outside and inside the House, is the way in which emotions have been whipped up to the point where it has been practically impossible for many people to regard this matter in a logical way. It has been practically impossible for them even to consider facts, because we were unfortunate in that a few very horrible crimes occurred in this country at the time when this legislation was brought forward for consideration. With our usual Canadian way of doing things, although we got off to a slow start in considering the matter it did not take long before the hot-liners, the press and the media in general whipped up excitement about the matter until people were no longer able to look at it in the right context and perspective.

Certainly, I feel that as a result, in many parts of this country people got the idea that any time their little girl went up to the mailbox to post a letter, a rapist might be lurking behind any one of the trees between their home and the corner. Women got the idea that there was not a street in Canadian cities where it was safe for them to venture forth once darkness fell, and strong men got the idea that everyone was running round with weapons and lying in ambush for them.

I know that we have had an excess of crime in recent years. Canada is not the only place where crime has increased, crimes of all kinds and particularly crimes of violence; but I know also that it has not been proven anywhere by figures that the rate of murder has increased in this country or in any other country. I know that what the Minister of Justice said tonight was accurate according to the best research that has been done, that there is no proof that capital punishment acts as a deterrent.

I know that these things are true from the facts and figures that have been worked out painfully and slowly by the researchers. Consequently, I was grateful tonight when the Minister of Justice brought this debate to a quiet consideration of facts, figures and alternatives before us as we think about how best to protect society from people who have committed murder. After all, that is the question at which we are looking.

I do not think it helps one little bit to quote the words of Jesus Christ who was, above all, a man of peace, good will and forgiveness, in such a way as to shut out any hope of mercy on this earth for a person who has committed murder or any hope of just or civilized treatment on the part of his fellow humans. I do not think that is helpful in this debate, nor does it help to pick out some of the particularly spectacular crimes and act as though these were the general rule and imply that there were many more of them than we hear about. As I say, a climate of quiet reasonableness is the one in which we should be discussing this matter.

May I call it ten o'clock, Mr. Speaker?

PROCEEDINGS ON ADJOURNMENT MOTION

A motion to adjourn the House under Standing Order 40 deemed to have been moved.

NATIONAL PARKS—BANFF AND JASPER—LACK OF ACCOMMODATION FOR SUMMER EMPLOYEES—REQUEST FOR STATEMENT ON HOUSING POLICY

Mr. Joe Clark (Rocky Mountain): Mr. Speaker, I am going to discuss tonight an accommodation crisis in two townsites which are virtually completely controlled by the federal government, a contempt for democratic rights which is a continuing affront to this Parliament, and a warning of the way in which power can be abused.

On March 26 I asked the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development (Mr. Chrétien) for an outline of the government's housing policy in the townsites of Banff and Jasper. You must understand that because they are located within national parks, Banff and Jasper have virtually no power to govern themselves. If the people who live there want a pothole repaired, they have to go to Ottawa for authority. One of the critical matters which Ottawa controls is the disposition of building lots and building permits.

While the state may have no business in the bedrooms of the nation, the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development personally controls and decides on the number of bedrooms there will be in Banff and Jasper. For several years there have been too few beds and too little accommodation to meet the needs of the people who have to live there because they work there. In summer, that shortage becomes more acute because of the summer help needed to meet the growing flow of tourists, drawn in part by the deliberate tourist advertising of the federal government.

When I asked what the minister was doing, he replied that he was reviewing the matter. Some days later he tabled in committee a statement with two major proposals: first, the response to the summer crisis would be to let local businessmen provide temporary accommodation with

trailer dormitories; second, the minister expressed his view that one answer to the housing demand in Jasper would be to move the people, instead of building houses. Twelve hundred people, one third of Jasper's population, are associated with the CNR division point in Jasper, and the minister has stated his clear preference that the answer to that crisis should be to find the division point, in his words, a new home.

Later still, a press release was issued proposing to make sites available for permanent mobile homes in Jasper, although not in Banff. The preference was repeated, to move the people of the CNR. Those announcements leave at least three gaping problems: first, there is no assurance that this announcement—under duress and late in the day—of permission to build temporary mobile homes can be taken advantage of by enough local employers; second, there is no announced intention to meet the permanent accommodation crisis in Banff, except the veiled suggestion that the solution there might be to move people, too, to the neighbouring town of Canmore; third, there is the clear fact that many Jasper residents would not choose a mobile home if they lived in a community where choice was a reality.

Despite the minister's concessions, there is still an acute accommodation shortage in the townsites of Banff and Jasper national parks. But, Sir, I suggest to you and to this House that the issue goes well beyond housing. The basic problem is that the relationship between the parks department and the people of the townsites is a colonial relationship, marked by people who are powerless and a government that is arbitrary, secretive and arrogant.

● (2200)

Virtually everyone accepts that townsites in the national parks cannot be exactly like communities elsewhere. They are in a region dedicated to preservation and so there must be some controls. The people who live there accept that. They are perhaps more concerned about conservation than any other community of Canadians. Indeed, they prove their commitment by going to live with nature and not just talking about it. The people in the townsites are not opponents of control. They are opponents of abuse; and abuse is what has happened—an abuse of power so consistent that it should alarm every Canadian concerned about arbitrary government.

Let me cite a few examples. In the past ten years Ottawa has commissioned a number of reports about the townsites. Few have been published. All have been expensive. More are still secret. If the people concerned were consulted, it occurred only after the decisions were taken. They were not asked, they were told, about the community where they live and raise children. Again, there is no local government. Virtually every local decision, except for schools and related matters, goes to some distant deputy in Ottawa for final decision.

Now the minister announces his conclusion, without the slightest consultation, that the best thing to do with the 1,200 railroaders who live in Jasper is to move them out. When he said that, I asked if he would hold a public hearing to find out what problems or opinions the people might have. He declined to hold a public hearing. So I called such a meeting and invited the minister to come, or

[Mr. Clark (Rocky Mountain).]

the Minister of Transport (Mr. Marchand) or his parliamentary secretary from whom we hear so much. The minister declined to come. He declined to send his officials. He refused to send people there who might answer the questions of the residents. The minister says that he believes the meeting was premature. He thinks that consultation of that kind is premature. The reason he thinks so is that he prefers to consult only after decision is taken.

What is alarming to Canada about this situation is that this attitude is not restricted to the townsites in the mountain national parks. It is the attitude which led the minister at Ship Harbour, the new national park, to propose to move the people there, some of whom had been living in those sites for eight to ten generations. It is the attitude we find in Kouchibouguac park in New Brunswick. It is the attitude we find in Waterton and Riding Mountain. The parks' problems are serious problems. They are going to grow more acute. If we are to solve them in a reasonable way we must dispense with this arrogant, arbitrary and secretive attitude of the parks department and begin to recognize the rights of people who live in areas that are, or will become, national parks.

Mr. Len Marchand (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development): Mr. Speaker, it will be rather difficult to answer all the questions raised by the hon. member in three minutes, but I would point out that the minister tabled a document in the committee which indicated a number of things that have been done. I recognize the sincerity of the hon. member, and all hon. members know the efforts made by the previous member for Rocky Mountain who was continually bringing problems to the attention of parliament and the government with respect to the national parks.

I believe we have done a lot in the past four or five years in trying to increase communication between people who are concerned about conservation, about parks and about many of the matters connected with them. In particular, in connection with the national parks several public hearings have been held related to the establishment of new national parks. This was the first time in our history that such public hearings were held, and they were very fruitful. The government received some good advice from these meetings and by and large it has been reflected in a number of changed decisions. The hon. member mentioned Kouchibouguac. I think we have arrived at a very positive solution with respect to it. We had some difficult times there with the fishermen who were displaced, but we found some positive solutions to compensate fishermen for the rights they lost.

In the time remaining to me I wish to turn to the specific problem raised by the hon. member and to mention some of the short-term and long-term solutions. In Jasper, discussions are going on with the CNR with a view to relocating the railway division's activities outside the park. During the transitional period, fluctuations in permanent and seasonal housing demands will be met by making serviced lots available for mobile homes or dormitory-type trailers. Sites for seasonal staff requirements will be ready for use in time for this summer season. In addition, a number of mobile home sites will be available almost immediately, and the remainder necessary to meet all current demand will be ready by the end of November,

1973. Temporary sites will be available in the meantime. The minister issued a press release a few days ago which I think was well received by many people out there. I notice that an editorial in one of the local papers spoke favourably of the positive statements that the minister had made in this regard.

In Banff, the opportunity to provide visitor support industries and their employees with accommodation in the Canmore area is being pursued. Our regional planning officers have entered into discussions with Alberta provincial planners with respect to land use adjacent to national parks, including the possible development of the Canmore area to accommodate persons servicing park visitors. Development of Canmore will provide an economic stimulus to the area, as well as local employment. I know that some aspects of this matter in the Canmore area, have been looked at very critically. One of the criticisms of some of the people—

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, please. I regret to interrupt the parliamentary secretary, but the time allotted to him has expired. I had given him some extra time because of the difficulty of saying "Kouchibouguac."

POST OFFICE—REQUEST FOR TABLING OF SAMSON-BELAIR REPORT

Mr. Dan McKenzie (Winnipeg South Centre): Mr. Speaker, some time ago I asked the government to produce the Samson-Belair, Riddell and Stead Post Office transportation study which was compiled in 1969 with the co-operation of five postal employees. It was important that this document be produced and that the government inform the House and the people of Canada whether any of the apparently worth-while recommendations were implemented. The document highlighted areas where millions of dollars could be saved.

The Postmaster General (Mr. Ouellet) informed me that the document is confidential. There is nothing confidential in the document. It contains worth-while public information and should have been publicized. The House and the Canadian people are now entitled to know if any of the recommendations were implemented and, if not, why not. It is impossible for the minister or his representative to give a complete answer in three minutes and I would suggest that the minister or his departmental officials compile a complete and detailed explanation on all aspects of this study. After all, it cost Canadian taxpayers $240,000 and they are entitled to some answers.

There is, however, one clearcut recommendation in the study. It is that the Post Office should continue to use private contractors in the delivering of mail, because they are able to carry out the service at less cost than the government. The study backed this up with explicit and detailed information.

In answer to my question as to the increased number of trucks and employees now needed since the government dropped the private contractor, the Postmaster General has informed me that 50 more trucks and 447 more employees are required. This increase, plus all the additional maintenance costs of the vehicles, will run into millions of dollars. Further to this, mail delivery service has deteriorated since the changeover which took place on April 19, 1972.

There is some dispute as to the figures for Winnipeg. The Postmaster General states that the number of trucks has increased by only one. The Winnipeg Chamber of Commerce, which has undertaken considerable study on this matter, has publicly stated that the number of trucks in Winnipeg has increased by 36. If these figures were incorrect, the Post Office should have made a public statement to put the record straight. I will be investigating this matter further. Also, Mr. Speaker, it would be of value to know why in some cities it takes fewer vehicles now, and in other centres more. On November 23, 1971, the then postmaster general stated:

● (2210)

> The intent of the Post Office is to integrate urban mail transportation services in major areas of Canada in order to help stabilize mail transportation in these centres whose continued operation is essential to the maintenance of a national postal network.
>
> The proposed integration means that the Post Office will undertake the intra-urban mail transportation previously carried out by private contractors . . .
>
> The decision to implement an integration of urban mail transportation services comes after a series of studies by the Post Office Department.

It is unfortunate this study was not presented at that time.

> As a result of these studies, integration was successfully undertaken in sections of Montreal and Vancouver as early as 1967.

The then postmaster general further stated:

> Application of the national and regional criteria result in the inclusion of the following metropolitan cities in the program—

He listed 19 cities. I have only asked for information on eight; I will have to ask for information on the remaining 11. The then postmaster general completed his speech by saying:

> I believe that this move will help to bring a greater degree of stability to a most important element of Canada's mail system and as such constitutes a major step forward in the development of an increasingly reliable mail service.

That is all contrary to information in the study to which I have referred. The hon. member for Brandon-Souris (Mr. Dinsdale), speaking on this subject at that time, stated:

> I have followed the changes made by the Post Office Department in recent years, and the difficulty has been that with every change costs have gone up and services have gone down.

How true that is. At no time did the then postmaster general make any mention of the Samson-Belair study. He had documented evidence that it would be a major mistake for the Post Office to take over the mail delivery, but he completely misled this House and the people of Canada by saying it was a major step forward. He had in his possession a $240,000 study which clearly stated that the four existing government-operated urban services were more costly than an equivalent contracted operation. Detailed reasons were given for reaching this decision. The government and the former postmaster general owe this House and the people of Canada an immediate explanation for their actions. This report reads:

> The principal criteria for evaluating the desirability of department operating or contracting its combined urban services

requirements is cost; and more specifically the cost per item to provide the service . . .

The major factor in the cost gap between government and contracted services is labour productivity, and to a lesser extent administrative and supervisory costs . . .

The performance of the service by the department withholds from the private sector a volume of business which could stimulate growth and development. Furthermore, government stands to lose the tax revenues which would normally be derived from contractor's profits and their purchase of gasoline and other materials . . .

In future the department should contract for city services unless there is conclusive evidence as to the unavailability of this service on reasonable terms from outside the department.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, please. I regret to interrupt the hon. member, but the time allotted to him by the Standing Order has expired.

[*Translation*]

Hon. André Ouellet (Postmaster General): Mr. Speaker, I regret infinitely that the hon. member is trying to do indirectly what he was prevented from doing directly. He already tried—and he is at it again this evening—to table in this House the confidential report prepared by Samson, Bélair, Riddell, Stead, Inc., or to have it tabled and he was told at that time that he had not the privilege to do so.

I would rather refer him to Appendix "B" of *Hansard* of March 15, 1973, at page 2288, which describes the general principle applying for notices of motion for the production of papers.

I think that this consultant study on transport clearly falls under paragraph (1) of the clause on consultant studies in Appendix "B". The nature of the consultant study is identifiable and comparable to work that would be done within the Public Service and it should be treated as such.

I would also like to mention to the hon. member that his remarks are of course very incomplete and probably biased too, because he knows very well that the Department already implemented 36 of the 44 recommendations of this report.

Secondly, he knows very well that following this report, there was another, introduced by Mr. Goldenberg and that following the recommendations included in the Goldenberg report, issued one year after the Samson, Bélair, Riddell, Stead Inc., report the main urban transport services were integrated in order to reinforce the postal transport system and to ensure about 1,100 Canadians a permanent job.

Finally, the hon. member also knows very well that I cannot discuss this matter fully because of the proceedings initiated by companies which are affected by the integration.

[*English*]

SUPPLY AND SERVICES—CF-5 AIRCRAFT—REASON FOR ADDITIONAL PURCHASES

Mr. Doug Rowland (Selkirk): Mr. Speaker, on April 18 the Minister of National Defence (Mr. Richardson) and the Minister of Supply and Services (Mr. Goyer) replied jointly to my written question No. 1277 in which I had asked how many CF-5 aircraft had been purchased by the government, how many were currently in service, how many were in storage and how many had been sold to other nations. The answers, respectively, were: 135, 46, 45 and 20. The initial purchase order was 115 CF-5 aircraft. We have now purchased 135. Those 115 cost Canada $225 million, about $2 million per plane.

I should add that I followed-up my original written question with an oral question in which I asked the Minister of Supply and Services, as reported on page 3433 of *Hansard*, why, if more than half the aircraft initially purchased where not in use by the armed forces, we were arranging to buy another 20. The answer I received was as follows:

Mr. Speaker, I shall first study the question and then give an answer to the hon. member.

The point I wish to make is this. Before a written question is replied to, an answer is prepared by public servants and submitted to the minister concerned for examination. If we add the figures given in answer to my question, the number of aircraft in service, in storage and sold to other countries is 111. The number purchased is 135. If I were the minister I would want to know what had happened to the other 24 aircraft before I authorized that answer. The minister obviously failed to ask such a question, to judge from the nature of his answer in which he said he would have to find out.

I am appalled that the minister should have given a reply like that. I knew what had happened to the other 24 aircraft before I asked him the question. Six had crashed, and 18 were awaiting delivery from Canadair. The reason for our purchase of an additional 20 aircraft is that we are converting from CF-5s in single configuration to CF-5s in dual configuration because the aircraft is now to be used as a trainer for pilots designated for service in high performance jet aircraft.

On the surface, this decision by the Department of Supply and the Department of National Defence appears to be reasonable. However, the CF-5, which the people of Canada purchased at approximately $2 million a copy, is a development of a training aircraft, the Northrup T-38 Talon which can be purchased off the shelf at about two-thirds the price of a CF-5. What we are doing is converting these expensive CF-5s to trainers when the CF-5 was itself developed from a trainer. If we want trainers, why not buy T-38s or have them built under licence? If we want a general purpose fighter aircraft—the original justification for the CF-5 when ordered in 1965—why not buy one that will serve that role adequately?

• (2220)

The CF-5 has beautiful flying characteristics, I am told, but little else can be said about it which is in its favour. As an interceptor it is too slow. Little good can be said about it in terms of air-to-air combat, in terms of photo reconnaissance or as a tactical ground support fighter. It is too slow for some roles, too delicate for others, too poorly armed for still others.

Its purchase, which I believe was decided upon when the hon. member for Trinity (Mr. Hellyer) was minister of national defence, has to be classed among the monumental blunders in an area where blunders have outnumbered wise decisions in recent years. I am speaking of equipment

purchased for the Canadian Armed Forces. What we needed at the time the CF-5 was purchased were about 70 high-performance aircraft. We ordered 115 CF-5s because that was the minimum number that Canadair could produce in any sort of economic manner. Thus, we purchased upward of one-third more aircraft than we needed; one-third more of an aircraft that was chosen principally because it was cheap, not because it fitted the role for which it was purchased.

In effect, we are thus paying one-third more for each aircraft than the purchase price of $2 million, and indeed since less than one-half of the initial purchase order is now in service we have in fact paid double for each aircraft. For double the price per copy of a CF-5 in 1965, when the order was placed, we could have purchased, for example, the F-4 Phantom and would have had the number of multipurpose, high-performance aircraft we required, and no more; aircraft that are capable of fulfilling the role assigned to them, which the CF-5 is not.

Beyond that, we now have in service 66 CF-101 Voodoo aircraft and are replacing them with newer models. An aircraft like the F-4, with slight modifications, could have fulfilled an air defence role as well as a tactical support role and other roles assigned to the CF-5. Thus, had we purchased such an aircraft to fulfil all fighter aircraft roles, we probably would have been able to place an order sufficiently large to warrant production of that kind of aircraft in Canada. Such a decision would have had the additional advantage of lowering supply and maintenance costs because we would have only one aircraft instead of two aircraft types in service.

It is about time we stopped making major equipment purchases for the Canadian armed services on an ad hoc basis. We will shortly need to decide upon a replacement aircraft for the CF-104s and CF-101s which are in service. The answer that I received to question No. 1210 on the order paper informed me that these aircraft will need to be replaced "about 1980." Unhappily, the same answer informed me that "no specific evaluation study of possible replacement aircraft for the CF-101 and CF-104 is currently under way". Well, let us get one under way and avoid the purchase of another disaster like the CF-5 or the *Bonaventure* refit. When we talk about equipment for the Canadian Armed Forces, we are talking about millions of dollars. For heaven's sake, let us quit fooling around.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order. I regret to interrupt the hon. member, but the time allotted to him has expired.

Mr. Leonard Hopkins (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of National Defence): Mr. Speaker, the original question we are debating tonight, dealing with an additional 20 CF-5s being purchased, appears in *Hansard* at page 3433 of April 18, 1973. As the hon. members knows, the Canadian forces' inventory of CF-5 aircraft, now standing at 68 single-seaters and 23 duals and due to be increased by 18 more duals, is calculated to be just right for the programmed 15-year life of the aircraft. With an advanced training role soon to be added to the CF-5s close support tactical air assignment in mobile command, it is expected that aircraft held in unit establishments and in reserve will be adequate for the total program.

Beginning in December, 19 dual and 12 single CF-5s will begin to replace the T-33 aircraft currently used by 1 Canadian forces flying training school at CFB Cold Lake, Alberta. The change will give the forces the capability of training student jet pilots on a modern aircraft at the advanced level. It is estimated that the CF-5 phasing-in will be completed at 1 CFFTS by November, 1974.

Twenty aircraft were sold to Venezuela in 1972. Of these, 18 are being replaced as dual-seaters for the expanded training role. Six aircraft have been written off due to accidents since the CF-5 came into service in 1968. While some CF-5s are currently on inactive reserve, all the aircraft are programmed for various roles during the aircraft's service life. These aircraft will be brought back into service as required to fill commitments. Mr. Speaker, this situation has no relationship whatsoever to the refitting of the *Bonaventure*, as this is a constructive program.

Motion agreed to and the House adjourned at 10.30 p.m.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Tuesday, May 15, 1973

The House met at 2 p.m.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

COMMITTEES OF THE HOUSE

TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS

First report of Standing Committee on Transport and Communications—Mr. Horner (Crowfoot).

[*Translation*]

JUSTICE AND LEGAL AFFAIRS

Second report of Standing Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs—Mrs. Morin.

[*Editor's Note: For text of above report, see today's Votes and Proceedings.*]

[*English*]

Mr. Nielsen: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, may I ask whether the hon. member who has just presented the report of the Standing Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs is prepared to move concurrence in that report later this day, since we on this side, and I am sure this includes hon. members to my immediate left, are prepared to give unanimous consent to concur in the report today without debate.

* * *

FISHERIES

TABLING OF COMMUNIQUÉS ISSUED FOLLOWING DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN CANADA AND UNITED STATES ON PACIFIC SALMON

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, yesterday the hon. member for Skeena asked me a question about the communiqués which were issued in relation to Pacific salmon problems which were under negotiation between Canada and the United States. I have pleasure now in tabling these communiqués in both official languages.

* * *

MANPOWER

LOCAL INITIATIVES PROGRAM—REQUEST FOR UNANIMOUS CONSENT TO MOVE MOTION

Mr. David Orlikow (Winnipeg North): Mr. Speaker, in the light of representations made to Members of Parliament of all parties from, I suppose, all the major cities in this country I should like to move, under the provisions of Standing Order 43:

That the Minister of Manpower and Immigration be requested to review the criteria adopted for the continuation of LIP grants so that projects which have been discontinued solely because the cities in which they operate have a lower rate of unemployment than the national average can be considered favourably: (a) because the area in which they operate has a high rate of unemployment, (b) because the project itself is of great social value.

Mr. Speaker: The motion proposed by the hon. member under Standing Order 43 requires the unanimous consent of the House. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

Mr. Speaker: There is not unanimous consent.

* * *

[*Translation*]

DRUGS

TABLING OF LIST OF PRODUCTS NOT CONFORMING TO LABELLING STANDARDS

Hon. Marc Lalonde (Minister of National Health and Welfare): Mr. Speaker, under the provisions of Standing Order 41(2), I would like to table lists of drug lots which failed to meet the labelling standards following the analysis made at the laboratories of the Health Protection Branch within as regards the QUAD program for 1972-73.

* * *

● (1410)

[*English*]

HEALTH

REPORTED NUTRITIONAL DEFICIENCY—REQUEST FOR UNANIMOUS CONSENT TO MOVE MOTION

Mr. J. R. Holmes (Lambton-Kent): Mr. Speaker, pursuant to Standing Order 43 I rise on a matter of urgent and pressing necessity arising from recent reports indicating that a critical problem of nutritional deficiency exists throughout Canada, and from the failure of the federal government to develop an effective educational program for the prevention of nutritional deficiency problems. I move, seconded by the hon. member for Hillsborough (Mr. Macquarrie):

That the federal government take immediate action to form a national institution of nutrition, with the primary task of developing a program for the prevention of nutritional deficiencies.

Rochdale College

Mr. Speaker: The motion proposed by the hon. member for Lambton-Kent requires unanimous consent. Is there unanimous consent under Standing Order 43?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

Mr. Speaker: There is not unanimity. The hon. member's motion cannot be put.

* * *

[*Translation*]

PUBLIC WORKS

CONSTRUCTION OF RETAINING WALLS—REQUEST FOR UNANIMOUS CONSENT TO MOVE MOTION

Mr. Adrien Lambert (Bellechasse): Mr. Speaker, pursuant to Standing Order 43, I ask the unanimous consent of the House to discuss a motion concerning a most urgent matter resulting from serious erosion on the St. Lawrence banks which is damaging properties and causing concern to riparian residents. I therefore move, seconded by the hon. member for Rimouski (Mr. Allard):

That this House request the establishment of a special committee to consider the legislation and regulations authorizing the construction of retaining walls and to suggest amendments enabling the Minister of Public Works to build the required walls where necessary and as soon as possible.

Mr. Speaker: The House has heard the motion of the hon. member. Under Standing Order 43, this motion requires the unanimous consent of the House. Is there such consent?

Some hon. Members: Yes.

Some hon. Members: No.

Mr. Speaker: There is no unanimous consent, therefore the motion cannot be put.

* * *

[*English*]

[*Later:*]

HOUSING

ROCHDALE COLLEGE—REQUEST FOR UNANIMOUS CONSENT TO MOVE MOTION

Mr. Reg Stackhouse (Scarborough East): Mr. Speaker, when you called "Motions" I did rise to move a motion but I was not recognized. Perhaps you did not notice me, but I would appreciate the opportunity.

Mr. Speaker: I am sure hon. members will agree to return to motions for the purpose of allowing the hon. member to rise for the purpose of proposing a motion.

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Mr. Stackhouse: In view of reports that Rochdale College, Toronto, was the scene this weekend of the eleventh fatality through falling from this high-rise, social monstrosity, and in view of reports that of 800 arrests in connection with Rochdale since January, 100 have been for drug trafficking, I ask leave of the House pursuant to Standing Order 43 to move, seconded by the hon. member for York-Simcoe (Mr. Stevens):

That CMHC be directed by the Minister of State for Urban Affairs to request the receivers of Rochdale College to replace the present management and to evict the present tenants.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Speaker: This motion requires unanimous consent. Is there unanimity?

Some hon. Members: Yea.

Some hon. Members: Nay.

Mr. Speaker: There are many vocal "yeas" but there are also many vocal "nays". Since there is not unanimity the motion cannot be put.

MOTION TO ADJOURN UNDER S.O. 26

PENITENTIARIES

ESCAPES AND DISTURBANCES

Mr. John Reynolds (Burnaby-Richmond-Delta): Mr. Speaker, pursuant to Standing Order 26 I ask leave to move a motion to adjourn the House for the purpose of discussing specific and important matters requiring urgent consideration. These matters I have given notice of concern the penitentiary system in Canada.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Burnaby-Richmond-Delta has given the Chair notice of his intention to request leave to move a motion to adjourn the House under the provisions of Standing Order 26 so that consideration can be given to the matter of the penitentiary system of Canada.

There is little doubt in my mind that the question raised by the hon. member is one of widespread and great concern among all members of the House. It relates, indeed, to the kind of situation that would normally be contemplated, I suggest, by the provisions of Standing Order 26. I would think there is a consensus among hon. members that an opportunity should be provided as soon as possible for the consideration by the House of this issue. The many questions asked yesterday during the question period are an indication of this general feeling.

At the same time, it is difficult for the Chair to overlook the fact that one of its committees this very day was seized with consideration of the matter, and this is evidenced by the fact that a report, which I have in my hand, was tabled by the chairman of the committee. I appreciate that there is difficulty in that a motion to concur in the report has not been proposed to the House at this time. It may well be that, in the minds of hon. members, by consent it would be better to have a debate under such a motion rather than have an emergency debate. I would think this could be arranged following consultation.

I repeat that in my view this is the kind of situation contemplated by Standing Order 26, and I would be inclined to put the hon. member's motion and suggest a debate at eight o'clock this evening. It may be, however, that following consultation there will be agreement among hon. members to have this debate in another way at another time.

Accordingly, as authorized under the Standing Order I will hold the matter in abeyance until these consultations have taken place within the next couple of hours and make a ruling later this afternoon on the basis of whatever consultations may have taken place in the meantime.

ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

PENITENTIARIES

DORCHESTER—OVERCROWDING—ALLEGED BEATING OF PRISONER BY GUARD

Hon. Robert L. Stanfield (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, I am happy to see the Solicitor General back in the House safe and sound.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

An hon. Member: He went over the wall.

Mr. Stanfield: I should like to direct a question to him regarding the penitentiary at Dorchester, New Brunswick, which I believe the minister visited last week. Is it correct that Dorchester penitentiary is overcrowded as a result of a big increase in the prison population during the past year? Is it also correct there are not enough beds to go around and some prisoners are being kept in what is called the hole, partially for punishment and but also partially because there is not enough room?

Hon. Warren Allmand (Solicitor General): Yes, Mr. Speaker, Dorchester penitentiary is at capacity. When I was there last week I think they had one more space available in the entire penitentiary, and some of the inmates were in the disassociation area.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

An hon. Member: That must be the guardhouse.

Mr. Allmand: Mr. Speaker, the disassociation area is the hole. This extreme population problem is the result of two things. Approximately a year ago there was an excess of space in the penitentiary but there was a transfer of inmates from western Canada where at that time we had a serious population problem.

Mr. Horner (Crowfoot): Oh, we are good boys.

Mr. Allmand: They still had space available there, but since the beginning of this year they have had 100 inmates from the Maritimes enter Dorchester, which is far beyond any intake into the penitentiary in recent years.

Mr. Horner (Crowfoot): Just like central Canada, they blame all their troubles on the west.

Mr. Stanfield: Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question arising from the fact that the penitentiary is overcrowded and that some inmates are being kept in the hole for reasons of overcrowding. Can the minister tell us whether he in fact examined the facilities while he was there? I know he interviewed some of the prisoners, but did he in fact examine the facilities of the institution or did he refrain from examining certain areas of the penitentiary because it was too dangerous for him to do so?

● (1420)

Mr. Allmand: Mr. Speaker, it was my intention to examine the facilities but the director of the penitentiary recommended that I not do so at that particular time because there was a sit-down strike going on at that time in the institution.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Allmand: I took the decision that it was more important to spend the time speaking to the men. I met with the union representatives, the inmates committee, and the officials. I might say that since I was there we have moved 24 inmates out of Dorchester to central Canada. We put 12 of those 24 in St. Vincent de Paul penitentiary.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

An hon. Member: Were they hockey fans?

Mr. Allmand: To be precise, the 12 who were sent to St. Vincent de Paul were put in an area that was formerly used as a regional reception centre. It was vacated recently for a new regional reception centre. That space was available for these men. We were going to close that wing. The other 12 were sent to Kingston penitentiary to an area that had been closed previously but is being opened up on a temporary basis to deal with these men in the overcrowded situation.

Mr. Stanfield: I have one further supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. I should like to ask the minister whether it is true that a beating took place at Dorchester by a guard, not a beating of a guard but a beating by a guard of a prisoner, and that subsequently the guard was transferred to another institution? Has there been an investigation of this if in fact a beating did take place, and when will the results of that investigation be made public?

Mr. Allmand: Mr. Speaker, I do not have information with regard to a beating by a guard. There was a fight earlier in the winter between some inmates which led to some further trouble, but I will check into this. When I was there I was not made aware of a beating by a guard, but I will check into that.

PRINCE ALBERT—COMPLAINTS BY WIVES OF PRISON OFFICERS CONCERNING DANGERS FACED BY GUARDS

Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Prince Albert): I have a supplementary, Mr. Speaker. I will go from Dorchester to

Prince Albert and ask the minister whether or not he has had any complaints in writing from the wives of officers in the Prince Albert penitentiary concerning the serious dangers that the guards face today because of the failure of the Commissioner of Penitentiaries to give them support when they are challenged by recalcitrant prisoners?

Hon. Warren Allmand (Solicitor General): Mr. Speaker, there were some letters, but last week the Commissioner of Pentitentiaries visited Prince Albert and met with the wives. He had a long discussion with them and promised to take up the complaints they put to him. He reported to me yesterday about that visit. We intend to follow up on that, but he had quite a long discussion with wives of the guards.

Mr. Diefenbaker: I have one follow-up question, Mr. Speaker. Was there a general suggestion that the penitentiary services of Canada, including Prince Albert, would be a lot better off if it were not for the fact that a political appointee is commissioner today who has no knowledge whatever and had none when he was appointed two years ago?

Mr. Allmand: No, Mr. Speaker. No one has made that suggestion to me except the right hon. gentleman.

Mr. Diefenbaker: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a question of privilege in reply to the minister because the hon. member for Skeena has already raised the matter and certainly it was dealt with in Prince Albert. If the information has not got to the minister, somebody is guarding the information from him.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Skeena.

Mr. Lewis: I do not have a supplementary question—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. This is why I am recognizing at this time the hon. member for Skeena on a supplementary question and a few other hon. members who have supplementaries. I will come to the hon. member for York South in a short while.

POSSIBILITY OF EXERCISE OF AMNESTY TO RELIEVE OVERCROWDING

Mr. Frank Howard (Skeena): Mr. Speaker, I am tempted to ask the minister whether he is going to rename the special correctional unit at Laval as a halfway house, but I will not. I should like to ask the minister whether he is going to resort to that age-old technique of dealing with overcrowding in prisons by invoking amnesty upon the occasion of the visit of Her Majesty?

Hon. Warren Allmand (Solicitor General): Mr. Speaker, that is not our intention. Since the establishment of the National Parole Board several years ago it has been our policy to release inmates under the Parole Act rather than by amnesty.

PRISONERS TRANSFERRED FROM DORCHESTER TO ST. VINCENT DE PAUL—REQUEST FOR SELECT COMMITTEE TO EXAMINE PENAL SYSTEM

Mr. Erik Nielsen (Yukon): Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question for the Solicitor General. I wish to ask him whether, of the prisoners transferred from Dorchester following disturbances there, five of those transferred or one or more were the same individuals who escaped from the Laval institution last Sunday?

Hon. Warren Allmand (Solicitor General): No, Mr. Speaker, none of them were the same. The people who were transferred from Dorchester to St. Vincent de Paul were transferred to the old St. Vincent de Paul penitentiary and in particular to the former regional reception centre. The people who escaped were from the correctional development centre, which is a different institution, a super-maximum institution—

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Nielsen: I have a further supplementary question for the minister. Since he was with us in the committee this morning and since the committee has reported the unanimous request of the committee to the House that a select committee be set up to inquire into the whole penal system throughout the country, will he recommend to his cabinet colleagues that that motion be acceded to by the House so that it can be brought in and passed without debate?

Mr. Allmand: This morning I stated that it was up to the committee to make a decision on that matter. I had decided we would have an independent judicial inquiry, which I think is the better way of dealing with it. I said that if the committee decided to set up a parliamentary inquiry I would co-operate with the inquiry, but I personally do not think it is the best way of dealing with this subject.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. Obviously a number of supplementaries are being sought on this subject. The Chair will recognize the hon. member for Brome-Missisquoi and then complete the first round of questioning. The Chair will then recognize the hon. member for Burnaby-Richmond-Delta on a supplementary question.

REPORTED ADVICE TO ST. VINCENT DE PAUL OFFICIALS BY POLICE THAT INMATES WHO ESCAPED WERE SPECIAL SECURITY RISKS

Mr. Heward Grafftey (Brome-Missisquoi): Mr. Speaker, were officials of the minister's department informed by officials of the Quebec Provincial Police that the five inmates who escaped from the correctional institution in Montreal last weekend were special security risks requiring extra and special surveillance?

Hon. Warren Allmand (Solicitor General): Mr. Speaker, the first that I heard about that allegation was when I saw Mr. St. Pierre on television last night. We immediately got in touch with the Commissioner of Penitentiaries to see if the Director of the Quebec Provincial Police had passed on any such information. The commissioner was not aware of it, but he checked and this morning he told

me that certain information was passed on with respect to one of the inmates to one or some of the officials of the Quebec region, but it was with respect to a time frame other than the present time. I am pursuing that still further and I hope to have more information for the House as soon as possible. We dealt with that in the committee this morning as much as we could.

* * *

THE CANADIAN ECONOMY

PROGRAMS TO DEAL WITH UNEMPLOYMENT AMONG YOUNGER CANADIANS

Mr. David Lewis (York South): Mr. Speaker, perhaps we can leave the super institution the Solicitor General was talking about and ask the Minister of Finance a question. I am sure everyone in the House is happy with the fact that the unemployment figures continue slightly on a down curve—

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Lewis: —but in view of the fact it is still the case that younger Canadians from 14 to 24 years represent the largest single group of unemployed Canadians at this time and it is a very large number of unemployed, about 200,000 or more, may I ask the Minister of Finance or any other minister dealing with the matter whether there is any particular program to deal with the unemployment of young Canadians in the months ahead?

● (1430)

Hon. John N. Turner (Minister of Finance): Mr. Speaker, a good many of the direct employment measures of the government are oriented toward younger people, as the hon. gentleman knows, particularly LIP and OFY. I am watching these figures with great care.

UNEMPLOYMENT AMONG YOUNGER CANADIANS—REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION OF TERMINATION OF LOCAL INITIATIVES PROJECTS IN MAJOR CITIES

Mr. David Lewis (York South): Mr. Speaker, that leads to a rather obvious but important supplementary to the Minister of Manpower and Immigration. In view of the fact Local Initiatives Programs in major cities are being terminated at the end of this month on the basis that those cities have less than the average national unemployment rate, which ignores the fact that in those large cities there may be pockets of unemployment above the national average rate, and as many thousands of young Canadians will be thrown on the employment market and many worthwhile schemes will be abandoned, I would like to ask the Minister of Manpower and Immigration whether he is ready to reconsider his program and to continue worthwhile projects—

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Lewis: —not those given to companies but those given to local communities organizations?

Hon. Robert K. Andras (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, I will certainly give every consideration to the hon. member's representations. I have nothing further to announce at this time.

Mr. Lewis: Mr. Speaker, I think every member of the House is disappointed with that answer. The minister told us yesterday that he would give it consideration. In view of the very large number of young unemployed in Canada, and in view of the fact that more young Canadians are likely to be unemployed when they leave school this month and next month, will the minister now undertake to reconsider his program and put the LIP projects on the basis of their worthwhileness in terms of service instead of the irrelevant criterion he has now adopted?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

Mr. Andras: Mr. Speaker, all those factors are being given consideration not only because of the representations of my hon. friend across the way but because of very considerable representations by members of my own party.

POLICIES TO REDUCE UNEMPLOYMENT IN ATLANTIC PROVINCES—REVIEW OF PRESENT REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS TO SEEK IMPROVEMENTS

Mr. Elmer M. MacKay (Central Nova): Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question for the Minister of Finance. While we welcome the news of a general decline in unemployment across the nation, in view of the fact that unemployment in the Atlantic region was 11.1 per cent last month, almost twice the national average and actually higher than it was at this time three years ago, is the Minister of Finance, along with the Minister of Regional Economic Expansion, preparing a co-ordinated set of policies involving capital, transportation, manpower and taxes to reduce decisively the disparity of employment opportunities suffered in this region and, if so, when will a statement be made?

Hon. John N. Turner (Minister of Finance): Mr. Speaker, although there is some improvement in the unemployment picture I am not satisfied with them in most areas of the country. But I should note that the hon. gentleman ought to take some comfort from the fact that in the Atlantic region the employment picture increased by 20 thousand in April over March. We will continue, with the co-operation of my colleague, the Minister of Regional Economic Expansion, to increase opportunities in the Atlantic region.

Mr. Speaker: Order. The Chair will recognize the hon. member for Central Nova on a supplementary, and then will attempt to finish the first round of questions. I think I should recognize the hon. member for Champlain and after that return to all these supplementaries on the first and second questions which will take a few minutes.

Mr. MacKay: Mr. Speaker, I thank the minister for his answer, and I should like to address a supplementary to the Prime Minister. In view of the fact that the goal of equitable employment opportunities for the Atlantic region and Quebec has obviously not been advanced suc-

cessfully by the Department of Regional Economic Expansion and the national economic policies of the past four years, I should like to ask the Prime Minister whether the government is going to undertake a thorough and independent review of existing regional development programs, and in particular is the government going to set up a special task force to co-ordinate over-all regional development and transportation policies to seek further improvements in these depressed areas?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I cannot agree with the premise of the question, but so far as an over-all review is concerned the minister responsible for Regional Economic Expansion has done such a review and is now in the process of discussing it with the various provinces. He is engaged in a series of trips to the various parts of Canada to discuss with them the various aspects of that review, and of course the Minister of Transport is doing the same thing in his area.

* * *

[*Translation*]

PUBLIC WORKS

EROSION ALONG ST. LAWRENCE RIVER—CONSTRUCTION OF RETAINING WALLS—POSSIBILITY OF AMENDING STANDARDS

Mr. René Matte (Champlain): Mr. Speaker, I would like to put a question to the Minister of Public Works.

Could he say whether he has ordered his officials to consider particularly the problem of retaining walls along the shores of the St. Lawrence River in order to change the present standards which keep riparian owners from being adequately protected?

Hon. Jean-Eudes Dubé (Minister of Public Works): Mr. Speaker, the problem of damages caused by erosion along the shores of the St. Lawrence is still under consideration. Of course, I cannot commit either the department or the Canadian government to take the responsibility for any erosion due to natural causes. Again, when erosion is caused either by shipping or federal works, we then assume responsibility. I would say that in certain parts of the St. Lawrence it is quite difficult to determine whether or not erosion is caused by shipping, and we try to establish our limits as precisely as possible.

CONSTRUCTION OF RETAINING WALLS—DELIMITATION OF RESPONSIBILITIES—ADVISABILITY OF CONVENING FEDERAL-PROVINCIAL CONFERENCE

Mr. Adrien Lambert (Bellechasse): I have a supplementary, Mr. Speaker.

In view of the problems raised as to jurisdiction of the various levels of government, does the hon. minister intend to convene a federal-provincial conference for the purpose of discussing this matter so that jurisdictions of federal, provincial and municipal governments may be clearly established and that the public be better informed and know to whom applications should be made?

Hon. Jean-Eudes Dubé (Minister of Public Works): Mr. Speaker, it seems to me that our responsibilities are quite clearly established and we have no intention, at least for the present, to convene a federal-provincial conference in order to define them.

POINTE-AU-PIC—INQUIRY RESPECTING COMPLETION OF RETAINING WALL

Mr. Gilles Caouette (Charlevoix): I have a supplementary, Mr. Speaker.

Further to my colleague's question, does the department, which undertook the construction of retaining walls in Pointe-au-Pic some six to ten years ago, expect to bring this work to completion this year?

Hon. Jean-Eudes Dubé (Minister of Public Works): Mr. Speaker, since the project mentioned is a specific one, I should have to review the file in order to know what to decide.

* * *

[*English*]

PENITENTIARIES

BRITISH COLUMBIA—REQUEST FOR INFORMATION ON STABBING

Mr. John Reynolds (Burnaby-Richmond-Delta): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Solicitor General. It relates to a question I asked yesterday of the Minister of Justice regarding a stabbing that took place at the British Columbia penitentiary a week ago this Wednesday. Can he tell us who got stabbed, who did the stabbing, and whether any charges are pending?

Hon. Warren Allmand (Solicitor General): I am awaiting a report on that, Mr. Speaker. When I get it I will give it to the hon. member as soon as possible.

EFFECT OF CLOSING MINIMUM SECURITY INSTITUTIONS AT SPRINGHILL AND BLUE MOUNTAIN ON REHABILITATION PROGRAMS

Mr. Robert C. Coates (Cumberland-Colchester North): Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the Solicitor General if he has made an assessment of why decisions were taken by his department to close the minimum security institutions at Springhill and at Blue Mountain in New Brunswick, which has resulted in a great deal of the overcrowding that has occurred at both the Dorchester and Springhill maximum and medium security institutions and has in effect just about destroyed the rehabilitation program carried out in those two institutions?

Hon. Warren Allmand (Solicitor General): Mr. Speaker, the institutions referred to that were closed were minimum security institutions. Our problem is not really with minimum security inmates; it is with maximum and to a certain extent medium security inmates. I must also say that at the same time those two institutions were closed a new centre was opened in Halifax, a community correctional centre, and another is shortly to be opened in Moncton as a minimum security centre. These will allow inmates to work in the community at the same time as they are carrying on their rehabilitation program.

● (1440)

Mr. Coates: Would the Solicitor General not agree that the closure of these two institutions and the transfer of a great many inmates to the maritime provinces from other parts of Canada have resulted in the tremendous overcrowding at both Dorchester and Springhill with the result, for instance, that at Springhill the young offenders aspect that was carried out there has had to be set aside in order to make it into a general institution and the minimum security inmates now have nowhere to go and must stay in the institutions with—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. Perhaps the minister might reply briefly to the question which was perhaps approaching argument rather than questioning.

Mr. Allmand: Mr. Speaker, when I was in the Maritimes during the Easter recess I visited the Springhill institution. I did not find that there were any major problems there. I met with all groups and they did not indicate any major problems. There has been no change in the programs at Springhill. It is still a medium security institution and medium programs are in process. The living unit program is being introduced there as well. I think everything is all right at Springhill. The problem is basically at Dorchester, and I agree with the member that the problem there is due to the large transfer from the west in addition to the 100 new maximum security inmates from the maritime area.

PROVISION OF NEW MAXIMUM SECURITY INSTITUTION FOR BRITISH COLUMBIA

Mr. Eldon M. Woolliams (Calgary North): I have a supplementary following the same line of questioning, Mr. Speaker. About a year and a half or two years ago a maximum security institution was planned for British Columbia and money was allocated by parliament at that time for the building of that institution, but the government across the way vetoed it. There was some criticism of the architecture. In light of that fact and in light of the overcrowding, particularly that caused by moving prisoners from the west to the east, would the Solicitor General look into the matter and see if the architecture could be changed and the money allocated used to build the maximum security institution planned by the former commissioner?

Hon. Warren Allmand (Solicitor General): Mr. Speaker, it is correct that a maximum security institution was planned for British Columbia but because of the criticism that was levelled against that type of institution—it was a Millhaven type of institution—the plan was suspended. As a result, the former solicitor general set up the Mohr Commission to develop a new plan. That work has been completed and we are now trying to find a site in British Columbia for this new maximum security institution. We were going to place it near the present British Columbia penitentiary but the people of New Westminster did not want to accept the institution there so we are looking for another site.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The Chair will recognize the hon. member, after which I will recognize the hon. member for Oshawa-Whitby for a supplementary on the second question and also the hon. member for Hamilton West and others for a series of supplementaries on the second subject, which will take us close to the end of the question period.

Mr. Woolliams: I will be very brief, Mr. Speaker. In light of the difficulty the minister is now having with the various institutions at all levels, medium, minimum and maximum, would he give an undertaking to expedite this project, use the money that was allocated by parliament and show leadership in this field, thus avoiding the difficulty we are having in Canada today in the administration of law?

Mr. Allmand: Mr. Speaker, we are expediting this matter but in the last year it has been very difficult to get a community to accept a maximum security institution. We want to co-operate as much as possible with the municipalities where these institutions are placed. I might say that in the first place New Westminster was ready to accept the institution but the council, after further consideration, asked us not to place it on the same site as the present institution. We are now working with them to find a new site.

* * *

TRANSPORT

SUGGESTED CHANGE IN FREIGHT RATES POLICY TO REMOVE DISCRIMINATION AGAINST ATLANTIC PROVINCES AND LOWER UNEMPLOYMENT

Mr. Edward Broadbent (Oshawa-Whitby): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Transport and concerns the persistent high levels of unemployment in the Atlantic region. In view of the high level of discrimination in freight rates in Canada which weighs against the industrial development of the Atlantic provinces, can the minister assure the House that he is giving consideration to changing the transportation freight rate policy to remove this discrimination against the Atlantic provinces and, incidentally, against western Canada as well?

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, I am presently in discussion with the premiers of the Atlantic provinces on this very subject.

An hon. Member: When are you going to do something?

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Hamilton West on a supplementary.

* * *

IMMIGRATION

ALLEGED PREMATURE DEPORTATION OF MALLAPPA REDDY

Mr. Lincoln M. Alexander (Hamilton West): Mr. Speaker, my question is not a supplementary but I know you said yesterday you would recognize me today. Pursuant to that I should like to ask the Minister of Manpower and Immigration whether he has had an opportunity to

investigate what I would call the callous deportation of Mr. Reddy? Has he any information on whether this deportation order was premature, keeping in mind that Mr. Reddy apparently had 60 days within which to appeal? Has the minister caused an investigation to be made and what is the result?

Hon. Robert K. Andras (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, I have had some information but I am not satisfied as to its completeness. I will be re-examining the answers I asked for within the next day or so, but I doubt very much if all this will result in a reversal of the decision.

Mr. Alexander: Can the minister advise the House why it was necessary for his department to move with such haste in this matter, particularly when the wife was seven months pregnant and two or three months would not have made any difference? Has he looked into this in order to ascertain why his department moved with such haste?

Mr. Andras: Mr. Speaker, there is one aspect of that on which I wish to satisfy myself, but in the meantime I would point out that when the Immigration Appeal Board rejected his appeal in November it stayed the order of execution of deportation for 25 days to permit Mr. Reddy's departure to coincide with his wife's since her visitor's visa had the same length of time before expiry. This was based on the assumption and the indication that Mr. Reddy would voluntarily leave the country but he did not do so.

* * *

FINANCE

INTEREST RATE INCREASES—EFFECT ON SLOW GROWTH REGIONS—POSSIBLE TIGHT MONEY POLICY

Mr. James A. McGrath (St. John's East): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Finance. In view of the fact the Bank of Canada has increased its lending rate twice since the minister introduced his expansionary budget, has he had discussions with the governor of the Bank of Canada, especially since the chartered banks have already increased their lending rates, with regard to the effect this is having on the slow growth regions of the country which are still suffering from chronically high unemployment? Can the minister also assure the House that the Bank of Canada and the government are not in fact embarking on a tight money policy?

Hon. John N. Turner (Minister of Finance): Mr. Speaker, I have given the assurance before that the monetary policy continues to be expansionary. As a matter of fact, for the first four months of this year the amount of loans granted by the Canadian chartered banks rose at an annual rate of 30 per cent. I have made it clear, and so did the governor, to the chartered banks that special consideration was to be given in the allocation of loans to those slower growth areas, to use the hon. gentleman's phrase, and particularly to smaller businesses. I note with some satisfaction that the chartered banks that did raise their prime rates in response to the bank rate made special provision for a type of dual rate in favour of small business, and a good many of those will be found in the Atlantic region.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The Chair will recognize the hon. member for a last supplementary on the subject and then the hon. member for Lisgar, the hon. member for Vancouver-Kingsway and the hon. member for Shefford.

Mr. McGrath: May I ask the minister whether he sought and in fact received an assurance from the governor of the Bank of Canada that there would be no further increases in the interest rates of the Bank of Canada during the period of the minister's expansionary budget?

Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton): Mr. Speaker, the governor made it quite clear in the speech he made in Toronto that the monetary policy of the bank would continue to reflect the expansion of the economy. I cannot give the hon. gentleman any such assurance that the bank rate will remain the same. The governor has a duty, under his statute, to respond to domestic and international credit situations and interest rates as he finds them.

* * *

AGRICULTURE

SEIZURE OF MANITOBA EGGS IN BRITISH COLUMBIA—EFFECT ON INTERPROVINCIAL MARKETING

Mr. Jack Murta (Lisgar): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Agriculture in connection with interference in the interprovincial movement of farm commodities in Canada, which could have very serious effects on agricultural trade within our country. Has the minister's department ascertained as of the present time whether the Manitoba government was within its quota in sending eggs into the province of British Columbia for sale, which seems to have caused the dispute?

Hon. E. F. Whelan (Minister of Agriculture): Mr. Speaker, upon checking I find no interference with interprovincial movement so far. We are concerned about the orderly movement of products across provincial boundaries. I met with the chairman of the National Egg Marketing Board this morning, and I am very optimistic that all this confusion and the suggestion of irregular marketing will come to a happy conclusion.

● (1450)

Mr. Murta: Does the minister not feel that the seizure of approximately 50,000 dozen eggs in British Columbia is a violation of free interprovincial movement within our country?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I suggest to the hon. member that the question is argumentative.

HEALTH

ALLEGED NUTRITIONAL DEFICIENCY AMONG PEOPLE OF FOUR PROVINCES—REQUEST FOR DATA AND ESTABLISHMENT OF FOOD PROGRAM

Mrs. Grace MacInnis (Vancouver-Kingsway): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of National Health and Welfare. In view of the statement by the co-ordinator of the Nutrition Canada survey that there is an urgent need to inform four provinces of serious nutritional deficiencies among their citizens, can the minister identify the four provinces to which Dr. Sabry refers and can he assure the House that relevant nutritional data will be made available, without waiting for the final report, first to these four provinces and then to areas in others where serious nutritional problems have been identified?

[*Translation*]

Hon. Marc Lalonde (Minister of National Health and Welfare): Mr. Speaker, I am unable to identify the four provinces concerned, but I am told that they have been advised of the results of the inquiry inasmuch as they are concerned.

With regard to the third part of the question, the information will be given each one of the provinces as it becomes available and, as I indicated to the House, the government intends to publish all the documents and findings of the study when it has been completed across Canada, that is towards mid-October, we hope.

[*English*]

Mrs. MacInnis (Vancouver-Kingsway): In view of Dr. Sabry's statement and in view of the fact that medical research has linked poor nutrition to mental retardation and low resistence to disease, is the government willing to take the initiative in establishing a food for people program which will guarantee an adequate level of nutrition as a basic right of every Canadian?

[*Translation*]

Mr. Lalonde: Mr. Speaker, with regard to the problem mentioned by the hon. member, I feel it would be advisable to wait till the survey has been completed across Canada before reaching very exact conclusions. Concerning the implementation of a program similar to that the hon. member spoke of, I feel the topic should be the subject of much more elaborate discussions. A similar program, applied in the United States for years, has been the object of many attacks and criticisms to the effect that it is far from efficient.

* * *

PENITENTIARIES

ERECTION OF SIGNS IN COWANSVILLE

Mr. Gilbert Rondeau (Shefford): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the hon. Solicitor General.

In view of the many escapes that have taken place in the last few days, particularly from the Cowansville penitentiary, and in view of the fact that in the surroundings of this town there are signs along the roads that read: "Watch for prisoners crossing", can the hon. minister say if it was he who asked the Quebec Minister of Roads to put up the signs?

Hon. Warren Allmand (Solicitor General): Not yet, Mr. Speaker.

* * *

[*English*]

TRANSPORT

REQUEST FOR STATEMENT ON PROPOSED ROUTE FOR TANKERS OFF NOVA SCOTIA COAST

Mr. Lloyd R. Crouse (South Shore): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct my question to the Minister of Transport. In view of the importance of providing protection to the environment and fisheries of Atlantic Canada, will the minister make a statement on motions concerning his "proposed off-Nova Scotia vessel routing scheme", which was item 8 on the agenda of the meeting held by his officials in Halifax on May 9, 1973?

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, as I said yesterday, I am expecting a formal report from my officials. When I receive this report I will see whether it will be worth while to make a statement on motions. I must underline the fact that the main purpose of the Halifax meeting was safety of navigation, not fisheries.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I bring to the attention of hon. members that there are four minutes before the end of the question period. We have had so many supplementaries again today that we have spent almost all of the question period on the first three or four questions with these countless supplementaries.

Mr. Crouse: Mr. Speaker, my supplementary will be brief. In view of the opposition by fishermen and others to the 10 mile wide shipping corridor which cuts right through the inshore fishery banks off Nova Scotia, will the minister consider a new tanker route which will follow the 100 fathom line parallel to the coast of Nova Scotia and which will put supertankers and other tankers off our coast where 99 per cent of our fishermen would not be affected?

Mr. Marchand (Langelier): Mr. Speaker, we will do our utmost to protect the interests of our fishermen. I think the Department of the Environment is also interested in this matter. I think the hon. member's representation was fitting and I think we can succeed in this regard. I again state to the hon. member that the Halifax meeting was more concerned with navigational safety than anything else.

* * *

SPORT

WINNING OF ALLEN CUP BY ORILLIA HOCKEY TEAM—REQUEST FOR LARGER GRANTS

Mr. P. B. Rynard (Simcoe North): Mr. Speaker, I wish to address my question to the Minister of National Health

and Welfare in his capacity as head of amateur sport and fitness programs. Is the minister aware that last Saturday night the Orillia Terriers of the city of Orillia won the senior championship of Canada and the Allen Cup with a score of eight to one on the game and four to one on the series? In view of this, is the minister prepared to look at his grant system to see if he can make a larger grant?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

* * *

TRANSPORT

NORTHERN ONTARIO—REQUEST FOR LOWER CANADIAN NATIONAL AND CANADIAN PACIFIC FREIGHT RATES IN LIGHT OF REDUCTION BY ONTARIO NORTHLAND RAILWAY

Mr. Maurice Foster (Algoma): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Transport. It concerns freight rates. In view of the recently announced reduction in freight rates to areas of northern Ontario served by the Ontario Northland Railway and Star Transfer of approximately 18 per cent—

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Foster: It is nice to see so much interest in northern Ontario. In view of this, will the minister take action to have freight rates reduced by a similar amount in areas served by the CNR and CPR?

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, I know, and I think the hon. member and the House know, how freight rates are determined in Canada under the act.

An hon. Member: Do you know?

Mr. Marchand (Langelier): Yes, I know. I hope the hon. member knows. I hope the two main railway companies in Canada will review their scheduled rates following this decrease in freight rates by the Ontario Northland Railway.

[*Later:*]

Mr. Arnold Peters (Timiskaming): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a supplementary question to the Minister of Transport. In view of the statement by Premier Davis, as reported in the *Globe and Mail* of May 11, that the National Transportation Act is being illegally administered by the CNR and CPR, will the minister undertake a review of these charges through the Canadian Transport Commission to ensure that the 18 per cent recommended by Premier Davis for the Ontario Northland Railway will also be applied to the CNR and CPR?

[*Translation*]

Mr. Marchand (Langelier): Mr. Speaker, if the premier of Ontario thinks that the law has been illegally applied—we all know what recourse is available in Canada in such cases—he should go through the usual channels.

[Mr. Rynard.]

[*English*]

[*Later:*]

Mr. Peters: I should like to address a supplementary question to the minister arising out of his earlier reply. We are all aware that the Ontario Northland Railway operates solely within the jurisdiction of the government of Ontario and in a relatively small area of Northern Ontario. Would the minister give consideration to meeting with Premier Davis and his officials in an effort to see that the CNR is encouraged to provide a similar incentive to development in other parts of Northern Ontario as that which the provincial government is trying to provide in a limited area of that part of the province?

Mr. Marchand (Langelier): I said a few minutes ago that I hoped the railway companies—and this is in accordance with the Transportation Act—will review their rate schedules applying to this part of the country, and maybe in the west as well as in the Maritimes. I think that is a good indication of my position. As far as a meeting with Mr. Davis is concerned, I have been trying to arrange such a meeting for the past 15 days. I hope that when he returns from London he can meet with me and discuss this subject and, indeed, all other matters connected with transportation in Ontario.

* * *

ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE

PERSONS INDICTED FOR CAPITAL MURDER OTHER THAN MURDER OF POLICE OFFICERS OR PRISON GUARDS—COMPLETION OF LEGAL PROCESS

Mr. Paul Dick (Lanark-Renfrew-Carleton): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct my question to the Solicitor General. It is in two parts. First, to the minister's knowledge, are there presently any persons in Canada who have been indicted for capital murder other than for the murder of police officers or prison guards? Second, if there is such a person or persons, has the entire legal process been completed—the preliminary hearing, trial, appeal to the Supreme Court of the province and appeal to the Supreme Court of Canada?

Mr. Speaker: I think that a question asking for such details should be placed on the order paper.

[*Later:*]

Mr. Dick: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, I draw to your attention and the attention of the House that on January 26, as recorded at page 881 of *Hansard*, the hon. member for Calgary North was entitled to ask a question in almost the very same words and of the same length. I point out that the debate on capital punishment is now in process. I think it would be appropriate to have the answer now rather than in three or four months. I ask that my question be considered.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member will appreciate the position of the Chair. The hon. member himself refers to the fact that there is a debate going on in the House, which in itself shows that the question ought not to be asked. In any event, the hon. member knows that his recourse under the Standing Orders is simply to give

notice of the question. I would be pleased to ensure that it is given priority. If the hon. member wishes to redraft the question and ask it in shorter terms, I would have no objection to allowing it to be asked. This is much easier than having a point of order to deal with. Perhaps the hon. member might be allowed to redraft his question and get a quick reply.

● (1500)

Mr. Dick: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. To the knowledge of the Solicitor General, are there presently any persons who have been indicted for capital murder, other than the murder of prison guards or police officers, and, if so, have they completed the entire legal process?

Hon. Warren Allmand (Solicitor General): Since we are presently operating under the 1961 capital and non-capital murder law, the number of those indicted for capital murder is much larger than it was in recent years. I know there are some in the category about which the hon. member inquired. I do not have the exact details, but I will get them and make them available to the House for the debate later in the day.

[*Later:*]

Mr. Dick: On a point of order, perhaps I should indicate to the Solicitor General, through you, Mr. Speaker, my intention of discussing the question I raised earlier at ten o'clock.

* * *

CANADIAN NATIONAL RAILWAYS

EDMONTON HUMP YARD—REQUEST FOR PROGRESS REPORT ON REMOVALS

Mr. Steven E. Paproski (Edmonton Centre): Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Transport. Having regard to the many squeals, shrieks and squeaks caused by the shunting of railway cars, which are still upsetting the health of the worthy citizens of Edmonton Centre, can the minister yet advise the House as to the progress being made in having the Canadian National hump yard moved out of Edmonton?

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): I will surely make a very serious inquiry and report to the hon. member.

* * *

[*Translation*]

TRANSPORT

ESTABLISHMENT OF MERCHANT MARINE—REQUEST FOR STATEMENT BY MINISTER

Mr. Raynald Guay (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Justice): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct the next question to the hon. Minister of Transport.

In view of the brief that was released by the CNTU on April 1, is the hon. minister prepared to make a statement on the creation of a Canadian merchant navy, or does he plan to do so in the fairly near future?

Capital Punishment

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, I believe I have already stated, in the House or outside, that we are steadily beginning to restructure our merchant navy, and also to help our shipyards.

First, we should like to accept the Darling report; we should like to reserve all Arctic navigation for Canadian ships, and we hope eventually to achieve the next stage, that of starting to make our merchant navy truly Canadian, and giving it all the privileges that merchant navies enjoy throughout the world.

* * *

[*English*]

CANADIAN NATIONAL RAILWAYS

BUS PASSENGER FARE INCREASE, NEWFOUNDLAND—REQUEST FOR MAINTENANCE OF OLD RATES UNTIL COURT CASE DECIDED

Mr. Walter C. Carter (St. John's West): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Transport. On February 27 I asked the minister a question with respect to the action of Canadian National Railways in increasing its fares in Newfoundland. The minister promised to investigate the matter and, hopefully, do something about it. Can he tell the House whether he has had a chance to investigate this situation and, if so, what has been done about it?

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): Yes, Mr. Speaker, I recall that I did investigate this matter at the time. No increase took place pending the decision of the court.

● (1510)

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

CRIMINAL CODE

REINSTATEMENT OF LAW RELATING TO CAPITAL PUNISHMENT THAT EXISTED PRIOR TO DECEMBER 30, 1972.

The House resumed, from Monday, May 14, consideration of the motion of Mr. Allmand that Bill C-2, to amend the Criminal Code, be read the second time and referred to the Standing Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs.

Mrs. Grace MacInnis (Vancouver Kingsway): Mr. Speaker, in my remarks last night, I pointed out that the practical purpose of this debate is to decide the best and most effective way to protect society from a person who has committed murder.

Some people want to follow the age old practice of hanging the murderer. As a matter of fact, I wonder why they stop at that when they could go still further back and reintroduce the procedures of drawing, quartering, disembowelling, and otherwise going to the limit in inflicting suffering and misery in the process. Others realize that the subject today is much more complicated. I believe that most people in our country today are not particularly concerned about wreaking vengeance on a murderer. What

they want is security for themselves, their families and their communities. Large numbers of Canadians today are, I believe, very fearful for the safety of themselves and their loved ones. They want to make sure that never again shall a murderer commit the crime of murder. They want measures to be taken which will ensure that murderers are not turned loose on the community. To my mind, this is the big problem with which the Justice Committee will have to grapple when the bill before us reaches it. It seems to me that the committee might very well be examining a number of aspects which can not be adequately considered by this House in the time we are able to spend on the matter.

Speaking for myself, I should like to see the complete and final abolition of capital punishment. Reasons in favour of this point of view have been advanced by many speakers. I wish to summarize those which have influenced me most. First, figures fail to prove that capital punishment is a deterrent to murder. During the past five years, in Canada and elsewhere, crimes of violence have increased but the rate of murder has not increased. Second, practically every country in the industrialized world has abolished capital punishment. Third, there has been no hanging in Canada since 1962. The people have proven thereby that they have no desire to watch this cold-blooded taking of life; increasing numbers of people do not want it to be done, even though they are not called upon to watch it being done. Nobody can tell me that if the Canadian people overwhelmingly wanted to bring back hanging, the federal government would have been able to get away without executing a single individual since 1962.

The fact is that we, as a country, have outgrown hanging and capital punishment generally, as a means of dealing with murderers. Fourth, hanging will not bring a murdered person back to life. Instead of killing the murderer it seems to me it would be better to keep him securely imprisoned, put him to useful work and use his wages to help the family of the victim. In this way, he would be enabled to make a small measure of restitution to those whom he has deprived of a loved one. Fifth, in a world of large-scale violence such as ours is today, it merely escalates that violence when the state retains this survival of violence directed at an individual. Surely, the best way to inculcate respect for human life is to refrain from taking it in the name of the law.

For these reasons, I have long been in favour of the abolition of capital punishment. Speaking in this House in 1966 on a joint private member's bill before the final legislation was brought in, I made my position very clear. When the government, in 1967, brought in its legislation providing for a five-year trial period during which capital punishment would be abolished, I supported it. I shall do the same thing now.

It may be that we will require yet another trial period before we are ready to abolish the death penalty altogether. As the Minister of Justice (Mr. Lang) said yesterday, because some members are not in favour of doing away with capital punishment, there may have to be some exceptions made in order to establish the principle of abolishing capital punishment. If we cannot have a clear abolition bill passed, then I am prepared to accept abolition on the instalment plan. The main thing I want to make sure of is that when capital punishment is finally abolished, it is abolished forever because we have proved that we have outgrown it. I was greatly heartened by the speech of the Parliamentary Secretary to the Secretary of State (Mr. Marceau) who yesterday made his position on this matter very clear.

What I think is required now is a quiet, dispassionate study of the best way of dealing with murderers in view of the over-riding need to protect society. Certainly, the House has given every demonstration of its concern to keep not only murderers but those who commit crimes of violence away from society. This chamber has, for days and weeks, heard the words of people who have been attacking the inadequacy of the present parole system and the detention of people in our prisons. I am very glad that the Solicitor General (Mr. Allmand) has announced he is prepared to hold an inquiry so as to improve the situation. The Canadian people do want more and better protection against people who have committed crimes of violence, and particularly against murderers.

In this regard I think the British experience has been very interesting. In 1949, the British government set up a royal commission to look into capital punishment in all its aspects, a commission which reported in 1953. Before that commission began its work, its chairman, Sir Ernest Arthur Gowers, was a supporter of capital punishment. During the life of the commission he became an abolitionist. Having travelled to other countries, had witnesses before him and studied documents and papers over a period of four years, he became convinced that he should become an abolitionist rather than a retentionist. I commend such a period of study to people like the hon. member for Burnaby-Richmond-Delta (Mr. Reynolds), the hon. member for Scarborough East (Mr. Stackhouse) and others who have studied the subject for a much briefer period and are retentionists. I think that if they extended their studies and examined documents, facts and figures, travelled to other countries and heard witnesses whom they could question, perhaps in the end, like Sir Ernest Arthur Gowers, they too would decide that retention was no longer good enough in this modern world in which we are living.

Capital punishment was abolished in Britain in 1965 for a trial period of five years. It was abolished permanently in 1969 at a time of some peculiarly horrible murders. In fact, one of the long-time supporters and advocates of abolition was opposed in a general election by a close relative of one of the victims of a very horrible murder, and to the ever-lasting credit of the British people and their maturity, this man was returned to his seat in parliament. Capital punishment was abolished permanently, as I say, in 1969. This year, 1973, an attempt was made by a private member to restore the death penalty in Britain and he brought in a bill to that effect. This bill was decisively defeated. There has not been a hanging in Britain since 1964.

Many community organizations and most of the major churches in Canada are opposed to capital punishment. They call for research into crime and its deterrence. There was a very eloquent article in the *Globe and Mail* this morning which quoted what Mr. Pearson, when he was Prime Minister, said on this subject a few years ago. He

felt that the handling of the problem of murder ought not to be by such measures as the gallows and the gas chamber, but that we must go into places like the slums and the ghettoes of our cities, into clinics and so on, to try to prevent the crime of murder in its early stages. If there are any school teachers within the sound of my voice, they will tell you, Mr. Speaker, that the crime of murder has its seeds planted very much earlier than the actual commission of such a crime. The seeds of murder are planted in injustice and misery, in the broken homes and in the wrong teachings of parents in their homes.

As for my own stand on this matter, I have said that I am an abolitionist. I have found that very wise things have been said by people from a number of areas. I mentioned the churches a moment ago. One of the most interesting, and to me most significant and altogether moving, expressions on the subject of capital punishment was given by the Canadian Catholic Conference. I should like to quote from this statement by the Reverend W. E. Power, president of the Canadian Catholic Conference. It is dated January 26, 1973. I quote this statement for its thoughtfulness and impressiveness. He says in part:

> The question of the death penalty, in our opinion, ought not to focus on whether a convicted murderer, no matter how wanton "deserves" to die. The focus should be on us: should Canadians as a community try to break the escalating spiral of violence by refraining from violence even as a deterrent?

Then, leaving out a paragraph, I continue:

> There is also a pragmatic, statistical question whether the death penalty is an effective deterrent. We will not enter this debate. Our question is not whether the death penalty is an effective deterrent; our question is whether it is an absolutely necessary deterrent, required by good order in Canada today. Unless you are convinced that it is, then we feel that the presumption should be for suspension. Furthermore, in our opinion, the case for retention of the death penalty has not been proven.

● (1520)

> We would hope that, during a possible second period of suspension, research committees would study exhaustively all the ramifications of this complex problem and publish their reports within a specified period. We might note the need for study of the effects of violent crime on the families of both the criminal and the victim.

I would also add that I should like studies made in respect of the effects of violent crime on communities and those children and adults who watch the media and listen to the hotliners, because in my opinion the spreading abroad of the details of these horrible, heinous and gory crimes, which we have witnessed in this country during the last few months, has done nothing to contribute to keeping down the climate of violence which is escalating in so frightening a manner these days.

My own stand is that it is up to a Member of Parliament to give leadership and to vote in accordance with what he or she believes to be right. In this connection, I should like to pay tribute to the hon. member for Ottawa West (Mr. Reilly), who stated quite definitively in an article in *Saturday Night* this year that he believed, regardless of what the constituents thought or a majority of them might think, it would not be the duty of an hon. member to vote for or support something he or she believed to be evil. I also have written in this vein to a number of constituents.

What good would it do a constituent to have a member who would get up on this issue and vote against what he, or in this case, she, believed? How could you ever again trust that hon. Member of Parliament to do anything honest if he or she was crooked enough to vote counter to what he or she believed merely because there was a sizeable group in the constituency that wanted this? Surely, we are not going to have members in this House who are prepared to vote for things, tongue in cheek, because they think it would be popular in their ridings. What a strange doctrine that is. Surely the members of the riding association and the constituency have chosen men and women they believe to be honest, intelligent and capable, people who will get the facts and vote accordingly. Some of these facts are more available to us than to the people in the riding. Surely, they trust us to get the facts and use our own judgment and then, in the light of that judgment stand up fearlessly and say what we believe to be right, without worrying about whether the constituent will hear what we have said and how we have voted in parliament. The greatest indignity and insult to the electorate in my opinion is for a member to duck the vote. I do not think we should do that.

In this country we have heard pleas from both sides of the House for leadership on a number of important issues, and this is an issue in respect of which I believe the people of this country are entitled to leadership from Members of Parliament. They are entitled to the best thinking of which we are capable, whether or not that thinking is different from what it was several years ago. Hon. members may well have changed their minds in the interim. I believe it is a wonderful thing to change your mind as a result of learning further facts and achieving greater maturity. I would be pleased if, in the light of further evidence or maturity, the hon. member for Burnaby-Richmond-Delta (Mr. Reynolds) could flip-flop back to where he was before. That would prove to me that he is capable of learning and changing his opinion in the light of further facts that have been adduced by community bodies which have made their weight felt following study of this matter.

From what I have learned, the death penalty is wrong and I certainly cannot vote to bring it back. I would vote for complete abolition, given the chance. If that choice is not before me and I must choose in favour of abolition with certain restrictions that may be applied following amendment during the committee stage, I am prepared within limits to vote for the abolition of the death penalty in instalments. I want to see the death penalty abolished, but I shall be happy to see the trend towards that objective continued. Having said this, I shall be very proud, as an honest woman, to go back and tell my constituents what I said and what I did.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Tom Cossitt (Leeds): Mr. Speaker, I should like to place on the record the views of my constituents on this subject of capital punishment, and at the same time I should like to express certain personal thoughts on the legislation now before this House.

I find it most regrettable that the government has demonstrated what I believe to be little sincerity in its approach to this very serious and important subject. This

legislation first came before the House four months ago. At that time, the government indicated it was, in its opinion, a matter of top priority to be dealt with at once. It became obvious, shortly, that it was anything but a top priority with the government, and that almost the sole reason for its introduction in the House at the beginning of this session was that the government intended to use it to gain time. The government had no idea where it was going in relation to the major problems that were facing Canada and, instead of coming to grips with those major problems such as inflation and unemployment, for which it had no solutions, it floundered aimlessly and brought in the capital punishment bill in order to stall for time. When it suited the government's purpose the debate, which was supposedly of such great importance, was abruptly terminated for some months. Now, we are debating it again, and I suggest to the House that the story is once more exactly the same.

This government is again using this legislation as a means of gaining time. It needs time, for example, to decide what to do about the corporate tax legislation it has hesitated to introduce to this House. It wants time to sort out its inner cabinet dissension, which it hopes desperately to keep from public view. Indeed, the Minister of Finance (Mr. Turner) is to be complimented for his extraordinary ability to come into this House every day with a smile and supposed lack of concern. It is unfortunate that this serious subject of capital punishment is being used for such a purpose and in such a fashion.

It is even more unfortunate that the people of Canada have been asked by this government to believe there will be a free vote in this House on the subject. The Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) has made it abundantly clear, beyond any doubt, by some of his utterances in recent weeks that in reality the only members who will take part in a free vote in this House will be members of the opposition. In my opinion, the members on the government side of this House are, in fact, actually being subjected to pressure to do as the Prime Minister says. It would seem that really what he is saying to them is—

Mr. Allmand: I rise on a question of privilege, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. minister rises on a question of privilege.

Mr. Allmand: Mr. Speaker, I think the hon. member, in the statement he just made, is reflecting on the freedom of hon. members on this side of the House, and I ask him to withdraw that statement. I have said on behalf of the government that this will be a free vote and that no pressure whatsoever is being applied to any member on this side.

Mr. Nowlan: Mr. Speaker, on that same question of privilege, I should like to ask the minister how he can equate that affirmation with the Prime Minister's stated position and complaint that other parties do not have a position on capital punishment, leaving the direct inference that his party does have a position?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member cannot ask the minister the question since the minister does not have the floor to answer. The hon. member for Leeds has the floor, and I recognize him for the purpose of continuing his remarks.

Mr. Cossitt: Mr. Speaker, I find the interjection of the minister somewhat interesting. If he gives me a moment or so of additional time, I am quite prepared to elaborate on what I meant when I suggested I did not believe members, other than those in the opposition, would be taking part in a free vote. I suggest that the Prime Minister is, in effect, saying to those members on the government side: You can vote exactly as you wish on the subject of capital punishment as long as you listen to me and as long as you do as I say.

● (1530)

Some hon. Members: Order, order.

Mr. Cossitt: I will illustrate how I arrive at the conclusion that there is not a free vote atmosphere in this House. It is not surprising, I might add, that there is not a free vote atmosphere in this House, because it is quite in keeping with the principles of Liberal participatory democracy which really mean nothing but plug-in and get orders from above.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I have to remind the hon. member that this is a debate about capital punishment. The hon. member has been speaking about inflation and free votes and about party politics. I think at this point or very soon he should make an attempt to attack the question or initiate consideration of the matter before us which is a specific bill.

Mr. Cossitt: Well, Mr. Speaker, I recall some weeks ago at a fund-raising dinner meeting in the city of Toronto the Prime Minister—if I might conclude this portion of my remarks with a quotation which I think is relative to the point I am making—was reported to have asked a question something like this: "What is the Conservative policy on capital punishment? I don't know. Can anyone tell me what it is?" I think this is a very valid point to be raised about the Prime Minister. I think the answer which should be given to this question is that he should not judge others by his conduct or that of his party. On this side of the House, it is truly a free vote. The Conservative party has not attempted to dictatorially thrust a policy down the throats of any member of our party. The fact that it is a different story on the other side of the House should not be taken as any indication concerning what it is like over here.

An hon. Member: Nonsense.

Mr. Cossitt: I see that the trained seals are acting as one would expect. More recently the Prime Minister was quoted in the news media as telling the people of Canada, in what I consider to be somewhat sarcastic and ridiculing tones, that the Conservative party is in favour of the retention of capital punishment. The obvious intention, I suggest, was to convey the impression that the entire Liberal party supports the opposite view. I believe he is trying to conjure up some sort of ridiculous picture of the ghastly ghouls on one side compared to the lily-white Liberals on the other. The Prime Minister is following the

degrading tactic of playing cheap politics with the issue of capital punishment. I see no harm in that being said in the House. He has made statements which he must know are not accurate. The distortion, the innuendo and the smear are approaches hardly worthy of his office. I hope that before this debate concludes he will do what the Solicitor General (Mr. Allmand) has said he has already done, namely, reaffirm to this House that it is indeed a free vote in so far as the government is concerned.

The legislation, I think, fails to seriously come to grips with the question of capital punishment. If it is passed into law it will succeed only in perpetuating for another five years the state of suspended animation that has existed during the past five years. During the last five years, this government has made it quite clear that it has no intention of allowing capital punishment to be carried out in this country, regardless of what parliament happens to decide. This has been clearly illustrated by the fact that during this time all those who have been sentenced to death for murder of a police officer have had their sentence changed to life imprisonment, despite the fact that the law in force which we are now being asked to extend provides the death penalty for such crimes. So, in effect, this House is being asked to pass something that had been disregarded and will continue to be disregarded by this government. In many ways this debate, therefore, is becoming an exercise in futility. But at the same time it is a perfect illustration of how the government can show contempt for the decisions made by the House of Commons of this country.

I should like to place on record the views of my constituents on the subject of capital punishment as shown by the result of a survey taken in the riding of Leeds a while ago. I sent a questionnaire to just over 20,000 homes which is the total number of homes in my constituency. I received between 6,000 and 7,000 replies, a fact which clearly shows the great public concern about this subject. It can scarcely be argued that this is not a greater response than usually is received to surveys or questionnaires of this type. Furthermore, I do not believe the accuracy of the result can be disputed since the number of replies represents well over 30 per cent of all the households in my constituency. If the Gallup Poll can accurately assess the views of the entire country by sampling less than 1,000 persons in the whole nation, the views of the constituency of Leeds are most accurately reflected by the sampling of 6,000 to 7,000 homes. Ten per cent of those responding in Leeds favoured complete abolition of capital punishment. One and one-half per cent found themselves unable to make a definite decision.

Mr. Nelson: I rise on a point of order, Mr. Speaker. The hon. member for Leeds is using misleading and inaccurate information. A home cannot vote. If a questionnaire goes to a house there could be six voters in that house. There are 88,000 voters in my constituency. My homes cannot vote. My voters vote.

Mr. Cossitt: I do not follow the point the hon. member is trying to make. I must object to his statement that I am misrepresenting the situation. I am not. I made the simple statement that I sent a questionnaire to 20,000 homes in my constituency and received between 6,000 and 7,000 replies. I certainly take exception to the hon. member saying I am misleading the House. I can assure the House that is something I would never do.

Mr. Nelson: On a further point of order, Mr. Speaker, may I say that I did not intend to imply that the member was misleading the House intentionally. If I may address the hon. member through you, Sir, my point is that I think he said that a certain number of questionnaires were sent to so many households which indicated that they were in favour of capital punishment. A household is made up of people. Presumably a meeting is held in the household and the people in the household fill in the one questionnaire.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I am sure all hon. members see the point made by the hon. member who rose on the point of order and also the point made by the hon. member for Leeds. Perhaps we may assume the matter has been resolved and allow the hon. member to pursue the substance of his speech.

Mr. Cossitt: I might explain that many of the replies on the questionnaires which were returned contained information that there were four or five people living in the house, two of whom thought such and such and two of whom thought otherwise. In other words, I believe there was a very clear indication of what the people in Leeds thought. The hon. member tells us that people live in households. I never doubted that. As I said, ten per cent of those responding favoured the complete abolition of capital punishment. One and one half per cent found themselves unable to make a definite decision on the question. Eighty-eight and a half per cent favoured retention of capital punishment in full or to some degree. Of this latter group, 80.9 per cent favoured the retention of capital punishment completely and 19.1 per cent favoured retention for the murder of police officers and prison guards.

● (1540)

I believe that the over-all conclusion to be drawn from the results of a survey of this type is that there exists very definite public rebellion against what is viewed as a too permissive society. In some ways, stronger support for retention of capital punishment is a reflection of a strong demand for a return in this country to what perhaps we too commonly and simply call law and order. But I should like also to mention that a great number of persons answering the questionnaires said that our bail and parole regulations are too easy.

A further point that was made abundantly clear by my constituents was that many who are now asking at this time for full retention of capital punishment might well be prepared to consider supporting abolition if life imprisonment really meant what these words imply, namely, imprisonment for the rest of the offender's natural life. They do not want convicted murderers paroled to walk the streets again in a few years time after commission of the crime. I might add that this view has become more evident as a result of the events of the past few days. If there were first a complete overhaul of our penitentiary system in Canada to put an end to this government's "easy exit" policy, many of my constituents might support abolition.

There are those who have criticized the Association of Canadian Police Chiefs and other law enforcement groups because they have taken a strong stand in favour of

retention of capital punishment. I do not believe such criticism is valid, nor is it deserved. These are the experts in the field of criminology, and I see no reason why those who are authorities on the subject of crime should be criticized for voicing their views, no matter what those views may be at any time. There are those who have said that by even expressing such views police officials are entering and interfering in the field of policy whereas they should remain silent. It is contended that they should simply carry out the laws in force at any given time. I believe such criticism is also completely out of order. The experts should be heard in the process of making a decision on this subject. Obviously, it is parliament that will make the decision, but parliament would be remiss if it did not carefully consider the expert opinions on both sides of this subject.

The Canadian Police Association has suggested a national referendum on the subject, and I must say I do not believe this to be necessary. It would establish clearly and beyond any doubt the feelings of the Canadian people from coast to coast, but so many surveys have been taken in so many areas of the country—and generally speaking with the same emphatic result in favour of retention by a very heavy percentage—that there is no doubt in my mind, and I cannot see how there can be any doubt in the mind of anyone sitting in this House, what the result would be. There can be no doubt what the actual result would be if the Canadian people were to register their views on capital punishment through a national referendum.

Much has been said during the debate as to whether capital punishment is or is not a deterrent to the crime of murder. I do not believe there has been any proof in either direction. I have heard figures used by persons across this country who have been attempting to justify their viewpoints, but it seems to me that one can always find figures to justify any side of any question. There is, of course, one very definite factor which makes it impossible to judge whether or not the death penalty is a deterrent in Canada at this time. While the death penalty has existed over the past five years for specific classes of murder, it has never been enforced. It has been common knowledge and very obvious to all Canadians that this government did not intend to enforce it. Measuring with any accuracy the possible effect of the death penalty as a deterrent during this period of partial abolition is, therefore, quite impossible.

This government has made a mockery of the existing law, and I think that this must be admitted by those on both sides of this question. Proper observance of the existing law would have meant that sentences should only have been commuted where there was a recommendation of mercy at the trial of the accused person or in a case where it was established later that there was an error in the conviction.

The people of my constituency of Leeds have spoken overwhelmingly in favour of the retention of capital punishment, and as their representative in this House I would be turning my back on them and turning my back on the principles of democracy if I failed to listen to the people who elected me to this House. To those who sanctimoniously use the word "conscience" to justify ignoring the wishes and views of the people of this country, I suggest that it should be a definite matter of conscience to them if they ignore the emphatically expressed desires of those who went out to the voting booths of this country and sent them to this House. In accordance with the overwhelmingly expressed wishes of the people of Leeds, I intend to follow the principles of democracy and I will vote against the second reading of this bill.

● (1550)

[*Translation*]

Mr. Ovide Laflamme (Montmorency): Mr. Speaker, I did not intend to take part in this debate, but after hearing the remarks made today and recently concerning the appeal to hon. members' conscience and the fact that a member should not take into account the opinion of those he represents, I think it is my duty to say a few words on this bill.

In fact, Mr. Speaker, a debate on the same subject was held in 1967 and at that time the House approved in a free vote a bill which we are asked to extend for another few years.

If we refer to that debate, Mr. Speaker, we see that in 1967 the House held a free vote and abolished capital punishment, except in two cases: the murder of a policeman or a prison guard on duty.

There have been murders of policemen and prison guards in the exercise of their duties since 1967, the year in which the act came into force, and yet there have been no executions.

Mr. Speaker, in view of the executive's power to reprieve condemned men, I really wonder why we are having this debate, since the 1967 act has not in fact been implemented, and since we may suppose that the renewal of the act will not alter the executive's power to reprieve criminals who have been condemned to death.

Nevertheless, Mr. Speaker, it seems to me that there is one important point which should be brought up in this debate, namely that we are the representatives of the people, and the laws must exist to serve the society that they govern.

I think that the hon. member for Leeds (Mr. Cossitt) was right on this point, except, of course, when he claimed that all liberal members would support the government.

I suggest that the majority of the population has a genuine feeling of insecurity with regard to the laws on criminals and murderers, and this is the main point that the House should bear in mind. We must somehow promote and enforce laws which at least give people the feeling that they are in safety.

Indeed, Mr. Speaker, the population, which, in general, has just as much heart and conscience as some hon. members who lecture others and talk about conscience, feels constantly insecure. Why is this? Precisely because, for most of those condemned to death, the creation of the parole system has made it impossible for their sentences to be carried out.

And I repeat, Mr. Speaker, without any political motive, that there have been no executions since 1962, either under the Conservatives or under the Liberals.

Without, of course, speaking against the parole system, I think people are worried, because they know that the sentence that the judge gives has in fact no real effect, since the parole system completely changes the structure and nature of the sentence that was given. Now, I think, Mr. Speaker, this is likely to destroy the judicial power and to endanger the security to which the population is entitled from the judicial power.

I submit, Mr. Speaker, that as long as the rights and powers of the National Parole Board would not have been fundamentally changed, it will be illusive to discuss any longer the question of being for or against capital punishment. In fact, I think all members have sentiments generous enough to know that this punishment is the ultimate resort and that we have in fact to determine if the death penalty is a dissuasive factor or not.

Theories and opinions may vary, but when the hon. member for Vancouver-Kingsway (Mrs. MacInnis) called a few minutes ago on the members' conscience, saying not to be too concerned with how their constituents might feel, I think she prompted me to join the hon. member for Leeds (Mr. Cossitt) who said that this is a matter of free vote, for we live in a democratic country.

Personally, I am inclined to become an abolitionist, and if I am hesitant to say whether capital punishment is a deterrent or not, I am convinced that 80 per cent of my constituents want me to express their views in this House. I think it is also my duty to say that I am in favour of capital punishment without believing that the people are wrongly concerned if they want this penalty for murder, and in this way express their concern towards the inadequate parole system and rehabilitation service. As a matter of fact, the latter has proved to be inefficient and there is a need to think about it in depth before going in for eloquent speeches or heart rending protests to say: I am in favour or against capital punishment.

As far as I am concerned, Mr. Speaker, the debate to decide if I am for or against the death penalty for a criminal is an utterly outmoded process and a totally inopportune one since a similar debate took place in 1967 without results. The proof is that in spite of restrictions, as I said at the beginning of my remarks, no death penalty has been imposed one way or the other.

I do not say it is bad. I do not say that the then Prime Minister and the Solicitor General or the Minister of Justice, who must sign the execution evidence, should or should not have done so. What I am saying it is that we should not thus dissect legislative and coercive measures, but rather introduce a set of laws which will reestablish in the public opinion the prestige of the judicial power and put again into the hands of those who have the responsibility to decide, with the members of the jury, what sentences will be imposed and to insure that these sentences are executed in nearly all cases.

This is the way we will restore confidence in the public opinion. I am persuaded that the population as a whole will then feel as strongly for abolition as does the hon. member for Vancouver-Kingsway.

I already discussed this question with several groups in my riding and I expressed the views of several hon. members in favour of the abolition of capital punishment, telling them that I was not convinced at all that it was a deterrent against murder.

I also pointed out that the life of an individual or the execution of a criminal does not bring back the murdered victim. Obviously, it is, in a way, a panacea or a very clear element. But the moment those groups are assured that the sentences given will be fully carried out and that the Parole Board will not alter the decision of the judicial power, then, Mr. Speaker, people are relieved. We immediately witness a wish to become abolitionists, as are some members who expressed their views.

Mr. Speaker, since our duty is to protect the citizen and that about 80 per cent of the voters I represent are in favour of retaining capital punishment, not because they are enthusiastic about executing a criminal but because they want to show their insecurity in view of the inadequate laws that exist in the parole system, and since I am living in a democratic state, I shall vote against this bill which to my mind, has not been applied, since it was implemented.

Therefore, I would urge the Solicitor General to table a legislation on an overall reorganization of the Parole Board to give back to the judicial power the authority it is losing over the population following the erosion and the continuous cuts which are made in the sentences given by the courts.

[*English*]

● (1600)

Mr. Elmer M. MacKay (Central Nova): Mr. Speaker, at the outset I should like to associate myself with some of the remarks made by the hon. member for Montmorency (Mr. Laflamme) who has just spoken. I also enjoyed some of the remarks made by the hon. member for Scarborough East (Mr. Stackhouse) when he spoke yesterday, and the excellent speech made by the Minister of Justice (Mr. Lang). As a comparatively new member of this House, I have listened with great interest to some of the history of this topic we are debating today. The hon. member for Montmorency also alluded to it. I know that in 1966 there was an interparty resolution which called for the abolition of the death penalty and the substitution of the mandatory sentence of life imprisonment. That was rejected by the House in a free vote by 143 to 112. Then, as the hon. member for Montmorency said, there was the 1967 development which resulted in the present five year trial period which has just come to an end.

Since 1968, I believe there have been four convictions for the murder of police officers and the government commuted the sentences in all cases. The Governor in Council, of course, has the power of granting mercy or clemency and this is as it should be, but it can also be argued, I suggest, that the present practice of invariably commuting every death penalty to life imprisonment is undermining both the legal process and the power of parliament. It can also be argued with some effect that this practice has removed any deterrent effect that the death penalty may have, in theory.

In speaking on this bill I think one cannot avoid the philosophical, religious and legal questions. This bill makes no final determination of the fundamental issue of capital punishment and, in its present form, it discrimi-

nates. It discriminates between the victims and imposes a greater penalty for the murder of a police officer than for an ordinary citizen. Mr. Speaker, this is one of the reasons I intend to vote against the bill. In her remarks before ten o'clock last evening, the hon. member for Vancouver-Kingsway (Mrs. MacInnis) coined a phrase when she said that this bill should be debated in "quiet reasonableness". I think this was a particularly apt observation on her part, and I think that in bringing forward this legislation the government has shown a singular lack of appreciation of priorities and a singular lack of timing.

I have some sympathy with the Solicitor General (Mr. Allmand). From my knowledge of him, I realize that he is a forthright and frank minister. I would say that this is quite a contrast to his predecessor for whose policies he is now responsible. When one hears of the almost ridiculous things that are happening in the administration of our penal system and realizes that under the doctrine of ministerial responsibility he has to bear the brunt of much of the criticism, one can feel a certain sympathy. I noticed with some amusement that in answer to a question put by the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Stanfield) earlier today, when the minister referred to what is commonly known as "the hole" in Dorchester, he called it the "disassociation area". As far as convicts are concerned, I guess the whole prison system would be called a "disassociation area". Convicts can hardly wait to disassociate themselves from it, and are doing so quite regularly. Hopefully, things will improve in this area.

The thing that concerns me about this legislation is that the chaotic state of the administration of justice is infringing to a large extent on the primacy of the judiciary. Those of us who practise law and who have had an opportunity to participate in criminal trials and murder trials, realize that under the present system the accused has a great deal of protection. There are the rules against self-incrimination, the protection of the preliminary inquiry, the grand jury which makes sure that the case is judicially sound and should be sent to the petit jury, the knowledgeable judge, the jurors, who are selected from a man's peers, who sit in judgment on him. It is still the tradition in our courts to say to the jurors "Look upon the prisoner and harken to his cry; he puts himself upon his country, whose country you are" and I believe that this gives the accused the greatest guarantee of a fair trial. This system should be cherished.

What disturbs me, as one who has practised law, is that a judge who, after careful consideration as to what is appropriate under the circumstances, gives a sentence which he feels is appropriate, often finds that this sentence means nothing because the effect of it is changed by some functionary or a parole board. This is an unfortunate atmosphere as far as the primacy of the judiciary is concerned. In light of the chaos that is presently abroad in the administration of our prisons, I think it is a shame that this issue of capital punishment comes up for debate in parliament. The "quiet reasonableness" that is so desirable cannot be created in this House under the present circumstances. I think the people of Canada are fed up with the undermining of judicial authority and the bizarre events that take place when dangerous prisoners escape, almost casually, from maximum security institutions because the guards are out having lunch. I would not be surprised, Mr. Speaker, if it came out in evidence that box lunches were requested and given to these prisoners at eleven o'clock so that they could escape without having to miss their lunch, but perhaps that is unkind.

On the issue of whether a Member of Parliament should vote according to conscience or reflect the will of his constituents, I am fortunate because I find no conflict there. I feel, as do the hon. member for Leeds (Mr. Cossitt) and the hon. member for Montmorency, that when it comes down to it a Member of Parliament would be remiss if he sought to impose his own will in an issue that he knows enjoys the almost overwhelming support of his constituents, to the detriment of the clear conscience of the majority of the people he represents.

I think parole and penitentiary boards are relative to the matter under discussion. I am under the clear impression, perhaps erroneously, that there is not only this conflict between the legitimate sentences passed down by Supreme Court judges and the carrying out of those sentences, but there is even conflict and a grabbing for jurisdictional influence between the parole services and the penitentiary boards. I believe that when weekend leaves are granted it is often on the initiative of penitentiary boards without the compliance or knowledge of the National Parole Board. I may be wrong and no doubt the Solicitor General will deal with this topic. If I am correct, however, this situation is not conducive to a proper atmosphere for debating the subject. I cannot see how, within the context of the present social fabric of Canada, this is the time to consider the abolition of the death penalty. I say that this is a poor time in terms of priorities because there are many social needs in this country, people who are suffering from malnutrition, who do not have work or who have been hurt by inflation. These are legitimate concerns on which the government should do something constructive yet here we are, debating an issue that has been debated before, being asked to give a continuing trial period to that which has been tried before and has been frustrated.

The hon. member for Scarborough East last night referred to the professional criminal, the Mafiosa, the hit man or the soldier. I suggest that, like other professionals, these people have their own rules, their own argot. They know the odds, Mr. Speaker, and that they are engaged in an illegal and highly dangerous occupation. If they can be assured that no matter how heinous the crime they commit, whether it is a cold-blooded mercenary killing, a political assassination or an extreme case of putting cyanide in a water reservoir, something that is absolutely despicable and unspeakable, there is not the slightest chance of being executed, that will improve their odds. That is the kind of game these men understand.

● (1610)

As the Minister of Justice (Mr. Lang) pointed out, there is also the need to consider the argument whether there are some crimes which perhaps do require the ultimate in penalties. As a Member of Parliament, a lawyer and someone who is basically a very reluctant retentionist at this time, I find it very difficult to say unequivocally that under no circumstances should anyone in this country be executed for any crime. My logic may be erroneous, but I feel strongly that if the government would put its house in

order and the penitentiary services, the parole board and the various factors that make up the successful administration of justice in Canada were put in order and the primacy of the judiciary were once more established, the social climate would be better. That would be a far more appropriate time to consider the very important philosophical question of whether we should once and for all abolish the death penalty. This bill does not do that. All this bill does is perpetuate the status quo or status non quo. For that reason, I have no hesitation in announcing my intention to vote against this bill. By doing so, I think I will be doing the people of Canada a service.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Eudore Allard (Rimouski): Mr. Speaker, I would like to say a few words about capital punishment. It is a most controversial subject and not particularly inviting since it deals with the elimination of some of our fellow humans. However, in all justice, anyone of us is entitled to life. When someone has deliberately attacked the life of someone else, we do not have to protect his life more than he has protected that of his victim.

We are probably directly responsible for the fact that those human beings have become some kind of wild beasts as many did after living too long unbearable lives because of our egoistic attitude. To oblige us to take care of them they have had to protest and use the only means available to them. However, abolishing capital punishment amounts to protecting convicts and forsaking the innocent. It is one way of saying to the potential murderers: You can go ahead, the law forbids anyone to harm you. Even more it provides for the maintenance of your life at your victims' expenses.

The life of any individual is worth that of a police officer or of a jail warden. This is why there should not be two weights and two measures. If the death penalty is applied it should be considered that life has no age and is valuable to anyone of any social class. A murder is a murder and should be punished.

Anyone must protect his own life but should also respect that of others. So homicide or murder is prohibited by moral law as well as by civil law which should reflect natural law. It is around the word "homicide" that a solution should be found. Indeed natural law does not prohibit all kinds of homicides. It only forbids unfair homicide, namely the fact of taking a life with impunity. But we cannot agree that the death penalty amounts to unjustified homicide.

It is said sometimes that the death penalty may be inflicted upon an innocent and that there is no means of correcting such an error. It is true that the death penalty may be applied by accident in the case of an innocent person. But it is not because accidents may happen that we should prevent the building of automobiles or aircraft. It is not because there are miscarriages of justice, very scarce I should say, that we should depart from the general principle.

On the other hand, to the supporters of the absolute right to live, we should answer that murderers have no respect for that right when it applies to others. If such a right were absolute, a soldier killing an enemy would be a criminal. The right to live is not an absolute right. We can deprive of it those who have no respect for it. The murderer who takes the life of another person cannot base his claim on the supporters of the absolute right to live in order to escape the punishment his crime deserves.

If this country were at war, nobody would take offence at the fact that death would be the fate of the enemy and, in my opinion, we are at war against criminals.

Those whose conscience speak against capital punishment could at least request with us that life imprisonment in murder cases be really imprisonment for life.

At the present time, criminals know very well—and they joke about it—that the death penalty is for their victims and that they will be automatically and eventually released and able to start all over their life of debauchery.

Therefore, I strongly request the reinstatement of hanging for wilful murder and I emphasize that he or she who puts a loaded revolver in his pocket or in her handbag premeditates something. Therefore I will vote for the reinstatement of capital punishment.

[*English*]

Mr. Don Blenkarn (Peel South): Mr. Speaker, we have before us Bill C-2, a bill to amend the Criminal Code. It deals only with amendments concerning what is presently called capital murder in the code. In my view, the amendments to the Criminal Code dealing with the taking of life should be dealt with in full.

There are perhaps three classifications of the crime of taking a human life or, if you want to use that expression, murder. In those three categories of murder, perhaps the dealth penalty is appropriate for one type. To specify that classification of murder, it should be attributable to those who commit the heinous crime of premeditated murder. I refer to not only the murder of police officers and prison guards, but the heinous murder of children of prison guards, murders committed in the course of airline hijacking, murders committed by people who are paid to kill, the hired gun, murders committed in the course of a bank robbery, when there is no question that the life of whoever gets in the way is forfeited, and murders conducted in the course of a kidnapping where the kidnapper has no intention of doing anything but destroying the life he took as a ransom.

The categories of murder for which the death penalty is required are far more broad than those set out in this bill. This bill does not go far enough. It should go further. It should clearly set out that those murders involving people who are killed in the heat of temper, defending their property, in a family dispute or brawl, in a barroom, on a pier, matters of instant flare-up, are certainly not in the same category as heinous premeditated murders. These are offences which should attract long terms of imprisonment, bearing in mind that there is a possibility of reform.

● (1620)

There is already under the Criminal Code a third classification, infanticide, covering cases where the life of a newborn child is taken. Perhaps this classification should include the crime of illegal abortion; it should perhaps include the crime of euthanasia where for some honestly given reason life support is removed—killing is regarded

as the best way out. That class of murder should perhaps be punishable by a five-year prison term.

I think it is imperative that the government review its thinking about the bill before us as it relates to crimes involving the taking of life. The proposals now before the House are unsatisfactory. We have already spent ten days debating the subject, and I understand that member after member still wishes to speak. This clearly indicates that the House is extremely dissatisfied with the legislation brought before it. I suggest to the minister that the Bill ought to be withdrawn and something better produced.

During the last election campaign, I told the people in my constituency that I would be in favour of capital punishment for those who murdered police officers or prison guards, those who murdered in the course of airline hijacking and those who murdered when it was proven they were paid killers. Since that time I have altered my views. I have done so partly as a result of representations made to me by people in my constituency, partly as a result of perusal of answers to questionnaires, and as a result of hearing speeches made in this House and exchanging ideas with members of the National Parole Board and others involved in law enforcement. Some of the considerations which have led me to change my mind are as follows.

The first which occurs to me concerns the question of capital punishment being a deterrent to murder. The idea of deterrence runs through our entire criminal law. Provision is made in the criminal law for various degrees of punishment depending on what is considered to be the gravity of the crime committed. There is undoubtedly a supposition throughout the criminal law that punishment will deter a person from acting in a certain way. The offence of keeping a common gaming house, not too serious a crime, attracts a two-year penalty. Indecent assault brings a five-year term. We have often heard friends who go to cocktail parties refuse another drink with the explanation that they have to drive home and do not wish to be charged with impaired driving. Clearly, penalties do deter. I suggest to hon. members that the prospect of a penalty is similarly a deterrent in the circumstances we are now discussing.

Our whole concept of the organization of life revolves around the idea of nemesis, the feeling that if a man undertakes certain acts he is inviting retribution. The preponderant feeling of those who commit premeditated murder is that they are inviting the death penalty as the only adequate response society can make to that kind of crime.

A great deal has been said in criticism of the parole system and the penal system. As a lawyer, I had to deal with a great many people incarcerated in jails or allowed out on parole. While at times the National Parole Board has made serious mistakes by allowing certain people to get out too easily, by and large it is motivated in the right way; it is working for the reform of prisoners and it is doing a good job. What I find abhorrent in this debate is the attitude of those who say that anyone who commits murder should be thrown in to the hole and kept there for a minimum of 25 years with no hope for the future. This seems to be the course which people opposed to capital punishment are recommending. It is not possible to reform everyone. On the other hand, our aim should be to reform those who are capable of being reformed. As for persons who commit heinous, premeditated, animal-like murders, there is not much chance of reforming them, and when we retain them within our penal system, the whole system has to be organized accordingly, with regrettable consequences. Maximum security precautions must be in force at all times to contain them, because we dare not let them out; they are animals. This means there are less funds and fewer resources available from our limited social capital to reform those who are capable of reform. Thus, what we have left is the worst of both worlds.

The recent reform of bail procedures has also attracted criticism from some quarters. I commend the present bail reform legislation though, it is true there have been some shortcomings in its implementation. I remember practising law in the days when a man charged with careless or impaired driving was picked up and put in the Don Jail and kept there until he could find $200 bail on a Monday morning.

The bail reform legislation has done a great deal to help people by allowing them to be free on their own recognizance rather than treating the public on the basis that only those who can raise the cash can get out on bail. Some limitation of the act is required, since it appears there have been certain abuses. But it really bothers me when I hear opponents of capital punishment argue that people should not be let out on bail in any circumstances. I suggest to you, Mr. Speaker, that they are adopting a regressive attitude.

● (1630)

If we are to improve our penal system, we must recognize that there are some poeple who can only be handled by giving society the maximum of protection. Many people who abhor capital punishment use the great hoax of the rope and the trap door; you can almost hear the trap door swinging open and the horror of public execution by hanging. I, too, am abhorred by hanging, but I suggest that any argument based on the rope and the trap door is a poor argument against capital punishment. It is not a reasoned argument. There are many other ways today that are much more humane for removing people from society.

In my view, the law of this country must respect the wishes of the vast majority of the people. Every poll that I have taken, every poll taken by newspapers in my riding and across Canada, every poll taken by high school students on a statistical basis throughout my riding, indicates that for heinous, premeditated murder of the kind I have described the overwhelming percentage of the people of this country demand the death penalty. Justice must appear to be done. The law must reflect the mores of society. Any suggestion that this parliament can enact laws that do not reflect the mores of this society, the clear, overwhelming feeling in society, is wrong. A member of parliament who votes for a law that he clearly knows does not demand the respect of the society that he represents is acting wrongly and that member does not deserve to be here.

It has been suggested that in a criminal trial there is a possibility that an innocent person will be charged with murder and executed for that murder, that that possibility

always exists. But we have a great number of checks and balances in our judicial system. In almost every province of this country today there is free legal aid. We have a competent and capable bar and we have competent and capable judges. We have a very well organized jury system, and there is a system of appeal. I suggest to you, Mr. Speaker, that in my experience a miscarriage of justice that would result in the death of an innocent person is not a possibility.

The Minister of Justice (Mr. Lang) quoted the Bible last night. I suggest to him that the instruction "Thou shalt not kill", one of our ten commandments, does not mean that we shall not kill in the absolute; it means we shall not kill without just cause. To kill in protecting your nation in time of war is justifiable. To kill in protecting your family is justifiable. But I suggest that those who, in a premeditated and heinous fashion, murder members of society are not justified. I suggest that the commandment to love one's neighbour certainly does not mean that when one's neighbour is murdered, your neighbour's killer, who may well kill again, should go free.

There have been many improvements in medical science over past years and in the science of altering a person's personality, a science that is developing bit by bit. I hope in years to come that society will be able to change the attitude of people toward life. But we have not yet demonstrated anywhere in our penal system, in our psychiatric studies, in medical or sociological work that we can change the personality of hardened, dangerous criminals. Until we can demonstrate some degree of success in changing the personality of those who are the kind who commit the heinous type of premeditated murder of which I have spoken this afternoon, we owe society the ultimate protection of capital punishment.

I am a member of the United Church of Canada, and my church clearly calls for the abolition of capital punishment. I have suggested to my church, and I suggest to this House, that at this stage of our social development the abolition of capital punishment is not possible. When our society develops, perhaps when it becomes more loving, more capable of organization and able to alter people's personalities, able to effect some cure of those who are engaged in forms of anti-social behaviour, then perhaps the abolition of capital punishment will be possible. But at the present time this is not the case.

Our prison system is brutalizing. The investigations that followed the Kingston riots clearly demonstrated that some of the persons incarcerated in the institution bore only a likeness to human beings and were really animals. The death penalty as a punishment is a lever of protection and discipline, a lever which at this stage in the growth of our society cannot be dispensed with. Members of this House should examine closely what police associations across the land have said. Police officials deal more with the criminal element of society on a daily basis than anyone else. Right across Canada these associations have said—indeed, the wives of police officers have collected petitions to this effect—that we cannot abolish the death penalty.

We still retain the provision that the Governor General in Council has the right to direct that a person convicted of murder can have his sentence commuted, and that is as it should be. Executive clemency must be maintained.

This is a bad bill, Mr. Speaker. This bill lists police officers, ancillary sheriff's officers and prison guards as exceptions, and thus discriminates against other categories of persons who might be murdered. My daughter will not be protected. A member of the House of Commons will not be protected. You can kill the Prime Minister but under this bill his killer will not hang. It is a bad bill and I will vote against it.

I think it is imperative for the government to rethink this bill and produce another one. It must analyse the crime of taking a person's life and set new standards. The government must present to the House a bill that the vast majority of members are happy with. The very length of this debate clearly indicates a division in the country, and clearly indicates that this House is not satisfied with this bill.

● (1640)

Mr. Max Saltsman (Waterloo): Mr. Speaker, the last time I rose to speak in the debate on capital punishment was some five years ago. Just before I came into the House at that time I was handed a very urgent and important letter from a constituent, a school teacher of my sons. She urged me to support hanging as the only way of protecting children. She was very sincere and very concerned about what she thought was happening. This was probably as cutting a letter as a person could receive, especially when he knew he was going to vote for abolition. I have a very high regard for that teacher, as I have for other people who do not necessarily agree with me on this question of abolition. I intend to continue to be an abolitionist and to support this bill with its deficiencies. I think there are some deficiencies in this bill and my colleague the hon. member for Vancouver-Kingsway (Mrs. MacInnis) has pointed them out. In principle, we will support the bill in the absence of a measure proposing total abolition.

As much as anyone else, I am aware of what polls indicate are the attitudes of the people of Canada. I have conducted polls in my own riding and have read the results of national polls. After reading them, one would think this was a hanging country, that the public very much wanted to bring back hanging and is determined to do so. If that is the impression left by the results of polls I suggest it is somewhat erroneous. I am sure if you asked the fast and facile question, do you want hanging, do you want to bring back capital punishment, that is the kind of answer you would get when you live in a society where, for one reason or another, the fears of people have been increased by prison escapes and their security is a matter of importance. I sympathize with and understand that attitude.

Like other Members of Parliament, I should like very much to feel I was in harmony with my constituents and could go along with what they appear to want. However, I do have a responsibility, and I am sure my constituents will recognize that I have a responsibility to act and vote in the best way possible on the basis of the information before me. I have a conscience as has every other member of this House of Commons. Sometimes a debate gets off on the wrong track when we assume that because everyone

on this side has a conscience everyone on the other side has not. Let us assume that we all have a conscience and act according to that conscience. I know many of the members of this House personally, and have no hesitation in saying that they act on the basis of their own conscience, whether or not they agree with my decision. I do believe that hon. members are making a mistake when the results of polls have much bearing on their decision. I say that for two reasons.

It is important not to take these results as being representative of public opinion. It is far more important, in my view, to sit down with these people and ask them what they really mean and what really bothers them about the situation. When you do that you get a much different impression from the one you get on the basis of what the polls indicate. I suggest you will find that the people of Canada are not in favour of hanging. After explaining the complexities of the situation to members of the public you often find they have a different view, usually one that is softer and more understanding.

I find that many individuals are confusing problems in respect of parole and prison escapes with the concept of capital punishment. When you talk with them you find they are not worried about capital punishment, but are worried about permissive courts, paroles and other things of that type. When you point out that the one has not much to do with the other, they want to be assured that these dangerous people will be kept in jail, will not be allowed to escape and will not be paroled. I am not suggesting we get tough in respect of parole but that we should be wiser. We must learn from our mistakes. Most people will agree that a good parole system is a necessary part of society, but we must separate clearly the one problem from the other. When you give people an assurance that these dangerous people will be removed from society, and no longer will be a menace, their feelings in respect of capital punishment undergo a degree of change.

Before I became a Member of Parliament I had an instant opinion, as I am sure other hon. members had, about various things. If you asked me a question I would give you a quick answer. It is rather easy to have an instant opinion when your hand is not on the lever that opens the trap door. Our hands are on that lever in that we are making this decision. I have the opinion that if my constituents were in my place, in possession of the evidence and information I have, and given the opportunity to listen to the debate taking place in the House, and had the same responsibility of exercising the small degree of power to send a man to his death, they would feel somewhat different from what the polls indicate.

My reservations about capital punishment, and perhaps in this sense I am different from some of my colleagues, are not the result of any squeamishness or reluctance to kill when necessary. In common with other hon. members of the House, I served five years during the war, and I suggest that if you had any squeamishness you lost it after that period of time. If the evidence before us demonstrated that capital punishment protected society and saved lives, I would not hesitate to support it. No such evidence exists, and to kill for unnecessary reasons is wrong. Perhaps killing is never necessary, but certainly if there is no evidence to support the belief it is, one should not take another person's life.

What is it that we must consider during this debate? We must consider whether hanging is a deterrent. At the very best, I suggest the evidence leads to a standoff. The statistics available do not support the fact that hanging is a deterrent. If anything, the statistics indicate that during the years when capital punishment was abolished the incidence of serious crime declined. Should we take a life for the sake of vengeance? There was a time in society when those in authority did take life for vengeance. Many of us have forgotten the real meaning of the eye for an eye and tooth for a tooth concept. I had to draw on my experience as a young man studying under my rabbi to realize that you were not being asked to be more harsh or to require more in the way of retribution, but rather require a minimum. In those days if someone insulted you, you look his life. If someone punched you too hard you killed a member of his family. The meaning of the concept of an eye for an eye is that you do not take greater vengeance than is absolutely necessary.

● (1650)

In a society like that the fear was that if the authorities did not take vengeance on behalf of the population, the population would take it itself. We are talking about lynching, stoning and other acts of instantaneous violence. Therefore, violence by government was necessary to preserve the cohesion of that society. Is that the kind of society we are living in today? Are we afraid that if two or three lives are not taken over a period of years there will be riots in our streets, and that people will take things into their own hands, that blood victims will take blood and that children will kill child murderers. I think we have progressed over these thousands of years to the point where vengeance does not have to be taken in that particular way. It may be that some day—and I hope it never comes—our society will become so concerned that there is this danger of public violence that those who are abolitionists will have to reconsider their position. However, I see no evidence of that now and I do not think the time will come.

I was remarking to my colleagues, in recalling the debate which took place some five years ago, that one thing which strikes me about this particular debate is that it is being conducted in an infinitely calmer way than the debate of a few years ago. While the polls show that this is a hanging society, this is not being reflected in this House. The debates here are marked by a more logical and more reasoned approach from both sides of the House. There is less anger and more concentration on argument in support of positions.

Perhaps one would argue that justice demands capital punishment. I wish to speak for a few moments about justice and what it is. First of all, we can never be sure, so long as we have capital punishment, that the state does not make or has not made an error. As the speaker before me said, I think the possibility is small, but the possibility does exist and justice on the part of the state demands that that possibility not exist. As people, we cannot condone the law that may take a man's life unfairly or a life which should not be taken. That is always a possibility

which hangs over any society which maintains capital punishment.

One might point to laws we have in respect of which elements of injustice exist and may be exposed from time to time. The difference is that most of those injustices can be corrected. There is now way to correct the injustice of a life which has been taken by an act which should not have been carried out. We have examples in our society—and one might wonder how a society makes judgments about things—of intelligent men or women who become drunk, get into a car and kill an entire family. They are remorseful, but nevertheless they kill an entire family. In no way does our law say that these are persons who should hang. It was not premeditated or planned; it was an accident. At the worst, it will involve a charge of manslaughter. Yet we have the example of someone who is stupid, who has been torn apart by some internal demon over which he has no control, who in a moment's passion or in a moment of stupidity kills. He hangs. We make this kind of distinction.

Perhaps we forgive drunkenness but not a man's stupidity. In some way, the person who has intelligence and drinks is more guilty than the stupid, foolish man who has so little control over his emotions. These are the types of things one faces when one decides what is justice. We talked about bank robbers. I heard one member say that a bank robber who kills during a premeditated bank robbery should pay the penalty. Let us take the case of two men who go into a bank armed. One man worked up the scheme and is really responsible. He persuades someone of lesser intelligence than himself to accompany him. So often the criminals in this country are not the brightest people in the world, at least those who land in jail. In the course of the robbery both guns are fired, but the shots from only one gun kill someone. Both persons should hang. One man hangs; the other does not. How does one talk about justice in this kind of a situation?

Mr. Speaker, I have other things I wish to say. May I call it five o'clock.

PROCEEDINGS ON ADJOURNMENT MOTION

SUBJECT MATTER OF QUESTIONS TO BE DEBATED

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Boulanger): It is my duty, pursuant to Standing Order 40, to inform the House that the questions to be raised at the time of adjournment are as follows: the hon. member for St. John's West (Mr. Carter)—Harbours—Atlantic area—Request for improved facilities for fishermen; the hon. member for Saskatoon-Biggar (Mr. Gleave)—Agriculture—Small farm development program—inquiry as to agreement with Saskatchewan; the hon. member for Lanark-Renfrew-Carleton (Mr. Dick)—Administration of justice—persons indicted for capital murder other than murder of police officers or prison guards—completion of legal process.

Urban Transportation

It being five o'clock, the House will now proceed to the consideration of private members' business as listed on today's order paper, namely, public bills, private bills, notices of motions.

PRIVATE MEMBERS' PUBLIC BILLS

NATIONAL URBAN TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY

MEASURE TO ESTABLISH AUTHORITY

Mr. Sinclair Stevens (York-Simcoe) moved that Bill C-26, to establish the national urban transportation authority be read a second time and referred to the Standing Committee on Transport and Communications.

He said: Mr. Speaker, in rising to support adoption of the bill which I have the privilege to introduce today, I would point out first that the terms of the bill are set out quite fully in the draft which is available to all members of this House. The purpose of the bill is to promote and improve rail, air and water passenger traffic in urban centres in Canada. To that end, we are proposing that a national urban transportation authority be established for the entire nation which in turn would have the power to establish local urban or regional transportation authorities in our urban centres.

● (1700)

I would draw the attention of the House to a motion, tied in with this bill, which I proposed on January 12 and which is on the order paper as No. 67. That motion reads:

That, in the opinion of this House, the government should give immediate consideration to the establishment of a National Urban Transportation Authority empowered with authority over all rail, air and water passenger traffic within designated urban centres including the authority to set rates, negotiate agreements with provincial and municipal authorities and to expropriate land for the purposes of carrying its duties and objects into effect.

In rising to deal with this subject, I believe it is important to first look at who administers our transportation needs in the domain of air, rail or water in our urban centres at present. As hon. members know, this matter is generally handled by the Minister of Transport (Mr. Marchand). I have had the privilege of attending certain of the Transport Committee meetings—the chairman tables his first report today—and I must admit that in dealing with, say, the matter of a second airport in Toronto I was very startled to hear the Minister of Transport state:

I really do not mind that the government of Canada lose $100 million—I do not mind—but what I would mind would be, if it were needed in 1980 and were not there, because we relied on something that did not happen. This is quite a responsible thing but I think it preferable to take the risk of losing the $100 million than not to have it if needed.

Here is a Minister of Transport seriously suggesting to that committee that he is willing to shoot crap with $100 million of public funds rather than seriously delay the opening of the Toronto international airport No. 2. At an earlier stage at that same hearing, the minister was asked to comment on the revolving fund that the department has

for dealing generally with airport development and expansion. That fund runs up into the hundreds of millions of dollars, and an hon. member made the comment:

It is a very handy kind of fund, is it not?

Whereupon the Minister of Transport stated:

Oh, yes, especially at election time.

I feel that perhaps jokingly the minister conveyed a great deal in those two comments that I have quoted. While I introduced this bill for consideration some time ago, I believe that it is more imperative today than ever that we stop the centralized control of urban transportation with respect to railways, air traffic, and also the handling of our water passenger service as that related to our urban harbours.

Let me first lay down a few facts on this subject. Here we have the Minister of Transport stating that there is a serious possibility that an airport in the Toronto area, a new airport, will be needed by 1980. In a form tabled on April 26, 1972, the department put in a schedule listing what they proposed to do and the number of passengers in the various airports of our main North American cities. I believe that hon. members should note that if one follows that schedule and checks out what they project for the year 1980, one finds that Toronto is No. 9 in the expectation of passengers and Montreal is No. 10. The projection is that, for example, the number of passengers passing through Toronto in 1980 will be 15.5 million and through Montreal in the same year there will be 12 million. This compares with the fact that New York in the same year is projected to have 89.1 million passengers, the No. 1 city on the continent; Chicago, the No. 2 city, is projected to have 68 million passengers, and Los Angeles, the No. 3 city, is projected to have 48.9 million passengers.

I believe that in considering the bill I am proposing we should take a serious look at the irresponsible approach of the present Minister of Transport. The fact is that, in spite of the fact that Toronto and Montreal are rated in their own schedule as being ninth and tenth so far as traffic projections are concerned for the year 1980, those two cities are the only cities in North America that are contemplating or developing an airport of the magnitude of Pickering or Mirabel. Surely, it is time that we asked ourselves: why does New York decide after due deliberation that they do not need an additional airport? Why does Chicago decide that they do not need an additional airport, and why does Los Angeles decide in the same way?

To bring this into perspective, I believe it is time that the government started to be more candid with the people of Canada. For example, the John F. Kennedy international airport with 4,900 acres of land, approximately 100 acres smaller than the present Malton airport in Toronto, is handling approximately double the traffic that is projected for the entire Toronto area in 1980 today. To give you another example, this morning I spoke to the commissioner for aviation for the city of Chicago and I asked him what their plans were for future airport development in that city. The commissioner laughed and said: "We have no plans". I said: "Is it not true that in Dallas and Fort Worth they are planning an airport of some 17,000 acres?" He said: "The Texans like to do things big. They've got the money, more power to them, but in our case we cannot, from the capital standpoint, afford such luxury. And besides that, we do not need it". I asked the commissioner what in 1972 and 1973 would be the likely passenger traffic at O'Hare airport, for example. He informed me that for 1972 it was 34 million passengers and for 1973 it will be 37 million passengers.

I checked with the Canadian authorities regarding the actual amount of traffic through Toronto and Montreal, and I found that the comparable figures were seven million passengers for Toronto and between four million and five million passengers for Montreal. Here we have a situation where the commissioner of the biggest airport on the continent, or as they claim in the world feels, that there is no need for new facilities until 1990 or the year 2,000 and there may not ever be the need for such new facilities. I would suggest that one of the reasons we have got ourselves into this position of contemplating a half billion dollar airport in the Toronto area and a half billion dollar airport at Mirabel in Quebec is that we have a civil service that is out of control. The civil servants have decided, not the people of Toronto and not the people of Montreal, that both of those centres need an airport, that they will have an airport, and that their brainchild will be constructed.

• (1710)

I suggest that if we had local authorities dealing with this matter we would not get such irresponsible actions. I suggest also that one of the political reasons an airport of the magnitude of Pickering is being contemplated is that it was first decided that there should be an airport of this size in Mirabel, and then—

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Boulanger): Order. Is the hon. member for York North rising on a point of order?

Mr. Danson: Yes, Mr. Speaker. I was given to understand that we were discussing Bill C-26, an act to establish a national urban transportation authority, and I was very much looking forward to speaking on that bill. Has there been a mistake? The hon. member is not referring to that bill at all? He is talking about an airport.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Boulanger): Order. I must say that the point of order is well taken. Of course, in private members' hour we are not as firm as at other times, but if we really check Bill C-26 there is no doubt that part of the hon. member's explanation has taken us some distance away from the basics of the bill. Perhaps he would return to the bill in order to keep in order.

Mr. Stevens: Mr. Speaker. I am sorry if I have conveyed that impression, because the point I am making is that we do not have local regional authorities dealing with the questions that I have been discussing. I believe that the question of an airport in Toronto would be decided differently if we had a regional authority dealing with air traffic, with rail transportation of an urban nature, with the harbours in Toronto, and likewise if we had a regional authority dealing with those subjects in Montreal. I have chosen to refer to the situation in the United States because the fact is that all such developments in the United States are handled at the city or local authority level. This situation is peculiar to Canada, and is not typical of the development of similar facilities in England

and in France. I could cite many other countries that have a central authority determining what type of facilities are needed or should be put into a local area.

My bill is designed to give the authority to an overriding national authority which, in turn, can delegate its authority to these regional levels, similar to what they have in New York where there is the Port of New York Authority, similar to what they have in southern California where there is the Southern California Association of Counties, and similar to the Chicago situation where there is actually a department of the city of Chicago running the local airports. But I would stress, for the attention of the hon. member for York North (Mr. Danson), that the federal government of the United States has consistently refused to give federal assistance to the type of airport development which his minister is contemplating at Toronto International No. 2. The developments through these authorities are handled with local financing.

For example, a comparable development to the one being proposed at Pickering is in Dallas-Fort Worth, to which I have already referred. The money for that project is being raised through a revenue bond issue of some $400 million. That bond issue is guaranteed 100 per cent, jointly and severally, by the air carriers that will use that airport. The total cost anticipated for the development will be $700 million. I emphasize that that is a smaller development than the proposed one at Pickering, but the initial cost will be $700 million, and eventually $1 billion. However, I would emphasize that the local authorities throughout the United States, in all of the areas I have referred to, have no airports of the nature of Pickering and Mirabel in the planning or development stage at the present time, in spite of the fact that their projected needs could well be three, four, and in some cases five times the projected needs for any future airport facilities in Montreal or Toronto.

I would also mention that this national authority, if established, would give the people in the local regions what they want. For example, in my own area of Toronto for many years we have attempted to have better transportation facilities, of a commuter transit nature, than presently exist. We have been constantly told by the federal authorities that they have no funds, and they have in fact brought very little effective action to bear on this subject until now. Up until a few months ago, they relied on the fact that they were waiting on a Toronto commuter rail study which they had commissioned, jointly with other bodies, to be undertaken by Dr. Soberman. Mr. Speaker, now they have had that study in their hands since November of last year. That study indicates that a fully developed commuter service, on lines which Dr. Soberman considers desirable, would cost between $80 million and $130 million, and would carry 11,789,500 people a year. I am simply pointing out that, according to the federal government, there is no money available for the development of a service that would help the man going to work on a daily basis, that would help the relatively poor person in our area, but on the other hand it can find money for the development of airports, which are essentially for the rich, to the tune of half a billion dollars or $1 billion per airport. Under a national urban transportation authority, I would hope that there would be a better reflection through the regional authorities of the true needs in each of the regions.

Dealing with need, Mr. Speaker, we have a Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) who, from time to time, takes a trip through our area. When asked about the airport, he indicated that if the majority of the people were opposed to it, then of course he would not go ahead with the airport. Public opinion polls have reflected that the majority are opposed to it, but I would suggest that because of the centralized federal approach to this project there is no way that the public opinion in my area will be felt in a decisive decision-making way. However, if there were a local authority, and if that local authority first had the responsibility of financing the project and, secondly, for making sure that the project was a worthwhile development for the area, I am confident you would not have the rather autocratic approach that has been taken to date by the Minister of Transport (Mr. Marchand) and by the present government.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Boulanger): Order. Before I recognize the hon. member for Greenwood (Mr. Brewin) I would like to note with respect to Bill C-26, which the hon. member for York-Simcoe has presented to the House, and to the point of order that was raised by the hon. member for York North, that the impression might be left by the speech given by the sponsor that this was a debate more on the Pickering airport than on the bill itself.

When hon. members present bills, in all fairness to all hon. members, they should debate the basic principles of the bills. Therefore, if other hon. members do not address themselves to the contents of this particular bill, and I have to call them to order, I hope the House will understand and excuse me.

• (1720)

Mr. Andrew Brewin (Greenwood): Mr. Speaker, I had not anticipated entering this debate but as I entered the House and heard the subject matter, I thought I should like to say a few words, although I confess I seldom enter debates on the subject of transportation for the very odd reason that I do not know very much about it.

Mr. Stanbury: That does not stop anybody else.

Mr. Brewin: It does not stop too many people. I should like, in general, to support the principle set out in the bill introduced by the hon. member for York Simcoe (Mr. Stevens). The subject of urban transportation is of great importance to all those who represent urban areas. As the bill suggests, the situation is not satisfactory. There is a clear lack of co-ordination between the provinces, the municipalities and the federal authorities, all of whom are concerned in the effective working out of the very serious problems of transportation which not only affect the environment but the whole economy and the lives of many of our people.

I agree with the hon. member that one of the best illustrations of this is in the metropolitan area of Toronto, and that is the history of the so-called Pickering airport. It is a good example of what should not be done. Had the urban transportation authority which he proposes or some similar machine been in existence, we might never have had the difficulties that have been experienced with this proposal. There, without any adequate inquiry, a tremendously expensive and tremendously dubious proposition

was almost foisted upon the people. Had it not been for the reaction of the people concerned in the city of Toronto and elsewhere, an immense project might have been undertaken on the wrong premises, and without proper pre-examination. Certain officials took one aspect of it. The location was selected by provincial authorities and so far as we know the municipal authorities were not consulted at all and if they were, they decided that they did not want the project. Although my constituents would be served by the airport in the east end of Toronto, they do not want this project to proceed.

If we had a national transportation authority, as is proposed by this bill, the elected representatives of the people would be in a position to object to such projects. One of the reasons against this project is not only doubt whether the need has been adequately demonstrated but is the indirect results of this project in this neighbourhood. How many houses in the riding of Greenwood would have to be torn down in order to provide transportation to the airport? That matter should be discussed and the local representatives should be given the opportunity to take part before the project is approved.

A national transportation authority could do all sorts of other things. It could pressure for greater development of new technologies in the field of transportation. One of the dangers of the present rate of progress is that we get a new scheme and by the time it is put into practice it has become obsolete. There are all sorts of novel developments, but I disclaim being an expert on the subject so I hope no one will ask me what those developments are. However, I have seen and read a good deal about all sorts of new forms of transportation which are essential to the solution of these problems and which could save millions of dollars but which become obsolete before they become operative.

In the draft bill there is a provision which is not acceptable, however, but it could be dealt with when the House comes to second reading, which I suppose is prima facie rather than probable. Clause 3, "Objects and Powers" should be looked at very carefully. Clause 3(c) provides for federal, provincial, regional and municipal representation to be established by the board itself. I do not think that any federal parliament has the right to establish regional, provincial and municipal representation. What it has is the right to create an authority, with which, by either co-operation or delegation of powers, these local and provincial bodies can participate. I think that is the main purpose of the bill and I support it. Although second reading of the bill is dubious, I think the hon. member deserves the thanks of this House for bringing forward a subject which is of immense importance to a large number of Canadians.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Jean-Robert Gauthier (Ottawa East): Mr. Speaker, as a newcomer in this House, I think I was asked to take the floor on Bill C-26 and that is what I am going to do. I noticed that two hon. members tackled the matter of an airport and I think that Bill C-26, as it has been drafted, does not apply only to the building of a national airport like the airport of Pickering. Thus, it is with considerable interest that I take part in this debate because it is a subject which, I think, all hon. members as well as my constituents are interested in.

Bill C-26, introduced by the hon. member for York-Simcoe (Mr. Stevens), deals with the question of urban transportation in metropolitan areas and elsewhere, but in Ottawa-Hull, it is a topic all residents of both provinces are interested in.

[*English*]

When I read the bill, Mr. Speaker, I wondered if the hon. member for York Simcoe (Mr. Stevens) was not proposing to undo the momentum already attained in solving urban transportation problems whereby the government engages in patient, careful negotiations in the most intelligent way possible, to arrive at long lasting solutions. What I am getting at, Mr. Speaker, is that the hon. member for York Simcoe has left out of this proposed legislation a fact which is very important and that is the inter-relatedness of things municipal and urban. Everyone of the social problems of our urban centres has to be regarded and understood and the inter-relatedness of all those social problems, be they technological or otherwise, are affected by all other problems such as housing, etc. We are not so ingenious that we can allow ourselves to review problems in such a vacuum as proposed in Bill C-26.

Legislative programs and agencies must be seen in context. My hon. friend's bill does not take account of this very important factor of the inter-relatedness of urban issues. He has failed to grasp what I would call the obvious. Urban transportation, urban housing, urban neighbourhood, urban services cannot be treated in isolation. He might be talking about Pickering and the hon. member for Greenwood (Mr. Brewin), who has more experience than we two combined, repeated some of the arguments regarding the airport but I think the bill in question could have been the object of some more constructive comments in its defence.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

[*Translation*]

Mr. Gauthier (Ottawa East): We have enough, not to say a lot of municipal, regional, provincial and federal agencies and I think there are enough structures in Canada to deal with all the problems we can imagine, especially as regards urban transportation.

We have—and this is what the government is trying to do—to solve our problems by the adopting innovative measures through government agencies open to wide consultation with provinces and municipalities in order to find long term solutions to the numerous social problems generated by modern communities.

● (1730)

[*English*]

I am not an expert on transportation, but from reading Bill C-26 I realize that it ignores the realities of transportation in Canada. One cannot deal with transportation in urban areas as something distinct and set apart from transportation between urban areas. I am thinking particularly of the Ottawa area. It would be nonsense and folly if Ontario, for example, and the Ottawa regional council established one system of urban transportation,

such as the proposed rapid transit that the provincial government has announced for this area, without involving the whole of the capital area including Hull-Outaouais on the Quebec side.

I was amazed some time ago when the hon. member for Grenville-Carleton (Mr. Baker) asked if the federal government would participate in such development and deal separately with each provincial government in the granting of funds for a system on only one side of the Ottawa River. I repeat myself, Mr. Speaker, but one cannot deal with transportation in urban areas as something distinct and set apart from transportation between urban areas. This principle is most important to the Ottawa area if we want our dream of a national capital to become a reality in the near future. I am sorry to say that in Bill C-26 the distinction I have referred to exists, and I will not encourage it by supporting the bill.

[*Translation*]

The residents in my riding of Ottawa East, Mr. Speaker, are facing all sorts of social and other pressure as regards urban transportation. I must say that this is a topical issue because we in Ottawa East are convinced that the hardships we must suffer concerning roads, asphalt, expressways and high density housing are not proportionate to our wish to maintain a good environment and quality of life.

I have a voluminous file on the development of six-lane roads across my riding in Ottawa and I object to this kind of planning which ignores the interrelation of social problems—and we can see that easily—as does Bill C-26.

Obviously it is necessary to draft a general transport policy, a national policy to establish standards for all municipalities and provinces in the field of public transportation. Neither the municipalities nor the provinces have the necessary funds to develop alone those large public transport systems and the federal government must participate in the preparation, the planning and the cost of such wide-ranging projects.

[*English*]

There is another aspect of the hon. member's proposal which I find disturbing. What is the phrase "urban centres" supposed to mean? To which urban centres is he referring? Is he referring to the 22 metropolitan census areas recognized by statisticians, or is he referring to our 52 cities with populations of over 30,000? Is he speaking of urban regions, municipalities, cities, towns or villages?

The hon. member's bill provides in clause 2:

> In this act, "urban centre" means a city or an urban community so designated by the governor in council.

When these so-called urban centres are designated, on what fancy will a decision be made? How will we deal with the country's three massive metropolitan areas? I am thinking of Montreal, where the tradition of civic administration goes back further than the history of this honourable House, where dedicated, knowledgeable people are trying to work out an acceptable definition for the Montreal urban community and what constitutes its urban centre. The Ministry of State for Urban Affairs is grappling with such problems. It is working to solve the problems of urban communities, urban transportation being one of them.

None of the simplifications contained in Bill C-26 would come near to curing the havoc that would result from the hon. member's less than adequate appreciation of the constitutional issues inherent in his proposed authority. Urban transportation is a field of mixed jurisdiction where conflicts are quick to crop up. In support of this contention I remind the House that recently the Premier of Ontario, having made a public statement about Ontario's urban transportation policy as it applies to the Ottawa-Carleton area, invited the co-operation of both the federal government and the province of Quebec in dealing with transit problems for the national capital region. It is true that the federal government has authority over traffic interprovincially; however, the rules and regulations that control traffic within specified regions are the responsibility of the provinces.

[*Translation*]

That is the kind of co-operation and planification we need as regards the growth of cities and municipalities. And I was pleased to hear the Minister of State for Urban Affairs (Mr. Basford) announce recently in the House that he was taking the appropriate steps to meet very soon with representatives of the provinces of Ontario and Quebec to discuss the whole matter of urban and interurban transportation, together with municipal and regional governments. Co-operation, Mr. Speaker, is the real solution to our problems of urban transportation.

To conclude, Mr. Speaker, let me say that we all know that our big cities badly need more efficient and more modern means of transportation, but that provinces are entirely responsible for this matter which falls under their jurisdiction. When there is an alternative which respects the constitutional reality, we must act, and the federal government acts throughout the country when it holds trilevel meetings like the one the minister referred to relating to the national capital region.

[*English*]

Through this channel the Ministry of State for Urban Affairs, by means of consultation, is funnelling valuable technical assistance and is dovetailing policies and research to take into account the transportation needs of the people who will be making the decisions in these areas, that is, the provinces and the municipalities. What Bill C-26 fails to make clear is the relationship between the national authority and the regional authorities. It raises several questions. How does the hon. member propose that these regional regulatory bodies be established? What is their relationship to the provinces?

The best mechanism, Mr. Speaker, for exercising federal influence in areas that are outside the competence of this House rests in the trilevel consultations now being developed by the Ministry of State for Urban Affairs. It has taken many years of elaborate planning to devise these consultations. Let us not jeopardize this inevitable step by creating some new bureaucratic machine. We have enough machinery, and we are establishing innovations such as trilevel consultations to make it more effective. That is the way we must proceed.

Mr. Walter Baker (Grenville-Carleton): Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased to have an opportunity to speak for a few moments on this bill. I congratulate my colleague on his

foresight and understanding of the basic problems which the hon. member for Ottawa East (Mr. Gauthier) was talking about and the interrelation of transportation systems in this country. As we know, there is the difficulty of co-ordination of various services and functions in an urban community.

Before dealing with the bill I wish to refer to a matter raised by the hon. member for Ottawa East. He referred to the position I took on an earlier occasion in this House with respect to dealing with the problems of co-ordinating policies of transportation between two municipalities in two provinces, and the federal government. If the hon. member reads carefully what I said during an adjournment debate a few evenings ago, he will see I said that in so far as the development is concerned on both sides of the river, it is a good thing in principle. However, I think the present situation is unfair, unreasonable and inequitable for people on both sides of the Ottawa River—which the hon. member and I know so well—who wish to develop together an area which requires this type of service and needs it, and who are prepared to accept the contribution offered by the government of Ontario, to have to wait for another jurisdiction to decide. I feel the government of Canada has waited too long since January 30 to accept the invitation of the government of Ontario to make a contribution to the development of the system.

● (1740)

I asked the question, on March 5, I believe it was, for one purpose, that is, to prod the government into establishing the trilevel conference which it announced it intended to establish to discuss this question vital to the national capital area. Out of all this it is my hope that the national capital area, which after all is the capital of this country—people are beginning to look upon this area as the capital—will be, with respect to transportation and every other municipal service, a model for the rest of the country. As the hon. member from the national capital said, I hope this will happen. I believe, and I say this with all the modesty I can muster, which is considerable, that as a result of this prodding the government has finally decided to move in the right direction.

Our problem in the national capital epitomizes the problem in the country generally under a federal system. The bill put forward by the hon. member for York-Simcoe (Mr. Stevens) is an attempt to alleviate the difficulties of co-ordination. This country is not like other countries which have a single government. We are ten provinces and two territories which possess differing aspirations, differing requirements, differing needs to be satisfied in their urban areas. We have all seen the statistics projecting the growth of our urban areas. The bill before us focuses on the problems facing our cities. If the bill is adopted, governments at all levels will be obliged to co-ordinate their efforts to make urban living a more reasonable proposition.

I think the hon. member for Ottawa East missed the point of this bill. Its purpose is to improve co-ordination. I commend my hon. friend for proposing it, since it also provides within its framework an important avenue by means of which contributions can be made by localities affected by legislation passed in this chamber and elsewhere. I cannot imagine anyone responsible for decisions made in this chamber affecting Ottawa, Toronto or anywhere else to be reached in the absence of feedback from the communities directly concerned. Any machinery for improving lines of communication with the national government is important in this respect.

I note that the hon. member for Ottawa East dealt with the constitutional issues which are involved in this question. We have been faced with constitutional questions in Canada since 1867; they are part of our national life. But I put it to you, Mr. Speaker, that such constitutional difficulties are really challenges to governments. Parliaments and legislatures which continually cite the British North America Act as grounds for objection to reasonable action are invoking a principle which is less than relevant to the needs of Canadians today.

My constituents tell me they do not care about the British North America Act. They say they are interested in solving the problems of our urban communities, in putting an end to pollution whether of water, air or soil. Their environment is affected by these things and they want solutions. They say to parliaments, "Do not tell us about the British North America Act. Do not tell us what you cannot do. Tell us what you can do and what you intend to do." This bill focuses on the effort which ought to be made by the national government to deal with the question of co-ordination.

I believe the establishment of a national urban transportation authority could well lead the way to the development of new technology in Canada. The hon. member for Greenwood (Mr. Brewin) touched on this point. We might well find the ground upon which we could develop a new industry right here in Canada, rather than import machinery and technology from elsewhere. This also applies to anti-pollution measures. The federal parliament and the provincial legislatures are concerned about pollution, yet we seem to import almost every device which is used in the fight for clean air and clean water. In this field, too, we have an opportunity to develop a completely new technology based in Canada.

I feel the spirit of this bill is a sound one. The establishment of an authority which would co-ordinate various urban projects would be valuable. Such an authority is needed in this country, and certainly it is needed in this community as the hon. member for Ottawa East should know. All of us acknowledge the necessity of provincial, municipal and federal governments getting together to deal with the challenges which face us. We are faced with the necessity of meshing older forms of transportation with present-day innovations such as the new STOL program which is possibly the forerunner of further experiments of this nature. There is need to collect and disseminate information on all such developments.

● (1750)

I think the difficulty that faces this government in many fields—I suppose the hon. member for Ottawa East, having sat in the caucus of the Liberal party, knows this better than anyone else—is that of co-ordination. On one hand the Minister of Finance (Mr. Turner) will upset the programs of the Minister of Regional Economic Expansion (Mr. Jamieson); on the other hand the Bank of Canada will tighten the money supply while the Minister of

Finance suggests his budget is expansionary. These are examples of lack of co-ordination.

The purpose of this bill is to ensure that within the field of transportation as it affects a growing number of city dwellers, in a society that is moving from agrarian to urban living, there will for the first time be the element of co-ordination which is needed and which was not present hitherto. I know the hon. member for Ottawa East will applaud those sentiments.

Mr. Charles Turner (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Labour): Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to have an opportunity to address the House on the subject of transportation. You will forgive me if I do not limit my remarks to the terms of reference of the so-called national urban transportation authority which the hon. member for York-Simcoe (Mr. Stevens) would have this House consider.

When first reading the proposed legislation I was dismayed to see we were being asked to create yet another government agency. Upon further study, my dismay gave way to anxiety when the implications of what was being proposed became clearer. Bill C-26 is irrelevant to the emerging pattern of urbanization in this country. More importantly, it contains elements of constitutional discord. The hon. member is suggesting that we circumvent or run afoul of existing provincial jurisdiction by setting up regional federal authorities with local powers. Can he be serious? Or is he, like the hon. member for Calgary North (Mr. Woolliams), talking of direct dealings with cities, clearly the responsibility of the provinces, for some political gain?

There is more to dealing with issues than introducing new concepts without consideration of all the factors. There is more to coming to grips with an immensely complex issue like urban transportation than merely creating yet another agency, yet another authority. There is much more to rationalizing the existing laws and regulations and jurisdictions that govern transportation in this country. Creating still another tribunal is not going to work toward the creation of viable urban transportation policies—

Mr. Stevens: I rise on a point of order, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: Order. I regret to interrupt the hon. member, but the hon. member for York-Simcoe (Mr. Stevens) is rising on a point of order.

Mr. Stevens: Mr. Speaker, I believe the hon. member is misunderstanding the bill when he suggests that somehow there is a jurisdictional problem. The bill is very careful to deal only with railways, air transportation and harbours which are all federal matters. It is simply proposing that "urbanwise" they be put into separate regions.

Mr. Turner (London East): Mr. Speaker, I thank the hon. member for the details, but I know what I am talking about. I have been interested in transportation for 33 years, so I know a little about it. In fact, this bill would have quite the contrary effect, further delaying the day when hon. members can speak intelligently about a matter that is of crucial national, provincial and local interest. Urban transportation is of crucial interest countrywide. That is the point this government wishes to make when it introduces legislation, as it will shortly when the railway relocation measures are placed before the House. This government has not been idle about transportation, especially urban transportation.

I should perhaps remind hon. members that there already exist government agencies that deal with transportation on a day to day and on a long-range basis. There is the regulatory body, the Canadian Transport Commission, that has a direct role in doing exactly what the hon. member would have the new legislation do, namely, improve rail, air and water traffic. There is the Department of Transport, which last year, with expenditures of $409.2 million, was in the business of doing exactly what Bill C-26 would do; that is, promoting and improving rail, air and water passenger traffic; not only passenger traffic to urban centres in Canada but also the movement of goods across the country and between cities.

The Department of Transport has also entered new fields. In 1971-72 a major national highway policy was set in motion which includes participation with all provincial governments. A federal-provincial advisory council on motor carrier regulations was created. The development of a transportation strategy for the Canadian northwest was started. Through greater participation with other governmental and private institutions, new and more advanced transportation systems are being developed. These initiatives all have impact, in one way or another, on urban transportation.

I am only skimming the surface in pointing out these examples. The point to be made here is that the government is fully aware of the need to improve urban transportation. But more important than this awareness is the conviction that planning new strategies, be they in transportation or any other area, demands a co-ordinated orchestration of all the elements involved, not simply the creation of another agency.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I apologize to the hon. member for interrupting his remarks, but it is six o'clock. Before the Chair calls it six o'clock, I believe the parliamentary secretary to the President of the Privy Council (Mr. Reid) wishes to rise on a point of order.

Mr. Reid: Mr. Speaker, there have been discussions among the House leaders concerning the special debate on penitentiaries that was raised by the hon. member for Burnaby-Richmond-Delta (Mr. Reynolds). I believe there is agreement to debate a substantive resolution which would read as follows:

> That the Standing Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs be empowered to investigate the administration of the penitentiary system, including security, parole and temporary absences, and that it report its recommendations as soon as reasonable after a thorough inquiry.

I believe it is further agreed that there be a limit of 15 minutes on speeches, that at the conclusion of the debate the motion be deemed to have been adopted, and that the motion be non-amendable. I think the House would be agreeable to accepting that motion.

Mr. Speaker: Is that agreed and so ordered?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Mr. Speaker: If there is agreement, perhaps the proposed motion might be read by the mover.

Mr. Reynolds: Then I move, seconded by the hon. member for Hamilton Mountain (Mr. Beattie):

That the Standing Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs be empowered to investigate the administration of the penitentiary system, including security, parole and temporary absences, and that it report its recommendations as soon as reasonable after a thorough inquiry.

Mr. Speaker: It is understood that this is the motion that will be put at eight o'clock this evening, subject to the conditions enumerated by the parliamentary secretary to which hon. members have unanimously agreed. I gather that the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre (Mr. Knowles) is rising on the same point of order.

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Yes, Mr. Speaker. I wish to indicate that as far as we are concerned, we agree with the suggestions that have been reported to Your Honour.

● (1800)

However, I should like to enter a caveat, Mr. Speaker, in respect of the right some time this evening to suggest that we set a time when the debate will end. This is not part of the agreement as it was not possible to achieve that, but I think instead of the debate going on all night we might agree to a cut-off time some time this evening. Perhaps one of us might propose that later.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Léonel Beaudoin (Richmond): Mr. Speaker, we agree to discuss this motion. As suggested by the hon. member who just spoke, we too would like the length of the debate to be limited.

[*English*]

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. There appears to be unanimous agreement to the conditions expressed by hon. members including the hon. member who proposed the motion. I believe this agreement would dispose of two matters: first, the motion under Standing Order 26 proposed earlier today by the hon. member for Burnaby-Richmond-Delta.In view of the fact there is to be a debate on this question this evening, we should not, of course, proceed under the proposed motion. Second, I believe consideration of this motion and its disposition at the end of the debate would effectively dispose of the notice of motion for concurrence in the report of the committee tabled earlier today by the hon. member for Skeena (Mr. Howard).

[*Translation*]

Is it agreed?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

[*English*]

Mr. Speaker: The debate which was under way at five o'clock will, of course, be deemed to have been adjourned. The hour set aside for the consideration of private members' business has now expired.

At 6.04 p.m. the House took recess.

[Mr. Speaker.]

AFTER RECESS

The House resumed at 8 p.m.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

JUSTICE AND LEGAL AFFAIRS

AUTHORIZATION OF INVESTIGATION BY STANDING COMMITTEE OF SECURITY OF PENITENTIARIES, PAROLE AND TEMPORARY ABSENCES

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Laniel): Order. The hon. member for Burnaby-Richmond-Delta (Mr. Reynolds) has moved:

That the Standing Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs be empowered to investigate the administration of the penitentiary system, including security, parole and temporary absences, and that it report its recommendations as soon as reasonable after a thorough inquiry.

Mr. John Reynolds (Burnaby-Richmond-Delta): Mr. Speaker, permit me to state, on behalf of not only the people of my riding of Burnaby-Richmond-Delta but all Canadians who are concerned about the present state of affairs in our penitentiary system, that I am happy there has been unanimous agreement of the House to debate this motion. It is gratifying to see that the concern of the people of this country can result in the transcending of political lines and that action can be taken on their behalf and in their best interests on very short notice.

The latest break-out from St. Vincent de Paul of five highly dangerous criminals was indeed the last straw in what has become a matter of almost national disgrace. During a recent visit to the British Columbia penitentiary I learned that some of the inmates referred to the almost daily reports of escapes and violations of leave passes as "Comedy Night in Canada". But, Mr. Speaker, this is anything but a laughing matter. These break-outs are only part of the existing problem in our whole judicial and penal system. Our courts are bogged down, our prisons are overcrowded and our rehabilitation program is in a sorry state of disrepair.

The parole system needs a complete overhaul, and authority for deciding the length of sentences must be returned to the trial judge. What is the point of a judge carefully considering all the evidence, having the opportunity to view the accused during what is often a lengthy trial, being fully aware of all aspects of the case, and in many cases even knowing the accused having dealt with him before, and then after reaching a decision as to sentence seeing that sentence commuted by a body far removed from the actual scene of the crime? It is no wonder that judges are speaking out in irate tones against the Parole Board.

Certainly, it is no easy task for a judge to pass sentence on a man, but when he sees the same man before him again at a time when he is still supposed to be in jail from the previous offence, he wonders about the mentality and the thinking of the person who released the man back into society. Possibly if this body known as the Parole Board had to serve the sentence of anyone who violated the

terms of the parole, greater care would be taken in selection for parole than is currently the case, for indeed one must consider their actions criminal in some of their recent decisions.

At the very least, the presiding judge should be allowed some input into the final approval for parole of any convicted person, particularly in cases of crimes of violence. It might surprise the parole board to know that judges, after years on the bench, have a contribution to make in the assessment of a person's rehabilitative chances in society; yet this expert, professional advice is not sought and hardened criminals are being released back into society with disastrous effects on honest citizens. Perhaps, too, the entire make-up of the parole board should be changed to include more lay people and less social workers who often tend to pay more attention to the poor convict than to the victim of his crime.

In so far as the security of our penal institutions is concerned, this is a technical matter and should not even be before this body. Either you have a man competent in his job of keeping prisoners in jail or you get rid of him and employ a man who can do the job. In this regard I have no hesitation in recommending the immediate dismissal of the warden and senior officers of St. Vincent de Paul for gross neglect of duty if not for any other reason. There has been some suggestion that inside help was made available to the five convicts who escaped very recently. If this is the case, I trust the Solicitor General (Mr. Allmand) will pursue his investigation to the fullest and that the most severe penalty will be imposed upon those responsible for the escape. That five such dangerous men should be allowed to escape in broad daylight during a lunch hour, and that all four watch towers should be unoccupied, is more than anybody could even remotely find plausible.

● (2010)

The whole incident reeks of collusion and corruption; even more so when one realizes that there was almost one guard on duty to every prisoner. Again, in light of the fact that instructions had been issued to man these towers on a 24-hour basis, I would call for the immediate resignation of the warden of St. Vincent de Paul prison and the officials of any other prisons where the job of security for the protection of society is not being carried out adequately. Such incompetence must not be permitted to exist in our penal institutions.

Perhaps the most unfortunate effect of this entire incident will be the detrimental effect on future chances of parole for deserving men and women presently in jail. When the record is reviewed, it is the Parole Board and their sometimes senseless granting of weekend passes and early parole who must take partial blame. The remainder of the blame must be taken by this government which has permitted this situation to exist and to grow into its present state. To award weekend passes to sex deviates, rapists and murderers is beyond all reason, particularly in cases where the victims of sex deviates and rapists have not and will not ever recover from the effects of the injuries done to them.

I hope and pray that a thorough and complete investigation into the pilicies and procedures of the National Parole Board is included, and indeed receives the highest priority in this investigation of the penitentiary system. This is the crucial issue here, not the simple one of housekeeping in the penitentiaries.

If we must spend additional funds to erect an institution to house our hardened criminals, then let us do so. But please let us not spend millions of dollars in this regard and then flood that institution with weekend passes and overnight leaves. Let us face the fact that there are those who have no regard for others, who spit in the face of honest men and regard work for society as something others do. Let us say to these men, "You shall be incarcerated in prison, and there you shall stay. You were given a chance, you were given a second chance or even a third chance, and you shall receive no more. Society shall be protected from you from now on". Perhaps, then, those individuals will be separated from others and their insidious, hardened habits will not spread like a cancer among other prisoners.

To the others we can begin to offer a sincere program of rehabilitation, not making licence plates or hand carvings, or putting patches on mailbags for the Post Office, but introducing an educational program coupled with learning a specific trade. Instead of being turned back into society with no specific training, he can look forward to employment in a given area. Certainly this program is going to cost money, but will the cost be any greater than is presently the case in housing and feeding these men year after year?

It is unfortunate that these men often become entangled in a continuous cycle of being in and out of prison. It has often been said that it is not a case of having too few policemen but of having too many criminals loose in society. Let us offer them the opportunity to increase their knowledge, to learn a trade; let us assist them in gaining employment. Then if they continue to follow their criminal routine, let us incarcerate them and separate them not only from society from their fellow inmates who truly wish to turn a new page in their lives.

In conclusion, let me reiterate the point I made earlier. Let us not become bogged down in the mechanics of security in our prisons. This is a simple matter to resolve. Let us concentrate on the real issue facing us right now, and that issue is the complete investigation of the current practices and guidelines under which the National Parole Board is mishandling the responsibility with which it is charged.

Mr. David Lewis (York South): Mr. Speaker, we consider the motion before the House of considerable importance, but I want to make very clear at the outset that we consider it of importance not for the hard-rock, red-neck reasons to which you have just listened.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Lewis: It is all very well for hon. members to say that they are in favour of rehabilitation after they have said everything that feeds the worst in human nature and calls for incarceration without limit, except the limit of the judge, and creates an atmosphere of fear and resentment against modern attempts to rehabilitate the criminal. I say to the hon. member who has just spoken that if the second part of his speech was sincere—and I have no

reason to doubt it—the first part of his speech was shamefully contrary to the spirit which he indicated in the second part of his remarks. He cannot have it both ways.

It is not possible to introduce a system that tries to remake human beings who have committed a crime, it is not possible to have a system of parole, it is not possible to have a system of temporary absence without some mistakes. No member in the Conservative party could do it without making some mistakes. Mistakes are inevitable because the system is being supervised by human beings. It is inevitable that a mistake will be made from time to time, and in my view it is reprehensible that people take advantage of these mistakes to create an atmosphere of fear and of almost unlimited anxiety about the situation. That is not necessary, because it does not help anybody.

Mr. Reynolds: Tell us what helps.

Mr. Lewis: I will in a moment. I live in the same country as the hon. member does and I read the same newspapers. He spoke as if at least 50 per cent of the prisoners in the penitentiaries were roaming the streets of Canada. He knows darned well that that is not true. He knows perfectly well that it is not helpful to the people of Canada and to the system to speak in such exaggerated terms about a situation that is unhappy. I think it is shameful that these exaggerated terms are used.

The hon. member says that the worst thing about the situation is that it will do something against the system of rehabilitation. Let me say to people who talk like that, that they are responsible for the spirit abroad in this country that is making it difficult for those who are trying to create a system of rehabilitation that would be of benefit to Canada. On the other hand, I say to the Solicitor General (Mr. Allmand), and I do not pretend to know the details of his department or the details in every one of the penitentiaries, that it seems to me obvious—there is a Latin phrase that lawyers use, *res ipsa loquitor*, "the thing speaks for itself"—that when these escapes have been taking place, particularly in the province of Quebec but elsewhere as well, at a fairly rapid pace, as it were, there must be something wrong in the Solicitor General's department. These things could not happen if there was no incompetence and inefficiency in high places in his department.

I am not prepared to ask for the dismissal of "A" or the dismissal of "B" without giving "A" and "B" an opportunity to state their case. I do not think that is fair either. But I say to the minister that I give him credit, as do all my colleagues, for being sincere and genuine in his attempts to run his department for the benefit and security of the people of Canada. I say to the Solicitor General that history is full of instances where the good intentions of a minister are destroyed and frustrated by those under him who are incapable of carrying out the policy which he wishes carried out, or who deliberately sabotage that policy.

● (2020)

I say to the minister that nobody can look at the present situation without concluding that even at the level of the Commissioner of Penitentiaries—and I do not think I have had the pleasure of meeting the gentleman, let alone being in a position to judge him—what has been happening in the system indicates the present commissioner may not be the best person for the job. I say that it is the duty of the Solicitor General to look into the staff in his department and to be tough and ruthless about getting rid of those who do not do the kind of job which alone can support a policy of rehabilitation and efficiency in the system.

The minister ought to look at the situation and, if necessary, clean house without any hesitation so that there may be some competence and some efficiency in the services over which he has authority. Also, I cannot help feeling that in addition to that there must be some very serious loss of morale, if not worse in some instances, in the penitentiaries across this country. If you permit me to put it this way, Mr. Speaker, I have personally been saddened at the way in which over the last number of months, or years for that matter, many people in Canada, in my constituency as well as in others, have developed a sense of revenge against others in society and have forgotten the biblical injunction that mercy and compassion are pretty important in a civilized society.

I think it is not only desirable but urgently necessary that criminals in this country be given an opportunity to be rehabilitated. I, personally, approve of the temporary absence philosophy, although not necessarily in every case where temporary absence has been granted. That has been a matter of judgment which went awry in some cases. But I think it is right to have a program of temporary absence for those persons in our penitentiaries and other prisons who in that way can be reintroduced into their families and can be reintroduced into society on a developing basis, so that when they are paroled they feel themselves a part of society instead of pariahs as many of them are made to feel at present.

Therefore, while I say to the minister that he cannot permit the present situation to continue, that he cannot permit the incompetence which is obviously there to continue, I plead with him, certainly on behalf of my colleagues, that he not permit these unfortunate incidents to affect adversely the decent programs of rehabilitation which have been undertaken by his department and which should be improved in the future.

It will be a mark of courage if he treats those in charge who have failed in their duty as I suggested he treat them, either get rid of them if necessary or give them very severe instructions if he considers that enough. But it will be a mark of cowardice if he joins the ranks of some in this House who, because there have been these escapes and because there is a feeling abroad of anxiety among many people in this country, now wish to end rehabilitation programs. It will be a mark of cowardice if, because these things are facts, he now permits himself to be influenced to deviate from a policy of rehabilitation which includes a policy of humane parole, which includes a policy of carefully vetted and humane temporary absences from prison.

As I have watched our judicial and penology system over the years, I have often wondered whether we realize what we are doing to human beings in our society. The hon. gentleman who preceded me said something about the judges who sentence people. My impression is that the Parole Board does in fact obtain information of that sort.

But surely it is right that the judge who first sentenced a person should not be the man or woman to whom is entrusted the later assessment of that person's development after that person has been in prison for some time. It is surely right that the Parole Board consist of people independent of the judicial system, but it has to consist of people who are sensitive to the needs, who have the courage to follow a consistent policy and who have the courage to say no as well as to say yes.

It has not been my experience, and I am certain I have had just as much experience as the Conservative member who preceded me, that the Parole Board has gone hog wild with paroles. Indeed, I have had many cases coming over my desk which, from the information I had, appeared to me to deserve the consideration that the Parole Board refused to afford those people. As I say, it is not my impression that they have gone hog wild about freeing people.

I hope this motion will pass. I understand there is an agreement to that effect. I think it is important that the committee goes into all the aspects which the motion covers; but I plead with the committee, as I plead with the Solicitor General, not to permit the rednecks to prevent programs and policies that are genuinely rehabilitative and which genuinely try to bring back into society people who have committed crimes. That should be the objective of our prisons and penitentiaries. It should not be our objective merely to punish people, to incarcerate them forever, as has been suggested, but to put them into an environment where those who are capable of becoming decent citizens in society are given the training and the opportunity to be rehabilitated. So far as I am concerned, if one good person gains rehabilitation as a result of that kind of policy, then all the mistakes that may have been made are well worth while.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Gérard Laprise (Abitibi): Mr. Speaker, I should like to say a few words on the motion that is being proposed to the House, in view of the number of escapes that are happening now. The government seems to have a number of crises to face in Canada, and I wonder which of them will lead to its defeat. Will it be the crisis in the prisons? Or will it be that of unemployment, or again that of the cost of living?

In any event, the one before us is pretty serious. For the last two or three years at least, the government has been trying to apply certain reforms to the prison system with a view to helping criminals to be rehabilitated, and it seems to have had the desired effect only in a few cases. But in spite of all the leniencies which the government has introduced into the prison system, it seems that those who stand to gain the most from them are working hard to offset the beneficial effects of these reforms.

Attemps are now being made to find the causes of the many escapes that have happened, especially since the beginning of the year. It is reported that in Quebec federal prisons alone, there have been 26 escapes since the beginning of the year. And this morning's papers report that the Quebec provincial police have had to organize a special corps of 60 policemen just to track down individuals who have escaped from penitentiaries.

This is a sign that the situation has become very serious, and I wonder if the relaxation of prison regulations in Canada is really the solution to this unrest. I wonder whether, after trying two or three times to rehabilitate certain individuals, we should continue to waste our time on them.

• (2030)

The former Solicitor General had tabled a comprehensive program during the last session; he had even mentioned that golf courses would be built in some penitentiaries. I think that was going a little too far! And the way we treat criminals in our prisons is the envy of lots of honourable family heads who have to toil to earn a living.

Nowadays, we notice that bandits indicted on a charge of murder are travelling throughout the province with a private chauffeur. I would not be surprised to realize before long that they get free world-wide trips. And in spite of all that, they are not satisfied.

Therefore, I believe Mr. Speaker, that a rehabilitation system should be introduced in prisons where the inmates are mainly juvenile delinquents. I think we should give all our attention to that aspect.

As to the individual of a certain age who has ignored the laws of society for 15, 20, or 25 years, I think it is a waste of time to try to rehabilitate him and make of him an honest citizen like everybody else. But if it is a first offense on the part of a young man or of a young girl and if there is a lack of institutions for juvenile delinquents, that should be the object of our attention and I believe that in that case, chances are that those young people could be rehabilitated before it is too late.

Certain reasons were given these last few days that could have been of some help in the escapes we know about. We heard that the guards may have aired grievances which were not taken into consideration or whose examination was delayed for many months and that they do nothing to prevent such escapes because they do not care or shut their eyes to the behaviour of certain prisonners.

Mr. Speaker, unrest exists among prison guards, there is no doubt about that; it was mentioned on a few occasions. It was even discussed here in the House of Commons. If those men whose task is most difficult do not enjoy working conditions and wages comparable with those available elsewhere, I think we are making a gross mistake.

If a commission is appointed by the Solicitor General (Mr. Allmand) to study this problem, it should start right there and would surely achieve something.

Anyway I think that the situation is serious and should be studied immediately. If a commission is appointed as stated by the Solicitor General, its reports and recommendations should come forthwith; otherwise the situation will get worse before measures are taken. I am not sure that the government is unable to take action now or that it has to wait for the report of such a commission.

I therefore ask most seriously to the Solicitor General to take action quickly in those cases. The individuals now at large are dangerous; those who have escaped from prison are dangerous individuals; they are a danger to the life of people who have to live in freedom and safety and also

jeopardize the life and safety of those responsible for bringing them back to jail.

The adoption of some measures is essential within the shortest possible delays and if the Solicitor General wants to act he will certainly have his colleagues' support.

[*English*]

Hon. Warren Allmand (Solicitor General): Mr. Speaker, when I was appointed Solicitor General approximately five months ago I said that my principal goal would be to reduce and prevent crime in Canada, and that all the agencies and all the resources of the Solicitor General's department would be directed toward that goal.

While it is obvious that this is the goal of the RCMP, it is not always so obvious that it is also the goal of the Canadian Penitentiary Service and the National Parole Board. Charges are often made, and they were made tonight, that these agencies are too soft toward the criminal, that they often care more about the criminal than they do about the victim. This is not so, Mr. Speaker. The Canadian Penitentiary Service and the National Parole Board are concerned with rehabilitation; and rehabilitation means protection for the public, not being soft on crime.

I cannot emphasize too often that over 99 per cent of those sent to prison are sent for terminate sentences. That means that they are going to be released one day, whether we like it or not. Consequently, we have two choices. We can either put them in prison for five years, six years or whatever it may be, put them in a cell and, when the time is up, put them back on the street without any programs or any resocialization, and so on, or we can try to do something with them while we have them under our care. Mr. Speaker, this is what we are trying to do. But I admit that there are no perfect answers. Nobody has solved all the problems of the behavioural sciences; there are no dogmatic responses as to what should be done with a man in penitentiary in order to put him back on the street as a constructive or peaceful citizen. We are taking the best advice possible and we are trying to accomplish that result. We have had some successes and some failures.

● (2040)

With regard to parole, we have a choice. We can wait until the end of the man's sentence—and that end will come—and put him back on the street without supervision or assistance. He will probably be a more dangerous person and return to crime if we do that. On the other hand, with the use of parole we can let him out under supervision before the end of his sentence, with a continuing program and someone to help him if he needs help, whether he has an alcohol problem or whatever. That is what we are trying to do with parole. At the end of his sentence, his parole is finished.

The other day before the Standing Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs the chairman of the Parole Board pointed out that approximately 82 per cent of those granted parole since the establishment of the Parole Board 14 years ago had completed their sentence without incident. There have been failures in 18 per cent of the cases. He pointed out that those on parole are earning incomes, paying taxes and supporting their families. On the other side of the picture, the man who is in prison is being supported to a great extent by the public. He is not earning any income and usually his family is being supported under a welfare program. This is what we are trying to do with parole. The criteria for parole are that the applicant must show the Parole Board two things: one, that he is rehabilitated; two, that he is no longer a danger to the public. The Parole Board tries to assess that question with all the reports and documents given to it. Last year there was a great reduction in the number of paroles. We reached the high point in paroles granted in Canada in 1971. In that year, including all types of parole, there were approximately 6,000. Last year there were approximately 4,800, a cutback of 1,200.

The Parole Board is a quasi-judicial body. It makes those decisions on its own. I do not have anything to say with regard to the granting or refusal of parole. We have something to say about the regulations pertaining to the Parole Act but not with regard to granting or refusing parole. The hon. member for Burnaby-Richmond-Delta (Mr. Reynolds) spoke in terms of the Parole Board frustrating what the courts are trying to do. He made it appear as though the Parole Board is acting in an almost illegal way.

The judges of this country know that there is a Parole Board and a Parole Act. They know that a man is eligible for parole after serving one-third of his sentence, or four years, whichever is the lesser. They know that when they sentence a man, he will be applying for parole in a few years. Usually the judge gives a sentence with that fact in mind. As a matter of fact, if he is a wise judge he tries to give a sentence that is related to a rehabilitation program. The sentence is geared along those lines, to put the man back on the street after the sentence as a safer person.

The hon. member for Burnaby-Richmond-Delta also said the members of the Parole Board were wishy-washy social workers. The chairman of the Parole Board was a judge of a court in Ontario. One of the most prominent members of the Parole Board, Mr. Gilbert, was a former chief of police in Quebec. There are members of the Parole Board who were policemen, judges and criminologists. They are not a group of wishy-washy people; they are a broadly-based group concerned about the protection of society. They are trying to put these people back on the street in a condition safer than when they went into penitentiary.

I want to say something about the temporary absence program. This program is also mentioned in the resolution. I remind hon. members that temporary absence is granted under section 26 of the Penitentiary Act. That act and that section were introduced into parliament the last time by a Conservative government. It was introduced by a former minister of justice, the Hon. Davie Fulton. This program was not passed into law by the Liberal party; it was passed by the Conservative party. It is interesting to note that when in power they did not use it very much. The Conservative party provided for this program in the law, but it became used on a wide basis only from 1966 to 1968. I am talking about the section that provides for temporary absence, without escort, for rehabilitation purposes. Before that it was used without escort for medical and humanitarian purposes, but rarely for rehabilitation purposes. There have been changes.

The hon. member for Burnaby-Richmond-Delta spoke about allowing sex deviates out on parole. I admit there were some bad cases in 1970 and 1971. There was the very bad incident of the Head case in British Columbia where a dangerous sexual offender viciously murdered a young girl, the daughter of a prison guard. Following that incident, my predecessor and those in the Solicitor General's department took some very important steps. They ruled from that point on dangerous sexual offenders would no longer be eligible for temporary absence. They also ruled that in many other categories of offences, the waiting period before being eligible for temporary absence would be extended. The temporary absence program was tightened up considerably in June or July of 1972.

The former minister appointed a three-man commission under Mr. Justice Hugessen of Montreal to study all the problems related to temporary absence and parole. They spent the better part of last year travelling throughout the country, meeting the people in penitentiaries, parole people, experts in universities, and so on. They prepared a report on temporary absence and parole. I received that report just before Christmas. The department has been working on the report. Recently I presented a document to cabinet proposing further changes to the temporary absence and parole program in line with what was contained in the Speech from the Throne. That matter was before cabinet last week and will soon be ready to put before parliament.

Parliament has now agreed to go ahead with another study on temporary absence and parole. I tried to make public the report of Mr. Justice Hugessen a few months ago. Unfortunately, it was delayed by translation and publication. It is at the Queen's Printer at the present time. It has been there for a couple of months, waiting its turn behind all the other books to be published. I am not sure when it will finally be completed, but it will be made public before the committee reports. We have taken those steps.

We have been concerned about the failures of temporary absence and parole. We know the program is not perfect. In addition, a Senate committee has been working on this matter since last year. It was set up because of the concern about failures in temporary absence and parole. The committee was first under the chairmanship of Senator Prowse, and now Senator Goldenberg, a very prominent Senator. The committee has been receiving briefs from police departments, parole officials, the John Howard Society and many other groups in this country who are concerned about parole and temporary absence.

In the short time I have held this office I have recognized the fact that there are many shortcomings. There have been shortcomings in the security system. This was made evident in recent weeks. There are shortcomings in the program. We have staff problems, and so on. Things are far from perfect and I have been trying to do something about it, as did my predecessor.

This week there was the serious escape of five prisoners from a penitentiary that was designated as super-maximum. When I was a member of the penitentiary committee of this House in 1966 we visited this super-maximum, special correctional unit. We were told that nobody would ever escape from the institution. That was shown to be wrong this week, maybe not because of the hardware and the buildings but because of human failures. We considered those escapes to be very serious. Within 24 hours of their happening I decided to have an independent judicial inquiry under the Penitentiary Act. That inquiry has all the powers of the Inquiries Act.

Mr. Nielsen: Would the minister accept a question at this stage?

Mr. Allmand: As the hon. member knows, Mr. Speaker, I only have 15 minutes. Perhaps the hon. member could ask his question when I have completed my speech.

● (2050)

I intend to make public the terms of reference of the inquiry. We were drafting them today. I went over them again tonight, but they are not completed. In general terms, this commission will look into the escapes from the special correctional unit—that is not the St. Vincent de Paul penitentiary; the St. Vincent de Paul penitentiary is nearby. The special correctional unit, which is now called the correctional development centre, is the first job it will do. The second will be to look into the Cowansville escapes, and the third will be to examine security problems in Quebec generally.

Just before entering the House I was finally able to confirm that the man I wanted to head the commission has accepted this task. He is Mr. Justice Jacques Ducros, of Montreal. He was a Crown prosecutor in Montreal and prosecuted the FLQ cases, a man whose experience was either associate deputy minister or assistant deputy minister in the Quebec department of justice, a man with a very good reputation. I have trust in him and I am confident he will get the job done for me.

The second man is Pierre Jutras, who is director of the institution in Drumheller, Alberta. Mr. Jutras is considered one of the best directors in the penitentiary service. He has had experience in both maximum and medium security institutions. He is familiar with security; he is also familiar with progressive rehabilitation programs. I have not received confirmation from the third man yet; I am approaching a man from the armed services security branch and hope I can announce his name tomorrow.

Mr. Nielsen: How can it be a judicial inquiry, then?

Mr. Allmand: It is an inquiry under Mr. Justice Ducros and it will be run according to the Inquiries Act. I don't know what else you would call it.

Mr. Nielsen: An inquiry.

Mr. Allmand: It is an inquiry under the Inquiries Act. One of our great difficulties this year has developed without any warning, the serious overpopulation of our penal institutions. In answer to a question from the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Stanfield) today I pointed out that Dorchester penitentiary in the maritime provinces has taken in 100 new, maximum security inmates since the beginning of the year. This is a fantastic increase. I was told by the people in the penitentiary service there that an increase of this size has never before been known. Usually the increase in the penitentiary population is proportional

to the increase in the general population. The general population has been increasing by about 4 per cent, but in British Columbia, for example, the penitentiary population went up by 18 per cent. The opposition put forward this motion—

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Laniel): Order, please. I am sorry, but I must interrupt the minister because his time has expired.

Some hon. Members: Continue.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Laniel): Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Mr. Allmand: I thank the House. I will conclude my remarks in another two minutes. We shall continue with the inquiry to which I have referred. As I said earlier, we have already conducted some serious, in-depth studies of parole and temporary absence. But I respect the wish of the House; if hon. members wish to study those matters again, we will co-operate with them and we look forward to their recommendations. I understand that this committee of the House will study security right across the country. That is a broader and more comprehensive study. I have suggested zeroing in, with the commission I am setting up, on security problems in Quebec because the escape problem has been more intense there than elsewhere recently. We will welcome the committee's suggestions.

There are members in the House who have worked with the penitentiaries. The committee will soon learn that when you work with penitentiaries, and especially maximum security penitentiaries, you are involved with a very difficult area. The men you work with are very difficult. They were difficult on the outside and they are very difficult when they are on the inside. There are no easy solutions. I will welcome any help the committee can give. We are in a minority situation here in parliament, and opposition members will have more seats on the committee than the government side.

Mr. Nielsen: Not at all.

Mr. Allmand: Any help they can give me and the department will be greatly appreciated, whether it relates to escapes, to overpopulation, to staff morale or whatever it may be. I shall sit here this evening and listen to the suggestions which are made. Tonight our speeches are limited to 15 minutes and I have dealt with this subject as quickly as I can. However, we will be appearing before the committee on our estimates, when we will be prepared to give hon. members as much information as we can and we shall assist them as much as we can.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Morgan: May I ask the minister a question? Can he tell us whether under section 12 of the Penitentiary Act he will allow the inquiry to be a public inquiry, with all the evidence open to the public?

Mr. Allmand: I think that can be done, but my feeling is that it should be left to the discretion of the judge who chairs the commission. Obviously, if the commission is being told about a communications system within a penitentiary, it would not be in the public interest for such information to be made public. Making it public might alert the public to aspects of security within a penitentiary. That kind of evidence would have to be given in camera.

Mr. Nielsen: They obviously know all about it already.

Mr. Allmand: I expect the hon. member to take this matter seriously. I think he realizes that there are some hearings which could not be held publicly. But the judge will be in a position to decide, independently, what can and what cannot be heard in public. Hon. members will be able to make similar decisions about their own committee. I would not be surprised if they wished some of those hearings to be private.

Mr. Alex Patterson (Fraser Valley East): Mr. Speaker, many people seem to be very surprised at the situation which has developed across our country as far as the administration of justice and the penal reform system are concerned. I do not think there is anything to be alarmed about, or at least to wonder about, because to my mind this is just the result of a new attitude which has been taken and of the new policy which has been promulgated with respect to penal reform. As we look at the situation today we find that the whole system is in a state of chaos. We can go back to the statement made in the House by the former solicitor general on October 7, 1971, when he said:

> We have decided from now on to stress the rehabilitation of the individual rather than the protection of society.

We find another statement which appeared in the Vancouver *Sun* of November 15, 1972:

> Pierre Emond, executive assistant to State Secretary Gérard Pelletier said, "I would not check the prison record of anyone. Most people go to prison by accident. Society is responsible for it, not them."

A great many law-abiding citizens are getting fed up with being blamed for everybody who goes to prison. They say that society has failed them, that somebody has failed them, and the result is that they have run afoul of the law and find themselves behind bars. But every man has a conscience of some kind. He knows right from wrong, as far as the broader principles of social living are concerned, and if he decides to take a contrary course and go against the accepted standards and the laws of the nation, he and he alone has to accept the responsibility and the blame for that decision. I, along with a great many others, am tired of being blamed for people being in jail.

I should like to give a brief quotation from former Judge Mulligan in *Weekend* magazine of November 25, 1972. He said:

● (2100)

> It is the law of the land, laid down by parliament and by the Supreme Court of Canada, that certain rules will be followed with respect to the treatment of criminals. First and foremost is the protection of society. Second, the deterrence of the particular individual from committing that particular crime again and the deterrence of others disposed to that crime, and third, the rehabilitation of the offender.

The Solicitor General (Mr. Allmand) has indicated that his convictions follow something along the same lines, and

he has given me his personal assurance that he is concerned about the safety and welfare of communities. But I believe there must be greater recognition of the fundamental principle that society must be protected. With regard to the rehabilitation of individuals who have transgressed the law, instead of turning them out without supervision for even short periods there have to be iron-clad guarantees that they are not going to perpetuate the crimes for which they have been incarcerated.

I realize there are those who say you cannot give iron-clad guarantees, that you cannot have an absolute assurance that there will not be an repetition of the offence. But I say that society has the right to expect it to the fullest possible extent, and that has not been so in the past several years. I think there has been an admission of this fact by speakers tonight. Therefore I call attention to this particular situation.

Since that fateful day when the former solicitor general announced this new government policy, the newspapers of this country have been filled with all manner of parole violations—murders, thefts, assaults and rapes—by dangerous criminals who have been let loose in the community in an exercise that is an experiment by the government. I do not believe that this is acceptable to the great majority of the Canadian people.

I speak as a representative of a community in a constituency where there are several penal institutions. For some time I have followed reports of court proceedings in the papers, and almost every week there have been reports of people who had been let out of jail on a pass and were unlawfully at large because they had not returned. We had a considerable number of violent and tragic crimes committed in our community by individuals who were out on pass or had been able to get out through lack of adequate security. This reached the point where the council of the municipality protested to the Solicitor General. The response of officials in charge of one of the institutions—the one to which I referred just now—said that the community was overreacting. I ask, how many rapes, how many thefts and how many other types of crime are we going to tolerate before we get stirred up and demand that something be done?

I suggest that because of laxity within the administration of the Department of the Solicitor General or the penitentiaries branch, which I suppose is an agency of the department, we are now facing a situation where people are alarmed. I even heard a very prominent resident of my community say that he had been giving serious consideration to moving out of the community, to moving out of the province altogether, because he was afraid for his family's welfare.

An hon. Member: Where would he go?

Mr. Mackasey: Send him to Verdun.

Mr. Patterson: It is suggested he be sent to Verdun. I mention this fact because I have another news article here which reads:

> A spokesman for Solicitor General Warren Allmand said today a three-man inquiry commission will be established this week to investigate penitentiary security in Quebec.

This is not only needed in Quebec; it is needed right across the country.

Mr. Mackasey: Verdun is in Quebec.

Mr. Patterson: I realize that. I have talked to people who have worked in institutions in various provinces and they have presented me with a picture. Some say that very soon there will be no one in jail because guards are not allowed to exercise any discipline, they cannot fulfil their responsibilities, and they are given instructions not to rock the boat. I suggest this is a strange way to protect our society.

I do not think I have to draw on any illustrations tonight to indicate what is taking place as a result of the actions of the Parole Board. The chairman of the board has made a spirited defence of his organization and stewardship. But the people of this country are not satisfied when they see people out on parole engaging in violence and in crime, shooting people in cold blood, and so on. If I had time I could refer to one case, that of Robert Leroy Barber, but unfortunately I do not have time to go into detail.

One of the things that concerns the people of Canada is the question of security. Reference has been made to the Head case, a prisoner who during his last escapade—I say his last, but I do not know whether it will be his last because possibly he will be out again one of these days—brutally murdered Tanya Bush in the province of British Columbia. Not long after that, when his trial came up a man was transferred from Dorchester penitentiary, in New Brunswick, to testify at the trial. At his request he was placed in a medium security institution, and after two days he was allowed loose for about seven hours. He broke into a trailer home, tied up the husband and forced the wife to drive him to the city. On the way he sidetracked the car and raped the woman. All this by a man who was supposed to be confined under strict maximum security conditions and at whose own request was placed in a less secure institution!

How can these things take place? I guess it is like the other things that take place, such as at Cowansville where prisoners walked out of jail, and the latest incident where they walked out of one of our super-duper maximum security prisons. We find these things happening right across the board. I suggest it is the government's past policy, a policy that has not been corrected to this day, that has allowed a great many of these incidents to occur.

Last October the warden of Millhaven maximum security prison in Kingston stated that it was impossible to control 365 tough criminals housed in the prison. He said he had been stripped of disciplinary power by incompetent or inexperienced officials. Then he said:

● (2110)

> This has not only made controls of the inmate population impossible . . . but has almost completely destroyed the staff morale.

I can understand why. In any event, someone has suggested he got out but I do not think he used the same method as others have used. In this connection I want to mention that I have in my possession a series of letters from individuals and groups of individuals in my constituency who are tremendously concerned. For instance, I have a petition signed by about 650 people living in the

Agassiz area in which is located the Mountain prison and another institution not far away.

I also have communications from the district of Kent and the city of Hope. These have the backing of the municipalities and suggest that the priorities expressed in parliament by the former solicitor general should be reversed and that prime consideration be given to the protection of the public rather than the rehabilitation of inmates. They go on to refer to parole, passes and lack of security and call upon the government to take action to remedy the situation before it gets completely out of hand.

I have a letter here from the Public Service Alliance of Canada presenting the same argument with reference to the Kaiser case, the man who escaped from prison and broke into a trailer. I have another communication from the Mount Cheam ratepayers' association expressing concern for the safety of women and children in the vicinity of federal prisons. It reads in part:

> We have also expressed our concern regarding the pay and conditions of prison guards and the conditions the RCMP have to work under in the Agassiz area.

These are documents received from concerned citizens. I know that some will say I am not in favour of rehabilitation. We listened to the hon. member for York South (Mr. Lewis) denunciate the suggestion of my colleague, the hon. member for Burnaby-Richmond-Delta. (Mr. Reynolds). He said that the biblical standard is one of compassion and mercy. He then called upon the Solicitor General to be tough and ruthless when dealing with prison guards and persons in responsible positions. He cannot have it both ways. The Solicitor General has said, in respect of dangerous criminals, that they do not let them out. All I can suggest is that they still find some way or another of getting out.

Mr. Arnold Peters (Timiskaming): Mr. Speaker, may I express my regret that the minister is in the difficulty he now faces, and also my sympathy regarding the advice he has received. I suggest it is not much different from that received by his predecessor which led to many of the problems the Solicitor General (Mr. Allmand) now faces.

I suggest we must first get rid of the Commissioner of Penitentiaries. He was chosen for political reasons. He has been, and obviously still is, incompetent as the administrator of penitentiary services. I say that because I have had experience over a number of years with the penitentiary system. I have read some of the history of this service. A few years ago when Alan McLeod was appointed commissioner of the penitentiary service it was taken for granted by most guards that when a judge sentenced a man to a definite period of imprisonment he was to be kept in prison for that definite period. It was felt that after he had been let out we had strong police forces who would return him to jail if he did not live up to his parole conditions. Many police forces hounded these men to the point that it was almost impossible for them to remain out of prison.

Over the years we have been enlightened as to the penitentiary service. Schools have been established to train guards and to give them assistance in handling some of the problems that arise between guards and staff. Over the years we have changed the personnel in our penitentiaries and in my opinion we were reaching the point of developing a fairly progressive system.

The minister in his remarks paid careful attention to the Parole Board. I suggest that everybody knows the chairman of that board has no guts. Let me remind hon. members of the Tanya Bush case and the case of the two little boys from Montreal, or Toronto who were murdered by released prisoners. Whenever such a thing happens, the Parole Board tightens its regulations and we find there are no more paroles. This board will not take a chance.

The criticism made today by several hon. members was in respect of the construction of penitentiaries. I remember visiting the maximum penitentiary at St. Vincent de Paul some years ago. It was built like a dog kennel. There was wire over the top of the cages on which one could walk to see what the prisoners inside were doing. It was originally so bad that the recreational area was fenced, with the prisoners inside and guards, with dogs, circling the outside. That sort of treatment was obviously so bad it had to be discontinued and that penitentiary was changed.

I do not know why the new commissioner was appointed and I am not aware of his qualifications. I do know many employees of the service are highly dedicated and competent men, but many are incompetent. I suggest there should have been an inquiry conducted after the riot that took place in Kingston some time ago, and the result of that inquiry should have been made public. With the hon. member for Skeena (Mr. Howard) I visited Millhaven soon after the transfer of prisoners from Kingston. We found that almost every prisoner had been beaten unmercifully, and we were told by the then solicitor general--

Mr. Allmand: I rise on a question of privilege, Mr. Speaker. I am sure the hon. member would not want to mislead the House by his suggestion that there should have been an inquiry following the Kingston riot. There was an inquiry conducted by Mr. Swackhammer, and his report was made public a month ago.

Mr. Peters: It was made public in the same way that other reports have been made public. I have in mind the report of the department in respect of the St. Vincent de Paul riot. I read that report, but only parts of it were made public.

In any event, there was no justification for those guards to beat up the prisoners. We do not believe in that kind of treatment in our society. When two Members of Parliament visited that penitentiary they found that the rules had been changed. Members of Parliament can no longer visit penitentiaries and those two members were told to leave. I suggest to the Solicitor General that he should re-establish the procedure of allowing Members of Parliament to visit penitentiaries as a right. I am sure this procedure will result in the obtaining of information which would allow the Solicitor General to correct the situation before riots could develop.

● (2120)

Members of Parliament for years had visited penitentiaries. In my opinion they did a fairly good job. They knew what was going on and they interviewed the prisoners. What happened in this last case? I am told that Coco Mercier, who was to be on trial for a number of days, went

before the court and pleaded guilty to the murder of two persons. Why? Because he wanted to go back to the penitentiary that night and not be kept in the jail in Montreal. That was the only way he could get out. He knew this some time beforehand.

The Solicitor General spoke about security and lines of communication. The hon. member for Yukon (Mr. Nielsen) laughed when the minister said that. There are all kinds of lines of communications. Many of them are outside the jurisdiction of the Solicitor General. I have probably received more mail from prisoners, through unofficial channels, than through official channels. I am sure the hon. member for Yukon, who has been interested in this field and has had some experience with inmates, has also received more communications through informal rather than formal channels. I am sure this is also true of other members.

Let us look at the case of the criminal whom the previous speaker wanted to mention. You will remember, Mr. Speaker, when the riot took place in St. Vincent de Paul penitentiary. The leader of that riot appeared before a judge who is now a member of this House, the hon. member for Saint-Hyacinthe (Mr. Wagner), who gave him a sentence of one day, when other people were receiving sentences of 14 years, because this involved damage to public property. In this case the judge knew the man had been badly beaten. This man was one of the most dangerous criminals. However, he has now been out of jail for a number of years. He is a businessman and employs 25 people today. You will not see him in prison again.

Another person involved in the same riot and who received a sentence of 14 years is out now operating an organization in Hull for the benefit of other ex-prisoners. He has helped 900 ex-convicts over the last four or five years. Surely society's responsibility is to get these people back into society. They have done something in opposition to society, and if they can be rehabilitated the effort should be made to rehabilitate them.

I think, however, that when arrangements can be made such as those made in respect of Coco Mercier we had better look at the question of morale in the penitentiary service. I suggest that the morale must be pretty bad in most of these institutions. Nothing is done about the guards who beat prisoners. There have been occasions when guards have formed a line through which the prisoners must pass. I was there the day after one such occasion and saw the bruises. The prisoners were beaten as they walked down the line. The solicitor general of the day covered it up. This practice should not be covered up; it should be dealt with, because all the guards in that institution who believed they could assist in rehabilitating prisoners in the institution obviously knew they would not be able to do so when the solicitor general of the day was willing to cover up the situation, as were most other people.

I understand we are to pass this resolution. This means that a committee will be established to investigate the penitentiary service in Canada. This committee which is to be established is not to have the right to travel. I warn the Solicitor General that it may be difficult to bring to Ottawa as witnesses all the people concerned from Stoney Mountain, Dorchester or from any of the penitentiaries in the Montreal or Kingston areas. It seems to me it would be wise to have the committee travel rather than to have witnesses travel to Ottawa. It seems to me that this has been an ill-thought out way of trying to resolve the major problems in the penitentiary service.

If we should reach the stage of agreeing with the previous member—and I have listened to him making the same speech for many years—then we will have reached the point where the only solution will be for the Minister of Public Works (Mr. Dubé) to build more penitentiaries to contain these people. I suggest, however, that that is not what the ordinary Canadian wants. I think the ordinary Canadian wishes us to embark upon a modern form of penology so that we rehabilitate into society as many people as possible in the shortest possible time.

The building of penitentiaries such as the maximum security one we have established in Montreal is a disgrace to an enlightened society. It goes back to the dungeon days. I do not believe it accomplishes anything. If I should lock up my dog, who is very quiet, for two or three weeks, he may even bite me, let alone everybody else afterwards. That is exactly what happens in respect of many of these prisoners. That most dangerous man in Canada, Coco Mercier, because of the action of a member of this House in another office has turned out to be a good citizen and in my opinion will never return to any of our institutions. This is a credit to the man who had compassion and provided justice in that instance. This is the type of case I have seen many, many times since I have been interested in this field.

I plead with the minister to give consideration to this question. Mr. Fulton, who was minister of justice at that time, said it was a British right for any Member of Parliament, at any reasonable hour, to visit any pentitentiary. The previous solicitor general believed we did not have that right. I suggest to the minister that he can help himself and the department if, when these complaints are made, Members of Parliament have an opportunity to look into some of them. It may be a way of permitting prisoners to let off steam.

I hope the committee will take another look at the type of investigation it is to undertake. I plead with the members of the committee and everybody else not to merely criticize penal reform and the mistakes which have been made, and not to let the news media draw attention only to those things which are bad in our penal system, but to give credit to some of the things which are good and which are of benefit to society.

Mr. Jack Cullen (Sarnia-Lambton): Mr. Speaker, originally it was not my intention to participate in this debate. Frankly, I am not in favour of the motion, but I believe it will be adopted and so be it. I think the tack taken by the Solicitor General (Mr. Allmand) is the right one. That is the position I wish to support. I think the Solicitor General has set out well what is in fact the policy of the government, of his department and of the penitentiary service.

I was very disturbed—I am not sure whether I was angry or sad—to hear the hon. member for Fraser Valley East (Mr. Patterson) tell us about the 650 names on a petition. He quoted the comments made by a warden of a

penitentiary who apparently is no longer a warden. We do not know why he made these statements and we do not have an opportunity to question him. I think the response of the hon. member was a cowardly one to the petition he received. I think that rather than quote one or two sentences he should go to the jails, talk to the prisoners and guards and find out how difficult the situation is. He should go into the courts and find out what the courts are doing, because that, unfortunately, has been the failure of many people who consider themselves leaders of society but do not bother to find out what the situation really is and how difficult the problem is.

● (2130)

Probably the most notorious case where a mistake was made in the past occurred in Sarnia. One gets the impression that no mistakes have ever been made in the past, but "Red" Ryan fooled a lot of people. Every one thought he had been rehabilitated. He did all the things that had been asked of him by the padre in the prison and the people who were supervising, so they let him out. But it was not too long before he held up a liquor store and killed a policeman. I suggest that that crime got so much publicity that it had the effect of setting back for many years the rehabilitation process for prisoners. If we focus on that kind of dramatic incident, as I am afraid the opposition party seems to be doing tonight, we will be doing a grave disservice not only to those whom we are trying to rehabilitate but to Canadian society in general.

We are not to blame. The hon. member for Fraser Valley East said we are taking the attitude that society is to blame. We say that no individual has to accept the major portion of that responsibility. But there are some members of our community who have to bear responsibility and who turn the other cheek or do not look at what the situation. They create such an environment that an individual finds the only outlet he has, in effect, is to lash out at society and go to prison. Canadian society says: Let us give this man or woman another chance.

I agree with the leader of the NDP (Mr. Lewis) when he chastised the hon. member for Burnaby-Richmond-Delta (Mr. Reynolds). Let the judge make the decision; he should make the determination. The judge is concerned with whether the individual is guilty or innocent of a particular crime, and then he has to make a judgment. On what does he base his judgment? He turns to the social worker and the probation officer to find out what kind of sentence the particular individual should receive. I suggest we should let the judge make the decision.

The hon. member suggested that we should go straight to the police and forget about the judge, and if the man is guilty that is the end of it. That would be a retrograde step. I do not think the hon. member recognizes this, but that is what it would be. He seems to be trying to have it both ways, and you cannot have it both ways. You cannot talk about rehabilitation of the criminal element in our society, the toughest and most dangerous people, and then expect that there will be no mistakes. The hon. member for Fraser Valley East wants a lead pipe guarantee. I suggest, with respect, that that cannot be done with people in our community who have already broken the law. There are going to be some mistakes, there have been some mistakes and there will be some in the future.

[Mr. Cullen.]

The Solicitor General made one of his best speeches. He presented the situation very cogently. I hope the hon. member for Fraser Valley East will have a few hundred copies of that speech printed and will send them back to the people who signed the petition to which he referred. He should not just climb on their bandwagon and say to them, "You are right; we have to do something about this." He should at least give the other side of the issue. He should take a strong and courageous approach, and not climb on the bandwagon of those 650 people. Let him send them the speech of the Solicitor General.

The hon. member for Burnaby-Richmond-Delta is already calling for resignations and naming names. I suggest that he is prejudging the issue. I wonder why he wants to support this motion at all. He has already made up his mind. He has made his determination that we must have the study. I think that, also, is the wrong approach. We have a good penitentiary service and a good parole system, but no one has ever suggested it is perfect. We know that mistakes have been made and will be made in the future. However, we have an obligation not to give the impression that criminals are running all over the country and that we are in a dangerous situation.

I think the tendency of those who are criticizing the system today is that they are highlighting what the press is bringing out, the dramatic incidents and mistakes. I suggest to the hon. member for Fraser Valley East and others who are criticizing the system, that when they send copies of the Solicitor General's speech they should also send some of the statistics that we have heard, such as that there has been an 82 per cent rate of success. We also heard the hon. member for Timiskaming (Mr. Peters) indicate the success that has been enjoyed by an individual who was a dangerous man in a maximum security prison and who later helped some 900 ex-convicts. This is the kind of person we want to get back into society. We want to rehabilitate them and get them to support the community. We hope they will help us with our penitentiary and rehabilitation service.

Mr. Reg Stackhouse (Scarborough East): Mr. Speaker, the other day a man called me to discuss the problem that we have before us tonight. He said, "We need a new minister". My reply to him was, "I do not think we do. I think the minister may need a new broom." The minister has every right to the confidence, support and respect of the members of this House. He certainly has mine. But I do believe that he will have to initiate decisions and actions that will end the possibility of the kind of thing that has brought to a head the issue that we are discussing tonight. There will have to be a cleansing of the administration of the system over which he presides.

We do not quarrel with the system. Indeed, as has been pointed out by earlier speakers, when the Conservative party was in office it had much to do with the introduction of the system in terms of establishing the National Parole Board and, indeed, authorizing temporary leaves of absence. We agree with the system. What we cannot agree with is the way in which it is often being administered. That is why we believe it is in the interests of the people who are subject to the system, and in the interest of the welfare of Canadian society as a whole that parliament take a good, long, serious, probing look at the way the

penitentiary system and the Parole Board are being administered and, as well, the way in which the leave system is being administered.

I take it from what I have heard tonight that this resolution will receive the unanimous support of the House. However, after listening to some of the speakers I am somewhat bewildered by the unanimity of that support, because some speakers addressed the House in such a way that one realizes they do not seem terribly impressed with the necessity for this kind of investigation. In fact, they seem to regret the fact that the point has been raised at all. But I would suggest that the hon. member who has introduced this resolution deserves the commendation of the House for bringing it forcibly and clearly to the attention of parliament and the public. He should be commended for giving us the opportunity to participate in this debate which is of such concern to every responsible citizen throughout this land.

The reason it is a matter of great concern is not simply because of the breaking out from Laval of five prisoners over the weekend. That, surely, was the last straw that the public could bear. It was, surely, the final incident in a long series of events which taken together have so weakened public confidence in the way the penitentiary system is being administered that the kind of debate we are having tonight is the least that parliament could do, and the kind of investigation proposed in this resolution is the least action we could undertake.

As I say, it is the last in a long series of events of a like kind. For example, when we think of the way in which the temporary leave of absence program has been administered, we have to look at how time after time prisoners have been released on temporary leave and have not come back. Some prisoners released without escort have taken the opportunity, not as a chance to adjust to society but to return to organized crime.

● (2140)

In March of this year alone we saw one prisoner allowed out to look for a job escaping his escort in a department store in Vancouver. In Sault Ste. Marie we read of a man who was allowed out to visit his home and he did not go back to prison. In Joyceville we read of a man who was allowed out to attend a prayer meeting. Indeed, he must have thought this was an answer to his prayer. Anyway, he did not come back. Then we read of a man allowed out to attend a funeral parlour, which it may be said has a certain function in covering up, and he did not come back. This sort of thing goes on and on. The minister has admitted to this House and to the committee that the system is not perfect. We agree, but we ask him to take those steps that will lead to reducing the number of prisoners who, without escort, are allowed out of prison even though they may have a record of crimes of violence.

Similarly, with respect to the administration of the parole program we are only asking that this program be reviewed in such a way that we can take a serious look at the number of people being granted parole, who have received parole not for the first time, possibly not for the second time but have received a number of paroles and have shown a singular lack of desire to take their parole responsibilities seriously.

We are asking the minister to take a look at parole so that this record will be changed. We are simply asking that that program and the penitentiary system be administered with responsibility. We are not asking for any kind of punitive policy. If that was the policy of the penitentiary service in times past, certainly we would not wish to return to it. But we would not, and could not accept any suggestion that we ought to allow a continuation of the kind of policy which has brought us to this situation tonight. That is what we want to change.

Believe me, Mr. Speaker, it is in the interests of a rehabilitation program that we make changes in the way the system is being administered, because if the public is to have confidence in the kind of reform and rehabilitation program to which the minister is committed and to which parliament as a whole is committed in terms of passing the budget necessary to maintain that program, then the public is entitled to have a penitentiary service that is administered with due respect for security. That is what we are asking. We suggest that once the public loses confidence in the administration of the penitentiary service because of the way in which this kind of escape is allowed to take place and these violations of the temporary leave of absence program are allowed to take place—these things which negligence has allowed to take place—then we cannot expect people to have any confidence in the leadership and the direction of the rehabilitation program.

I hope, Mr. Speaker, that I have made it abundantly clear that our concern is not in any way to minimize the need for a healthy, responsible rehabilitation program; that our concern is to see the program carried out with common sense and prudence so that public confidence will be maintained.

I hope that when the committee is established it will have the opportunity, as mentioned by a previous speaker, of visiting penal institutions and talking with the custodial staff, and indeed with the inmates and with anybody else who has testimony and evidence to offer, so that a report will come back to this House along with recommendations that will tighten up the program to the extent that it is loose, that will fill in the holes to the extent that they are there, and that will recommend changes in the program to the extent that they are necessary so that public confidence can once again be placed in the penitentiary service.

Mr. John Gilbert (Broadview): Mr. Speaker, the events of recent weeks cannot be laid at the door of the present Solicitor General (Mr. Allmand). He has brought to his office a dedication, a spirit and a sincerity that have won the support of the members of this House and of Canadians generally. When he stated that the events of recent weeks had made him feel flabbergasted and disgusted, I could quite agree with him. Indeed, the guards at Cowansville and at St. Vincent de Paul make the Keystone cops look like Scotland Yard.

It is time we took a different approach to the problems facing us today. When a young man is charged, convicted and sentenced, two obligations face society. One is to hold the inmate in custody for the period of his sentence, subject to remission and/or parole. The second is to pre-

pare the individual for permanent return to community living as a law-abiding and contributing citizen.

With regard to the first obligation, to hold the inmate in custody for the period of his sentence, penal institutions over the last 50 years have not changed from the times that Dickens described in England. However, back in 1962 the Conservative party attempted to make changes with regard to penal institutions and their design. To the credit of Mr. Fulton, moneys were set aside for a ten-year period to build institutions which would not be a repeat of the past but would be more modern in design and in comfort. We have taken a step in that direction. The $200 million that was set aside for that program has not been used; in fact, less than $100 million of it has been used. It is time the government undertook a new initiative with regard to continuing the building program that was launched in those days.

The second problem of preparing an individual for permanent return to community living as a law-abiding and contributing citizen is a very difficult one with which to contend. It is difficult to rehabilitate and reform people to become law-abiding and contributing citizens if after we convict them we place them in an institution which deprives them of many things, which takes them away from their family, their community and employment and isolates them in an abnormal society. The lack of opportunity for an inmate to practice decision-making worsens the problem.

To the credit of the solicitors general of the past ten years, they have attempted to solve the second problem with regard to rehabilitation. They embarked upon a program which had the support of most Canadians. They developed programs with regard to prerelease centres. They allowed visits for the family of an inmate, with a condition of privacy. They developed a permanent advisory board. They developed a committee of eight psychiatrists to study the particular problems in that field. They provided additional medical services. They set up inmate committees whereby the inmates could relate their problems to the officials. They corrected the correspondence problem whereby when a letter was sent to an inmate it was read by officials before being given to him. A style of haircut was adopted which did not make the person look like a criminal. Identity numbers were removed from uniforms and the living unit concept was developed as well as the cafeteria system. These are some of the accomplishments for which the government of the day and the solicitors general of the past can take credit.

● (2150)

Mr. Speaker, that is a long list of reforms in connection with the rehabilitation of inmates. These are steps in the right direction towards restoring the dignity of an individual which will enable him to take his place in the community after he has served his sentence. In the past few years the government has attempted to develop an educational program. Some of the inmates have been given the opportunity to upgrade their education and some have received university training. There has been a better development of trade training and this is to the credit of the present government.

There have been mistakes, Mr. Speaker, and I guess the reason we are having this debate tonight is that some of the mistakes have come to the attention of the public. I agree with the Solicitor General's (Mr. Allmand) view of the Parole Board. They have had an 82 per cent success rate and that is to their credit. I agree also with him that the composition of the board is a fair mix of members of the bench and members from the social sciences, but it may be that we have to strengthen the criteria used when a person is released on parole. On the question of the temporary weekend passes, there have been mistakes and there will be mistakes in the future because we are dependent on human factors in making these decision.

The Commissioner of Penitentiaries gave his evidence before the Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs this morning and he said that one of the things that would be done, in fact was being done now, would be to give more protection at the perimiter of penitentiaries. That made me hope that we were not taking an approach that is too harsh. I agree that we have had problems and that maybe more protection at the perimiter is necessary, but I had hoped he would concentrate on some of the more fundamental problems that may arise, those that the Solicitor General set forth tonight, such as staff morale. There is a gap between the custodial officials and the administration officials in the penitentiaries across the country. Many feel that this problem has to be resolved. The idea of having a custodial official as a warden is not acceptable in my view. I think we should have a person who not only embraces the custodial view but embraces the rehabilitation and training concepts that are necessary to solve the problem.

We in the New Democratic Party, Mr. Speaker, welcome the debate that is taking place tonight. We welcome the motion that has been agreed upon for the committee to study in depth the matter of security, the matter of parole and the matter of temporary weekend passes. I hope that the committee will travel across the country and visit the different institutions, not only to see the physical aspects of the institutions but to talk to the officials and the inmates and get their response with regard to the problems that face us. We should not despair because we have made a few mistakes, Mr. Speaker. We have to continue our approach to rehabilitation and we have to take the necessary steps to tighten security so that the public are protected.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Bill Clarke (Vancouver Quadra): Mr. Speaker, rehabilitation is the magic word in the Solicitor General's department. The penitentiary service appears to be more interested in having the criminal's fears allayed, his hostilities washed away and preparing him to put up with a society that failed him than it appears to be in punishing the criminal or protecting the public. This would be a laudable idea if it worked but it has been tried and the crime rate continues to climb.

In British Columbia we have the Agassiz correctional work camp and the William Head minimum security prison, both about 12 years old. The idea was that the "best" criminals would be allowed to go to these institutions. They would know that they had one chance to visit

these places and that if they misbehaved in any way they would be sent to a more secure and more unpleasant prison. Prisoners were allowed to work in the community, even take box lunches and wear ordinary clothes. Even the usual prison guards were replaced with men from the community who were called correctional officers. But there were not enough in the "best" category of prisoners because the minor criminals and first offenders were in the provincial jails. It takes a two-year sentence to send you to a penitentiary. In addition, the correctional officers would not stay in their jobs because of the lack of response from inmates and because many guards were attacked or threatened by inmates. All of this happened in spite of the near luxury conditions of diet, entertainment, passes and so on.

The easy prisons in British Columbia have all been failures. Statistics have shown that escapes and failures to return from leave are so numerous that local municipal councils have asked that leaves be stopped, only to be told that they were over-reacting. Only 36 per cent of inmates in British Columbia in March, 1972, were in maximum security prisons, while over half of them were in medium security prisons. Medium security means a wire fence which can be climbed easily and minimum security means no fence at all.

The Solicitor General spoke today of the increased population of the penitentiaries and of the inability of his department to obtain another site for the 100-year old British Columbia penitentiary at New Westminster. This is a maximum security institution and New Westminister does not want it any more. Has the Solicitor General wondered why nobody else wants these institutions, either?

Let me tell you of a correctional seminar which I attended as an observer in Vancouver just two years ago. The story that unfolded was this. The city of Mission which suffered economically since it ceased to be the western terminus of the Canadian Pacific Railway line, reluctantly agreed to be the home of a new federal prison. There was to be a small minimum security area, some medium security and a large maximum security building with perhaps 400 inmates. The land was cleared, the preliminary plans were prepared, and municipal services were installed at great cost to the government and to the city of Mission. In fact, the idea of the new prison came to be welcomed by Mission City as an economic shot in the arm. It must be illustrative of the government's planning that the participants in this seminar succeeded in persuading the federal government to stop construction of the Mission prison, leaving the people of Mission holding the bag. They are still holding the bag as far as I know. They had their economic hopes dashed and were left with an uncompleted eyesore upon which a few prefabricated buildings have been placed.

● (2200)

This group persuaded the federal government that increased maximum security prisons were not needed because of the new rehabilitative programs that were in effect. Now, the present Solicitor General tells us he is having difficulty handling the increase in prison population. Is it any wonder that the government is having difficulty finding a home for the prison to replace the British Columbia penitentiary at New Westminister? The government cannot be relied upon to keep its plans or its prisoners under control. In short, the government has proved that its prisons are not good neighbours and the people of British Columbia do not want bad neighbours.

It is clearly time that a proper investigation was held. I give my urgent support to this motion of my colleague, the hon. member for Burnaby-Richmond-Delta (Mr. Reynolds).

[*Translation*]

Mr. Claude Wagner (Saint-Hyacinthe): Mr. Speaker, I should not like to let slip the chance to take part in such an important debate, on a subject which is causing great concern and anxiety to the population.

Earlier today, in the Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs, I expressed to the Solicitor General (Mr. Allmand) not only our sympathy but also our compassion for the problems he is up against, but I also reminded him that, while we understand his problems, we expect a lot of him. We expect him to give an account of himself and to explain to the people what has caused this series of escapes.

I say this by way of introduction and I should like to add immediately that this series of incidents, especially considering that there have been 46, I believe, this year in the province of Quebec, 18 in the last few months, and five this week, seems to me to be a tragedy rich in implications.

It is a tragedy which can first of all expose to ridicule the administration of justice in general and, secondly, lead to scorn for public institutions and penal institutions in particular. This series of escapes has the further disadvantage of undermining the morale of the officers and guardians of the peace. Another disadvantage is that they frustrate the police who, day after day, attempt to carry out their duty in the face of opposition, and whose sole consolation sometimes is seeing those they have managed to put in prison get out as quickly as they went in.

The brunt of this tragedy is the growing concern of the public, at a time when the population of Quebec in particular sees murderers who have been condemned to life imprisonment, who have managed to escape once and commit other murders, being condemned anew, only to escape again today. Let us hope that they will commit no more crimes!

And finally, Mr. Speaker, the true meaning of this tragedy lies in the fact that there is real danger in jeopardizing positive progress achieved in the field of rehabilitation because the gravity of these developments might blur the prospects of rehabilitation held forth to the people by dedicated people who strove towards a better future for inmates.

I confess that I was not free from emotion when, a few minutes ago, I heard the hon. member for Timiskiming (Mr. Peters), as an example of rehabilitation, recall the case of the young man who appeared before me in 1963 or early in 1964 following the St. Vincent de Paul riot. I can still see him stand there, a strapping fellow with a record of armed robbery and all kinds of things, with a smashed jaw and a bruised face. He had been badly battered by the guards, and I told him that his punishment had been severe enough to preclude the court, in the name of socie-

ty, adding to it. That fellow, in spite of his experience, standing before the court, broke into tears and swore to the young presiding judge that he would not have to regret his attitude. Today it is a happy moment for me to learn from the hon. member for Timiskaming that my forbearance bore fruit, that one can still believe in rehabilitation, that one can still believe that there exists in a human being, even the most corrupt one, a potential that deserves respect.

I fear, Mr. Speaker, that those escapes might bring about among the people the feeling that we should put an end to that rehabilitation attempt in our penitentiaries.

And in concluding those introductory remarks, I say it is essential for the minister to reassure the public, to preserve and protect justice which is being undermined by that event, to protect our institutions. For that reason it is important that the minister tell us the truth on those escapes.

It is an easy thing for public men to pass on the responsibilities to boards of inquiry, to compel judges to arrive at conclusions which they themselves could have drawn had they had enough courage to face facts. And I believe, Mr. Speaker, that it is not by creating a judicial inquiry which will have to last weeks and months that we shall know the truth about that.

I respect the choice of the minister who announced a while ago that Mr. Justice Ducros of the Superior Court, had been appointed for that duty. I will not make more comments about that but I still believe that we Members of Parliament, assembled in a special committee, as was recommended this morning, would be able to obtain immediately the facts, hear witnesses, experts and come to conclusions.

However, I would have thought that the minister would have told the House and the people today about the written instructions that were given to guards and the oral instructions that were repeated to them. Were there or not any suspensions since the Sunday incidents? We should consider particularly the fact that the same guards might still be on duty as well as the director of the penal institution who, so it seems, is said to have been warned of the escape plans by the director of the Quebec Police Force. And yet the same director is still in office. I know that you should not prejudge and condemn someone without even hearing him, but it seems to me that to reassure our fellow citizens the suspension of the people involved would certainly have been appreciated.

I am surprised that we do not have yet the evidence that should have been collected over the last three days by the RCMP officers. It would have been quite simple for the minister to table in this House the affidavits and the witness evidence so that we might know where we stand instead of having to rely on the minister's word, on press reports or simply on hearsay.

This morning I pointed out to the minister an enlighting experience which was the escape of Lucien Rivard in 1964 or 1965. In this case, the man was far less dangerous than those currently at large. Perhaps he was more dangerous for the safety of some politicians of the time but, as an individual, there was no risk that he might commit murder.

[Mr. Wagner.]

And yet what happened? Within 48 hours after the escape—I remember this affair because I was responsible for it—overnight, we had interrogated all witnesses, obtained affidavits, collected evidence, seized revolvers and prepared everything so that the next day everything was available to the House. For three days, in reply to questions arising rightfully from everywhere, the House and the Canadian public was informed and we were not required to refer the whole matter to a royal commission which would have convened months later.

That is why I feel that swift, accelerated justice can, while reassuring the concerned public, give satisfaction to the people. That is why, with my colleagues, I was happy to accept the motion for the institution of a special committee of enquiry of the House. I believe we should proceed quickly. Some of the information obtained to date worries us deeply. We have noticed, in particular, that two of the prisoners at large were in the past suspected of FLQ activity and that, at one point, when the Cross incident occurred, those gentlemen were listed among the prisoners which the FLQ wanted departed to Cuba. It seems to me those things should be looked into without delay.

I wonder why, for instance, reports on inquiries into previous escapes involving those same persons might not be tabled in the House. If we were to study those reports and establish who helped or took in the criminals after their first escape, it might be easier for us to find out what the facts are.

I convey this information to the House and make those suggestions in all modesty, as my contribution to this debate. I say to the Solicitor General that, while we understand his problems, the fact remains that in our present political and social system, the members of the cabinet are answerable for the actions of the civil servants. This solidarity and responsibility is one thing from which there is no escape, and I urge the Solicitor General to take good note of my observations, as well as all the speeches made in this House. I will be pleased to co-operate, that justice might be done to all.

• (2210)

[*English*]

Mr. Stuart Leggatt (New Westminster): Mr. Speaker, I shall be brief, because most of what I had intended to say has already been said very ably by speakers who have gone before me.

All of us in this House who are concerned with the protection of the public have a very special responsibility. That responsibility is to refrain from fanning the flames of passion over the escapes and the failures in the parole system. If we are genuinely concerned about the protection of the public, we must endeavour to see that the public is ready to support a decent system of rehabilitation. We are doing public protection no service at all if we play on the fears of the public as the media are inclined to do.

The hon. member for York South (Mr. Lewis) said that in any good program of penal reform and rehabilitation, mistakes are inevitable. Of course, if that were the only test we must have one heck of a program, because there have been a number of monumental mistakes. My hon. friend from Broadview said the program had received

public support. He used the past tense. My overwhelming concern is that public support for what was basically a sound program is fast disappearing, and will continue to diminish unless we can lessen the number of errors which are occurring. I shall not dwell on those errors. In this party we think that the Solicitor General (Mr. Allmand) has been doing a good job and we wish him well. What we are sorry to see is that some of his officials have been letting him down. I think we can all congratulate him on his candour and on his honesty; those are very refreshing qualities in this House.

It seems to me that the Parole Board has over-reacted and that every time an incident occurs the cutback is so overwhelming the jail population grows, and when there are so many people in jail there are bound to be escapes. Inconsistency on the part of the Parole Board has led to some of the difficulties we face. I think there should be consultation on the part of the parole boards with respect to inmates in the penitentiaries. Before they let someone with a psychopathic personality free, there should be consultation with other prisoners, because a man who is able to "con" a number of people might not have been able to "con" his fellow inmates who often have good judgment of the people around them. There should also be consultation with prison guards who are often in a position to make an astute assessment of the characters of inmates. Much of the good work of rehabilitation is being destroyed as a result of the errors which have occurred.

The hon. member for Burnaby-Richmond-Delta (Mr. Reynolds) has placed a good resolution before the House; it is one which our party will support. Like him, I have had an opportunity to go through the B.C. Penitentiary. It is an institution which should be torn down. It is not rehabilitating anybody. We cannot operate a civilized and humane system when we hold people in cages. The hon. member for Vancouver Quadra (Mr. Clarke) told us about all the problems, but I do not recall his offering any solution to them. The solution is a decent and humane system of rehabilitation because, let us not forget, these people are going to enter society again.

The last question I intend to deal with concerns the psychopathic inmate. Too little attention has been paid to this question. The studies which have been going on in British Columbia have not been funded, despite requests to the Solicitor General. This is too bad, because there are very real problems involved in the treatment of a few inmates who are not capable of being rehabilitated. Perhaps the reason the system is encountering failures is that it has been operating on the basis of a belief that everyone is capable of rehabilitation. I do not accept this. A good penal system must pay attention to the psychopathic criminal who cannot be released. We must study this problem, if necessary at the elementary level, so as to try to identify people with this kind of behaviour. Much work is needed in this area.

● (2220)

As I say, I welcome the resolution and support it. I hope the justice committee will be given the opportunity to travel and to visit penal institutions, and particularly be allowed to speak to inmates, because as much can be learned from them as from anybody.

Penitentiaries

Miss Flora MacDonald (Kingston and the Islands): Mr. Speaker, I should just like to say at the outset that I welcome the fact that a parliamentary committee is going to look into the operation of the penitentiary service and its many facets. There have been in the past a number of royal commissions on this subject. There was the report of the Archambault commission of the 1930's, the Fauteux commission of the 1950's, the Ouimet of the 1960's, and more recently the Swackhammer commission into the Kingston penitentiary riot. Presently, we are awaiting the Hugessen report into parole and temporary absence.

Some of the reforms that these various reports and commissions recommended have not yet been implemented, even though many years have passed since the recommendations were made. It seems to me that others have been implemented with over-zealous haste and little preplanning. I think that for the time being we have had a surfeit of judicial or independent inquiries. The time has come for us, as parliamentarians, to educate ourselves, and in so doing educate the public, as to the nature of the malaise and discontent which afflicts our penitentiaries system, and may I say as well the progress in penal reform that has been made over the years. Too often this is overlooked.

I think these educational results could be better achieved if at the outset the minister made available to the members of the committee, if necessary on a confidential basis, the reports and transcripts that have been made both to the Swackhammer and to the Hugessen commissions. For instance, I refer to the fact that the Swackhammer commission visited nine institutions and received statements from some 580 persons, including penitentiary staff and inmates. If on the basis of full confidentiality these statements could be made available to members of the committee as pre-preparation for the work they are to undertake, I think they would come to their task better informed and prepared.

The constituency that I represent, that of Kingston and the Islands, lives with this problem on a daily basis. It is not something that comes up whenever there is an escape from a penitentiary in a certain part of the country; it is something that we have with us every day. Within our general area there are five major penal institutions. Some 1,500 people in my constituency are employed in those institutions in which over 2,000 inmates are incarcerated. So, not only is the safety of the community and the protection of the public involved in a very real sense; the involvement is much more than that. There is the involvement of the employees working in the prisons, there is the involvement of some 400 to 500 volunteers who work in the prisons on a weekly basis, and there is the involvement of inmates working in the community on temporary absences, on day paroles and in other roles.

As one who has been a voluntary worker in these penitentiaries over the last seven years, I have found it extremely beneficial for me to establish a good working relationship with the administration, the custodial staff and the inmates. My work has given me some insight perhaps into the problems that exist at these particular levels. In view of this, I should like to suggest that the committee take a look at its role and its responsibility from three different perspectives: first of all, from that of

the administration and the staff generally; secondly, from that of the inmate; and finally, and very importantly, from that of the community—that is, from society as a whole.

With regard to the administration and staff, I think some of the following questions should be asked. Is there a need to streamline the whole prison administration? How good are communications between different levels of the penitentiary service? Are new programs which are being implemented properly explained to those who are going to be responsible for their implementation? Is the needed staff infrastructure being provided for new programs? Are measures taken to ensure that established penal programs which are working well are not being jeopardized? Further, are all staff being given the opportunity to update their skills through special training programs as reform measures are introduced, or are some being denied that privilege, and does this result in friction among the staff members? How well are the unions providing representation for their members or forwarding grievances on behalf of their members to the administration? What is the guard to warden relationship?

I think it is necessary that the committee and others recognize that there is a divergence of viewpoint between the administrator and the custodial officer, in the same way that there is a divergence of view between employer and employee in any other sector of industry. Is this divergence or difference in view in any way detrimental to the efficient functioning of a rehabilitative penal institution? Secondly, with regard to inmates, I think the committee should direct its attention to the re-evaluation of the concept of a hierarchy of security in prisons—that is, minimum, medium and maximum security institutions. What are the criteria for determining what sort of institution a criminal enters, and for how long? I think there should be a full examination of psychiatric facilities. Are they sufficient? What about the idea of maximum security hospitals?

Then, I think the committee should look at the problems that are brought about when disruption by a few inmates results in restrictive measures being applied to the total inmate population. I think here particularly of the situation at Millhaven when 14 inmates escaped and all recently granted privileges were subsequently withdrawn from 350 inmates. The resulting tension that this aroused did much to lead to the onset of the deterioration in morale both on the part of the staff and the inmates at Millhaven in the following months. I think there should be a detailed examination of guard-convict relations, of how each is perceived by the other. The committee should be allowed to call both inmates and guards as witnesses.

● (2230)

I would specifically ask that the committee take a special look at the problems inherent in prisons for women. Whether or not we care to admit it, there is discrimination in this area. It is all very well to say that the concept of temporary absence should be changed, investigated and reorganized, but a temporary absence or a weekend pass to a woman inmate in Kingston means nothing if she comes from British Columbia or Newfoundland. Since this is the only institution for women in the country, I do not mean to imply that this is the only point of discrimination. I want to mention two areas in this regard that should be investigaged.

[Miss MacDonald (Kingston and the Islands).]

It is permissible for an inmate to make a long distance telephone call once a month at his or her own expense. If you happen to be an inmate in a prison for women and you come from British Columbia that is a much higher cost for you to bear than if you come from Ontario or Quebec, or if you are in an institution for men, as these are located all across the country. If you are in a prison for women there is only one, and that is often many miles distant from your home. Furthermore, the educational facilities in the prison for women are very mediocre, in fact non-existent, as compared to those provided in institutions for men. The hierarchy of security at the prison for women is very complicated in that the minimum, medium and maximum security prisons are all meshed into one. There should be some way of differentiating between the treatment meted out to women who are incarcerated as medium security prisoners and those who have been sentenced as maximum security inmates.

I should have liked to see the criteria of the committee broadened to encompass the whole question of sentencing, the role of the judiciary and the manner in which crimes of a similar nature receive sentences of radically dissimilar lengths in different parts of the country. This is taking place and it is not fair. Perhaps this could be the subject of an additional study by the committee.

Finally, from the point of view of the public, I think the committee should be empowered to suggest methods to ensure that a new openness exists with regard to penitentiary facilities so that public fears can be allayed. What constructive role, for instance, can the media play? How quickly can visitors' committees with proper authority be set up and made to function? How can community involvement be designed to strengthen rehabilitation? Few prisoners die in jail from natural causes. Most of them eventually are released back into society. How can the public help them if it is not informed of the facts, and the public has the right to know these facts? The committee should press for less secrecy and more openness on the part of the penitentiary system, an openness that is free of distortion and distrust.

In this connection I want to quote briefly from the recent Swackhammer report where it is stated:

> Thirty-eight years ago the Archambault Report commented that under the present system existing in the Canadian penitentiaries, what is going on in the institutions is shrouded with absolute secrecy, giving rise to suspicion and misgivings, which are further exhanced by extravagant and abused tales of ex-prisoners and the imagination of sentimentalists. As a consequence, although, for the sake of security, no undue information should be given, a practical check of what is going on should be made. The prisoner feels that he has no access to a fair administration of justice and is absolutely removed from the protection of his fellow man.'

I may say that the custodial staff and the general public have similar reservations. Those comments which were made in 1938 are equally pertinent today in 1973. I hope that the activities of this committee can contribute to the resolution of these many problems.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. John A. Fraser (Vancouver South): Mr. Speaker, I think all hon. members will agree that most of what has to

be said in this debate has been said in one way or another by colleagues on both sides of this House. There seems to be general agreement that we do have a situation across the country today within our penal system which requires, and indeed demands, investigation by this House. I think it is imperative that this motion leads to the investigation of these problems by hon. members of this House and, that the investigation is not relegated to some sort of committee which will eventually bring in a report at some distant time. I hope an obligation will be imposed upon the members serving on the committee to deal with the matter quickly and expeditiously, albeit carefully.

This is important because most of us, and this may be almost an ingenuous thing to say, were profoundly moved during the past election by the number of people—and I think this is true no matter what their party affiliation—who said to candidates and to members who were seeking re-election, that while they did not know all the answers and were not prepared to blame any one person for the problem, they felt a growing uneasiness about the whole concept of law and order in our country. I use the words "law and order" with respect, because without law and order we have exactly the opposite.

I have been a lawyer for 17 years, and while I suppose I am proud of the position I now hold and grateful to those who sent me here, I am perhaps more conscious that whatever else I have been asked to do in my life this is perhaps the most important. I am one of those who has been proud to be a lawyer in this country and one who at any time will defend the concept of civil liberty and the great traditions that have been brought down through the ages, of which we are the proud inheritors. When I say this I say it with great consciousness born of experience in the courts, and born of some understanding of the people who have sent us here. If we are to have a humane and just system of law and order, it must rest on the basis of confidence among the people who send their legislators to the parliament and legislatures of this country.

What disturbs me is that, unfortunately, in some cases tragically, we have made errors and mistakes, and those errors and mistakes have resulted in an appalling lack of confidence. Because there is such a lack of confidence, there are those among us in the community who would be prepared to forget the great traditions and civil liberties of which we have every reason to be proud. It is because of this that I think it is important that those of us who are here because people sent us, and will remain here only as long as the people have confidence in us, are charged with the immediate investigation of those problems that are causing so much concern to so many Canadians.

● (2240)

I think I should say also it is not enough—and I believe all members in the House will agree with me—to point to one or two instances which we all deplore and say this means that our whole system is falling apart. I do not believe that. I believe some mistakes have been made which perhaps are rooted in a false philosophy. Having practised law not only in the civil courts but also in the criminal courts, I believe in a parole system. I do not believe that everyone who is convicted of a crime ought to spend the rest of his life in jail. I do not think any lawyer who ever practised in the criminal courts who had any sensitivity would believe that, nor do I believe any fair-minded Canadian would believe it. However, I believe experience has shown that in respect of a man who is dangerous to the community, those charged with deciding upon his release have upon them the onus to show, at least within reason, that there is a probability if that man is released back into the community his release will not result in that community being victimized.

If there is one thing which I believe we must come back to it is the recognition that experience in terms of what a person does is some indication of what he is, and what he might well be. There is an onus on those who have the very difficult task of releasing such people into society to be sure that these people are released under conditions and circumstances where the public will not again be victimized. These are some of the questions which the committee will have to look into. I have heard hon. members from every party make some very intelligent, sensible and sensitive comments in this debate. If we are to improve our prison system, if we are to improve our system for the security of the public, if we are to ensure humanity to man and if we are to do so in an effort to rehabilitate all of those who can realistically be rehabilitated, we must take this approach.

My colleague, the hon. member for New Westminster (Mr. Leggatt) said he does not believe that everyone can be rehabilitated. My colleague and I are members of different parties but we are both lawyers. I agree with my hon. friend when he says that, and I hope that eventually in fullness of time and with the increase in our own knowledge and wisdom, perhaps we will be able to rehabilitate everybody. However, as someone who has been involved in the court system and who has lived at least for a few years in a real world. I say that at the present time we cannot achieve the rehabilitation of everybody. When we try to further our own knowledge in these spheres, we must not and cannot do it at the expense of the safety of those innocent people who depend upon us to ensure that we have a system whereby those who have transgressed against society in a dangerous way are put where they cannot any longer harm innocent people.

Mr. Speaker, I wish to say one thing in closing. I say this to all hon. members, to the press and to the people of Canada who sent us here. I think it is intensely important that Members of Parliament take part in this investigation. They are not all experts; that we all concede. Most of us, however, in a way that the expert never has to realize in actuality, are in touch with our people. We know what their fears and concerns are. We know also that if the fears and concerns increase much beyond the position we have reached at the present time there is a very real danger that the concepts of freedom, civil liberty, civility and democracy, without which we would not have a decent society, are in very real danger.

Mr. Peter Reilly (Ottawa West): Mr. Speaker, the Solicitor General (Mr. Allmand) has listened to a great many lectures tonight, and I do not intend to belabour him much longer. I should like to remind him that some months ago, I believe it was in December or perhaps early in January, I brought to him in private and submitted to several of his colleagues in his party as well as to some of my colleagues, a proposal which matched almost in every

respect the one we are being asked to consider tonight. I did so not because I had any profound knowlege that there was something wrong in respect of the penal system of this country. I did so at that time because we were engaged in a debate on the subject of capital punishment. We are still engaged in that debate. It was my contention then, and it is now, that most of the people of Canada who have expressed themselves rather vehemently in some cases in favour of the retention of capital punishment have done so not because of any well-founded concern that they might be murdered in their beds or out on the streets, but because they are concerned about the rise in violent crime. They are worried that they might be assaulted in public. A woman might have a well founded concern that she stands in good danger of violent assault and rape.

I say they have this concern with good cause and with the best of all possible reasons. They have watched these things happen. They have seen situations such as that which took place in Ottawa not too long ago where two men were involved in an armed holdup in which an innocent bystander was murdered while they were out on bail, on a charge of possession of a sawed-off rifle. They have read of incidents such as that in Toronto where a man who had committed a series of crimes, including assault on a police officer, was released on his own recognizance and not too long afterward murdered another policeman. They are aware of situations inside prisons, such as the situation which within a few months resulted in riots, murders and beatings. I think they have a good right to ask themselves precisely what their government placed first on its list of priorities and whether or not it was the protection of society. I believe this must be the first priority.

If people are not convinced that the system will protect them, they will panic. I suggest to you, Mr. Speaker, this is part of the reason members of all parties in this House are having a very difficult time making up their minds whether the government's bill to re-impose the banning of capital punishment should, in fact, pass.

● (2250)

I have spoken for only a few minutes, but in closing I will ask the government not only to make this inquiry a meaningful one, not only to search out every defect in its penal system, its bail system and its parole system—because defects there are without going into tiresome detail—but to consider very seriously withdrawing the bill on capital punishment from debate until there can be a meaningful inquiry which will have the effect of reasuring the people of this country that there is no need to revert to that kind of savage punishment.

Mr. Donald W. Munro (Esquimalt-Saanich): Mr. Speaker, without any reflection on the impartiality or the eyesight of the Chair, I do feel that I might be allowed to mention that I have been on my feet for two days in the last week to ask a couple of questions about the William Head Prison. I was on my feet again yesterday and today to do the same on another sort of question, because unfortunately I have to make it clear that all the problems with penitentiaries are not concentrated in the province of Quebec. Regrettably, British Columbia has its share of them.

[Mr. Reilly.]

I was pleased to see that the Solicitor General (Mr. Allmand) was on the west coast last weekend. Although everything else was working to have him enjoy that particular visit—and I was there too—the penitentiary system failed to co-operate. While the minister was in the area, a dangerous criminal, confined on a grievous sex charge, escaped from William Head Penitentiary. He was not the first to do so, but surely the first to do so when the minister was actually in the area. I do not say that the minister was in the prison at the time because I do not know where he was, but he was in the area.

Since that escape, two elderly people have been attacked brutally in a trailer camp in an area where that prisoner might have been, and a third person has since been attacked, also in an area where the escaped prisoner might have been lurking. All three victims are now in hospital. The man from William Head was still free when I spoke to Victoria about seven o'clock this evening. This is not all. There are accounts circulating in Victoria that a prisoner serving a five year sentence for manslaughter has been absent without authorization from William Head since March 12. The police were unable to say why they did not learn, until the beginning of this month, two months later, that this man had failed to return after the expiration of the pass, which was believed to have been a weekend pass, not a two months pass.

The third matter I had in mind to ask the minister was about the physical measures that were to be taken in William Head in the light of his decision to convert that institution from a minimum to a medium security institution. It was my hope that I would get the answer that those measures would be taken prior to the introduction into that institution of medium security prisoners. I do not yet know whether those additional measures have been taken. But is this why we have been having escapes from William Head, because those to which I referred were not taken. Is it because those measures have not been taken? I am told, for example, that in certain tidal circumstances which I need not elaborate it is possible to walk out of William Head quite easily. This may be an exaggeration, but it is certainly symptomatic of the tales that are circulating and the insecurity that is felt in the area about the institution that is there. The guarding at that institution must be tightened up; physical barriers must be improved, and parole procedures likewise need to be tightened. Finally, I suggest that another site should be selected, one that is not so near the centres of high density population.

These are only the most recent evidences of laxity in the penitentiary system in British Columbia, and let me make it clear that I am not criticizing the guards for this. I have the greatest respect for them. Their duty is an onerous one and we should be proud that they are performing it to the best of their ability. Let us not attack them. They cannot defend themselves from attack in this place. What we must look at are the policies formulated by the government that permit these things to happen. The government which, for some unexplained reason, has decided to place the emphasis, not on the public, which asks for security, or on the injured party, but on the man who has caused the injury. Society demands security. It is up to parliament to ensure that society's safety is assured. The criminal has placed himself outside the law and has earned his penalty.

Why should individual, law-abiding citizens be penalized for the delinquency of criminals? We are bound to ask ourselves these questions.

The hon. member for York South (Mr. Lewis) spoke of proportion. Can he deny that there has been a rash of escapes across this country? I have mentioned those in the west; others have mentioned those in the central and eastern parts of the country. The large proportion of this country is composed of law-abiding citizens. They want law and order, as the hon. member for Vancouver South (Mr. Fraser) said so eloquently a few moments ago. They deserve law and order, being law-abiding citizens, and in return for the confidence placed in us by our law-abiding constituents we should spare no effort in providing that law and order for them. One means of doing so is by instituting this inquiry which has now been proposed to us. Aside from that small proportion of our population who are law breakers there is a smaller proportion, happily, which has placed itself beyond the law and has decided to become incorrigible law breakers. Many of these people have been escaping custody. It is not alarm that is being created by this debate, as some have suggested, it is an expression of concern. This is the expression of our concern.

What happens in these circumstances to those who are charged with the responsibility of ensuring the safe custody of these convicted persons, the guardians, the wardens at prisons? Unless we in parliament act now, we will be having increasing difficulty in retaining those who are trained and recruiting the replacements and, I think we should add, in recruiting policemen. Then, surely, we will be in trouble. Their confidence in their jobs must be restored and our actions will contribute to the restoration of that confidence. Our law and the penalties under our law must be applied. Those who obey the law demand it—disobedience of the law requires it.

Many speakers who have preceded me have said—and I agree with them—that our law is a good law and our philosophy of law is right. We must not allow it to be distorted. The maintenance of our law rests on discipline, Mr. Speaker, and discipline may have to be imposed. It may be necessary to determine who among those who resist discipline in detention will have to be detained. I maintain that these are non-rehabilitable, but that is a matter of judgment. There must be a means of determining who is rehabilitable and who is not, and once that is done the methods of rehabilitation can be developed and can be effective.

● (2300)

In the process of selection, we must use some pretty refined and sophisticated techniques. I do not believe they are all in place yet. We are still experimenting, but we must not experiment at the cost of our fellow law-abiding citizens. Any margin of doubt must go in favour of society. Those who cannot be rehabilitated should not be granted parole or leave of absence unless they can, in subsequent days, prove their capacity to live within the confines of the discipline that we must uphold.

This is a matter that we must leave to specialists, but concurrently we must tighten up the administration of our penitentiaries with higher technical in-put for the entire penal system. And I have a feeling that the minister does not entirely disagree with me. Although I would not wish to put words in his mouth, I was very pleased to hear he was fed up with the developments that had taken place when he was out in British Columbia. The Canadian law-abiding public is fed up.

As a guide to the improvement of this administration, a good point of departure is a review of where we are now in the whole penitentiary system. This can be accomplished by inquiring into the temporary absence system, security in the penal institutions, the parole system and, generally speaking, the administration of penalties arising out of the commission of crime. We have plans to get this inquiry under way soon as a result of the action taken in the Justice and Legal Affairs Committee this morning. And while this inquiry is going on, Mr. Speaker, prison guards and inmates should know what the rules of incarceration are. As a result each will know the role he has to play. Let all know who is likely to get parole, and who has earned parole. Let all know how parole can be earned, how weekend passes can be earned and how they can be lost. These privileges can not be earned escaping but by performance and proper conduct within the penitentiary.

What we all look to also is the full meaning of the mini, the midi, the maxi, and I suppose the super-maxi institutions in the penal system. Is it a matter of graduating by good conduct from one grade to another, depending on deportment? And are paroles granted in super-maxi institutions? This whole system must be investigated. Recommendations must be drawn up and approved by this House. That process is now in train as a result of the committee's action this morning. How better to get such an investigation on the road than by a select committee of this House representing all parties, all regions, all professions to be found here in this House? I support this proposal with every firmness I can muster.

Mr. Harry Olaussen (Coast Chilcotin): Mr. Speaker, we are talking about the penitentiary system, its administration, security, parole, and the system of temporary absences. I would like to discuss something which comes within the perimeters of this debate, the parole system, which is so much a part of our penitentiary set up. The parole system, as you know, is supposedly a system by which prisoners who have served time in jail can be given an opportunity to go back into society and produce, in the sense that society can accept them as well deserving citizens who are willing to use their knowledge and efforts for the betterment of society.

We release prisoners who are supposedly rehabilitated into a society that is unwilling and unready to accept them. There is a girl in British Columbia who wrote to me recently about her problems under the parole system. She tried to make amends, to look for a job, and to give something to society. She was turned down by each and every employer to whom she applied. In fact, she listed 89 different companies that turned her down because society was not willing to accept her. This is something we cannot accept in a civilized society because we should be willing to forgive and forget. Can we understand a situation like this, when people who have served their time and are willing to make amends become disillusioned and, as a result, go back into the prison system? Are we willing to

accept this? Are we willing to accept the idea that such people are non-persons who cannot be accorded the privileges of a decent citizen of society?

We talk about the cost of the prison system. That cost will not be any less if we continue on this road and treat these people the way this girl was treated. But I must say I was very happy tonight, after talking to her mother over the telephone, to learn that she has just been accepted on the staff of the non-status Indians in British Columbia, Maybe these people who have suffered for so many years understand her plight and are willing to accept her. Are we so sanctimonious that we are unwilling to forgive? Are we willing to give these people the chance that they want? Criminals are not all hardened criminals. Many inmates of jails have been peaceful citizens. The fact is that it is quite possible for many of us to land in jail some time or other, because at one time or another we have broken laws. In fact, we may find ourselves in the prison system that we are investigating right now and, if we do, when we get out of that system we may find ourselves in the same position as that girl in British Columbia found herself.

● (2310)

Criminals are not born, they are victims of the environment. As victims of the environment they find themselves formed according to how the environment wishes them to be formed. It is unfortunate that so many of us look within the prison walls and are not willing to look outside the prison walls that are so much a part of the whole system. There are many organizations that are willing to help but cannot because of lack of money or staff to handle the cases brought to their attention. I have spoken to personnel of the Elizabeth Fry Society in Vancouver and was impressed by what the lady in charge and the society is doing. If we are going to investigate the prison society, let us confer with those who have worked through the Elizabeth Fry Society and the John Howard Society and find out how we can help them through financing and by every means at our disposal.

We must teach society to accept those who were once convicted and have served their time. We must have within our law the means to encourage employers to accept those who have served their time and are willing to be productive. We must put our Christian principles into operation if we believe in Christian principles.

An hon. Member: We all believe in them.

Mr. Olaussen: I am sure there are many who do. However, words alone are not enough; there must be action. We need action. We must have this investigation. In order to have a complete investigation, let us not do it only within the prison walls but outside as well.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Gilbert Rondeau (Shefford): Mr. Speaker, I am anxious to say a few words in this important debate concerning the many escapes from penitentiaries, particularly in the last few months.

Living about 13 miles from the Drummondville penitentiary, I have been witness to the alarm and fear in which the population of my town and region have lived following many escapes from Cowansville. One of the escaped prisoners, for example, a notorious crook, spent the first night after his escape in a house three doors away from where I live. That shows to what extent, in our supposedly well-protected society, we are placed in a very serious and dangerous position by a prison system in which disorder reigns, authority has lost all its power, and criminals draw up their own rules, make threats and command those who represent the law.

Propagandists of all hues, for example, politicologists or sociologists, are allowed into the penitentiaries to distribute all sorts of literature aimed at indoctrinating the inmates and causing uprisings.

Here is a very good example. In March 1973, a supposedly eminent Montreal criminologist, Mr. André Normandeau, Ph.D. went to the Cowansville penitentiary to hand out literature about the Parti Quebecois, give a lecture, and distribute a document entitled: "The manifesto of a candidate for the Parti Quebecois political convention in the constituency of Mount Royal", the constituency of the right hon. Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau). Clause C of this manifesto includes the following: The Parti Quebecois leadership's criminal justice program. Inmates were allowed to print and distribute this manifesto, organize teach-ins, discuss, meditate and make propaganda about the Parti Quebecois manifesto by Mr. André Normandeau.

Mr. Speaker, this strikes me particularly since I know very well the problems of the Cowansville penitentiary. It is because the penitentiary authorities have no moral or other support from the Canadian justice or the Solicitor General of Canada (Mr. Allmand). Last night again, not 24 hours ago, at the Cowansville penitentiary, during a meeting of penitentiary officers, they were informed that if any one of them wounds or kills an inmate while exercising his duties, the government does not hold itself responsible for any legal procedures against the officer, damages caused or costs incurred to defend himself before the courts. In fact, the officer will have to get help from friends or relatives or defend himself alone against the procedures which may be taken by the inmate or his parents. On the other hand, the government will assume the costs of legal assistance to help the criminal defend himself against the officer who represents justice.

Before such risks, Mr. Speaker, the officers have refrained from doing their work for fear of losing their jobs and through fear of threats from the inmates to the officers or members of their families.

Mr. Speaker, I know personally some officials whose life is hell among murderers because the law does not give them any protection.

The authority of penitentiary officials over inmates is not recognized by the government; for instance, they can throw their supposedly badly done steaks at the officials who can only smell those steaks which the inmates refuse to eat and which the officials cannot afford for themselves or for their family.

Mr. Speaker, the Solicitor General (Mr. Allmand) has also mislead the House or he is not aware of what is going on at Cowansville. Out of about 400 inmates, 100 should be kept in maximum security penitentiaries while the minister told the House that 25 or 30 inmates should be held there.

Mr. Speaker, if we want to have order in penitentiaries, if we want the laws to be obeyed, the officials, those who represent justice, the officials who are in charge of order must be protected by the law and have moral support from the judicial system and the Solicitor General of Canada.

Officials are keeping out of the way, they do not want to see anything, they let things go because they have no personal protection against hundreds of criminals in penitentiaries and, in order to keep their job, they let everyone free with the results we have known in recent months.

Mr. Speaker, it is urgent that we establish an inquiry commission made up not of those who must live with the problems but of persons completely independent of the present penitentiary system and who could consult both inmates and officials and see what is wrong with the rules.

Mr. Speaker, I know personally of certain rules which are supposed to exist in the penitentiaries and here again because the officials did not get any support, they are right to be afraid because we leave them alone to defend their case against any legal action; they do not wish to set the inmates against them. Everything is permitted, in the penitentiaries.

Mr. Speaker, I was shocked to hear certain officers who really want to fulfill their duties, but who in the circumstances cannot have the law respected, do their job, actually ensure the protection of the inmates, the maintenance of order in the penitentiaries while securing human conditions for the inmates, considering that those persons have committed a crime, that they have been condemned by courts of law and that the officers must ensure that justice and order are respected in our Canadian penitentiaries.

● (2320)

[*English*]

Mr. Walter Baker (Grenville-Carleton): Mr. Speaker, I listened with great interest to the speeches on this matter from both sides of the House. Like all questions that are moral as opposed to being political, there are two points of view, two concepts wrestling with one another. On the one hand, we have the matter of rehabilitation of the prisoner which is something that is worthy of any civilized society to pursue. On the other, we have the question of the protection of that civilized society. Throughout this debate has run a thread and upon that thread this question balances.

I have now come to the reluctant conclusion that in certain respects, the Solicitor General's department, the department under which the Penitentiary Act is administered and the administrators of the penitentiaries have failed. Perhaps to a certain degree, the court system may have failed in that there has been an overbalancing in favour of the rehabilitation of the prisoner. Apparently the escapes, the crimes committed while people are on parole and the crimes committed while people are on temporary absence have demonstrated that. This is a demonstration to the public that perhaps rehabilitation of the prisoner has remained uppermost and the scale is balanced in that direction as opposed to the protection of society.

Rehabilitation is important. I support the concept of rehabilitation. If there is to be any doubt or weighting of the balance on one side of the concept or the other, it ought to be in favour of protection of society. Basically, that is the thread that has passed through this debate. There was concern that that aspect of it has been neglected, perhaps wilfully, perhaps not. None the less, that has led to the concern expressed by the hon. member for Burnaby-Richmond-Delta (Mr. Reynolds). At long last, and somewhat reluctantly from the government's point of view, the attention of this House and, hopefully the country, is being focussed on this very important question.

I listened to the speech of the hon. member for Vancouver South (Mr. Fraser). He stated that he had practiced in the courts for 17 years on both the criminal and civil side. I practiced in the courts for the same period of time on both sides of the law. I have also practiced on the prosecution side. I had the honour to prosecute people brought to justice in Ontario. I have also defended, including capital cases. I listened to the debate that preceded this on the question of whether we ought to have capital punishment, not have it have it in part.

I have perhaps dealt with my constituents in a little different manner. I have asked them to talk to me, not just mark an "X" on a piece of paper which is an easy thing to do, so I can reason and discuss with them. I talked both to those who are vehemently or mildly in favour of capital punishment. The majority of people I talked to took that position. They are very concerned about what is happening in the penitentiary system, the operation of the Bail Reform Act, temporary absence and so on. The majority of them clearly said to me that if they could be assured that society would be protected, they would not want to add another life, albeit the life of a criminal, to the list of people who are the victims of harshness and cruelty in the community.

The Solicitor General (Mr. Allmand) ought to take the words of the hon. member for Ottawa West (Mr. Reilly) to heart. He ought to withdraw the bill so that it can be considered, not in an atmosphere filled with heat, but in an atmosphere where sane and sober thoughts will guide its consideration through this House.

The hon. member for Vancouver South also spoke of confidence in the legal system. The reform that any civilized person wants in the parole system and any other system of incarceration, bearing in mind the protection of society, will not come about unless the people of this country have confidence that the system is working and there is indeed built into it protection. There is a duty upon this government and all members of the committee to ensure that the committee examines in the fullest, widest and most open way every aspect without fear. If members of this House or the committee say the committee should go into the prisons of this country, perhaps on a selective basis, I will agree with them. If they say this committee ought to travel, I will agree with that. If they say this committee's functions are to be carried on in the most public way, I will agree with that.

The committee should examine not just the prison system, but the parole system. They should determine why it has become the habit of the federal Parole Board not to examine prisoners on a face-to-face basis. Is it because of a shortage of staff? If so, this government and this country should move to remedy that. If it is because of some other

reason, that reason should be found. If they do not change this, whatever flimsy amount of confidence there is now in the parole system and the operation of the Bail Reform Act, and it is flimsy indeed, will be washed away. That would be a tragedy for this country and for our civilized community. It will for a long time to come be the source of great injustice to those who under the present system could benefit from parole.

● (2330)

The subject we are considering transcends in importance many of the other issues which have been before us. I say to the hon. member for Sarnia-Lambton (Mr. Cullen) that we have no wish to return to the dark days with respect to our penal system. None of us has taken that position, and I think the hon. member was rather unfair to my hon. friend from Burnaby-Richmond-Delta (Mr. Reynolds) in criticizing the speech he made. But we do want to return to an age of reason when a civilized community can expect its government and the institutions operated by its government to protect it against whatever prompts criminal behaviour, against whatever causes some criminals to be incapable of reform.

If we accept the statement that all criminals are victims of their environment, we are saying that completion of a criminal act is a matter of accident. We all know that this is too sweeping a generalization. We want to take the mind of a criminal and change that mind by working on the conditions in which he finds himself. We want to give that chance to those worthy of a chance. At the same time, we want to protect society against those who are unworthy of such an opportunity. This should be the principle behind the committee's investigation.

I am glad it is to be a committee of elected members. I do not believe this work should be foisted upon judges. Judges, by virtue of their position, are not called upon to answer to the public. In a sense, therefore, they are irresponsible in a way in which a committee would not be irresponsible. I welcome the motion and I support the concept that the work be carried out by a committee of this House. The committee has the ability and will, I hope, possess the necessary expertise to inquire into these matters and ensure that society regains the confidence which is lacking today. Perhaps if this is the result, the attitude of society toward the important subject we were considering earlier will be changed as a consequence.

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, may I rise on a point of order? I rise simply to ask whether perchance the time has come at which there might be some discussion through the usual channels about the possibility of bringing the debate to a conclusion at a reasonable hour. If this cannot be done through the usual channels, maybe it can be done through some unusual channels.

Mr. Nielsen: There are not many left on this side of the House who wish to participate in the debate. I have six names on my list, and there is my own short contribution concerning the mechanics of this inquiry upon which the standing committee is about to embark. With the tolerance of hon. members, I think we should be able to conclude within the next hour unless, of course, there are speakers from the other parties who wish to enter the debate.

[Mr. Baker.]

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): We have none here, Mr. Speaker.

An hon. Member: Most unusual.

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): In light of what the hon. member for Yukon (Mr. Nielsen) has said, I wonder whether there could be some discussion, perhaps behind the Speaker's chair. Possibly we could reduce the length of speeches so that we might save some time while still allowing everyone to speak who wishes to do so.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Laniel): As the hon. member knows, that can only be done by unanimous consent. While these discussions are taking place, perhaps we can hear the hon. member for Hamilton Mountain (Mr. Beattie).

Mr. Duncan M. Beattie (Hamilton Mountain): Mr. Speaker, it gives me a great deal of pleasure to add my support to the motion proposed by the hon. member for Burnaby-Richmond-Delta (Mr. Reynolds), a motion which goes to the root of many anxieties which plague so many Canadians at this time. If we do not decide now that positive action is called for, and if we do not then take decisive action, I am afraid the whole question of who is the prisoner and who is the jailer will be academic. We are on the verge today of losing sight of who it is who needs and deserves the protection of the law.

Things are so bad today, with respect to the prison system, that if it were not for the fact that people who are walking out of our prisons almost daily were not hardened criminals, the situation would be hilarious. In fact, in light of the unfavourable publicity being directed to the department of the Solicitor General I am surprised he even allows some of these people into jail! However, the situation is anything but hilarious when we consider that some of these people are murderers, rapists and thugs, people who do not hesitate to use violence on anyone they may meet. We are familiar with recent examples of criminals escaping from prison to commit heinous crimes in order to get transportation, food or money or just to "get back" at the society which put them behind bars.

Contrary to the contention of many people, these prison inmates are not just a bunch of mixed-up kids. They were put in prison after being convicted of crimes, often crimes of violence; they were incarcerated only after exhausting all the many avenues open to them under our judicial system. The most disturbing aspects is that the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) and his appointees in the penitentiary service insist on discussing the situation merely on the basis of reform, rehabilitation and parole. This makes about as much sense as a speech by Jackie Onassis on poverty.

The fact is that it is ridiculous talking about reforming a prisoner unless he makes himself available to be reformed. It has almost reached the point at which a prisoner in a Canadian jail simply will not wait around unless he happens to like it there. If he likes the food and is free to kick the guards and other prisoners around, and if he can run the prison the way he wants it run, then he just might hang around for a while. This is not good enough. Before we undertake to do anything by way of reform or rehabilitation we must ensure that when a lawbreaker is sen-

tenced to jail he is kept there for the duration of his sentence. As it is now, and as it has been for too long, the prisoner is the sole object of the government's sympathy.

Too often we hear of riots in our prisons and we hear afterward that many of the guards are tried or disciplined for being too rough with the inmates. We hear how tough it is for prison inmates, but we ignore the complaints of prison staff—that their lot is even rougher than that of the inmates. I would like to point out to my colleagues in the House that we must not lay the blame for what is going on at the feet of the present Solicitor General. He has not been in that position long enough to be able to get a full count of how many prisoners are at large. When he took over his post there were almost as many convicts outside as inside our jails. Anyone who was sentenced to prison under the previous Solicitor General knew that he would not have to stay in prison unless he really wanted to do so. There were many avenues open to him. If he wanted to go to Spain, for instance, he knew that he would be able to get a passport and be allowed to leave the country. If he just wanted to go into town and take a job, he could get help either from inside or outside the prison.

● (2340)

In short, Mr. Speaker, when the present Solicitor General took over his office the prison system was in a shambles. Under the previous Solicitor General we saw a breakdown of the Bail Reform Act. We saw a complete breakdown of the parole system. We saw instances where convicted rapists were allowed weekend passes from prison to commit still more crimes of rape, undoubtedly feeling that they would never be suspected of crimes while they were serving a sentence. The simple fact is that they were not serving terms, at least not in the accepted sense of serving a term. What is to be gained in having a court try a suspect at great expense, find him guilty and then sentence him to prison, only to have him released on his own recognizance as though he were a soldier on a weekend pass? What can we possibly gain from a system that permits a suspected bank robber to be free on bail, or without bail, and which allows him to commit crimes in order to raise the price of a good defence lawyer? This has happened, as the hon. members here know only too well.

Adding to the confusion we have the justice minister placing the blame for this mess in one quarter, the Solicitor General blaming someone or something else, the courts and judges placing the blame on the laws, and finally the police blaming the whole system. There is an old saying that applies to the military, and it also applies to high political office. It goes something like this: "The chief can delegate authority, but he cannot delegate responsibility". The person who is in charge of the show must be prepared to accept responsibility for it, whether it is a success or a flop. In the case of the penitentiaries system, the parole system and the bail system, the present Solicitor General deserves some measure of sympathy for the mere fact that he has agreed to accept responsibility for the mess they are in, and he has at least admitted that things are not as they should be. He has called for an investigation, possibly because of the pressure brought to bear on his office from the official opposition, and he deserves our support in such an investigation.

I do not envy the Solicitor General, Mr. Speaker. The former Solicitor General had an uncanny talent for creating confusion and for laying to waste the best laid plans of mice and men. Some of the appointments he made while in that office are clear evidence of his inability to choose the best man for the job, and unfortunately some of those appointments will give the present Solicitor General some sleepless nights. If and when the full scale investigation of the penitentiaries system is undertaken, I hope that it will extend into the area of political appointments to important posts in the system. Some of the jobs handed out to political hangers-on are jobs that call for a large degree of expertise in the prison administration, and I think that the investigation should include the appointment of a former post office employee to the post of commissioner of the penitentiary service. There were excellent people near the top level of the service who had spent their entire working lives in the service. It would have made a great deal more sense to look in their direction for a commissioner when the appointment was made. I cannot help feeling that some of the problems we are experiencing with the penitentiaries system start at the very top of the administration.

While I can commiserate with the new Solicitor General, and I might even sympathize with him. I must say I am disturbed by his statement that he is satisfied with the 18 per cent failure rate in the operation of the parole system. I am afraid that I cannot feel comfortable with a minister who admits that he is satisfied with failure. I would have preferred to have him say to this House that he would not be satisfied until he had achieved zero failure rate in the parole system, and while this is not likely to happen, at least it is a more worthy objective than the acceptance of an 18 per cent failure rate. As it is now, we do not know what sort of objective he has in mind, and it is important at this point for us to at least have some idea as to what he hopes to achieve, and what steps he proposes to take in order to accomplish his objective. His suggestion that a study of the whole situation is needed is a good start. It would be difficult for any of us to suggest at this point what remedial action should be taken to bring some order back to the system—the penitentiaries, parole, and all of the other aspects of the correctional system.

But, Mr. Speaker, the first step is obvious to all of us. Convicted lawbreakers have been sentenced to prisons in our country, and they were sent there so they would be separated from the rest of society. The first step must be to take whatever steps are required to ensure that they are kept in those institutions. While I will not argue the point that our prisons are overcrowded, that is not a valid reason for allowing prison inmates to walk the streets of our cities while we are working out the solutions to the problems.

If inmates are getting help from prison employees in making escapes, these people must be rooted out. If more guards and other personnel are needed, then they must be hired. But these people must be hired on the basis of their suitability for the job, rather than for their political persuasion or favours to the party in the past. I do not think that this is a really serious problem. What I do believe is that there is a serious breakdown in the prison service at or near the top of the administration. When that is cleared up, we will find, I am quite certain, that the other prob-

lems can be cleared up in short order. Until the day when the rank and file employees in the penitentiaries system come to believe in the competence of their superiors, right up to the top of the system, we will be faced with a morale problem. As long as we have such a serious morale problem among the guards and correctional officers, we will have riots, protests, prison breaks, and general disorder throughout the system.

Let us stop blaming the guards for the shape the prisons are in, and let us stop directing all of our sympathy towards those people who have been sentenced to prison. Our whole perspective is wrong, Mr. Speaker. It is time for us to make it clear to the inmates of our prisons that that is just what they are, and that they are going to have to earn everything that they receive in the way of consideration. Our primary job is to protect the innocent from the guilty, not the other way round.

Mr. Doug Neil (Moose Jaw): Mr. Speaker, I have a certain amount of sympathy for the present Solicitor General (Mr. Allmand). He has inherited a problem created by his predecessor as a result of a policy of permissiveness advocated by the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) and the former members of his cabinet. The matter has now come to a head like a boil on the back of the neck of the Solicitor General. We live in a supposedly civilized country. A civilized country is one in which its citizens, the average man and woman on the street, you and I, Mr. Speaker, can live without fear of violence. People are concerned about their own safety and they are concerned about the safety of their families and their friends. They read almost daily in the press, they see and hear on television and hear on the radio of persons granted bail committing further crimes. They hear of escapes from prisons of dangerous criminals, or they hear of persons who have been convicted of serious crimes being allowed out shortly after committal, either on a daily pass to work or to attend university or in some cases to attend hockey games. I find it very difficult to explain to a law-abiding constituent who has sacrificed to send his children to university why someone who has broken the law, can, while in jail, at the expense of the state, attend a university and obtain a degree. In some cases, these people end up with a government job.

● (2350)

I feel we have the wrong perspective. The intellectuals, psychiatrists and some politicians, for some reason or another, are of the opinion that if someone commits a crime he or she is not to blame, but that society is to blame. Who makes up society except you and I, the man on the street, the person doing his best to equip himself in our society, raise his family and be a good citizen? We are told that we are at fault. I suggest that is a very ridiculous theory. If a child misbehaves in class at school, do you pat him on the head and say he is not at fault, then punish the rest of the class? I am not suggesting that we should not concern ourselves with rehabilitation, but rehabilitation is a very complex matter. We must first look at the purposes of our laws and the penalties provided. The protection of society must be the first and foremost consideration. This is more important to me than rehabilitation, and it must be given first priority.

The second consideration is punishment. In this enlightened day, because of our educational system and the media, I believe all persons in Canadian society know what is right and what is wrong and when they are breaking the law. They are also aware of the consequences of breaking the law. Punishment should be a real thing; it must be an effective deterrent. There is no deterrent and no punishment when a person, upon being sent to jail, is treated in a better manner and receives more benefits from the state than many of our hard-working low income citizens.

Rehabilitation is vital. I have practised law for some 23 years during which time, I have acted as defence counsel for many people, so I appreciate the importance of rehabilitation. However, rehabilitation is important only in the cases of persons who are capable of being rehabilitated. These persons must be assisted to return to this society and take their proper places as citizens of this great country. I suggest that those persons who are not capable of rehabilitation must be handled in such a manner that they are not a danger to society, either through escape or being allowed out on weekend passes. They must endure their punishment.

The inquiry we expect the parliamentary committee to carry out must be a thorough and searching one; an inquiry which will result in a re-examination of our present system of bail, parole and passes. It should be an inquiry which will result in a reorganization of our present system in order that the public will once again feel secure and have the confidence in and respect for our judicial system which they had not too many years ago.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Keith Taylor (Churchill): Mr. Speaker, I welcome the opportunity of saying a few words in connection with this motion to refer this very important matter to a standing committee of this House. I know this is a very agonizing matter for the government and the Solicitor General in view of what has transpired in the last few days and, indeed, what has transpired over the last few years. However, the people of this country are not looking to the Solicitor General, the judicial authority, the police or the courts alone for a remedy to the situation. They are looking to this parliament for the necessary laws and recommendations to ensure that every Canadian is guaranteed the protection he expects in a country which cherishes the values we cherish in Canada.

Others have listed their qualifications in speaking on this motion. I want to assure hon. members who are not aware of the fact that I have perhaps the unique experience of having been not only a defence counsel and a Crown attorney, but of having served for some 15 years as a magistrate and a judge of the juvenile court. I know the problems involved in providing an adequate system of justice.

First of all, I think it is necessary that we put the whole matter in perspective and realize that we are talking here of only those who have been committed to one of the penitentiaries for which the federal government is responsible. We are not talking about the majority of people sentenced to jail to serve their time in provincial institutions. While I know the federal government, through the

Minister of Justice (Mr. Lang), is responsible for the enforcement of criminal laws in this country, it is only the federal responsibility for penitentiaries we are dealing with here.

The number of people we are talking about is very minimal in relation to the total population and, indeed, in relation to the total number of people who run afoul of the law from time to time. It has always been emphasized by every court of law in this country that in sentencing an individual who has been convicted of any offence there are three basic principles to be considered. First of all, and I say foremost in any court with which I am familiar, the first principle is protection of society. The second principle is the deterrent effect, any sentence might have upon others who might be inclined to run the risk of committing a similar crime. The last principle, and perhaps this is important from the point of view of society, and one which seems to have got out of balance, is rehabilitation of the convicted person.

The problem is, of course, how to reconcile the interest of protecting society from criminals who have committed serious offences with the necessity and interest of society in rehabilitating those persons. I am sure that anyone who has had any experience with the law knows that people who are to be found in penitentiaries in this country are not people who are victims of some momentary transgression. In almost every case I know of where a penitentiary term has been imposed, it has been imposed on a person who has had many scrapes with the law, and in every case it has been a very serious breach of the law that gave rise to that penalty.

● (12 midnight)

The problem then becomes one of the penitentiary service, and we are dealing of course with the administration of that service and the program they must have in order to do the job. The important part of the program is the rehabilitation of the convicted person. We have heard many stories of escapes from institutions and many accounts of the inadequacy of the facilities therein, and comments have been made by many people on the type of institution that we must have to adequately house convicted persons to ensure that they will no longer be a menace to society. In order to do this we must take into account the fact that adequate staff is required and, what is perhaps more important, a number of people with training, knowledge and the necessary qualifications.

The matter of how much money society and parliament are prepared to allocate to the penitentiary service for the rehabilitation of prisoners has always been a difficult problem. Because of this there has always been a lack of facilities of all kinds. I submit to the House that this is one of the reasons we are having the difficulties that we have been hearing and reading about in the last few days.

I submit that if this committee is to function properly and carry out the responsibility which we are giving it, it will be necessary for it to look into the type of facilities that are required in order to adequately house prisoners. Whether these institutions are maximum security institutions or any other type, they must be adequate and they must be staffed by properly trained and qualified people.

Since, as someone said earlier in this debate, most of the prisoners will eventually return to society, there must be an adequate program to ensure that they are rehabilitated whenever possible. With this goes a system of identification and encouragement for those who can be rehabilitated. The responsibility for this situation is not entirely that of the courts of this country, nor is it entirely that of the penitentiary staffs; it is the responsibility of this government and of all members of the House to see that the necessary remedies are found and the necessary action taken to put those remedies into effect.

I welcome the opportunity to discuss this urgent and important problem which affects the confidence of all Canadians in the ability of our system of justice to protect society as a whole.

Mr. Robert C. Coates (Cumberland-Colchester North): Mr. Speaker, it is now Wednesday morning. We started out this debate on Tuesday shortly after two o'clock. I am sure the Solicitor General (Mr. Allmand) will agree with me that it was not long after 2 p.m. that he started having to field questions on a very difficult and unfortunate situation that has developed within the Canadian penitentiary service. I think the fact that we are still here on another day indicates the seriousness that Members of Parliament place on the situation that has developed within the Canadian penitentiary service, and I hope some of the things that I will say in the next 15 or 20 minutes will be of some value and benefit to the Solicitor General in the role he is endeavouring to fill in that office.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Boulanger): Order, please. I must remind the hon. member that although he referred to what he will have to say in the next 15 or 20 minutes, the arrangement was to limit speeches to 15 minutes.

Mr. Coates: It is very kind of the Chair to remind me of that. I hope I can stop my flight of eloquence in 15 minutes, but if it happens that I cannot, there will not be that many members in the House who will object to another five minutes, especially since I have waited until this hour to make my speech.

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): You could do better still and make it shorter.

Mr. Coates: The hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre (Mr. Knowles) suggests I make it short, and another hon. member suggested I should sit down. I say to the hon. member who suggested that I sit down that if he paid more attention to what is going on in parliament and stood up more often, perhaps this institution would be better off and the people of Canada would be better off. He happens to be picking up $28,000 a year for being here, and he should be producing some words in this institution that would be of value in solving some of the problems that this nation is facing.

I am standing here at this late hour to try to contribute in solving one of the chronic problems facing this nation in relation to the Canadian penitentiary service and the way in which it is being operated at present. First of all, I say to the Solicitor General, as I have said publicly before this debate, that I think he has adopted the type of approach to the problems related to the penitentiary serv-

ice that we should have adopted a long time ago. I think the Solicitor General, in the approach he has taken in moving across this country and speaking, not just to the wardens of institutions but to the correctional officers and the inmates, is adopting the right kind of approach and in the end I think he will be successful in solving the problems facing the country as a result of the erosion of the system.

I think that is the only way to solve the problem. I would say that his candid and cogent comments in relation to the escapes that have occurred indicate a very real appreciation of the problems with which he is confronted. I believe that the minister is sincere in the task he has accepted and has tried to undertake it in the best possible way, but I believe also that he has some real problems within the Canadian penitentiary service. At the same time, I am fearful that he might be made a scapegoat for the incompetence that is involved in the way these penitentiaries are being operated at present.

I had a long association with the Canadian Penitentiary Service even before there was a solicitor general's department that administered it. At that time it was under the Department of Justice. I was pleased to see the hon. member for Saint John-Lancaster (Mr. Bell) here. For many years he was parliamentary secretary to the minister of justice and worked very closely with me, as did the minister of justice, in the establishment of the first minimum security institution at Springhill and the present-day medium security institution which exists in that town.

It would only be fair at this time to say that the warden, or whatever you might call him now that they have fancy names for people who work in these institutions, of Springhill and the warden of the maximum security institution at Dorchester have done an outstanding job from the point of view of penology and protecting the people who are employed in those institutions and the inmates. I think they performed yeomen service in seeing the lid was kept on, especially at Dorchester. Mr. Bennett, who operates the institution at Dorchester, is a phenomenal person who has had to cope with unbelievable problems from an overcrowding point of view, problems which the Solicitor General, who visited that institution a short time ago and was asked questions about it in the House today, admits are unbelievable from every point of view, overcrowding, personnel, problems associated with inmates and the types of cliques which developed in that institution, and which the Solicitor General in his own way has tried to alleviate. These problems are real. They are real at Dorchester, they are real at Springhill and at every other penal institution. They are real because there has been a breakdown in the penal system.

● (0010)

In carrying out the kinds of inquiries that have been suggested we might assist the Solicitor General in solving some of the problems he faces. Every possible consideration should be given to the undertaking of the studies that have been suggested. I am not a member of the standing committee, but I feel it has tried to do an honest job in producing information for the public and for the Solicitor General by questioning the witnesses who appeared before it. That committee has indicated that it feels a special committee should be established. The Solicitor General indicates that he believes there should be a judicial inquiry. I think it would not be a bad idea if both were undertaken at the same time so that there could be a correlation of the two types of information produced to see if the same conclusions are reached, and if the same conclusions are reached then the Solicitor General will know where to go from there.

More than that, I believe the Solicitor General has been badly let down by people in the public service who are supposed to be serving him. They have put him into most embarrassing situations in this House and throughout the country because of what has happened at a number of institutions. I say to him that although he is dedicated and sincere, he must also show to members of this House and to the public generally that he is tough, that he is willing to make heads roll when they should roll. And I say that heads must roll so far as the Canadian penitentiary service is concerned because of the kinds of things that have been happening in institutions all across the country.

I do not believe that there is any other answer. The top echelon of the penitentiary service must be cleaned out, fast, before we discover that there are more inmates running around outside than there are in the institutions and before we discover that most of the police forces in Canada are spending more of their time tracking down escaped inmates than in performing their other obligations to the Canadian people. For instance, Mr. Speaker, while I did not say anything about it, I was very upset over the fact that three inmates escaped from Dorchester penitentiary with a gun. Where that gun came from, I do not know. How many other guns there are in Dorchester penitentiary, I do not know. But these three hardened criminals, who had bad records, got out and kidnapped two people. They held them captive for a period of time until the RCMP recaptured them and returned them to the institution.

That is a very dangerous sort of situation to develop in any community. It developed as the result of a gun being smuggled into the penitentiary. Such a situation is very frightening for people in my constituency because there is an institution in it, and Dorchester happens to be only about 15 miles away from my home town, Amherst. When inmates escape from there, they pose a real threat; and when those kinds of inmates escape from Dorchester or St. Vincent de Paul, anything can happen. Particularly, anything can happen when we have the kind of laws we have in Canada today, when no man dies no matter what he does, no matter what crime he commits. There is no such thing as capital punishment, so that a murderer who escapes from prison has nothing to lose. He can kill as many people as he wishes. The most that will happen to him is that he will be returned to prison for whatever time the government and the Parole Board determine is the correct time for him to be there. This is one of the reasons why I have indicated that I will support the retention of capital punishment as strongly as I can. There is only way to deal with a murderer who escapes from an institution; he must know that if he commits another murder he is going to the gallows and that will be the end of his life.

My opinion is that the Solicitor General is trying as hard as he knows how to get some sense back into the

penitentiary service. Again I say that many of the people serving under him are doing a disservice to him because they are not nearly as willing as he is to put common sense back into the service. The Solicitor General must get rid of these people, and fast. He must get common sense back into the penitentiary service and into our whole approach to penology. I also say to him that if he does not show that kind of toughness, then no matter how dedicated he may be, he will not be long in that job because the Canadian people want common sense put back into the service. We want to know that when a man is sent to an institution, the government will be responsible for keeping him there for whatever time is required until a rehabilitation program indicates that he is ready to return to society.

Mr. Lincoln M. Alexander (Hamilton West): Mr. Speaker, I did not have any intention of becoming involved in this debate but I think it only right that I place a few points on the record because I believe that the motion the hon. member for Burnaby-Richmond-Delta (Mr. Reynolds) has brought before the House is of extreme importance. The recent incident at St. Vincent de Paul penitentiary has sparked us all into action, action which was called for prior to the last general election when people were concerned about law and order and respect for the law.

● (0020)

Society has been concerned for a considerable length of time. The repetition of jail breaks has left society questioning the administration of the penal services, questioning parole, questioning temporary leave and questioning the role of the custodial officer. We have to arrive at a happy balance in this matter, Mr. Speaker, because the penal service which was here yesterday is here today and will be here tomorrow. The question is how we can develop such a system to the point that we will have the necessary confidence in it and to see that it receives the proper funding. The committee has an awesome responsibility. I hope they will travel across the country and visit the penitentiaries to discuss matters with the administrators, the custodial officers and the inmates. Unless they do, the results will not be satisfactory.

I am one who believes that you cannot rehabilitate all those who are sent to the penitentiary, but at the same time I am one who believes that in our advanced form of life those who are sent there are deserving of the opportunity, regardless of how depraved they may be, of becoming rehabilitated. What we have to be concerned about is when a person reaches the stage that rehabilitation is no longer a reality; then we must be extremely concerned and take all precautions that are required.

The minister's neck is on the block. The minister must come up with the proper answers because society demands protection. When we talk about society and the inmate, it is the interest of society, the protection of society, that must be borne in mind. We cannot get away from that. I get very disturbed when I read that prisoners are eating steak when we on the outside, the fortunate ones, are eating hot dogs. We must arrive at a proper balance, but it must be weighted in favour of society.

When we talk about rehabilitation some people would say "dig a hole, put them in there and forget about them". What concerns me about that, Mr. Speaker, is that at the end of their term they come out to face society not rehabilitated, and perhaps even more vicious and violent than when they went in. What we have to think about are the alternatives. Do we just put them in jail and forget about them or, in a pragmatic and realistic way, say that during their term in jail they must undergo some program of rehabilitation? I think we must accept the latter view because if we do not, we have been debased and dehumanized. We would be doing a disservice to those we would like to be rehabilitated and to the public which I believe is interested in a reasonable form of rehabilitation.

As I said, we must be concerned about the protection of society. I am an abolitionist because I am concerned about the morality of capital punishment and about the fact that a mistake can be made. I am not convinced that capital punishment is a deterrent. We must be concerned about a proper penal service being established and administered in order that the protection of society shall remain paramount.

The committee has an awesome job. It is expected to solve this age-old problem and have answers within the next couple of months. Whether they can do that or whether the judicial inquiry that the minister has asked for is the better way, I am not sure and I do not think it matters which way it is done. All I know is that at this particular time we are saved by the fact that some chaps are jumping the wall has captured the imagination of Canadians.

I trust and hope that, as a result of this motion, the wisdom of the members who will form the committee will enable them to assess and investigate the situation. Perhaps after due deliberation they will be able to come back with recommendations that will not only satisfy society but that will also satisfy the inmates. We have seen what has happened in the United States; when an inmate is placed in a cell like a dog, he will bark and bite as a dog. The responsibility of this committee is enormous but I have every confidence that it will make the necessary recommendations which the Solicitor General (Mr. Allmand) can implement in order to make our penal service one of the best in the world.

Mr. Jake Epp (Provencher): Mr. Speaker, I rise to add a number of comments to the debate on the motion before us. As a result of the deep concern that I, and the constituents I represent, feel, we believe that only by means of a public outcry can our confusion be heard. Apparently this is the only manner in which to move the government into a position where it will tackle and solve certain problems. Old standards are being violated but society today wants us to return to basic standards of behaviour and those who break the law will have to be punished accordingly.

Some people wonder why inmates are given privileges which very often are not available to those in the lower economic groups of our society. They look with disbelief when inmates are given hockey tickets and then escape from the game. If I may mention a case in Winnipeg, the Manitoba government paid approximately half a million dollars for hockey tickets to the games of the professional Winnipeg Jets. These were given to many deserving groups, and I do not quarrel with that, but they were also given to various prison societies. The tickets were then

given to inmates and we had escapes from the Winnipeg arena as well.

An hon. Member: That was punishment.

Mr. Epp: Watching the Winnipeg Jets was hardly a punishment, Mr. Speaker, though it might be with some other hockey teams! People also question why certain inmates can attend university at public expense. I am not saying this is entirely wrong, but we had a case in our area where an escapee, after stealing property, damaging it and forcing the owner to pay the cost of the damage, was able to attend university and laugh at the rest of us. They question the attitudes which allow this type of rehabilitation system.

● (0030)

I believe our attitude toward crime has, at best, become permissive. Unfortunately, today in our society a person is responsible to no one. It is a basic attitude for too many of our people that one is responsible only to himself. The attitude is: I can do as I please. As long as I do not hurt the other fellow too much, I can do what I please and no one has any business telling me not to do it.

That type of society is one in which I do not want to live. Society has an obligation to teach its young persons basic principles and to expect the middle-aged and old to obey its laws; otherwise, society breaks down and crime increases. We in this country have prided ourselves, perhaps falsely, on the fact that our crime rate is not that of our neighbour to the south, and our cities are safer than those to the south. That may have been the case in the past. Let us not fall into the trap of permissiveness, so that our urban centers will remain the places of safety they have been until now.

The role of prisons is twofold. One is to isolate prisoners from society. Men and women who have broken the law of this country and have been convicted through due process of law have a penalty to pay. If society is to survive, that penalty must be paid. The safety of society through isolating those who insist on breaking the law must be the underlying criterion of imprisonment. We must not lose sight of the fact that incarceration is for the protection of the majority; it is not simply punishment of those who have committed a crime.

Second is the question of rehabilitation. We have now been told that it is not rehabilitation but a reintegration process. This recognition of the need of rehabilitation for members of society is a mark of a civilized society. It is only a civilized society obeying civilized, humane laws which can or will recognize that people who break those laws must be rehabilitated back into the society they forcibly left. Despite the aspects of this society in which we live, the hallmark of our society must be just and equitable laws for the continued well-being of the majority. These laws are not simply for retribution; they are not there for the creation of a police state or for the creation of fear or hatred.

We as individual citizens must subscribe to the laws of this country. If not, we must be punished. While we must be cognizant of the ills in the society in which we live, we cannot allow our attitude to be soft, or one of soft-pedalling those who commit crimes. It might be argued that you cannot legislate morality. You might even take that argument to the nth degree and say that possibly we do not need any laws. The law is there to provide a standard to which all citizens must subscribe. If citizens do not subscribe to that standard, punishment must be invoked. I believe that punishment is a deterrent, not only to the person against being a repeater but to all of us.

Another point that was mentioned today by various speakers was that of Christian principles. In the society in which we live, Christian principles very clearly teach humanity and the value of the individual. Christian principles and the basic view of the value of the individual gave recognition to and became the underlying principle of many of our laws today. While these Christian principles teach the value of the individual, reconciliation and the re-establishment of brotherly love, they also very clearly teach that justice is part and parcel of the Christian principle in a Christian society.

You cannot have justice without punishment. A person who takes it upon himself to break the law of society must pay the penality which society deems necessary for the crime committed. The rehabilitation concept is one of value. However, I believe that a percentage of the inmates who are incarcerated in our federal penitentiaries have made a mockery of the rehabilitation system. They are the ones who have taken advantages of special passes, weekend passes, temporary passes and any other kind of pass that may be devised from one day to the next. They have often broken parole by committing heinous crimes during the period of parole. These hardcore criminals should be dealth with severly; the maximum penalty that the law provides should be imposed.

Society today is questioning the guidelines governing our rehabilitation system. I wish to cite an example of what happened in a provincial jail at Headingley, Manitoba. The Manitoba government hired an ex-inmate who was to work with the inmates and potential employers as inmates were approaching the time when they would be back in society. The guards in that jail protested the hiring of this ex-inmate. The minister of health and social development for the province, in defending this ex-inmate, said that the man had qualifications. He said the man was qualified because he "had gone the whole route". What an apprenticeship program for that particular job!

In order to return to the rationale of protecting society and providing rehabilitation within the restrictions that must be imposed if society must still be protected, it cannot be said that all persons who are advocating rehabilitation are bleeding hearts. They are moved by the massive number of human lives that have been wrecked by crime. We see young men who have made wrong decisions at a very early age and have embarked upon a road leading to crime and imprisonment. I am sure every member is aware of the tremendous price many of these people pay and the price society has to pay in lost ability and potential.

I suggest to the Solicitor General (Mr. Allmand) that we strengthen our rehabilitation program. Personally, I believe that prison chaplains have made a great contribution in our prisons. I would like to see an increase, not only in funds for but in the role of prison chaplains. We must keep in mind that justice can only be served if

penalties are imposed and we insist that they be paid by those who break the laws of society.

I subscribe to the establishment of a special committee as the Solicitor General sees fit, that we proceed to strengthen the law and that we fulfil the trust society has given to us. However, it must be an orderly society. Where heads should roll, let them roll. As this clean-up proceeds, the Solicitor General will have our support and I am sure he will earn the gratitude of all Canadian citizens.

Mr. Elias Nesdoly (Meadow Lake): Mr. Speaker, I do not intend to speak for very long. I agree with almost everything that has been said by members on both sides of this House. I extend my sympathies to the Solicitor General (Mr. Allmand) because he is in a very difficult position. I was told when I first came to the House of Commons in early January that the job of the Solicitor General was one of the most onerous in the cabinet. I hope the committee, when it is set up, will be composed of people with wide-ranging interests, because with all due respect to the profession of law, lawyers do have limitations.

● (0040)

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Nesdoly: I was very interested in the remarks made by the hon. member for Kingston and The Islands (Miss MacDonald). She said the investigation should be wide-ranging and indicated that the whole subject of equality in sentencing should be looked at closely. I have for many years read a lot of newspapers and something I read seven or eight years ago struck me as being very odd. A report appeared in a Saskatchewan paper about prison sentences meted out in the province. One individual who had embezzled $12,000 from a bank received a suspended sentence of two years while another who forged a cheque for $75 got a six month jail sentence. Both of these crimes were first offences. Maybe there were differing circumstances but the disparity struck me then as being peculiar. I had noticed many similar anomalies in the intervening years.

There is a great deal of mistrust of our whole system of justice because of the existence of crime and dishonesty in high places. To the south, we find a government which ran an election campaign on the platform of law and order, but which is itself breaking the law. We must remember that a man becomes a prisoner only if he is caught and convicted. Many offenders are never caught or convicted. They still live in our midst.

I have been a school principal for many years and I have dealt with all kinds of youngsters. In the last 23 years I have noticed a great deal of change in our youth. Youth is becoming extremely cynical about the way in which the laws of our nation are enforced, because different standards seem to be applied to different people. When these cynical people reach our prisons, there are problems.

The enforcers of the laws are themselves sometimes its transgressors. Many a time I have had a young person in my office who would say: Mr. Nesdoly, I did not stop at a stop sign; I was stopped and ordered to pay a $25 fine. I said, all right, you broke the law, so you pay it. Then, he said: You know there is a policeman down Main Street who makes a U-turn in the middle of the street; that is against the law, but he can do it; he was not chasing criminals, or anything. Or a local magistrate can park his car on the wrong side of the street without any attention being paid to it. These things have been brought to my attention too many times for them not to contain some elements of truth.

I believe the committee should look at the high proportion of our prison population represented by Indian and Metis people. It seems to me there is a disproportionate number of them in our prisons. Why are they there, and what sort of rehabilitation program is being carried on to help them?

Perhaps we should be considering, too, the question of the location of prisons. Why do they need to be so close to cities? Why not farther north? Some people say they must be close to services. We must remember that Australia was colonized by convicts. So was Siberia.

An hon. Member: And Newfoundland!

Mr. Nesdoly: I am not going to comment on that remark. I think we should give further thought to the location of our prisons if any new prisons are to be built.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Laniel): The hon. member for Yukon.

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): If the hon. member speaks now, we hope he closes the debate.

Mr. Erik Nielsen (Yukon): I hope so, too, Mr. Speaker. This has been a long debate, an exhausting debate, a debate which could have been avoided had the motion made yesterday under Standing Order 43 been accepted.

One thing I want to mention before I discuss the mechanics of the committee, which is the purpose of my rising, is that I have listened carefully throughout the debate to members from both sides discussing the various aspects of the motion, but no one has yet mentioned the demoralizing effect which the bail reform law and the ease with which escapes are made from our penal institutions has had on law enforcement agencies. Premature parole and the operations of the bail reform legislation are seriously impeding the work of law enforcement agencies and seriously affecting the morale of those agencies throughout the country.

With respect to the committee itself, the reason a select committee of the House was suggested yesterday under Standing Order 43, and today in the standing committee, and by the hon. member for Burnaby-Richmond-Delta (Mr. Reynolds) was primarily because of these two factors: first, the workload which now lies on the plate of the Standing Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs and, second, the need for acting with haste in connection with this inquiry. The standing committee will not have finished its examination of the estimates of the Solicitor General's department until the end of the month. It will then embark upon consideration of the wiretapping legislation which has been referred to it. Judging from the interest shown in this legislation during the second reading stage in the House, its consideration will certainly take at least until the third week of June.

The committee which will be authorized by the House to study the matters embodied in the resolution before us

must act much more rapidly, so it will be my intention to try to convince the steering committee that a sub-committee of the standing committee be struck, composed, perhaps, of three members from this side of the House and three members from the other side of the House together with one member from the New Democratic party and one member from the Social Credit party. This committee would be small enough to act with flexibility and the degree of haste necessary. I would suggest that it set about its work visiting the institutions which are causing the most chronic problems as well as those which might be described by some in the Solicitor General's department as being models for penal institutions.

● (0050)

In order to set up a subcommittee to accomplish that sort of task it may well be, and likely will be, that the standing committee will have to be enlarged by eight additional members. I understand that discussions have taken place among the House leaders, and the government would not resist an enlarged Standing Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs should the committee make that recommendation to the House. I hope it will do so as its very next meeting, and that necessary steps are taken to enlarge the committee by eight members, or by whatever number the committee deems advisable, thus permitting the subcommittee to be formed and to set about its work at once.

The need for rapid action is demonstrated by all who have participated in this debate and by the events that have occurred. I will not discuss the merits here because I hope to be a member of that subcommittee, if the suggestion is adopted, and there will be plenty of time to make my comments at that stage. Certainly I do not want to flog the Solicitor General any more tonight. We are compassionate people on this side of the House and in my view he has been flogged sufficiently today to draw emphatically to his attention the very deep-rooted dissatisfaction, not only of members of opposition parties but members of his own party, with the manner in which the penitentiary system is functioning.

In addition, there have been comments relating to the bail reform legislation, the parole system and the temporary leave of absence program which must convince the Solicitor General that there is a great deal to be desired. We were promised some kind of action by his predecessor well over a year ago with respect to the bail reform legislation, but we have not had action. Neither have we had action with respect to the penal system.

Not all ill winds blow no good, and perhaps the events of the day have had one advantageous effect, at any rate, and that is to focus public attention on this question and to bring Parliament to the point where it finally takes action. It is my hope and the hope of those on this side of the House that we agree to set up a small subcommittee which will have the flexibility and rapidity of movement to enable an early report to be made to the House, hopefully a report that will not be ignored, one containing recommendations that will be accepted by the government and which will go a long way toward curing the problems confronting the Solicitor General's department.

[*Translation*]

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Boulanger): Order. In accordance with the special order adopted earlier today, I am satisfied that the debate has come to an end. I therefore declare the motion adopted. The House stands adjourned until two o'clock this afternoon, in accordance with Standing Order 2 (1).

The House adjourned at 12.55 a.m.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Wednesday, May 16, 1973

The House met at 2 p.m.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[*Translation*]

MANPOWER

LACK OF SUMMER JOBS—REQUEST FOR UNANIMOUS CONSENT TO MOVE MOTION

Mr. Adrien Lambert (Bellechasse): Mr. Speaker, in view of the fact that, on the one hand, thousands of young people will be unemployed this summer and that, on the other hand, there is a shortage of skilled manpower in the farming industry, I request the unanimous consent of the House pursuant to Standing Order 43 in order to move a motion concerning this very important and extremely urgent matter. I move, seconded by the hon. member for Abitibi (Mr. Laprise):

That a special committee of this House be created without any further delay in order to consider the serious problem of youth unemployment, as well as the shortage of skilled agricultural manpower, and that the said committee be instructed to make recommendations to the minister in order to solve this problem and to report to this House before June 15, 1973.

Mr. Speaker: The House has heard the motion. Pursuant to Standing Order 43, this motion requires the unanimous consent of the House. Is there such unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

Mr. Speaker: There is not and the motion of the hon. member cannot therefore be put.

* * *

[*English*]

TRANSPORT

SUPPLY OF FREIGHT CARS FOR BRITISH COLUMBIA LUMBER INDUSTRY—REQUEST FOR UNANIMOUS CONSENT TO MOVE MOTION

Mr. F. Oberle (Prince George-Peace River): Mr. Speaker, in light of several telegrams I have received in the last few days, I am rising pursuant to Standing Order 43 on a matter of urgent and pressing necessity. On several occasions this matter has been brought to the attention of the House; I am referring to the lack of rail cars available to the lumber industry in British Columbia. The CNR has drastically cut back their supply of cars to British Columbia over the last three months, and this has now had disastrous effects since several plants have had to shut down. Therefore I move, seconded by the hon. member for Burnaby-Richmond-Delta (Mr. Reynolds):

That this House move to strike a special committee under the Standing Committee on Transport and Communications to investigate all matters relating to this very serious situation.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member's motion also requires unanimous consent since it is proposed under the terms of Standing Order 43. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

Mr. Speaker: There is not unanimity.

QUESTIONS ON THE ORDER PAPER

(Questions answered orally are indicated by an asterisk.)

LANGUAGE TRAINING COURSES

Question No. 28—**Mr. Coates:**

1. What is the total number of public servants who have been involved in language training courses to December 31, 1972?

2. Of the total number, how many were involved in French language instruction and how many in English language instruction?

3. Of the number entering courses in language instruction in both English and French, how many have successfully completed the courses entered?

4. How many persons are now employed by the government in language training programmes and what is the estimated cost in salaries and expenses for these persons in the fiscal year 1972-73?

Hon. James Hugh Faulkner (Secretary of State): The answer, in so far as the Language Bureau of the Public Service Commission is concerned, is as follows: 1, 2 and 3.

	Number of students involved since 1964	Number of students who have graduated and/or who have passed the language knowledge examination
English Courses.....	4,320	1,935
French Courses.....	16,407	2,122
Total.....	20,727	4,057

Order Paper Questions

The data is as of December 31, 1972

N.B. It should be noted that the intensive language training program of three weeks three times a year was begun in 1968. It takes approximately three years for a student to complete this program and, therefore, the first graduates in quantity have only begun to emerge from the system. Further, continuous language training courses will begin this year and these are expected to provide a larger number of graduates by the completion of their formal language training within a twelve-month period.

4. Approved Man-Years 1972–73

		Monitors (Winter Works Program)	Total
Administration	63	—	63
Teaching	559	206	765
Pedagogical Services	124	—	124
	746	206	952

Estimates for 1972–73
Expenditures

	Authorized Expenditures	Monitors*	Total
Personnel (salaries)	$ 8,751,000	$ 1,569,125	$10,320,125
Transportation and communications	198,000	25,000	223,000
Information	10,000	4,000	14,000
Professional and special services	650,000	—	650,000
Rentals	49,000	—	49,000
Repairs and upkeep	20,000	—	20,000
Utilities, materials and supplies	227,000	45,000	272,000
Construction and acquisition of machines and equipment	74,000	4,000	78,000
All other expenditures	61,000	—	61,000
Total	$10,040,000	$ 1,647,125	$11,687,125

*Winter works program.

COMPANY OF YOUNG CANADIANS—BILINGUALISM POLICY

Question No. 450—**Mr. Beaudoin:**

1. Has the Company of Young Canadians adopted a definite policy on bilingualism?

2. What number and total percentage of that agency's employees are (a) English unilingual (b) French unilingual (c) bilingual?

3. In 1960, 1962, 1964, 1966, 1968 and 1970, what was the number and total percentage of employees of the same agency who were (a) English unilingual (b) French unilingual (c) bilingual?

4. By year since 1960, what was the total budget allocated for the development of bilingualism in that agency?

Mr. John M. Reid (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): I am informed by the Treasury Board Secretariat and by the Company of Young Canadians as follows: 1. Departments' policy on bilingualism is based on the requirements of the Official Languages Act, the Public Service Employment Act, the Translation Bureau Act and policy and directives prescribed by the Government.

[Mr. Faulkner.]

2. At the Ottawa office: 25 employees. (a) English unilingual, 7 employees, 28 per cent; (b) French unilingual, 0; (c) Bilingual, 18 employees, 72 per cent. In the field, field staff and volunteers speak the language spoken by those with whom they work.

3. The CYC was created in 1966. Records at the national office were not maintained in a manner to provide such information.

4. No amount is specifically budgeted for the development of bilingualism. The cost of providing administration, communication and publication services in both official languages is borne out of general operating revenues.

TARIFF BOARD—BILINGUALISM POLICY

Question No. 451—**Mr. Beaudoin:**

1. Has the Tariff Board adopted a definite policy on bilingualism?

2. What number and total percentage of that agency's employees are (a) English unilingual (b) French unilingual (c) bilingual?

3. In 1960, 1962, 1964, 1966, 1968 and 1970, what was the number and total percentage of employees of the same agency who were (a) English unilingual (b) French unilingual (c) bilingual?

4. By year since 1960, what was the total budget allocated for the development of bilingualism in that agency?

Mr. John M. Reid (Parliamentary Secretary to President of Privy Council): I am informed by the Treasury Board Secretariat and Tariff Board as follows: 1. Departments' policy on bilingualism is based on the requirements of the Official Languages Act, the Public Service Employment Act, the Translation Bureau Act and policy and directives prescribed by the Government.

2. (a) 19 English unilingual, 57.5 per cent; (b) none; (c) 14 bilingual, 42.4 per cent.

3. Figures not available.

4. No separate budget item.

CANADIAN INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY—BILINGUALISM POLICY

Question No. 452—**Mr. Beaudoin:**

1. Has the Canadian International Development Agency adopted a definite policy on bilingualism?

2. What number and total percentage of that agency's employees are (a) English unilingual (b) French unilingual (c) bilingual?

3. In 1960, 1962, 1964, 1966, 1968 and 1970, what was the number and total percentage of employees of the same agency who were (a) English unilingual (b) French unilingual (c) bilingual?

4. By year since 1960, what was the total budget allocated for the development of bilingualism in that agency?

Mr. John M. Reid (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): I am informed by the Treasury Board Secretariat and the Canadian International Development Agency as follows: 1. Departments' policy on bilingualism is based on the requirements of the Official Languages Act, the Public Service Employment Act, the Translation Bureau Act and policy and directives prescribed by the Government.

2. (a) English unilingual		382	49.4 per cent
(b) French unilingual		31	4.1 per cent
(c) Bilingual—			
Anglophone bilingual	94		
Francophone bilingual	265	359	46.5 per cent
Totals		772	100.0 per cent

3. No statitics on bilingualism are available prior to 1970.

(a) English unilingual		324	58.2 per cent
(b) French unilingual		28	5.0 per cent
(c) Bilingual—			
Anglophone bilingual	45		
Francophone bilingual	160	205	36.8 per cent
Totals		557	100.0 per cent

4. From 1960 to 1970, no budget was allocated for the development of bilingualism.

—For the fiscal year 1971-1972, $81,000 and 9 man-years were allocated.

—For the fiscal year 1972-1973, $357,000 and 33.5 man-years were allocated.

CANADIAN RADIO-TELEVISION COMMISSION—BILINGUALISM POLICY

Question No. 453—Mr. Beaudoin:

1. Has the Canadian Radio-Television Commission adopted a definite policy on bilingualism?

2. What number and total percentage of that agency's employees are (a) English unilingual (b) French unilingual (c) bilingual?

3. In 1960, 1962, 1964, 1966, 1968 and 1970, what was the number and total percentage of employees of the same agency who were (a) English unilingual (b) French unilingual (c) bilingual?

4. By year since 1960, what was the total budget allocated for the development of bilingualism in that agency?

Mr. John M. Reid (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): I am informed by the Treasury Board Secretariat and the Canadian Radio-Television Commission as follows: 1. Departments' policy on Bilingualism is based on the requirements of the Official Languages Act, the Public Service Employment Act, the Translation Bureau Act and policy and directives prescribed by the Government.

2. Linguistic status of the CRTC employees at the present time: (a) English unilingual—127—46 per cent; (b) French unilingual—5—2 per cent; (c) Bilingual—142—52 per cent of which: 119 Francophones—43.5 per cent, 23 Anglophones—8.5 per cent.

Total number of employees at the CRTC as of January 1, 1973: 274.

N.B. These statistics do not take into account the casual employees and the persons under contact.

3. Linguistic status of the CRTC employees since 1960: The CRTC having been created in 1968, we shall give statistics only for the years 1968 and 1970. Moreover, since the tests of second language is only relative.

1968: (a) English unilingual—49—44 per cent; (b) French unilingual—None; (c) Bilingual—63—56 per cent of which: 58 Francophones—52 per cent, 5 Anglophones—4 per cent.

Total number of employees as of May 31, 1968: 112.

1970: (a) English unilingual—85—44 per cent; (b) French unilingual—3—1.5 per cent; (c) Bilingual—107—56 per cent of which: 94 Francophones—49 per cent, 13 Anglophones—7 per cent.

Total number of employees as of October 1, 1970: 192.

4. Budget allocated to bilingualism:

N.B. The following figures take into account only the direct costs which were incurred within the official bilingualism programs:

1968—no specific budget.

1969—no specific budget.

1970—$ 5,300.

1971—$17,600.

1972—$30,800.

NATIONAL ENERGY BOARD—BILINGUALISM POLICY

Question No. 454—Mr. Beaudoin:

1. Has the National Energy Board adopted a definite policy on bilingualism?

2. What number and total percentage of that agency's employees are (a) English unilingual (b) French unilingual (c) bilingual?

3. In 1960, 1962, 1964, 1966, 1968 and 1970, what was the number and total percentage of employees of the same agency who were (a) English unilingual (b) French unilingual (c) bilingual?

4. By year since 1960, what was the total budget allocated for the development of bilingualism in that agency?

Mr. John M. Reid (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): I am informed by the Treasury Board Secretariat and the National Energy Board as follows: 1. Departments' policy on Bilingualism is based on the requirements of the Official Languages Act, the Public Service Employment Act, the Translation Bureau Act and policy and directives prescribed by the Government.

2.

	Number	per cent
(a)	173	81.5
(b)	1	0.5
(c)	38	18.0
Total	212	100.0

3. No statistics available for the years 1960 to 1969, inclusive.

	1970	
	Number	per cent
(a)	126	79.2
(b)	0	0.0
(c)	33	20.8
Total	159	100.0

4. The development of bilingualism has been carried out since 1969 within the total operating appropriations provided by Parliament.

Order Paper Questions

TAX REVIEW BOARD—BILINGUALISM POLICY

Question No. 455—**Mr. Beaudoin:**

1. Has the Tax Review Board adopted a definite policy on bilingualism?

2. What number and total percentage of that agency's employees are (a) English unilingual (b) French unilingual (c) bilingual?

3. In 1960, 1962, 1964, 1966, 1968 and 1970, what was the number and total percentage of employees of the same agency who were (a) English unilingual (b) French unilingual (c) bilingual?

4. By year since 1960, what was the total budget allocated for the development of bilingualism in that agency?

Mr. John M. Reid (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): I am informed by the Treasury Board Secretariat and the Tax Review Board as follows: 1. Departments' policy on Bilingualism is based on the requirements of the Official Languages Act, the Public Service Employment Act, the Translation Bureau Act and policy and directives prescribed by the Government.

2. (a) 13, 48.1 per cent; (b) 0, 0.0 per cent; (c) 14, 51.9 per cent.

3. Not applicable.

4. 1972-73, $11,500. (Tax Review Board in existence only since December 15, 1971.)

MINISTRY OF STATE FOR URBAN AFFAIRS—BILINGUALISM POLICY

Question No. 456—**Mr. Beaudoin:**

1. Has the Ministry of State for Urban Affairs adopted a definite policy on bilingualism?

2. What number and total percentage of that department's employees are (a) English unilingual (b) French unilingual (c) bilingual?

3. In 1960, 1962, 1964, 1966, 1968 and 1970, what was the number and total percentage of employees of the same department who were (a) English unilingual (b) French unilingual (c) bilingual?

4. By year since 1960, what was the total budget allocated for the development of bilingualism in that department?

Mr. John M. Reid (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): I am informed by the Treasury Board Secretariat and the Ministry of State for Urban Affairs as follows: 1. Departments' policy on Bilingualism is based on the requirements of the Official Languages Act, the Public Service Employment Act, the Translation Bureau Act and policy and directives prescribed by the Government.

2. (a) 78, 61.4 per cent; (b) 0, 0.0 per cent; (c) 49, 38.6 per cent.

3. The Ministry of State for Urban Affairs was officially created on July 1, 1971.

4. $2,400, 1972.

[Mr. Reid.]

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE COMMISSION—BILINGUALISM POLICY

Question No. 457—**Mr. Beaudoin:**

1. Has the Unemployment Insurance Commission adopted a definite policy on bilingualism?

2. What number and total percentage of that agency's employees are (a) English unilingual (b) French unilingual (c) bilingual?

3. In 1960, 1962, 1964, 1966, 1968 and 1970, what was the number and total percentage of employees of the same agency who were (a) English unilingual (b) French unilingual (c) bilingual?

4. By year since 1960, what was the total budget allocated for the development of bilingualism in that agency?

Mr. John M. Reid (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): I am informed by the Treasury Board Secretariat and the Unemployment Insurance Commission as follows: 1. Departments' policy on Bilingualism is based on the requirements of the Official Languages Act, the Public Service Employment Act, the Translation Bureau Act and policy and directives prescribed by the Government.

2. The Unemployment Insurance Commission initiated a few months ago an internal survey to obtain accurate information on the total number of its unilingual English, unilingual French and bilingual employees. This is being achieved through the utilization of the Public Service Commission language knowledge test. A statistical analysis cannot be completed until the undergoing exercise is finalized.

3. Such information is not available.

4. By year since 1968, the total budget allocated for the development of bilingualism was as follows: 1968/1969, 18,877; 1969/1970, 21,255; 1970/1971, 24,396; 1971/1972, 30,300; 1972, 156,700. Figures for each year prior to 1968 are not available.

TREASURY BOARD—BILINGUALISM POLICY

Question No. 458—**Mr. Beaudoin:**

1. Has the Treasury Board adopted a definite policy on bilingualism?

2. What number and total percentage of that department's employees are (a) English unilingual (b) French unilingual (c) bilingual?

3. In 1960, 1962, 1964, 1966, 1968 and 1970, what was the number and total percentage of employees of the same department who were (a) English unilingual (b) French unilingual (c) bilingual?

4. By year since 1960, what was the total budget allocated for the development of bilingualism in that department?

Mr. John M. Reid (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): I am informed by the Treasury Board Secretariat as follows: 1. Departments' policy on Bilingualism is based on the requirements of the Official Languages Act, the Public Service Employment Act, the Translation Bureau Act and policy and directives prescribed by the Government.

2. (a) 386, 72.8 per cent; (b) 4, .8 per cent; (c) 140, 26.4 per cent.

3. For 1960, 1962, 1964, 1966 and 1968, the information is not available. For 1970: (a) 325, 73 per cent; (b) nil; (c) 120, 27 per cent.

4. 1960-1961 to 1970-1971, nil; 1971-1972, $88,000; 1972-1973, $574,770.

STATISTICS CANADA—BILINGUALISM POLICY

Question No. 459—**Mr. Beaudoin:**

1. Has Statistics Canada adopted a definite policy on bilingualism?

2. What number and total percentage of that agency's employees are (a) English unilingual (b) French unilingual (c) bilingual?

3. In 1960, 1962, 1964, 1966, 1968 and 1970, what was the number and total percentage of employees of the same agency who were (a) English unilingual (b) French unilingual (c) bilingual?

4. By year since 1960, what was the total budget allocated for the development of bilingualism in that agency?

Mr. John M. Reid (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): I am informed by the Treasury Board Secretariat and Statistics Canada as follows: 1. Departments' policy on Bilingualism is based on the requirements of the Official Languages Act, the Public Service Employment Act, the Translation Bureau Act and policy and directives prescribed by the Government.

2. As of January 31, 1973, there were: (a) English unilingual employees, 2,453, 65.3 per cent; (b) French unilingual employees, 318, 8.5 per cent; (c) Bilingual employees, 983, 26.2 per cent.

3. No information is available for 1960, 1962, 1964, 1966 and 1968. However, information for 1970 follows: (a) English unilingual, 2,550, 77.9 per cent; (b) French unilingual, 151, 4.6 per cent; (c) Bilingual, 561, 17.5 per cent.

4. 1960-1970, nil; 1970-1971, $36,671; 1971-1972, $182,667; 1972-1973, $442,914. For the period 1960-1970 there were no specific budgetary allocations for the development of bilingualism. During this period funds were re-allocated from other projects, however, precise information on the amount is not available.

MINISTER OF STATE FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY—BILINGUALISM POLICY

Question No. 460—**Mr. Beaudoin:**

1. Has the Ministry of State for Science and Technology adopted a definite policy on bilingualism?

2. What number and total percentage of that department's employees are (a) English unilingual (b) French unilingual (c) bilingual?

3. In 1960, 1962, 1964, 1966, 1968 and 1970, what was the number and total percentage of employees of the same department who were (a) English unilingual (b) French unilingual (c) bilingual?

4. By year since 1960, what was the total budget allocated for the development of bilingualism in that department?

Mr. John M. Reid (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): I am informed by the Treasury Board Secretariat and the Ministry of State for Science and Technology as follows: 1. Departments' policy on Bilingualism is based on the requirements of the Official Languages Act, the Public Service Employment Act, the Translation Bureau Act and policy and directives prescribed by the Government.

2. (a) 61.2 per cent; (b) 2.3 per cent; (c) 36.5 per cent.

3. Not applicable as the Ministry of State for Science and Technology was formed in August, 1971.

4. The period 1960 to March 31, 1972 is not applicable as all expenses of the Ministry of State for Science and Technology up to March 31, 1972 were paid from Privy Council appropriations. 1972-73, $23,000.

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION—BILINGUALISM POLICY

Question No. 461—**Mr. Beaudoin:**

1. Has the Public Service Commission adopted a definite policy on bilingualism?

2. What number and total percentage of that agency's employees are (a) English unilingual (b) French unilingual (c) bilingual?

3. In 1960, 1962, 1964, 1966, 1968 and 1970, what was the number and total percentage of employees of the same agency who were (a) English unilingual (b) French unilingual (c) bilingual?

4. By year since 1960, what was the total budget allocated for the development of bilingualism in that agency?

Mr. John M. Reid (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): I am informed by the Treasury Board Secretariat and the Public Service Commission as follows: 1. Departments' policy on Bilingualism is based on the requirements of the Official Languages Act, the Public Service Employment Act, the Translation Bureau Act and policy and directives prescribed by the Government.

2.	Number	Total percentage
English unilingual	595	27%
French unilingual	922*	41%
Bilingual	717	32%

* 574 employees of the Public Service Commission are engaged in teaching the French language and 219 in monitoring French language retention. 793 positions, therefore, require a thorough knowledge of the French language.

N.B. An employee who passes the Commission's Language Knowledge Examination and obtains a mark which is equal or superior to that which has been established as the minimum required for his occupational group is considered bilingual. An employee who has not tried the examination (which is optional) is considered to be unilingual. It should be noted, however, that every employee who has not tried the test or has not completed his language training is not necessarily unilingual though the records will show him as such. Because of employee turnover, of the continuous process of testing, and because of language training, the figures given above are not static.

3. Prior to 1968, records were not kept based on this type of identification. In 1969 and 1970 some research was carried out. However, it was centered around the bilingual population. In 1969, 27% of the employees claimed to be bilingual. The instruments for testing and establishing standards were being developed and started to be used in mid-1970. Consequently, no meaningful figures are available to supply an answer to this question.

4. No special budget was allocated before 1969. In 1969, the budget allocated was, $15,585; in 1970, it was; 18,982; in 1971, it was, 204,000; in 1972, it was, 1,209,925.

INFORMATION CANADA—BILINGUALISM POLICY

Question No. 462—**Mr. Beaudoin:**

1. Has Information Canada adopted a definite policy on bilingualism?

2. What number and total percentage of that agency's employees are (a) English unilingual (b) French unilingual (c) bilingual?

3. In 1960, 1962, 1964, 1966, 1968 and 1970, what was the number and total percentage of employees of the same agency who were (a) English unilingual (b) French unilingual (c) bilingual?

4. By year since 1960, what was the total budget allocated for the development of bilingualism in that agency?

Mr. John M. Reid (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): I am informed by the Treasury Board Secretariat and Information Canada as follows: 1. Departments' policy on Bilingualism is based on the requirements of the Official Languages Act, the Public Service Employment Act, the Translation Bureau Act and policy and directives prescribed by the Government.

2. As of December 31st, 1972 the Information Canada staff is composed of: (a) Unilingual anglophones, 203, 37.1 per cent; (b) Unilingual francophones, 24, 4.0 per cent; (c) Bilinguals, 320, 58.0 per cent.

3. Information Canada did not exist before April 1970. The following statistics are as at December 31st, 1970: (a) Unilingual anglophones, 178, 46.9 per cent; (b) Unilingual francophones, 19, 5.0 per cent; (c) Bilinguals, 182, 48.0 per cent.

4. The following funds have been allocated for the development of bilingualism in Information Canada: Budget 1970-1971, no special budget; Budget 1971-1972, $73,000 (for the last 4 months only); Budget 1972-1973, $270,000.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE—BILINGUALISM POLICY

Question No. 463—**Mr. Beaudoin:**

1. Has the Department of Agriculture adopted a definite policy on bilingualism?

2. What number and total percentage of that department's employees are (a) English unilingual (b) French unilingual (c) bilingual?

3. In 1960, 1962, 1964, 1966, 1968 and 1970, what was the number and total percentage of employees of the same department who were (a) English unilingual (b) French unilingual (c) bilingual?

4. By year since 1960, what was the total budget allocated for the development of bilingualism in that department?

[Mr. Reid.]

Mr. John M. Reid (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): I am informed by the Treasury Board Secretariat and the Department of Agriculture as follows: 1. Departments' policy on bilingualiam is based on the requirements of the Official Languages Act, the Public Service Employment Act, the Translation Bureau Act and policy and directives prescribed by the Government.

2. Out of 9,142 employees in the Department (a) 7,686 (84%) are English unilingual, (b) 773 (8.5%) are French unilingual, and (c) 683 (7.5%) are officially bilingual.

3. (a) (b) and (c) No records of first and second language or bilingual ability for employees of the Department were kept prior to the establishment of the Bilingualism Programme Division in November, 1971.

4. No budget allocated prior to 1967—1968, when a Bilingual Adviser was apointed. 1967-68, $14,000; 1968-69, $16,000; 1969-70, $17,000; 1970-71, $18,000; 1971-72, $48,000; 1972-73, $693,000.

DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AND CORPORATE AFFAIRS—BILINGUALISM POLICY

Question No. 465—**Mr. Beaudoin:**

1. Has the Department of Consumer and Corporate Affairs adopted a definite policy on bilingualism?

2. What number and total percentage of that department's employees are (a) English unilingual (b) French unilingual (c) bilingual?

3. In 1960, 1962, 1964, 1966, 1968 and 1970, what was the number and total percentage of employees of the same department who were (a) English unilingual (b) French unilingual (c) bilingual?

4. By year since 1960, what was the total budget allocated for the development of bilingualism in that department?

Mr. John M. Reid (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): I am informed by the Treasury Board Secretariat and the Department of Consumer and Corporate Affairs as follows: 1. Departments' policy on Bilingualism is based on the requirements of the Official Languages Act, the Public Service Employment Act, the Translation Bureau Act and policy and directives prescribed by the Government.

2. As of January 1, 1973, the total number of people employed in the Department was 1769, of which (a) English unilingual, 65 per cent; (b) French unilingual, 12 per cent; (c) Bilingual, 23 per cent.

3. The information requested is not available from our records for the years in question.

4. The required figures are known for the following years only: 1969-70, $18,091; 1970-71, $27,100; 1971-72, $27,849; 1972-73, $286,800.

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT—BILINGUALISM POLICY

Question No. 467—**Mr. Beaudoin:**

1. Has the Department of the Environment adopted a definite policy on bilingualism?

2. What number and total percentage of that department's employees are (a) English unilingual (b) French unilingual (c) bilingual?

3. In 1960, 1962, 1964, 1966, 1968 and 1970, what was the number and total percentage of employees of the same department who were (a) English unilingual (b) French unilingual (c) bilingual?

4. By year since 1960, what was the total budget allocated for the development of bilingualism in that department?

Mr. John M. Reid (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): I am informed by the Treasury Board Secretariat and the Department of Environment as follows: 1. Departments' policy on Bilingualism is based on the requirements of the Official Languages Act, the Public Service Employment Act, the Translation Bureau Act and policy and directives prescribed by the Government.

2. (a) 88.9 per cent, 8639; (b) .2 per cent, 29; (c) 10.9, 1068. This includes employees on active training at varying degrees of knowledge of the other official language.

3. Not applicable; the Department of the Environment was officially created on June 11, 1971.

4. 1971-72, $174,816.15; 1972-73, $1,087,206.00.

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS—BILINGUALISM POLICY

Question No. 468—**Mr. Beaudoin:**

1. Has the Department of External Affairs adopted a definite policy on bilingualism?

2. What number and total percentage of that department's employees are (a) English unilingual (b) French unilingual (c) bilingual?

3. In 1960, 1962, 1964, 1966, 1968 and 1970, what was the number and total percentage of employees of the same department who were (a) English unilingual (b) French unilingual (c) bilingual?

4. By year since 1960, what was the total budget allocated for the development of bilingualism in that department?

Mr. John M. Reid (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): I am informed by the Treasury Board Secretariat and the Department of External Affairs as follows: 1. Departments' policy on Bilingualism is based on the requirements of Official Languages Act, the Public Service Employment Act, the Translation Bureau Act and policy and directives prescribed by the Government.

2. The number and percentage, according to the staff establishment of the Department of External Affairs totalling presently 2,656 (excluding the Passport Office)*, are as follows: (a) English unilingual, 1,554, 59 per cent; (b) French unilingual, 91, 3 per cent; (c) Bilingual, 1,011, 38 per cent. These statistics were prepared according to results up to this date of the Public Service Commission language tests.

3. We have no results of any real scientific value for the period extending from 1960 to 1970 since the Public Service Commission language test had not yet been initiated.

4.

	Budget
1960-1969	nil
fiscal year 1969-1970	nil
fiscal year 1970-1971	$126,000
fiscal year 1971-1972	$145,000

*The Public Service Commission has not yet transmitted the Test results of this group of employees.

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE—BILINGUALISM POLICY

Question No. 469—**Mr. Beaudoin:**

1. Has the Department of Finance adopted a definite policy on bilingualism?

2. What number and total percentage of that department's employees are (a) English unilingual (b) French unilingual (c) bilingual?

3. In 1960, 1962, 1964, 1966, 1968 and 1970, what was the number and total percentage of employees of the same department who were (a) English unilingual (b) French unilingual (c) bilingual?

4. By year since 1960, what was the total budget allocated for the development of bilingualism in that department?

Mr. John M. Reid (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): I am informed by the Treasury Board Secretariat and the Department of Finance as follows: 1. Departments' policy on bilingualism is based on the requirements of the Official Languages Act, the Public Service Employment Act, the Translation Bureau Act and policy and directives prescribed by the Government.

2. (a) 348, 69.6 per cent; (b) 8, 1.6 per cent; (c) 144, 28.8 per cent.

3. For 1960, 1962, 1964, 1966 and 1968, the information is not available. For 1970: (a) 217, 67.4 per cent; (b) Nil; (c) 105, 32.6 per cent.

4. 1960-1961 to 1970-1971, Nil; 1971-1972, $84,276; 1972-1973, $324,960.

DEPARTMENT OF INDIAN AFFAIRS AND NORTHERN DEVELOPMENT—BILINGUALISM POLICY

Question No. 470—**Mr. Beaudoin:**

1. Has the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development adopted a definite policy on bilingualism?

2. What number and total percentage of that department's employees are (a) English unilingual (b) French unilingual (c) bilingual?

3. In 1960, 1962, 1964, 1966, 1968 and 1970, what was the number and total percentage of employees of the same department who were (a) English unilingual (b) French unilingual (c) bilingual?

4. By year since 1960, what was the total budget allocated for the development of bilingualism in that department?

Mr. John M. Reid (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): I am informed by the Treasury Board Secretariat and the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development as follows: 1. Departments' policy on bilingualism is based on the requirements of the Official Languages Act, the Public Service Employment Act, the Translation Bureau Act and policy and directives prescribed by the Government.

2. The Department is currently carrying out a language testing program and to date 1718 employees have been tested. Of these (a) 1103 or 64.3% are English unilingual, (b) 153 or 8.9% are French unilingual and (c) 462 or 26.8% are bilingual.

3. Our first statistics on the language evaluation of the Department's employees only go back to January 1971. The current figures are indicated in the answer to part 2.

4. 1960-61, nil; 1961-62, nil; 1962-63, $15,000; 1963-64, $37,700; 1964-65, $58,500; 1965-66, $96,400; 1966-67, $120,000; 1967-68, $30,000; 1968-69, $6,300; 1969-70, $28,650; 1970-71, $117,000; 1971-72, $184,000; 1972-73, $1,144,000. From 1962 to 1968, the Department established and administered a language school for its own employees. From 1969 funds were expended for the development of bilingualism as indicated in the answer to Part 1.

DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRY—BILINGUALISM POLICY

Question No. 471—**Mr. Beaudoin:**

1. Has the Department of Industry, Trade and Commerce adopted a definite policy on bilingualism?

2. What number and total percentage of that department's employees are (a) English unilingual (b) French unilingual (c) bilingual?

3. In 1960, 1962, 1964, 1966, 1968 and 1970, what was the number and total percentage of employees of the same department who were (a) English unilingual (b) French unilingual (c) bilingual?

4. By year since 1960, what was the total budget allocated for the development of bilingualism in that department?

Mr. John M. Reid (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): I am informed by the Treasury Board Secretariat and the Department of Industry, Trade and Commerce as follows: 1. Departments' policy on bilingualism is based on the requirements of the Official Languages Act, the Public Service Employment Act, the Translation Bureau Act and policy and directives prescribed by the Government.

2. (a) 1611, 72.3 per cent; (b) 4, .2 per cent; (c) 614, 27.5 per cent.

3. The Department came into being in 1969; figures are available only for 1969 and 1971. 1969: (a) 1548, 81.6 per cent; (b) nil; (c) 348, 18.4 per cent. 1971: (a) 1634, 77.7 per cent; (b) nil; (c) 468, 22.3 per cent.

4. The Department came into being in 1969. Figures were not maintained before 1972. For 1972 the amount was $1,644,600.

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS—BILINGUALISM POLICY

Question No. 472—**Mr. Beaudoin:**

1. Has the Department of Veterans Affairs adopted a definite policy on bilingualism?

2. What number and total percentage of that department's employees are (a) English unilingual (b) French unilingual (c) bilingual?

[Mr. Reid.]

3. In 1960, 1962, 1964, 1966, 1968 and 1970, what was the number and total percentage of employees of the same department who were (a) English unilingual (b) French unilingual (c) bilingual?

4. By year since 1960, what was the total budget allocated for the development of bilingualism in that department?

Mr. John M. Reid (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): I am informed by the Treasury Board Secretariat and the Department of Veterans Affairs as follows: 1. Departments, policy on bilingualism is based on the requirements of the Official Languages Act, the Public Service Employment Act, the Translation Bureau Act and policy and directives prescribed by the Government.

2. This information is not available and an extensive and costly study would be required to provide a complete answer to this question.

3. This information is not available.

4. 1960-1970, Nil; 1970-1971, $42,000; 1971-1972, $52,000; 1972-1973, $85,000.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT—BILINGUALISM POLICY

Question No. 473—**Mr. Beaudoin:**

1. Has the Department of Transport adopted a definite policy on bilingualism?

2. What number and total percentage of that department's employees are (a) English unilingual (b) French unilingual (c) bilingual?

3. In 1960, 1962, 1964, 1966, 1968 and 1970, what was the number and total percentage of employees of the same department who were (a) English unilingual (b) French unilingual (c) bilingual?

4. By year since 1960, what was the total budget allocated for the development of bilingualism in that department?

Mr. John M. Reid (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): I am informed by the Treasury Board Secretariat and the Department of Transport as follows: 1. Departments' policy on bilingualism is based on the requirements of the Official Languages Act, the Public Service Employment Act, the Translation Bureau Act and policy and directives prescribed by the Government.

2. As of January 1, 1973, the number of continuing full time employees was: (a) English unilingual, 12,360, 80 per cent; (b) French unilingual, 1,558, 12 per cent; (c) Bilingual (tested), 1,201, 8 per cent.

3. Figures are not available for the years mentioned because PSC language proficiency tests were not developed at that time.

4. Total budget allocated for development of bilingualism is available only for the following years: 1969-70, $92,280; 1970-71, $59,100; 1971-72, $324,754; 1972-73, $976,900.

[*English*]

DEPARTMENT OF SUPPLY AND SERVICES—BILINGUALISM POLICY

Question No. 474—**Mr. Beaudoin:**

1. Has the Department of Supply and Services adopted a definite policy on bilingualism?

2. What number and total percentage of that department's employees are (a) English unilingual (b) French unilingual (c) bilingual?

3. In 1960, 1962, 1966, 1968 and 1970, what was the number and total percentage of employees of the same department who were (a) English unilingual (b) French unilingual (c) bilingual?

4. By year since 1960, what was the total budget allocated for the development of bilingualism in the department?

Mr. John M. Reid (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): I am informed by the Treasury Board Secretariat and the Department of Supply and Service as follows: 1. Departments' policy on bilingualism is based on the requirements of the Official Languages Act, the Public Service Employment Act, the Translation Bureau Act and policy and directives prescribed by the Government.

2. Based on the information presently available on the existing strength, the situation in the Department of Supply and Services is as follows: (a) 5292 employees, 65.6 per cent; (b) 463 employees, 5.8 per cent; (c) 2310 employees, 28.6 per cent.

3. The Department of Supply and Services was created on April 1, 1969. Therefore, the requested information is presented from that date only, based on the available information: 1970: (a) 5266 employees, 67.5 per cent; (b) 433 employees, 5.5 per cent; (c) 2100 employees, 27.0 per cent.

4. The Department of Supply and Services was created on April 1, 1969. Therefore, the requested information is presented from that date only, by fiscal periods: 1969-70, $22,000; 1970-71, $26,500; 1971-72, $53,400; 1972-73, $99,100.

SOLICITOR GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT—BILINGUALISM POLICY

Question No. 475—**Mr. Beaudoin:**

1. Has the Solicitor General Department adopted a definite policy on bilingualism?

2. What number and total percentage of that department's employees are (a) English unilingual (b) French unilingual (c) bilingual?

3. In 1960, 1962, 1964, 1966, 1968 and 1970, what was the number and total percentage of employees of the same department who were (a) English unilingual (b) French unilingual (c) bilingual?

4. By year since 1960, what was the total budget allocated for the development of bilingualism in that department?

Mr. John M. Reid (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): I am informed by the Treasury Board Secretariat and the Solicitor General Department as follows: 1. Departments' policy on Bilingualism is based on the requirements of the Official Languages Act, the Public Service Employment Act, the Translation Bureau Act and policy and directives prescribed by the Government.

2.

	R.C.M.P.		C.P.S.		N.P.B.		Min. Sec.		Totals	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
(a)	12,193	86	3,454	67	318	65	73	59	16,038	80
(b)	450	3	77	01	18	03	00	00	545	03
(c)	1,577	11	1,616	32	160	32	50	41	3,403	17
	14,220	100	5,147	100	496	100	123	100	19,986	100

3.

	R.C.M.P.*	C.P.S.*	N.P.B.**				Min. Sec.**	
			1968		1970		1970	
			No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
(a)			204	71	263	68	43	75
(b)			06	02	11	03	00	00
(c)			78	27	112	29	14	25
			288	100	386	100	57	100

*No statistics available for years asked.
**Figures available only for the years shown.

4.

	R.C.M.P.*	C.P.S.**	N.P.B.	Min. Sec.	Totals***
		$	$	$	$
1969.....			1,755	20,231	
1970.....			Nil	26,041	
1971.....		187,000	908	29,976	
1972.....				32,985	

*No separate account maintained with respect to costs related to the development of bilingualism in the Force.
**Budgeting for the development of bilingualism commenced during the fiscal year 1971-72
***Figures for years, other than shown, are not available.

SECRETARY OF STATE DEPARTMENT—BILINGUALISM POLICY

Question No. 476—**Mr. Beaudoin:**

1. Has the Secretary of State Department adopted a definite policy on bilingualism?

2. What number and total percentage of that department's employees are (a) English unilingual (b) French unilingual (c) bilingual?

3. In 1960, 1962, 1964, 1966, 1968 and 1970, what was the number and total percentage of employees of the same department who were (a) English unilingual (b) French unilingual (c) bilingual?

4. By year since 1960, what was the total budget allocated for the development of bilingualism in that department?

Mr. John M. Reid (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): I am informed by the Treasury Board Secretariat and the Secretary of State Department as follows: 1. Departments' policy on Bilingualism is based on the requirements of the Official Languages Act, the Public Service Employment Act, the Translation Bureau Act and policy and directives prescribed by the Government.

2. All employees have not been tested for language proficiency. However, a survey across the Department has indicated the following: (a) Employees using English as sole or main language of work 14 per cent or 265; (b) Employees using French as sole or main language of work 16 per cent or 303; (c) Employees using both English and French in their work situation 70 per cent or 1,325.

3. No figures are available as it was not until 1970 that methods for testing and establishing standards were developed.

4. 1960-70, Nil; 1971-72, $64,000 for last quarter of fiscal year; 1972-73, $565,000.

DEPARTMENT OF REGIONAL ECONOMIC EXPANSION—BILINGUALISM POLICY

Question No. 477—**Mr. Beaudoin:**

1. Has the Department of Regional Economic Expansion adopted a definite policy on bilingualism?

2. What number and total percentage of that department's employees are (a) English unilingual (b) French unilingual (c) bilingual?

3. In 1960, 1962, 1964, 1966, 1968 and 1970, what was the number and total percentage of employees of the same department who were (a) English unilingual (b) French unilingual (c) bilingual?

4. By year since 1960, what was the total budget allocated for the development of bilingualism in that department?

Mr. John M. Reid (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): I am informed by the Treasury Board Secretariat and the Department of Regional Economic Expansion as follows: 1. Departments' policy on Bilingualism is based on the requirements of the Official Languages Act, the Public Service Employment Act, the Translation Bureau Act and policy and directives prescribed by the Government.

2. English unilingual, 585, 64 per cent; French unilingual, 100, 11 per cent; Bilingual, 227, 25 per cent.

3. 1960-68—The Department was established in April 1969. 1970: English unilingual, 617, 69 per cent; French unilingual, 83, 9 per cent; Bilingual, 194, 22 per cent.

4. 1969, $20,000; 1970, $27,600; 1971, $65,100; 1972, $215,500.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS—BILINGUALISM POLICY

Question No. 478—**Mr. Beaudoin:**

1. Has the Department of Public Works adopted a definite policy on bilingualism?

2. What number and total percentage of that department's employees are (a) English unilingual (b) French unilingual (c) bilingual?

3. In 1960, 1962, 1964, 1966, 1968 and 1970, what was the number and total percentage of employees of the same department who were (a) English unilingual (b) French unilingual (c) bilingual?

4. By year since 1960, what was the total budget allocated for the development of bilingualism in that department?

[Mr. Reid.]

Mr. John M. Reid (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): I am informed by the Treasury Board Secretariat and the Department of Public Works as follows: 1. Departments' policy on Bilingualism is based on the requirements of the Official Languages Act, the Public Service Employment Act, the Translation Bureau Act and policy and directives prescribed by the Government.

2. (a) English unilingual, 2,110, 76.0 per cent of the total non-operational; (b) French unilingual, 226, 8.25 per cent of the total non-operational; (c) Bilingual, 427, 15.45 per cent of the total non-operational.

3. The Department began establishing records of language skills in 1971 and at first, only recorded those that were bilingual—not those that were unilingual English or unilingual French. Out of a total of 2,593 professional, administrative and managerial staff, 337 or 13 per cent were bilingual. It had not established language records for operational staff.

4. 1969-70, $19,644; 1970-71, $32,500; 1971-72, $169,000; 1972-73, $532,000. These figures cover only the direct expenses of the office of the Adviser on Bilingualism. The Department has not segregated expenses involved in translation of documents, manuals, signs etc. nor expenses involved with attendance at language training.

POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT—BILINGUALISM POLICY

Question No. 479—**Mr. Beaudoin:**

1. Has the Post Office Department adopted a definite policy on bilingualism?

2. What number and total percentage of that department's employees are (a) English unilingual (b) French unilingual (c) bilingual?

3. In 1960, 1962, 1964, 1966, 1968 and 1970, what was the number and total percentage of employees of the same department who were (a) English unilingual (b) French unilingual (c) bilingual?

4. By year since 1960, what was the total budget allocated for the development of bilingualism in that department?

Mr. John M. Reid (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): I am informed by the Treasury Board Secretariat and the Post Office Department as follows: 1. Departments' policy on Bilingualism is based on the requirements of the Official Languages Act, the Public Service Employment Act, the Translation Bureau Act and policy and directives prescribed by the Government.

2.

Present Total Staff	Present No. /% of bilingual staff		Present No. /% of employees using French as sole or main language of work		Present No. /% of employees using English as sole or main language of work	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
20,588	2,541	10	5,860	29	14,698	71

These figures include only the National Capital Region and other areas or districts where there is a significant bilingual population. Other areas do not keep records of bilingual employees.

3. We have no figures for these periods.

4. Prior to the fiscal year 1971-72 there was no special budget for the Programme on Bilingualism activities and charges were made to the Personnel Branch budget. 1971-72, $100,725; 1972-73, $149,549.

DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL REVENUE—BILINGUALISM POLICY

Question No. 480—**Mr. Beaudoin:**

1. Has the Department of National Revenue adopted a definite policy on bilingualism?

2. What number and total percentage of that department's employees are (a) English unilingual (b) French unilingual (c) bilingual?

3. In 1960, 1962, 1964, 1966, 1968 and 1970, what was the number and total percentage of employees of the same department who were (a) English unilingual (b) French unilingual (c) bilingual?

4. By year since 1960, what was the total budget allocated for the development of bilingualism in that department?

Mr. John M. Reid (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): I am informed by the Treasury Board Secretariat and the Department of the National Revenue as follows: 1. Departments' policy on Bilingualism is based on the requirements of Official Language Act, the Public Service Employment Act, the Translation Bureau Act and policy and directives prescribed by the Government.

By National Revenue, Customs and Excise:

2. (a) and (b)—Records are not kept in such a way as to make it practical to answer those parts. (c) Number of bilingual employees is 1868. The percentage based on a total work force of 8301 is 22.6 per cent.

3. (a), (b) and (c)—Records are not kept in such a way as to make it practical to answer this question.

4. For the period from 1960 to 1970 inclusive, there was no budget allocated specifically for the development of bilingualism in this department. For the two fiscal years since 1970, the departmental allocation for bilingualism was as follows:

1971-72		1972-73	
Man-Years	Dollars	Man-Years	Dollars
12	230,000	148	1,707,500

By National Revenue, Taxation:

2. The following numbers and percentages of departmental personnel are effective on December 31, 1972: (a) English unilingual, 7,854, 75.7 per cent; (b) French unilingual, 1,232, 12.0 per cent; (c) Bilingual, 1,329, 12.3 per cent.

3. The information required by this question is not available. (The departmental language testing and identification program was not completed until the fall '72, therefore, the figures requested are not available prior to 1972).

4. The total budget allocated for the development of bilingualism within the Department of National Revenue, Taxation, is as follows: 1972-73, $1,647,400; 1971-72, $667,920. In years previous to 1971-72, no funds were separately budgeted for the development of bilingualism as such.

DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL HEALTH AND WELFARE—BILINGUALISM POLICY

Question No. 481—**Mr. Beaudoin:**

1. Has the Department of National Health and Welfare adopted a definite policy on bilingualism?

2. What number and total percentage of that department's employees are (a) English unilingual (b) French unilingual (c) bilingual?

3. In 1960, 1962, 1964, 1966, 1968 and 1970, what was the number and total percentage of employees of the same department who were (a) English unilingual (b) French unilingual (c) bilingual?

4. By year since 1960, what was the total budget allocated for the development of bilingualism in that department?

Mr. John M. Reid (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): I am informed by the Treasury Board Secretariat and the Department of National Health and Welfare as follows: 1. Departments' policy on bilingualism is based on the requirements of the Official Languages Act, the Public Service Employment Act, the Translation Bureau Act and policy and directives prescribed by the Government.

2 and 3. Employees may only be considered as officially bilingual on the basis of having successfully completed the Public Service Commission second language proficiency test and met all standards set for their particular work category. Since this test is not compulsory, there may be certain persons who are in fact bilingual and who are not counted as such. However for the purpose of this question, all employees not bilingual, are considered to be unilingual. There is, at present, no basis for officially identifying unilingual French or unilingual English employees. The information requested in 2 and 3 was not available before 1971. Listed below are the data available since this date regarding the language proficiency of employees is compiled for departmental requirements.

	(a) and (b)			(c)	
Year	Total number of employees	Total number of unilinguals	%	Total number of bilinguals	%
1971.....	6,752	6,245	92.5	507	7.5
1972.....	6,938	6,441	92.7	497	7.3
1973.....	7,124	6,559	92.1	565	7.9

4. There is no easily retrievable information as to monies spent for Bilingualism in NHW before 1971. The Departmental Budget for bilingualism allocated in 1971-72 was $138,000 and in 1972-73 is $419,000.

DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL DEFENCE—BILINGUALISM POLICY

Question No. 482—**Mr. Beaudoin:**

1. Has the Department of National Defence adopted a definite policy on bilingualism?

2. What number and total percentage of that department's employees are (a) English unilingual (b) French unilingual (c) Bilingual?

3. In 1960, 1962, 1964, 1966 and 1970, what was the number and total percentage of employees of the same department who were (a) English unilingual (b) French unilingual (c) bilingual?

4. By year since 1960, what was the total budget allocated for the development of bilingualism in that department?

Mr. John M. Reid (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): I am informed by the Treasury Board Secretariat and the Department of National Defence as follows: 1. Departments' policy on bilingualism is based on the requirements of the Official Languages Act, the Public Service Employment Act, the Translation Bureau Act and policy and directives prescribed by the Government.

2. On 31 December, 1972 there were (a) 61,960 (76%) unilingual Anglophones (b) 10,422 (13%) unilingual Francophones (c) 9,000 (11%) bilingual Canadian Armed Forces personnel. There are 30,976 permanent civilian employees in the Department. Some have been tested as to their linguistic competence, others have made self-declarations of bilingual capability but these self-declarations in some instances have proven too unreliable to be included in statistics therefore no accurate figures for (a), (b) or (c) above are available.

3. Prior to 1972, personnel statistics did not reflect this information. In order to provide an accurate answer, additional staff would be required in a large number of field units to peruse files to ascertain self-declaration at the times listed. The Department does not have the resources that would be required to employ such additional staff, nor, as indicated in (2) above would reliable statistics result.

4. No cost data is available for the fiscal years 1960-61 to 1967-68. During the fiscal years 1968-69 to 1971-72 inclusive no funds were specifically allocated for language training activities, however, it is estimated that the following amounts were used for the development of bilingualism in the Department: 1968-69—$3,865,500; 1969-70—$3,782,400; 1970-71—$5,757,200; 1971-72—$14,825,100. The 1972-73 estimate is in the neighbourhood of $28,094,600 of which $14,503,500 represents salaries of personnel on Language Training.

[Mr. Reid.]

DEPARTMENT OF MANPOWER AND IMMIGRATION—BILINGUALISM POLICY

Question No. 483—**Mr. Beaudoin:**

1. Has the Department of Manpower and Immigration adopted a definite policy on bilingualism?

2. What number and total percentage of that department's employees are (a) English unilingual (b) French unilingual (c) bilingual?

3. In 1960, 1962, 1964, 1966, 1968 and 1970, what was the number and total percentage of employees of the same department who were (a) English unilingual (b) French unilingual (c) bilingual?

4. By year since 1960, what was the total budget allocated for the development of bilingualism in that department?

Mr. John M. Reid (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): I am informed by the Treasury Board Secretariat and the Department of Manpower and Immigration as follows: 1. Departments' policy on bilingualism is based on the requirements of the Official Languages Act, the public Service Employment Act, the Translation Bureau Act and policy and directives prescribed by the Government.

2. (a), (b) and (c) The information is not available from departmental records.

3. (a), (b) and (c) The information is not available from departmental records.

4. 1960-69—The information is not available from departmental records. 1970-71, $111,000; 1971-72, $174,000; 1972-73, $671,000.

DEPARTMENT OF LABOUR—BILINGUALISM POLICY

Question No. 484—**Mr. Beaudoin:**

1. Has the Department of Labour adopted a definite policy on bilingualism?

2. What number and total percentage of that department's employees are (a) English unilingual (b) French unilingual (c) bilingual?

3. In 1960, 1962, 1964, 1966, 1968 and 1970, what was the number and total percentage of employees of the same department who were (a) English unilingual (b) French unilingual (c) bilingual?

4. By year since 1960, what was the total budget allocated for the development of bilingualism in that department?

Mr. John M. Reid (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): I am informed by the Treasury Board Secretariat and the Department of Labour as follows: 1. Departments' policy on bilingualism is based on the requirements of the Official Languages Act, the Public Service Employment Act, the Translation Bureau Act and policy and directives prescribed by the Government.

2. (a) 482, 71.4 per cent; (b) 1; (c) 195, 28.6 per cent.

3. Information not available.

4. 1960-67, Nil; 1968, $10,000; 1969, $18,400; 1970, $23,000; 1971, $33,200; 1972, $100,350.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE—BILINGUALISM POLICY

Question No. 485—**Mr. Beaudoin:**

1. Has the Department of Justice adopted a definite policy on bilingualism?

2. What number and total percentage of that department's employees are (a) English unilingual (b) French unilingual (c) bilingual?

3. In 1960, 1962, 1964, 1966, 1968 and 1970, what was the number and total percentage of employees of the same department who were (a) English unilingual (b) French unilingual (c) bilingual?

4. By year since 1960, what was the total budget allocated for the development of bilingualism in that department?

Mr. John M. Reid (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): I am informed by the Treasury Board Secretariat and the Department of Justice as follows: 1. Departments' policy on bilingualism is based on the requirements of the Official Languages Act, the Public Service Employment Act, the Translation Bureau Act and policy and directives prescribed by the Government.

2. (a) 440, 61.4 per cent; (b) 3, 0.4 per cent; (c) 274, 38.2 per cent.

3. Information not available.

4. From 1960-67, Not applicable; 1968-69, $4,829.29; 1969-70, $28,395.03; 1970-71, $55,455.80; 1971-72, $57,023.33; 1972-73, $32,650.84 (April 1 to December 31, 1972).

POSITION HELD BY MR. RAY PERRAULT

Question No. 517—**Mr. Nelson:**

Does Mr. Ray Perrault hold any official paid position in any department of the government and, if so (a) what department is he attached to (b) what is his area of operation (c) is he authorized to make announcements and statements on behalf of any government department (d) what expense budget does he receive (e) what office facilities does he have and in what cities?

Mr. William Rompkey (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of the Environment): Yes. (a) Department of the Environment; (b) Executive Assistant to the Minister; (c) Mr. Perrault has the normal range of responsibilities associated with such a position; (d) Mr. Perrault has the normal expenditure allowances; (e) One office in Environment Canada headquarters, Hull, Quebec.

NUMBER OF PUBLIC SERVANTS INVOLVED IN LANGUAGE TRAINING PROGRAM

Question No. 629—**Mr. Crouse:**

1. How many public servants were enrolled in language training programs from 1966 to December 31, 1972 and what was the average drop-out rate in the same period?

2. How many public servants enrolled in the language training program successfully reached Level 3 by December 31, 1972?

3. How many public servants enrolled in the language training program successfully reached Level 4 by December 31, 1972?

Hon. James Hugh Faulkner (Secretary of State): I have been given the following answer by the Public Service Commission: 1. The number of Language Bureau students from 1966 to December 31, 1972 is 20,563. The average drop-out rate to August 31, 1972 is 33 per cent.*

2. The number of students who completed the third level, but not the fourth level, is 2,138.

3. The total number of students who completed the fourth level is 942.

———

N.B. The total number of language training graduates to December 31, 1972 is 3,080. In addition, 977 Language Bureau students passed the commissions language knowledge examination and are considered sufficiently bilingual to perform the duties of their positions.

*Included in the drop-out rate are students who left the Public Service or were transferred out of the country or to regions where training facilities are not available.

CANADA PENSION PLAN

Question No. 656—**Mr. Coates:**

1. How many appeals have been initiated against decisions of the Department of National Health and Welfare by applicants for a disability pension under the Canada Pension Plan?

2. Of the total number of unfavourable decisions rendered, how many were appealed, and of that total number, how many appeals were successful when heard by the Review Board?

3. How many of the favourable decisions rendered on appeal of the Review Committee have been appealed by the Minister of National Health and Welfare to the Pension Appeals Board, and of those appeals considered and decided by the Pension Appeals Board, how many confirmed the decision of the Review Committee and how many were unfavourable?

Hon. Marc Lalonde (Minister of National Health and Welfare): All answers refer to the period from February 1, 1970 (when payment of disability pensions commenced) to December 31, 1972.

1. Appeals to the minister for reconsideration of the initital decision, 1,833.

2. Of the 7,501 decisions which were unfavourable to the applicants, out of a total of 36,881 decisions, 1,833 were appealed to the minister for reconsideration of the initial decision; 833 of these appeals were not upheld by the minister and, of these, 159 requested a Review Committee hearing, 35 being successful.

3. The minister appealed to the Pension Appeals Board in 23 cases. He subsequently withdrew two appeals after obtaining additional medical evidence which allowed him to grant the pension. Of the 21 cases remaining, 10 have been heard: in one case the decision of the Review Committee was confirmed on the basis of new evidence, seven decisions were in favour of the minister and two decisions have not yet been given.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE COMMISSION—BENEFICIARY COUNT

Question No. 715—**Mr. Hellyer:**

How many persons were in receipt of unemployment insurance payments in Canada in each month of 1972?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration):

Order Paper Questions

Beneficiaries of Unemployment Insurance Benefits[1]

1972	Regular Benefits[2] No Earnings Reported	With Earnings Reported	Special Benefits[3]	Total
January	552,000	34,000	34,000	620,000
February	614,000	40,000	43,000	697,000
March	613,000	42,000	42,000	697,000
April	589,000	41,000	35,000	665,000
May	518,000	40,000	32,000	590,000
June	454,000	34,000	32,000	520,000
July	466,000	28,000	33,000	527,000
August	470,000	27,000	33,000	530,000
September	413,000	30,000	35,000	478,000
October	418,000	33,000	41,000	492,000
November	457,000	35,000	45,000	537,000
December	536,000	41,000	48,000	625,000
Annual Average	508,000	36,000	38,000	582,000

[1]Each of these statistics relate to a reference week taken as representative for the month in question.

[2]Regular unemployment insurance benefits including benefits for trainees who have completed their courses but have not found work.

[3]Special benefit types include Sickness, Maternity, Retirement, fishing and benefits paid to trainees while on an approved training course.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE COMMISSION—PREMIUM REVENUE AND BENEFITS

Question No. 757—**Mr. Roche:**

1. How much did the government receive in UIC employer-employee contributions for the calendar year 1972?

2. Is this the total amount to be received by the government as provided for under the Act, and, if not, what amount has the government estimated to be the total employer-employee contribution for the calendar year, 1972?

3. How many individuals have drawn benefits under the Unemployment Insurance plan from January 1 to December 31, 1972, on a monthly basis?

4. How many individuals drew UIC benefits between January 1 and December 31, 1971, on a monthly basis?

5. What was the average length of time of a benefit period from January 1 to December 31, 1972, not including maternity benefits?

6. (a) What percentage of all individuals drawing UIC benefits during the period January 1, 1972 to the latest month for which statistics are available, received (i) the maximum benefit (ii) the minimum benefit (b) what was the amount of the average benefit?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. $715 million.

2. This represents both the actual revenue received and the estimated revenue for 1972. The final figure will not be known until all T-4's have been collected in August 1973 and any adjustments will be made at that time.

3 and 4. Beneficiaries of Unemployment Insurance Benefits—All Claim Types

[Mr. MacGuigan.]

	1971	1972
January	591,000	620,000
February	692,000	697,000
March	640,000	697,000
April	692,000	665,000
May	550,000	590,000
June	279,000	520,000
July	264,000	527,000
August	265,000	530,000
September	269,000	478,000
October	269,000	492,000
November	319,000	537,000
December	414,000	625,000
Annual Average	437,000	582,000

5. The average length of time on regular and fishing benefits during 1972 was 17.2 weeks.

6. (a) (i) 13.7 per cent of all claimants qualifying for benefits in 1972 were eligible for the maximum weekly benefit of $100. (ii) 0.3 per cent were eligible for the minimum weekly benefit of $20. (b) The average weekly benefit amount paid during 1972 was $62.

CANADIAN-UNITED STATES BOX CARS

Question No. 972—**Mr. Korchinski:**

1. In the past three years (a) what revenues were received by each railway in Canada as a result of the use of Canadian boxcars on American lines (b) what payments were made to American railways for the use of American box cars and by which railways?

2. What is the average duration in which Canadian box cars are retained in the United States?

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): 1. The car rental tariffs currently in use by North American Railways are complex in that the rates vary with the age and original cost of cars and the mileages they travel while on lines other than the owning railways'; the information is therefore not at hand.

2. The records of the companies are not maintained in such a manner as to enable ready identification of specific types of equipment, such as box cars.

CITIZENSHIP PROGRAM

Question No. 1,071—**Mr. Grier:**

1. Does the Department of the Secretary of State plan to provide citizenship outreach programs in 1973?

2. Will such plans include provisions for qualified personnel to be available outside normal working hours, and in locations other than citizenship offices, to process the first and second stages of citizenship applications?

3. When would such procedures be ready to take effect?

4. Will consideration be given to training or otherwise enabling persons, other than departmental employees, to process the first two stages of citizenship applications?

Mr. Gilles Marceau (Parliamentary Secretary to the Secretary of State): Mr. Speaker, the answer to this question is as follows: 1. Yes.

2. Yes, where necessary.

3. A decision on these programs has now been taken and recruitment of the necessary personnel to implement them will start shortly.

4. Where no departmental facilities exist, such arrangements have already been made for a number of courts to process citizenship applications.

CAR RENTAL CONCESSIONS AT MINISTRY AIRPORTS

Question No. 1,294—**Mr. McKenzie:**

1. What is the policy of the Department of Transport in regard to the number of car rental concessions allowed at major airports?

2. Is there adequate counter space at air terminals to allow the five major car rental firms proper operating space?

3. Is there adequate parking space at major air terminals to allow four or five car rental concessions?

4. Are difficulties being experienced at the present time by the Department of Transport managers in providing parking space for car rental firms?;

5. Does the Department of Transport have information on how many car rental firms are allowed at the London, England and Miami, Florida Airports or other major cities in the USA or Europe and, if so, what is it?

6. Is it the policy of the Minister of Transport to allow only one limousine concessionaire, one book shop and one barber shop but allows unlimited car rental operators and, if so, for what reason?

7. Would the Minister of Transport consider consulting with Canadian-owned car rental firms to reach an amicable solution to the number of concessionaires to be allowed at major airports?

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): 1. The policy of the Ministry of Transport with respect to car rental concessions is: (a) The company must be able to serve at least 50 per cent of the Ministry's Airports which already have car rental service and the system must be established in the cities served by those airports; (b) The company must have a Canadian head office with which the Ministry would negotiate, and which would be signatory to the agreement with the Ministry i.e., the Ministry would not deal with individual franchised operators; (c) If the company meets these two criteria it would be required to pay an annual guaranteed fee equal to the average annual concession fee being paid by the other car rental systems established at Ministry Airports.

2. Any new car rental concession could not be assured of receiving accommodation at all airports equal to that enjoyed by the four car rental firms presently operating at these airports.

3 and 4. Parking space is limited at some of the major airport terminal buildings. A new concession could not be assured of being provided with the same equivalent space of present car rental companies.

5. The number of car rental firms allowed at European and United States airports varies, but the Ministry does not have information as to the exact number operating at these airports.

6. The limousine operations are licensed and controlled by provincial authorities. Concessions for the book and barber shops are not exclusive and are awarded on the basis of a public tender call. It is the practice to grant one concession when it is considered that the business offering would not justify the provision of additional facilities.

7. In the past, the Ministry has consulted with the car rental industry in developing the policy and is prepared to continue to do so, either individually or collectively.

PORTNEUF CONSTITUENCY—GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE TO CONSTRUCTION OF SCHOOLS

Question No. 1,377—**Mr. Godin:**

Since 1965, has the government contributed financially to the construction of schools and the purchase of equipment in the constituency of Portneuf and, if so (a) to how many projects have such grants been applied (b) what was the total amount for each project (c) on what date were such amounts paid?

Mr. John M. Reid (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): I am informed by the Department of Manpower and Immigration as follows: (a) 6; (b) See attached table; (c) This information is not readily available and would require an inordinate cost and length of time to prepare.

Financial Contribution by the Government of Canada for the Construction of Schools and the Purchase of Equipment in Portneuf

Project	65–66	66–67	67–68	68–69	69–70	70–71	71–72	Total Payments
Ecole Secondaire Albert Ouellet—Charlesbourg	—	—	129,395	—	—	—	—	129,395
Ecole Secondaire Polyvalente—Charlesbourg	—	—	—	1,400,000	387,842	236,160	—	2,024,002
Ecole Secondaire St. Joseph—Loretteville	—	—	85,713	—	—	—	—	85,713
Ecole Secondaire Polyvalente—Neufchatel	—	—	—	930,202	317,151	67,275	57,000	1,371,628
Ecole Secondaire Polyvalente—Duberger—Les Saules	—	—	—	—	—	49,078	1,468,000	1,517,078
Ecole Secondaire Polyvalente—Ancienne Lorette	—	—	—	1,046,305	250,696	—	—	1,297,001
Total	—	—	215,108	3,376,507	955,689	352,513	1,525,000	6,424,817

PENITENTIARIES—COST OF MAINTENANCE AND PAROLE SUPERVISION OF INMATES, 1972

Question No. 1,471—**Mr. Orlikow:**

1. What was the average cost of maintaining one inmate during the year 1972 in (a) federal institution of all types (b) maximum security institutions (c) medium security institutions (d) minimum security institutions (e) farm and work camps?

2. What is the average cost of parole supervision per parolee for the year 1972?

Order Paper Questions

Hon. Warren Allmand (Solicitor General): 1. (a) $9,325; (b) $9,839; (c) $8,458; (d) $4,518; (e) farm and work camps are, in fact, classified as minimum security institutions. Accordingly, maintenance costs of inmates in farm and work camps have been included with (d) above.

2. $1,280.

NOTES:—Part 1 The average cost of maintaining inmates for the fiscal year 1971-72 is based on actual operational and maintenance expenditures and the amortization of total capital costs. The decrease in the total average cost per inmate from 1970-71 is due to the implementation of improved accounting procedures which included an amortization of 20 per cent on capital costs and of 10 per cent on equipment costs. Part 2 The figure $1,280 includes the cost of maintaining the National Parole Board, the cost of supervision, communication, travel, training and education, stationery, supplies, administrative support, and capital cost, as well as the cost of revocations and forfeitures, and case preparation for those inmates not subsequently granted parole. However, the cost of hiring a parole officer, paying his accommodation, clerical assistance, travelling, etc., would be approximately $20,000. He could supervise 40 cases on parole. This means that the cost of maintaining an individual on parole would amount to approximately $500, exclusive of general overhead costs for administration of the parole board and case preparation.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE COMMISSION—ADVERTISING COSTS

Question No. 1,510—**Mr. Cossitt:**

1. What is the total amount being spent to explain the new T4U slip in all media and how is this divided among (a) newspapers (b) radio (c) television?

2. What advertising agency is handling this matter?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. Although all the invoices have not yet been received it is expected that the total cost of T4U advertising will be approximately $290,000; (a) Newspapers $200,000; (b) Radio $90,000; (c) Television, nil.

2. (i) The newspaper advertising was handled by Omnicom Advertising Limited; (ii) The radio advertising was handled by our own Public Relations Branch.

AIR TRAFFIC CONTROLLERS

Question No. 1,517—**Mr. Reynolds:**

1. How many Air Traffic Controllers are there in Canada at the present time?

2. How many were there in 1969, 1970, 1971 and 1972?

3. How many hours of overtime have been worked by the Air Traffic Controllers in 1969, 1970, 1971, 1972 and 1973 to date?

4. How much was paid in overtime in 1969, 1970, 1971 and 1972?

5. What are the present salary levels of Air Traffic Controllers?

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): 1. Two thousand and fifteen.

2. 1,157; 1,606; 1,734; 1,904.

3. 103,154; 181,713; 163,458; 156,527; 15,530.

[Mr. Orlikow.]

4. $1,026,407; $1,607,206; $1,946,579; $2,026,258.

5. AI-00, $5,750 to $6,350; AI-1, $8,175 to $9,727; AI-2, $9,739 to $11,589; AI-3, $11,104 to $13,218; AI-4, $12,539 to $14,930; AI-5, $14,414 to $17,159; AI-6, $16,076 to $18,268; AI-7, $17,052 to $19,377; AI-8, $18,029 to $20,488; AI-9, $19,079 to $21,676.

CANADIAN ARMED FORCES—OVER-SNOW SUPPORT VEHICLE

Question No. 1,522—**Mr. Rowland:**

1. Are the Canadian Armed Forces currently considering the purchase of an over-snow support vehicle?

2. What are the names of the vehicles and their manufacturers currently being considered for this function?

3. How many units is it anticipated would be purchased and what would be the per unit price?

4. What is the anticipated total expenditure on the purchase of such a vehicle?

5. Will any eventual contract for purchase contain the provision that the vehicle must be manufactured in Canada?

6. Would any eventual contract for purchase contain provisions for regional distribution of expenditures on the vehicle?

7. On what date may an announcement with respect to the letting of the contract be expected?

Mr. John M. Reid (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): I am informed by the Department of National Defence and the Department of Supply and Services as follows: 1. Yes, evaluation trials are now under way and are expected to be concluded in July 1973.

2. Dynatrac Mark 2, Oversnow vehicle, Flextrac Nodwell, Calgary Alberta; Volvo BV202, Bandwagen, Bolinder Munktell, Sweden.

3 and 4. Approximately 300 vehicles. Sufficient information is not available to allow a realistic estimate to be made of either the unit or total program cost at this time.

5. The provisions of the purchase contract cannot be determined until the source of supply has been selected. It is Canadian government policy always to take Canadian content into consideration when selecting a source of supply.

6. No special contract provisions are contemplated at this time.

7. Later in 1973.

CAPITAL MURDER

Question No. 1,549—**Mr. Olaussen:**

In each year 1952 to 1962, what was the number of (a) people executed for capital murder (b) capital murders?

Mr. John M. Reid (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council):

	(a) No. of executions	(b) No. of convictions
1952	7	18
1953	10	16
1954	8	15

	(a) No. of executions	(b) No. of convictions
1955	8	14
1956	7	10
1957	4	8
1958	2	19
1959	3	14
1960	3	8
1961	2	11
1962	2	11

By Statistics Canada:

(b) The table below provides the number of murder victims where the charge was capital murder, each year 1954 to 1962 inclusive. Data are not available for 1952 and 1953. After September 1961 the offence of murder was divided into capital and non-capital murder. Prior to this, all murders in Canada were considered capital murder.

Year	No. of murder victims where the charge was capital murder
1954	125
1955	118
1956	131
1957	129
1958	153
1959	141
1960	190
1961	109[1]
1962	90[1]

[1] Figures are affected by change in law; division into capital and non-capital murder.

PAYMENT TO TRIDENT STEAMSHIP COMPANY FOR SERVICES BETWEEN HALIFAX AND ST. JOHN'S, NFLD.

Question No. 1,655—**Mr. Crouse:**

1. What amount of money is paid the Trident Steamship Company for services provided between Halifax, Nova Scotia and St. John's, Newfoundland?

2. (a) What are the terms of the contract (b) on what date does it expire?

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): The Canadian Transport Commission advises as follows: 1. A subsidy in the amount of $12 per ton of general cargo carried between Halifax, N.S. and St. John's, Nfld. with a minimum annual payment of $300,000.

2. (a) For the five year period ending March 31, 1977, the minimum service shall be one round trip per week, weather and ice conditions permitting. The above subsidy amount is guaranteed for three years. The subsidy payable for the remaining two years of the agreement will be an amount agreed upon by the Commission and the contractor after a revision of the Company's over-all operating results at that time; (b) The subsidy agreement expires on March 31, 1977.

Order Paper Questions

BURIAL AT GOVERNMENT EXPENSE

Question No. 1,666—**Mr. Whittaker:**

1. (a) How many persons are buried at the government's expense throughout Canada each year (b) is this the sole responsibility of the federal government, a provincial obligation or a joint venture?

2. Of the total number buried, how many are adults and how many are children?

3. What is the cost to the government to carry out this service for an adult and for a child?

4. Of the costs incurred to bury a person, what percentage is allotted to the cost of the casket and to administrative costs?

5. How many people die each year in Canada and, of this number, how many are buried?

Mr. John M. Reid (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): I am informed by the Department of National Health and Welfare and Statistics Canada as follows: 1. (a) During 1971, approximately 6,500 persons in need were buried at government expense; (b) the federal government and the provincial governments share in the cost of burying needy persons under the terms of the Canada Assistance Plan.

2. This information is not available at the federal level.

3. The average cost to the federal government of burying an adult is $160 and a child, $140.

4. This information is not available at the federal level.

5. The following table gives the number of people who have died each year 1967 to 1971 inclusive in Canada. Data are not yet available for 1972. Number of Deaths in Canada 1967-71: 1967, 150,283; 1968, 153,196; 1969, 154,477; 1970, 155,961; 1971, 157,272.

STATUS OF HUDSON STREET CROSSING OF FRASER RIVER

Question No. 1,703—**Mr. Reynolds:**

What is the present status of the Hudson Street crossing of the Fraser River?

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): The main contract for the Hudson Street crossing was awarded on January 3. The work is presently on schedule, with project completion in early 1975.

INFORMATION RELATING TO MONEY PAID TO RAY PERRAULT

Question No. 1,752—**Mr. Cossitt:**

1. How much money has been paid by the government, before any deductions at source, in the nature of salary, honorarium or retainers to Mr. Ray Perrault between October 30, 1972 and up to and including March 31, 1973?

2. Has any money been paid to Mr. Ray Perrault as an expense allowance of any kind whatsoever and, if so (a) what is the total amount of such expenses paid (b) what is the exact description of each expense and the amount involved in each case?

Mr. William Rompkey (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of the Environment): 1. Mr. Ray Perrault received salary from October 30, 1972 to March 31, 1973, based on an annual salary of $17,500 to $20,000.

2. Travel expenses, $791; total expenses, $791.

Order Paper Questions

*POTENTIAL TRADE ACTION BY UNITED STATES AGAINST CANADA

Question No. 1,800—**Mr. Diefenbaker:**

1. On what dates since January 1, 1973, did the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce communicate with the Secretary of Commerce of the United States regarding possible or potential trade action by the United States against Canada?

2. Have letters of protest to the United States Government been sent by either the Prime Minister or the Minister and, if so, on what dates and to whom?

Mr. John M. Reid (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): Mr. Speaker, the answer to part 1 is as follows: The Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce met with the U.S. Secretary of Commerce, as well as with the Secretary of the Treasury, March 29, in Washington and had discussions on the trade situation.

In answer to part 2, our concerns about possible U.S. trade actions have been made known verbally, both by the minister and in government to government consultations. In addition, there have been a number of formal representations made to the U.S. authorities through normal diplomatic channels, for example, Michelin. In so far as the Prime Minister's office is concerned, the answer is no.

Mr. Diefenbaker: That is a wonderful answer of indefiniteness.

● (0000)

POSSIBILITY OF USING CAR FERRY "PRINCESS OF NANAIMO" BETWEEN NOVA SCOTIA AND NEWFOUNDLAND

Question No. 1,811—**Mr. Neale (Vancouver East):**

1. What inquiries were made regarding the possibility of using the car ferry *Princess of Nanaimo* in the service between Nova Scotia and Newfoundland for which the ferry *Travetal* is now being used?

2. What was the outcome of these inquiries?

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): 1. The government of Canada made no inquiries regarding the possibility of using any vessels in the service between Nova Scotia and Newfoundland now being served by the ferry *Travetal" as this service is a privately operated service owned by the Trident Shipping Company. We understand that the vessel referred to, the Princess of Nanaimo*, has been renamed the *Henry Osborne* and is in a competitive service to the *Travetal.*

2. Not applicable.

DISPUTE BETWEEN PELEE ISLAND SHIPPING COMPANY AND UNION

Question No. 1,832—**Mr. Grier:**

1. Does a legal dispute presently exist between the Pelee Island Shipping Company Limited and the union representing the Company employees and, if so (a) what are the detailed reasons for the dispute (b) what methods have been taken, and are presently being taken, to resolve the dispute?

2. Is the operator of the ferry *Pelee Islander* in full compliance with the provisions of the Canada Labour (Standards) Code?

Hon. John C. Munro (Minister of Labour): 1. Yes; (a) The union has been seeking to conclude a collective agreement following certification as bargaining agent by the Canada Labour Relations Board on June 30, 1971; (b) The dispute has gone through the full conciliation process under the legislation, beginning with the appointment of a Conciliation Officer, a Conciliation Board and further post-conciliation mediation by the Conciliation Officer. At the union's request, an Industry Specialist was appointed as mediator on March 13 pursuant to Section 195 of the Canada Labour Code. He has brought about a settlement.

2. Yes. The settlement terms comply with the provisions of the Canada Labour (Standards) Code.

NEW HORIZONS PROGRAM

Question No. 1,843—**Mr. Stackhouse:**

1. How much money has been awarded in grants from the New Horizons Program since its establishment?

2. How much has been awarded (a) in each of the ten provinces and each of the two territories (b) in Metropolitan Toronto and in Scarborough?

Hon. Marc Lalonde (Minister of National Health and Welfare): The amounts given below are as of April 17, 1973. 1. $3,387,631.

2. (a) Provincially:

	$
Newfoundland	73,589
P.E.I.	29,946
Nova Scotia	237,853
New Brunswick	207,140
Quebec	848,691
Ontario	984,217
Manitoba	206,132
Saskatchewan	176,544
Alberta	240,173
British Columbia	374,210
N.W.T.	9,136
Yukon	0
(b) Metoropiltan Toronto	442,481
Scarborough	17,136

CANADA PENSION PLAN

Question No. 1,845—**Mr. Nesdoly:**

1. With regard to the Canada Pension Plan, from its inception to March 31, 1972 (a) what were the total employer and employee contributions (b) what were the total benefits paid out in this period (c) how much money was in the fund as of March 31, 1972?

2. With regard to the Canada Pension Plan, from April 1, 1972 to March 31, 1973 (a) what were the total employer and employee contributions (b) what were the total benefits paid out in this period (c) how much money was in the fund as of March 31, 1973?

Hon. Marc Lalonde (Minister of National Health and Welfare): 1. (a) $4,404.5 million; (including contributions from the self-employed); (b) $297.8 million; (c) $4,778.5 million.

*2. (a) $897.4 million, (including contributions from the self-employed); (b) $206.3 million; (c) $5,794.1 million.

*The above amounts have not been finalized for the fiscal year 1972-73 and may be subject to minor revisions.

CANADIAN EQUESTRIAN ASSOCIATION

Question No. 1,856—**Mr. Paproski:**

1. Who is the Director of the Canadian Equestrian Association and what is his salary?

2. What was the total amount granted to this Association for the fiscal years 1971-72 and 1972-73?

3. What is the projected grant for this Association for the fiscal year 1973-74?

Hon. Marc Lalonde (Minister of National Health and Welfare): 1. To the knowledge of the Department of National Health and Welfare, no Executive Director has yet been appointed by this association.

2. 1971-72, Nil; 1972-73, $19,280.

3. Not known at this time.

CANADIAN YACHTING ASSOCIATION

Question No. 1,857—**Mr. Paproski:**

1. Who is the Director of the Canadian Yachting Association and what is his salary?

2. What was the total amount granted to this Association for the fiscal years 1971-72 and 1972-73?

3. What is the projected grant for this Association for the fiscal year 1973-74?

Hon. Marc Lalonde (Minister of National Health and Welfare): 1. Mr. Terry Phillips (Executive Director). The salary of the Executive Director is the responsibility of the Association.

2. 1971-72, $38,618; 1972-73, $90,689.

3. No grant has yet been approved for 1973-74.

COMPENSATION TO POTATO GROWERS

Question No. 1,860—**Mr. Godin:**

For the years (a) 1970 (b) 1971, what were the amounts paid by the government to compensate potato producers for damages sustained by their crops in the constituencies of (i) Champlain (ii) Portneuf (iii) Montmorency?

Hon. E. F. Whelan (Minister of Agriculture): Nil.

*HONOURS RECEIVED FROM KING GEORGE VI AND HER MAJESTY, ELIZABETH II SINCE 1947

Question No. 1,864—**Mr. Diefenbaker:**

1. What Canadians have since 1947, and on what dates, received honours from King George VI and Her Majesty Elizabeth II which are the Crown's prerogative to confer?

2. Have any such honours been awarded (a) without consultation (b) with the consent of the Government of Canada and, if so, to whom?

Mr. John M. Reid (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): The answer to part 1 is as follows: Since 1947 the following Canadians received from the late King George VI and from Her Majesty The Queen honours which are the personal gift of The Sovereign. Order of Merit: November 17, 1947, Rt. Hon. W. L. MacKenzie King; January 1, 1953, Wilder G. Penfield, M.D.; May 28, 1971, Rt. Hon. Lester B. Pearson; Royal Victorian Chain: July 23, 1960, Rt. Hon. Vincent Massey; Royal Victorian Order: January 1, 1969, Miss Mary Goldie, M.V.O. (IV); January 1, 1972, Esmond Butler, C.V.O. It is usual that The Sovereign informs the Prime Minister when such honours are to be conferred.

The answer to part 2 (a) is: From 1947 to 1968 when the present regulations came into effect governing the acceptance of honours by Canadians, all British honours and decorations other than those listed in (1) were conferred on the recommendation of the Canadian government. Excluding the Korean Campaign, however, only awards in recognition of acts of bravery by Canadian citizens were recommended.

Mr. Speaker, the answer to part (b) is that from 1968, the following Canadians received honours on recommendation by the United Kingdom Government under the provisions of the Canadian regulations. 1968: Jardine, Mrs. Isabel, MBE; 1969: Andrews, Miss Inez M. MBE; Bult-Francis, Lt.-Col. D.S.F. OBE; Campbell, Mr. J. C. CMG; Currie, Miss Mary MBE; Durham, Elliott M. CBE; Galarce, Mrs. Mary J. MBE; Gordon, Mrs. Joan E. W. MBE; Marks, Mr. J. E. CBE; Ross, James J. A. N. CBE; Sharratt, Miss Alice MBE; 1970: Byrne, Leslie D. CBE; Mascari, Dr. A. J. MBE; Talman, Dr. James J. OBE; 1971: Best, Dr. Charles CH; Bleasby, Mr. J. R. G. OBE; Haughan, Mr. W. B. CBE; 1972: Mann, Mr. Charles N. MBE.

AGRICULTURAL STABILIZATION BOARD—DISPOSAL OF 1971 POTATO CROP

Question No. 1,868—**Mr. Lambert (Bellechasse):**

1. In what manner did the Agricultural Stabilization Board dispose of the potatoes of the 1971 crop that the Board bought in 1972 in the Province of Quebec?

2. What quantities were placed on the market?

3. What quantities were destroyed?

4. What quantities were simply left to the producers with permission to dispose of them as they wished?

Hon. E. F. Whelan (Minister of Agriculture): 1. In those cases where agreement could be reached with the producer, the potatoes were sold back to him for livestock feed. In other cases they were dumped.

2. After being dyed, 23,790 hundredweight were sold for livestock feed.

3. 65,637 hundredweight.

4. None.

BREAKDOWN OF PERSONNEL ENGAGED IN FISHERIES SERVICE

Question No. 1,881—**Mr. Haliburton:**

What is the total breakdown of personnel engaged in (a) administration (b) inspection (c) protection of the Fisheries Service of the Department of the Environment employed in the Province of Nova Scotia during 1950, 1955, 1960, 1965, 1970, 1971 and 1972?

Mr. William Rompkey (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Fisheries): No data available for the period 1950 to 1960.

Order Paper Questions

	(a) Administration		(b) Inspection		(c) Protection	
	Continuing	Term	Continuing	Term	Continuing	Term
1965.....	36	Not available	89	Not available	175	Not available
1970.....	46	12	96	6	204	51
1971.....	44	11	97	11	204	64
1972.....	47	13	96	19	206	47

CBC—POLICY OF PRODUCING PROGRAMS IN ENGLISH AND FRENCH

Question No. 1,910—**Mr. Yewchuk:**

1. What instructions have been given by the government to CBC with respect to its policy of producing programs in English and French only?

2. Is the government planning to amend relevant legislation so as to specifically provide for program production or dubbing in non-official languages?

Hon. James Hugh Faulkner (Secretary of State): 1. No instructions have been given by the government to the CBC with respect to its policy of producing programs in English and French only.

2. No amendments to the legislation are planned at the present time to provide specifically for program production or dubbing in non-official languages.

TELEPHONE SERVICE TO PEOPLE IN RURAL ONTARIO

Question No. 1,917—**Mr. Wise:**

Is it the intention of the government to provide free telephone service to people in rural Ontario telephoning regional government offices?

Hon. Gérard Pelletier (Minister of Communications): No.

CONSTRUCTION OF WHARF ON THWARTWAY ISLAND

Question No. 1,924—**Mr. Cossitt:**

1. Did the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development state in a reply to Question No. 419 on the Order Paper that there were plans to construct a wharf at Thwartway Island in the St. Lawrence River during the 1973 season?

2. Did the office of the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development advise the Member for Leeds by letter dated April 11, 1973 that there are no plans for any construction at Thwartway Island in the St. Lawrence River during the 1973 season and, if so, what is the reason for this contradiction to the answer given to Order Paper Question No. 419?

Hon. Jean Chrétien (Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development): 1. Yes.

2. The letter of April 11 stated "that there are no plans for any major construction at Thwartway Island". The apparent confusion arises from the fact that the wharf planned will be constructed by park employees. Therefore, there are no contracts involved and no major construction.

[Mr. Rompkey.]

● (0000)

NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES TRANSFERRED FROM DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY, MINES AND RESOURCES TO DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT

Question No. 1,925—**Mr. Knight:**

1. How many employees of the Department of Energy, Mines and Resources were transferred to senior positions in the Department of the Environment in 1972 and to April 1, 1973?

2. What positions do these employees now hold in the Department of the Environment and what is their salary range?

3. What qualifications do these employees have for these positions?

Mr. William Rompkey (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of the Environment): 1. No employees in the senior category were transferred from the Department of Energy Mines and Resources to the Department of the Environment during the period January 1, 1972 to April 1, 1973.

2. Not applicable.

3. Not applicable.

INDIAN LANDS

Question No. 1,927—**Mr. Godin:**

1. Can an Indian who is the owner or the holder of an ownership certificate for a tract of land on a reserve resell the land to a non-Indian?

2. Can a band council buy houses (non-taxable properties) on a reserve and subsequently rent them to non-Indians in order to collect the rents?

3. Is there an actual distinction between an ownership certificate and an occupation certificate?

Mr. Len Marchand (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development): 1. No.

2. Under the provisions of the Indian Act a Band Council may acquire parcels of reserve land from an individual Band member who has been placed in lawful possession of the land. An Acquisition of such land would include a house or any such improvements made to the property in question. The Indian Act stipulates, however, that Band held reserve land must be surrendered to the Crown before it can be leased to non-Indians. The leases are entered into with the Crown and moneys collected are credited to the account of the Band concerned.

3. A certificate of Possession is the documentary evidence of an Indian's right to lawful possession of the reserve land described therein and entitles him to quiet possession of the land. A Certificate of Occupation is evidence of an Indian's right to temporary possession of the reserve lands described therein and is normally issued subject to the fulfillment of certain conditions as to the use and settlement of the land. The Certificate of Occupation is issued for a term of two years and may be extended for a further two year period. It is replaced by a Certificate of Possession upon fulfillment of the necessary conditions.

DEPARTMENT OF LABOUR—OVERTIME PAY

Question No. 1,962—**Mr. Andre:**

During the months of January, February and March 1973, respectively, what were the total amounts paid in overtime pay to employees of the Department of Labour?

Hon. John C. Munro (Minister of Labour): January, $1,205; February, $3,195; March, $3,870.

* * *

QUESTIONS PASSED AS ORDERS FOR RETURNS

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS—RESEARCH EXPENDITURES

Question No. 121—**Mr. Nystrom:**

1. What was the total amount of money spent in each of the fiscal years 1968-69, 1969-70, 1970-71, 1971-72 by the Department of Public Works on contracts to outside persons and organizations for research, development and other consulting services?

2. What are the names and addresses of these outside persons and organizations and what amounts of money were involved in each contract?

3. What was the purpose of each contract and title of each report submitted.

4. What are the names and addresses of outside persons and organizations who were awarded contracts for research, development and other consulting services in the current fiscal year, what are the amounts of money involved in each case and what is the purpose of each contract?

Return tabled.

NUMBER OF MOTOR VEHICLES OWNED BY GOVERNMENT, 1972

Question No. 548—**Mr. Latulippe:**

1. In 1972, how many motor vehicles were the property of the government (a) automobiles (b) station wagons (c) trucks (d) boats (e) airplanes?

2. What was the average cost of the vehicles?

3. What were brand names of automobiles, station wagons and trucks?

4. Were the vehicles purchased by tender and, if not, by department, who decided on the purchase of the vehicles and how was the choice made?

Return tabled.

*MR. WALTER SCOTT HOAR—APPLICATION FILED WITH BUREAU OF CLASSIFICATION REVISION

Question No. 1,168—**Mr. Bell:**

1. Has a Technical Category Position Questionnaire, signed by Mr. Walter Scott Hoar of the Saint John office, Plant Protection Division of the Department of Agriculture, been filed with the Bureau of Classification Revision and, if so, on what date?

2. Has a revised questionnaire been substituted and submitted with changes or deletions and, if so (a) by whom (b) who signed the document (c) by what authority was the substitution made?

3. Has Mr. Hoar's position been re-classified and, if so (a) on what date (b) for what reasons (c) what is the new classification?

4. Have applications been received from Mr. Hoar requesting a review of his position and, if so, how many and on what dates?

5. What action has been taken to review Mr. Hoar's position with regard to the work he performed prior to 1968?

Order Paper Questions

Mr. John M. Reid (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): Mr. Speaker, because of the length of this response, perhaps it could be made an order for return.

Mr. Speaker: Is this agreed?

Mr. Bell: I don't know how it could be so lengthy, but go ahead.

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Return tabled.

AMOUNT PAID TO RAILWAY COMPANIES PURSUANT TO SECTIONS OF RAILWAY ACT

Question No. 1,476—**Mr. Benjamin:**

In each fiscal year since 1968-69 up to and including estimates for fiscal year 1973-74, what amounts have been paid to each railway company pursuant to each of sections 256, 258, 261, 272 and 413 of the Railway Act?

Return tabled.

EMPLOYMENT OF MR. AND MRS. RYTEN BY STATISTICS CANADA

Question No. 1,859—**Mr. Fortin:**

1. How long have Mr. and Mrs. Ryten been employed by Statistics Canada?

2. What is Mrs. Ryten's level of university education?

3. Who recommended them?

4. Did they obtain employment following an open competition and, if so, who were the other candidates and who were the members of the examination board?

5. Have Mr. and Mrs. Ryten been promoted since and, if so, on what basis?

6. How many trips have they made since they were hired and what was the purpose of each trip?

Return tabled.

DISTRIBUTION BY INCOME GROUPS OF FAMILIES AND INDIVIDUAL TAXPAYERS

Question No. 1,887—**Mr. Orlikow:**

In Canada, for the years 1961, 1966, 1971 and 1972, what was the distribution by income groups of families and individual taxpayers and particularly the groupings of income (a) above (i) $1,000,000 (ii) $500,000 (iii) $250,000 (iv) $100,000 (b) below (i) $6,000 (ii) $5,000 (iii) $4,000 (iv) $3,000 (v) $2,000 (vi) $1,000 annually, based on income tax returns, Statistics Canada statistics or any other source?

Return tabled.

Mr. Speaker: Is the hon. member rising on a point of order?

Mr. Cossitt: Yes, Mr. Speaker. On Monday I asked the parliamentary secretary about question No. 1,769 on the subject of the previous employment over a period of five years of members of the Police and Security Planning and Analysis Group. I do not know why it was not answered along with the other questions I asked on the same subject. The parliamentary secretary offered to look into this

matter and report. Is he now in a position to say when this question will be answered?

Mr. Reid: I regret I cannot give any assurance at this time. I am still having consultations with the office of the Solicitor General.

MOTIONS FOR PAPERS

Mr. John M. Reid (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): Mr. Speaker, I ask that all notices of motions for the production of papers be allowed to stand.

Mr. Speaker: Shall these notices of motions stand?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Mr. Diefenbaker: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a question of privilege with regard to the answer just given to question No. 1,864 concerning honours. The question asked was, what Canadians since 1947, and on what dates, received certain honours which are the Crown's prerogative to confer. Mention was made of the Victorian Order, the Order of Merit and the Companion of Honour. Those are the three and there are no others. The question on which I wanted some information and on which after a month and a half of gestation I was given an answer was whether any such honours have been awarded without consultation. The answer was that generally there was consultation. That is not an answer to that question at all. The second question asked about honours awarded (a) without consultation and (b) with the consent of the government of Canada and, if so, to whom. That was not answered either except by indirection. Most of the answer given me at length has to do with honours that have nothing to do with the prerogative right of the Crown. I ask the government to give reconsideration to that question so that the facts will come out rather than the fantasies contained in this so-called answer given today.

Mr. Reid: Mr. Speaker, the answer to the question raised by the right hon. gentleman simply is that honours under the prerogative of the Crown do not require the consent of the government. There are a series of honours concerning which the government of Canada does make recommendations and give consent, but in those cases it is the natural and normal practice that this be done. In the case of those honours which are in the prerogative of the Crown, the government of Canada is informed by the Crown but the government of Canada does not exercise a veto.

● (1420)

Mr. Diefenbaker: Mr. Speaker, when one asks what the prerogatives of the Crown are and how they are used the question should be answered by the Prime Minister, not by a parliamentary secretary. This is a ridiculous situation.

Mr. Trudeau: Mr. Speaker, I might be able to throw some light on this. I believe that only one such honour was accorded during the time I have been Prime Minister, namely, the one accorded to the Right Hon. Lester B. Pearson. I confirm what the parliamentary secretary said, that I was informed of that in advance but not consulted.

Mr. Diefenbaker: Not consulted?

Mr. Trudeau: Not consulted.

As regards those previous to my time, I did not have the answer and that is why the parliamentary secretary obtained the answer from Government House which has a record of these things. In so far as my term in the office of Prime Minister is concerned, the parliamentary secretary gave the answer and I confirm it here that I was informed but not consulted.

Mr. Diefenbaker: That is what I wanted to know from the Prime Minister, not the parliamentary secretary.

ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

INCOME TAX

EFFECT ON PROPOSED TAX CUTS FOR CANADIAN INDUSTRIES OF U.S. PRESIDENT'S PROPOSAL RESPECTING TAXATION OF AMERICAN SUBSIDIARIES ABROAD

Hon. Robert L. Stanfield (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Finance who will perhaps recall that about a month ago he said he would make inquiries from the appropriate authorities in the United States about the possible implications for Canada arising from the tax proposals made by President Nixon to Congress. I ask the question particularly with regard to the possible invocation of special tax measures by the United States on U.S. companies that make new investments in Canada and the possibility that the tax cuts proposed by the Minister of Finance with regard to manufacturing and processing profits might invoke that kind of action on the part of the U.S. taxing authorities. Has the minister made those inquiries and what are the results?

Hon. John N. Turner (Minister of Finance): Mr. Speaker, we have made inquiries. They are not conclusive, but the general intention and purpose of the American measures as we understand them, short of seeing a text of the measures as they are introduced before Congress—and certainly until Congress deals with them we will not have the ultimate decision—was not to affect the specific tax reductions proposed by the Canadian government.

Mr. Stanfield: I am not suggesting that was the purpose of the tax, but would the minister not agree that according to certain authoritative interpretations originating in Washington from government sources the proposed U.S. tax measures may very well in fact be invoked in such a way as to affect investment by U.S. subsidiaries in Canada?

Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton): There is a variety of interpretations coming out of Washington these days. What I suggest to the House is that short of seeing the precise text, and certainly short of seeing how Congress would deal with the measure, I would think that the Canadian government and parliament could best deal with the situation in Canada as we see it now, and if there are adjustments to be made at a future date they will be made.

Mr. Stanfield: Is this the reason for the minister's delay in bringing forth his tax measures and the legislation associated with them? Is he waiting to see what the U.S. legislation is going to be, or is there some other reason for the delay in doing what he said he was going to do many months ago?

An hon. Member: A year ago.

Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton): As the Leader of the Opposition would expect, I am weighing all relevant factors, but I want to reassure him that I consider the corporate measures to be an urgent matter—

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton): —and would hope that the government will be able to introduce these measures at an early date.

APPLICATION OF PRESENT ACT TO CORPORATIONS THAT HAVE FILED RETURNS

Mr. Don Blenkarn (Peel South): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a supplementary question to the Minister of National Revenue. I believe I have given him notice of it. What measures is the minister taking at the present time to enforce the present Income Tax Act against those corporations that have filed their returns with him, based on the statements of the Minister of Finance last May, according to which corporate year ends have passed long ago? I want to have a full explanation of this from the minister now, if possible.

Hon. Robert Stanbury (Minister of National Revenue): Mr. Speaker, I think you might not wish me to give a full explanation now in view of the length of time this might involve. I have already told the hon. member that, of course, where companies are asking for immediate assessments those would have to be made according to the law as it exists. Otherwise, we are accepting returns in the form that they are being submitted by corporations, and they will be dealt with in accordance with the law at the time each assessment is made.

Mr. Blenkarn: Mr. Speaker, I want to know how the minister can justify treating one taxpayer one way and not bothering to collect taxes from another taxpayer in the proper way?

SUGGESTED RECONSIDERATION OF PROPOSED CORPORATE TAX CUTS IN LIGHT OF PRESIDENT NIXON'S PROPOSAL RESPECTING AMERICAN SUBSIDIARIES ABROAD

Mr. Edward Broadbent (Oshawa-Whitby): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a supplementary question to the Minister of Finance. In view of the fact that if the government does proceed with its corporate tax proposals this will almost certainly put taxation of manufacturing industries owned by American corporations clearly within the category aimed at by President Nixon's tax proposals, would the minister reconsider his decision to introduce this legislation?

Hon. John N. Turner (Minister of Finance): Mr. Speaker, I do not accept the hon. member's preamble.

* * *

POLLUTION

MERCURY CONTAMINATION OF WABIGOON AND ENGLISH RIVERS—SUGGESTED INITIATION OF PROCEEDINGS AGAINST COMPANIES UNDER CRIMINAL CODE

Mr. Andrew Brewin (Greenwood): Mr. Speaker, my question is addressed to the Minister of the Environment. In view of the federal interest in preventing the continuing pollution of the Wabigoon and English River systems by mercury contamination emanating from Dryden Pulp and Paper and Dryden Chemicals Limited and the destruction of the livelihood and welfare of the Indians and others residing in that region, will the minister take the initiative proposed by the Environmental Law Association and commence proceedings under the Criminal Code with a view to preventing continuation of such pollution and securing restitution for those whose property rights have been affected, or will he consult with the appropriate provincial authorities to see that they undertake this task?

Hon. Jack Davis (Minister of the Environment): Mr. Speaker, the pollution released by the plants in the area ceased over two years ago as a result of initiatives taken by the federal government essentially under the federal Fisheries Act. The plants there have been meeting the federal standards with no release of mercury whatsoever from them. The continuing problem arises from mercury in sediment downstream from the plants which was deposited over a long period, but such release ceased two and a half years ago.

Mr. Brewin: Mr. Speaker, would the minister mind answering my question whether action will be taken by the government to prosecute those responsible for this destruction of the livelihood of many Indians and other Canadian citizens?

Mr. Davis: Mr. Speaker, we have been in close consultation with the government of Ontario, which, incidentally, administers the Fisheries Act in that area, and have been giving technical advice on this subject.

[*Translation*]

SPORTS

MONTREAL OLYMPIC GAMES, 1976—DATE OF ISSUANCE OF SPECIAL COINS

Mr. Henry Latulippe (Compton): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the hon. Minister of Finance.

Can he tell us whether he will soon be announcing the issuance of commemorative coins for the Montreal 1976 Olympic games?

Hon. John N. Turner (Minister of Finance): Mr. Speaker, I suggest the hon. member should await the legislation.

* * *

[*English*]

INCOME TAX

REQUEST FOR ASSURANCE OF INTRODUCTION OF PROPOSED CORPORATE TAX CUT LEGISLATION BEFORE SUMMER RECESS

Mr. G. W. Baldwin (Peace River): Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary to the question asked by the Leader of the Opposition of the Minister of Finance. In order to settle the doubts that exist in the country and the business community, will the minister assure the House that it is his intention to introduce the measures dealing with corporate tax cuts and bring them to a conclusion before the summer recess?

● (1430)

Hon. John N. Turner (Minister of Finance): Mr. Speaker, I believe I can give the hon. gentleman that assurance, and I would be very interested in the assurance of his hon. leader as to how he is going to deal with it.

SUGGESTED ABANDONMENT OF PROPOSED CORPORATE TAX CUTS IN LIGHT OF PROFIT INCREASE LAST YEAR

Mr. Lorne Nystrom (Yorkton-Melville): Mr. Speaker, my supplementary question is for the Minister of Finance. In view of the fact that corporate profits in Canada have gone up by about 20 per cent in the past year, would the minister now consider not introducing the corporate tax bill?

Hon. John N. Turner (Minister of Finance): Mr. Speaker, as I have said to several of the hon. gentleman's colleagues, the corporate tax measures are medium and long term measures to allow Canada to remain competitive in world markets and the new European Economic Community, the United States and Japan.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. Would the hon. member resume his seat. I want to suggest that hon. members have now reverted to the first question to ask a series of supplementaries. I was hoping that today an effort would be made to go beyond three or four questions. I would invite hon. members to give the Chair an opportunity to go on to other questions before we get involved in a debate on this very important matter which was raised originally by the hon. Leader of the Opposition. The hon. member for Wellington.

[Mr. Davis.]

* * *

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

KILLING OF TWO CANADIAN GIRLS WHILE VISITING VICTORIA FALLS, RHODESIA—INQUIRY AS TO PROTEST OR EXPLANATION—NOTIFICATION OF FAMILIES

Mr. A. D. Hales (Wellington): Mr. Speaker, my question deals with the tragic incident in which two Canadian girls from my riding by the name of Miss Christine Sinclair and Miss Marion Drijberg were killed when Zambian troops fired across the Zambia-Rhodesia border at a group of sightseers who were visiting Victoria Falls. Before asking my question, Mr. Speaker, I think all hon. members would want me to convey to the parents of these two girls our sincere and profound sympathy. My question is addressed to the Secretary of State for External Affairs. Has he registered a protest or received an explanation of the tragic and criminal deaths of these two Canadian girls, both innocent visitors to that country, and did the Department of External Affairs notify the families of the two girls before they read of the tragedy in the news media?

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, I should like to associate myself with the expressions of sympathy on this terrible tragedy in Rhodesia. My department will naturally be willing to make any arrangements for the funerals that the families wish. As we do not have diplomatic representation in Rhodesia my department received the information from Capetown and immediately got in touch with the families of the young women. I am not certain, of course, whether we conveyed this news before it was read in the newspapers, but I believe that we did. The Canadian High Commission has been in touch with the Zambian government and has been assured of their complete co-operation. The facts of the matter are, of course, not yet established. The hon. member says that they were fired upon by Zambian troops. That may or may not be the case, and we will try to ascertain the facts as part of the inquiries we are making.

Mr. Hales: In view of the fact that skirmishes and crossfiring have been going for some time in this location, what steps did the Department of External Affairs take to warn visitors of the great danger in this particular area?

Mr. Sharp: Mr. Speaker, as the hon. gentleman knows, we are not represented in Rhodesia and there is no way in which we could advise Canadian travellers in Rhodesia to stay away from the Zambian border. I think the facts of the guerilla activities that are going on in that area are well known, and I would think the Rhodesian government would be equally anxious to avoid tragedies of this kind.

SUPPLY AND SERVICES

PRIVATE OPENING OF TENDERS

Mr. Sinclair Stevens (York Simcoe): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Prime Minister. In view of the recent revelation that some $1.2 billion of goods and services have been procured in the past year for federal government departments, including the Prime Minister's office, through a tendering process where tenders are mainly opened in private, and in view of the fact that of 11,630 such tenders closed in the past 12 months only nine were opened in public, would the Prime Minister explain to the House his statement of last Friday that he did not know of any such departments in the federal government which procured goods and services where tenders were opened in secret?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, the answer is that I did not know and I have only learned the details from the hon. member now. After that question was asked the other day I said I would have it looked into. I did ask to have it looked into but I have not received the answer yet.

* * *

FINANCE

REASON FOR INCREASE IN BANK OF CANADA INTEREST RATE

Mr. James Gillies (Don Valley): Mr. Speaker, my question is to the Minister of Finance and it is really a matter of clarification. Am I correct in my understanding of the answers given recently explaining the rise in the bank rate that it is primarily to respond to changes in the interest rate situation in the United States rather than an interpretation by the Department of Finance that there is any basic change in economic activities in Canada?

Hon. John N. Turner (Minister of Finance): No, Mr. Speaker, the hon. gentleman is not quite accurate either in his own assessment of the situation or in his assessment of what the Department of Finance may or may not have been saying. The reasons are twofold: First, a response to a very strong demand for credit in response to an expanding economy in this country and, second, a response to international interest rates. Both have to be taken into consideration. The Bank of Canada has made it clear, and I wish to reiterate, that the monetary policy is not a restrictive one. It is to moderate a very strong expansion in the economy that will continue.

Mr. Gillies: How can rising interest rates not be restrictive in the economy as the minister suggests? How can it be that with rising interest rates we are not moving toward a tight money policy?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The Chair will allow the minister to reply briefly, but it seems to me that the minister and the hon. member are getting into a debate. The minister will be given the floor for the purpose of a reply, after which the Chair will recognize the hon. member for Northwest Territories.

Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton): Mr. Speaker, if the gross national product is growing at about 6½ per cent to 7 per cent, if the latest price indicator is about 5 per cent and total expansion is about 12 per cent, if money is expanding at a rate of 30 per cent, then obviously there is some way to moderate it without restricting the expansion of the economy.

* * *

CANADIAN BROADCASTING CORPORATION

REASON FOR PROVISION OF TELEVISION RECEPTION FACILITIES AT NORMAN WELLS BEFORE RAE-EDZO AND FORT McPHERSON

Mr. Wally Firth (Northwest Territories): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Secretary of State. With regard to the plans of the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation to bring radio and television coverage to as many people as possible in the Northwest Territories, can the minister advise the House why it is that Norman Wells, an oil company town in the Northwest Territories with a population of approximately 300 people, will receive a television repeater station before Rae-Edzo with a population of over 1,000 people, or Fort McPherson with a population of 750 to 800 people where only a booster station at about one-quarter the cost of the repeater station at Norman Wells is needed?

Hon. James Hugh Faulkner (Secretary of State): No, Mr. Speaker, I cannot answer that question but I would be pleased to refer it to the corporation for a response.

DISSATISFACTION OF PEOPLE OF NORTH WITH TELEVISION PROGRAMMING THROUGH ANIK SATELLITE

Mr. Erik Nielsen (Yukon): Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary. While the minister is referring that question to the CBC, will he also refer to its officials the dissatisfaction of the people in the north generally in both territories with the short programming through the facilities of Anik as a result of the time difference between the southern and northern portions of Canada, which means that television programming terminates at 9.00 or 9.30 in the evening?

● (1440)

Hon. James Hugh Faulkner (Secretary of State): Yes, Mr. Speaker.

* * *

[*Translation*]

AGRICULTURE

FEED GRAIN—MEASURES TO PREVENT PRICE INCREASES—PRESENTATION OF BILL

Mr. Leonel Beaudoin (Richmond): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the hon. Minister of Agriculture.

In view of spiraling feed grain prices in eastern Canada, particularly during the past months, which shows the urgency of my question, and in view of the statement

made by the present government and the hon. Minister of Agriculture himself in January and February last to the effect that a bill was in preparation to seek solutions to that urgent problem, can the hon. minister tell us whether a bill will indeed be brought forward before the House in this regard and if so, when?

[*English*]

Hon. E. F. Whelan (Minister of Agriculture): Mr. Speaker, we are preparing a program for a feed grain policy for Canada. I am not prepared to say at this time whether it has to be introduced in the form of a bill. It is my own personal opinion that this can be done without the introduction of a bill in the House. I am sure it will be such a fair policy that it well be accepted no matter whether it is introduced by a bill or otherwise.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Beaudoin: I have a supplementary, Mr. Speaker.

Can the hon. minister tell us when the House will be informed of this program, or whether he will make an explanatory statement in the House?

[*English*]

Mr. Whelan: Mr. Speaker, I can only say that if the House is still sitting when the program is finalized it will be announced to the House. If it is not, we made a commitment in the Speech from the Throne that is would be done before the new crop year and it will be done by then.

[*Translation*]

ANNOUNCEMENT OF POLICY RESPECTING FEED GRAIN—CONSULTATION WITH EASTERN CANADA FARM ORGANIZATIONS

Mr. André Fortin (Lotbinière): Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question.

I would like to ask the hon. Minister of Agriculture if, before announcing this policy, he intends to consult with the agricultural organizations of eastern Canada?

[*English*]

Hon. E. F. Whelan (Minister of Agriculture): Mr. Speaker, we have asked for the agricultural organizations' opinions and I am sure some of them are going to be implemented in the program. We have also discussed this same program with and asked for suggestions from my provincial counterparts. They have made suggestions too, and I am sure we will probably be consulting with all of them.

* * *

INDIAN AFFAIRS

POSSIBLE CLOSING OF RESIDENTIAL SCHOOLS AT PORTAGE LA PRAIRIE AND DAUPHIN—CONSULTATION WITH INDIAN BROTHERHOOD

Mr. Peter P. Masniuk (Portage): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development. I have given the minister notice. Is it the intention of the minister to phrase out the residential schools for Indian children at Portage la Prairie, and Dauphin, Manitoba, by 1974?

[*Translation*]

Hon. Jean Chrétien (Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development): Mr. Speaker, we are contemplating this possibility because there are not enough pupils now in the two residences. We have not reached a final decision, but I would not be surprised if that final decision was that we are forced to close those two residential schools.

[*English*]

Mr. Masniuk: Will this decision be made in consultation with the Indian Brotherhood?

[*Translation*]

Mr. Chrétien: Mr. Speaker, of course we are keeping the Manitoba Indian Association informed of our actions; nevertheless, when the number of pupils in those residences has become insufficient, we are forced to close them for economic reasons. But in this case, the final decision has not been reached yet.

* * *

[*English*]

NORTHERN AFFAIRS

PANARCTIC OILS LIMITED—REQUEST FOR ASSURANCE NO CONFLICT OF INTEREST ON PART OF GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS ON BOARD

Mr. Duncan M. Beattie (Hamilton Mountain): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development. In view of certain statements recently made about the composition of the board of directors of the government-owned Panarctic Oils Limited, and in view of the fact at least three federal deputy ministers and an assistant deputy minister are members of that board, will the minister undertake to assure the House that no conflict of interest is compromising these public servants in their dual reponsibilities to the oil industry and federal objectives in the Arctic?

[*Translation*]

Hon. Jean Chrétien (Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development): Mr. Speaker, I do not think there is any conflict of interest between those deputy ministers who represent the government on the board of directors. I can re-examine that question and if indeed there are conflicting interests, we would have to act accordingly. But it does not seem to be the case.

[*English*]

Mr. Beattie (Hamilton Mountain): Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question for the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources. Will the minister also undertake to provide the House or, alternatively, members of the Standing Committee on National Resources and Public Works, with a complete and detailed account of the various other positions occupied by senior members of his ministry?

Mr. Macdonald (Rosedale): Mr. Speaker, a complete and detailed account of what?

Mr. Beattie (Hamilton Mountain): Of senior members of your ministry.

Mr. Macdonald (Rosedale): A complete and detailed account of what? I did not hear the hon. member's last words.

Mr. Beattie (Hamilton Mountain): Perhaps I will—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. Perhaps the hon. member would address his question to the Chair. In this way the minister might understand it. There seems to be a difficulty in communication between two Scots.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Beattie (Hamilton Mountain): Will the minister undertake to provide the House or, alternatively, members of the Standing Committee on National Resources and Public Works with a complete and detailed account of the various other positions occupied by senior members of his ministry. This is in relation to the first question I asked the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development.

Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): Mr. Speaker, I would agree that, of all the ethnic groups I should understand, this is certainly one. I would be glad to respond to that inquiry.

* * *

CANADIAN CULTURE

MULTICULTURALISM—INQUIRY AS TO ANNOUNCEMENT OF NAMES OF MEMBERS OF ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Mr. Paul Yewchuk (Athabasca): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the minister responsible for multiculturalism and concerns the establishment of the advisory committee. Can the minister indicate, in view of the fact he has had the list of names in his possession for some months now and has said on many occasions that the announcement would be made soon, what the holdup is and why their accouncement has not been made?

Hon. Stanley Haidasz (Minister of State): Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to assure the hon. member that we have taken extensive steps and painstaking consultation to make sure that the composition of the multicultural consultative council will be a good one. I am pleased also to assure him that an announcement will be made soon.

Mr. Paproski: Where? In Edmonton?

Mr. Yewchuk: Can the minister assure the House that he is not waiting until after the next election, at which time there will be lots of defeated Liberals available for appointments?

TRADE

INTERNATIONAL SUGAR AGREEMENT—SUGGESTED INCREASE IN MINIMUM PRICE TO ENCOURAGE PRODUCTION BY DEVELOPING NATIONS FOR SALE TO CANADA

Mr. A. P. Gleave (Saskatoon-Biggar): Mr. Speaker, may I ask a question of the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce. It has to do with the brief presented to him on April 29 by a church group on the GAAT FLY project. Can he tell me whether, as a result of the representations that were made to him in regard to the upcoming international sugar agreement negotiations, he will consider giving consideration to their representation that minimum prices under the agreement should be increased to encourage production by developing nations and sales to Canada?

Hon. Alastair Gillespie (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): Mr. Speaker, the representations the hon. member refers to were detailed, technical and, I think, to some extent even complicated. I can assure the hon. member that the representations will be given very serious consideration by my department.

Mr. Gleave: May I ask the minister whether his department and, indeed, the government is going to review its present policy of purchasing major amounts of sugar from South Africa, in view of the representations made by the same church group and in view also of the statement by the Prime Minister in the House that he would take notice of a question asked in the House on this matter? I wonder if either the minister or the Prime Minister would reply to that question.

Mr. Gillespie: Mr. Speaker, I am not entirely clear as to the nature of the question. If the question is whether we are prepared to continue our trading relationship with South Africa, then the answer is yes, we are.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Humber-St. George's-St. Barbe.

Mr. Marshall: Mr. Speaker, my question is—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I apologize to the hon. member. He will, of course, be recognized in a moment. I gather that the hon. member who was just speaking seeks the floor on a point of order.

Mr. Gleave: Yes, Mr. Speaker. I do not know whether the minister understood my question. I did not ask him about our total trading relationship. I asked the minister a question about our purchases of sugar. I did not think it was that difficult to understand.

* * *

● (1450)

FISHERIES

EXPIRY OF FISHERMEN'S SEASONAL UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE BENEFITS ON MAY 15—REQUEST FOR EXTENSION—CATCH INSURANCE

Mr. Jack Marshall (Humber-St. George's-St. Barbe): Mr. Speaker, in the absence of the Minister of Manpower

and Immigration I should like to direct my question to the Minister of Fisheries. Having regard to the fact that seasonal unemployment insurance benefits for fishermen ran out yesterday, May 15, and in view of the fact that persistent ice conditions are hindering the execution of the inshore fishery, has the minister taken any action or has he consulted with the Minister of Manpower and Immigration with a view to extending the date beyond May 15?

Hon. Jack Davis (Minister of Fisheries): Mr. Speaker, the latest information I have is that, in addition to the benefits running out in the last few days, the ice has also been moving off the coast and it is possible for the inshore fishermen to begin to fish again.

Mr. Marshall: Can the minister advise the House whether he has come up with any program to provide catch insurance for fishermen so that this problem may be avoided in future?

Mr. Davis: As the hon. member knows, this matter is under active consideration by the department in consultation with the industry.

* * *

ENERGY

GOVERNMENT POLICY IN LIGHT OF TRANSPORTATION ROUTE FOR PRUDHOE BAY OIL PROPOSED BY B.C. PREMIER

Mr. John Fraser (Vancouver South): Mr. Speaker, my question is supplementary to a question I asked the Prime Minister on Monday when he referred the matter to the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources. In view of the fact that Canadian policy, as stated by the Prime Minister the other day, seems to favour an overland gas and oil route down the Mackenzie, do the recent discussions with Premier Barrett of British Columbia and the apparent study of his suggested oil route which would come down from Alaska through the Yukon and British Columbia indicate a change in government policy?

Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): No, Mr. Speaker. The view we take continues to be that the Mackenzie Valley would be the best route for bringing Prudhoe Bay oil to southern markets. However, in the case of a serious proposal, such as we believe Premier Barrett's was intended to be, the government does feel an obligation to have an investigation of this alternative route to determine whether or not it is feasible and, in general, whether it would be in the national interest to promote it further.

Mr. Fraser: It has been stated that the policy is to bring Prudhoe oil down the Mackenzie. While we know that some studies have been carried out with respect to a gas pipeline, may I ask whether equivalent studies have been made under the aegis of the government of Canada with respect to an oil pipeline from Prudhoe Bay? Can the minister tell the House what co-ordination exists with respect to planning some kind of joint application with respect to gas and oil? If we proceed on the basis of just one, we shall not end up with any cohesive policy.

[Mr. Marshall.]

Mr. Macdonald (Rosedale): Mr. Speaker, the studies carried out by the government of Canada, about $20 million worth up to this point, relate to both a right of way for gas and an oil pipeline in the sense that they deal with ecological problems, soil quality and other related matters. With regard to the possibility of constructing an oil line, I would remind the hon. member that the Mackenzie Valley pipeline research group, made up principally of the Prudhoe Bay consortium, has completed an exhaustive study of the feasibility of such an oil line, the results of which have been made available to the government of Canada. It is fair, however, to point out to the hon. gentleman that while we have reason to believe there will be an application for a gas line in the fourth quarter of this year; there is no indication on the part of any private parties that at this time they will be coming forward with an application for an oil line. It could well be that, depending on the turn of events with regard to TAPS in the United States, they would do so, but neither they nor the United States government—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member for Edmonton West.

* * *

FINANCE

REQUEST FOR STATEMENTS ON INTEREST RATES AND GOVERNMENT'S FISCAL POLICY AND ON EFFECT OF INTERNATIONAL MONETARY SITUATION

Hon. Marcel Lambert (Edmonton West): Mr. Speaker, my question is to the Minister of Finance. On Monday I asked him whether he would consider making statements on motions concerning changes in the government's monetary policy and, in addition, with respect to what I might call the growing tension in the international monetary field. The hon. gentleman said he would take the matter under advisement. Has he now done so, and does he intend to make a statement so that we may be given a full explanation of these changes both on the domestic scene and internationally?

Hon. John N. Turner (Minister of Finance): There has been no change in the government's monetary policy, but in terms of the international situation I would be glad to take an appropriate opportunity, if that develops, to discuss the matter in the House.

* * *

NATIONAL PARKS

PRINCE ALBERT—REQUEST THAT DECISION TO CLOSE TOURIST FACILITIES AT THE NARROWS ON LAKE WASKESIU BE REVOKED

Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Prince Albert): Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development whether he has received a telegram from the Prince Albert Chamber of Commerce taking strong exception to the decision of his department to close and to dispose of for removal the tourist facilities existing at the Narrows on Lake Waskesiu, wherein it is

pointed out that what is being done will eliminate all incentive to people to visit the area. In view of the seriousness of the situation created in consequence of directions that have come from some of the ivory tower Caesars in his department, will he have this matter looked into? Prince Albert national park was created by Prime Minister Mackenzie King as a resort for the average Canadian, and what is being done will emasculate it unless this order is changed.

Hon. Jean Chrétien (Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development): Mr. Speaker, I have not seen the telegram, but I will be very happy to look into the question and report back as quickly as possible to the right hon. member for Prince Albert.

Mr. Diefenbaker: Thank you. Report to the House.

* * *

[*Translation*]

HOUSE OF COMMONS

REDISTRIBUTION OF RIDINGS—DISCUSSION WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF POLITICAL PARTIES

Mr. Roch La Salle (Joliette): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the right hon. Prime Minister.

Recently the Prime Minister, in answer to a question put to him by the right hon. member for Prince Albert about riding boundaries, promised to consider the suggestion that the present number of ridings be kept in each one of the provinces. Can he tell us today whether he has met the representatives of the political parties to discuss this matter, and whether he has a statement to make with regard to new boundaries?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, the President of the Privy Council has in fact undertaken discussions with his colleagues of the other parties, and certain proposals were put to them. For the time being, no final decision has been taken, but the government intends to put the matter before the House, preferably some time before the end of June.

Mr. André Fortin (Lotbinière): Mr. Speaker, I wish to put a question to the President of the Privy Council.

In view of the discussions he has had with his colleagues of the other parties, can he tell us what conclusions were arrived at and what steps he intends to take in this regard?

Mr. Trudeau: Mr. Speaker, discussions were held but no conclusions were arrived at by the representatives of the four parties. Again I say that the government intends to put the matter before the House, and I trust that, in the meantime, the various parties will have made up their minds about the ideal solution.

[*English*]

INDIAN AFFAIRS

ALLEGED QUESTIONING BY RCMP OF MEMBERS OF NATIVE ORGANIZATIONS AND LEADERS ON ATTITUDE TO WOUNDED KNEE INCIDENT

Miss Flora MacDonald (Kingston and the Islands): Mr. Speaker, my question is to the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development. Is the minister aware that members of the security and intelligence division of the RCMP have been questioning members of native organizations and native leaders generally on their attitude to the Wounded Knee incident and asking them to identify and give information about other native persons from group pictures which the leaders feel could not have been taken at Canadian demonstrations?

[*Translation*]

Hon. Jean Chrétien (Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development): Mr. Speaker, I am not aware of the activity of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. I believe this question should normally be put to the Solicitor General. As far as I am concerned, I have not been informed of these incidents but I shall inquire to see what I can do. But, fortunately perhaps, the RCMP does not come under my department.

* * *

[*English*]

TRANSPORT

PROVISION OF FREIGHT CARS FOR BRITISH COLUMBIA LUMBER INDUSTRY

Mr. F. Oberle (Prince George-Peace River): Mr. Speaker, in the absence of the Minister of Transport can the hon. gentleman's parliamentary secretary tell the House whether the department is responding to the many appeals for assistance by the lumber industry of British Columbia which urgently needs more rail cars in order to keep the industry moving?

Mr. Joseph-Philippe Guay (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Transport): Yes, Mr. Speaker. This matter is under study. I will refer the question to the minister, but the hon. member can rest assured that it has been discussed very recently by the minister and the department. I am sure the minister is quite aware of the situation, but in any case I will draw the matter to his attention again.

● (1500)

Mr. Oberle: Can the parliamentary secretary tell me whether cars are deliberately being withheld for the purpose of establishing and maintaining a bargaining position between the British Columbia Railway and Canadian National in certain discussions that are going on?

Mr. Guay (St. Boniface): Mr. Speaker, I cannot accept the premise of the question, but again I will refer the matter to the minister.

Oral Questions

PENITENTIARIES

COLLINS BAY—ESCAPE OF LASLO EPER

Mr. Erik Nielsen (Yukon): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Solicitor General. Has the minister yet received reports that a 30 year old convict serving a sentence for attempted murder and attempting to wound has escaped from Collins Bay north of Kingston and that he used a gun and had a ladder ready for use to get him over the wall? If so, what action is being taken in regard to this escape from that institution?

Hon. Warren Allmand (Solicitor General): Mr. Speaker, I have a report here, which I received just before coming into the House, about a Laslo Eper. I do not know whether this is the same person and I do not have his record before me, but I do have a report that a Mr. Eper escaped from Collins Bay using what appeared to be a makeshift revolver or facsimile of a revolver. He forced a guard to bring him to the wall with what appeared to be a revolver and got over the wall. The Ontario Provincial Police were called in immediately and they are now looking for Mr. Eper. Dogs are being used, and so on.

* * *

ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE

PERSONS INDICTED FOR CAPITAL MURDER OTHER THAN MURDER OF POLICE OFFICERS OR PRISON GUARDS

Mr. Paul Dick (Lanark-Renfrew-Carleton): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Solicitor General which is further to the question I asked him yesterday about the number of persons who had been indicted for capital murder other than murders of police officers or prison guards. I understand he is now in a position to tell the House whether or not there is any person in that category and whether or not all legal proceedings have now been finished.

Hon. Warren Allmand (Solicitor General): Mr. Speaker, to our knowledge there are no persons in that category.

* * *

AGRICULTURE

TERMINATION OF PRAIRIE FARM ASSISTANCE ACT—DISPOSITION OF FUNDS—POSSIBLE ESTABLISHMENT OF DISASTER PROGRAM

Mr. Bill Knight (Assiniboia): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Agriculture. In view of the announcement of the minister that in the near future he hopes to introduce legislation to bring an end to PFAA, would he inform the House what will happen to the $10 million in the PFAA emergency fund, and is the minister giving consideration to developing an over-all disaster program for western producers?

Hon. E. F. Whelan (Minister of Agriculture): Mr. Speaker, I think I said that the fund would be used for the good of the farmers of western Canada. It has not yet been decided in what particular way it will be used.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Claude Wagner (Saint-Hyacinthe): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I would ask the hon. member to be patient for a moment. I should have recognized the hon. member for Assiniboia who wants to ask a supplementary question.

[*English*]

Mr. Knight: Mr. Speaker, in view of the response of the minister, can he inform the House how he is going to disburse these funds in view of the many ways in which this could be done, and will it be done in such a manner as to protect those people who over a long period of time have found PFAA essential since they have been in dried-out areas?

Mr. Whelan: Mr. Speaker, many people have enjoyed the benefits of PFAA and many people in Canada have contributed to PFAA. This money will be distributed in a fair and equitable fashion as far as I am concerned.

* * *

[*Translation*]

INQUIRY OF THE MINISTRY

Mr. Claude Wagner (Saint-Hyacinthe): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Prime Minister.

Could he tell us, if he knows it, or would he otherwise inquire, what government department, office or directorate ordered recently from CROP a public poll in Quebec in order to check on the rise of the Parti Québécois?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I have heard reports about this story and I have been assured that it is surely all made up. However, I shall take the invitation of the hon. member for Saint-Hyacinthe and check once more to make sure that it is pure fabrication.

* * *

[*English*]

MANPOWER

LOCAL INITIATIVES PROGRAM—REQUEST FOR WITHDRAWAL OF GRANTS TO ANYONE ASSOCIATED WITH ROCHDALE COLLEGE

Mr. Otto Jelinek (High Park-Humber Valley): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Manpower and Immigration, but since he is not in the chamber perhaps his parliamentary secretary would answer it. In view of the weekend tragedies at Rochdale College, Toronto, referred to yesterday in a motion by my colleague from Scarborough East, can the parliamentary secretary advise the House whether there are any outstanding LIP grants to anyone associated with or living at Rochdale? If so, is the minister prepared to withdraw or to cancel any or all of these grants to members of this drug-infested institution?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, I shall take that question as notice and try to get the information for the hon. member.

Mr. Jelinek: A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: The Chair will recognize the hon. member for a supplementary and then call orders to the day.

* * *

HOUSING

ROCHDALE COLLEGE—REQUEST FOR GOVERNMENT ACTION IN LIGHT OF DEATHS, DRUG AND TAX PROBLEMS

Mr. Otto Jelinek (High Park-Humber Valley): I should like to direct my supplementary question to the Prime Minister. Since in previous comments the Minister of Manpower and Immigration and the Minister of State for Urban Affairs did not seem too disturbed by the continual tragedies at Rochdale College—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member was recognized for the purpose of asking a supplementary question. I suggest to him that he is now going beyond the limits of a supplementary question. He should ask his question.

Mr. Jelinek: Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker; I will rephrase my supplementary question. In view of the fact that thousands of disturbed citizens are concerned about the tragedies at Rochdale College, its death problems, drug problems, unpaid tax problems and many other problems that the government has so far countenanced, is the Prime Minister prepared to or interested in dealing immediately with this deplorable situation?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I have discussed this matter with the minister on previous occasions. As a result of a meeting that I had in Toronto two Saturdays ago, or two Fridays ago—I am not sure which—with some Liberals I undertook to raise the question again and I am looking forward to some discussions on the matter. I have no further comment at this time.

Mr. Speaker: Perhaps we might have supplementaries tomorrow. Orders of the day.

Before proceeding with the order of business, I believe the hon. member for Crowfoot is seeking unanimous consent to return to the item, presentation of reports. Is that agreed?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Second report of Standing Committee on Transport and Communications—Mr. Horner.

[*Editor's note: For text of above reports, see today's Votes and Proceedings.*]

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

CRIMINAL CODE

REINSTATEMENT OF LAW RELATING TO CAPITAL PUNISHMENT THAT EXISTED PRIOR TO DECEMBER 30, 1972

The House resumed, from Tuesday, May 15, consideration of the motion of Mr. Allmand that Bill C-2, to amend the Criminal Code, be read the second time and referred to the Standing Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs.

Mr. Max Saltsman (Waterloo-Cambridge): Mr. Speaker, it is not every day that one has such an audience in the Commons, and I want to thank all hon. members for their willingness to listen to my remarks. As a mark of appreciation, I might point out that while I have 20 minutes ahead of me I intend to use only about five.

In a somewhat more serious vein, I want to conclude what I said the other day on the question of capital punishment with a reference to one of the aspects of capital punishment which has troubled me the most. I refer to the question of responsibility when it comes to murder, and the matter of justice in the administration of capital punishment. I want to illustrate my concern or the sort of thing that arouses my concern with a story.

One day a woman who was a grandmother called me and asked me to help her grandson. She said: "The boy is 12 years old and he is going to kill somebody. There is something wrong with the boy. He has been abandoned by his father, his mother is working and trying to help out, but the boy has some serious difficulty and I need some help". I spent the better part of the day calling provincial agencies to find out whether I could get some assistance for this woman. I was told by one that they had room for seven disturbed boys in various institutions in that area, that his was the eighth so there was no place for him. They were very sympathetic and understood the problem, but this was one of the difficulties.

● (1510)

I thought to myself that when this boy grows up, and if the fears of this woman are realized, who will be responsible in that case; will it be the boy who becomes a murderer, will it be the mother or will it be society? When that 12 year old boy needed help he could not find it, so surely society has to bear some share of the blame. This is

the great dilemma. When you read the biography of some of the assassins of United States political figures, one story emerges. One assassin was a seriously disturbed child. The authorities went to the mother and told her that the boy needed psychiatric care. The mother refused to believe them, feeling this could not be true of her son. When the child grew up, he became a murderer. Who was guilty in that particular case; was it the boy, the mother or society? In virtually every case I have been able to trace in respect of a murderer, I have found a history of a sordid childhood or a history of violence of one kind or another. People do not suddenly become murderers as adults.

If we are really serious, and I have no reason to believe that this House is anything else, about protecting society, and in many ways this is what the debate is all about, then we should stop thinking in terms of hanging murderers. We should stop kidding ourselves that this is the way to protect society. This may be the easy and facile way. It may be reassuring to say that a man is guilty, we will put him out of the way and that is the end of it. That is not the end of it because you cannot bring back a life in that way, nor can you prevent a future crime by that means. If we are serious about this matter of protecting society, we must deal with it at another level. We must know more about the causes of murder. We must remove some of the environmental circumstances that create an atmosphere in which this takes place, and we must concentrate much more on providing assistance to young people who are disturbed in order to make sure that society is adequately protected in the future.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, the subject which involves us today is as basic as any that this or any parliament will ever face. It involves life and death, the safety of the individual and the orderliness of our society. These are not issues with which the House can deal summarily, and it did not do so in 1967. Nor are they issues which individuals can resolve easily within their consciences. We are called upon to exercise wisdom and judgment and calmness of decision in respect of a subject which summons emotion and evokes often our most basic passions.

That we cannot all agree on this issue is understandable, for we are dealing with justice which is always a fleeting concept, and almost always subjective. George Eliot wrote:

> Who shall put his finger on the work of justice, and say "It is there?" Justice is like the Kingdom of God—it is not without us as a fact, it is within us as a great yearning.

I am reminded also of the French poet, Paul Claudel who said:

[*Translation*]

> Justice is masked, not blindfolded and no-one knows who it is.

[*English*]

If Canada be a civilized place, it is that way because of the concern which Canadians have for one another. Canadians take an interest in one another, look out for one another, help one another. We have managed to avoid here many of the hatreds which are troublesome elsewhere. We have retained in Canada the compassion for our neighbour which in some places has been replaced by indifference, and in others by fear.

This has permitted us to accept many propositions in Canada which are often still argued about elsewhere. We accept the proposition, for instance, that no one should suffer from lack of medical treatment or, treated, suffer from the financial burden of that treatment. We accept the proposition that the aged, having contributed to our society, should be given the opportunity to live with as much dignity and grace as our resources will permit. We accept the proposition that every child should be educated equally, and that the gifted be given the opportunity to fulfil their promise. We accept the proposition that the needy and the handicapped should be assisted by those able to do so.

We also accept the proposition, from which many of my remarks during today's debate will follow, that the wayward should be helped to return to a life that is useful and wholesome. We accept these propositions and willingly bear their cost because we believe they contribute to a better society: One that is open, not authoritative; one that is creative, not stultifying, and one that is understanding, not spiteful.

[*Translation*]

Underlying all of these characteristics, which make our society so human, is the belief by Canadians that in such a social system they can flourish and pursue their lives free from fear of lawless elements. But without confidence in lawful processes, and in the law enforcement agencies, no community is willing to extend a helping hand to those who have broken the law. The most understanding of persons, in the face of lawless activity, will harden his attitude and will refuse to accommodate changes. Out of fear for his safety, and for the safety of his loved ones, even the most merciful of men becomes unwilling to assist the wayward.

Accordingly, Mr. Speaker, in this debate of the issue of capital punishment, I suggest that the premise from which we must begin our discussion is the basic one of the safety of Canadians. Our criminal laws, our penal system, our reform programs will be of little value if they do not respect the right of Canadians to live their lives without fear of criminal activity. The attributes of mercy and forgiveness cannot thrive in circumstances of fright and uncertainty. In all our endeavours in this House to remove undue harshness from the criminal law, or to identify and alleviate the underlying social causes of crime, we must take care not to forfeit or endanger the safety of any law-abiding Canadian.

The Bail Reform law, the Parole Act, the various other criminal law amendments introduced in recent years, are all intended to relieve deserving persons from the indiscriminate application of severe sanctions in instances where these are found unnecessary. Those laws were not designed with any thought of trading off the safety of men, women and children in the pursuit of some social experiment. If those laws have been too loosely applied, as appears the case in certain instances, then it is the responsibility of the government to ensure through their administration that errors are not repeated. And as for us, at the federal government level this will be done wherever necessary.

● (1520)

[*English*]

So on the matter of capital punishment—I begin with two premises. The first is my belief that wanton or unnecessary killing is evil. The second is the requirement for self-protection, be it individual, or collective in the form of a society. Consequently, should killing be the only means to ensure survival against aggression—as in the case of self-defence of a human, or the self-defence of a society—then it is allowable. Life and freedom and justice are so valuable that they must be protected against an aggressor by whatever means are absolutely necessary in the circumstances, including the taking of life. The evidence available to us all has satisfied me beyond doubt that capital punishment—killing—is not effective as a deterrent against murder. Therefore, it is not justifiable for use by society as a means of self-defence.

In reality, the question before the House is what contribution to the safety of persons flows from retention or abolition of capital punishment. That is not a new question. It has been asked in the English legal system for hundreds of years. Pollack and Maitland tell us that under the Norman Kings "a wave of religious sentiment had set against capital punishment". And no wonder, for those learned authors recite the forms of punishment then in vogue: death inflicted by hanging, beheading, burning, drowning, stoning, precipitation from rocks; loss of ears, nose, upper lip, hands and feet; flogging and sale into slavery; emasculation and exoculation.

If the question of capital punishment has been asked for centuries, it has been answered in varying degrees for decades. The death penalty for such minor offences as pick-pocketing and petty theft was abandoned in England in the 19th century; in Canada it was abandoned for kidnapping and for rape in 1955. Public executions, once regarded as contributing to the deterrent effect, have not been practised in Canada since 1868. On each of those occasions, I have no doubt that questions were asked about the effectiveness of the penalty as a deterrent to that particular offence, and about the justness of the punishment having regard to the crime.

Capital punishment and abolition both have a long history in our social system and in its historic forebears. Much of what was once regarded as necessary and ordinary, now causes us all to shudder with revulsion at its cruelty and seeming disdain for human life. Yet it is not our function to judge in retrospect the morals or standards of bygone eras. It is for us to assess the necessity or lack of it, and the moral correctness or lack of it, of the death penalty for murder in Canada in 1973.

It is not my intention, Mr. Speaker, to discuss the statistical and other evidence bearing on this issue which is available to us all. I have weighed it carefully as I am sure have all hon. members. I have concluded to my own satisfaction that capital punishment is not an effective deterrent to murder.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Trudeau: I am aware, however, of the widespread feeling that the present way of administering a sentence of life imprisonment may be inadequate. My mind will remain open, therefore, to whatever arguments may be offered on that aspect of the question, to ensure the protection of the public from the repetition of a major crime of violence.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Trudeau: On this point, because of the events of last weekend, I must digress slightly to cover the question of security of our penal institutions. Whatever the jail terms of convicted criminals, society must be able to assume that they will be enforced, and not broken willy-nilly by escape. Our prisons are there to contain unlawful persons. Containment is the primary function. Rehabilitation follows. I urge hon. members not to permit events of the past weekend to colour their views on the issue of capital punishment. Jailbreaks will be dealt with as the inquiries and the Solicitor General recommend. Amendments to other legislation will be viewed on their merits. But today, the issue is capital punishment, a punishment I do not regard to be effective for the only purpose advanced by its proponents, deterrence.

I am not suggesting that these issues are unrelated, or that the events of the weekend should remain unconnected with the subject of this debate. That would not only be impossible, it would probably be undesirable. The provisions of the Criminal Code, the operation of our judicial system, the management of our police forces and parole boards, the security of our penitentiaries are all ingredients of a single, vital process: the administration of criminal justice in Canada. No ingredient in this process is less important than any other. None can be ignored by society; none will be ignored by the government.

The people of Canada, the judiciary of Canada, the police officers of Canada, have every right to insist that criminal offenders, once convicted and imprisoned, remain in prison according to law, and not according to chance. By their very nature reformatories are not pleasant places. Society intended them in the first instance to be secure. And this government intends to ensure that they are secure. I sympathize entirely with the concern expressed in this House and by Canadians generally over prison breaks.

I sympathize, too, with the difficult working conditions faced by many penitentiary guards. Those conditions the government is seeking to alleviate. But I pledge to this House that this will not be done at the risk of further escapes. And I say, too, with all the earnestness at my command that prisoners who have broken jail or who have exploited temporary leave and other humanitarian reforms—and who by doing so have placed these programs in jeopardy for thousands of other prisoners—will be dealt with on recapture with the full severity of the law. Those who mock the desire of Canadians for an orderly, law-abiding community, those who hold in contempt those restraints on human conduct that enable us to live as free men and women, will be shown that society is not only resilient but that it is capable of protecting itself and of meting out whatever punishment is required.

The choice of punishment, however, must be other than vindictive for no society can be vindictive and remain healthy.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Capital Punishment

Mr. Trudeau: Before resuming my seat, Mr. Speaker, I wish briefly to reply to the argument made in the House and elsewhere that the government has somehow been "breaking the law" in commuting death sentences to life imprisonment. I was told, thanks to the right hon. gentleman for Prince Albert (Mr. Diefenbaker) who informed me through our Minister of Justice (Mr. Lang), that it had even been stated on the radio currently that the government and myself have said that we would commute every sentence and that, therefore, it mattered not what the law of the land said. I cannot emphasize too strongly, Mr. Speaker, that these commutations are carried out in accordance with the law, not in defiance of it.

● (1530)

Any such alleged statement is, of course, one which I deny completely and one that I certainly never made. But there is such a thing as the royal prerogative of mercy, and it is one of the most civilized of the many prerogatives residing in the sovereign. As is the case with others, this particular prerogative is now exercised on Her Majesty's behalf in Canada by the Governor General in council. The royal prerogative of mercy is part of the law of Canada as, in some form or other, I believe it to be the part of the law of every country I know. Nor is the prerogative subject to the normal provisions of the Canadian criminal law, quite the contrary. The Criminal Code of Canada expressly states that nothing therein "in any manner limits or affects Her Majesty's royal prerogative of mercy".

Are those who accuse the government of some wrongdoing proposing that parliament take from Her Majesty the prerogative? If so, they should take their responsibility by saying so clearly in this House.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Trudeau: There are responsibilities that devolve upon all of us in this House. One is to face issues and discharge our duties with all the wisdom, sincerity and industry that we are capable of bringing to bear upon them. I can assure hon. members that every single case of commutation that has come before the government since I became Prime Minister has been dealt with individually and a decision reached only after exhaustive consideration. There is nothing automatic about commutation in any cabinet of which I have been a member, any more I believe than the right hon. gentleman opposite assures us was the practice in his cabinet. Each case brings with it a heavy responsibility to discharge wisely and justly that part of the law of Canada which provides for mercy.

I believe that by supporting the motion which is now before the House on second reading, we have the opportunity here to act in a way that will not reduce the necessary protection to Canadians from the possibility of violent crime but which will permit Canada to stand with those other nations of the world that have concluded that the calculated taking of a human life, self-defence apart, is not an act which should be countenanced on either an individual or a community basis.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Hon. Robert L. Stanfield (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, I am taking part in this debate today, in connection with which there is a free vote, and I am not purporting to speak for anybody other than myself. But I do wish to express some views on this question which the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) has described as one of very basic importance, in fact one of the subjects of the most basic importance that we have to consider. It is perhaps ironical, in view of the basic importance of the subject, that we are discussing it long after the expiration of the measure which was adopted back in 1967 for a trial period. In view of the seriousness of the matter, it is rather difficult to understand why the government would have allowed it to expire automatically without the matter having been dealt with in parliament before its expiration.

What does the bill purport to do? The principle of this bill is not really abolition of the death penalty. What the bill purports to do is to extend the trial period of abolition of the death penalty for some types of murder but to preserve the death penalty in respect of the murder of a police officer or a prison guard.

On the question of the abolition of the death penalty, on the question of the effectiveness of the death penalty as a deterrent, which is certainly the only reason that I would be prepared to consider the penalty, I agree that there is, generally speaking, no statistical proof of the effectiveness of capital punishment as such. I believe there are more important elements in the enforcement of the law, such as the degree of certainty of detection and the degree of certainty of at least a severe penalty for an offence such as this. As I understand it, the concept behind this bill is that we need the death penalty to protect police officers and prison guards from those who have nothing to lose by killing them. That, as I understand, is the rationale of this measure and I am prepared to accept it.

As I said, I see no evidence that capital punishment is an effective deterrent. I think we are all familiar with the work done by Dr. Fattah of the University of Toronto, and his finding that the actual threat of the death penalty to the lives of killers in Canada has not been great in the last 90 years. He also wrote that the increase in criminal homicide in Canada during recent years cannot be attributed to the suspension of capital punishment. All the studies done are unanimous on one point: that nothing in the statistics of murders in Canada gives any conclusions about the effect of the suspension of capital punishment. I understand that the University of Toronto study concludes that it is impossible to tell at this stage what effect the death penalty has had for murders of civilians.

So I say to you, sir, and to the House that I am prepared to support the bill in principle—

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Stanfield: —but I have some problems.

An hon. Member: You are right.

An hon. Member: Tell us about the problems.

Mr. Stanfield: My problems are across the floor, really.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): You have the whip on right now.

● (1540)

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Stanfield: Mr. Speaker, I do not mind these little interruptions. Hon. gentlemen opposite are under a good deal of tension. I think it is healthy that, from time to time, we permit them to relieve those tensions by a few outcrys, and I am happy if I can be of therapeutic value to them.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Stanfield: In his closing remarks, the Prime Minister dealt with one of my problems. In 1967, the House was asked to deal with a measure which preserved capital punishment in respect of the murder of a police officer or a penitentiary guard. This bill is the same in that regard. I have had the impression, and the Prime Minister addressed himself to this today, that as a matter of policy the government has been commuting all death sentences. In view of that fact, I have had to ask myself whether it is straightforward to put a bill before the House, and seek the approval of that bill, on the assumption that capital punishment would be retained in respect of these types of offences when in fact the punishments contemplated by the bill are not carried out. This has been a problem with me. I say quite frankly, and I emphasize this, that I do not want to go back to the pre-1967 situation. But I have had no desire at all to be involved in what seemed to be—perhaps fraud is too strong a word—an attempt to get parliament to approve of something and then not conform to the will of parliament.

I am not looking for ways to be difficult, Mr. Speaker. I am saying very frankly that I do not want to go back to the previous legislation. I cannot question the sincerity of what the Prime Minister said to me and to the House this afternoon, but if I were the Prime Minister, whatever my reluctance might be with regard to permitting the death sentence to proceed, I should allow the law to be discharged under these circumstances, except under the proper exercise of the prerogative of mercy, which certainly exists, which certainly ought to exist, and which I hope will continue to exist.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Stanfield: That would have to be my attitude. The Prime Minister, as I understood him, gave that assurance to the House this afternoon so far as he was concerned. I think that, therefore, I must consider the bill on the basis of that assurance he has given, and that I am justified in interpreting what he said as meaning that this bill is not put before the House in the hope of achieving abolition of capital punishment across the board, so to speak. I assume that this bill is not being put before the House with a view to getting it passed, and then automatically disregarding the view of parliament that capital punishment should be exercised in the event of the murder of police officers and penitentiary guards.

However strongly I may feel about the abolition of capital punishment, Mr. Speaker, I do not want to be any part, intentionally or otherwise, of any fraudulent practice towards this House, towards parliament. I, therefore, say to the Prime Minister that I listened to him very earnestly, and I will consider the bill on the basis that the House is being dealt with in a straightforward manner, that the prerogative of mercy will be exercised as such and not in such a way as to frustrate automatically the expressed will of parliament. That is one of my problems with regard to the bill. I realize that this whole subject of capital punishment is laden with emotions, and with moral questions over and above and apart from the practical problem of the state's duty to protect the citizen. I realize that any decision made by parliament is going to be unsatisfactory to a great many Canadians, and that the moral and emotional problems are complicated by the increasing amount of violence that seems to be entering our daily lives.

I realize very well, and I do not say this in any arrogant way, that the views I am expressing may very well differ from the views of the majority of my constituents. I do not want to be pontifical, but I think Edmund Burke was right when he said a Member of Parliament had a duty to exercise his own judgment. It is my responsibility to exercise my judgment and this is what I am doing, not out of any sense of arrogance or superiority with regard to other Canadians, but in the full belief that it is my responsibility to make up my own mind and to exercise my judgment.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Stanfield: But I am doing so on the basis on which the bill is put before parliament, and that is that the police and penitentiary guards are going to get the kind of protection that the bill envisages. I look to the government to honour that commitment. I also hope that we will see heavy emphasis put upon improved methods of crime prevention and detection, that we accept our responsibilities to provide the police with improved facilities, that we make certain that the courts are fully and adequately manned, and that we provide humane and secure penitentiaries.

I am troubled, too, by the question of the minimum sentence, and by what a life sentence means. As I understand it now, a person serving a life sentence under these conditions may be paroled after ten years. I say simply this: If we attempt to define what should be done at this time, and if we are going to remove capital punishment as a form of punishment, then the Canadian people are entitled to more security than they have today, the Canadian people are entitled to a more adequate substitute for capital punishment than we have today. While I am quite prepared to support this bill at this time, I would hope that the committee would be authorized, and find it possible, to inquire into the broader question which I believe should be dealt with simultaneously and that is the alternative form of security that can be offered to the Canadian people in this regard.

● (1550)

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Stanfield: With regard to the parole system, I understand that the Solicitor General (Mr. Allmand) has said that it is going to be overhauled and re-examined. This has been talked about for some time and it needs to be done, Mr. Speaker.

I have been expressing my views at an even slower rate perhaps than I do ordinarily. This is a highly emotional subject, and I do not want to engender any bitterness into it. I state my position with respect to capital punishment: I want to see the committee examine the alternatives with a view to reassuring the Canadian people with regard to what life imprisonment really means. While the commutation of all sentences during the lifetime of the last measure certainly lent itself to the interpretation that it was the policy of the government to commute all death sentences.

I am prepared to support this measure on second reading on the basis of the assurances that the Prime Minister has given to me and others here today. I take it from that—and I support this bill with a clear conscience—that the House of Commons is not being asked to support a bill which retains capital punishment in respect of the murder of police officers and penitentiary guards while the government actually pursues a different policy. I am not out to seek blood, Mr. Speaker; I do not mean that. I just mean that I am voting for this bill on the assumption that the government is dealing honestly and openly with the parliament of Canada.

Mr. David Lewis (York South): Mr. Speaker, as has been said by many who have participated in this debate, the argument about capital punishment goes back a long way in human society and it involves an anxious moral question. I remind this House, if the members need reminding, that at the beginning, 100 or 200 years ago and longer than that, people were put to death for what we now consider minor offences, for theft of a loaf of bread, for example. I remind hon. members and the people of Canada that there has been a steady progress in civilized society away from that kind of treatment of offenders and that today in all modern western societies where the death penalty is retained, it is limited to a penalty for murder or for treason. I remind hon. members and the people of Canada that an increasing number of countries in the world have been abolishing the death penalty in their society.

I suggest, Mr. Speaker, that what has been happening over the decades is the progress of civilization in societies like our own. Progress in all directions; progress in the direction of social security; progress in the acceptance of the philosophic and social idea that we are indeed our brother's keepers; progress in the opposition to war unless it is unavoidable for the safety of society; progress in all directions of human behaviour, man to man and collectively, man to the creator. It is a major mark of the response which we have developed in a civilized society for human dignity and human life. I watched the abhorrence of the western world toward Naziism, Mr. Speaker, and I was impressed by the fact that it did not derive merely from an opposition to the social system that Hitlerism represented but it derived mainly from an aversion against the denigration of human dignity and the brutal destruction of human life for which Naziism was responsible.

I therefore make my first point, Mr. Speaker: historically, philosophically and morally, mankind in civilized society has been progressing away from the taking of human life by the state, by individual human beings and on a world scale. Continually and progressively, mankind has recognized the dignity of the human being and the sacredness of the human life.

That takes me to the second point, Mr. Speaker, which it seems to me every hon. member must place before himself as he considers this question. The second point is that the state is justified in taking human life only if that taking of the human life protects society against a greater evil. This is the moral justification of some wars; it is the moral justification of military or police action against those who are in the act of threatening the security of the state or the lives of its citizens. The question we are asking ourselves during this debate, if we are serious as I am sure all of us are, is simply this: does the death penalty protect society against a greater evil so as to justify the state in taking a human life calculatedly and deliberately? I hope that every member of this House, I hope that every one of my fellow Canadians, that all of us are agreed that the state ought not deliberately to take a human life as an act of vengeance but that it would be justified only as an act of necessity to protect society.

The discussion here as elsewhere on this issue has been bedevilled by emotional reactions and by questioning motives. Mr. Speaker, there are some people who are in favour of the retention of capital punishment who accuse abolitionists of being bleeding hearts, more anxious to protect the criminal than to protect his victim. Some abolitionists accuse retentionists of being bloodless hearts lacking in moral concern. I hasten, before saying anything else, to admit that I well may have been guilty of this kind of attitude, as much as anyone else. Today, I suggest to hon. members adopting positions on both sides of this question that this is an unfortunate approach to the issue. We can discuss it constructively only if all of us assume that all of us and all Canadians are equally concerned about the moral and security problems involved and that those of us who are in favour of the abolition of capital punishment, as I am, are as concerned about the security of society and the state as any other person is, no matter, on which side of this argument he is. I believe that we would get much farther in understanding each other in this country and in arriving at a reasonable, legitimate and decent conclusion if we ceased accusing each other of motives on this anxious, moral question.

● (1600)

Mr. Stanfield: And on other questions.

Mr. Lewis: And on other questions, as well, although there might be less hesitation on some other questions.

As I have read the arguments over the years, and listened to and read arguments put forward in this House during the present debate, I think it is not wrong to say that those who want to retain capital punishment do so for two reasons. Not all put forward both reasons, but there are those two reasons, one of which is vengeance, and the other, alleged deterrence.

To those who want the state to kill somebody out of a sense of retribution, out of a sense of vengeance, for having committed the act of murder, I simply find it difficult to say anything. I profoundly disagree with them. I do not know how it is possible to persuade those who are moved by vengeance and a sense of anger and retribution

against those who have committed the offence of murder—and I hope that if anyone in this House feels this way I will be forgiven for saying this, for I would be less than honest if I did not put this frankly—to see that that kind of attitude of vengeance and retribution is an attitude that belongs to a society of savagery and not to a society of civilization. All religions I have ever read of, all philosophical systems I have ever studied, and all talk about ethics and human morals, stress compassion, mercy and concern for every human being, even the wayward one, as a mark of decency and civilized behaviour. You cannot have collective vengeance and retribution, and compassion and mercy at the same time. You either have one or the other. If you are governed by compassion and by mercy for every human being, you must discard vengeance and retribution, not only as a personal act, but also as an act of the state.

It is true that all through this country there is a great deal of anxiety about this whole problem, a great deal of anxiety about the escapes which have taken place from our penitentiaries. I said yesterday in another debate, and I repeat today, so far as I am concerned, this is a moral and administrative matter. It is the duty of the government and the duty of the Solicitor General (Mr. Allmand) to take all steps necessary to rid the system of incompetent and unreliable people, and to make sure that the security of the penitentiaries and the security of the people of Canada is protected by the kind of staff and department that will see to it that these things do not occur in future as frequently as they have occurred in the past. I put it that way because I do not suppose any system will prevent escapes entirely. There will always be some. However, the regular way in which these have occurred must be stopped. Nevertheless, without being presumptuous, I appeal to members of this House and, indeed, to the people of Canada who are so concerned and anxious about this, not to let their anxiety about escapes from penitentiaries, which can be controlled and reduced by adequate administrative measures, affect their thinking on the subject of the state deliberately taking a life.

Next we come to the second argument for the retention of capital punishment, the deterrence argument. We have heard this argument time and again. We have heard the opposite argument time and again. I do not think anyone can say more; at least, I cannot. Having studied the subject for years, as have many other members of the House, because it is not only since becoming a Member of Parliament that I have been concerned about this, having been interested in it as a student, as a lawyer and all through my life, I think it is surely true to say that this at least is the case: There is no argument about the assertion that the statistical evidence does not support the allegation that capital punishment is a deterrent against murder. It may not support the opposite view. Logically speaking, there is no way in which you can support the opposite view.

There is no way in which you can find out how many people failed to commit murder because they thought that if they committed murder they might be executed. As I say, you cannot do that. The only statistical evidence you can have relates to the people who have already committed murder. Therefore, I do not claim that statistics show anything except that there is no correlation between the abolition or the retention of capital punishment and the number of violent crimes. All through history, according to every statistical table I have ever seen, it has been shown that there has been, depending on the general social circumstances of a society, relatively the same rate of violent crime in jurisdictions that retained capital punishment as in jurisdictions that have abolished it. Over the years there has been no difference whatsoever between the rate of violent crime in jurisdictions that have retained capital punishment and jurisdictions that have not. So, I urge on all members this: all statistical evidence shows that there simply is no correlation between the two.

Indeed, some students of penology claim that it is more likely that, in the presence of capital punishment, more people who have committed the crime of homicide or murder are acquitted in court than is the case if there is not the threat of the death penalty. That makes sense to me. This is not merely the evidence arrived at as a result of surveys. Logic, as well, it seems to me supports that assertion. After all, juries in our society are composed of decent men and women and they are as anxious to avoid responsibility for the death of another human being as anyone in this House. That assertion seems logical to me and therefore I accept the result of the surveys and of the statistics, namely, that men and women on juries would hesitate a great deal more about finding someone guilty, if they knew that that finding would result in the death of the accused person, than would be the case if they knew that the accused would be in prison for life or would receive some sentence like that. Therefore I think there is good evidence from statistics and, it seems to me, logic for the proposition that more murderers are likely to get away by being acquitted in the presence of the threat of the death penalty under our kind of system, in which they would need to be convicted by a jury composed of men and women, than would be the case in a situation where the death penalty is not there.

● (1610)

Numerous studies have been made of murderers and people inclined to commit suicide. I am not a psychiatrist or a psychologist, but I am impressed by the fact that in all the reading I have done, in all the reports I have read on this subject, the experts are convinced that the murderer does not take into consideration the consequences of his act at the time of the murder. I do not know a single exception in the studies made by penologists, psychiatrists, psychologists and other experts in this field, though, of course, that may be my fault; exceptions may exist. Surely, this is the main consideration. Those who argue that the death sentence is a deterrent, accept by implication the proposition that a murderer is really a normal human being who says to himself along logical lines: If I commit murder I shall be hanged. He is not that kind of person, according to all the inquiries which have been made. He is not rational at the time of the act of murder, even though he might not, in legal terms, be considered insane as far as events at a trial are concerned.

Every study of which I am aware shows that the majority of murders, 60 or 70 per cent of them, or an even greater percentage than that, are committed among members of a family, among drinking companions, friends who have fallen out, men and women who are normally law-abiding citizens and who are driven by passion or some other uncontrollable emotion to kill someone else. I should like

to know how anyone thinks these people could be deterred by the threat of capital punishment. Many other murderers have been found through various studies to be psychotic, and I should like to know how they could be deterred by the threat of the death penalty. As far as the hardened criminal is concerned, the person who commits murder in the process of committing some other crime, every study shows he is invariably under the assumption that he will be able to get away with it. Otherwise, he would not have set out on the first crime.

Thus, I say to hon. members and to the people of Canada that the taking of life by the state by way of the death penalty accomplishes nothing as far as the protection of society is concerned, though it degrades the collectivity by having us murder someone else in response to a murder which has been committed. It is true there has been an increase recently in all crimes of violence, but I suggest that murder has not increased in any greater proportion than others and that the answer to an increase in violent crime does not lie in capital punishment or in other severe penalties. It lies in finding a way to overcome the increasing alienation in our society, it lies in improving the quality of life in a climate of growing urbanization, it lies in finding ways to eliminate poverty and deprivation, it lies in taking steps to improve the quality of life for all Canadians. It is in actions of this kind that the solution to violent crimes is to be found, not in violent penalties.

I wish to comment briefly on two further points. Like every other member of this House I am aware that a good many of my own constituents—I doubt from the replies to my questionnaire that it would be a majority—feel that the retention of capital punishment is necessary. I agree with the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Stanfield) that every one of us has a duty to vote in accordance with our consciences and judgment and not to consider ourselves as merely rubber stamps for our constituents, because that is not representative government but delegated government and our system is a representative system, not a delegate system. We represent our constituents. We do not act as rubber stamps for their ideas.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Lewis: I would say, I hope without presumption, that as political spokesmen in society we have a duty to give leadership to the people of Canada. It is not new for majorities to have made mistakes—I can think of such lighter matters as elections, for example.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Lewis: There have been other occasions upon which majorities in the past have made mistakes, and those of us who are privileged to sit in this House and have access to much more information than our constituents, beside having a duty to consider matters objectively, with reason and careful study, have a duty not only to vote and act in accordance with our consciences but to give leadership to our constituents to rid them of errors which they have been fed by the media or in some other way.

Finally, I want to say this. It has been emphasized that there is to be a free vote. This will be the case in our party. But I am very proud of the fact that almost all the members in our caucus are abolitionists.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Lewis: I am very proud of the fact that our party has, over the years, in conventions both federal and provincial, many times adopted a policy approving the abolition of the death penalty. We, therefore, have a party policy on the issue. But as far as the vote on this bill is concerned, it is a free vote for the members of our caucus as it is for every member in this chamber.

I regret that this bill does not abolish capital punishment completely. I do not accept that there is any acceptable rationale behind the measure we are considering, other than a compromise, making a step in the direction of the abolition of the death penalty. Since this is such a step I intend to vote for it on second reading.

I do not regret that the prerogative of mercy has been exercised. I see no reason why I should not accept the assurance of the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) that every case is considered on its merits. I hope the government will continue to seek the royal prerogative and address itself to the merits of each case, and I hope the result will be, in each case, commutation rather than the death penalty for the person concerned. Our attitude toward this issue is too important a mark of progress in the civilized behaviour of society for us to fail to make even this step toward the abolition of the death penalty. It is my hope that at the end of the next five years, if this bill does pass, parliament and Canadians generally will be able to accept the total abolition of capital punishment.

● (1620)

Mr. Nowlan: Mr. Speaker, might I ask the Prime Minister a question? I was going to ask him a question at the conclusion of his speech but I wanted to listen to the speaches of the two other leaders before I did so. Would the Prime Minister accept a question?

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Boulanger): I must ask for the opinion of the Prime Minister as to whether he is aggreable. Otherwise, I will give the floor to the next speaker. Does the Prime Minister agree to answer a question?

Mr. Trudeau: Mr. Speaker, I certainly have no objection to answering the hon. member here or elsewhere, but if he is entitled to ask me a question, I should like to ask some of the Leader of the Opposition and I am sure other questions would follow. So I do not think the practice is a very good one.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Henry Latulippe (Compton): Mr. Speaker, it is with emotion that I rise today because we are living very serious, very difficult moments. What we are doing now will have great consequences on humanity and the life of Canadians.

Mr. Speaker, we are told that this is a question of conscience, that every member is free to vote according to his conscience. But there are various kinds of consciences in this House, as I see it. Not many of them are alike. Not many of them really accept their responsibilities, which at times, are huge.

Our society is now "mutilated". Some citizens authorize themselves to take away the life of others under all sorts of pretexts, for the sake of vengeance, for a few dollars. Others say: In all conscience, we do not have the right to interfere with the life of criminals. I wonder, Mr. Speaker, what the hon. members do to protect the Canadian people. I would say, without fear of being mistaken, that generally speaking Canadians want the death penalty retained. Some hon. members say: No, we know better than the people; we are better educated, we are more aware, and in short, we are more ready to compromise. And so, with regard to capital punishment, we will be moderate. But I maintain that the general population demands the retention of capital punishment.

So, faced with this alternative, I do not think we have a right to decide according to what we think, even if we claim to be highly aware. How can a few men be more aware than the whole population? That is the question for me, and I will say right away that we have had the abolition of capital punishment for five years, on a trial basis, as a result of a ruling passed by this House. The experience of this trial period has shown a greater increase in the number of murders and other atrocities than has ever been known before in Canadian history. This has been recently, since we abolished capital punishment.

Moreover, we retained capital punishment for those who had taken the lives of policemen or prison guards. Well, there have been not just two policemen or two prison guards killed, but quite a number of them, and the law has not been observed. What has happened to justice? It has been made into injustice. The law existed all right, and laid down these exceptions, but no notice was taken of them. They were passed over by justice.

A handful of men have taken advantage of certain prerogatives to say: We will respect the law to some extent by keeping capital punishment for those who have the nerve to kill a policeman or a prison guard. But when it has come to carrying out justice, justice has gone by the board. There are your men of justice, your moral beings, who lecture everybody and pose as great saviours of the people, great Canadians. But the laws are not respected. According to me, it would be better not to have any. It is better not to talk about those things at all. When we passed this bill, why did we specify those exceptions? Because we thought we were justified in doing so to some extent. Therefore, capital punishment is lawful. It was recognized and it readily is still.

Capital punishment now protects policemen and prison guards, and that protection should be extended to all members of society, because each of them is as important as a prison guard or a policeman. They are human beings as we are, and as are the other citizens.

● (1630)

In Canada, the number of homicides, according to the 1970 statistics, has increased by 60.4 per cent in comparison with 1962. Thus, the crime rate based on the population has increased by 35.3 per cent during the same period and we are told that the death penalty does not frighten anyone, that it would be advisable to abolish it. We are told that it does not increase the number of murders, the crime rate, when we have some statistics that no one can deny.

The number of murders in 1970 has increased by 213.4 per cent over 1962. Thus, the number of attempted murders based on the population has increased by 180 per cent during the same period and we will be told that it is useless, that nothing can be proved, that it is natural, that the law forbids us to kill certain citizens or murderers.

When we deal with a matter such as the death penalty, we must consider the punishment meted out to a criminal. We find awful the punishment given to a criminal, but he has no consideration for people; he commits some atrocity and we find it normal. It is felt that to be human and social, to have the moral accepted, all this should be allowed at society's expenses.

Men of great value are made to disappear, as we have seen in the province of Quebec, and almost nothing is said about it because all the criminals are now being freed and because of the current law and justice everyone is protesting against this kind of punishment applied to citizens and subsequently eliminated.

We must think of punishment and to inflict it to criminals but we should also consider the reasons leading those criminals to commit violations and of their opinion of their punishment. Therefore, if by reinstating capital punishment we succeed in convincing someone not to commit a crime, death penalty should be reestablished as it will contribute to protect society.

If we have the right to kill several thousand people to protect them from an assailant we also have the right to condemn a criminal to protect society.

The death penalty is a necessity; it is a punishment for criminals, a protection for society and not a vengeance for society as stated by the hon. member for York South (Mr. Lewis).

In the same way as a man should protect his life it is also his duty to respect the life of others. It is in that sense that homicide or murder is prohibited by moral law as well as by civil law which must reflect natural law.

It is incumbent on the civil authority to protect citizens by laws and it is its right to enforce the law required by common welfare and the protection of the citizen's life and property.

If police officers have been shot point blank and law is not enforced what is the use of enacting laws, what good is there to be prime minister of a province or of the country? If the laws are not enforced what is the use of this justice which is costing millions of dollars to our fellow citizens? If anything is costly in Canada, it is obviously justice. This is the costliest item for the people and it is always for the sake of great principles of justice that such a thing must be done and that they must spend millions of dollars.

Since the civil authorities must ensure the respect for order in society, they have therefore the right of inflicting punishment and demand repair from those who violate law and order. This is the sanction which completes the law. But can the civil power go so far as to inflict capital punishment?

The political authority has the right to impose capital punishment on those who are guilty of homicide.

The civil authority has the right to do all that is necessary to serve justice and provide security to citizens. Capital punishment being necessary to provide justice and security to citizens, therefore the civil authority has the right to impose capital punishment and it is its duty to do so.

Punitive justice or justice through revenge demands equality as much as possible between the crime that has been committed and the punishment imposed for such a crime. Now in the case of crimes like homicide, murder, there is no other punishment than capital punishment to create equality between punishment and crime. Therefore, to serve justice, Mr. Speaker, capital punishment is sometimes necessary, which proves the second part of my minor premise.

It is almost impossible to provide for the citizens' security against the acts of certain men without applying the most powerful curbing device that exists against those criminals. Now the most powerful curbing device is capital punishment. Life imprisonment, suggested as a penalty by certain people, is not a curbing device that is strong enough to stop a potential murderer. As a matter of fact, murderers may escape sometimes and thus not serve their sentence. On the other hand, the horrible crime of taking the life of another person is neither sufficiently nor preventively punished through life imprisonment. Capital punishment is a more effective preventive measure since death is the privation of life, the greatest blessing. Capital punishment must be imposed on those who take the life of other people.

Here are some of the objections. It is said that life imprisonment ensures public security and to that, one must answer that life imprisonment ensures security in a certain way, but is life imprisonment sufficient and sufficiently effective? It may be sometimes but it is not always effective. We often had proof of that.

Mr. Speaker, as long as this appendage providing for the hanging of murderers of police officers is not removed, we shall be accomplices, voluntarily or not. Legalized, institutionalized murder and death voluntarily given, either by an individual or by a just society that wants to punish them remains a crime and an even more serious crime when it is committed by individuals who have been able to think about their actions.

We have received hundreds of folders and citizens have been sending us protest letters requesting that capital punishment be maintained. For instance, I have with me a report from the newspaper *Le Droit* of December 5, 1969, and I quote:

Capital punishment is necessary to protect society.

During this interview Parliament member and lawyer Rémi Paul stated the reasons against abolition of capital punishment.

He is one man who speaks against abolition openly and proudly.

I have also with me an article rewritten by a former judge, the hon. member for Saint-Hyacinthe (Mr. Wagner) who, through newspapers, invited people to write to the federal government and request it not to abolish the death penalty. A lengthy summary has been made of that and I wonder whether the hon. member for Saint-Hyacinthe will have the courage to rise and repeat what he has been saying and asking from the population for a few years. I wonder whether he will follow his leader and raise his arm when his leader will raise his, or whether he will assume his true responsibilities.

I have with me another press article which I quote:

Dramatic increase in murders in Quebec since 1961 (C. Wagner)—

—attributed to the abolition of capital punishment.

● (1640)

There is a whole page, Mr. Speaker, which I will not read.

I have also received a letter from the Quebec Federation of Retail Services, addressed as follows:

To all members of the
Canadian House of Commons who are
from the province of Quebec
Dear member of Parliament:

The Quebec Federation of Retail Services, which groups seven professional associations of retailers from various sectors of the retail trade, wishes to inform you that, upon consideration of the problem of the death penalty, our administrative council has decided in favour of its retention.

We have received thousands of letters like that one, and yet it is said that the population knows nothing about it.

The member for Saint-Hyacinthe certainly knows something about it.

Other associations have written to me; to quote the Civil Service Association of Canada:

As a member of Parliament, you will be invited during the present session to vote on the matter of the abolition of the death penalty in Canada. The Civil Service Association would not normally concern itself with so controversial a matter of public politics. We would consider that our members prefer to decide about this matter in the manner which the government seems to intend to adopt in Parliament, leaving each person free to make his decision individually.

In this specific case, however, our Association has, as an organization, an important interest in one aspect of the problem. We refer to the abolition of the death penalty for murderers of prison employees or guards during attempts at escape or any other incident in which a victim is legally carrying out his duties.

Mr. Speaker, I shall not read them all. Members of parliament are asked to retain the death penalty, at any cost. We receive any number of letters like that one; all hon. members must have received some.

I quote: "Young conservatives in favour of retention." It is strange to notice that the Progressive Conservatives now accept the proposals of the government for abolishing the death penalty for another five years. It was suspended for five years and that should be good enough to know what happened: statistics are there to prove it; the number of murders increased alarmingly over that period and even though I am no "smart aleck", I do not want to carry things too far either.

Conscientiously, I should greatly prefer that none should have to go through such atrocities but we are here, Mr. Speaker to deal justice, to enlighten the people, to enact legislation protecting the people. They need protection and I believe that on the whole Progressive Conservative hon. members and Liberal members as well are prepared to maintain the elimination of a capital punishment

for another trial period of five years, claiming that it is barbarous to take a citizen's life.

In many countries, Mr. Speaker, this would not be tolerated. In several countries there are even no inquiries and bums are done away with, who bring evil and discord into society and the lives of respectable citizens.

Mr. Speaker, I should have much to say, but since others want to participate in the debate I shall say that for our part we shall be voting against Bill C-2, an Act to amend the Criminal Code.

The Criminal Code exists, Mr. Speaker. It should be amended, but in order to protect people and not to further encourage the atrocities we are now experiencing.

Mr. Georges-C. Lachance (Lafontaine): Mr. Speaker, before we are invited to vote upon the motion for second reading of Bill C-2, I would like to say a few words about this matter which has given rise to many debates and votes for a few years.

I had the opportunity of taking the floor twice in this House, when bills were introduced in 1966 and 1967. In 1967, the House passed a bill which suspended capital punishment, except in cases of murders of police officers or penitentiary guards on duty, for a five-year period. This five-year period was over at the end of 1972 and today, the government found it advisable to introduce in this House a bill that is similar to that which was passed in 1967, thus extending for another five-year period the abolishment of capital punishment, except in cases I referred to earlier.

I intend to say a few words, without passion, without emotion and on my own behalf only. I do not intend to convince anybody, and I do not think that I could succeed in do so. I was told that this was an emotional issue; probably there will not be any more important matter before Parliament for a long time.

I listened carefully today to the passionless and emotionless speech of the right hon. Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau). I take his word and I am sure of it, when he says that each case was or will be fairly assessed. However, I must admit that it might be more difficult to convince the right hon. Prime Minister about the advisability of capital punishment. I am expressing a personal view but I suggest that the Prime Minister is right when he says that each case must be considered or will be considered in all fairness.

I listened to the hon. Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Stanfield) whose speech, I must admit, was very vague. We do not really know what will happen during the third reading of this bill after it has been considered in committee.

As for myself, I intend to inform hon. members of my decision when motions on second and third reading will be put. I plan to vote in favour of this legislation on second reading since I believe with certain exceptions that a bill should be considered thoroughly and on its merit.

● (1650)

When this bill comes back before the House I will make my decision, that is to say that if it is not amended so as to propose the complete abolition of capital punishment I will vote against it. Let me explain. I think that those who heard my speeches in the past know that it is not an emotional issue for me. When I opposed certain bills in the past I explained why I was opposing them and I explained specially that I was concerned with other aspects such as parole, criminal records, rehabilitation of inmates, trials and preliminary inquiries. Some improvements have been brought about since then in the field of criminal records, bails, trials, preliminary inquiries and many other areas.

However, Mr. Speaker, I now consider the problem of abolition or retention as settled. The facts are there to prove it. I do not think that this government—and it is my personal opinion—nor any other government which could be called upon to run this country in the immediate future would ever send anybody to the gallows. So I consider the problem as solved. We had better stop talking about it and be realistic and know what to do after. We must then ensure that inmates are rehabilitated when possible.

Some people talk about revenge and protecting society. I have a lot of respect for those who make such arguments; it is their right to do so and it is not my intention to blame them for it. However, I for one think that there is only one thing that counts, that is what we are going to do with the inmates after their detention. I do not believe in those arguments of deterrence. As the hon. member for York South (Mr. Lewis) said a moment ago, the statistics in that field are more or less good and we will never know the number of persons who committed or did not commit a murder because there was abolition or not. But one thing is sure: the general public does feel that no one will be hanged either under the present government or under the next governments whatever the party in power. So we must reassure the public once and for all and tell them that abolition is a fact.

And what are we going to do now? Later, for any reason, if Parliament sees fit, it will introduce another legislation and restore capital punishment if needed. We must make up our mind now, once and for all. But to say that they will introduce that legislation to have more statistics, this is a unbelievable joke. Everybody knows that within the next five years, nobody will be sentenced to death. Some may believe it, but I do not. It is not a way to gather statistics.

I have listened with considerable interest to the leader of the New Democratic Party, the hon. member for York South, who had the courage to say this afternoon that he at least was not satisfied with this bill; he saw a compromise in it and he had the courage to say so.

I consider it takes courage to settle the issue once and for all and to abolish capital punishment. Something must be done. For instance, in trying to convince us or the population, as have done some hon. members or other people who do not sit in this House, some persons give the following argument: As a compromise, of course, to try to have this bill passed, which I consider as inefficient, we will now arrange so that those who under this bill are sentenced to death for qualified murder stay in prison 20 years, without getting out and without remission. This is barbarism.

I have studied the problem of penitentiaries and of their inmates, Mr. Speaker, because I have always been interested in this and I think a good many hon. members in this House know it, and I can say, of course, that a good many

persons who know the problem agree with me that if we let someone in a penitentiary without any hope of getting out for 20 years, he will grow crazy or commit suicide.

I know, Mr. Speaker, the case of people who were sentenced to death and were imprisoned for life, for manslaughter for instance.

I can say that if, after 10 years, a person is not rehabilitated and ready to be sent back to society with the necessary safeguards, he will never be. I think we must have in mind what 10 years in prison can represent. I have never been in jail. But we must imagine what it is like.

I know someone, Mr. Speaker, who has been serving his life sentence for 9 years. I think that this person is now rehabilitated. I can be wrong but I think he is. But it is not in the ninth year that he is rehabilitated; it started as early as the first or second year, because it must be understood that if a person is found guilty, he is in a state of mind that prompts him to live in general in a world which does not facilitate his rehabilitation on the first day of imprisonment.

That person, often after one year or two, comes to realize that it is possible, and he takes the necessary means, with the help of a psychiatrist, to rehabilitate himself. But if he were told tomorrow morning that he has no chance to get out after 10 or 11 years, then he would stop being a case for rehabilitation. I am convinced of that.

When I hear people in this House or elsewhere say, always for the sake of compromise or for other reasons—I say "for the sake of compromise" because I believe that is the reason—that criminals will be imprisoned for 20 years and that the Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs will amend the bill to let the population know that those people will serve their sentence for 20 years, that it will be impossible for them to come out of prison before that, I think one makes another error, Mr. Speaker. So, in my humble opinion, there will be no more joking.

If the matter were referred to a committee, if a bill advocating the complete abolition of the death penalty were considered, I would be the first to support it. I know that my views on the subject are well known, but those who have read my speeches must realize that I have changed. I do not say that there is no deterrent, but I do not believe in revenge. I believe along with others—and the Prime Minister referred to this this afternoon—that there is a punitive factor and the punishment, it must be admitted after all, can be adequate. What can be done about it? When one drives through a red light, a $20 fine is levied. If someone steals $50, $5,000, or a million he will be punished accordingly. Evidence shows generally that a sentence is somewhat suited to the crime, though mistakes are always possible.

We must admit, and this is quite simplistic,—to be consistent with our opinions—that when a person deliberately kills another, it is said that he who voluntarily kills deserves an adequate punishment, which is death. Let us forget about this and stop talking about this problem. We shall never find a solution. We shall never succeed in convincing 22 million Canadians that abolition or retention is necessary. It is impossible.

If tomorrow morning a three-year old girl is murdered for example, people will be shocked and will say: Let him

[Mr. Lachance.]

hang! But two or three years later, when the accused is found guilty and the decision is made to hang him, then people will say: It is most unfortunate. After all, it will not bring the child back to life.

We shall thus never find a solution, Mr. Speaker. Then, let the government introduce a bill in favour of abolition and with full knowledge of the facts, honestly and sincerely, let us vote on this question.

Then, I would vote for abolition. I said that I would not try to convince anyone; it is the only thing that I can say. I have tried to convince people by saying: That is enough, let us abolish capital punishment and then make sure that prisoners get what they deserve. When we day "what they deserve", it means that when they are in prison, we should take steps to keep them there, and I am not casting reflections on any member in this connection. Let us see to it that those who can be rehabilitated will be and that those who cannot be rehabilitated stay in prison.

In this way, the population will know where it stands and we shall live in a climate of security rather than uncertainty. In fact, this climate of uncertainty exists in the public as well as in penitentiaries, which is demoralizing for everyone and does not help at all to solve the problem. This does not help society either because it is much better protected when we know where we are going and when there is no procrastination, when there is no last minute compromise which often does no credit to those who makes it.

With this, Mr. Speaker, I end my remarks which I had hoped would be shorter and which, I trust, will not have been too painful to listen to.

● (1700)

[*English*]

Mr. Bill Clarke (Vancouver Quadra): Mr. Speaker, I should like to join some of my colleagues who have said that it is unfortunate that we are required to debate the capital punishment issue at this particular time in this particular parliament. It is unfortunate for a number of reasons. If not the most important, certainly the first reason, is that capital punishment is not the issue that we should be considering. It is but one of the problems that plague our total penal system, as the debate of last night indicated. But in this debate we must restrict ourselves to the issue of capital punishment.

It has been characteristic of this House, during my short career here, that we legislate from one crisis to the next crisis. This is stop gap legislation. We should be addressing ourselves now to the real problems of the country—the economic issues—which include unemployment, inflation, unemployment insurance and income tax. Any one of these problems is more serious than the one that is presently under debate.

In addition, Mr. Speaker, the Criminal Code already contains provisions which, although ignored, deal with murder. But we must address ourselves to this most perplexing bill which, if passed, will be a victory for abolitionists and murderers, although it will still permit capital punishment, and which, if defeated, will still be a victory for abolitionists and murderers because, de facto, we have

already said goodbye to capital punishment anyway, because the government won't enforce the law.

But, Mr. Speaker, this is a bad bill. It is so confusing that our Solicitor General (Mr. Allmand) and Minister of Justice (Mr. Lang) who, on the one hand, say they are abolitionists, on the other hand say that they will support the bill even though it provides for capital punishment.

Much has been said in this debate, and I do not want to be repetitive. At this point I must say that I shall find myself compelled to vote against the government's bill. This is not necessarily because I am overwhelmingly in favour of capital punishment but because the bill does not provide the Canadian people with the protection that I deem necessary. I stress protection because that is my No. 1 concern—the protection of the innocent members of society, people like our wives and children. Abolitionists overlook this most important aspect and express pity for the murderers. They say, "But you cannot bring back a murder victim." I say "we want protection while we are alive".

The abolitionists point to statistics and say that capital punishment is not a deterrent to murder, and so it should be abolished. They point to the statistics to support their claim, but we all know that statistics can be used to prove anything that the statistician wants to prove. Let me give you some examples.

Statistics Canada, on January 19 of this year, issued a report revealing that the average number of murders during the years 1961 to 1967 inclusive was 222 per year. During the four years after the temporary ban was instituted the average number of murders was 376 per year, reaching a peak of 422 in 1971. Certainly, these figures show that the suspension of capital punishment was no deterrent to murder. My colleague from Calgary North has reminded us that the deterrent effect can never be measured accurately because we do not know how many people would have committed murder if there had been no death penalty. But I am not worried about whether a murderer fears being put to death. I am worried about protection of the innocent.

The abolitionists say that retentionists want revenge. I am not concerned with revenge. Probably full life, or even 25 years in prison is a punishment worse than death. I am concerned with protection. You will hear it said that imprisonment will provide the protection. I ask for whom? Certainly protection will not be provided for the prison guards or for the public after one of these murderers escapes.

The bill we are asked to pass provides that the killing of a policeman or prison guard is punishable by death, but other premeditated and violent killing is not. Is this the leadership the people deserve from our government?

You probably also hear it said that the courts can err and the wrong man could be executed. Mr. Speaker, the chance of this happening is so remote that it hardly bears consideration. The courts of our land today have so many safeguards, so many checks and balances, that the risk of being wrongfully executed is hardly measurable, certainly not when it is compared with the risks we all take every day when we get out of bed and go into the streets. It could even be described as a non-existent risk. But the abolitionists do not consider the risk of murder to our innocent citizens.

There is another type of protection that bears mention at this time. A close associate of mine, who is a skilled courtroom lawyer, has said that if his wife or child were murdered and the murderer were later released he would search out and kill that murderer. He does not attempt to justify what he would do, and he fully realizes that his action would be reprehensible, but he would be unable to stop himself. He needs protection just as much as his loved ones. If we do not give society the protection it demands, we shall find ourselves returning to the days when the quickest and the strongest ruled, to the old doctrine of might is right. People will ignore the law if the law ignores them.

I have said many things about protection because protection has long been the concern of every member of every society. Society found long ago that some of its members acted in an anti-social way, and that the majority required protection from the few. They established police forces to provide this protection. In this most important debate, the chiefs of all our police forces are urging us to retain capital punishment. Are we to ignore the men who are hired to protect us?

● (1710)

The aims of the abolitionists are admirable—to murderers! Frequently, the abolitionists are people who say they are concerned with helping mankind. But they seem to be obsessed with helping the few—the guilty few—instead of helping the many—the innocent many. It is time these people began to be concerned about preserving the cream and throwing away the scum!

The hon. member for York South (Mr. Lewis) today spoke of passion killing. These would be manslaughter charges and not capital murder, anyway. But the hon. member says in so many words that he would let the hired killer remain alive to escape and kill again.

Since my election, I, like the others in this House, have heard hundreds of opinions expressed by constituents and others. We have heard the scriptures quoted by both sides in the debate, but I am convinced that the vast majority of Canadians want a return to capital punishment, though they want it for various reasons. It is true that some are vengeful or have other reasons, but the single, most moving reason is protection, and my direction is clear. I think the innocent citizens expect their elected representatives to give them the protection of the law, and I am opposed to this bill because it does not give the protection demanded.

Mr. Otto Jelinek (High Park-Humber Valley): Mr. Speaker, first, I should like to agree with the views of the previous speaker, my colleague the hon. member for Vancouver-Quadra (Mr. Clark) regarding why there are many more important topics and issues to be debated here at this time, such as our general economic problems and the drastic rise in food prices. Also, there has been so much said on the subject of capital punishment in the last few days, months and indeed years, in this country and others, that one would suppose there is nothing left to say. It seems to me, however, not only due to my own strong

feelings, but the personal contact I have had with many people regarding this matter, that no one person has really summed up all the real issues.

Now, I am not going to pretend to be the guiding light as far as a solution is concerned—far from it. I want to merely state, Mr. Speaker, what I, personally, believe is the true feeling and belief of the majority of our society, a society that is not sick or degenerated, but a society trying to live in harmony and peace. Under normal circumstances, it could be called the silent majority, but when it comes to this issue of capital punishment, it is a society far from being silent.

Mr. Speaker, I have stated on numerous occasions to my constituents of High Park-Humber Valley in Toronto, because capital punishment is such an individually emotional issue, that when the vote came up, I would vote on this matter as the majority of my constituents would want me to vote. In that regard, I have recently sent out a questionnaire to my constituents and have had a response of 83 per cent for capital punishment, 12 per cent against, and 5 per cent undecided. Now I can vote on this matter not only as my constituents would want me to, but also as my conscience directs me.

We remember that in April, 1966, an attempt was made to achieve complete abolition, but it was rejected on a free vote in this House. In 1967, the same parliament passed for a five-year trial, a law which was a compromise and which abolished hanging for all but the murderers of prison guards and policemen. But was one man hanged? No. The government has not only made a mockery of the courts, but of their own laws. This law, as we all know, expired at the end of 1972. But murders in Canada continue. I have some statistics, though I really do not want to dwell on statistics as such. One statistic supplied by Statistics Canada shows that from 1961, when the capital murder rate in Canada was one in every 100,000 Canadians, it rose to 2.3 murders in every 100,000 in 1970.

In Great Britain, as we know, capital punishment was abolished in 1965. Four years prior to the bill, 71 murders took place in Great Britain. During the four years after the abolishing of capital punishment there were 161 convictions on murder charges. This figures would have been much higher had the courts not charged dozens of murderers with manslaughter instead. These statistics speak for themselves, Mr. Speaker.

The profound question, then, that immediately faces hon. members in the twenty-ninth parliament is, are we in favour of the death penalty for murder or are we not? It is often contended that too much sympathy is shown the criminals, too little thought given to the victims, to the families and personal communities of which they were members. This contention I would not seek to refute. It's truth is too often only too clear. If it is argued that other considerations are more important, it is not argued that this one is unimportant, or does not deserve more practical weight than it has been given.

It is widely held that a principal aim of the whole system of criminal justice should be reform of the criminal, that the convicted person deserves the right and the opportunity to make a new start in life. That also, is not being contradicted, except by this consideration: that we are concerned here with capital crimes, that what may be

[Mr. Jelinek.]

valid for 99 in every 100 criminals is not necessarily valid for the hundredth. Even if every dog were entitled to his bite, the rule would not apply to a mad dog. Therefore, once again we ask ourselves the question—should a man who has wilfully killed another man, himself be killed?

Historically, this question has been asked of those living after the event. The prosecuting attorney pleads it in his implacable argument before the judge and jury. The defense attorney denies it in his impassioned plea for the life of the murderer. The judge juggles the question in his summing up to the jury, and the jury deliberates on it, sometimes in anguish, sometimes in great clarity of mind.

Yet in all that has been written and said on the subject of capital punishment, seldom has anyone questioned what the victim would say about it if only he could. And, after all, equally with his murderer, the victim would have a right to speak in the matter of his own death and its punishment. Supposing the intended victim of a premeditated murder were to know in a flash of insight exactly what was in the mind of his assailant. Suppose everything were equal. Suppose the intended victim had a gun in his hand at the same instant as his murderer approached him with a gun in his hand. What would be the inalienable right of the threatened man? What would you do, if you were the intended victim? Would you simply stand there and allow yourself to be shot through the heart? If so, you would voluntarily relinquish your equality before the law and your right to the love of the land. Would you turn and run? Then, you would be a coward. Or, would you employ equal force to his and shoot him dead?

The trouble is, the rights of the victim are often overlooked in the hurly-burly of the trial of his murderer. All of the attention is fixed on the plight of the man on trial. Safe in their own comfortable homes, remote from the confrontation which took place at the moment of a man's death, people are prone in the intervening months to sympathize with this living man who is, after all, one of them and must merit mercy. They forget that the dead victim received neither sympathy nor mercy. There is generally only one recognized sanction proposed as an alternative to capital punishment for crimes of a capital nature, guaranteed lengthy prison terms. Long prison terms, however, may justly be criticized as being repulsive, as being punishment of the sort condemned in the language of the Constitution of the United States of America as "cruel and unusual". A sensitive society must shrink from the infliction of such prolonged punishment as it should shrink from torture. In most cases, it is not a punishment which fits the crime, but punishment which balances slow psychic death against the sudden killing.

Those who speak or think "humanity" must forget long prison terms; a person who has spent many years behind bars and concrete walls degenerates beyond recognition into a class close to vegetation. Let us become humane by not allowing our laws to let humans become vegetables. There are secondary reasons as well for this position, such as the cost of feeding, clothing and housing men and women whose proved relationship to society has been one of violent antagonism, basic opposition to the values and standards accepted by the community. A large group of fellow citizens should not be subjected to the difficult,

dangerous and demeaning task of serving as keepers of the enemies of society, who have behaved like brute beasts.

● (1720)

Now, what really should be considered as a capital crime? Well, in Canada as in other countries there has been at work a steady refinement of definition, a narrowing of meaning, as to the crimes for which capital punishment should be imposed. Much of the process has been good; in part it has been extreme. Some comments should be made about the sorts of considerations which must weigh with parliament and the courts. There is a justifiable distinction, but one which it is very difficult to draw, between the premeditated murder and the act of sudden passion. It is surely reasonable to assume that if a person carried a lethal weapon to the place where he kills, he must have forseen the possibility of using it.

The tendency to regard somewhat leniently the person who commits a crime under the influence of alcohol or drugs is one which it is difficult to justify in the great majority of cases which come before the courts. Even when the use of intoxicants and drugs has not deliberately preceded, as an act of preparation, the commission of the crime, it is clear that in many cases the offender must have been aware of the likely effects of their use. Such a person should be held responsible for his choice and its consequences. One who has made a wrong choice of this sort and killed, has destroyed his own case for leniency on the grounds of possible penitence and reform. How can he be trusted again to have freedom of choice in the world, even after 15 or 20 years?

There has been little discussion of capital crimes other than murder. This is unfortunate, because a comparison of crimes can be helpful in evaluating their seriousness. Hanging for rape had disappeared in Canada before the penalty was removed from the Criminal Code, partly because of the extraordinary difficulty of proving guilt. But, as is the case with other crimes of violence, there is an upward trend in the rate of offences. The justification for retaining the supreme penalty as an alternative is that in some cases of psychopathic murder, the results for the victim are perhaps even more terrible than the results of other kinds of murder. It would be a declaration by society of its code of values, if nothing else, if the capital alternative were restored in the statute.

Sea piracy has been rated a capital offence, and the same reasons now require that air piracy be classified in the same way. The pirate, by sea or air, for the most part operates outside the area of national law and police action, and by violence or threat of violence he takes over the command of a fragile carrier, endangering the safety of passengers and crew. He also, potentially, ranks among the most dangerously anti-socials who commit wholesale murder.

Hard drug pushers, not users, could possibly rate as the worst killers in our society and should come under the capital crimes law. They pick on the weak, the confused, the young, the frustrated, and they spread a disease worse than cancer, a disease that could not only ruin an empire but, indeed, mankind. The growing cult of violence may make additions to the list of capital crimes desirable. The use of explosives, with their capacity for mass murder, makes ordinary citizens on the street or going about their business more vulnerable to the whims of merciless killers than has been the case in the past.

Well, Mr. Speaker, it is more than clear by now that the majority of my constituents and I are totally in favour of bringing back capital punishment as soon as possible in order to save whatever dignity and freedom there is left in our lives and our own society. There are, however, two final points which I should like to make at this time. First, let us be humane by not allowing a human being to rot in jail over a 20 year or more term, as I have stated; and let us civilize ourselves by imposing the death penalty in a more humane fashion than hanging. There are up-to-date medical facilities and drugs that could be utilized without having to make a production of the execution.

Unfortunately, there are in this country still too many people who believe the death penalty for murder is a cruel and inhuman punishment for a man or woman convicted of such a crime. These people, it appears, have no regard for the victim or the victim's family, as I have said. That and the attitude of the federal cabinet during the five year ban which has just expired makes me bristle. We must realize that men and women "hyped" by speed and armed with weapons walk our streets with violence in their minds and murder in their hearts. You and I walk these same streets unarmed, protected only by the men recruited to keep law and order; and when these men give their lives while protecting our lives and our property, who pays? Does the law of the land demand payment? Yes, it does.

Who, then, should have the right to abrogate that law? The federal cabinet, in an aberration for which there is no sensible reason and which cannot be justified, does and has exercised that right repeatedly. It is time to re-examine this masochistic trait. We teach people that the age of maturity is 18. If a person, after he or she reaches that age, chooses to operate outside the mainstream of society and is convicted of killing a man who maintains the law of the land, you cannot justify commutation. You are doing an injustice to those who live within the law and to those who maintain it. A killer has no right to inflict his presence on this society after he has been sentenced to death for murder. For if he lives, he is living proof that society has no desire to protect itself or protect those hired to protect lives and property. To let him live makes a mockery of the law, makes a mockery of those who enacted the legislation and of those who elected the representatives who passed the legislation.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Adrien Lambert (Bellechasse): Mr. Speaker, I am deeply moved as I participate in the debate on Bill C-2 calling for a five-year extension of the abolishment of capital punishment. The matter is one of great import, since it relates directly to man's greatest possession, which is life.

Because of the sacred nature of human life I believe legislation should reflect this in reality by applying the maximum penalty to those who deliberately violate the principle.

We live within a society and I believe we all agree that this society should reach a very high level of civilization and that our laws should contribute to achieving this goal

by ensuring a maximum of security for members of this society. People are entitled to normal protection, and it is up to the government to provide it. That is why we should pass legislation to ensure public security and also to punish those who jeopardize the liberty and security of others.

The many escapes from our prisons and penitentiaries do not foster a feeling of security among the people. It is the government's responsibility, therefore, to ensure the security of members of society by enacting legislation to increase their feeling of being protected against law-breakers.

We live in a century when each and every one, in his own way, proclaims the right to be free. Freedom is not only for the individual, but for his neighbours. Therefore, whoever takes his neighbour's life harms the other in his life, in his right to live. And in our modern society the tendency is to treat criminals just as though taking one's neighbour's life were not a crime.

When we consult our voters on the matter of the abolition of capital punishment, we see that many of them are worried about the rise in crime in this country, of mass escapes, of parole and sentences that are commuted by the executive, all of which goes to reduce the public's confidence in the judiciary.

The government must therefore provide better protection, so as to create a feeling of security among the population, a feeling which is becoming dangerously rare nowadays. Every day in newspapers and magazines and on radio and television, people are being literally flooded with news of the possible adoption of all kinds of measures to make things easier for criminals, and they might well wonder if criminals really exist, and if society is really protected.

Young people should be better informed about what the police force really is; they should be taught that a policeman is first and foremost the citizens' friend and not a scourge, that his job is sometimes unrewarding, that it is his duty to ensure individual safety, to which end he must enforce the law.

When the Criminal Code was amended to abolish the death penalty, with two exceptions, it was for a trial period of five years. During the trial period, a number of policemen and prison guards were murdered, and certain people were accused, given a fair trial, found guilty and condemned to death. However, how many of those found guilty have been executed?

I have here a reply that was given in the House to a question that I had put on the order paper, which shows clearly that the executive changes sentences passed by the judiciary, rendering inoperative a law whose implementation we are now asked to extend for another five-year period.

The question and the answer can be found in *Hansard* for March 6, 1972, page 535. I quote:

● (1730)

1. (a) How many death sentences were imposed by the courts from January 1, 1967 to December 15, 1971 (b) how many sentences were executed (c) how many sentences were commuted?

[Mr. Lambert (Bellechasse).]

Here is the answer from the hon. Jean-Pierre Goyer (Solicitor General):

1. (a) Thirteen, (b) None; (c) Eleven.

So, 11 times out of 13 the government changed the sentence of the court. Here is the second part of the question:

2. For what crime was each of these persons sentenced to death?

Here is the answer:

2. Murder, in each case.

Here is the third part of the question:

3. (a) What are the names of those sentenced to death who have received a commutation . . .

Then follows the list and I will not bother to enumerate those persons. The dates of commutations through orders in council are the following: January 4 1968, eight orders in council allowing eight commutations of sentences. The cabinet is proceeding in series. The three others bear different dates.

Canadian have the right to expect that the law be obeyed and that the crime be punished according to penalties provided in the law.

Any normal human being is upset when he hears of a murder, that the life of a human being has been taken out of malice. This is why I understand the feeling of horror that moves the majority of Canadians to want that a crime as horrifying as capital murder be punished.

I understand that the human justice process is not absolute and that we could always make a mistake. This is not only the case for charges under the Criminal Code but also under the Civil Code, yet they continue to apply penalties provided under the Civil Code.

After a just trial, Mr. Speaker, when all known means to find the truth have been used and an accused has been convicted of having taken the life of his fellow citizen, is there really a compensation measure more just than capital punishment?

Let us take as an example the case of an individual who deliberately makes a device to explode a bomb in a public place, and by the way causes the death of one or several persons and then, it is demonstrated beyond all doubt that he is the criminal. Can we, in all conscience, allow this crime to go unpunished? What would then say the children of a mother who would find death in such circumstances?

I feel that it is just that capital punishement be maintained in the case of the murder of a policemen or a prison guard. The life of a mother or a father should be just as valuable because, as far as the mother is concerned, she is the gardien and the educator of her children, and as far as the father is concerned, no matter what his profession, he is the bread winner for his wife and children.

Why one law for the rich and another for the poor? Is the life of the bank clerk, the working man, the road employee not as useful to his family?

Let us be logical and to be so, the partisans of the abolition of the death penalty should avoid suggesting that some reservations should be made. They should demand the abolition of the death penalty for treachery and crimes committed under the National Defence Act.

Those crimes are nevertheless subject to the death penalty, because they are crimes against the state which is lifeless. If it is fair to protect state representatives, why not protect the life of people who make up the state?

Some hon. members who approve the abolition of the death penalty have referred to judicial errors. However, we all know that hanging applies to capital murders only, when there is no shadow of a doubt that the accused is really guilty.

If the minister is convinced that the maintenance of the death penalty for the murder of police officers and prison guards will have a deterrent effect, that penalty should logically have a deterrent effect in other cases.

I am convinced that it is essential to protect the life of police officers and prison guards by maintaining the death penalty. Therefore, it would be proper to protect the life of young girls threatened with murder and assault. Is there a difference between the murder of a police officer during a bank hold-up and that of a young girl victim of a rape by a sexual deviate?

Who was not astounded and indignant when we learned last fall the murder of two gamekeepers in Quebec? I had known one of them for many years: he was a model employee and father and a honest citizen.

Of what right have the killers of these people availed themselves to act this way? Even though we live in a society which prides itself for being progressive, can we really let such crimes go unpunished? Would that really be showing advanced civic-mindedness to leave injustice and violence without any punishment?

The state is in some way responsible for the alarming crime increase in Canada by letting movie theatres and television stations show several times a day to millions of easily influenced people pictures in which men and women are being stabbed, shot, strangled, poisoned, drowned or handled roughly in all sorts of manners. The state should be concerned with the sacred nature of life and deal severely with the lack of respect for life shown by telecasts and movies that have such an influence on young Canadians.

As representatives of the people in this house, we have some very serious responsibilities and must discharge them to the best of our judgment. I for one, that is what I want to do, even if I do respect the opinions of my colleagues. However, I must also take into account the will of the majority of the people I represent.

We must not only have penal laws, but must above all create a social climate favoring a better understanding of the individuals that make up society. There should be more justice in the sharing of ressources, in order to allow each and everyone to satisfy his vital needs.

Finally, it would also be desirable to emphasize our rehabilitation programs for inmates. The entire society should also be better disposed towards them, once they are released, so they do not feel rejected, and such an attitude would help prevent relapse.

I think also that our laws should be more generous in the matter of compensation for the victims of those who have broken the law, which, in my opinion, would be a proof of generosity; it would contribute towards making the masses more aware of the need for doing more in the way of rehabilitating those who have had the misfortune of erring.

We wonder whether the death penalty is a deterrent; yet, I am convinced that the amendment to the Criminal Code authorizing the use of the breathlizer gave good results. In fact, Mr. Speaker, the holder of a driving licence who wants to keep it has had to be much more careful about the use of alcoholic beverages in the last few years than previously, which proves that the measure has had the expected results, that is, that people are more careful.

The same reasoning can apply with regard to the demerit point system adopted in Quebec. I have repeatedly noticed that drivers are more careful and respectful of the law. That is why I see preventive measures in those sanctions.

As I see it, the best solution to the problem of capital punishment, the most democratic one, would be to hold a referendum. I hope some day the government will take the necessary steps to introduce a legislation authorizing one. We would then have the population participate in a decision in which it is interested.

As for now, Mr. Speaker, I have to make my own decision as a member of this House. I will do so very freely and will, quite objectively, vote against Bill C-2.

● (1740)

[*English*]

Mr. John A. Fraser (Vancouver South): Mr. Speaker, I want to say, through you, to all hon. members that the subject which we are debating has been one that has caused me a great amount of concern for a number of years. I think I speak for all other hon. members when I say that the anguish with which I have at times in the past approached this question convinces me that the vast majority of my fellow men, who are probably rational and sensitive creatures, have also approached the question with a certain degree of anguish. No matter what I am going to say in the next few minutes, I want to assure all hon. members that I commence these remarks with the profoundest regard for the position taken by other members in this House, even though I may differ with some of them.

I believe the first point that I must make is that this is not an abolition bill. This bill is a bill to hang the murderers of policemen and prison guards. It may at best be called a partial abolition bill, but it is not an abolition bill. I think this point has to be made for two reasons. I have received a great deal of correspondence on the whole subject. Those who are for abolition have written to me in the belief that this is an abolition bill. I notice—I must be fair about this—that I have had fewer of those letters lately.

It is because so many people have gone into this whole issue over the last year on the assumption that the issue would be abolition or retention that there is still in the country a degree of confusion. It is hard to disagree with my position that this is not an abolition bill. If that is so, then one must ask oneself where is the logic in advancing the arguments that have been most eloquently advanced

in favour of the abolition of capital punishment, and yet not apply them in the two areas where the bill still provides for the taking of the life of the transgressor.

The other evening, on Monday night, the Minister of Justice (Mr. Lang) spoke in this debate. No member who was in this House could doubt the sincerity of his remarks, least of all myself. But when he finished I asked, through you, Mr. Speaker, whether he would allow a question, to which he graciously consented. For the record in this debate and in this speech of mine, I want to read an extract from *Hansard* for May 14, page 3739. This was my question:

> Mr. Speaker, I apologize to the minister because I did not hear all of his speech, but I wonder if he would be good enough to answer a question which I think troubles a number of us who are very sympathetic to much of what he has said. If one is advocating the abolition of capital punishment on the grounds that the minister has stated—and other hon. members have spoken along the same line—where is the logical distinction between hanging a frightened man who runs out of a bank and shoots a policeman, and not hanging a man who shoots the prime minister, or who may engage in the diabolical business of killing people for the underground.

I meant "underworld".

> I would be interested to hear the minister's views on this particular problem.

The minister answered in this way:

> Mr. Speaker, I very much appreciate that question. I think the hon. member for Vancouver South (Mr. Fraser) will appreciate from my remarks that I did not attempt to distinguish in any logical way why one particular type of murder rather than another should have capital punishment attached to it.

I quote that because what else could the Minister of Justice say? There is, in my view, no logical distinction. It has been said: "Well, the bill has to be the way it is, otherwise we would never get it through the House of Commons; we would have to continue the law as it became at the end of the year and have capital and non-capital offences". I am led to understand that this was the same argument that was put up five years ago. I was not a member five years ago, but I did wonder then at the logic of it. I have not been persuaded in the intervening years that what I regarded as illogical a few years ago has become logical with the passage of time.

I listened with great interest this afternoon to the remarks of the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau). He advanced, again in an eloquent way, his personal feelings about the death penalty. I respect what the Prime Minister said. He takes the view—many people take this view—that to have the death penalty is, in itself, something that ought to be abhorrent to a sensitive and civilized community. I know there are others who do not agree, but I respect that position. If that is so, how then can one escape the logical next step, which is that it is just as wrong on a moral basis—this was really the basis on which the Prime Minister put his remarks—to hang a frightened young man who shoots a police officer as he runs out of a bank? In case anybody misunderstand me, I do not justify what the boy does because he is frightened, but there is such inconsistency in hanging that young man and not hanging people who have done and are likely to do more diabolical things that I think it confounds the public's acceptance of the basic logic of what we are doing.

[Mr. Fraser.]

• (1750)

I have heard hon. members here say that it is proven that the death penalty is not a deterrent. I have heard other hon. members say they believe it is. I am more inclined to believe that statistics prove nothing about capital punishment. An intelligent editorial in *The Globe and Mail* of November 30, 1970 headed in those exact words "Statistics prove nothing about capital punishment", pretty well sums up my own feeling. In that article there is a reference to a study by the University of Toronto Centre of Criminology. Let me quote from the editorial:

> The study, written by Barbara Schloss and N. A. Giesbrecht, concentrates on the 10-year period ending with 1970 and concludes that it is impossible to tell at this stage what effect abolition of the death penalty for murderers of civilians has had. It also concludes that it is impossible to define trends in the murder of police officers and prison guards.

The study may be right, but I have not seen anything that convinces me there is statistical proof for the proposition that capital punishment is a deterrent or vice versa. I happen to think it is a deterrent but I concede as I say that I cannot find proof one way or the other. It may well be that what is a deterrent for me may not be a deterrent for somebody else. I also note that capital punishment may not be a deterrent to all people in every circumstance. If we accept the argument put forward by those who have been speaking in favour of the bill, that deterrent is not a reason for applying capital punishment because capital punishment is not a deterrent in itself. Again, I ask where is the logic for hanging the boy who runs out of a bank and shoots a policeman?

We think of the killing of a prison guard as something which must be heinous, and perhaps planned. The person is waiting at the corner to throttle the guard. I put it to you that it could easily happen under very different circumstances. It could happen in a prison riot where, in the panic and confusion of the moment, some foolish man hits a guard too hard across the back of the head, not meaning to kill him. Perhaps he meant only to grip him or tie him up, but still death can result. The proponents of this bill would then hang that person. Again, I do not see the logic of this, because if hanging is no deterrent, and this is what is said, why hang him?

There is a basic problem when you put before the people a law which does not make sense, and I think I have alluded to that. When you put before the public a law which is intricately linked with other laws which, taken altogether, govern an area of activity, and taken together do not seem to make very much sense, then you begin to get into real trouble because you begin to become incredible as a law maker. The public do not take very long to decide that.

When I say what I am going to say now, I mean no personal slight to the Solicitor General (Mr. Allmand) who has a very difficult task on his hands and who is doing everything he can to deal with a very difficult situation. In view of the remarks made last night by hon. members during another debate, I certainly think that most of us wish him well and want to help him in this job. So, this is no criticism of the Solicitor General. The fact of the matter is that these collateral laws controlling bail reform, parole, tickets of leave and the whole question of

what is and what is not life imprisonment, are laws that do not enjoy the confidence of the public at this time. It is because of this that the illogicality of the bill before us becomes, in my view, even more alarming.

Mr. Speaker: I am going to be a few more minutes and I wonder if I might call it six o'clock.

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Six o'clock.

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

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Laniel): Was that the request of the hon. member, that we call it six o'clock, or did he want to go beyond six o'clock?

Mr. Fraser: I prefer to go beyond and finish, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Bell: How much time have you left?

Mr. Fraser: A couple of minutes, I think.

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): We would agree to that.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Laniel): Is it agreed that I will not see the clock in order to allow the hon. member to complete his remarks?

Mr. Foster: Could the hon. member indicate how long he is going to be?

Mr. Fraser: Through you, Mr. Speaker, I would suggest another five or six minutes.

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Mr. Fraser: Through you, Mr. Speaker, I extend my appreciation to my colleagues in the House for allowing me to continue.

Because of the basic illogicality of this bill, I now have to ask myself what I am to do as a member here voting according to his conscience. I do not believe that voting according to your conscience means that you should wander into the House of Commons, ignore everything you have seen, heard or been told by other people and suddenly apply some kind of star-struck wisdom from on high. I think what we do in this House when we vote according to our conscience depends to a great degree on how much attention we pay to what we hear outside this House. In many ridings the indication is that the majority of our citizens are in favour of retention of capital punishment. I am not certain what the feeling is in my own riding, although I have received 4,000 answers but I have not gone through them all. The feeling is probably very much along that line.

On the other hand, I probably have had the same experience as other members who have received letters in equal numbers from those who are for capital punishment and those who are against. Those letters have contained quotes from Scriptures and pleas to the effect that I vote according to my conscience. That is the dilemma most of us face.

I have for many years as a practicing lawyer advocated the complete abolition of capital punishment on the ground that, because our great system is made up of human beings and is by definition fallible, there is always the potential for error. There are other arguments for the abolition of capital punishment, but in my view at least that argument is completely irrefutable on any basis. We know that even if our Canadian judicial system has never made a mistake yet, it undoubtedly will because anything which is subject to human frailty will err sooner or later. So I would prefer that capital punishment be abolished entirely.

• (1800)

During the campaign I took the position when asked about this issue that I would prefer the abolition of capital punishment, but that I was not prepared to vote for an extension of the present system because I thought the law was basically illogical and other legislative areas were showing in practice to be deficient in protecting the security of the public. I recognize that in taking the position I do I may return to my riding pleasing no one. There must come a time I suppose in any member's parliamentary life when he must take that position whether he does it wittingly or unwittingly. Perhaps it is just as well that I am forced to take that position early in my parliamentary life.

I wish to close on this note. I would ask all hon. members to think carefully about how illogical this bill is, and to ask themselves why there is not something more logical presented to us. The government of the day has the power to place in front of Parliament a bill that would take these things into account. I must say it seems to me that in the early stages when this bill was being put together somebody from the government side did not adequately consider just what was being placed before the House. I do not think I have an obligation, no matter what my personal preference may be, to vote in favour of legislation which I believe to be fundamentally unsound and which does not appear to be logical, which draws distinctions which do not support morality but rather confound it.

The Deputy Speaker (Mr. Laniel): Order. It being six o'clock this House stands adjourned until tomorrow at two o'clock.

At 6.06 p.m. the House adjourned, without question put, pursuant to Standing Order.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Thursday, May 17, 1973

The House met at 2 p.m.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[*Translation*]

COMMITTEES OF THE HOUSE

JUSTICE AND LEGAL AFFAIRS

Third report of Standing Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs—Mrs. Morin (Louis-Hébert).

HEALTH, WELFARE AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS

Second report of Standing Committee on Health, Welfare and Social Affairs—Mr. Isabelle (Hull).

[*Editors Note: For text of above reports, see today's Votes and Proceedings.*]

[*English*]

Mr. Nielsen: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. We on this side would be prepared to grant unanimous consent to a motion for concurrence in the third report of the Standing Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs later this day, if that is the wish of the House.

* * *

MINERALS

TABLING OF DOCUMENT "MINERAL POLICY OBJECTIVES FOR CANADA"—STATEMENT BY MINISTER

Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): Mr. Speaker, under Standing Order 41(2) I should like to lay on the table copies in both official languages of a document entitled "Mineral Policy Objectives for Canada".

A number of meetings have been held between the ministers responsible at the federal and provincial levels for mineral policy, culminating in a meeting in Ottawa on April 13 at which two decisions were concluded with respect to mineral policy in Canada.

The first of these has been the decision to set up a formal consultative and co-ordination mechanism in order to achieve more effective co-ordination in mineral policy development. Such a mechanism is essential for the formulation of mineral policies which are national in scope. While noting that differences among governments on mineral policy matters remain, the ministers agreed that the real significance of their discussions is the beginning of new relationships among governments in the formulation of mineral policy for Canadians.

The meeting also reached agreement on the publication of a document entitled "Mineral Policy Objectives for Canada", which I am tabling today.

The document contains a more detailed description of the goal and objectives for mineral policies outlined in April, and is intended to form a background for further discussions by ministers. While this document relates to most minerals, it does not apply to fossil fuels. These, along with other energy commodities, will be the subject of extensive scrutiny within the context of papers reviewing Canada's energy policies which I will present to parliament in the near future.

Within the context of closer co-operation which is sought at the governmental level, governments must take into account each other's jurisdiction in the translation of objectives into policies. The document is not intended to state or identify policies by which any government would achieve such objectives, nor does it attempt to define or specify the particular role of any one government. However, it is a first phase in the process of intergovernmental co-operation for arriving at a mineral policy for Canada. None the less, governments will choose from a wide variety of strategies, programs, methods and techniques to achieve their objectives. References in the document tabled to possible strategies are therefore included only by way of example.

The publication of this document should be seen as a first step toward the formulation and implementation of comprehensive mineral policies for Canada.

The nation's mineral endowment can support an expanding level of output and thereby continue to contribute substantially to the economic and material well-being of future generations.

However, Canada does not have a monopoly on minerals. Indeed, Canada faces major challenges to maintain an internationally competitive sector because of increasing competition from other resource-producing nations and the efforts of larger industrial nations to secure greater long-term advantage from resource exporters.

Ministers want to explore how mineral development for both domestic needs and exports can be best undertaken to optimize long-term contribution to development throughout Canada. Such development must be sensitive to long-term economic needs, undesirable environmental impacts, the viability of communities dependent on mineral production and fabrication and more precise delineation of the long-term economic potential of our mineral endowment and the ways it can be utilized.

I urge Canadians interested in our resource development to study the contents of this document as the basis for informed discussion of those policies which will govern the important mineral sector of our economy.

Mr. Baldwin: I rise on a point of order, Mr. Speaker. We did not receive copies of the statement the minister has made in purporting to table a document under Standing Order 41(2). I suggest it is quite improper for the minister to make a statement without having given notice to the other parties in the House. This is a travesty of the rules. If the document does not contain anything more than the drivel to which we have just been treated by the minister it is not of much value, but I say this is an abuse of the rules and an indication of the manner in which this minister conducts himself. We take the strongest possible exception to this conduct.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Macdonald (Rosedale): Mr. Speaker, on the same point of order, let me say it is my information that copies of the mineral objectives document, plus my statement, were distributed to opposition offices at one o'clock today. I can assume responsibility for delivering the document, but I cannot assume responsibility for its distribution after that.

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, I rise on the same point of order. May I also say in response to the statement just made by the minister that the material he says was delivered to the opposition offices did not reach us either. The other point I wish to make is that the minister began his remarks by saying that he was rising under Standing Order 41(2). This meant that he was about to table something and of course we all relaxed. But he then proceeded to make a statement. Therefore I suggest, Mr. Speaker, it should now be agreed that at the end of the question period we revert to motions so that the spokesmen for the opposition parties, once they have seen this statement, may have an opportunity to make their comments.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Gérard Laprise (Abitibi): Mr. Speaker, for our part, we know nothing about the document the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources (Mr. Macdonald) says he had distributed. I believe it is out of order, according to Standing Order 41 (2), to make such statements. That is why I agree with the previous speaker that as soon as we have read the document we would like to be able to comment on it.

[*English*]

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The point raised by the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre is a very interesting and intriguing one. My understanding, when the minister rose and referred to Standing Order 41(2), was that he intended to table a document, which he did quite properly. At the same time, while he had the floor he made a statement under the Standing Order which normally calls for statements to be made by members representing the parties in opposition. I can understand that hon. members, thinking that the minister had the floor only for the purpose of tabling a document, were not taking into account that perhaps they ought to prepare at that moment to make statements in reply to the statement made by the minister.

At the same time, the Chair must take into account that in so far as it can judge there is no obligation under the terms of the Standing Order for a minister making a statement under the Standing Order to provide copies or even give advance notice to parties in opposition that he proposes to make a statement on motions. I appreciate that the practice has developed over the months or years that ministers normally give advance notice which gives an opportunity to opposition parties to prepare statements or give some thought to the matter that the minister intends to bring to the attention of the House under the terms of the Standing Order.

The hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre suggested that at the end of the question period we return to this item for the purpose of allowing members to make statements. I do not think the Chair can do that on its own initiative. I would think there would have to be unanimous consent at that moment to return to the business of Motions, for the purpose of allowing opposition members to do this. There may be a disposition on the part of hon. members to follow this course. Of course it would be the ideal solution to the problem raised by the hon. member for Peace River. I would be pleased to hear the views of hon. members on whether there will be consent for the purpose of returning to motions to hear these statements under the Standing Order from parties in opposition.

Mr. Baldwin: Mr. Speaker, presumably we will be occupied during the course of the next 40 or 50 minutes. Possibly the House leaders could have their usual consultations in an effort to arrive at an arrangement which we could communicate to Your Honour concerning a time when we might have an opportunity to reply, assuming that it was in fact the intention of the minister to make a statement on motions, which he certainly did not indicate. We might have that consultation and communicate our views to Your Honour.

Mr. Speaker: There appears to be agreement on this very reasonable approach to the difficulty. I am sure it should be possible to resolve it easily on the basis of consultation.

* * *

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

KILLING OF TWO CANADIAN GIRLS WHILE VISITING VICTORIA FALLS, RHODESIA—STATEMENT BY MINISTER

Mr. A. D. Hales (Wellington): Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order simply to ask the Secretary of State for External Affairs whether he intends to make a statement concerning the incident in which two Canadian girls were killed while visiting Victoria Falls.

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, I have further information. It would be a very brief statement. If the House is agreeable I will make a very brief statement now.

We have had further contact with our High Commissioner in Lusaka and have instructed our First Secretary, Mr. Leith, to proceed to the area of the tragedy in which two Canadian girls lost their lives with a view to doing whatever is possible to aid in recovering the body that is still missing—my information is that the body of Miss Sinclair has now been recovered—and to help in whatever funeral arrangements the next of kin desire. Mr. Leith has already left on this mission. Our High Commissioner has made contact with the Zambian authorities, and I understand he has been given assurance that there will be no interference in any retrieval operations. Furthermore, Mr. Broadbridge has also been in touch with the Zambian authorities to obtain any necessary assurances that a satisfactory investigation of the incident will be carried out.

* * *

[*Translation*]

FEDERAL-PROVINCIAL AFFAIRS

TABLING OF AGENDA FOR FORTHCOMING CONFERENCE OF FIRST MINISTERS

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, under Standing Order 41 (2), I should like to table, in both official languages, the agenda for the conference of first ministers to be held from May 23 to 25.

[*English*]

I do not have a statement to make, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Stanfield: But you will have some questions to answer.

* * *

MULTICULTURALISM

TABLING OF DOCUMENTS RESPECTING PROGRAMS AND TERMS OF REFERENCE AND MEMBERSHIP OF CONSULTATIVE COUNCIL—STATEMENT BY MINISTER

Hon. Stanley Haidasz (Minister of State): Mr. Speaker, I would like to make a statement on motions and table documents in both official languages under Standing Order 41(2).

[*Translation*]

On October 8, 1971, the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) recognized the importance of the Canadian heritage by announcing the government policy on multiculturalism.

On that occasion, he said, and I quote:

> . . . a policy of multiculturalism within a bilingual framework is basically the conscious support of individual freedom of choice. We are free to be ourselves. But this cannot be left to chance. It must be fostered and pursued actively. If freedom of choice is in danger for some ethnic groups, it is in danger for all. It is the policy of this government to eliminate any such danger and to "safeguard" this freedom.

Mr. Speaker, the Canadian culture and identity are the fruit of diversity. Our literature, our art, our music, owe their wealth to that cultural heritage which we accept and develop.

Multiculturalism

Through our multiculturalism programs, we encourage an awareness of the cultural diversity that is characteristic of the Canadian society, while giving birth to a feeling of pride. We encourage Canadians, as groups and as individuals, to respect their own identity within the large Canadian family.

As Minister of State in charge of multiculturalism, I am happy to announce the expansion in some cases, and the implementation in others, of seven important programs whose purpose is to encourage the multicultural activities of Canadians.

[*English*]

There is an urgent need to establish a continuing and active communication with our ethno-cultural groups. To meet this need I would like to announce the formation of the Canadian Consultative Council on Multiculturalism. This council is representative of Canadians from every region of the country, and it is with pleasure that I table the terms of reference and the list of the first appointments today in both official languages according to Standing Order 41(2).

● (1420)

The new multicultural programs will entail an increase from the 1973-74 level of about $4 million to over $10 million. These increased funds for expanded and new programs reflect the government's commitment to the concept of multiculturalism.

As a first step we are enlarging the multicultural grants program which is the cornerstone of our policy of creating an awareness of Canada's multicultural diversity. Through this program, implemented in January, 1972, more than 300 ethno-cultural groups have received grants to undertake cultural and social projects. The response to this program has exceeded our expectations, and so a further $1,100,000 will be added to the budgetary estimates of this fiscal year to enable a greater number of groups to receive assistance for a wider variety of projects.

The second program expansion involves an increased allocation of funds from $154,000 to $654,000 during 1973-74 for the multicultural centres program. Grants have been made to such centres during the past year, and there are an additional 20 under way. These centres provide a vehicle for intercultural understanding throughout the country.

We are establishing a Canadian identities program. This is a major innovation designed to increase an awareness on the part of all Canadians of the cultural richness within our society. Expenditures under the Canadian identities program will be $3,823,500 in this fiscal year, of which $2,314,000 is already included in the estimates.

Assistance will be given to projects in the areas of films, radio and television broadcasting, folk festivals, theatre, literature, ethnic crafts and cuisine, travelling exhibits sponsored by the National Museum of Man, and the collection and exhibit programs of the Public Archives. A further $425,000 is provided for a multicultural studies program to encourage research in ethnic studies.

The ethnic press has a unique and very special role in Canadian life as a forum of discussion of community activities, and in many cases as the sole source of informa-

tion for many recent and elderly immigrants. The government will make greater use of the ethnic press this year to supply these various multicultural groups with helpful information on such things as pensions, immigration regulations, consumer protection, labour regulations, and National Housing Act provisions among other items.

The government will call its first national multicultural conference of ethno-cultural groups this fall with the assistance of the new Canadian Consultative Council on Multiculturalism.

To help young Canadians learn and retain their ancestral languages the federal government, in consultation with the provinces, has undertaken to provide language teaching aids. Some provinces and ethnic groups have expressed a concern that such aids are now available only from non-Canadian sources and are not sufficiently oriented to our nation's experience. Research on the role of ancestral languages in the retention of a culture is currently under way. This will be extended to include more groups and rural areas. However, the need for Canadian teaching material is already quite evident, and funds have been allocated for the provision of these teaching aids in 1973-74.

In dedicating ourselves to these innovative programs we are doing so convinced that cultural diversity is a positive asset to society. We are helping to provide a climate in which immigrants can immediately enter the mainstream of Canadian life, a climate in which young people can grow with a better understanding of and pride in their ethnic origins, a climate in which all ethno-cultural groups can develop. This policy leads to greater appreciation of the contributions that all our ethno-cultural groups are making to our national identity and, through this appreciation, to a greater appreciation and love for the colourful diversity so unique to our country.

Mr. Paul Yewchuk (Athabasca): Mr. Speaker, today we have witnessed the scorn in which this government holds the opposition.

Mr. Trudeau: Not the government, the people.

Mr. Yewchuk: Two statements were made by ministers and both failed to provide information to the opposition parties in time for them to prepare some sort of reasonable reply. I personally was made aware of this document only about two minutes before the House met.

Some hon. Members: Shame!

An hon. Member: Arrogant!

Mr. Yewchuk: If the minister was really interested in a proper discussion of this subject he should have given the statement to us at least a day in advance.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Bell: Same old bunch!

An hon. Member: No humility!

Mr. Yewchuk: The minister patted himself on the back very vigorously today, as on previous occasions, in an effort to create the impression it was he and the government who invented the idea of multiculturalism in this country. I point out that in 1969, when the languages bill was before the committee and before the House, this party put forward amendments that clearly outlined our support of the principle of multiculturalism and our desire to do something positive to promote the idea.

[Mr. Haidasz.]

In October, 1971, the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) announced that the government had officially accepted the policy of multiculturalism. Of course we welcomed that announcement and I welcome the steps being taken today to promote the concept of multiculturalism. I think we all agree there is a positive value in the contribution made to the Canadian cultural fabric by groups other than the two official language groups. As a matter of fact, if we are concerned about maintaining an identity for this country different from that of the country south of the border, our only hope may lie in preserving and encouraging the growth of these various cultures within our own borders.

I was very disappointed at the lack of an explanation in the minister's statement of how the policy will be implemented. No provision is being made for the consultative council to have a real input into the policy-making process in regard to multiculturalism. As I interpret the document, the policy will be handed down from on high and the function of the council will be to advise the government on how to implement it. I think that is approaching the problem from the wrong direction; there has to be an input from the ethnic groups themselves in the area of policy development as well as in the implementation of policy.

I am somewhat concerned about the method used to select members of the consultative council. From my travels across the country and discussions with representatives of the various ethnic groups I know that there has been virtually no or very little consultation with them on how the members of the council should be selected, and certainly there was no opportunity for ethnic groups to elect members to this council. The appointments were made by the minister. I am not making accusations of any kind, but it does leave the whole thing in question because of the lack of democracy in the way the council was set up.

I was also extremely distressed that no reference was made to changes in the policies regarding the mass media, particularly the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation. This applies particularly to the present policy of television and radio stations prohibiting the use of third languages.

● (1430)

If we are serious about promoting the concept of multiculturalism and sensitizing the Canadian public to the concept so that it can be fully understood and therefore more fully implemented, it is obvious we have to use all means at our disposal to make this sensitization possible. It seems to me that use of the mass media is the obvious choice. No reference whatsoever has been made to this, and I am very disappointed.

On the positive side, I am pleased to see efforts are being made to provide teaching aids in an attempt to provide a greater degree of third language education. I think that is a very useful step. I should like to see some change in the teaching of Canadian history in schools. At present, due credit is not given to the third force and its contribution to the development of this country. I think the history books

being used in our schools are defective and need to be improved.

If I may touch the conscience of the National Film Board a little, I hope the minister will ensure more open consultation with ethnic groups involved when films are being made about them. There have been examples of films produced in the past when consultations with the particular group about which the film was made were not held, with the result that the films produced were found to be repugnant to the particular groups concerned. I think that is a shameful situation and should not be allowed to recur under any circumstances.

I should like to comment also on the communications portion of the minister's statement. It is indicated that the government will purchase space in various newspapers to publish details of various events and programs in which the government is participating. I think there is a better way of doing this than simply by buying space in this way. I think we could go much further than that in the provision of news to the ethnic press. I suggest that an ethnic press service bureau be established, funded by the department, which would be staffed with a press gallery member whose function it would be to gather news for the ethnic press of this country. The staff associated with him would make this news presentable in such a form that it could be used by the ethnic press.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, I want to chastise the minister for having recently engaged in a massive propaganda campaign promoting himself, the Prime Minister and his party.

An hon. Member: At the taxpayers' expense.

Mr. Yewchuk: At the taxpayers' expense—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I have to call the hon. member to order. I think it is a well established practice that statements made by members on behalf of opposition parties in response to statements on motions should refer specifically or allude to the contents of the statement itself. I think this is not the occasion for general debate, and I hope that the hon. member, in bringing his remarks to a conclusion, will limit his remarks to the statement made to the House.

Mr. Yewchuk: Mr. Speaker, my comments, with all due respect, are directly related to the comments of the minister responsible for multiculturalism who suggested that he would be buying more space in the ethnic newspapers. I am simply saying that we do not want a repetition of the kind of campaign that was waged through the purchase of such space, and I hope the reference in his statement does not mean that there will be more of the same kind of political propaganda.

Mr. Haidasz: On a question of privilege, Mr. Speaker, I did not want to interrupt the hon. member for Athabasca while he was making his remarks, but I just want to tell him that I did issue instructions to my officials to send as soon as possible copies of the document on the table in both official languages. I also wish to inform him that I only received the final version of my statement just ten minutes before the House convened.

Multiculturalism

Mr. David Orlikow (Winnipeg North): Mr. Speaker, the announcement that the government is prepared to increase the support it will give to the various ethnic communities in this country will, I am certain, be supported by all parties and by all members in the House. In making his statement the minister reminded us that the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) first made an announcement about this matter in October of 1971. There has been much too long a period between the announcement by the Prime Minister and any implementation.

We are not now dealing with the kind of situation the government had to face at the beginning of the LIP or OFY program when organizations had to be established. The ethnic organizations are alive and well and flourishing in all parts of Canada. Until now, however, there has been very little action, and I want to say to the minister that I consider what we have had until now as nothing but the worst kind of tokenism. There is no reason why it took until now to announce that the government was prepared to spend the money that the minister announced today. The ethnic organizations could have spent, from the beginning, ten times what the government has announced it is prepared to put into the program today. This program should have started a year and a half or more ago.

I am disturbed by the fact that, certainly as of several weeks ago, there had been no meaningful discussions with the provinces. A number of provinces have already begun implementing programs to support ethnic organizations in the fields of language, music, dancing and art. It seems to me ridiculous that there is a distinct possibility of duplication of the work being funded by the provinces and that being funded by the federal government. I cannot understand why there has not been not only discussion in a formal way but the closest kind of consultation in planning so that federal and provincial programs would fit together rather than being developed in completely separate ways.

The last point I want to make is that I am not satisfied with the way in which, until now, programs chosen to be funded have been picked. So far as I can find out there have been no real, meaningful consultations with the various ethnic communities. The criteria under which these programs have been funded until now have not been adequately explained to those communities in such a way that they can understand why some ethnic groups have had projects financed while others that seemed to be equally deserving have been passed over. They have been told they have been passed over without being told when or if they will be getting funds.

If the announcement today by the minister that the consultative committee has been chosen means that there will be real liaison between the government department, which in my view until now has been choosing projects at best in a very bureaucratic fashion, and the ethnic communities and the people they represent, if the committee will in fact form a bridge between the government and the ethnic communities, then a real step forward will have been taken. If not, I predict that the minister will be hearing an increasing volume of criticism about the way in which the government has until now been choosing projects.

Mineral Policy Objectives

[*Translation*]

Mr. René Matte (Champlain): Mr. Speaker, first I must say how surprised I am to see that we are given press releases and all kinds of information concerning the minister's statement, but not the statement itself. There seems to be a mix-up.

Mr. Speaker, we approve all regulations, legislation and decisions promoting the fulfilment of our Canadian identity. We would like to support anything that can contribute to enrich us further from a cultural, artistic and economic point of view. We must simply rejoice at this.

● (1440)

However, we are raising some questions, especially about the multiculturalism program which is obviously important. Indeed, knowing the difficulties which French Canadians among others have been tackling for over 30 years in connection with biculturalism and bilingualism, we are entitled to ask ourselves whether once again millions of dollars are not spent as window-dressing for New Canadians in order to gain their votes. We then have only one wish to express and it is that New Canadians will not have to experience the same delays, the same injustice and the same disadvantages as French Canadians did for many years.

[*English*]

Mr. Baldwin: Mr. Speaker, I hope there might be a willingness now on the part of all parties to permit the representatives of the opposition parties to reply to the very interesting statement made by the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources (Mr. Macdonald).

Mr. Speaker: Is this agreed?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

* * *

MINERALS

TABLING OF DOCUMENT "MINERAL POLICY OBJECTIVES FOR CANADA"—STATEMENT BY MINISTER

Hon. Alvin Hamilton (Qu'Appelle-Moose Mountain): Mr. Speaker, having regard to the time I have had to look at the press statement from the minister and the mineral policy objectives set out in the little booklet I have just received, I am just going to make three comments.

The first is that the emphasis of the news release and the booklet is that the ten provincial governments and the territorial governments are going to join with the federal government and consult with each other on joint mineral policies. Somehow, I seem to remember that I have heard this music before.

In 1961 the government of that day set up in conjunction with the provinces, and with the same objectives, the Canadian Council of Resource Ministers through which the 11 governments as equals would sit down together and deal with the problems of mineral development. There was a secretariat independent of the federal and provincial governments to work out mutual policies. Now, 12 years later, this government has awakened to the fact that this was a good idea.

[Mr. Orlikow.]

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Hamilton (Qu'Appelle-Moose Mountain): In the setting up of the Canadian Council of Resource Ministers in 1959, 1960 and 1961, the Quebec minister, representing the Liberal party of that province, the Hon. René Levesque, stated publicly that the only way our federation would work would be by the co-operation of all governments as equals in the planning of the multiple use of our resources. Because this government and its predecessor ignored this very sound proposal of co-operation and adopted a policy of confrontation with the provinces, the federal government against the ten provinces, we saw the breakdown of the unity and coherence in resource policy that we had developed during those years.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Hamilton (Qu'Appelle-Moose Mountain): Today, this same very idealistic Canadian, René Levesque, leads the Parti Quebecois, pledged to separatism from this type of government. There is your unity, aspirations and operations of this government. That is my first comment.

The next point I want to deal with is taxation. I have only glanced through these documents, but I could not find any mention of the main curse of the mining industry in Canada, I refer to the taxation system of the provinces and the taxation system of the federal government. I say flatly to the minister and the whole of this country that the Benson tax reforms will destroy every Canadian mining company, the small companies within 10 years and the big integrated companies within 30 years when the mines run out. Unless these taxation laws are changed, there will be no future for the Canadian mining industry. It will go down the drain as surely as the Canadian oil and gas industry went down the drain in the past 20 years because of the taxation policies of the federal government and the type of policies adopted by the provincial governments.

With regard to the provinces, I wish to mention one thing only. I think this will interest the leader of the New Democratic Party. One of the things the provinces have done with regard to both oil and gas and mining, and the federal government is no better, is to front-end load these resource industries so much by all the charges they could put together with their fertile minds. Thus they have added to the capital cost of these very precarious operations, so much so that in Canada today the main cost of mining is the cost of money because of the huge debts owed not only to the lenders but to the provincial and federal government. As far I can see, this is not mentioned in this booklet, but this evil of front-end loading, which will lead to most of the oil, gas and minerals being left in the ground, must be stopped by every government, not just the federal government. We would like to see the minister make a clear statement on these matters in order to make the mining industry what it could be to Canada.

The preamble makes it very clear that there is a great future for Canada. The future of our nation depends on the wise use of our oil, gas and energy resources. It depends on the wise use of our mineral resources. I wish to

give an example of what I am talking about. By reason of improper handling of its energy resources, our great neighbour to the south will have a deficit in its international balance of payments by the year 1975, or 1980 at the latest, of $30 billion a year for energy alone because they did not take the proper steps in time. Even though minerals are not a part of their current crisis, by the end of this century, for every dollar that the Americans are short in balance of payments because of a shortage of energy they will be $2 short on minerals. Their estimated deficit in international payments by the end of this century will be $60 billion a year. With this great problem facing our neighbour to the south, it is absolutely imperative we have a government in power that will move in the direction ensuring that these resources are used to the maximum advantage not only of this country but of the whole world.

I hold to the view that a lot of plain speaking has to be done in connection with the mining industry. If we want to share in greater returns from this industry, we have to stop this front-end loading and allow higher returns so the companies can pay off their debts. Under the oil regulations in the north the provinces grabbed all they could in the first year, front-end loaded the industry and were satisfied with 12½ per cent interest. In 1961 under the federal regulations for the north it took an average of 60 per cent to get them into a cash flow position. We can do the same thing with mines if we plan properly. The key is taxation.

• (1450)

Finally, Mr. Speaker, these ten years of inaction with no mineral policy and no energy policy have cost this country dearly. We have seen our gas and oil industry become foreign owned as a result of Canadian taxation. We are seeing the mining industry go the same way. All other industries will follow unless we face the fact that taxation today plays a part in international competition. If the provinces and the federal government continue to have no awareness that our tax policies must become competitive, not in order to get less money from the industry but to give more money to the people, then the future of this country is—no future. I suggest that the repentance I see in this statement today comes too late, about ten years too late. If only the government had followed the course that we set between 1959 and 1961 we would not be in this mess today complaining about the lack of Canadian ownership.

Mr. T. C. Douglas (Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands): Mr. Speaker, it is regrettable that the minister's statement went astray. Apparently it was put in the mails and some people have very optimistic ideas about the speed of the mails in this country. The next time the minister wants to put a statement in the mail, I suggest that he make his speech one week later, which is about the length of time it takes to send anything through the mails.

The decision of the federal and provincial governments to set up a co-ordinating mechanism for consultation and co-operation with respect to objectives in developing the mineral resources of this country is, of course, a good one. But when I read the minister's statement and glance at the material that has been put before us, I cannot help feeling that this government is falling into the trap it falls into again and again. Whenever the machine begins to slow down, the government adds another wheel, another pulley, instead of adding to the power that drives the machine. All that happens is that the machine slows down even more.

Of course the provinces need a mechanism for consultation and co-operation, and I support the proposal that the minister is now putting forward. But they also need something much more fundamental: they need a national minerals policy, and they have not had a national minerals policy. You cannot make up for lack of leadership merely by setting up another committee or consultative body, which is what the government is trying to do.

I agree with the hon. member for Qu'Appelle-Moose Mountain (Mr. Hamilton) that this country needs a national minerals policy. I do not agree with him that what we need to do is to reduce the taxes on mining companies further. I cannot shed tears over International Nickel Company which has been making hundreds of millions of dollars out of resources that belong to the people of Canada.

The spokesman for the Progressive Conservative party talks about the poor oil and gas companies going down the drain during the last ten years. Imperial Oil, after taxes, made $1 billion during the last 20 years and has paid to the government of Canada royalties of $40 million, or 4 per cent of what they pocketed for themselves from the resources of Canada.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. Perhaps I should bring to the attention of visitors in the galleries that they will not be allowed to remain in the galleries if they cannot control their feelings while listening to the hon. member, whose remarks obviously are very interesting.

Mr. Douglas: Mr. Speaker, I think the ghost of Mr. Twaits has walked! It seems to me that what Canada needs in terms of mineral development is a policy that will have two main thrusts. The first will be to develop, in co-operation with the provinces, policies that lead increasingly to the processing of mineral resources in this country.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Douglas: The federal government has control over the export of these materials since they grant the export permits. I am not suggesting that this can be done in 24 hours, but I am suggesting that the provinces and the mining industry can be told that exports of raw minerals will be phased out over a period of years and that they must be processed in this country. This would create jobs, give a greater tax return and improve economic development for the people of Canada.

The second thrust must be for the federal government—the provinces cannot do this—to join with other mineral producing countries in order to negotiate better prices from the importing countries. Raw materials in the past have had a relatively low return in comparison with manufactured goods which countries like Canada have to buy back. The only way this can be done is for Canada to join with other mineral producing countries and negotiate reasonable prices so that we will get a better return for the people of Canada.

I congratulate the minister and the provincial governments for taking this first timid step to set up machinery for co-operation and consultation. But I say both to the minister and to the government that it is their responsibility to give some leadership and to lay down a policy with which the provinces can co-operate.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Gérard Laprise (Abitibi): Mr. Speaker, I have some hesitation in rising at this moment to speak about the statement by the hon. Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources (Mr. MacDonald), for I seem to be stealing precious time that should be allotted to my colleague from Champlain (Mr. Matte), who has an important motion up for debate today. We have already spent an hour on statements such as that one, although today is theoretically set aside for an opposition party. My remarks will therefore be very brief.

Let me first point out that we have just seen proof of the importance of the motion that my colleague from Champlain is proposing today. Despite our complaints at the beginning of the sitting, we have been given only the English, and not the bilingual version of the document. This again suggests that the implementation of the policy of bilingualism in the Department of Energy, Mines and Resources is an urgent matter. I have noted this on several occasions: I went in person to the Department of Energy, Mines and Resources and was met by a bilingual official. I knew he was bilingual, but he categorically refused to speak in French. That is rather a poor showing, Mr. Speaker.

Up to now, the Department of Energy, Mines and Resources has had little to do with Quebec, and I am pleased to see the start of at least a semblance of co-operation between the provincial and federal governments. This could perhaps bring about more pooling of knowledge by officials, technicians, and scientists in the Department of Energy, Mines and Resources, so that their knowledge may benefit those who intend to survey for or operate mines, not only in the English-speaking provinces but also in Quebec.

Mr. Speaker, I hope that this new policy will promote mining development in Canada.

* * *

● (1500)

[*English*]

FINANCE

REQUEST FOR UNANIMOUS CONSENT TO MOVE MOTION

Mr. John Harney (Scarborough West): Mr. Speaker, under the provisions of Standing Order 43 I rise on a matter of urgent and pressing necessity. In view of the events in today's session of the Standing Committee on Finance, Trade and Economic Affairs, at which the Chief Statistician of Canada indicated that Statistics Canada's share of federal government expenditures in 1973-74 will be 100 times smaller than the actual figure, I move, seconded by the hon. member for Toronto-Lakeshore (Mr. Grier):

[Mr. Douglas.]

That this House direct the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce to reimburse the hon. member for London West (Mr. Buchanan) the $10 which that hon. member lost in a wager to the New Democratic Party as a consequence of that error.

An hon. Member: Agreed.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I assume the hon. member does not want the Chair to put the motion at this time. It does not appear to be the type of motion that should be put to the House. The hon. member might perhaps also consider the fact that the motion is probably out of order in that it refers to proceedings that took place in a committee.

* * *

INDIAN AFFAIRS AND NORTHERN DEVELOPMENT

MOTION FOR CONCURRENCE IN SECOND REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

On the order: Motions:

April 4, 1973—Mr. Howard:

That the second report of the Standing Committee on Indian Affairs and Northern Development, presented to the House on April 4, 1973, be concurred in.

Mr. Howard: Mr. Speaker, if I could obtain unanimous consent to proceed without debate in order that hon. members might express themselves on this subject, I would be very appreciative.

Mr. Speaker: I would suggest to the hon. member that he might like to refer to the comments made by the hon. member for Champlain a moment ago, who felt that we should give some thought to the fact that this is an opposition day assigned to the party to which the hon. member for Champlain belongs. Perhaps we should not even seek the unanimous consent of the House for the purpose of taking the time to debate the hon. member's motion.

ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

FEDERAL-PROVINCIAL CONFERENCE

PROPOSAL TO ADD ECONOMIC PROBLEMS TO AGENDA—GOVERNMENT POSITION

Hon. Robert L. Stanfield (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask the Prime Minister a question relating to the agenda of the Conference of First Ministers to take place from May 23 to May 25. Does the reference to the possibility of discussion of the current economic situation being added to the agenda mean that he or his government has asked that this be placed on the list?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, as chairman of the conference, I did indeed have my people communicate with the provinces to see whether there would be an inclination to put that item on the list. There have been various suggestions in respect of that

item from the House and from other areas. I merely took the initiative as the chairman of putting it to the provinces, but I have not had a complete answer yet. I am rather hopeful that we will reach an agreement to add that item to the agenda.

Mr. Stanfield: Mr. Speaker, does the Prime Minister intend to present to the other first ministers a co-operative or combined program of any sort to attack and contain the rate of inflation taking place in the country today?

Mr. Trudeau: Mr. Speaker, it is a rule of the conference, to which the federal government has adhered as steadfastly as possible, that we should not make our position papers known in advance of the conference. We have asked the provinces to do the same thing. In the past there have been unfortunate occurrences, but I would not want to be a party to such a breach of the rules of the conference.

Mr. Stanfield: Mr. Speaker, I was not asking the Prime Minister to disclose even what the proposal might be. I simply asked whether he could indicate to the House that it is his intention to present a proposal to the provincial premiers on the subject of inflation involving a co-operative attack on this problem?

Mr. Trudeau: Mr. Speaker, in reply to the hypothetical question, if the item is added to the agenda the federal government will make a statement on economic matters that concern the country, and obviously inflation is one of them.

SUGGESTED DISCUSSION WITH PROVINCES OF POSITION OF APPELLANTS TO IMMIGRATION APPEAL BOARD

Mr. Lincoln M. Alexander (Hamilton West): Mr. Speaker, in light of the fact that amendments to the Immigration Appeal Board legislation may not be placed before parliament prior to the the summer recess, and in view of the fact that the provinces are concerned with the expenditure of money in respect of those waiting for appeals to be heard, particularly in terms of health, education and welfare, will the Prime Minister place this matter before the provinces in order to give some leadership and direction?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, our policy on this matter has already been decided by the government. It is a matter of waiting for the time of the House. We hope that such amendments to the act will indeed be passed by the House before any summer break. There is no item on the agenda under which this specific matter would come up with the provinces, but obviously if the provinces want to bring it into the discussions we will listen with great interest.

FINANCE

REPORTED REDUCTION BY BANKS OF LOANS TO FARMERS, FISHERMEN AND SMALL BUSINESSMEN—SUGGESTED ALLOCATION OF CERTAIN PERCENTAGE OF CAPITAL

Mr. David Lewis (York South): Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask the Minister of Finance about a report in the morning newspapers to the effect that loans under federal government guarantee to farmers, fishermen and small businessmen are being reduced, if not choked off, by the chartered banks as a result of the fact that the interest rates at which such loans must be made are lower than the prime interest rate of the banks.

Hon. John N. Turner (Minister of Finance): Mr. Speaker, because of the cost squeeze on agriculture in particular the rates under government guaranteed lending programs were frozen. It may well be that because of the fundamental change in the interest rate structure not as much money as we would like is now being regularly channelled into guaranteed loans for farmers, fishermen and small businessmen. The government, therefore, has that matter actively under consideration to determine whether adjustments can be made.

Mr. Lewis: Mr. Speaker, in view of the statements by the governor of the Bank of Canada that it was deliberately intended that the increase in the prime rate should apply to larger corporations in respect of loans over $100,000 in one case and $200,000 in the case of other banks, in order to make money available to small businessmen and others who need it, and because of the assurance of the minister that the purpose of the exercise of increasing the prime interest rate was to make sure it would not affect those people in the categories I have mentioned who really need loans, is the minister prepared to discuss not only with the governor of the Bank of Canada but with the heads of the chartered banks the allocation of a certain percentage of their available capital to the people I have mentioned at the rates the government has frozen?

● (1510)

Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton): Mr. Speaker, the banks have said they were allocating, and they are in fact allocating, a sufficient amount of funds to small businessmen, farmers and fishermen under their regular lending programs. Of course the question, as the hon. gentleman realizes, is the availability of funds under government guaranteed loans when the interest rate structure is frozen. It might well be that the only way to achieve a flow of government guaranteed loans is to have those interest rates reflect the current market situation, but I will look into that, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member for York South may ask a supplementary, and then we will complete the first round of questioning by recognizing the hon. member for Abitibi. We will then have further supplementaries on this subject by hon. members.

Mr. Lewis: Mr. Speaker, if I understood the minister correctly, his way of going at it is to raise the interest rates to farmers, fishermen and small business people. May I ask the minister how he can possibly have the nerve

to say to the House that such an increase in interest rates will not necessarily result in a tighter monetary policy for Canada?

Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton): Mr. Speaker, when the money supply is expanding at an annual rate in the first four months of this year of 30 per cent, there is certainly no tight money policy in force in this country, and the hon. member knows that full well. What I am trying to achieve, by whatever method is adopted, is to ensure that government guaranteed loan programs do receive their share of funds, and that is something the government has under active consideration.

* * *

[*Translation*]

REGIONAL ECONOMIC EXPANSION

QUEBEC—REVIEW OF ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FOR INDUSTRY—PROVISION OF FUNDS OUTSIDE OF MONTREAL

Mr. Roland Godin (Portneuf): Mr. Speaker, I wanted to put a question to the Minister of Regional Economic Expansion but, in his absence, I shall put it to his parliamentary secretary. Following the joint decision of the federal Department of Regional Economic Expansion and the Department of Intergovernmental Affairs of the province of Quebec to totally reconsider the industrial assistance program, could the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Regional Economic Expansion tell the House if the federal government will be allowed to demand that those funds be spent outside Montreal, should such expenditure prove advantageous to certain regions sorely afflicted by unemployment?

[*English*]

Mr. John M. Reid (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): In the absence of the parliamentary secretary I will undertake to bring this to his attention.

* * *

FINANCE

AVAILABILITY OF FARM IMPROVEMENT LOANS—GOVERNMENT ACTION—BANKS' RESPONSE

Mr. Jack Murta (Lisgar): Mr. Speaker, my question is supplementary and is addressed to the Minister of Finance. Since there have already been some repercussions in respect of the interest rate question in that the Ontario Federation of Agriculture has been advised that branch managers of banks have not received any new instructions with relation to individual loan applications under the Farm Improvement Loans Act, I should like to ask the minister whether he has made any inquiries into this matter and also whether he has suggested any specific guidelines for branch bank managers. If so, what has been the response from the chartered banks?

Hon. John N. Turner (Minister of Finance): Mr. Speaker, as I said earlier, we are reviewing this matter actively to see what methods are available to channel more money into government guaranteed loans. The situation becomes difficult because of the widening gap between the market rates of interest and those rates of interest available under government guaranteed loan plans.

FARM IMPROVEMENT LOANS—REQUEST FOR LEGISLATION TO INCREASE MAXIMUM

Mr. R. E. McKinley (Huron): Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question for the Minister of Finance. I notice there has been a bill introduced into the Senate, Bill S-5, which received first reading about a month ago, to raise the maximum amount available to farmers under the Farm Improvement Loans Act. Will the minister use his influence to have this bill enacted, because it is needed in view of the greatly increasing costs of farmers.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Broadview.

LOANS TO FARMERS AND FISHERMEN—SUGGESTION MINISTER ASK CHARTERED BANKS TO REDUCE ADVERTISING FOR CONSUMER LOANS

Mr. John Gilbert (Broadview): Mr. Speaker, my question is addressed to the Minister of Finance. In view of the difficulty farmers and fishermen are having in obtaining loans, would he speak to the heads of the banks and ask them to stop their high pressure advertising with regard to consumer loans so that they can apply some of those funds to those specific purposes.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Humber-St. George's-St.Barbe.

ALLEGED DENIAL OF LOANS TO FISHERMEN—SUGGESTION MINISTER ASK CHARTERED BANKS FOR EXPLANATION

Mr. Jack Marshall (Humber-St.George's-St. Barbe): Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary for the Minister of Finance. In view of the fact that chartered banks are denying fishermen the benefit of government guaranteed loans at preferred rates of interest in favour of loans at conventional rates, would the minister investigate this lack of responsibility on the part of the banks which is hurting the fishing industry, and would the minister fulfil his responsibility by demanding an accounting from the chartered banks with regard to this practice?

Hon. John N. Turner (Minister of Finance): Mr. Speaker, the problem is, of course, the difference between international and domestic market rates of interest and those rates of interest available under programs of this kind. That is the question and the problem.

FISHERIES, SMALL BUSINESS AND FARM LOANS—REQUEST FOR INVESTIGATION OF DISTRIBUTION

Mr. John Lundrigan (Gander-Twillingate): Mr. Speaker, for the third time in about a year, I should like to ask the minister if he would cause to have investigated the distribution of loans across Canada under the three programs mentioned by my colleague, fisheries, small business and farm improvement loans, to determine why the

areas of greatest need receive the least amount of money under these various government programs?

Hon. John N. Turner (Minister of Finance): Mr. Speaker, I do not want to accept the preamble, but I will see what I can do to ascertain whether there is any validity at all in the hon. gentleman's question. I want to meet the point he is illustrating. I am not so sure the factual situation will bear him out.

SMALL BUSINESS LOANS—POSSIBILITY OF MONITORING FLOW OF AVAILABLE CREDIT

Hon. Robert L. Stanfield (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask the Minister of Finance whether he has made any arrangements whereby he would be able to monitor the flow of loans to small business, loans under $100,000 or $200,000, whatever his test might be, so that he would be in a position to follow the extent to which credit is being granted under these limits?

Hon. John N. Turner (Minister of Finance): Yes, Mr. Speaker, I am examining the weekly figures available of the loan structure of the chartered banks to see whether that is sufficient for our purposes and, if not, whether we should have further information.

* * *

AGRICULTURE

BRUCELLOSIS—REQUEST THAT COMPENSATION TO FARMERS BE EQUATED WITH FAIR MARKET VALUE—SUGGESTED VACCINATION PROGRAM

Mr. Elias Nesdoly (Meadow Lake): Mr. Speaker, I should like to address my question to the Minister of Agriculture. In view of the difficulties experienced by farmers whose herds have been sold because of brucellosis, more commonly known as Bang's disease, is the minister giving consideration to changing the regulations under the Animal Contagious Diseases Act to provide for more equitable compensation to farmers by equating fair market value with replacement value?

Hon. E. F. Whelan (Minister of Agriculture): Mr. Speaker, we are giving consideration to this matter. An announcement will be made in due course. It may not be exactly as the hon. member suggests, but I think he will be satisfied with it.

Mr. Nesdoly: Has the minister considered wholesale vaccination in northwestern Saskatchewan where this disease is very prevalent as one means of bringing the disease under control, because it seems the process of trying to eliminate reactors is simply not working?

Mr. Whelan: Mr. Speaker, I was in Saskatchewan a week or so ago and discussed the matter with the officials there. I have also discussed it with some of our officials in Ottawa. I think there are some 40-odd herds infected, so it would be cheaper to eradicate these herds and pay these people proper compensation so they can start all over again, thus making sure that all sources of the disease are eradicated.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member will be recognized for a last supplementary, and then we will go to the next question.

Mr. Nesdoly: Mr. Speaker, is the Health of Animals Branch of the federal Department of Agriculture monitoring hospitals in northern Saskatchewan to see if there have been any cases of undulant fever?

Mr. Whelan: I am not sure, Mr. Speaker. I would have to check.

* * *

PENITENTIARIES

BRITISH COLUMBIA—ALLEGED REQUEST OF STAFF MEMBERS TO MEET MINISTER

Mr. Donald W. Munro (Esquimalt-Saanich): Mr. Speaker, my question is addressed to the Solicitor General. In light of the expressed desire of staff members of the British Columbia penitentiary service to meet the minister, may I ask him how he plans to deal with the problems they plan to discuss with him, namely, staff morale and public safety within the prisons?

Hon. Warren Allmand (Solicitor General): I did not catch the first part of the question, Mr. Speaker. I wonder whether the member would repeat it.

Mr. Munro (Esquimalt-Saanich): Mr. Speaker, it concerns a request by the staff members of the British Columbia penitentiary service to meet the minister and discuss with him certain problems of staff morale and public safety within the prisons. I am asking the minister how he plans to deal with this request?

Mr. Allmand: Mr. Speaker, when I was appointed Solicitor General in December, one of the first places I went was the British Columbia penitentiary. I met the staff representatives of the penitentiary at that time. We are following up some of the matters they brought to my attention. I have not received another request, but if I do I will try to do what I can to meet with them.

WILLIAM HEAD—INQUIRY AS TO SECURITY PROVISIONS BEFORE CONVERSION FROM MINIMUM TO MEDIUM SECURITY

Mr. Donald W. Munro (Esquimalt-Saanich): I have a supplementary, Mr. Speaker. It is my understanding that the staff members have sent a telegram to the Solicitor General, but perhaps to be more specific I might mention the matter of William Head. Can the minister assure the House that all appropriate security measures were taken at William Head, which he visited a week ago, before converting that institution from a minimum to a medium security institution?

● (1520)

Hon. Warren Allmand (Solicitor General): Mr. Speaker, William Head has not yet been converted into a medium security institution. It is still operating as a minimum security institution. The decision has been taken to

make it into a medium security institution, but that decision will not be put into operation until we have a proper staff and proper fencing. The new fence has been authorized for a while now and construction will start shortly.

* * *

[*Translation*]

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

KILLING OF TWO CANADIAN GIRLS WHILE VISITING VICTORIA FALLS, RHODESIA—PROTEST TO ZAMBIA—REVIEW OF CANADA'S POLICY RESPECTING RHODESIA

Mr. Gilbert Rondeau (Shefford): Mr. Speaker, I want to ask a question of the hon. Secretary of State for External Affairs.

Following the statement of the minister concerning the murder of two Canadian women by Zambian troops while they were visiting Rhodesia, has the hon. Secretary of State for External Affairs who recognizes the government of Zambia, but not that of Rhodesia, made protests to the Zambian authorities or does he intend to do so, following the murder of those two Canadians, and does he intend to revise the official position of Canada concerning Rhodesia, which has always been very sympathetic towards the Canadian government?

[*English*]

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, the government has no intention of reviewing its policy on the recognition of Rhodesia. We have made inquiries of the Zambian government and have sought their assurances that there will be an impartial and thorough investigation of the incident.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Rondeau: Mr. Speaker, I wish to ask a supplementary question.

Given the economical sanctions that the United Nations had asked countries of the world to take against Rhodesia, and since the United States have removed those sanctions a few months ago and now do business with Rhodesia, does the Canadian government also intend to change its official position concerning Rhodesia, in the field of trade relations?

[*English*]

Mr. Sharp: No, Mr. Speaker. Canada does observe the sanctions which have been recommended and imposed by the Security Council. That is our policy and we have no intention of changing it until the Security Council changes its position.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

* * *

PENITENTIARIES

PERSONNEL OF COMMISSION OF INQUIRY—TERMS OF REFERENCE—SIGNING OF ORDER IN COUNCIL

Mr. Erik Nielsen (Yukon): Mr. Speaker, may I direct a question to the Solicitor General. Will he announce in the House, as he has done outside the House, the composition of the inquiry he has set up under section 12 of the Penitentiaries Act and inform the House whether the order in council setting up the inquiry has yet been signed and, if the terms of reference are complete, will he agree to table them?

Hon. Warren Allmand (Solicitor General): Mr. Speaker, I mentioned some of the names in my speech the other night in the House. The three people on the commission are: the Honourable Jacques Ducros of the Quebec Superior Court, Lieutenant Colonel A. D. T. Gauthier of the Canadian Armed Forces, and Mr. Pierre Jutras, Director of the Drumheller Institution. I would be willing to table the terms of reference. I do not have them with me now, but I will table them as soon as I get them. I might say that I am meeting the three commissioners this afternoon to have them sworn and to issue instructions to them. They will start working immediately.

INQUIRY AS TO IMPLEMENTATION OF NEW SECURITY MEASURES PENDING INQUIRY REPORTS

Mr. Erik Nielsen (Yukon): The minister overlooked informing the House, in reply to my question, whether the order in council has yet been signed. I would like to ask him also whether his department or the government has developed any measures that he is prepared to institute immediately which would tighten security in the penitentiaries pending the report and recommendations of the inquiry he has set up and of the Standing Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs and, if so, what measures and when will they be implemented?

Hon. Warren Allmand (Solicitor General): By the way, Mr. Speaker, I believe an order in council has been signed, but I am not too sure about that. We sent one for signature, but I can check on that report.

Following the Cowansville incident we introduced several new measures in that institution to upgrade security. We added guards, we put special barbed wire at the top of the existing fence, and we cleared back the bush. We are having special steel screens put on the windows of the cells.

With respect to the correctional development centre, one thing we are determined to ensure is that the security provisions which were supposed to be in operation will certainly be in operation in the future, in other words, that directives and instructions with respect to the duty positions of the men are being followed.

Mr. Baldwin: Take the vanishing cream out of the cells.

* * *

ENERGY

GASOLINE—POSSIBILITY OF SHORTAGE—REQUEST FOR CONTROL OF EXPORTS

Mr. T. C. Douglas (Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources, arising out of the forecast by the Stanford Research Institute that there will be a gasoline

shortage of 400,000 barrels a day in the United States this summer. In view of the fact that the restrictions on the export of oil which the minister announced on February 15 do not apply to gasoline or other refined products, I want to ask the minister whether he intends to use the powers under part IV of the National Energy Board Act to extend the export controls to gasoline in order to ensure adequate supplies of gasoline this summer for Canadian consumers?

Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): Mr. Speaker, I have been advised by the chairman of the National Energy Board that the board has been following very closely exports of the refined product from Canada. As the hon. gentleman knows, one of our objectives has been to develop over a period of years a market for the refined products, and we would be reluctant at this point to defeat that objective unless there is a shortage. I can assure him, however, that if there is any threat to Canadian supplies action will be taken under the statute to protect supplies.

OIL—SUGGESTED ESTABLISHMENT OF TWO PRICE SYSTEM

Mr. T. C. Douglas (Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands): Since the spokesmen for the oil industry in Canada have already stated that there is not likely to be a shortage this summer but there will be a substantial increase in price, and in view of the fact that the increases in the price of oil and the anticipated increases in the price of gasoline bear no relation to the cost of production but merely to the higher price in the United States, is the government giving serious consideration and does it intend to take any steps to impose a two-price system so as to fix the price of oil produced and sold in Canada at a fair and equitable level and thus prevent the companies taking unfair advantage of the high prices in the United States?

Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): I would remind the hon. gentleman that about half the Canadian market is supplied by overseas oil which has been going up in price, so that the over-all cost has been increasing. I would agree with the hon. gentleman that the market west of the Ottawa valley line is served by the Canadian product, and we have under very close scrutiny the possibility of imposing a two-price system to make certain that Canadian consumers do not have to bear the cost of the energy shortage in the United States.

Mr. Douglas: A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I would hope that we could try to limit the number of supplementaries so as to give an opportunity to as many members as possible to participate in the question period. I will recognize the hon. member for Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands and the hon. member for Qu'Appelle-Moose Mountain, and then we will try to move on to another subject.

OIL—POSSIBLE BILATERAL NEGOTIATIONS WITH FOREIGN SUPPLIERS OF EASTERN CANADIAN MARKET

Mr. T. C. Douglas (Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands): I have a brief supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. The minister has mentioned offshore oil. May I ask him if the Canadian government is entering into any negotiations with oil producing countries such as Venezuela and countries in the Middle East with a view to bilateral agreements on oil rather than leaving the eastern market entirely to the tender mercies of the oil companies?

Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): As the hon. gentleman knows, there have been extensive discussions with OECD in an attempt to get general OECD agreement on not having that kind of bilateral arrangement. I think it is fair to say that, in view of the fact that some at least of OECD members appear to be making bilateral deals, we are giving active attention to whether negotiations should be opened between some friendly supplier countries and Canada on a government to government basis.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Qu'Appelle-Moose Mountain.

Mr. Hamilton (Qu'Appelle-Moose Mountain): Mr. Speaker, the question I was going to ask was just asked by the hon. member for Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands.

* * *

AIRPORTS

TERMINAL TWO, TORONTO INTERNATIONAL—STEPS TO IMPROVE SITUATION

Mr. Ron Atkey (St. Paul's): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Transport. The inefficiency and inconvenience of terminal two at the Toronto International Airport has been a great source of consternation—

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

● (1530)

Mr. Atkey: —and a great source of disappointment for many thousands—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. Will the hon. member ask his question.

Mr. Atkey: Could the minister tell the House what steps he has taken since the terminal opened on April 29 to see that the situation is improved, particularly with respect to the absence of signs and the great distances that passengers must walk to board this aircraft?

[*Translation*]

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, we know that this new terminal building was inaugurated on April 29, I believe. Some readjustments have to be done, and Air Canada has realized it. In the last few days, meetings have taken place between Air Canada and representatives from the city and associations of Toronto, and I am informed that they are progressing very

quickly. Therefore within a short time, the situation will be normal again.

* * *

[*English*]

TRANSPORT

REQUEST FOR DISCLOSURE OF COST DATA OF RAILWAYS—GOVERNMENT PROPOSALS FOR A NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION POLICY

Mr. Don Mazankowski (Vegreville): Mr. Speaker, I would like to address a question to the Minister of Transport. It has to do with the Conference on Western Economic Opportunities to be held in Calgary, Alberta, in July. Can the minister advise the House whether he will be complying with the request made by the premier of the province of Alberta calling for full and complete disclosure of railroad cost data, the extent of fixed compared with variable costs, and public justification for every major freight rate in terms of cost benefit to the Canadian public generally compared with the benefit to the railroads' financial interests?

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, I am quite well aware of the position taken by the premiers of the prairie provinces. As the hon. gentleman knows, I am going to meet with them on June 7, so I hope he will understand that I am not in a position right now to start negotiations before I meet with the premiers.

Mr. Mazankowski: Can the minister indicate to the House whether the government will be putting forth any firm commitments aimed at developing a new national transportation policy within the framework of a national industrial strategy, and in particular will any specific proposals be put forth aimed at overcoming the discrepancies and anomalies within the freight rate structure as it applies to western Canada?

Mr. Marchand (Langelier): Mr. Speaker, I think the House understands that there will be two conferences at which transportation problems will be discussed. There is the June conference and then the Conference on Western Economic Opportunities. On both occasions all these problems are going to be discussed, and I hope we will find solutions.

Mr. Mazankowski: Could the minister answer my question? I simply asked whether it is the intention of the government to put forth any concrete proposals aimed at developing a new transportation policy. I would like a simple yes or no answer.

Mr. Marchand (Langelier): Mr. Speaker, I cannot give a straightforward answer in that case.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Marchand (Langelier): Mr. Speaker, I knew what the reaction would be before I said that. I think that what I am going to say is quite honourable, but hon. members opposite might not understand. The reason is simple. It is because we are interested, the prairie governments are interested, the CPR and CNR are interested. All these parties have proposals to make, some dependent on the position taken by the governments, others dependent on the CNR and CPR. Therefore I cannot tell you all the proposals we are going to make.

[Mr. Marchand (Langelier).]

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

* * *

[*Translation*]

MANPOWER

LOCAL INITIATIVES PROGRAM—REQUEST FOR RENEWAL OF MONTREAL AREA PROJECTS—MINISTER'S POSITION

Mr. Eudore Allard (Rimouski): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Manpower and Immigration.

Can he tell the House what decision has been taken following the request for renewal of about 516 local initiatives projects in the Montreal area?

[*English*]

Hon. Robert K. Andras (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, a decision was taken this morning. I think it will be encouraging to many, and I will be making the details known tomorrow.

[*Later:*]

[*Translation*]

Mr. Speaker: I believe the hon. member for Rimouski wants to ask a supplementary question. The hon. member for Rimouski has the floor.

[*Later:*]

Mr. Allard: Mr. Speaker, the hon. minister is surely aware that in cancelling 516 projects, the unemployment ratio will rise over the limit fixed for the renewal of local initiatives projects. In view of that possibility, does the hon. minister intend to take immediate action to prevent administrative complications from delaying the renewal of those projects?

[*English*]

Mr. Andras: Mr. Speaker, I do not quite understand the reference to 517 project cancellations but, as I indicated in my previous answer, I will be making the details of the decision known tomorrow and I think they will be encouraging.

* * *

AGRICULTURE

GOVERNMENT ATTITUDE TO SUGGESTED WORLD MINIMUM OF BASIC FOOD STOCKS—POSSIBLE CARRY-OVER OF SUBSTANTIAL GRAIN RESERVES

Mr. Frank Hamilton (Swift Current-Maple Creek): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Minister of Agriculture. Having regard to the upcoming Food and Agriculture Organization meeting in Rome, where a minimum world food security program is to be discussed, will the minister support the concept of a minimum level of basic food stocks for the world as a whole?

Hon. E. F. Whelan (Minister of Agriculture): Mr. Speaker, I am aware of the suggestion of the Director General of FAO. He addressed the OECD in Paris while we were there. His deputy director is going to be in Ottawa next week and we are going to discuss the subject further. I think he has some suggestions that are worthy of serious consideration.

Mr. Hamilton (Swift Current-Maple Creek): Since senior officials of the American grain trade have stated that world grain stocks at the end of June will hardly equal a ten-day to two-week supply on a global basis, can the minister give an assurance that a federally assisted policy of carrying over a substantial reserve of grain will receive favourable consideration?

Mr. Whelan: It is receiving favourable study, Mr. Speaker. That is as far as I can go at the present time.

* * *

HOUSE OF COMMONS

REQUEST FOR TELEVISION COVERAGE OF COMMITTEE INVESTIGATION OF PENITENTIARY ESCAPES

Mr. Douglas Roche (Edmonton-Strathcona): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the government House leader. In view of the fact that Canadians with access to United States television stations are today getting an education through the Senate investigation of the Watergate scandal, and in view of the fact that the government intends to introduce legislation allowing television coverage of parliament, would the minister consider recommending to the Speaker that permission be given to allow, on a trial basis, television coverage of the parliamentary committee's investigation of penitentiary escapes in Canada?

Hon. Allan J. MacEachen (President of the Privy Council): Mr. Speaker, I am afraid it would require more than my recommendation to influence the Speaker to take that step.

Mr. Roche: Would the minister consider trying to get unanimous consent of the House to allow this on a trial basis for the education of Canadians?

Mr. MacEachen: Mr. Speaker, if I thought there was the remotest chance of getting unanimous consent I would try, but I am quite certain that it would not be forthcoming.

* * *

TRANSPORT

FREIGHT RATES—REQUEST THAT MINISTER DIRECT RAILWAYS TO REDUCE RATES IN PRAIRIE REGIONS

Mr. Lorne Nystrom (Yorkton-Melville): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Transport and is supplementary to the one about the Western Economic Opportunities conference. In view of the blatant discrimination against the Prairies in railroad freight rates, and in view of the position taken by the prairie premiers, will the minister undertake to give a definite instruction to the railways to bring down their freight rates in order to allow further development of the prairie region?

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, I think that is too general a question to be answered at this time.

* * *

TRADE

ALUMINUM INGOTS—ALLEGED RULING BY UNITED STATES THAT CANADIAN EXPORTS DUMPED

Hon. Paul Hellyer (Trinity): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce. Is the minister in a position to confirm that the United States Treasury has ruled that aluminum ingots from Canada going to the United States are classified as dumped and, if so, was he given prior notice of this ruling?

Hon. Alastair Gillespie (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): Mr. Speaker, I am not in a position to confirm the suggestion made by the hon. member for Trinity.

* * *

CRIMINAL CODE

NON-THERAPEUTIC ABORTIONS—INQUIRY AS TO NUMBER OF PROSECUTIONS—REQUEST FOR STATEMENT BY MINISTER

Mr. Perrin Beatty (Wellington-Grey-Dufferin-Waterloo): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Justice. In light of the concern of millions of Canadians over the more than 40,000 abortions that take place in Canada every year, would the minister be willing to make a statement on motions, either this week or later next week, outlining the progress he has made with the review he announced on March 5 or March 6 of this year of too liberal abortion laws, and can he at that time also tell us the number of prosecutions that have taken place under the law with respect to non-therapeutic abortions, and also inform the House what steps will be taken to reduce the number of non-therapeutic abortions in Canada?

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Justice): Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the recommendation of the hon. member. The subject of the enforcement of abortion laws and the apparent differences in their enforcement across the country was discussed at the recent conference of Attorneys General. I will consider the matter of whether I can say anything useful at an early date in the House.

* * *

FINANCE

EFFECT OF HIGH INTEREST RATES ON SLOW GROWTH REGIONS—GOVERNMENT POSITION

Mr. Elmer M. MacKay (Central Nova): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Finance. In view of the fact that higher interest rates are bound to have a detri-

mental effect on the efforts of DREE in disadvantaged areas of the country, coupled with the fact that the consumer price index has risen at an amazing rate, being 5.8 per cent for Halifax and 5.6 per cent in St. John's for the last month, has the minister any specific measures in mind to counteract these adverse developments in the slow growth areas brought about by the high interest rates?

Hon. John N. Turner (Minister of Finance): Mr. Speaker, the policy of the government, as has been stated here on many occasions, is first of all to increase the supply of world commodities that are affected by a world-wide inflation; second, to increase the disposable income of Canadians, particularly in the lower income groups through proposals for lower income tax, raising the old age pension, family allowances and so on and, third, by supporting my colleague, the Minister of Regional Economic Expansion in order to improve the infrastructure in those slower growth areas of the country.

Mr. MacKay: Mr. Speaker, a supplementary. I thank the minister for his answer but what I am really asking is this: In view of these policies which are designed to dampen the inflationary pressures in one part of the country, has the minister taken into account the counterproductive effect his policy is having on the regions that DREE is deliberately designed to help, and is he going to vary his policy to do this specific job?

Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton): Mr. Speaker, the policies of the government are orchestrated so as to give special attention to those slow growth areas.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The Chair will recognize the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre, then the hon. member for St. John's East.

* * *

VETERANS AFFAIRS

INQUIRY AS TO LEGISLATION TO INCREASE BASIC RATE OF DISABILITY PENSIONS

Mr. Stanley Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, may I direct a question to the Minister of Veterans Affairs. In view of the anxiety and concern of a great many veterans over the fact that the basic rate of the war disability pension has not yet been increased as forecast by the Minister of Finance in his budget speech on February 19, and as recommended by the Standing Committee on Veterans Affairs, can the minister say when he will be bringing in the bill to effect this increase?

Hon. Daniel J. MacDonald (Minister of Veterans Affairs): Mr. Speaker, I feel I will be bringing in the bill before very long. The time has not been reached yet.

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Could the minister, in his usual forthright way, tell us whether "before very long" means this month?

Mr. MacDonald (Cardigan): Mr. Speaker, I would indicate that I am hopeful that it certainly means this month.

[Mr. MacKay.]

THE CANADIAN ECONOMY

ATLANTIC PROVINCES—REQUEST FOR CO-ORDINATION OF TRANSPORTATION, MONETARY, FISCAL AND REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT POLICIES

Mr. James A. McGrath (St. John's East): Mr. Speaker, may I direct a question to the right hon. Prime Minister. In view of the fact that the consumer price index for the regional cities shows an alarming increase in the three regional cities in the Atlantic provinces where incomes are amongst the lowest and unemployment the highest, may I ask the Prime Minister what steps the government proposes to take to co-ordinate the transportation policies, monetary and fiscal policies with the DREE policies as they are working counterproductively in the Atlantic provinces and thus exercising great hardship on the people of those three cities, especially Halifax?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, the member is asking for a very detailed enunciation of policy. I guess the simple answer to him is that the various aspects of this question, DREE, transportation, fiscal and monetary policies, are dealt with by ministers within cabinet and we are co-ordinating the program as best we can.

ATLANTIC PROVINCES—EFFECT OF TRANSPORTATION COSTS ON COST OF LIVING—SUGGESTED CONFERENCE WITH PROVINCES

Mr. James A. McGrath (St. John's East): A supplementary, Mr. Speaker. In view of the fact that the throne speech called for co-ordination of these policies and that there was supposed to be a regional transportation conference in the Atlantic provinces with the governments of the Atlantic provinces and the railways because of the very strong influence that transporation has on these higher costs, may I ask the Prime Minister as head of the government what steps the government is taking to implement this and to co-ordinate these programs which are having such a disastrous effect on the region?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, for one thing, a series of meetings between the Minister of Transport and the provincial premiers and a series of meetings between the minister responsible for DREE and the provincial premiers.

* * *

AGRICULTURE

TAXATION OF MARKETING QUOTAS—POSSIBLE REVISION IN LIGHT OF REPRESENTATIONS BY FARM GROUPS

Mr. Bill Jarvis (Perth-Wilmot): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Agriculture. On March 6 and March 20 I asked the minister if he would take steps to correct the inequity in the retroactive capital gains tax on farm marketing quotas because of what I felt was overwhelming criticism of these provisions by the Canadian Federation of Agriculture and other farm groups. The minister's replies on both occasions indicated that the federation was not really that dissatisfied. In light of the

subsequent strong and unanimous condemnation of these provisions by these farm groups, including the federation, may I ask the minister if immediate action will be taken to treat a farm marketing quota as any other capital asset for taxation purposes?

Hon. E. F. Whelan (Minister of Agriculture): Mr. Speaker, I completely disagree with the premise of the hon. member's question. I have met with the farm people, as well as the President of the Federation of Agriculture last Thursday night, and completely disagree with their attitude.

[*Later:*]

Mr. Speaker: Is the hon. Minister of Agriculture rising on a point of order?

Mr. Whelan: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker. It has been intimated that in an answer to an hon. member I may have said that I disagreed with the President of the Ontario Federation of Agriculture. It was not that; it was with the hon. member, because the President of the Ontario Federation of Agriculture stated "You are doing one hell of a good job, Mr. Minister,".

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I feel that the House would not want to take up too much of the time which has been allocated to one of the parties for debate this afternoon. Perhaps two or three supplementaries might be asked quickly, although I believe the hon. member for Skeena has a question, and then I would recognize the hon. member for Gander-Twillingate and perhaps one or two more supplementaries before calling orders of the day.

* * *

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

INQUIRY AS TO DATE AND LOCATION OF MEETING WITH UNITED STATES ON RECIPROCAL FISHING AGREEMENT—PARTICIPATING GROUPS

Mr. Frank Howard (Skeena): Mr. Speaker, I wonder if I might put a quick question to the Secretary of State for External Affairs. Has a date and location been established for the meetings between Canada and the United States which are to take place before the end of this month with respect to the reciprocal fishing agreement about which the minister made some comments the other day? May I also ask whether the same groups that participated in the earlier Washington and Seattle meetings will have an opportunity to participate in these negotiations?

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, I am discussing these matters currently with the Minister of the Environment and Fisheries and we hope to be able to make an announcement very soon.

THE CANADIAN ECONOMY

ATLANTIC PROVINCES—EFFECT OF REGIONAL PAY RATES FOR PUBLIC SERVICE EMPLOYEES—REQUEST FOR ELIMINATION

Mr. John Lundrigan (Gander-Twillingate): Mr. Speaker, my question to the right hon. Prime Minister is related to that of my colleague on the matter of inflation in the general economy of the Atlantic region. Would the Prime Minister very seriously consider an immediate move to eliminate the regional pay rate concept which is having such a detrimental effect on many people in the public service in the Atlantic region and the general wage situation across the Atlantic region, which was demonstrated last week? Private groups are getting as much as $3 an hour more than people working in the same area in the public service.

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Yes, Mr. Speaker. This question has been raised with the government at various times and we have given it consideration. It is discussed from time to time with various parties, but unfortunately there is no agreement either on an economic or sociological basis between people having different opinions.

Mr. Speaker: The Chair will recognize the hon. member for Churchill on a last question, and then will call orders of the day.

* * *

GRAIN

INQUIRY AS TO USE OF CHURCHILL AS PORT OF EXPORT

Mr. Keith Taylor (Churchill): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Justice in charge of the Wheat Board. In view of the announcement made by the minister some time ago regarding the use of the Port of Churchill for grain shipments, and in view of the fact that the shipping season is close at hand, would the minister advise the House what specific instructions have been given to the Wheat Board concerning the shipping of grain from Churchill for this season?

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Justice): Mr. Speaker, the usual booking of grain has taken place. I could perhaps get for the hon. member some detailed information on the export plan as it now appears for this season. In addition to the usual orders, of course, this time there will be some grain moving to the Soviet Union from Churchill.

* * *

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

WEEKLY STATEMENT

Mr. Baldwin: Mr. Speaker, I would like to follow the minister's supplementary answer by asking the government House leader about the business for this week and next week. I might be allowed to ask the minister, when he replies, in light of the fact that the Public Accounts Committee has not yet dealt with the report of the Auditor

General for the fiscal year ending March 31, 1971, and the report for the next year will be coming out very shortly, if he could see his way clear to refer to the Public Accounts Committee the Auditor General's report for the fiscal year ended March 31, 1971?

● (1550)

Mr. MacEachen: Yes, Mr. Speaker. If I may answer the hon. member, may I say that with respect to the public accounts, I think we can arrange an early reference.

If I may speak in connection with the business of the House, we have today an opposition day, and one tomorrow. On Tuesday next, I should like to continue with the capital punishment debate and probably take an opposition day on Thursday and Friday. On the following Monday I should like to begin the debate on the bilingualism resolution. I would mention to hon. members that, on looking at the calendar and at the business of the House, I am considering the possibility of adjourning at the end of June. Members will really have to decide for themselves whether they want to debate these measures now, and complete them, or debate some of them in July. I think I should indicate that to the House at this stage in the mildest way possible.

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, as a supplementary question, may I ask the minister whether the bills to amend the Family Allowances Act and the Canada Pension Plan will be on the order paper reasonably soon, so that they may also be disposed of before the end of June?

Mr. MacEachen: Well, Mr. Speaker, we hope to get technical amendments to the Canada Pension Plan and also the changes to the Family Allowances system on the order paper within a matter of weeks and, hopefully, conclude those also by the end of June. I have in mind as well the corporate and personal income tax measures that will be coming before the House. It may be that the House will have to deal with the question of redistribution, the matter of the Olympics and a possible amendment to the Immigration Appeal Board Act. I mention these as urgent items that have to be dealt with before the House can adjourn. I think hon. members ought to know the picture now, rather than learn it later.

Mr. Baldwin: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, for the benefit of the House may I ask a question about the bill on capital punishment? Is it the intention of the government to conclude the discussion on all stages of the bill on capital punishment? That is to say, is it intended that it go to committee, come back for debate at the report stage, and be debated on third reading? Is it the intention of the government to deal with all stages of the bill prior to the summer recess?

Mr. MacEachen: Yes, Mr. Speaker. It is certainly the intention of the government not to allow this matter to hang over the summer.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The Chair will recognize the hon. member for Lotbinière. I think I should urge this on all hon. members: an attempt should be made to get on with the order of business this afternoon. It seems to me we are delaying from minute to minute the submission of the motion which stands in the name of the hon. member for Champlain (Mr. Matte).

[*Translation*]

Mr. Fortin: Mr. Speaker, that is precisely why I wanted to rise on a point of order.

In view of the fact that by some strange coincidence two statements were made today in the House which took over an hour and five minutes of the time of the House and which encroached upon our opposition day—as far as I know, it is the third time since subsidies days were instituted—I would like to ask for the unanimous consent of the House to recuperate tonight the equivalent hour that we lost at the beginning of this sitting and which reduces our opposition day and that instead of adjourning at ten o'clock tonight, we adjourn at eleven o'clock.

Some hon. Members: No.

Mr. Speaker: There does not seem to be unanimous consent. I suggest quite humbly and in all fairness that it might be useful to have consultations between the representatives of the parties to find a way to ensure that the colleagues of the hon. member for Lotbinière (Mr. Fortin) have the opportunity to participate without any limitation of any kind in the debate scheduled in their name for today. In any case, I think we could present the motion and I would suggest that appropriate discussions be held later in the day between the representatives of the parties.

Mr. Fortin: Mr. Speaker, I do not know who shouted no but it can be seen that co-operation works only one way.

[*English*]

Mr. Speaker: Orders of the day.

● (1600)

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

[*Translation*]

BUSINESS OF SUPPLY

ALLOTTED DAY S.O. 58—REQUEST THAT GOVERNMENT TAKE MEASURES TO SAFEGUARD RIGHTS OF FRANCOPHONE AND ANGLOPHONE CANADIANS

Mr. René Matte (Champlain) moved:

That this House deplores the government's decision to postpone the full implementation of the policy contained in the Official Languages Act and censures the solutions proposed by the government, and consequently, urges the latter to find realistic and specific ways of safeguarding the rights of French- and English-speaking Canadians in a much more just and reasonable manner.

He said: Mr. Speaker, I particularly thank you for correcting the error contained in the text of the motion.

Mr. Speaker, I think it is high time in Canada as well as in this House that we clarify a certain situation, because for much too long the government of this country—more particularly the administration—has only put up a bilin-

gual front while we all very well know that we are governed by an exclusively English-speaking establishment.

Mr. Speaker, not to admit that this situation exists is not to be aware of what is happening. For about five years, I have had the honour to represent the Champlain riding in the House and during this period I could notice that the administrative services, as soon as it comes to an important level, do not have any French-speaking person, apart from a number of assistants who are there to help indirectly or in a parallel way but not so as to allow French Canadians to really feel at home here and within the government.

Mr. Speaker, it is urgent that not only the appearance of this country be bilingual but it is also important that the structures and members of administration and management be actually distributed according to a just and fair proportion of the ethnic components in our society. For a long time now we have been living in hope. After the passage of the Official Languages Act in 1969, great expectation arose because we felt that at least we held the key to French Canada's problem.

Mr. Speaker, that great expectation was expressed in the preamble to the motion proposed by the right hon. Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) last April 13. The preamble reads as follows and I quote:

(i) aware that, as provided in the Official Languages Act, the English and French languages possess and enjoy equality of status and equal rights and privileges as to their use in all the institutions of the Parliament and Government of Canada;

cognizant that it is the duty of departments and agencies of the Government of Canada to ensure, in accordance with that Act, that members of the public can obtain available services from and communicate with them in both official languages; while

recognizing that public servants should, as a general proposition and subject to the requirements of the Official Languages Act respecting the provision of services to the public, be able to carry out their duties in the Public Service of Canada in the official language of their choice;

Mr. Speaker, we fully agree with that preamble. We would like to see those principles become reality. We all agree on that point but we disagree when the time comes to apply these principles. Since the inception of the law we must say, Mr. Speaker, that not only did we not progress but, according to statistics, we are at a standstill and even rolling backwards in some areas.

On behalf of our party, on behalf of the official French Canadian opposition since our party has 15 out of 16 French-speaking members, we must say in this House what French Canada or, more precisely, what Quebec wants. This is why we believe that it was urgent to introduce a motion dealing with that problem even though the Prime Minister had already introduced a motion. The motion is an attempt to create an objective and realistic atmosphere, an atmosphere free of any emotion, animosity and struggle which might even remotely be interpreted as a racial struggle. No, Mr. Speaker. We are quite fair and we would like, especially on this special day, to see French-Canadian members better represented, especially those of the Liberal party, since I can see only three or four members from the Liberal party, which thinks of itself as the defender of bilingualism and biculturalism par excellence.

We have thus, Mr. Speaker, to concur that we are agreed on the principles on bilingualism contained in the Official Languages Act, and also on the motion introduced by the right hon. Prime Minister, that we have also to admit that we are greatly disappointed by the tangible means by which, supposedly, justice is to be done once and for all. I wish therefore, in my speech, to deal first with the Canadian history aspect, then with the present situation and, finally, to suggest our very tangible solutions.

It must be admitted that French Canadians have been deprived of their rights, ever since they were conquered, obviously, but more especially since 1867. I will not speak of their privileges, because they never had any. That is historical fact. We have been continually forced to carry on "extremist" fights to obtain rights that were sometimes as basic as that of speaking and being answered in our mother tongue.

It will be remembered, Mr. Speaker, that there were epic struggles to obtain bilingual cheques, bilingual money, bilingual stamps and a distinctive flag. Mr. Speaker, all these struggles should normally have been enough to permanently discourage the French Canadians, but their courage and tenacity have been such that they have overcome all these obstacles; unfortunately, however, the governments that succeeded one another always believed it was sufficient for the French Canadians to be satisfied and content to state principles and they believed they could solve all problems with a French Canadian party leader or Prime Minister. That was sufficient. The mere fact that the great Sir Wilfrid Laurier's name was Laurier, that he was a French Canadian, was sufficient to prevent all French Canadians from recriminating and demanding. The mere presence of a man at the head of the government was enough to satisfy the French Canadians who were then submerged in a period of darkness and were almost all non educated.

Later on, they realized that it took more than that but again the grand and great Liberal party solved the problem by electing Mr. Louis Stephen St-Laurent who, besides being a French Canadian prime minister, advocated good understanding for years. Again that seemed to satisfy the French Canadians since they were then at the dawn of a period of emancipation.

● (1610)

They seemed to be satisfied when the Liberal party was supported wholeheartedly with the Right Hon. Louis St-Laurent. Finally, people came to realize over the last few years that this was not sufficient and then we found a miracle solution with the coming of the Messiah, the current Prime Minister. Now, the Prime Minister is no longer content with having a French Canadian name nor with preaching good-will; he goes, I admit, a bit further. He incorporated into a law the principles that where only spoken about at the time of the hon. Louis St-Laurent and that were hardly mentioned at all at the time of Sir Wilfrid Laurier. Those principles were put in writing in 1968 and particularly in 1969 by the adoption of the Official Languages Act.

The proof is now established, as this happened four years ago, that no change occurred. This is why it is our duty, as the French-Canadian official opposition in this

House, to state things as they are, to point out the trouble and all together, I am convinced, with everybody's goodwill, we shall reach true solutions because, as you know, the Quebecer or the French Canadian has changed in that today he will not be content with principles. In fact, a fair proportion of Quebecers are disillusioned vis-à-vis the federal policy and with regards to how they are received by public servants and particularly by top administrators, we must agree that they are right and this is one of the reasons which have lead—I have had the opportunity to witness that on the front benches, for instance—the hon. Minister of Communications (Mr. Pelletier), his colleague, the hon. Minister of Transport (Mr. Marchand) and the right hon. Prime Minister himself to show Quebec that it was possible for French Canadians to have their share and obtain in the administration of this country the position they deserve. I do not know whether those three ministers, that used to be called the three doves, are also disillusioned but I have had the opportunity, at the beginning of this session, of hearing not only the Prime Minister but also the Minister of Transport deliver speeches, right here in the House. The latter expressed more or less what I am now saying, disappointment, going so far as to say that he was prepared to drop everything and leave if there were no change.

Now, Mr. Speaker, all we want to do is help the government settle the problem once and for all. This is not the time, when there is so much agitation in Quebec, with the situation critical, when it can truly be said that there is a real problem. It is not when a good proportion of Quebecers want French unilingualism in Quebec that we should come forward with such timid policy statements. I feel that would be showing complete lack of objectivity and realism. Let us be realistic. Let us not, practicing the policy of the ostrich, believe that in 1973 we can solve our problems by policy statements.

Mr. Speaker, the very future of our country rests particularly in the hands of French Canada. I am not saying so to brag, to push one ethnic origin rather than another, but it is well known throughout the country that if there were no French Canada, there just would not be a Canada at all and that if Canada does exist, if we are an entity different from the American entity, it is because there is a Quebec, because there are French Canadians. And therefore, our hon. colleagues from all Canadian provinces, more particularly from the west, and from Ontario, should not only give more concrete acceptance to the French fact in our country, but even more heaven and earth, in favour of great progress in Canada, not only to protect the interests of French Canadians, but also those of all other Canadians.

I think this aspect is important, Mr. Speaker, for however much we talk about unity and harmony, there is no escaping the fact that we must also talk about the facts, and there can only be harmony or unity if there is agreement between Canadians of different origin. So let us not take it for granted that Canadians of French origin are today not ready to co-operate to the full for the emancipation and fulfilment of Canada. We would like to build up a national consciousness in this country, we would like to feel here that we are really true Canadians, but for this to happen, all of us, in all the provinces from coast to coast,

have great need of the French-speaking cultural contribution and French-Canadian participation.

Mr. Speaker, this picture of our present situation leads me to think that there have always been difficulties in implementing principles, even the Constitution. Reading the sections of the British North America Act that deal with the rights of the French language in this country, we still find them ambiguous and a source of renewed disputes and problems. Therefore, if this document is not sufficiently clear, it must be changed. And if at some point we find ourselves under the yoke called Confederation, why should we not be able to change this wretched yoke, if that is what is preventing harmony and unity in Canada.

And so, since certain sections of the Constitution are not clear enough regarding linguistic sharing and rights, we should simply think of changing them. Of course, you could answer that the Official Languages Act is supposed to do just that, and that there is no need to amend the Constitution, but then, although the principles of this act are extremely fair, and were adopted by all Members of Parliament in 1969, what has happened since then? We have seen people raise obstacles, people from the establishment try by all means to impede the implementation of the Official Languages Act. Who were those people? We do not know. It seems that in the establishment of high officials it is very difficult to know those things. But in any case some Members of Parliament reacted and I would like to point out a statement made not by anybody but by the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Stanfield) who said yesterday, and I quote:

> It would be racial discrimination to want to set up special programs to recruit French-speaking people in the public service.

When we want to implement principles the Leader of the Opposition himself, undoubtedly under pressure from different parts of the country, objects to increasing the participation of French-speaking people in the administration simply to make an abnormal thing normal. But since the country has been in an abnormal situation for years, the suggestion of coming back to a normal situation seems revolutionary because we have grown accustomed to a routine, we have become encrusted and we imagine that when French Canadians demand equality in this country that cannot be done—

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Laniel): Order. Is the hon. member rising on a point or order?

Mr. Heward Grafftey (Brome-Missisquoi): I simply want to point out immediately that the Leader of the Opposition did not make any such statement and everybody knows that. The Leader of the Opposition has given his entire support to the Commissioner of Official Languages. This is no time for demagogy.

● (1620)

Mr. Matte: Mr. Speaker, I will merely point out to the hon. member that I was reading a text that I have in my hand and the contents of which he may check himself.

Anyhow, Mr. Speaker, the principles must be unanimously approved by the House. We realize that when they are to be implemented, several put a spoke in the wheels.

During the last electoral campaign, there were unfortunately some candidates in several constituencies who took advantage of that situation to get elected. It is not funny, but that is what happened.

Now, Mr. Speaker, such a thing should not happen again. We should not, in order to keep up appearances and soothe the feelings of the various ethnic groups in this country, say that we are in favour. We are all in favour of bilingualism, we want French-Canadians to obtain justice, but we merely agree and remain idle. However, it is too late now, we have reached a much further stage, hence the need for the motion which we are introducing today.

Mr. Speaker, I should also mention that when I speak as I now do, I have major reasons to do so, and roughly I should say that the Commissioner of Official Languages, appointed as a result of the adoption of the legislation, recognizes and deplores the situation, and those who attended meetings of the Committee on Miscellaneous Estimates and heard Mr. Spicer's evidence were able to see that he made no bones about saying he was disappointed and even disillusioned and that in his opinion things were not going as they should.

Mr. Spicer went so far as to say that the deadline, as far as he is concerned, is not 1978 as planned by the government, but that we have a mere two years from now to achieve the objectives of the Official Languages Act.

Mr. Speaker, when the bilingualism ombudsman, Mr. Spicer, reaches the same conclusions as we do, taking into consideration complaints received and analyses and studies carried out, I do not believe hon. members in this House can doubt his word.

Mr. Speaker, I repeat that it is time to act. Words we have heard and no doubt will hear again, but we need action. I refer to the speech that the Right Hon. Prime Minister, Mr. Pearson, made April 6, 1966:

> To this end, and having regard to the character of our country, the government for several years has been taking practical steps to encourage bilingualism in the federal public service as part of its fundamental objective of promoting and strengthening national unity on the basis of the equality of rights and opportunities for both English speaking and French speaking Canadians.

Mr. Speaker, again, we all agree on this. That was in 1966, but we are now in 1973. What practical change has taken place? That is the problem. On September 28, 1963, Mr. Gilles Lalande said, and I quote:

> —That the federal government, which has instructed the Laurendeau-Dunton Royal Commission in its terms of reference to make recommendations such as to ensure the bilingual and basically bicultural nature of the federal administration, not only encourage the sporadic use of French in Ottawa, but also allow French-Canadians to start working according to their own culture in certain units of the federal administration. Because it is important to put an end as soon as possible to the era of French Canadian deputy directors, isolated and lost in Anglo-Saxon surroundings, and to do away with the misleading practice of having representatives, French-speaking or with a French name, on boards of directors.

And Mr. Lalande, Mr. Speaker, is not a member of the Social Credit party, as far as I know, and to enlighten the House, I should say he was the co-secretary of the Royal Commission on Bilingualism and Biculturalism. I go on quoting:

> The wrong solution: Bilingualism.

As a matter of fact, Mr. Speaker, the problem in this country is not one of languages. The problem in this country is a problem of participation and even if the entire federal administration were bilingual, if 90 or 95 per cent of the administrators are English-speaking, nothing would be solved since the French Canadian would not yet feel at home. Thus, it is wrong to solve the problem by bilingualism.

Mr. Speaker, I agree with the point of view of westerners, for intance, when they do not see the necessity of learning French to climb the administrative ladder. I understand them, I approve them; they are right because it is not a problem of languages and we must not ignore people who are really competent on the grounds that they do not know another language. Mr. Speaker, as far as I know, American people with their scientists succeeded in launching satellites in space and they did it in English. We all know as well that the Russian people did it and they did so in Russian. Competence, in any area, is not a matter of language and the world has known geniuses who worked in all languages. I think it is stupid to require that someone know another language to give him a position. It is stupid and those who criticize this point of view are right.

Areas where bilingualism becomes a factor of competence, since it can be in some areas, are of minor significance. It would be rather inappropriate, for instance, to hire a unilingual guide or security agent for the central door of the Parliament building. It would be inappropriate to hire a unilingual stewardess, train engineer, telephone operator or receptionist. At that level bilingualism becomes a factor of competence, but not at other levels.

Therefore, to find the true solution we need parallel administration where anyone, be he French- or English-speaking, will have access to all administrative positions including that of deputy minister. This is the solution. This is the solution we were advocating during the last election campaign and it is clearly established. We know that the solution has already been "preached" in 1963 by none other than the co-secretary of the Laurendeau-Dunton commission and this is why these recommendations are ours today because we know that this is the only solution. We will never be able to impose bilingualism to people—who are not interested in it and I understand them—under the pretense that we want to introduce this concept here. This is a false solution and, Mr. Speaker, I see that you are about to rise to remind me that my time is expired—

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Laniel): Order. Perhaps we could settle the problem by suggesting to hon. members that they grant a few more minutes to the hon. member for Champlain (Mr. Matte) to complete his speech.

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Laniel): It is agreed. The hon. member for Champlain.

Mr. Matte: Mr. Speaker, I will not abuse my colleagues' kindness but I think it is important that the government should adopt the solution we are advocating. We have no exclusive rights to it.

● (1630)

All the less as some people thought about it. So Mr. Lalande said, and I quote:

Nothing would be more untrue and indeed more detrimental to the national interests of French Canada than to seek that basically bicultural character in Canadian institutions above all through bilingualism.

The French Canadians could not settle their participation problem through bilingualism.

Nothing would be more dangerous for the French Canadians than to let the pursuing of a cultural interpretation by the French speaking and English speaking elements in the federal public service or to sit and watch a generalization of the half-English half-French formula already advocated by certain ministers lacking in inspiration. Of course, steps must be taken to spread the knowledge of the French and English languages among the staff of the federal public service serving bilingual people, as it is done in big private business. But where decisions are in the making, where policies, the impact of which will affect the country as a whole, are worked out (in federal departments or within the federal bureaucracy in Ottawa), the administration could never replace bicultural management however imperfect it may be, by purely bilingual elements, should they even be partly French Canadians.

Mr. Chairman, this is the solution. French Canadians must feel completely at home in Ottawa; they must participate and to enable him to do so, executive positions must be opened to him where the rights and privileges of no one will be infringed upon. This is the reason why by setting up separate French and English units within all departments, we will be able to create an equality for which all French Canadians long so much, but not a mathematical or numerical equality but one based on needs. It should be understood, for instance, that obviously, the French network of the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation does not have the same scope as the English network because its needs are not as great. The French network of the CBC does not need so many television or radio stations as the English network. This is quite normal, but there is an equality and, as far as I know, nobody has ever criticized the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation in this regard and complained that there is only one corporation but two independent networks, though they work along together very well within one corporation.

I go on quoting the statement by Mr. Lalande:

As for us, we are of the opinion that real biculturalism demands at least in part the duality of agencies . . . To refuse systematically the formula of duality is as far as we are concerned, to show preference for the maintenance of a bicultural front; it also means to believe in a myth, namely "national culturalism". But to accept to consider it, on the contrary, means not to refuse to entertain in a concrete manner the seeping of French-Canadian vigour into the concepts and methods that are far too English prevailing in all our so-called Canadian institutions; finally, it means being ready to live a true biculturalism.

Mr. Speaker, I wanted to quote those comments made by the secretary of the Laurendeau-Dunton Commission because they agree with our own program. I am sure that even if we persist in trying to implement a complete, awkward and costly sort of bilingualism and quote figures, and even if the government were to order an enquiry into the matter, people would realized that the type of federal administration we advocate would be less costly than the extensive bilingualism that we are now seeking to implement. In fact, although French is being taught to unilingual English-speaking civil servants, will that change anything? Through what miracle will these people transmit their knowledge to those who will come after them?

So, there is no alternative but to give each and every citizen a chance for true emancipation and fulfilment and thus we will achieve, and we French Canadians will be glad to co-operate participation, in building a truly Canadian nation. We shall then be able to work together toward the betterment of our population as a whole.

Mr. Heward Grafftey (Brome-Missisquoi): Mr. Speaker, I want to say as briefly as possible that this afternoon I intend to discuss bilingualism not as a member of the Progressive Conservative party, which would be quite natural, as I am a member of that party—

An hon. Member: We have nothing against that.

Mr. Grafftey: —but as a Canadian Member of Parliament. I am convinced, Mr. Speaker, that if we do discuss bilingualism along party lines we will be waging an electoral battle here in this House and it is our country, Canada, that will suffer thereby.

I do not want to dwell too long on my leader's position but where bilingualism is concerned, I want to work as a Canadian in this House, along with the Social Credit members, the New Democratic Party members, the Liberal members and my own colleagues. But let us be realistic; you know as well as I do where my leader, the hon. leader of the Opposition (Mr. Stanfield) stands with regard to bilingualism.

I will say it again: if we are to discuss bilingualism and stick to our party lines, it is our country, Canada that will suffer, and this parliament might suffer too, Mr. Speaker.

As member for Brome-Missisquoi, I don't want to go into too many details, Mr. Speaker, but here in Ottawa, I have the honor—and one cannot imagine how proud I am of it—to represent a riding which is 95 per cent French-speaking. Unfortunately, when I entered politics, in Ottawa, my French was awful. But today, I don't want to discuss the matter of length. The fact is that as a member representing Brome-Missisquoi in Ottawa, I have not been commissioned by my constituents to discuss bilingualism and official languages and make a political play of it.

[*English*]

There will be some who will think I am talking in motherhood clichés, Mr. Speaker, when I say that I want to underline once and for all—I sometimes suspect politicians when they say outside of the economic arena that this thing or that thing must be discussed in a bipartisan approach—that I am convinced as I have never been convinced before that if we discuss language rights in a political arena such as this House of Commons, or back in our ridings or during an election campaign, it is this institution which suffers; it is Canada which suffers. The approach of our party has always been the same. When the right hon. member for Prince Albert (Mr. Diefenbaker) was Prime Minister—and I underline that I do not say this in a partisan way—we were prepared to take a bipartisan approach to constitutional modernization. We were prepared to take a bipartisan approach to language rights and

the question of whether or not they should be re-enshrined in the constitution, as they always have been.

Let me say this. It was to be a modern constitution for modern times. Whether or not it involved the improvement of language rights in Ottawa, the right hon. gentleman told me, told the opposition of the day and told every member of his caucus that we must take a bipartisan approach to this issue. At that time Mr. Laurendeau very sincerely put forward the proposition of the B and B Commission. We did not reject it out of hand, but thought we had a better approach. It was at that time unfortunately—and I am not naming any members of any party—that certain individuals both inside and outside this House tried to paint our party as anti-Quebec. Nonsense. We had our way and others had their way.

[*Translation*]

And unfortunately, since then, and too often indeed especially during the last decade, we have been discussing this business of official languages and bilingualism, within and without this House from political viewpoints.

Many times, Mr. Speaker—

[*English*]

If in the past I have rarely spoken on this subject, if in the past I have been shy about talking on this subject, it has been because my constituents do not really encourage me to do this. In the little village in which I live there are 500 families, 250 of which are French-speaking and 250 of which are English-speaking. My executive assistant here in Ottawa speaks French to his mother and English to his father. Do you think I have a mandate to discuss in a partisan way this issue which goes to the very fabric of the nation? No.

[*Translation*]

And I ask each member to take that question out of its political context as soon as possible in the best interests of the country.

Mr. Speaker, the Confederation Act enacted over a 100 years ago was an act of faith in which the Liberals and the Conservatives co-operated to lay the foundations of our country, Canada. The Fathers of Confederation discussed at the very beginning not from a political tribune or as Tories and Grits. They were first of all Canadians. It is therefore quite natural from time to time to deal with the matter as politicians, because the enticements were there. I admit that it was done before and after but in general, it can be said that the debates on Confederation were carried on outside the political field by the Fathers of Confederation.

It seems to me superfluous to say that the issue of official languages must be discussed in the same spirit. I wish to state that each member, either a New Democrat, a Créditiste, a Liberal or a Progressive Conservative, wants to discuss about the welfare of Canada before dealing with the welfare of his political party.

Today, however we do not only have the Liberals and the Progressive Conservatives, but also our friends the New Democrats and the Créditistes.

• (1640)

[*English*]

But there is one more thing, Mr. Speaker, and let us put the cards on the table right away. If we were discussing the future of Canada as the Fathers of Confederation did 100 years ago, Liberals and Conservatives together putting Canada first, we would have to remember, whether we were discussing constitutional provisions or language rights, that Canada was a different country in those years. Toward the end of the last century, during the beginning of this century and even today, many people have been coming to this great land of ours to share in the experience of nation building, people who either call themselves Francophones or are from the United Kingdom. I am not just speaking of the west where the multicultural force is so great, but those people must certainly feel left out of this debate. It reminds me somewhat of charter members of an old club arguing over who comes first while the new members are left out. Let us stop this nonsense. We can stop it, especially with the makeup of the present House of Commons, if we let every iota of partisanship out of this debate.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Speaker, there is another thing that I want to discuss very clearly in a not too partisan manner, I hope. But I direct my remarks today especially to the Minister of Transport (Mr. Marchand) and occasionally to the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) and the Postmaster General (Mr. Ouellet).

I deplore the fact, Mr. Speaker, that we are only two representatives from the province of Quebec in the Progressive Conservative party and I am sure that the Liberals are sorry they did not even elect one member from the province of Alberta. It may be unfortunate for national unity but when the ministers see that we are not a national party, can the Liberals honestly think that it is a good thing for national unity and the future of our country? The Liberal party is a great national party, and so is ours, and I do everything I can as a Progressive Conservative member from the province of Quebec to build efficiently the two-party system. And when the ministers see that we are not a national party, when they did not even win one seat in Alberta, they are playing with the fabric of our country, Canada. The Liberals are a national party, and so are we.

In 1958, when there were only 48 Liberals in Parliament and more than half were from the province of Quebec, not even once did we find that the Liberal party was not a national party, because it was indeed a national party. No one should say that. I talked on several occasions with my colleagues of the Liberal party from the province of Quebec and they regret as often as I do the statements made by the Postmaster General, the Minister of Transport and even the Prime Minister.

[*English*]

Let us nail that to the wall right away. There are two great national parties in this House.

An hon. Member: Four.

Mr. Grafftey: I withdraw. You are right. There are four national parties in this House, whether or not we have

equal distribution. I stand corrected. The minute we start throwing rhetoric around—and we never did it in 1958 when over 50 per cent of the Liberal caucus was drawn from my province—it ceases to be a joking matter. Sometimes we say statesmanlike things here on the floor of the House only to appear on television back home in our ridings not always saying the same things. At the risk of repeating one cliché after another, I appeal to the House for the fourth or fifth time to stop that kind of nonsense and approach this subject in a bipartisan all-Canadian way.

[*Translation*]

In the province of Quebec—let us be realistic—the minister of Transport claims that the sole federalist party in Canada is the Liberal party. If this is really true, we, as Quebecers, at the federal and provincial levels, have only the choice between the Grits and René Lévesque; the Parti québécois will accede to power sooner than expected. Such a belief is ridiculous and I am a federalist even if I reject the kind of federalism or the federalist doctrine of the right hon. prime minister, that of confrontation. I do not accept it but I remain, I hope, as good a federalist as he is.

But when it is claimed that there is but one choice in Quebec, the Grits or the Parti québécois, this is quite dangerous for national unity and everybody knows it as well as I do.

[*English*]

There is no such simple choice, and no demogoguery or simplistic argument will prove otherwise.

[*Translation*]

I definitely share, Mr. Speaker, the views stated today by the hon. member for Champlain (Mr. Matte), as well as most of his ideas, but I am certain that as a Quebecer, I have often heard the speeches of the leader of the Social Credit party of Canada (Mr. Caouette) in Quebec. He is often right when he deals with economic questions: he wants bread and butter on the table of all our fellow-citizens. When the leader of the Social Credit party of Canada deals with economic questions, when he says in Quebec that our fellow-citizens must be in a position to support themselves, I agree. This is why we must not let an issue such as bilingualism be raised up in a political context in the House or at the next election.

Fifteen years ago, I was elected for the first time as member for Brome-Missisquoi. I was not satisfied as far as bilingualism was concerned. I was quite often compelled to return unilingual documents to bureaucrats to obtain a translation. But I did not need a Royal Commission of Inquiry on Bilingualism and Biculturalism to tell me that my secretary should be bilingual, because it is absolutely essential.

I wonder to what extent—the Créditiste leader has quite often spoken about that—the issue will be settled with some regulation or commission here and there. We would rather settle the matter in good faith and in a fine Canadian spirit. I hope that during the next weeks we will speak as united Canadians.

[Mr. Grafftey.]

• (1650)

[*English*]

Naturally, Mr. Speaker, there are many issues, not necessarily economic, that we sometimes discuss, although perhaps we should not, in a very partisan way. It is my hope, however, that we will approach the next election fighting on bread and butter issues. There is not a member of this House of Commons, no matter where he comes from in Canada, who has been given a firm mandate by his constituents to let this issue get into the political arena. I believe that, as I have never believed anything before. That is the mandate, the very special mandate of the right hon. Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau). It is the mandate of all of us. He knows where the Leader of the Opposition stands on this issue.

More than anything it is the duty of the Prime Minister to pull this issue out of the political partisan arena. Whether it is a resolution that is coming before us, whether it is a bill that is coming before us, let us be very careful about the consequences. Any time someone gets up to discuss a detail of that resolution or that bill he may be labelled anti this or anti that. There may be some short-term gain, but there is only going to be long-term chaos.

If I have repeated myself perhaps seven or eight times I have done so because, while we do not talk about it in my riding and I do not think we talk about it all that much in Canada, it is a subject about which if we really believe in Canada and its future, we feel deeply. It is deep down in our dreams of national unity.

[*Translation*]

I am sure, Mr. Speaker, that we will tackle the issue of bilingualism during the next few weeks as Canadians rather than as members of political parties.

PROCEEDINGS ON ADJOURNMENT MOTION

SUBJECT MATTER OF QUESTIONS TO BE DEBATED

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Laniel): Order. It is my duty, pursuant to Standing Order 40, to inform the House that the questions to be raised tonight at the time of adjournment are as follows: the hon. member for Victoria-Haliburton (Mr. Scott)—Housing—Rochdale College—Report ordered by Ontario Attorney General on activities—Action by Minister of Justice; the hon. member for Nickel Belt (Mr. Rodriguez)—Manpower—International Nickel Company—Projected production and employment levels—Provision of information to department; the hon. member for Humber—St. George's St. Barbe (Mr. Marshall)—Social security—Request that family allowance payments be tied to cost of living index pending increases.

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

BUSINESS OF SUPPLY

ALLOTTED DAY S.O. 58—REQUEST THAT GOVERNMENT TAKE MEASURES TO SAFEGUARD RIGHTS OF FRANCOPHONE AND ANGLOPHONE CANADIANS

The House resumed consideration of the motion of Mr. Matte:

That this House deplores the government's decision to postpone the full implementation of the policy contained in the Official Languages Act and censures the solutions proposed by the government, and consequently, urges the latter to find realistic and specific ways of safeguarding the rights of French- and English-speaking Canadians in a much more just and reasonable manner.

Mr. John Harney (Scarborough West): Mr. Speaker, I would like to begin my remarks this afternoon by reflecting a little on the comments that have just been made by the hon. member for Brome-Missisquoi (Mr. Grafftey).

[*English*]

I think, Mr. Speaker, I understand the sentiments that drove the hon. member to make the statement which he just made, that the matters of language policy and bilingualism, the use of the official languages, should be taken out of the political arena, but if I may be allowed what I believe is an important distinction, I believe I would like to take a position slightly different from his. I do not think that a matter that is so vital to so many people in Canada can be taken out of the political arena. Of course, it stands to reason that we not only have the right but the duty to speak of these matters here in parliament, and outside of parliament as well.

Perhaps if he meant that matters of language and language policy should be taken out of partisan debate I would be more inclined to share his views, but the question is political, totally political. Our people are looking for a wise but nevertheless political answer. Of course, if it is going to be in the political arena we are going to hear strange noises from time to time. There will be extreme statements made by some persons. We are, after all, all of us human. There are 260 or more of us. I was going to say 260 odd, but sometimes that word is misunderstood. There are 22 million more throughout the country, and we all have freedom of speech as well as the responsibility that comes with freedom of speech. So it will be, when it comes to the language question, that you will hear jackasses braying on both sides. But perhaps we could take some comfort from the fact that a nation that brays together stays together.

I am simply putting it that way to underline the fact that all of us must feel free at any time to talk about these matters. If we, as representatives of the people, speak foolishly, then the people will take us to account. But in no way can we listen to exhortations that we stop talking about this matter in this parliament, in this country, and on the hustings. I, for one, have paid quite a bit of attention to this question. I was going to say for some ten years now, since the late right hon. prime minister Pearson said that there would be a commission on biculturalism and bilingualism, but my concern goes back further than that. As a matter of fact, if I remember correctly, the first time that the problem of language in this country struck me was that morning in the early summer, or spring, I forget exactly when the date was, over 23 years ago when the Korean war was declared. If I may be allowed I will take some time to repeat the anecdote because it certainly had an influence on me.

[*Translation*]

At that time, I was working in a factory in the eastern part of Quebec City. The other workers and I used to gather in a square at 7:30 a.m. while waiting for the bus that would take us to the factory. Normally, while waiting for the bus, we would get together and chat.

Of course, the news of the day can be discussed, as well as all kinds of other subjects. At any rate, we were talking, chatting away as serious as you please, but that particular morning I was seated, reading a newspaper, the *Journal de Montréal*, dealing with the declaration of war in Korea. After a while, I noticed that I alone was reading and that my colleagues were grouped a little to the side. Three of them left the group and approached me, like a delegation. The oldest of the three said: "Listen, is there going to be war?" I replied: "I don't know, you see, I am just reading the newspaper, I don't know much about that". But he added: "If there was a war, would there be a draft?" Again, I replied: "I have no idea. Why ask me that?" They replied: "First of all, you go to college, and besides you are English." Mr. Speaker, I remembered that remark later on. That showed me, first of all, that class distinctions do exist in this country. We can set that matter aside, but let us speak of the second part of the question. It struck me and I have never been able to forget it. With all the good will in the world, one cannot help but notice that there is a difference, and that some people, and for good reasons, feel left outside of certain things; they do not feel that they are part of the great movements in this country. In this case, workers, most of them in their forties, would come and ask a lad of 17 what was going to happen because they thought that little guy knew, just because he spoke English. That struck me, and since then I have been interested in the problem of languages in my country. I certainly intend to discuss the matter in a political arena, and especially this one.

• (1700)

[*English*]

Mr. Speaker, it is a very complex matter, of course, and I have said nothing when I said that. We all know that. There are an enormous number of distinctions that have to be made and made by all of the members of this House with regard to the terms that we use to discuss language policy. Obviously, one major distinction is that an official language policy is not a bilingualism policy. Let us make that absolutely clear. You could have, for example, the complete, adequate and thorough operation of the Official Languages Act in the federal service and still have done very little toward the development of bilingualism, as such, across the nation.

Bilingualism has to do with a person being bilingual, with a person being able to speak at least two languages. That is why, Mr. Speaker, although I find it illuminating to some degree, I find it even more confusing to hear the language used very often around this House, around this hill and in the reports of the Commissioner of Official

Languages—the language which says that what we are after is institutional bilingualism. Mr. Speaker, institutions do not speak; people speak. I think that is a tremendously important distinction to keep in mind. The official languages policy is not the same thing as a bilingual policy. A bilingual policy does not mean necessarily a policy wherein persons who have only one language. who are unilingual, can have full rights. Obviously, we can see that the government is beginning to move toward this kind of distinction as it proposes the nine principles for our consideration. There is beginning to be a refinement of those distinctions; certainly, there is more refinement now than ten years ago when the "Bi-Bi" commission was first launched.

The speaker from the Social Credit party certainly made some very important points. I cannot agree with what he was specifying as a solution, perhaps because I have not thought about it fully.

[*Translation*]

But I find it rather difficult to understand him. Perhaps he will be able to explain to me, if we stay here long enough, what he means by a parallel government or a parallel system of government? It is not the story about Mr. Ryan—that I know very well—but when he speaks about duplication of services, I have some difficulty in understanding exactly what that means, and I ask him to be patient, not for a generation, but for sometime, because my colleagues have to study his suggestions. In a way, I come closer to his position, when I note the figures mentioned lately by the Official Language Commissioner, concerning the number of bilingual employees in the public service, because I realize that I must act soon, and vigorously. All hon. members may not have seen those statistics, but here is an excerpt of his text. I will quote that text in English, in order not to mispronounce the figures. Here they are:

[*English*]

Total public service appointments 1971 and 1972, distribution by language requirements: Bilingual 1971, 9.1 per cent; 1972, 7.6 per cent; French, 8.3 per cent in 1971, 11 per cent in 1972; English, 79.2 per cent in 1971, 75.6 per cent in 1972. The figures speak for themselves and they do not need to be underlined. I am sure they have been cited enough in this House to point out that whatever our good intentions may be, we are not moving fast in the direction of giving equality of opportunity to the French speaking citizens of this country. When it comes to service being provided to them by the public service of Canada, we certainly come nowhere near equality of participation by French speaking citizens in this country in the public service of their country.

It might strike a lot of people, Mr. Speaker, that the imposition of quotas is not a matter of common sense, that in the normal way of thinking that we have in this country we believe that people who try for jobs should deserve those jobs; they should be qualified and they should have merit. This is called the merit principle. But I should like to give this House a little warning about common sense. There are many things that we do, and that we believe, which are not common sense. For example, in a very important way it is not evident common sense that such a thing as a trade union movement is good. Obviously, people who work harder should be allowed to move fast and earn more money. Why do we need an institution such as a trade union movement? We need such an institution, we have finally come to realize, because the common sense world we thought existed did not exist in the way we thought it did.

If you cannot follow the trade union example, let me give you another of what common sense tells us. For centuries, Mr. Speaker, all men and women said, "Of course, the sun goes around the earth; it is common sense, it is evident". They also said, "Of course, the earth is flat; it is common sense, we can all see it". So, common sense can be a very dangerous guide. What we, as parliamentarians, have to use very often is uncommon sense—a sense which takes us beyond the surface of things and makes us dig into patterns and shapes which control our lives and society.

So if I advance a notion, it is not exactly the same notion at all as the one presented by the speaker from the Social Credit party that there should be something like quotas for recruiting of personnel into the public service, I know I will be met with a barrage of remarks to the effect that it is not common sense. But I say that in order to preserve this country, and the solidarity of this country, we will just have to use more everyday common sense.

Mr. Speaker, I could give you many other examples of how we, in our society, have done things which at first glance do not stand up to casual, normal inspection, but we know that without those things and those institutions our society would not work.

I support the notion put forward by the speaker from the Social Credit party that we must concentrate on what he calls "participation"; that is the key to the solution of the problem. Eventually, how this participation is to be worked out will have to be a matter of considerable and thoughtful debate. Certainly, I support that approach. We have to make a collective decision about it and take collective action; otherwise, all we are talking about is motherhood and we are only involved in wishful thinking.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Speaker, I cannot identify with the monolingual Members of Parliament, whether English- or French-speaking, because I can really say that I express myself fairly well in English and that I can also get by in French. I am in a rather fortunate position.

I thank hon. members for their applause, but there is no merit attached to such a position. I owe it to my mother, who is a French-Canadian. I did not learn French in school, although they tried to teach me a bit. But intellectually at least, I think I understand the position of the monolingual French-Canadian, especially in this House, because wherever he goes, he is aware that poeple think he is monolingual "for ulterior motives".

He must be aware that, although we are today discussing seriously the question of the official language in the public service, we are somewhat isolated in Ottawa, that the public service itself is somewhat isolated from the rest of the country, and that even if a completely bilingual public service could be achieved, that would not make it a bilingual country.

Just in case I am somewhat hard to understand because what I am saying is too abstract, I shall now give some concrete examples.

Here on Parliament Hill, everything is in English and in French: the signs, notices, paper work and translations. If you go out towards the fence around Parliament Hill, you see that the signs and notices are still bilingual, written in both the official languages. They say in French that it is "une impasse", and in English that it is one-way. So far so good, but as soon as you are outside this fence, this barrier, you find yourself in the real world of Canada, and the monolingual French-Canadian is confronted with a traffic light for pedestrians which says: "*Walk—Don't walk*".

This is just an example, but I think it sums up the situation and that there are some alarming phenomena in this country. In the federal public service, some attempt is being made to introduce and encourage the use of both the official languages. You might say that we are encouraging bilingualism, but outside Parliament Hill and the public service, the trend is in the other direction.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to quote a few figures on the teaching of French as a second language in the English-speaking provinces and on the teaching of English as a second language in the province of Quebec.

[*English*]

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, please. I regret to interrupt the hon. member, but the time allotted to him has expired. He may continue, if he has the unanimous consent of the House.

Some hon. Members: Continue.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Is this agreed?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Mr. Harney: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will try to be brief. I think I can probably sum up in approximately three minutes; but may I point out that what I have to say in that time will in no way complete all I have to say on this subject.

I just want to make this one point. If you look at the figures having to do with the teaching of French in the English speaking provinces in Canada, you could be greatly alarmed. If you look at students in English speaking provinces across Canada who were studying French, I am speaking of students in high school, and express their number as a percentage of those who could study French, you will find that these figures hold true: In 1970-71, 55.7 per cent of the students who could study French, were studying French at some time during their high school career. I am not saying how much French they studied or for how long; I am merely saying that that percentage were exposed to some French instruction. In 1971-72, the percentage came down to 53.2 per cent. In 1972-73, the last year for which I have figures the percentage is reduced to 47.0 per cent. The decline is alarming, Mr. Speaker, and I predict that the figures for this year will be even more staggering.

I will end on this note: We cannot here discuss the matter of official languages, bilingualism and the rights of unilingual personnel in the Public Service, in isolation from what exists in the rest of the country, because we could well discover ourselves moving in one direction while the country is moving in another. Although it may not be terribly relevant to the members of the Social Credit party if people in English Canada have some ability to speak French, it is terribly relevant to me, and to many others in English Canada. I, for one, want to ask the government to begin discussions with the provinces, with a view to reversing the present trend; otherwise, no matter what we do to improve the linguistic capabilities of our civil servants, we may well find that we have a bilingual civil service operating in a country that is essentially not bilingual, as may happen in a few years from now.

● (1720)

[*Translation*]

Mr. Claude Wagner (St. Hyacinthe): Mr. Speaker, while listening earlier to the comments made by the hon. member for Champlain (Mr. Matte) in presenting his motion to the House I must say that at the very beginning I could not help smiling when, for instance, the hon. member thinking of the 15 seats won by his party in the province of Quebec did not hesitate to mistake those seats for the French Canadian population of Quebec.

I would remind the hon. member that population should not be counted in terms of seats but in terms of the individuals themselves and I think that the half million Quebec voters who have chosen the Progressive Conservative Party at the last election would feel quite uneasy in considering themselves among the official opposition as the hon. member for Champlain tried to recall.

I was also smiling because the hon. member for Champlain reminded me unintentionally of the comments made in this House by his leader on January 4 and 8 last, and I quote:

> The differences of opinion with regard to linguistic matters did not constitute a real problem but that it was made to look like a problem because of a sad lack of purchasing power in all of the provinces.

Mr. Speaker, today the Créditiste party wants to plead in favour of bilingualism. It has the right to do so, even if people are concerned over extremely urgent problems. It has the right to do it because bilingualism is obviously of vital importance for Canada's future. But just the same we should be aware that the House will have to discuss this very problem within the next few weeks when it takes into consideration the resolution brought in by the government. And at that time an exhaustive study of the government plan already on the order paper will be undertaken.

In any event, opposition is our right here and we respect this right. With them, we shall officially reopen the very important record of bilingualism. I confess that I feel at ease to deal with the language policy in Canada in general and in the public service in particular. Just like several other hon. members of all political parties, especially the present leader of the government and the leader of the opposition, I can express myself adequately in both official languages of the country and I am proud of it.

On the other hand, since I have just mentioned it, I would like to add that I am particularly pleased to sit and to work at the side of the leader of my party; all hon.

members, like an increasing number of French-speaking Canadians, must recognize today the highly praisable and already very effective personal efforts he has been making for four years to speak correctly in French.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Wagner: If the applause that comes from all sides is any indication, this is an eloquent and worthy example not only for parliamentarians as a whole but for all our fellow citizens. And this attitude, like the attitude of the other party leaders who are here, is worth many speeches and many votes of principle on bilingualism.

Mr. Speaker, all of us in this House, with more solidarity than ever, support the intent and direction of the lingustic policy sketched under the initiative of the late right hon. Lester B. Pearson and already launched in fact by the right hon. member for Prince Albert (Mr. Diefenbaker) when he was leader of the government.

It would be unfortunate if today, in an altogether regionalist spirit, a debate would harden even before it is formally restarted. Nobody will hasten the advent of a large concensus on a linguistic policy developed to its fullest by playing petty politics or harshly introducing a motion that would only deal superficially with the problem. If there is a legislative area where all regional barriers and especially political labels and narrow and partisan considerations must be put aside, it is indeed that of the official languages of a country. Without an open mind, without an unpolitical approach, without mutual understanding, we would easily become, some of us at least, overly racist. Since we have a mandate from our constituents, we have no right to be sceptics, even less pessimists; on the contrary, more than ever, we must stick together so that our flag, which proudly stands to your right, Mr. Speaker, will always be recognized and saluted by the two founding communities of our nation. Now, without any false modesty, I want to address all members in this House as well as all Canadians, and all those who will hear me, and tell them that as a Canadian and as a proud Canadian and French-speaking Quebecer; intolerance, never more! Mr. Speaker, I should also like to say that a new world is emerging in which the majority of Canadians are less than 35, in which the level of education and school attendance are unprecedented, in which the instruments of sub-culture such as the media and modern audio-visual aids develop creativeness as never before, in which people are more concerned than past generations ever were with world problems or with new disciplines such as cybernetics, environment and what not, and where especially, in this new world, dialogue and understanding take the form of community life.

New possibilities exist when interprovincial or international travels—and soon maybe interplanetary—take less than no time, waves know no boundaries, currencies move more and more freely, languages are easier to learn and allow you to discover other people and, finally, when modern pedagogy is both an animator and a catalyst of an international conscience. Finally, I would like to tell them, Mr. Speaker: we must find new solutions. Tomorrow it will be too late.

Are we, as parliamentarians or Canadians from British Columbia, the Prairies, Ontario, Quebec or the Maritimes, again, out of ignorance, intolerance, selfishness, fear, or short-sighted political reasons, barely stated, to become responsible for or accessories to injustices vis-à-vis one or the other of the two founding groups, the two major linguistic communities of this country? Let those from the province of Quebec or elsewhere who cannot, can no longer or do not have to familiarize themselves with the other official language of this country from a practical point of view, allow at least their fellow citizens, let alone their children and grandchildren, to familiarize themselves with the other official language.

That is the way to build a Canada based on the sturdy, mutual respect of partnership.

On the other hand, let us not believe that national unity boils down to the sole question of official languages in this country.

Canada's two official languages, an easier access for French-speaking Canadians to the federal public service, federal services provided in both languages where necessary, even useful, of course, all that is part and parcel of our national unity theme. But basically and in our fellow citizens' every-day-life context, national unity will really be ensured at home by putting an end, in agreement with other levels of government and in a decentralization spirit, by putting an end to social and economic injustices and by tackling more effectively the problem of regional disparities in this country.

That is really our challenge as members of Parliament.

As far as the substance of the Créditiste proposal is concerned, it is only logical for me to think, in view of my earlier remarks, that it is clear: I intend to be more specific when the government motion is officially debated in the House. You see, Mr. Speaker, I am one of those who do not want, as we say, to put the cart before the horse, especially in this area.

In concluding, I wish to make it clear that the solution to the problem of bilingualism, though patterned on the proceedings in this House, will not be stem from the House. It is the whole country that must fall into step.

I think of the privileged class, the leaders, college students, academics' communication agents, publishers and other experts, professionals, leaders of social, cultural, economical movements, industrialists and businessmen, and when thinking of them all, I think particularly and first of all of those who live in Quebec and off Quebec. To all those I just mentioned, I say that the real solutions will come from them.

● (1730)

[*English*]

I want a Canada, Mr. Speaker, where Canadians choose to understand each other and communicate with one another. I want a Canada where the issue of language is not one of political gain but of coherent national leadership. Regardless of my own views as a politician, there are local and community opinion leaders who must do their fair share. The students, professionals, businessmen, farmers, fishermen and others who make up this land will have to make up their own minds and make their own personal commitment. I happen to believe that this commitment will be made. I happen to believe that those who underes-

timate this commitment underestimate Canada and Canadians; and what is more important Mr. Speaker, they underestimate themselves.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Is the hon. member rising to ask a question?

[*Translation*]

Mr. Georges C. Lachance (Lafontaine): Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask a question of the hon. member for Saint-Hyacinthe (Mr. Wagner). Would the hon. member accept a question?

Mr. Wagner: Mr. Speaker, before answering, I should simply like to say that if I could have the floor immediately, it was thanks to the utmost courtesy of the minister of Communications (Mr. Pelletier) who was scheduled to speak at that time and who, I think, wishes to speak before six o'clock. He has serious things to tell us, so I should not like to encroach on his allotted time, although I would be very pleased to answer the hon. member's question.

Mr. Lachance: Do I gather that the hon. member for Saint-Hyacinthe would rather not answer me?

[*English*]

Mr. Deputy Speaker: The Chair is in a difficult position. I do not know whether that reply said yes or whether it said no. The House is always master of its fate, and if the hon. member for Saint-Hyacinthe (Mr. Wagner) wants to take advantage of the patience of the House, I am sure the hon. member for Lafontaine could ask a question.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Lachance: Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask the hon. member for Saint-Hyacinthe if he agrees in principle, with the resolution the government brought forward to increase the use of the French language at every level in the Public Service?

Mr. Wagner: I will readily answer the hon. member, through you Mr. Speaker, and I shall say that I do not know whether he was absent a few minutes ago, but I have said that we would be pleased to get to the core of the matter when the government submits this resolution for debate, and at that time, we shall say, as a party, what we think of it.

I think that at this time it is not so much my personal views that the hon. member wishes to obtain, as the views of the party.

Mr. Fortin: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order.

[*English*]

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Is the hon. member for Lotbinière (Mr. Fortin) rising on a point of order? The hon. member for Lotbinière.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Fortin: Mr. Speaker, I wish to remind the hon. member for Saint-Hyacinthe (Mr. Wagner) that according to the Standing Orders of this House and in order for him to be able to speak before his departure for Montreal, an agreement was not necessarily reached with the Minister of Communications (Mr. Pelletier) alone, but also with our party which is always ready to cooperate.

[*English*]

Mr. Deputy Speaker: I believe that to be the understanding, that there was an all-party agreement.

● (1740)

[*Translation*]

Hon. Gérard Pelletier (Minister of Communications): Mr. Speaker, after listening to learned speeches, I would like to tell the House, through you, that I also have a philosophical, a great speech on Canadian policies to make, but that I will not make it today.

I will not make it today for a very simple reason, namely that I am surprised—and I am not the only one—about the procedure adopted by our colleagues of the Social Credit party who deemed it necessary to introduce a motion on an opposition day, while since April 13th a resolution appears on the order paper in the name of the right hon. Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau), by which the government announced its intention to allow everybody to take a stand on this matter of vital importance for Canada, which it considers as high priority. The House leader of our party (Mr. MacEachen) announced earlier today, early this afternoon, that this debate on the resolution put on the order paper on April 13th would take place sometime next week.

I will not take up extremely interesting views which have been expressed in several speeches made by previous speakers that I do not wish to take a position, because the government's view is that a debate in depth on this matter cannot take place today, since the motion introduced by the Social Credit party would not permit a beneficial fruitful and exhaustive debate.

I hasten to explain because I suppose our colleagues of the Social Credit party do not agree, but that is my opinion, that of the government, and I would like to specify the reasons for it. This motion does not permit a debate in depth on the matter, first because it contains wrong allegations about the Official Languages Act which is, of course, a major point in any discussion about official languages within the public service and, secondly, because it puts in a wrong light the debate that should be held on this matter, in stating views which we also consider as inaccurate. I will limit my remarks to try and establish those two points of view and explain by the same token our abstention from participating in this debate today.

I would like to show first of all that the first part of the resolution from the Social Credit Party set the debate on the wrong track even before it began. I quote:

That this House deplores the government's decision to postpone the full implementation of the policy contained in the Official Languages Act—

I should like to point out, through you, Mr. Speaker, particularly to the hon. member for Champlain (Mr. Matte) who spoke on this question and who is the sponsor of the motion that I think that assertion is incorrect, that the Official Languages Act can very well be implemented in the 60 months provided for in one of the last sections of the act, not in spite of but in the interest of the measures contained in the resolution of April 13 in

the name of the right hon. Prime Minister. As was clear at various points in his speech, the member for Champlain (Mr. Matte) apparently still entertains an extremely dangerous confusion, which has already been pointed out by some previous speakers, in connection with the official languages, personal bilingualism, and what, despite the objections of the hon. member for Scarborough West (Mr. Harney), I shall continue to call institutional bilingualism.

Indeed, the member for Champlain made a case that seems to be based on a proposition that the government never formulated or defended. He seemed to be arguing against the idea that all federal civil servants, if not all Canadians, ought to become bilingual. There is a very strong expression in French, but I will use it all the same: the honourable member attributes this opinion to us, despite the fact that since the Official Languages Act was passed, we have been killing ourselves, killing ourselves I say, to explain that the bilingualism we are talking about in our policy on the official languages—I personally prefer the latter phrase—does not oblige every Canadian, or all federal civil servants, to learn two languages. It has but two aims. First: that all Canadian citizens be able to communicate with the Federal government and its related agencies in the official language of their choice, whether English or French; and, consequently, second: that if they work in the federal Public Service, they may also carry out their duties in the official language of their choice.

It is therefore absolutely not a matter of forcing all Canadians to speak both languages, or even all civil servants. It does, however, mean that a certain number of civil servants, those who come into contact with the public or who hold supervisory positions and thus come into contact with junior public servants are bilingual, otherwise the two major objectives of the official languages policy could not be achieved.

Well, that is a policy, those are objectives the government has no intention to abandon, nor to postpone full implementation of measures which can be helpful in achieving them.

Second point: The Social Credit motion asserts that the government, in the resolution it tabled on April 13, proposes no efficient means of creating equality of the two languages within the public service, and that those measures proposed are neither realistic, nor concrete, nor fair, nor reasonable. I want to demonstrate the falsity of that premise which can lead only to equally false conclusions.

I shall demonstrate this as briefly as I can, Mr. Speaker, lest I get myself involved in a flagrant contradiction and, after having said that the substantial debate should not take place enter into such a substantial debate. However, I feel hon. members will recognize that, in order to point out the weakness of the Creditiste motion, I must show by contrast the strength of the resolution on the order paper.

Returning just one moment to the Official Languages Act, I was surprised by the kind of absolution whereby the hon. member for Champlain asserted that no progress had been achieved.

● (1750)

I feel that at leisure, when he thinks over his speech while going to sleep tonight—if it happens that he thinks over his speeches when going to sleep—he will realize that he has exaggerated. I would like to give him a specific example. Now to suggest as he did that no progress has been made is an undefensible argument and I would like to give him a rather personal example. During the Holy Week both of us were in Cape Kennedy giving our moral support to the launching of a satellite—that was all we could do—and personally I was impressed—I am sure that the hon. member was too—to see that in a foreign country in Cape Kennedy, the officials who accompanied us and the employees of Telesat Canada were giving explanations to laymen such as we, some of which of a highly technical nature, in English as well as in French. I honestly ask the hon. member—and it is only an example—if we could only imagine five years ago that in a technical, scientific area—and this in the United States, in the heat of Florida—some people speak French because a certain number of the members of the parliamentary delegation spoke French.

I should not want to suggest for one moment that the hon. member is wrong to complain about the state of services in French in the Federal government because being part of this government, I find reasons to complain myself—perhaps not each day but nearly every week—and to try to correct these mistakes. But between this and going to the other extreme which consists in saying that no progress has been made, I think there is a gap which the hon. member did not see fit to consider and I hope that, in the basic debate that will take place when the resolution under the name of the right hon. Prime Minister will be discussed in this House, we will all try to stay within the limits of what is reasonable—I do not say of common sense but of what is reasonable—which is something quite different—and try not to go beyond our thought. We are in an area where emotion plays a great part and where it is unfortunately too easy to go beyond one's thought and to take extreme positions, which are indefensible for all practical purposes.

The hon. member for Champlain (Mr. Matte) spoke about the difficulties which persist and which are real, I agree. Again, if I did not want to say it myself, I would just have to refer hon. members to the report of the Commissioner of Official Languages; these difficulties still exist and they are very real. I should say however to the hon. member that it is far easier to criticize them than to correct them efficiently and that in spite of the remarks he has made—and I personally found a great deal of factual truth in them—I am nearly as impatient as he is. I would like to tell him however that it would not be reasonable to indicate only the bad sides and to neglect completely the progress we have made.

Mr. Speaker, first of all, in dealing with the second part of the motion I would like to quote a few figures related to some of the progress we have achieved and which contradict the hon. member for Champlain who claims not only that we have stagnated but that we have even lost ground. We have lost ground in some areas, we do suffer from some stagnation, but there has also been some progress which I should like to review briefly.

First of all, I should like to advise the House that we have made progress in that the use of the French language is more widespread in the civil service. With regard to procurement, the Public Service Commission advised me that of the 88,000 appointments made in 1972, as compared

with 1971, there were 4 per cent fewer positions listing a knowledge of English as a compulsory requirement, while the number of positions requiring French increased by 3 per cent. I will admit that the progress is modest, but it is a fact. Of the 38,000 new employees recruited in 1972, 22 per cent preferred to work in French as compared with 19 per cent in 1971.

Disregarding the special recruiting of Francophones in 1971, 23.7 per cent of university graduates hired in 1971 were French-speaking, their percentage increasing to 28.3 per cent in 1972.

In 1972 also, French-speaking university students, administration trainees represented 33.5 per cent of all the trainees. At management level, the number of appointed Francophones has increased from 19 per cent in 1971 to 21 per cent in 1972. During that period, 41 per cent of all appointees in the management category were bilingual, compared to 34 per cent only in 1971.

As to training, the results are not as encouraging. During a five year period, the participation of French-speaking employees in the centralized training courses given by the Public Service Commission only increased from 4 per cent to 9.5 per cent.

This is the reason why the resolution in the name of the Prime Minister provides for an increase of training courses available in French. At the beginning of 1972, 10.5 per cent of the Public Service Commission courses were given in French, and by the end of 1972, this percentage has been increased to 60 per cent. By the end of 1975, all Public Service Commission courses will be available in both languages.

However, in the important career assignment program which is intended for junior officers, the French participation increased from 12 per cent in 1969 to 30 per cent in 1972.

I could go on quoting figures but not, as I said before, in an effort to prove that the problem has been solved, because this would be absolutely ridiculous. A problem which has been aggravated for over a century can certainly not be solved in four and a half, five or six years. But, as one of our colleagues was saying the other day in this House, we should not take another century to solve it.

In my opinion, the rate of progress has been accelerating. We shall have considerations to make in this connection. I hope that the hon. member for Champlain himself, when the resolution comes before the House, will be more specific and will not complacently indulge in the same kind of vague proposals as those he has presented today but will explain the contents of today's motion and produce evidence that the measures provided for in our resolution are neither realistic, practical, fair, or reasonable.

I might say—but again I would enter upon the substance of the debate—that those measures are realistic when they provide, for instance, that anyone in a supervising position must be bilingual; I think this is extremely realistic. How is it possible for employees to work in English or in French if they are supervised by someone who is unable to read the memos they write or to understand the language they speak?

I would also like to say that these measures are practical by giving one example: the chance for French-speaking as well as English-speaking people of learning the second language. French-speaking people also experience the need for a second language.

I think the measures are fair and that anything that looks like concessions in these measures is in fact aimed at protecting the rights of unilingual people to positions they have held for years. For instance, anyone who has been involved in union negotiations is aware of the fact that the safeguard of any rights acquired by a worker is something sacred with which nobody wants to tamper, even if at times these might appear as excessive concessions.

Finally, I think that those measures are reasonable and this is evidenced by the fact that the wording of this resolution has been fully approved by all the Public Service unions. Not only did they accept and approved the conditions stipulated and the measures provided in the resolution but they allowed us to mention this approval publicly.

I will stop at that, Mr. Speaker, and sum it up. We will take no further part in this debate, except perhaps to point out a few things and add a few remarks, because we believe that a truly substantive debate cannot take place until the resolution dated April 13 is introduced in the House for debate.

Mr. Speaker: As it is six o'clock, I now leave the chair until eight p.m.

At 6 p.m. the House took recess.

AFTER RECESS

The House resumed at 8 p.m.

Mr. Gilles Caouette (Charlevoix): Mr. Speaker, after the excellent speech delivered by my colleague, I feel it is important to point out the suggestions and statements made in another study on bilingualism, that of Dr. P. C. Coulombe. The surprising thing about it is that this one was conducted on behalf of the Treasury Board, but, as in most cases, it has been put away on the shelves.

When the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) introduced his motion on bilingualism, did he take this report into consideration? You can pass judgment on it when considering the statements made in this study and the government's action. First of all, let us come back to the Treasury Board. In an article in *Le Devoir* of October 18, 1972, this was said, and I quote:

> The bilingualism programs are inefficient and inadequate.

The report indicated clearly, with supporting data, that bilingualism too often consists merely in giving simple language courses which are, in addition, pitifully inefficient. From 1966 to 1971, those courses cost $54 million, and of the 22,807 civil servants who registered for them, only 1,851, that is 8 per cent, completed the program.

Attempts were made to silence the Francophones by creating French language units, but there again the results were deplorable. Those units included 2,497 civil servants in Ottawa, that is barely 5 per cent of the total work force in the public service.

What is even more deplorable is the fact that by substracting the number of employees working in the Language Bureau, only 564 civil servants remain in the French Language units, that is 1.1 per cent of the total. Is that representation adequate? I do not think so. One does not have to be a genius to realize the seriousness of the failure. Even in Quebec, the system does not work. Only 55 per cent of the 44,000 federal civil servants in Quebec are grouped in the French units. Does that prove that the French language is respected in the civil service?

Instead of truly encouraging bilingualism according to the original intention of the government, the departments take unfair advantage of the translation services. That enables them to restrict the use of French. Why encourage the hiring of Francophones? They simply insist on translation and so employ English unilingual high officials who have their texts translated to make people believe that all goes well in the best of worlds.

You have there, Mr. Chairman, the hypocritical attitude of the present government as regards bilingualism.

The Coulombe report even indicates that the bilingualism goals set by the Trudeau government for 1975 will not be attained, far from it. Bilingualism in Canada, as advocated by the present government, is all poppycock. And we have sufficient proof of that.

Are people aware that it costs $29,000 to train a bilingual public servant and that it cost $54 million to train the 1,851 public servants who completed the course? Those are the figures.

From 1966 to 1970, the $17 million spent for the training of bilingual public servants may be considered as a total loss since 6,463 of those who had registered dropped out. Out of the 18,627 English-speaking public servants who registered, only 946, namely 5 per cent, completed the course. It was a real success, was it not? On the other hand, out of 4,090 Francophones who had registered, 905 met the course requirements, namely 22 per cent. That is not much better!

● (2010)

Apart from such a poor result, the appointing of higher officers always favours unilingual English-speaking people. Yes! We find those gentlemen in the upper levels and preferably where they are not in touch with the public. Such are the arguments in the Coulombe report. That is another conclusion that proves that my colleague, the hon. member for Champlain (Mr. Matte), is right, but we shall get back to the matter later on.

Out of the 142 higher officers appointed from outside the public service between 1966 and 1971, only 27 were French-speaking, namely 19 per cent, while the French-speaking people account for 30 per cent of Canada's total population. As regard the higher officers appointed from within the public service, that is by way of promotion, only 16 per cent were French-speaking, namely 42 out of 269. The worst part of it is that instead of improving conditions are deteriorating.

In 1967-68, the employment percentage as regards French-speaking people was 26 per cent; in 1970-71, it fell to 13 per cent, namely a 50 per cent decrease. The leader of the official opposition and his predecessor would say that our system is good.

I said earlier that to silence the French-speaking people, French language units had been created but even in this case the established standards were not respected and that instead of favouring the unilingual French positions, as stipulated in the Official Languages Act, more and more bilingual positions are created within those units. Thus, it is possible to get around the standards and always at the expense of French-speaking people.

The study made by Dr. Coulombe for the Treasury Board is precise, detailed and unequivocal. The only conclusion we can draw from it is that the bilingual policy is a total failure in Canada. However not being satisfied with its failure, the government through the Prime Minister wants to confirm this state of affairs by presenting a motion concerning the unfortunate facts known to date. This motion even says that if a bilingual position is occupied by a unilingual individual, this individual can attend bilingual courses or request his transfer out however if he so desires, he may retain his position as after 10 years in the Public Service he is considered, as actually bilingual although he is not. What about that?

I am sure the Progressive Conservative members must be laughing in their sleeves at the reading of such a motion. But let us consider now the recommendations of this report. First, let me state the substance of this report. Here is what Dr. Coulombe says:

> We are deeply convinced that true bilingualism in the Public Service implies that French should occupy a major position as an actual working language.

This is another tribute to the hon. member for Champlain who declared the willingness of the French-speaking people to participate truly in the Federal administration. Whether one speaks French with ease or not matters very little. What is important is to allow unilingual French Canadians to have access to the same rights of decisions and the same levels of administration as the Anglophones.

First the report of the Treasury Board clearly recommends that the French units be reoriented and reorganized. This sounds very much like the parallel administrations advocated by our group, the Social Credit Party.

● (2020)

It recommends as well that the number and the importance of these units be increased, particularly in the national capital and in more departments.

Does the government choose such alternatives? Not at all, Mr. Speaker. They put this report on the shelf and they continue to increase their failure. The report finally recommends exactly what the Social Credit Party has been requiring for a long time, namely French-speaking departments. It is essential that French-speaking public servants have the same career opportunities as their English-speaking colleagues and, to achieve this objective, only parallel administrations of French-speaking departments will give hope to French-speaking people.

Mr. Speaker, we are no longer speaking of bilingualism among people, but of bilingualism within the administration. Does that not mean respect for language rights in Canada? Every citizen has the right to communicate with

its government in any of the two official languages. Instead of paying $29,000 to teach a second language to a person who will retire within a few years, we want to establish a permanent bilingual system, while respecting the individual's ability, his skills of administrator, engineer, technician, expert in any field, without hampering it for language reasons. Being a good engineer has little to do with language, but rather with the knowledge of engineering. Therefore, I may be a very good French-speaking statistical expert with no knowledge of the English language and because I do not speak English, I am not entitled to the opportunities that the public service offers. I will not be allowed to get the necessary promotion to successfully end my career. This is a strange and backward attitude.

My ability depends on my skills, my knowledge of statistics and not on my language. At the same time, an English-speaking person with the same skills as I, a statistician with similar qualifications, and this is the situation which now prevails, would be entitled to reach the higher levels of management, not because he is a better statistical expert, but only because he can speak English.

Indeed such is the conclusion of the Coulombe report; it is also the finding of the Royal Commission on Bilingualism and Biculturalism.

All studies, all statistics prove unequivocally that until now the government deprives itself of a certain expertise because Mr. or Mrs. So-and-So is not bilingual or unilingual and English-speaking.

Therefore, I repeat that bilingualism is not designed for individuals, but rather for the system, the administration. It is evident that a bilingual individual increases the cultural value of a country, but still it is not the responsibility of the government to force or compel the individual to speak two languages. However, the government must be able to answer individuals, to communicate with them in both official languages, French or English.

Consequently, the suggestion of the Social Credit Party of Canada to create parallel administrations is the only one capable of ensuring respect for the language rights of the public employees as well as of the population in general.

As it was so well expressed in the conclusion of the Coulombe report, French-speaking departments must be created to allow Francophones to take part in the administration in the same way as the Anglophones, to have access to the executive positions in the same manner as the Anglophones, without discrimination and, especially, with full respect for the rights of all citizens. You will note, Mr. Speaker, that such a system would ensure the permanence of bilingualism in the public service without, as things are now, swallowing up fabulous amounts in pure loss, because of the necessity of ever starting again and because of the drop out rate of public employees following bilingual courses.

Mr. Speaker, as the member for Témiscamingue, (Mr. Caouette), the leader of our party, said so well on other occasions, it is a fantasy to believe we can make a Frenchman out of an Englishman and vice versa. However, it is certainly possible to create institutions that will respect French- and English-speaking persons.

This is what the Social Credit is suggesting. This is a workable, realistic suggestion. Moreover it is beyond question today as we come to realize the enormous failure of the bilingual policy of the present government.

The evidence is overwhelmingly against the present system, facts speak for themselves, statistics corroborate and magnifying facts, and all this reflects the perspicacity of our party.

We represent French Canada and, in this capacity, we know that French-speaking people want to take part in the management of public affairs. Let us give them the opportunity to really show what they can do by adopting the only possible solution, that is the creation of parallel administrations in all the government activity areas.

Mr. Gilles Marceau (Parliamentary Secretary to Secretary of State): Mr. Speaker, polite as usual, the members of the Social Credit Party stressed this afternoon that there were few members in the House to listen to them. Out of courtesy, I feel I must return the compliment and point out that there are not many of them here to debate a proposal that they themselves made and to support their claim to be the sole representatives of French-speaking Canadians. Their performance this evening seems to me very poor.

Mr. Speaker, I should like to say very cordially to the hon. member for Charlevoix (Mr. Caouette), who claims that his party represents French Canadians, that I am as much at ease as he in saying that I rise this evening, not to claim that I am the representative of French Canada, but that I am at least a member who believes as strongly as those who spoke before me in the vitality of French-speaking Canadians, and in his right to represent adequately in Ottawa the French-speaking element of the population.

Mr. Speaker, I do not think it fitting to speak at length, as it might be merely a preview of our debate in the near future, when the government introduces its proposal on bilingualism, but I would like perhaps to clarify one point, as it seems that our journalist friends are trying to confuse people, probably not intentionaly. At 6:30 this evening I listened to the CBC news, in which an eminent journalist gave a bulletin which, to my mind, misrepresented what is happening today in the House. It must be recognized, and I think it important to point out, that we are not debating a motion on bilingualism. We are debating an opposition motion proposed by the hon. member for Champlain (Mr. Matte), which, to my mind, involves basically the same issues that we will be discussing in connection with the government proposal. For this reason I have tried to find motives, reasons or explanations for this motion, but, although I have listened attentively, I have been aware that the arguments put forward were more relevant to the motion we will be proposing than to the one before us this evening.

To return to the CBC news, it was claimed that we were debating a motion on which the French-speaking members were remaining silent.

● (2130)

I would like to take exception to that impression which was created by the CBC tonight and which is absolutely untrue, absolutely incomplete, not to say more. I think

that as French-speaking Canadians we would be happy to participate in this debate, but we think it would be useless to repeat the arguments we will be putting forward when the motion on bilingualism is considered next week. I would merely like to say a few words on a field which concerns me particularly since I happen to be Parliamentary Secretary to the Secretary of State and bilingualism policies usually come under the jurisdiction of the department where I am fortunate enough to work with an exceptional minister. Mr. Speaker, I think that the impression which was created tonight by saying that bilingualism has not progressed is made up of absolutely unfounded assertions and statements which mislead people who wish to know all the facts. It is clear that bilingualism has not progressed with the pace anticipated. There is no doubt that the progress that we would have liked to see go a lot further have not reached the pace we would have hoped for but, Mr. Speaker, saying that all that has been done in the field of bilingualism is an absolute failure is a statement I am not prepared to accept and which, in addition, is not a true reflection of the situation.

Mr. Speaker, I think I can speak on behalf of the Department of the Secretary of State, a department which was set up by a minister whose reputation has been long established and who played an essential part, I think, in our desire to set up structures where French-speaking Canadians would not replace their English-speaking colleagues but would join with them to form a family truly representative of the two main founding elements of the Canadian nation.

Mr. Speaker, I will simply give you some figures leaving it to you and to the other members to draw the conclusion.

When we consider that in the Department of the Secretary of State, 16 per cent of the civil servants use French as their main language, that 14 per cent of them use English as their main language, but that 70 per cent of those who work for the Secretary of State are bilingual can we seriously maintain that that is not a substantial progress, an interesting achievement? That is enough to make me forget what little Latin I may have.

Mr. Speaker, I think it is time to tell the Canadian people that bilingualism has two aspects. We should not attach importance to one aspect only. The first is to teach the greatest possible number of people the use of both languages so that they can express themselves as much as possible and communicate so that a certain group of people can come to the national capital and work in their language within the federal agencies and answer people in the language of their choice, taking it for granted that there are of course two official languages. However, there is also another aspect, the aspect of the representation of French-speaking people and there I agree with my friends of the Social Credit when they insist on the importance of the representation of French-speaking people in Ottawa which must not be left aside and on the fact that we should not maintain the illusion that all problems will be solved in Ottawa once we have reached a sufficient degree of bilingualism.

But from the example of the Department of the Secretary of State, Mr. Speaker, I think that it is possible to make a continuing effort and to collaborate at all levels to achieve the basic objectives of a nation where the two main groups can really play their parts not only in the field of the language but also through an effective, concrete and representative presence.

I listened this afternoon to the hon. member from Brome-Missisquoi (Mr. Grafftey) who with all the skill he is capable of tried to keep hon. members from taking a political stand on the policy of bilingualism. This is extremely clever, but I do not agree with his views.

I believe that if the political parties do not have the courage to take their responsibilities and as such to indicate clearly their views on the bilingualism policy, they do not deserve to govern the nation. And if individually, it is normal that hon. members give their views, it is also normal that parties, as entities representing an important component of the nation, give their opinion officially and definitely on the opportunity for changes that must be brought about, and on the necessity to adopt a bilingualism policy. And that policy must not be merely window-dressing which gives only the impression that, as French-speaking people we are tolerated, but it must insure that we are going to play our part and that we are considered as equal partners.

I hope that each party will make it a point, through its members, to express its views officially and will not leave it to the French-speaking people to impose or to express their views on bilingualism. I will stay here to listen carefully to my colleagues to learn their views and get their advice, to hear them say if the member for Lapointe who is French-speaking is really accepted in Ottawa not merely in great words and statements but if in fact something will be done to bring about the necessary changes so that the Canada that we want to preserve can rest on firm foundations through the acceptation of the two main communities.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to end my comments by saying that I am confident in the light of the experience I have gained since 1968 and the progress often too slow which I have witnessed that we are mature enough to understand that the step we are going to take, we must take it together like men who realize that Canada's fate lies in our own hands. And it behooves us to be in the forefront, to prove by our policies and understanding between one another and toward the people that we are ready to make sacrifices on both sides, that we are willing to make decisions which will enable Canada to keep on playing the major role it has been playing throughout the world.

I feel that the meaning and the scope of the motion before us have not been explained to us by the hon. member for Champlain (Mr. Matte). I believe nevertheless that he is wrong when he says that the official language policy has been postponed.

It is certain, however, that at a given time the quick rate of growth of some policies should be geared to reality and what should be sought is not to impose bilingualism through legislation, but rather to have members of the House and the people of Canada accept it. I feel that if each member plays his part and explains to the people what bilingualism is, what Canadians, whether French- or English-speaking want is really the same thing: the best Canada ever, where all citizens, of both founding people, can live in happy harmony, that goal will be really achievable.

[*English*]

Mr. Walter Baker (Grenville-Carleton): Mr. Speaker, I listened with great interest to my colleague the hon. member for Lapointe (Mr. Marceau) who discussed the duties of a Member of Parliament. He said it is the duty of parliament, of parliamentarians and of governments to lead and to explain so there can be understanding in our country as to what is meant by the Official Languages Act. Among the terms he used were "institutional bilingualism" and "personal bilingualism." I listened to him and agree with him. I say, with all respect to the hon. member, to the party he supports and to the government he supports that the failing with respect to bilingualism as a concept in Canada is not in the policy. The failing is that the government, which was charged with the basic responsibility of explaining that policy clearly and unequivocally to the people of Canada, did not do so in terms which they could understand. That is the great failing.

● (2040)

If ever there was a responsibility to be laid on a government and the head of a government, it was the great responsibility of the Trudeau government in this delicate and important matter to give an explanation to all Canadians so that my friend in the Créditiste party would not be debating with the hon. member for Lapointe and they would not be debating this matter with us. This government failed Canadians with respect to the understanding of that statute. That failing is their responsibility. Whatever has happened with regard to the misunderstanding since that time has grown out of that failure.

I represent a constituency from which many people come to work in the offices of the government every day. During the election campaign in my constituency I was faced with the failures of this government with regard to the implementation of bilingualism. I emphasize the word "implementation". During the election campaign I went from door to door and spoke to many thousands of public servants. Not one public servant said to me that he opposed the principles set forth in the Official Languages Act. That is to their everlasting credit.

We must remember the purpose of the Official Languages Act. It is to give equal status to two languages. The duty of all members of this House is to ensure that in the process of implementation there is equality and recognition of equity to all public servants. If we can solve the problems of public servants who are working during this period of transition, a period when we are trying to remake 105 years of history within a short period, we will have gone a long way toward fostering and promoting the spirit of the principles set forth in the Official Languages Act.

We are faced with the challenge of trying to rebuild and extend the spirit of 1967, the spirit of excitement and hope that characterized our centennial year. I say with some sadness that this government has succeeded in widening the divisions among Canadians to the point where it is difficult to see where any government, even one dedicated to disunity, could have done worse.

I wish to state what this policy of bilingualism means to me as a Canadian. Within the limits of practicability, Canadians should have the right to federal government service in English or French. The public service should be attractive to English and French Canadians alike. Government officials should be encouraged to learn both languages in such a way that they never feel coerced. This should be so especially where it means that a public servant will be able to do his job better because of his knowledge. It does not mean that public servants, whether French- or English-speaking, should be penalized because they speak only one of our two official languages. The true spirit of bilingualism in Canada ought to be, and I am sure it will be, one of attitude and commitment to a certain perception of our society.

As a member of this House I would not like to see real bilingualism destroyed by a government that has become so preoccupied with mechanics and numbers that it forgets that in government buildings there are people who are very much concerned because they live in what I referred to on an earlier occasion as the eye of a bilingual hurricane. When we look at the problems of Canada, we look to the eye of that hurricane, the public service of Canada. We must not forget this very important principle.

In our search for equality, the feeling of equality and the commitment to equality we must not forget that entering into the public service and advancement within it must be based on equality of opportunity for all Canadians. The public service must be a place where Canadians can work together. In the time that I am here, I hope I will be able to ensure that the public service is a place where justice is not only done to every public servant but where justice is seen to be done as well.

I say to all members of this House that bilingual institutions have their own significance that sometimes goes unnoticed. Their presence is precisely a guarantee that the individual Canadian has a right to deal in his own language, with his own government. Bilingualism involves the right to be unilingual. That is my understanding. That right applies to both French- and English-speaking Canadians. The great misunderstanding that has arisen is that bilingualism in Canada has become equated with a form of coercion. That is what it means in some quarters. I am committed to the assurance that this will not occur and that this feeling will not continue.

Reference has been made to the bilingual resolutions which we will have an opportunity to debate in a few days. Those resolutions contain nine points. There ought to be a tenth point, namely, that "the proof of the pudding is in the eating." We can put all the fine sentiments on paper in both official languages, write books and paragraphs, make speeches in this House and elsewhere, do all the things expected of Canadians, make calls for unity, concern, understanding and compassion but they will not mean anything if those on the treasury benches, whether from the party that presently occupies that place, or this party that soon will, do not do their part to ensure that the real spirit of those fine words are honoured.

One of the major problems of the bilingual policy in the public service results from the government's failure to administer and administrate realistically. The cabinet has authorized more and more money for training in the public service, much more than $30 million. But the effectiveness of the program has been undermined. The government has failed to understand or accept the fact that the

language training program requires adjustments within the public service by the public servant. It has taken the government far too long to grasp the implications of the significantly low success rate and the high drop-out rate in language training. The government has mistakenly added language training to the workload of public servants without providing extra personnel. This has had a very serious effect at various levels in the public service which have spoken about it through their associations.

● (2050)

A survey of drop-outs established that at least two-thirds of the drop-outs had been forced to discontinue their training because it conflicted with their regular workload. It is true that many have complained about the unrealistic administrative policy of the government with respect to bilingualism. However, this must not be misconstrued—and I do not think the people I have talked to ought to be misconstrued—as being in opposition to the principles set forth in the statute.

We are pleased that the government has seen fit to establish, under the auspices of the Treasury Board, an extensive program to hire replacements for public servants assigned to intensive language training courses. The practice of pulling civil servants away from language training to take care of departmental duties has been costly and has weakened the program. Too many language students have failed to achieve any measure of competence, regardless of personal effort on their part, thus affecting their opportunities.

Leaving language training to attend to departmental matters, and then returning only to find one has fallen far behind, has discouraged too many eager people who want to learn a second language, whatever that language may be. The double-banking system which has been proposed to ensure that a position is covered when a civil servant is on language training may be an answer to this problem. It may well do away with the frustration and fatigue caused by the dual responsibilities of departmental duties on the one hand and language training on the other.

There is the question of advancement. I believe these language courses which some public servants can take and which others, at the moment, cannot take ought to be broadened so that all public servants, or at least those who want to attend language courses, have access to them. I believe there is still a lack of opportunity that many public servants find to be a great threat.

For example, there are approximately 55,000 women in the public service of Canada. About 15,000 of them are in the secretarial-stenographic group. Many of them are classified as ST-5s and if they are not bilingual they will probably remain ST-5s for the rest of their career. On the other hand, if they were capable of taking dictation in both official languages, they could move up to the ST-8 category. At this point they are not being permitted to take language training. Given this kind of irritation, it is no wonder that people are emotional about bilingualism in the public service, and the responsibility that rests upon the government, and indeed on this parliament, is a heavy one indeed. It is this government's failure, whether it likes to accept the responsibility or not.

[Mr. Baker.]

The proof of the pudding with respect to the real spirit will be in the eating of that pudding. We have a long way to go in this country to restore, within the public service and elsewhere, the true meaning and the true understanding of what was meant when the statute was passed. I hope that with good will and understanding on all sides, by people in all parts of Canada, we will reach that objective. The responsibility for seeing that this is the case begins in this House of Commons with the government, which must ensure that that which has become the focal point of present difficulties, namely, the people who work within the public service of Canada, are given the proper atmosphere within which their talents can be utilized for the benefit of this country. In the name of those people, many of whom I have the honour to represent, I ask in the House tonight for that understanding.

Mr. John Rodriguez (Nickel Belt): Mr. Speaker, it is my feeling that the motion we are dealing with tonight as presented by the Créditiste party is an irrelevant one. The motion urges the government "to find realistic and specific ways of safeguarding the rights of French and English-speaking Canadians in a much more just and reasonable manner". In fact, the government motion under item 34 on the order paper is designed to fulfill the aims of the Social Credit motion as it relates to injustice to French- and English-speaking Canadians.

On October 30 of last year the Liberal government discovered, that among other things, a large number of Canadians were indeed disturbed by the attempts of the Liberals to create an instant bilingual society in this country. Indeed, the great secrecy with which the Official Languages Act was being implemented, combined with injustices done in the name of bilingualism, created feelings of unease and resentment among many English-speaking civil servants, and this could not help but manifest itself in similar feelings on the part of English-speaking Canadian citizens throughout this country. This resentment stemmed not from any disagreement with the concept of Canada as a bilingual country but, rather, from the suspicion that the government was acting in an autocratic and prejudicial manner. For my own part, I think perhaps this had some basis in fact.

I agree with the Official Languages Act and that Canadians of the two major cultures should feel at home in their communications with their government. But the Official Languages Act is in no way a bilingual policy for Canada and the Canadian people. In many aspects of the civil service, ease of communication may exist in the predominant use of one language because certain occupations may not immediately require facility in both the official languages.

One of the major faults in the government's Official Languages Act is that the relevant policies were never adequately explained to the Canadian people. Somehow or other the people of Canada, perhaps by a method of osmosis, were supposed to presume what was the aim and the thrust of the government. Contrary to the members of the Liberal Party, who see this act as the great panacea for all Canadian bilingual aches and pains, I view it as relating to only one aspect of Canadian bilingualism.

What is the government trying to do to develop and to nurture a truly bilingual society, keeping in mind respect

for the other cultures that exist in Canada? May I for a moment talk about the creation of a bilingual country, a country that has respect for the two major cultures within its boundaries. While the federal government disburses large amounts of money to provincial departments of education for second language instruction, there is no stipulation, or no essential machinery set up to ensure that these funds are in fact used for these purposes. Consequently, in many provinces these funds are finding their way into school construction programs, salaries for other than second language staff, and so on. They are not being used for the purpose for which the federal government designed them. To create a bilingual Canada, surely we must start with young children. We have to start in the elementary schools and with pre-school education programs. Why is second language instruction not started by educational television before a child gets to school, and continued right through the early years?

The federal government ought to allocate funds for the proper training of teachers of the second language. Cultural exchange should be encouraged and expanded, especially exchanges between groups of young students. The federal government, in its disbursements to provincial governments for second language instruction, should attach strings, and such funds should be allocated for pre-school education as well as for in-school education.

● (2100)

Perspective must be used in viewing the proper role of the Canadian federal government in the attempt to create and maintain a bilingual society in our country. Bilingualism in Canada will not stand or fall on its implementation solely at the public service level. To simply create fluency in both languages would be to fall short of the ideal of bilingualism and biculturalism. Knowledge and understanding of sister cultures, with resulting new attitudes, will create respect for those cultures and cannot fail to lead to a united Canada.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Jean-Marie Boisvert (Drummond): Mr. Speaker, perhaps from the early days of Confederation, French Canadians, particularly those of the province of Quebec, have had snow jobs performed on them and have been fooled by the so-called great bilingualism policies of the federal government. Experience has taught them, in the province of Quebec particularly, through successive elections at four-year intervals, to interpret election language and to reach the conclusion, after repeated disappointments, that bilingualism was actually a convenient parade sword to brandish exclusively during election campaigns, to be hastily returned to its sheath once victory had been achieved.

We listened a moment ago to the hon. member for Lapointe (Mr. Marceau) who, by the way, is certainly not a worthy successor of his predecessor, Mr. Gilles Grégoire, who, when speaking of bilingualism, put forward striking arguments, quoted figures and spoke plainly.

When the hon. member for Lapointe referred to silent members, I had the feeling that he was speaking of members of his party, because as far as bilingualism is concerned, I have not often seen Liberal members get excited, except during election campaigns.

As regards Progressive Conservative members, it is quite unfortunate to realize it, but including their leader, they also consider bilingualism as a political asset in order to save face and try to save the last two ridings they still have in the province of Quebec.

I heard the hon. member for Lapointe say earlier that he was going to forget what little Latin he may have learned. I wonder why he refers to a third language, when we have such a hard time having a second one recognized.

Mr. Speaker, the House will have to take into account several factors in the implementation of this policy as well as in the development, if I may say so, of programs designed for the whole country. Hon. members from all across Canada have a tremendous responsibility to assume in this field. Perhaps they are less aware in western Canada, in the Maritimes or in Newfoundland of the social crisis existing in Quebec.

We must not hide the truth. In Quebec, at present, people think in increasing numbers, and it is much more serious. Often in the past people woke up too late. Hon. members should not do the same. Something is happening in Quebec and we must be blind not to see it, or still, we would have to hide our head in the sand. What happens then is that we get a big kick in the pants. I have a notion that many here are about to get one.

The Social Credit stand on bilingualism is a realistic one, and it will enable all Canadians from coast to coast to be heard and respected when dealing with the government. Of course, attitudes will be hard to change. In the exclusively English regions without any contact with French Canadians, problems of understanding and integration will persist, of course. In other words, many will find it hard to accept the French fact in Canada.

● (2110)

The Social Credit is recommending the establishment of parallel departments, so that when a French Canadian deals with a department, he will be sure to speak to a French Canadian. He will be sure to obtain an answer in French when phoning a department. He will be sure if he writes, to get an answer in French. He will not have to wait for three months to obtain a reply and the services of three translators will not be necessary. The French Canadians have been and still are considered as the poor relatives in the Public Service. This at least is shown not only in the findings of the Commissioner of Official Languages, Mr. Keith Spicer, before the House Standing Committee on Miscellaneous Estimates on Tuesday April 10, 1973 but also in answers provided by the various departments, Crown corporations and other government organizations to the questions asked on January 17 last and which remained on the order paper until we obtained the answers yesterday.

Les us look at those answers signed by the Parliamentary Secretary to the President of the Privy Council (Mr. Reid). The questions asked were as follows:

Has the department, the agency or the board concerned adopted a definite policy on bilingualism?

And the second question read as follows:

What number and total percentage of that agency's employees are (a) English unilingual (b) French unilingual (c) bilingual?

Then, to check if progress had been made in the field of bilingualism the following question was asked:

In 1960, 1962, 1964, 1966 and 1970, what was the number and total percentage of employees of the same agency who were (a) English unilingual (b) French unilingual (c) bilingual?

Finally, to complete this information and to see what efforts the government was making to encourage bilingualism a last question was asked as follows:

By year since 1960, what was the total budget allocated for the development of bilingualism in that agency?

I will not talk about the stereotyped answer that we received on the first question: it was invariably that departments' policies on bilingualism are based on the requirements of the Official Languages Act, the Public Service Employment Act, the Translation Bureau Act and policies and directives prescribed by the government.

That answer, Mr. Speaker, does not teach us anything new. It simply confirms that if bilingualism does not progress or indeed progresses so little in the departments or government agencies it is on account of the policies and directives established by the government or as a result of the deficiencies of those policies and directives.

Mr. Speaker, I turn now to the answer given to the second series of questions: What number and percentage of employees of such and such a department or organization are French-speaking only, English-speaking only or bilingual? Some of the replies were suprising, as for example the following from the Department of Manpower and Immigration. The Department claims that its files do not contain this information, in other words that there is no way of knowing how many of its employees were French-speaking only, English-speaking only or bilingual in 1968, 1969 and 1970; but the department adds that it received $11,000 in 1970, $174,000 in 1971 and $671,000 in 1972-73 for the development of bilingualism. It is amazing to learn that $976,000 has been spent to promote bilingualism, but that nobody knows how many unilingual or bilingual employees there are in this department.

The replies from the Department of National Health and Welfare are vague, imprecise. For example, this department and the Treasury Board Secretariat claim quite seriously that all non-bilingual employees are considered as unilingual, and that there is no way of telling how many are French-speaking only or English-speaking only. Finally, however, we learned that in 1973, for example, there were 6,559 unilingual employees, which is 91.2 per cent, and 565 bilingual employees, which is 7.9 per cent. This is typical of our findings in all government departments.

Mr. Speaker, the replies given by the various government departments and agencies on bilingualism indicate that contrary to what some people suggest, "French Power" is not a fact yet in Ottawa. Unilingual French-speaking people are a very small minority. In some departments and agencies there is not even one employee whose working language is French. French-speaking people must speak English to get a job in the Public Service, which is not the case for the majority of English-speaking public servants.

In conclusion, I would like to quote the remarks made by the Commissioner of Official Languages, Mr. Spicer,

[Mr. Boisvert.]

before the Standing Committee on Miscellaneous Estimates on April 10 last. Mr. Spicer said, and I quote:

I would not wish to take more of your time with this introductory statement. But I believe I should recall what I have said many times, most recently in our second annual report: from our observation post, we definitely do not have the impression that the cause of bilingualism is advancing with giant steps. We sometimes hear that the French language and French Canadians are in the process of taking over the Public Service. However, the figures do not support these fears. On the contrary, the French language is still not getting a fair shake in the Public Service.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Spicer said "still not getting a fair shake". He goes on to say:

Last year, I quoted rather discouraging figures on jobs filled in the public service in 1971, showing that it was then roughly ten times easier for a person speaking English than for a person speaking French to enter his country's service. The following new figures, even while reflecting a slight modification, will show you what I mean.

Here are the total number of appointments in the federal Public Service in 1971 and 1972 by language requirements.

	1971	1972
Bilingual	9.1%	7.6%
French	8.3%	11.0%
English	79.2%	75.6%
Not Specified	3.4%	5.8%

—that is, for which no specific language requirement was shown in the report.

Of course there exist cases where an English-speaking public servant feels that he or she is in difficulty because of the implementation of bilingualism programs. When such cases are brought to my attention they receive precisely the same careful and impartial treatment as any other case. Some Members of Parliament have indeed had occasion to send to us, with satisfactory results, constituents with problems of this kind.

The great majority of our English-speaking fellow citizens still display, it seems to me, an instinctive goodwill and open-mindedness. The phenomenon called English "backlash" exists; but I believe it has often been over-blown. There is another, and I think more dangerous, reaction we should never forget: French skepticism. To prevent our French-speaking countrymen's skepticism from sliding into outright cynicism, and to prevent them from seeing in bilingualism policies just another "trick" of the federal authorities to win them over, the pace of language reform must not be slowed down, but sanely and sensitively speeded up.

These, Mr. Speaker, are the alarming remarks made by a senior public servant who is paid to observe and report facts honestly. In fact, Mr. Spicer has shown a great deal of honesty in making such a statement, especially after an election where some members, particularly in western Canada, got themselves elected by riding on the back of French-speaking people, the so-called "French power".

These alarming remarks should incite all members to think and act in such a way as to show that indeed they have faith in this entity which is called Canada and to foster the economic as well as cultural growth throughout the country.

The federal government's policies on bilingualism must not be merely a safety valve enabling a minority or group acting among Canadians to express itself. It has to be something concrete and not, as I said earlier, only such a bluff as to make the hon. member for Lapointe (Mr. Marceau) forget his Latin.

Policies will have to be adopted to educate especially the Anglophones for, unfortunately, they are sadly lacking in

that respect. They need to be educated to a new turn of mind, that French-Canadians might be accepted in the ten provinces of Canada, that they might take pride in being Canadians, that they might feel at home wherever they are. And when I speak of the right to bilingualism, I mean specially that of the French-Canadians, because it does not seem to bother the English-Canadians very much.

• (2120)

[*English*]

Mr. Jean-Robert Gauthier (Ottawa East): Mr. Speaker, I was not going to take part in this debate because I consider the motion completely out of order in view of the fact that the government already has on the order paper a motion which is to be discussed next week. However, something was said today that gave me a strong injection of adrenalin. I find I must react to those comments, otherwise I will not be able to sleep tonight.

An hon. Member: Reactionary?

Mr. Gauthier (Ottawa East): No, revolutionary. In the speech made in the House a short while ago by the hon. member for Grenville-Carleton (Mr. Baker) we heard what I would call some very strong accusations. Knowing him as I do, and knowing his integrity, I hope he has not made these accusations seriously. I hope the hon. member is not trying to mislead us or the country into thinking that what he said is the Bible truth.

He said something to the effect that selling the concept of bilingualism to the people of Canada was the responsibility of the Liberal party. I must tell you, Mr. Speaker, that I consider myself to be above that kind of partisanship. I think it was well said today in the House by both the hon. member for Saint-Hyacinthe (Mr. Wagner) and the hon. member for Brome-Missisquoi (Mr. Grafftey) that everybody in the House has a duty to sell this policy to the country, not just the members of this government.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Gauthier (Ottawa East): If we are talking about selling the policy, let us sell it with fair play—and fair play means that it must be sold honestly. What was used were innuendoes, accusations and insinuations. Examples were given of minute details which are irrelevant to the over-all discussion, which should be on policy statements, objectives, aims and goals. I think the hon. member for Grenville-Carleton knows very well what I mean by aims and goals. The aims and goals are to treat everyone equally and to tell the truth. I do not think this has been done here today.

I am sorry to point out, Sir, that the hon. member for Grenville-Carleton is the only English-speaking member of the House who has spoken today, except for the hon. member for Brome-Missisquoi who is a member from Quebec and who knows what it means to treat minorities with equality and justice. He knows this because he lives in Quebec and has done that. However, I am in a minority group in Ontario, where I have lived for 100 years with injustice.

Mr. Epp: You don't look that old.

Mr. Gauthier (Ottawa East): I am 43. I might not look as if I were 100 years old, but I feel like it sometimes.

An hon. Member: Why don't you see your chiropractor?

Mr. Gauthier (Ottawa East): If you want the floor, I will give it to you; otherwise, let me have it for a few minutes.

An hon. Member: You don't deserve it.

An hon. Member: We are all listening.

Mr. Gauthier (Ottawa East): The hon. member for Grenville-Carleton said that public servants should not be penalized. He said something to the effect that there should be an attitude of commitment to a certain perception of our society, or similar words. When one reads the report for 1971-72, of the Commissioner of Official Languages, when one reviews the press reports of speeches made in Ottawa during the last election and understands the sentiment that was behind the insinuations that public servants in Ottawa were being mistreated and dealt with unfairly, all one has to do is to look at the statistics to see that that is not true. Nobody was treated unfairly, if to treat unfairly is to give French-speaking citizens some kind of right of access to the public service commission. I think what the hon. member for Grenville-Carleton said is totally wrong.

Mr. Baker: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. I suggest that before the hon. member makes accusations about what I meant, he should read the blues of my speech. I have just read them.

An hon. Member: That is not a point of order.

Mr. Baker: Then I rise on a question of privilege. I respect my friend; we know one another very well. However, before he comes to the conclusions that he seems to have reached he should read very carefully, if he has an opportunity, the blues of the speech which I made tonight, or read *Hansard* tomorrow.

Mr. Gauthier (Ottawa East): I will read the blues, Mr. Speaker, but I took down some of the hon. member's statements word for word, and also I heard him. I will see tomorrow if it reads the same way as it sounded.

An hon. Member: Put your old campaign speech away.

Mr. Gauthier (Ottawa East): I did not have to use it in my campaign in Ottawa East; this was not an issue. But someone else made it an issue in Ottawa.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Speaker, I must say I was very impressed today with the remarks of the Minister of Communications (Mr. Pelletier) and I should like to mention two minor points after which I shall resume my seat because I am saving my main speech for next week.

The rights of individuals in Canada, institutional bilingualism, individual bilingualism, that whole question, as the hon. member for Brome-Missisquoi (Mr. Grafftey) said, must be studied in a spirit of good will and good

faith. But I do not agree with the hon. member when he says it must be treated in an apolitical way.

I do not think, Mr. Speaker, that we can discuss that important Canadian matter apolitically.

The hon. member for Saint-Hyacinthe (Mr. Wagner) said:

[*English*]

"This issue of language is not one for political gain". That is what one hon. member opposite said this afternoon. It is not so funny now.

Mr. Marchand (Langelier): The hon. member for Saint-Hyacinthe (Mr. Wagner) said that.

Mr. Gauthier (Ottawa East): I will repeat the statement: "This issue of language is not one for political gain".

An hon. Member: That's for sure.

Mr. Gauthier (Ottawa East): I invite all hon. members opposite to make positive statements on how we can improve this situation, not how you can beat it or destroy it.

An hon. Member: Let us hear you.

Mr. Gauthier (Ottawa East): You will hear me next week. Intolerance, innuendoes, accusations—you are experts at that. I will repeat it for you so you might listen and understand.

Mr. Yewchuk: All right, repeat it.

● (2130)

Mr. Gauthier (Ottawa East): We have been attacked. Minority, French-speaking groups across Canada have been attacked for a number of years. But recently, in Ontario at least, there has been a breakthrough. Since 1968 there has been understanding and comprehension. At least now we have a system of government appreciation of what 500,000 Franco-Ontarians want and expect, and that is equality, justice and what the hon. member opposite was mentioning a few minutes ago. Justice has no partisanship; justice is not a thing of party.

Mr. Yewchuk: You have been getting justice from a Conservative government.

Mr. Gauthier (Ottawa East): You are pretty good at this, but I will handle you the next time you speak.

[*Translation*]

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Laniel): Order. I would ask hon. members to comply with the standing orders and address the Chair. I do not think that we have much to gain through those interventions and those exchanges, but if we stick to the standing orders, it will help the proceedings.

Mr. Gauthier (Ottawa East): Mr. Speaker, I do not wish to go on, because the speech which I will deliver next week will be much more important, but I wanted to make the point.

[Mr. Gauthier (Ottawa East).]

The Creditistes who applauded did not understand. They want Canada to become like Belgium, but they will not get it. This is all I wanted to say.

Mr. Gilbert Rondeau (Shefford): Mr. Speaker, it is unfortunate that when discussing such a serious matter, so important for good understanding among Canadians, one can hear stupidities like these which were heard a moment ago.

Mr. Speaker, it is also unfortunate to see that the present government, and those that preceded it, indulge, over the years, in endless talk of bilingualism. Now, we see the government backing away from the solution at the very time when all Canadians thought they could at last put their finger on the real solution to the serious problem of bilingualism in Canada. Unfortunately, we are disappointed, as all Canadians will be when they see that the government, in meaningless texts, do not produce the solution which we had been allowed to expect. The government is backing away from the problem. It is afraid of it. After having created a commission of inquiry for the purpose of defining a problem which was already known to us, it was not necessary to spend $10 million of public funds to learn what the Royal Commission of Inquiry on Bilingualism and Biculturalism taught us.

The commission, after extremely costly work, merely confirmed what most Canadians, and we in the House, already knew so well.

Mr. Speaker, on many occasions, the Creditistes have noted certain things, especially since 1962, and I, for one, when I first came to this House, found to my great surprise in a country which I thought was bilingual before 1962, that even in the House of Commons it was difficult to assert the rights of the French language. It was still more difficult than today, I admit it, at least as far as the House of Commons is concerned to command respect in our language, so that sometimes in the House, we were compelled to break the rules of that Canadian institution which should set the example in Canada. We found much to our surprise that our guide of parliamentary procedure was still only written in English.

After that, some Quebec politicians made fun of us. Others made silly remarks about our fight for the French fact in the House of Commons. Mr. Speaker, other members, for example, even Liberals, have congratulated us, on numerous occasions on our stand concerning bilingualism in Canada, not because we were narrow-minded, but because at the outset, we were surprised at the facts that existed in 1962.

Mr. Speaker, I could give many other examples of what happened in the House of Commons and outside. On many occasions, we have unfortunately found that the ministers statements are too often handed to us only in English, and I don't want to blame the ministers directly, because they receive statements prepared by departmental officers. A minister comes in the House and goes through the statement he has to make in a few minutes. At the same time, we also go through it. That is the main reason why we too often receive in English only statements that should be in both languages, in order to respect the bicultural character of the House of Commons and of Canada.

Mr. Speaker, there is also a situation that many hon. members find shocking. Even if some of us are familiar with the English language when, for instance, we phone certain departments, I would say that 95 per cent of the time, we are told—

[*English*]

"I am sorry, Sir. I am going to get you someone who can speak French."

[*Translation*]

And, Mr. Speaker, I have heard a lot of "Sorry, Sir" since 1962. We are in 1973 and these departmental officers give me over the phone the stock reply:

[*English*]

"I am sorry, Sir. I have been unable to find someone who can speak to you in French".

● (2140)

[*Translation*]

And they have so much trouble finding someone able to answer in French that I am unfortunately obliged to wait often for five, six, seven or eight minutes before I can find someone in the department, when he is not gone on his coffee break, to give me an answer in my own language. And very often we do not have enough time to wait indefinitely for those honourable gentlemen of the public service and I might be accused of being impolite, but I often had to hang up in desperation.

Another subject supports very well the grievances that have been stated in this House since 1962. Let us say a word now about all the methods used in the different Departments. We had confirmation in this House, two years ago, that all bills were first drafted in English, as well as all administrative forms and that they were translated afterwards in French.

I do not have enough time to give proof of that tonight. But one has only to open the first three files on the desk of any member, which the member uses whenever problems crop up as to some electors, to find out that the forms were translated. As a matter of fact, they leave a definite after taste which shows that the original was drafted in English. I will give you an example—

Mr. Marchand (Langelier): The same thing happens in English.

Mr. Rondeau: The honorable Minister of Transport says that the same thing happens in English, which I readily admit. But if it is the same in English, it is an awful mess in French. This is the best example of what I am suggesting. When during the last election campaign, following heavy rainfalls in the province of Quebec, the farmers had to fill out a form in order to receive that famous $400 compensation for the loss of their crops, the most important question in this form, where the farmer was asked whether his 1972 income was lower than in 1971, was disgracefully worded. The best proof is that I have received over 700 complaints from farmers entitled to that $400 amount but who have answered the question as they understood it at first sight and which seemed to mean exactly the contrary of what was requested from them.

Mr. Speaker, I could elaborate much longer on the way those forms are written and on the stupidity of the civil service which only gives the appearance of being bilingual because it is a "function of translation." There are no bilingual people in the Public Service. And in today's *La Presse* were quoted figures the hon. member for Richmond (Mr. Beaudoin) obtained yesterday in this House.

English unilingualism is faring well . . .

. . . 88.9 per cent in the Department of Environment, 65 percent in the Department of Consumer and Corporate Affairs; 84 percent in the Department of Agriculture, 37.1 percent in Information Canada; 27 percent in the Public Service; 61.2 percent in the Treasury Board, 72.8 percent of the Secretariat of the Treasury Board; 61.4 percent in the Department of Urban Affairs; 48.1 in the Tax Review Board; 81.5 percent in the National Energy Board; 46 percent in the Canadian Radio and Television Council; 72.3 percent in the Department of Industry, Trade and Commerce; 28 percent in the Company of Young Canadians; 57.5 percent in the Tariff Board, 49.4 percent in the Canadian International Development Agency; 65.3 percent in Statistics Canada.

Those figures demonstrate exactly the opposite of what the Progressive Conservative party tried to have the people of Canada believe during the last election campaign when it was claimed, for instance, that a "French Power" had been set up in Ottawa and that the federal government was under its control. Now, Mr. Speaker, when we read articles in *La Presse* entitled "L'unilinguisme anglophone se porte bien", (English unilingualism is faring well), which give statistics supplied by the public service, which itself is involved, we cannot doubt those statistics on public service unilingualism.

Mr. Speaker, during the last election campaign, the Progressive Conservative party tried to sell the false slogan of a "French Power" in Ottawa, and I am not obliged to repeat what I have already said time and time again, that is, that the Progressive Conservative party is the most anti-French Canadian party we have ever known since confederation.

Mr. Speaker, had that party been so pro-French Canadian, had it been so much in favour of bilingualism in the public service, today they could do better than the Liberals who are now in office and they could at least have given us a heritage as far as bilingualism in Canada is concerned, a heritage that we do not have today and that we are all seeking.

Mr. Speaker, it is with regret that we must still talk, after 100 years, of the so-called bilingualism in Canada, which should no longer be a problem, particularly in the public service and must ensure that bilingualism in Canada is fully respected and that everyone, as the hon. members for Champlain and Drummond (Messrs. Matte and Boisvert) said, be he a French Canadian or an English Canadian, can communicate with federal departments and agencies in his own language. Mr. Speaker, as far as the grievances we had to air in the House are concerned, we should not be called anti-English; we are pro-Canadian, we want the implementation of bilingualism in Canada and we want the Canadian people to be no longer laughed at by being fed wrong solutions or hopes that federal legislation will never make possible.

[*English*]

Hon. Bryce Mackasey (Verdun): Mr. Speaker, with but 12 minutes remaining before ten o'clock I felt obliged to

rise and say a few words. I wondered why a party which I have always felt identified with national unity in the best possible sense, the Social Credit party, should have found it imperative and necessary to use this particular day to debate this very sensitive subject, when they knew full well that within a week or two they would have ample opportunity to discuss it more fully. At that time they could make a case that all parties could duly endorse, because this is really an all-party position on official languages, and they could do it in the most non-partisan manner, at the same time having full rein of the privileges of the House of Commons to make their case known across the country.

It is very perplexing to know why we have been subjected to this type of diatribe for most of the day. That is the best way to describe what has been the content of the speeches of the Social Credit party. I know of no one in that party who is more concerned about the case of bilingualism than I am, the hon. member for Brome-Missisquoi (Mr. Grafftey) and others who grew up in the minority in the province of Quebec, who understand what fair play is, who have never had to suffer economically or in any other way because they come from a minority position in la belle province.

I came here in 1962, Mr. Speaker, and I have seen the progress made since then. For the Social Credit party to suddenly take a negative attitude—and they speak for a large number of the people of Quebec in many important ridings—to give the impression which permeated every speech they made today, that there has been absolutely no progress in the case of bilingualism and the exercise of the rights of French-speaking Canadians in this country, in Ottawa, in the national capital, in the House of Commons, in the government and in the opposition, is to misrepresent the progress that has been made. It may have been slow, but nevertheless it has been made in good faith because of the co-operation of all parties over the last ten years since I was elected to the House of Commons and since the hon. member for Shefford (Mr. Rondeau) was elected.

To pretend that no progress has been made is a deliberate misrepresentation of the facts, and the hon. member knows that. I am perplexed and do not understand precisely what is behind this deliberate attempt to jump the gun on what will be a very important debate in this House of Commons in the next week or two.

● (2150)

One thing was said tonight, and it could very well have been a slip of the tongue; I do not know. An hon. member from the Ottawa area said, quite properly, that if the Official Languages Act was supported by the government and only the government, then we on this side of the House are guilty of not having explained it properly to Canadians across this country. But I was under the impression that this act was adopted unanimously by all parties in the House, and therefore all parties are obligated to explain that piece of legislation.

The first person I would turn to as an example of one who accepted that responsibility is the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Stanfield) who, although not one of the younger members of the House, has painstakingly day after day taken the trouble to learn the other official language of this country because he wanted to do so. His progress is there for all of us to measure. It is an example to hon. members on both sides of the House as to what can be done if we approach the language problem in the proper spirit. If he can do this, surely public servants can do it, if that is the price of progress and promotion in certain sensitive areas of the public service.

To skirt that fact is to play politics with an issue that could very well tear apart the very fabric of this country at a time when the average Canadian finally has accepted the reality that this is a bilingual and multicultural country and that every person has the right to be serviced, when dealing with the government, in either of the official languages. It is the responsibility of the public service to make sure that Canadian citizens are given that service in their own official language. This principle applies no matter whether we are talking about correspondence, oral communication or any other means of communication at our disposal.

We cannot run away from that fact after years of tortuous progress, after the courageous policy brought in and enunciated by the late Right Hon. Lester B. Pearson and adopted in this House after inspiring speeches by the then leader of the opposition, by the then leader of the NDP and by the leader of the Social Credit party, who has had the courage to stand up in the most nationalistic areas of Quebec and endorse bilingualism as a logical and realistic step for the future. If he had been here tonight and had listened to some of the silly speeches made by members of his party in his absence, I wonder what he would think. He would be ashamed of some statements which have been made to the effect that no progress has been made in ten years, because if that is so then all efforts throughout the past and in other cultural areas by people of various parties have been for nothing.

There is not enough time between now and ten o'clock to list the progress which has been made as a result of the efforts of the Social Credit party from 1962 onward. As I remember, it was the Social Credit party that raised the unfair position of French Canadians in our Crown corporations. People were saying that you could not find a single French Canadian capable of sitting on the boards of directors of our national railway.

That issue was raised by the Social Credit party. The chief spokesman was a Social Credit member, Gilles Gregoire. I have not forgotten that debate. Today, many Canadians whose mother tongue happens to be French head Crown corporations. One heads Air Canada, another the CBC, and others play prominent roles in other Crown corporations. I am thinking also of departments such as the UIC, Supply and Services and many other similar departments. They are headed by Canadians who happen to be French-speaking Canadians in the same way as I am a Canadian who happens to be English-speaking.

We have got over this problem. As I have said before, in another decade we will get over the concept of hyphenated Canadians because our youngsters are more enlightened than we are, thank goodness. They understand that bilingualism is a mark of culture, understanding and education and that you are richer if you can speak two or more languages. There is hardly anyone of my generation on

both sides of the House who does not say, "I wish I were fluent in the other language."

Learning another language is like learning music. It is not easy. We have to be tolerant and understanding of the civil servant who cannot learn another language and finds his progress blocked. That is why hon. members must look at the resolution that was placed on the order paper in April. They will find that ample opportunity is now given for the unilingual civil servant who has been in the civil service for a number of years to apply for a bilingual position so long as he says, "I am prepared to learn the other language and I am prepared to accept the assistance of someone who is bilingual."

Certainly, if we cannot accept the nine points enunciated on the order paper, this country will not be together very long. This applies to everybody here. I think we all support the resolution. That is why I think the members of the Social Credit party are doing this issue a disservice by rising in their seats today and advancing the pretext that absolutely no progress has been made in the public service here in Ottawa. That is false. Everybody in that corner knows that I am just as much a Canadian, just as much a Quebecker, just as bilingual and just as dedicated to the concept of bilingualism as the hon. gentleman who just sat down, and I am political enough to recognize political expediency. It is wrong to say that no progress has been made under the Liberal government, because that is not the fact.

May I call it ten o'clock?

[*Translation*]

Mr. André Fortin (Lotbinière): Mr. Speaker, I should like to participate, even for a few minutes, in this debate so as to tell my colleagues, especially those who are presently on the government side, that today they have put this House to shame by sneaking away under the pretext that a so-called debate has been delayed for over a month. The Minister of Communications has himself stated that a resolution had been put on the order paper on April 13 by the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau). Since then, we have been waiting. A former Minister of Labour has told us, one moment ago, that some progress has been registered. I shall just refer him, in view of the limited time that has been allotted to me, to yesterday's *Hansard* where he will find figures which put any honest Canadian to shame.

At Statistics Canada, for example, we find 2,453 English unilingual employees, that is 65 per cent of the staff and 318 French unilingual employees.

[*English*]

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, please. It being ten o'clock p.m., it is my duty to point out that pursuant to section (11) of Standing Order 58 the proceedings on the motion have expired.

Mr. Fortin: On a question of privilege, Mr. Speaker, may I point out—

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, please. After ten o'clock questions of privilege cannot be entertained.

An hon. Member: Ten o'clock.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: If a question of privilege exists, it can be raised tomorrow immediately after we begin our sitting.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Fortin: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker. I raised the question of privilege before you began to read the questions to be discussed after 10 o'clock. Consequently, I feel that I was then entitled to raise the question of privilege.

[*English*]

Mr. Deputy Speaker: That is probably not a question of privilege. The Chair may have been inexact, within a few seconds, as to whether it was ten o'clock. However, the Chair felt it was ten o'clock and called it ten o'clock.

Mr. Hellyer: It was after ten o'clock.

PROCEEDINGS ON ADJOURNMENT MOTION

A motion to adjourn the House under Standing Order 40 deemed to have been moved.

HOUSING—ROCHDALE COLLEGE—REPORT ORDERED BY ONTARIO ATTORNEY GENERAL ON ACTIVITIES—ACTION BY MINISTER OF JUSTICE

Mr. W. C. Scott (Victoria-Haliburton): Mr. Speaker, the record will show that over the past two and a half years I have urged the government repeatedly to tell this House why it has not been able to foreclose on the delinquent Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation mortgage on Rochdale College, Toronto. Two years ago I spoke on this topic during the adjournment proceedings. At that time the mortgage on Rochdale was $340,000 in arrears; today it is more than $800,000 in arrears. This is scandalous. On that occasion I was answered by the then parliamentary secretary to the minister of labour. He said there were social as well as financial considerations involved in the Rochdale affair and that on the positive side the government would have to consider the role that Rochdale plays with respect to the youth of Toronto and the surrounding area. That was very interesting. While I am not pressing this case because of its moral implications alone, I would like to give the House some background on the actual role that Rochdale plays in the Toronto area.

● (2200)

First, the Toronto police, the Toronto council, the town council of Mississauga and the Peel county coroner have called for the closing of Rochdale. It has been labelled a festering abscess in the side of Toronto, and Peel county coroner Dr. Martin Dobkin said that it was probably the largest drug distribution centre in North America. Fugitives from justice seek and find refuge in Rochdale. When the police attempt to make an arrest with a legal warrant, they are set upon by the hooligans who make Rochdale their home.

Over the years that Rochdale has been in existence under the patronage of the federal government, many deaths have occurred in the college, most of them connected with the use of drugs. These deaths range from murder to suicide to accidental death. Most of them involve boys and girls in their teens. Young girls are lured to the college, influenced to take drugs and then kept there for the pleasure of the hoodlums, drug pushers and other social misfits. Some youths who have lived for a while in Rochdale have been described by doctors as human vegetables.

Only a few days ago yet another youth fell to his death from an upper floor window at Rochdale. Later, someone went into his room and threw a box of burning garbage out of the window. The box fell on a six-year old girl playing in the street. She is in the Toronto Hospital for Sick Children, in serious condition.

The school boards in the Toronto area have amassed evidence that the drugs which find their way into the schools can be traced to Rochdale; that is then the source. This year alone there have been more than 1,000 arrests of people in the Rochdale building or seen leaving the building. Some of these people are wanted criminals, but the vast majority are charged with drug offences. When this is multiplied by the five or six years the college has been in existence it can be seen that it is a situation that cannot be allowed to continue.

There is another scandalous aspect of this sordid story. That is the fact that the federal government is pouring thousands of dollars per year into Rochdale in Opportunities for Youth and Local Initiative Program grants. This allows the college to survive and to carry on its out-and-out war on society. The people of Canada are paying for this. It is a crime.

Rochdale and the city of Toronto are presently locked in battle over whether the so-called college should pay nearly $750,000 in back taxes. I say to the members of this House who represent Toronto ridings that their constituents are being blackmailed by the federal government. The federal government's refusal to foreclose and recover the property, and their policy of supporting the college with OFY and LIP grants, is helping the hooligans who run Rochdale to avoid meeting their responsibilities.

Earlier this year, Mr. J. A. Houston, Ontario regional director of CMHC, told the Mississauga town council that CMHC was powerless to foreclose the Rochdale mortgage. This is strange indeed in light of charges made this week by the hon. member for Calgary North (Mr. Woolliams) who charged CMHC with being too hasty in foreclosing mortgages. He cited the example of a constituent who had been forced to sell his home to avoid foreclosure by CMHC because of arrears in mortgage payments amounting to $358. On the one hand CMHC cannot collect hundreds of thousands of dollars from a rats' nest like Rochdale, but it can quite easily force the sale of a private home to collect $358. It could be that the homeowner in question was unfortunate enough to be a responsible, law-abiding Canadian citizen.

If there is something in the National Housing Act that prevents CMHC from collecting arrears or foreclosing on institutions like Rochdale, then we had better have a close look at the National Housing Act while amending legislation is before the Standing Committee on Health, Welfare and Social Affairs. I cannot recall any such provisions in the government's amendment, and if it is true that CMHC is powerless to take action on the Rochdale mortgage let us consider this deficiency in the law at an early opportunity. This is public money, and I cannot stand by any longer and watch it being used as though it belongs to CMHC or to the government. This government scorns parliament, but none the less it is responsible to parliament. We have a right to know all the answers in the Rochdale affair and in similar institutions such as Ottawa's Pestalozzi College.

Some time ago the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) said that scandals like the Watergate affair cannot happen in Canada. I do not believe it, Mr. Speaker. This Rochdale affair is beginning to smell more and more like a mini-Watergate and it is time the government told us what is going on.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order. I regret to interrupt the hon. member, but the time allotted to him has expired.

Mr. Norman A. Cafik (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of National Health and Welfare): Mr. Speaker, the Minister of State for Urban Affairs (Mr. Basford) has on several occasions expressed his profound concern, which I am sure is shared by all hon. members, about events which have taken place at Rochdale in Toronto. I want to make it perfectly clear that the federal government is prosecuting an action to gain control of Rochdale as fast as is legally possible. Indeed, the government began foreclosure action in August, 1971, and when CMHC was barred by the Supreme Court of Ontario from gaining possession of the building it was we, the federal government, who took the initiative of having an interim receiver appointed on behalf of all creditors.

I must say that anyone who suggests that the government is dragging its feet is displaying a disturbing ignorance of the facts of this matter. The interim receiver, appointed as a result of the federal initiative, has hired a large security force and has taken other extraordinary measures to police the building. We understand that the receiver will make an announcement relating to this matter tomorrow morning. In the meantime, the Minister of State for Urban Affairs wrote on April 13, over a month ago, to the metro Police Commission chairman and to the Attorney General of the province of Ontario setting out the federal position respecting Rochdale and offering full co-operation in the Attorney General's proposed investigation of that institution. With the consent of hon. members, I wish to table copies of the minister's letter at this time.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, I want to make it clear that it is the job of CMHC, the mortgagor in this instance, to provide accommodation for Canadians under the National Housing Act. This the corporation is doing to the best of its ability. It is the responsibility of the police to enforce the laws relating to drugs.

I want to reiterate that the federal government has done everything in its power to prosecute foreclosure. Our handicap is that we have had to live within the law. Surely, among ourselves as lawmakers we ought to understand what that is all about.

MANPOWER—INTERNATIONAL NICKEL COMPANY—PROJECTED PRODUCTION AND EMPLOYMENT LEVELS—PROVISION OF INFORMATION TO DEPARTMENT

Mr. John Rodriguez (Nickel Belt): Mr. Speaker, I asked the Minister of Manpower and Immigration (Mr. Andras) the following question, as reported at page 3370 of *Hansard* for April 17, 1973:

> Has the minister obtained from International Nickel Company projected employment and production levels at this company over the next few years? If not, is it the minister's intention to ask INCO to provide his manpower consultative services with such information?

Subsequent to the question, the minister wrote me a letter in which he stated:

> Like all the other private corporations, INCO is not required to make public information regarding its internal operations so long as it satisfies the requirements of any applicable provincial labour legislation.

● (2210)

This is a weak-kneed response from a government whose experience with boom and bust mining operations ought to have taught them something. The kind of reply the minister sent me flies in the face of any modern strategy of economic development. To illustrate, the Sudbury area planning study, carried out by the ministry of treasury, economics and intergovernmental affairs, dated March 1973, clearly states on page 9:

> Actual growth will be determined by birth and death rates, migration patterns and particularly by economic factors affecting employment opportunities. In an economy dominated by two large employers, the plans of these two corporations are the largest factors determining employment opportunities.

It further states:

> If substantial industry other than mining is established in the region, further additional population growth could be expected but the available evidence does not suggest such an assumption.

Our communities have to plan our development. INCO dominates our work scene and represents a great deal of public investment vis-à-vis deferred taxes totalling $238 million, no tax paid in 1971, tax holidays on new mines, depletion allowances, fast write-offs on equipment, municipal tax assessments on buildings only, population abatement grants, training on-the-job grants, manpower retraining grants and preferred freight rates to ship out our ore, and it is insulting to my constituents that we should be put into the position of having to ask about this company's plans. This company should automatically file its plans with the government and the community. The minister and this government have the colossal gall to say that this company's future plans are a matter of private concern.

It may be that this minister thinks this multinational corporation has been very sensitive and responsive to the dependence of the community upon it. But maybe the minister does not realize that INCO has as much concern for the people of the Sudbury basin as a tom cat has for a marriage licence. For example, the number of hourly-rated employees at INCO in July, 1971, stood at 18,224, and as of April 30, 1973 it was 13,487. This is a drop of 5,000 jobs at INCO in less than two years. In addition, some 2,000 salaried employees have been cut back in the same period.

In addition to the jobs lost, our workers have paid often with their lives and more often with their health. Our environment has been devastated; air, water, vegetation and wildlife have shared a common fate as a result of noxious pollutants being spilled into the area. Our resources are being shipped out of the country. Neither the Ontario Tory government, the Liberal federal government, their buddy INCO nor other commercial interests have moved to create or entice secondary industry to provide for the future of the Sudbury basin.

Even now this government should instruct the CNR immediately to cut its freight rates in and out of northern Ontario as a first step in establishing a climate for economic development. This government's disregard for the residents of northern Ontario is matched only by the Ontario government's equally callous disregard, and is certainly in contrast to the many favours showered on the mining companies in whose back pockets they have found their pot of gold.

We of northern Ontario demand that INCO and other mining companies be compelled to sit down with government and labour and plan together an orderly development of our resources. We call on the federal government and the provincial government, with local input, to develop an economic strategy which will remove forever our complete dependence on the mining industry.

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, there is no mandatory requirement on the part of business concerns in the private sector of the economy to disclose projections of employment and production levels to the department.

Mr. Rodriguez: Why not?

Mr. MacGuigan: However, industrial specialists and manpower consultants of the department undertake on a continuing basis short and longer term industrial sector studies. This is accomplished through a variety of liaison activities, associations, unions and other government departments and agencies both federal and provincial. In this way the department keeps informed of technological changes, market shifts and other trends in industry, labour, education, and so on, which may affect the efficient operation of the labour market.

Employment and production level projections of any company, including the International Nickel Company, are matters which the company may or may not wish to publicize. However, as the minister indicated to the hon. member for Nickel Belt (Mr. Rodriguez) in a letter of April 18, departmental officers enjoy a good working relationship with INCO, as indeed with corporations in all industrial sectors. We encourage employers to inform us as early as possible of any decisions that will cause significant employment shifts, expansions and dislocations. Moreover, close liaison with companies such as INCO enables the department to keep abreast of all developments touching on manpower matters.

Mr. Speaker, the hon. member has spoken of colossal gall. It seems to me the colossal gall is on his part, because he is suggesting that the constitution of Canada should be disregarded. What colossal gall that is, and for him to

interject during my speech makes that all the more evident. Perhaps the hon. member is not aware that labour relations in this industry fall under the provincial government, and if not, as a member of this parliament he should be aware of this fact. Perhaps he is not aware of the fact that unions find it very convenient to have full corporate disclosure for use in their negotiating proceedings.

I do not know whether or not the hon. member is carrying a brief for any particular body tonight in suggesting that information which would be useful to unions in negotiations should be made available, but it is not the practice of this government, and it is not permissible under the constitution of Canada to make such information about the industries of the country available. Even if it were permissible, it would not be appropriate because this is a field which is under provincial jurisdiction, as the hon. member should have known himself before he brought this question before the House tonight.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, please. Before we get into another ten o'clock situation, may I call on the hon. member for Humber-St. George's-St. Barbe (Mr. Marshall).

SOCIAL SECURITY—REQUEST THAT FAMILY ALLOWANCE PAYMENTS BE TIED TO COST OF LIVING INDEX PENDING INCREASES

Mr. Jack Marshall (Humber-St. George's-St. Barbe): Mr. Speaker, the question I am debating tonight is very basic and deals with what I think is a normal and fundamental suggestion to the government, which if put into effect would tend to relieve the suffering of many hundreds of thousands of children of lower income families across the country until the government is prepared to implement the new family allowances benefits which they say will or should be afforded to Canadians in January, 1974.

My question was simply whether the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) would table an order in council to tie present family allowance payments to the cost of living index using January, 1973, as the base month to ensure that families receive some improvement in benefits starting at once, and retroactively instead of having to wait until next year. The answer from the Prime Minister was, to my mind, immature, irresponsible and unworthy of a person who leads this country. I have been asking questions on family allowances ever since the white paper on income security came out in 1970, and I have been asking them in a manner which I think has been reasonable.

Since the beginning of the session I have asked the minister responsible, and the Prime Minister, in a responsible way, if they would implement the family allowance bill immediately, because I feel that it would help families with small children who cannot fend for themselves and would relieve the ever increasing calamity of malnutrition and high cost of living. All I get is an irresponsible answer that if it had not been for the opposition, the family allowance bill would have been passed in the last session of parliament.

What have we accomplished in three years, Mr. Speaker? All we have is a new paper—but this time the colour is orange—telling the people of Canada that the government has a new approach to family allowances but that it cannot be produced until later in the year. The minister responsible for the original family income security plan was convinced in the last session that his bill—after changing it once during the session—was the best thing for Canadian children. A bill was produced that brought nightmares to those high-priced bureaucrats who were charged with implementing the bill, which in turn would have brought worse than nightmares to the mothers of the country, who would have received the benefits, because of the administrative details which it contained.

Here we are, almost three years later, with a government that is incapable of controlling the disease of runaway inflation, with an incapability of controlling the runaway cost of foods, shelter and clothing, but with a complete and utter lack of concern to implement federal increases in a bill which would relieve the inability of the low and no-income families to partially meet the needs of their children. The present family allowances bill could very easily have been amended as it presently exists, if there was any semblance of sincerity by the minister, instead of playing political football with poverty-stricken Canadians.

• (2220)

All they would really have to do, if they were concerned, would be to amend the clause in the present family allowance bill, which signifies the amount now received, by a greater amount. The only other clause required would be the insertion of a clause dealing with annual increases in the cost of living. This was done very simply under the old age security bill and the war veterans allowances bill, and it could have been passed in record time. But instead the minister plays footsie with the provinces at conferences, and to get every ounce of press value bamboozles the Canadian public and the press, those creative gentlemen who profess to know what is best for the country.

I could state almost word for word what the answer to my question will be. It will refer to the great master plan that exists. But regardless of what I hear, let it ever rest on the conscience of the government that they have already failed miserably to help the children of our country, that segment of our society which we should be preparing, as it is our duty to do, to become healthy citizens of Canada in later years. It is a national disgrace that the government has shown its apparent inefficiency to meet the problem that exists.

Mr. Norman A. Cafik (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of National Health and Welfare): Mr. Speaker, the hon. member has indicated that he knows my answer in advance. I think he should have known his question in advance. He is really suggesting something that is diametrically opposed to everything that I thought his party stood for in the past, that is, legislation by order in council. How stupid can you get to suggest this?

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): You should know.

Mr. Cafik: I do know, by virtue of this motion. The hon. member is really suggesting that we change the law by order in council. That is impossible. It cannot be done

within the law affecting family allowances to bring down an order in council which would, in effect, change the amount to be paid in relationship to the cost of living or any other factor. I thought the hon. member would have known that before he asked the question.

Second, I thought he would have consulted his colleagues who seem to spend so much time in committees and elsewhere opposing actions through orders in council or dollar estimates, or whatever, to supposedly frustrate parliament. Surely parliament is the place where one should deal with this question, not through order in council.

The hon. member talks about us playing footsie with the provinces. Surely it is not too much to expect a federal Member of Parliament to realize that we live in a federal system and that we have a federal government and provincial governments. We have proposed to the provinces a new family allowance program which would offer benefits up to $20 a month per child. At the moment it is $7.21. That particular proposal carries with it the caveat that the provinces have the right, and indeed the obligation, to choose their own provincial priorities and they can adjust that amount depending on age or other factors which they think are relevant to the children in their province.

Surely that is not doing anything improper. Surely we have to recognize the kind of country in which we live. We live under a federal system and we have to abide by it. You call that playing footsie with the provinces! I tell you, if your party were in power, I do not think there would be any provinces to play footsie with, because they would all opt out of confederation if you had that attitude at any kind of federal-provincial conference. I want to underscore the simple fact that you cannot do what you suggest—

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Order.

Mr. Cafik: —and if you had done any research—

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Order.

Mr. Cafik: —in connection with the question, you would have known it before you even put it.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: There is a parliamentary nicety involved here regarding the reference throughout the parliamentary secretary's speech to the hon. member as "you". But perhaps the point has been well recognized by now.

Motion agreed to and the House adjourned at 10.27 p.m.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Friday, May 18, 1973

The House met at 11 a.m.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[*Translation*]

COMMITTEES OF THE HOUSE

FISHERIES AND FORESTRY

First report of Standing Committee on Fisheries and Forestry in the two official languages—Mr. Béchard (Bonaventure-Île de la Madeleine)

[*Editor's Note: For text of above report, see today's Votes and Proceedings.*]

* * *

COMMUNICATIONS

COMMUNITY ANTENNA TELEVISION—DISPUTE WITH QUEBEC RESPECTING JURISDICTION—STATEMENT BY MINISTER

Hon. Gérard Pelletier (Minister of Communications): Mr. Speaker, you will recall that on February 23 last I tabled a copy of a letter I had sent to the Hon. Jean-Paul L'Allier, the Quebec Minister of Communications, informing him that the government had taken note of an ordinance issued to community-antenna-television operators by the Public Service Board of Quebec which constitutes a clear attempt to super-impose provincial jurisdiction on an area of exclusive federal legislative authority.

The Public Service Board of Quebec has now issued to most of the community-antenna-television operators in the province a form of temporary certificate purporting to authorize them to continue operating pending the issuance of a permanent provincial licence, for which application will have to be made before a date not yet determined.

Federal legislative authority over radio communications and broadcasting, including community-antenna-television undertakings, has been upheld in all the relevant decisions of the courts. In our view, these actions by the Public Service Board of Quebec, with the support of the responsible Quebec minister, are consequently ultra vires and represent an encroachment on federal authority which the government intends to resist by all the means at its disposal. In practical terms, the issuance of an operating certificate or licence by the Public Service Board of Quebec, or its failure or refusal to issue such a certificate or licence, is irrelevant in so far as the Canadian Radio-Television Commission is concerned in exercising its authority.

[*English*]

It is particularly disappointing that this unilateral action should have been taken by a single province at a time when the government has put forward its proposals for means of collaborating with the provinces on communications policies and regulatory procedures which will give due effect to legitimate provincial interests. These proposals have been generally welcomed by the governments of the provinces, which are now engaged in preparation for substantive federal-provincial discussions in the fall.

In these circumstances, the government is not prepared to accept unilateral action by any province. The government is, nevertheless, quite willing to enter into discussion with the government of Quebec with a view to determining the most appropriate means for having the constitutional issue involved in this matter settled by the courts, the governments of the other provinces being kept informed of these discussions.

I further wish to give notice that in the event the government of Quebec persists in its intended action, the government will not hesitate to initiate appropriate action on its own behalf including action in the courts, if necessary.

• (1110)

Mr. Joe Clark (Rocky Mountain): Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the minister on behalf of our party for making a copy of his statement available to us in advance of its delivery. In the normal course, the response from our party would be made by the hon. member for Annapolis Valley who is unavoidably absent.

My colleagues and I share the minister's concern over the unilateral decision of the province of Quebec with regard to licencing of community antenna stations. But we must express as well our very deep concern that there appears to exist a serious breakdown here that could affect the development of broadcasting policy throughout Canada for some time. We are particularly concerned that this should have occurred so soon after the tabling in the House of the government's green paper on communication policy. We can only conclude that the action of the government of Quebec is a reaction to the green paper, or that the green paper was developed in isolation and that in many respects the policy position established is one that is not based on any coherent understanding of the position of the provincial government on the matter.

This whole matter raises very serious questions about the future of an integrated broadcasting policy in the country and it raises questions that the minister has not addressed in his statement as to the reaction of the other provinces. I think that one thing is clear: we cannot have chaos in our communication policy in Canada. It will be necessary to work out a policy that can be agreed to by all provinces and the federal government. I think it is a matter to note in the House that the federal government has had five years to work out an agreement on this matter, and obviously on the evidence today it has failed to do so.

It is clear that members of the House and the people of Canada have the right to much more information on this matter. We certainly request the minister to keep us advised of and in close touch with the developments in negotiations with the province of Quebec and with any other province concerned. I would also express the hope that, should the Standing Committee on Broadcasting, Films and Assistance to the Arts make the request, the minister himself will be prepared to go into the matter in some detail before the members of that committee.

Mr. Stanley Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, we regret that there is this dispute between the government of Canada and the government of Quebec, but I must say that in our view the position stated in the minister's remarks this morning is a correct one so far as the constitutional position is concerned. Indeed, it is in line with the relevant decisions of the courts. However, we are glad to know that the government is making arrangements for discussions with the governments of all the provinces with respect to this matter and, in particular, that even though this dispute has reached a rather warm point the government is prepared to enter into discussions with the government of Quebec in the hope that the matter can be resolved without having to take it to the courts. We wish the government of Canada and the government of Quebec well in their efforts to resolve this dispute.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Gilbert Rondeau (Shefford): Mr. Speaker, for our part, we are somewhat surprised with the statement of the Minister of Communications (Mr. Pelletier) on the problem that exists with regard to Quebec. That statement, in a few words, means that the federal government says no to what Quebec has asked with regard to a cable TV service.

Contrary to the hon. members who spoke before us, we are far from sure that the federal government is right when Quebec is only asking one thing, the jurisdiction that is properly its own, that is, education.

As for the news release of this morning, and particularly its last paragraph, unfortunately I cannot say I agree with it. Indeed, it says, and I quote:

—the government will not hesitate to initiate appropriate action on its own behalf including action in the courts, if necessary.

Mr. Speaker, according to me the end of this statement is extremely overbearing. The federal government wants to deal with a problem over which it is not yet sure to have jurisdiction, namely that of community antennas and education, which is the responsibility of provincial governments. If one is to speak about co-operative federalism, I do not think threats bordering on blackmail should be delivered.

The federal government declares that it will not hesitate to initiate proper action, including legal action if need be, to justify its position. In my opinion, this is a very arrogant attitude that endangers beforehand those agreements which could be reached by other more normal means.

We regret very much the last section of that statement, and if under other circumstances the same methods were applied and the same arrogance shown towards other provinces, I am sure that there would be an outcry across Canada in order to settle federal provincial relations, for I think the statement made this morning will seriously affect future federal provincial relations.

It is most unfortunate that in such an area as broadcasting which in the first place was of provincial jurisdiction, the federal government has assumed those responsibilities because the provinces did not exercise theirs over that matter at the right time. Today the federal government takes over a jurisdiction which was a provincial one in the first place.

I think, Mr. Speaker, that we may see from this statement new evidence that the federal government infringes upon the provincial jurisdiction, and that it is a centralizing government at a time when it advocates decentralization.

* * *

[*English*]

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

DISCUSSION OF OBJECTIONS TO REPORT OF ELECTORAL BOUNDARIES COMMISSION FOR NEWFOUNDLAND

Mr. Lang: Mr. Speaker, there have been discussions and I believe there will be found to be agreement in the House that we end discussion on the opposition motion that will be before the House today at 15 minutes prior to the adjournment time, 4.45 p.m., in order to begin discussion on the objections to the report of the Electoral Boundaries Commission for Newfoundland within the requirements of the Electoral Boundaries Readjustment Act.

Mr. Baldwin: Mr. Speaker, we have looked at the statute under which this is being done and it so happens, so far as we can decide, that today is the last day on which there can be compliance with that statute by initiating a debate. There is some ambiguity about the statute, which I must say is characteristic of the distinguished hon. gentleman who piloted that bill through the House.

Mr. Bell: He is in the gallery this morning.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Baldwin: We feel there is a statutory obligation upon the House to commence this debate today, but that it need not be concluded, particularly in view of what was said by the government House leader concerning the intentions of the government. It is not our intention, in light of the progress made in the House, to slow up the House's business by engaging in and concluding a debate which may be found not to be necessary because of the

action of the government. So I submit with great deference that the proposal made by the minister is correct and that the House has an obligation to initiate this debate today to comply with the statute but that it need not be completed.

● (1120)

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, we also think it is a good idea for parliament to obey the law.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Gander-Twillingate rises on a point of order.

Mr. Lundrigan: Mr. Speaker, I want to take the strongest exception to any unkind remarks made about the former Liberal member who used to represent the riding of Gander-Twillingate.

Mr. Speaker: Is it agreed that it should be so ordered?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

FINANCE

MORTGAGE INTEREST RATES IN LIGHT OF BANK RATE INCREASE AND DEMAND FOR MONEY

Hon. Robert L. Stanfield (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Finance who has indicated that he generally approves the increase in the bank rate and has taken the position that this will not have any particular effect on mortgage rates. Is it the minister's view that there is an excessive demand for mortgage money in the country and it is therefore appropriate that mortgage interest rates should increase with a view to discouraging this demand?

Hon. John N. Turner (Minister of Finance): Mr. Speaker, I do not recall making any statement directly relating mortgage rates to the present rate, but it is my understanding that at the present time mortgage funds remain in good supply despite the very buoyant activity in the housing field and the high level of demand for mortgage money.

Mr. Stanfield: I gather from the minister's reply that he is not concerned about the substantial increase in mortgage rates that has already taken place and that is anticipated. However, if my assumption is wrong and the minister is concerned, may I ask if he has any plan in mind to keep mortgage rates at a level or reduce them to a level that will make it possible for the ordinary Canadian to apply for a mortgage loan at the rates that are anticipated?

Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton): Mr. Speaker, the legislation introduced by my colleague, the Minister of State for Urban Affairs, goes quite a way toward answering the problem that the hon. gentleman has raised.

Mr. Stanfield: Does the Minister of Finance intend to make any proposals to the House or any announcement of policies that will give an assurance to the ordinary Canadian with respect to the level of mortgage rates that it is anticipated may prevail in this country for the balance of the year? In view of the substantial increase that has taken place, in view of the substantial increase that is anticipated, and in view of the already fantastic cost of lots, has the minister any hope to hold out to the ordinary Canadian who wants to have a home?

An hon. Member: None.

Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton): Mr. Speaker, the bill of my colleague, the Minister of State for Urban Affairs, deals with the problem of land assembly which is one of the high factors in the cost of housing. As for interest rates, I am watching mortgage rates carefully. They are moving between 9 and 9¼ per cent. There is obviously some long-term relationship between mortgage rates and medium and short-term rates. I explained to the hon. gentleman and the House that the interest rate structure in the country at the moment reflects the extremely strong demand for credit, reflecting the strong expansion in the economy. It also reflects the interest rate structure in the world. In Canada we still have interest rates a point or a point and a half lower than those in the United States despite the historical trend, and lower than the rates in any other industrial country in the world.

SUGGESTED ALLOCATION BY BANKS OF CERTAIN AMOUNT OF MONEY EACH YEAR FOR HOUSING LOANS AT SIX PER CENT

Mr. Lorne Nystrom (Yorkton-Melville): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Finance. In view of the story this morning that interest rates on housing loans may go as high as 9¾ per cent by the middle of this year, will the minister give consideration to amending the Bank Act to make it mandatory for bankers to set aside a certain amount of money each year for housing loans at about 6 per cent?

Hon. John N. Turner (Minister of Finance): Mr. Speaker, if the hon. gentleman takes a look at the figures I think he will see that the chartered banks have entered the mortgage market very strongly, and there are indications as well that the trust and insurance companies are also channelling more funds into the mortgage and housing field.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. Six or more members are seeking supplementaries. I suggest that the hon. member for Yorkton-Melville be allowed to ask a supplementary and then the hon. member for Calgary North, after that the Chair will move to the next subject.

Mr. Nystrom: In view of stories in the press this morning that funds available for housing are likely to decrease by mid-summer and interest rates will go up to 9¾ per cent, will the minister undertake to make it mandatory that the banks set aside a certain amount of money for housing at an interest rate no greater than 6 per cent?

Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton): No, Mr. Speaker.

Oral Questions

MORTGAGE INTEREST RATES—DISCUSSION BY MINISTER AND BANK OF CANADA GOVERNOR OF MEANS TO CONTROL—HOUSING LEGISLATION

Mr. Eldon M. Woolliams (Calgary North): Mr. Speaker, I notice that the Minister of Finance, to whom I wish to direct my question, said there was buoyancy in housing. The vacancy rate for all single family units in Canadian metro areas declined to 18.4 per cent from 25.9 per cent last year. If I may continue on the same line of questioning, historically and financially it has been shown that when interest rates increase to over 9 per cent this always stops housing construction in Canada. It is now predicted and likely that the interest rate on mortgages will be 9¾ per cent on first mortgages and 12 per cent on second mortgages.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. Perhaps the hon. member would like to ask his question now.

Mr. Woolliams: Mr. Speaker, I was leading to it and now I will ask it. I wanted to inform the minister because he does not seem to know how serious this matter is. Has the minister had a serious discussion with the Governor of the Bank of Canada and taken any action as a consequence to divert this kind of policy which is leading to high interest rates and bringing to an end the construction of housing units in Canada?

Hon. John N. Turner (Minister of Finance): Mr. Speaker, I have a regular weekly meeting with the governor of the Bank of Canada. All these discussions are serious and we have been discussing the housing matter.

Mr. Woolliams: Mr. Speaker, may I direct a supplementary question to the Minister of State for Urban Affairs. As we spent ten hours in the standing committee piloting the bill on housing through and as the leader of the House yesterday, in announcing the business of the House, left this piece of legislation off the list of priorities—it has no priority at all—would the minister now talk to his colleagues, namely, the Minister of Finance, the Prime Minister and others to get this legislation before the House and get some action?

Hon. Ron Basford (Minister of State for Urban Affairs): Mr. Speaker, the list of legislation that the leader of the House announced yesterday was not an exclusive list of legislation to be dealt with.

Mr. Alexander: It was a list of priorities.

Mr. Basford: I and the hon. member are hopeful that the legislation that was reported from committee the other day can be passed as quickly as possible.

Mr. Woolliams: Why was it left off the list?

Mr. Baldwin: Ask Fullerton about it.

[Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton).]

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

INQUIRY AS TO INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION

Mr. Edward Broadbent (Oshawa-Whitby): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Prime Minister, if I can get the Prime Minister's ear. In view of the announcement yesterday that the former minister of industry, trade and commerce has been appointed to the board of directors of Power Corporation, this following hard on the heels of the announcement last week that he had been appointed to the board of directors of Bombardier Limited, and as there is related to this the fact that between 1968 and 1972, when Mr.Pepin was minister of industry, trade and commerce, subsidiaries of Power Corporations received over $10 million in grants from the government and Bombardier received about $1.4 million, I would ask the Prime Minister if he can tell us when we can expect action, and I hope early action, on his conflict of interest legislation?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I really regret the preamble to the question. I hope the hon. member did not intend any innuendo or smear by this preamble. It certainly is unfortunate.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Trudeau: It is an unfortunate way of phrasing a question, Mr. Speaker.

An hon. Member: It is cheap.

Mr. Trudeau: On the question itself, I will repeat what I said not too many days ago, that the intention of the government is to bring forth that legislation, hopefully quite soon, and to make a statement. The legislation, of course, as I told the Leader of the Opposition, would bear on the problem of Members of Parliament, but we would make a statement on conflict of interest as it applies to other areas which are not the subject of legislation.

• (1130)

Mr. Broadbent: Mr. Speaker, I do not apologize for the way in which the question was put. There was obviously no intent to suggest direct wrongdoing by the former minister.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Broadbent: There was intent to draw attention to the fact that unlike the United States, for example, we do not have such legislation in Canada. I wish to direct my supplementary question to the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce. In view of the serious allegations made last year by a scholar, Dr. Springate, of Harvard University, that millions of dollars in DREE grants simply constituted windfall gains to the corporations and, related to that a serious potential for conflict of interest as indicated by—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member should ask his question. The preamble is perhaps a little too long. He should come to the question.

Mr. Broadbent: As the hon. member for Calgary North would say, I am just coming to it. Will the minister table a

list of the grants made to the Bombardier Corporation and all subsidiaries of Power Corporation since 1968 and have these referred to the Standing Committee on Finance, Trade and Economic Affairs for analysis?

Mr. Trudeau: Mr. Speaker, I might say that the type of conflict legislation and policy we are preparing does not cover the future conduct of defeated politicians. If at that time the hon. member wants to introduce legislation to govern the future lives of people who are defeated in elections, he could perhaps move a motion.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Broadbent: A supplementary question.

Mr. Speaker: I am sorry, I could not hear the hon. member. Is he rising on a question of privilege?

Mr. Broadbent: No, Mr. Speaker. I have a final supplementary.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member will be recognized for that purpose and I will recognize the hon. member for Charlevoix immediately after.

Mr. Broadbent: As usual, when it is convenient the Prime Minister misses the point of a question. In view of the fact it has been acknowledged by a leading figure in the Liberal party of Canada that 95 corporations contribute most of the funds to the Liberal party for its campaign purposes, will the Prime Minister assure the House—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I suggest to the hon. member that the three lengthy preambles he has proposed to the House, one to the original question and again to two supplementaries, are slightly out of order. I appreciate that hon. members have to preface their questions to some extent, but I hope that all hon. members will try to stay away from the practice that seems to be developing of having these long preambles which make questions sound more like speeches. I am not sure whether the hon. member had reached the point of asking the question. I do not want to be unfair. If the hon. member can ask the question without the preamble, he will be recognized for that purpose.

Mr. Broadbent: No preamble, Mr. Speaker. Will the Prime Minister assure the House that amendments to the Elections Act will make it mandatory that the amounts of contributions and names of contributors to all political parties will be made public?

Mr. Trudeau: Mr. Speaker, the hon. member will see the legislation when it is given first reading. The final phrasing of that aspect of it has not yet been determined. I am getting information on not only the theory but the practice carried out by the NDP governments of three western provinces. This is not as enlightening as the hon. member would seem to hold.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

[*Translation*]

COMMUNICATIONS

COMMUNITY ANTENNA TELEVISION—DISPUTE RESPECTING JURISDICTION—DISCUSSION WITH QUEBEC MINISTER

Mr. Gilles Caouette (Charlevoix): Mr. Speaker, I wish to put a question to the Minister of Communications.

Has he recently met the Quebec Minister of Communications, Mr. L'Allier, before delivering his statement today?

Hon. Gérard Pelletier (Minister of Communications): Mr. Speaker, all the contacts I have had with my counterpart from Quebec have been in the form of correspondence which has been tabled in the House and is available to the hon. member if he cares to look at it.

Mr. René Matte (Champlain): Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question. Considering the importance of this matter and the threats proffered by the minister in his statements this morning, it would be significant if the minister would tell us on what date he met the Quebec Minister of Communications to discuss this problem?

Mr. Pelletier (Hochelaga): Mr. Speaker, I do not accept the preamble of this question; the matter is important, but I do not believe I have proffered any threats. On the other hand, Hon. Jean-Paul L'Allier himself had already said that he wanted this matter settled by the courts. Apparently he changed his mind about two days ago, if we are to believe newspaper reports, but I will not allow it to be said that I proffered any threats. As for the exact date of my last meeting with Mr. L'Allier, I could not say precisely to the hon. member or put on the record a date that might not be exact.

Mr. Caouette (Charlevoix): Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask a supplementary.

In his statement this morning the minister mentioned letters tabled on February 23. Have there been any other communications since then?

Mr. Pelletier (Hochelaga): If I am not mistaken, Mr. Speaker, there was some other correspondence tabled after February 23.

[*English*]

COMMUNITY ANTENNA TELEVISION—ISSUING OF LICENCES BY QUEBEC—DISCUSSION WITH OTHER PROVINCES

Mr. Joe Clark (Rocky Mountain): Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question for the Minister of Communications. Has the minister communicated with the governments of the other provinces concerning the decision of the provice of Quebec to issue what purport to be licences for community antenna television, and can he advise the House whether he has reason to suspect that any other provinces have begun or might begin to issue certificates or licences purporting to authorize such operations?

Hon. Gérard Pelletier (Minister of Communications): The answer is no, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Clark (Rocky Mountain): Can the minister advise the House what he considers to be a reasonable time for the government of Quebec to respond to the position he stated today before the government of Canada might initiate action in the courts, and what specific action the minister intends to take in the interim?

[*Translation*]

Mr. Pelletier (Hochelaga): Mr. Speaker, there is nothing definite. We explain in the statement itself that we intend to communicate with the Quebec government if they want an order to open up proceedings for an agreement either through negotiation or any other way, and this will be done as soon as possible, I can promise the hon. member.

[*English*]

COMMUNITY ANTENNA TELEVISION—ISSUING OF LICENCES BY QUEBEC

Mr. Perrin Beatty (Wellington-Grey-Dufferin-Waterloo): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a three-part question to the Minister of Communications. In the minister's statement he indicated that not all cable operators have been issued permits by the province of Quebec. To the best of the minister's knowledge, have these permits been refused to any present operators and, if so, what action has been taken against them by the province of Quebec? Second, can the minister tell the House whether any prospective operators have been issued licences who are not now licenced by the federal government? Third, can the minister indicate to the House whether these licences were just issued today or were they issued over a period of time?

[*Translation*]

Hon. Gérard Pelletier (Minister of Communications): Mr. Speaker, there were several questions and I do not want to get confused. The hon. member's first question, if I understood him well, was whether temporary licences—or what are called by that name by the Public Service Board of Quebec—have been denied to some companies. I do not believe so. I believe that all companies operating community cable systems have received such licences.

As to the second part of the question, whether licences were granted to companies whose applications have already been rejected by the Canadian Radio-Television Commission, I think I should also reply that such has not been the case.

Concerning the last question, my reply is that the temporary licences mentioned in my statement bear no dates. We are therefore unable to know exactly when each recipient obtained his temporary licence. However, the operation took place during the past 15 days and it is on the basis of first indications that we tried to find out.

[*English*]

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The Chair will recognize one last supplementary on this question.

[*Translation*]

I recognize the hon. member for Shefford and afterwards the hon. member for Montreal-Bourassa.

Mr. Gilbert Rondeau (Shefford): Mr. Speaker, as a result of the evident lack of communication between the two ministers of communications, can the minister tell us whether the end of his statement today suggests that he thus intends to improve co-operative federalism?

* * *

MANPOWER

LOCAL INITIATIVES PROGRAM—EXTENSION OF PROJECTS—REQUEST FOR STATEMENT

Mr. Jacques-L. Trudel (Montreal-Bourassa): Mr. Speaker, I should like to put a question to the Minister of Manpower and Immigration.

As a result of the numerous representations made to the minister concerning the possibility of extending local initiatives projects, the minister told us yesterday that he would make a statement this morning. I wonder if he had the opportunity to prepare the answer to which he referred yesterday?

● (1140)

[*English*]

Hon. Robert K. Andras (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, as I indicated yesterday, a favourable decision has been made and the government has decided that, in addition to projects eligible under the criteria announced on April 27, we will review and consider on their individual merits projects in those areas where unemployment was below the national average in March. This review, I hasten to say, will take special account of high pockets of local unemployment and continued community need and support for the project as well as meeting the general criteria I announced on April 27.

I should emphasize that the review will be very thorough. I do not expect that every project will be extended. I would also say that the length of extensions will be decided on a project to project basis. This is in consideration of the fact that the original objective of the program remains unchanged, that is, job creation. This further extension of the program is a result of representations for the services provided rather than for the jobs themselves. I must emphasize—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

Mr. Baldwin: I rise on a point of order, Mr. Speaker. While welcoming part of the minister's statement, I want to say that we accept that it is a clear abuse of the rules.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Alexander: I rise on a question of privilege, Mr. Speaker. In his remarks to the House yesterday the minister implied clearly that a statement would be made. I think what he has just done is a clear abuse of the rules. The hon. gentleman waited until one of the hon. members from Montreal put a question. It was a set-up job. I am not particularly worried about that, but in future I hope the minister will not use this devious way of making a statement. His proper course was to stand up as a man when motions were called and make a statement—

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Alexander: —so that opposition spokesmen, who are just as concerned about this matter as the hon. member who asked the question, could have commented. I am ashamed of the attitude the minister has taken today. I hope that in future when he has a statement to make on a subject of such importance he will have the decency to make it on motions so that other members may have an opportunity to reply.

Mr. Andras: On the question of privilege, Mr. Speaker, I would have been very happy to reply to a question by the hon. member for Hamilton West if he had put one to me. I have no apologies to make for replying to a question by an hon. member on this side, particularly since there has been such strong representation and such strong concern expressed by members from the Montreal area in this party.

Mr. Alexander: That is no reason for not making a statement on motions.

Mr. Andras: I indicated yesterday that I would make the information available, and I have done so. I think my reply to the question put to me was far shorter than the preambles to questions asked by members of the opposition this morning and on many other days.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Andras: Finally, I will be very glad to take supplementaries from the hon. member for Hamilton West if he wishes to put them.

An hon. Member: If he has any.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Trudel: Mr. Speaker—

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Montreal-Bourassa.

Mr. Trudel: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a question of privilege.

I have heard the remarks of the hon. member for Hamilton West (Mr. Alexander) and I object strongly to anyone trying to deny the member for Montreal-Bourassa the privilege of at least putting questions to whom he wishes in this House. I do not think that I have ever abused this privilege, Mr. Speaker, since I have been sitting in this House, but I must speak on behalf of the people in my riding. Some legitimate representations have been made. I would like to put a question; I put it in the form that you have decided, Mr. Speaker, and I object strongly to the members of the opposition trying to muzzle their colleagues in this House.

[*English*]

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. Obviously, the point has been made by the hon. member for Peace River and the hon. member for Hamilton West and we have heard the response from the minister and the hon. member for Montreal-Bourassa. I doubt there is anything to be gained by pursuing the matter further. Both sides of the argument have been expressed very clearly and strongly. I would hope that the Chair would now be allowed to recognize members who may wish to ask supplementaries on this matter, or go to another question.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Trudel: Mr. Speaker—

Mr. Speaker: Does the hon. member for Montreal-Bourassa wish to ask a supplementary question?

Mr. Trudel: Yes, Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary for the hon. Minister of Manpower and Immigration.

In some regional offices of the Department of Manpower and Immigration, there are differences in the statistics we are given, because even if the level is below average in some areas, there are places where the average is much higher. Will the hon. minister be allowing for differences that might exist within the structures, with regard to unemployment statistics?

[*English*]

Mr. Andras: Yes, Mr. Speaker. The import of what I said earlier is that certain of these projects, within those CMC's where unemployment is below the national average, will be considered on their merits.

Mr. Andrew Brewin (Greenwood): Will the minister make a statement on motions on the policy of extending LIP grants throughout the country where useful social projects are being carried out and are threatened with discontinuance?

Mr. Andras: If the hon. member will read in *Hansard* my comments in response to the question put to me earlier, I believe he will find I have covered that situation. Social projects which are now in existence as well as projects in some other categories in areas where unemployment is below the national average across the country will be considered for extension on their merits.

Mr. G. W. Baldwin (Peace River): I should like to ask the minister whether he will consider introducing legislation to deal with this matter now that the House has seen the dangers of its being dealt with at the whim of a politically weak government?

Mr. Andras: I always give consideration to the hon. member's suggestions.

LOCAL INITIATIVES PROGRAM—REQUEST FOR DETAILS ON AREAS AND PROCEDURES FOR PROJECT EXTENSIONS

Mr. John Lundrigan (Gander-Twillingate): Mr. Speaker, may I ask the minister this question. Has his department decided on the areas in Canada that fall within the category of unemployment mentioned? Has it decided on the way in which to dispense this information to the Canadian public? Has it decided whether any more funds are to be supplied for the program? Has it decided whether any special criteria should go into the program to govern applications made for grants? Has the minister decided on a mechanism to be used in making these decisions, or will the approach be a completely subjective one on the part of the people who are watching from the gallery today?

Hon. Robert K. Andras (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, the answer to all those questions is yes.

Mr. Lundrigan: Mr. Speaker—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. Will the hon. member resume his seat. We have to try to make some headway. If the hon. member has a supplementary to ask I will return to him in a moment. Perhaps I might be allowed to recognize the hon. member for Brant and then recognize the hon. member for Gander-Twillingate.

● (1150)

POSSIBLE MERGING OF OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUTH AND LOCAL INITIATIVES PROGRAMS

Mr. Derek Blackburn (Brant): Mr. Speaker, in the absence of the Secretary of State I should like to direct my question to the Prime Minister. In view of the report that the government is going to merge the opportunities for youth and local initiatives programs into one program to be known as opportunities for people, can the Prime Minister tell the House what progress has been made so far with regard to that matter?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, a great deal of progress has been made in the government with regard to this subject. The hon. member will remember that in the white paper the Minister of National Health and Welfare tabled less than a month ago there was reference to community employment projects. As the statement by the Minister of Manpower and Immigration just a moment ago revealed, we are still considering this problem and we hope that before any further LIP projects are initiated we will have some other approach to this problem to set before the House.

Mr. Baldwin: How about the opportunities for Liberals program?

Mr. Blackburn: Will the Prime Minister assure the House that the merging of the two programs will not result in a cutback in funding of the programs?

Mr. Trudeau: Mr. Speaker, the hon. member will remember that LIP projects were essentially designed to meet a serious unemployment problem at the time.

An hon. Member: We still have it.

Mr. Trudeau: The answer given this morning by the minister refers to that fact. Of course, if the unemployment situation does continue to improve as it has, it is quite conceivable that there will be no constitutional basis for the government to involve itself in local programs which are of the nature of social and health services.

LOCAL INITIATIVES PROGRAM—REQUEST FOR DETAILS ON AREAS AND PROCEDURES FOR PROJECT EXTENSIONS

Mr. John Lundrigan (Gander-Twillingate): Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the hon. minister for his very direct answer to my former question. Will he now indicate to the House the specific areas of the country that will receive funds, the specific amount of money to be provided over and above the regular allocation, the specific criteria that he has laid down, the procedures for communicating to the areas the change he has announced, the procedures to be followed in making decisions and the structural mechanism? Can he give that information to the House?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I would not allow the minister to make such a long statement as the one I assume would be required to answer the questions asked by the hon. member. Perhaps the minister might like to indicate whether he proposes to provide this information by way of a statement.

Hon. Robert K. Andras (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): My intention, Mr. Speaker, and I hope it will meet with the approval of all hon. members—the written information is in fact now in the process of being drafted—

Mr. Baldwin: We know what your intentions are.

Mr. Andras: As I indicated, this is a rather lengthy piece of information based on a decision taken yesterday. I will be writing to all hon. members regarding these details and they should be in their hands by Tuesday. All the details to which the hon. member quite legitimately referred will be contained therein.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Kingston and the Islands.

Mr. Lundrigan: I rise on a question of privilege, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I apologize to the hon. member. The hon. member for Gander-Twillingate rises on a question of privilege.

Mr. Lundrigan: Mr. Speaker, the minister cannot just get up in the House, give half a statement on the one hand and indicate he is not willing to give the other half on the other hand but will mail a little piece of paper to all of us which we can read. We will be asking questions on this matter for the next three weeks if he does that. I suggest to the minister that in the interests of the House he should get up and make a statement. This would eliminate two or three hours of questioning over the next four or five weeks.

* * *

INDIAN AFFAIRS

NORTHWEST TERRITORIES—NEGOTIATION OF LAND CLAIMS UNDER TREATY No. 11

Miss Flora MacDonald (Kingston and the Islands): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct my question to the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development. Having regard to a decision by Mr. Justice Morrow of the Northwest Territories Supreme Court to hear the application for a caveat by the Indian Brotherhood of the Northwest Territories, thus resulting in the continuance of a land freeze on 400,000 square miles in the Mackenzie basin until July, could the minister tell the House when his department will begin to negotiate seriously the just land

claims of the Northwest Territories Indians under treaty 11 which has never been fulfilled by the federal government but has been the subject of many briefs and commissions over the years?

[*Translation*]

Hon. Jean Chrétien (Minister of Indians Affairs and Northern Development): Mr. Speaker, I have answered this question a number of times.

I met with representatives of the Northwest Territories Indian Association several times two years ago, and told them that I was prepared to sit down with them to consider the problem and to honour the Crown's obligations to the Indians, but they told me that they were not ready to talk. I repeat again today that we are ready at all times to honour our obligations as stated in Treaty No. 11, and to this end we appointed an official a few months ago who will meet periodically with the Indians in question, but, unfortunately, they refused to meet him. I am at their disposal at all times, and it is up to them to let me know if they want to reach a settlement.

* * *

[*English*]

FINANCE

BUSINESS FAILURES IN FIRST QUARTER OF YEAR

Mr. Allan Lawrence (Northumberland-Durham): Mr. Speaker, I intended to ask this question of the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs but in his absence I will direct it to the Minister of Finance. In view of the minister's repeated assurances that all is well with the economy, and in light of the recent report by Dun and Bradstreet showing an enormous increase in business failures in the first quarter of this year, well over 1,000, has the minister any explanation, comment or announcement of a change of policy in this regard?

Hon. John N. Turner (Minister of Finance): Mr. Speaker, I have repeatedly told the House that there are various aspects of the economy with which I am not satisfied. I am still not satisfied with the rate of unemployment and I am very disturbed about the increase in prices, as the hon. gentleman knows.

An hon. Member: How about Trudeau? Are you satisfied with him?

Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton): If we are to refer to newspaper reports, I am delighted to see the revision in the forecast of the National Conference Board in respect of the growth of the economy from 5.5 per cent to 6.5 per cent.

Mr. Lawrence: Mr. Speaker, my supplementary question is really my first question. Does the minister have any explanation for the large number of business failures across the country in the first quarter of this year?

An hon. Member: It is because of the provincial sales tax.

STATUS OF WOMEN

GUIDELINES FOR EMPLOYERS TO ENSURE PROPER REPRESENTATION IN JOBS

Mr. J. R. Ellis (Hastings): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Prime Minister. In view of the fact it is two and a half years since the Royal Commission on the Status of Women presented its report and over a month since the Prime Minister took notice of a similar question, has the government yet established any guidelines for employers to ensure that qualified women are properly represented at all job levels?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): I will take notice of the question on behalf of the Minister of Labour.

Mr. Ellis: Mr. Speaker, if the Prime Minister cannot answer that question, perhaps he can tell us if the government has or intends to establish any precise targets for the reasonable participation of women in senior government positions?

Mr. Trudeau: Mr. Speaker, I would give the same answer to that question.

* * *

HOUSING

REPORTED CLAIM THAT BILL C-133 WORKS AGAINST NON-PROFIT AND CO-OPERATIVE HOUSING GROUPS

Mr. H. T. Herbert (Vaudreuil): Mr. Speaker, my question is addressed to the Minister of State for Urban Affairs. In view of the fact that non-profit and co-operative housing groups are anxiously awaiting passage of Bill C-133, is the minister aware of the concern expressed yesterday at a press conference by the Montreal Housing Committee to the effect that Bill C-133 works against non-profit and co-operative housing groups and in favour of big developers?

Hon. Ron Basford (Minister of State for Urban Affairs): Mr. Speaker, I have seen the press report and all I can say is that the Montreal housing committee must be reading a different bill from the one before parliament. Bill C-133 has a particular bias in favour of non-profit and co-operative housing associations and groups, and on the basis of representations which I've received I know the bill has the full support of the co-operative housing movement.

Mr. Woolliams: Well, bring it on.

Mr. Basford: That is why the hon. member for Calgary North, for the opposition, and I want to bring the bill on as quickly as possible.

[*Later:*]

MANPOWER

LOCAL INITIATIVES PROGRAM—PROJECT EXTENSION—REQUEST FOR SPECIFIC CONSIDERATION FOR CAPE BRETON

Mr. Robert Muir (Cape Breton-The Sydneys): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Manpower and Immigration and refers to his statement regarding LIP grants. In view of the fact the present unemployment rate on Cape Breton Island is at the nauseating level of at least 20 per cent and that the president of the Cape Breton Development Corporation confirmed this 20 per cent figure last night before the Standing Committee on Regional Development and said it was appalling, will the minister give specific consideration to that particular area in the sense of expediting grants and extensions and providing more personnel so that action will be taken as quickly as possible?

● (1200)

Hon. Robert K. Andras (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, I will give all sympathetic consideration to that.

[*Translation*]

LOCAL INITIATIVES PROGRAM—POSSIBILITY OF RECONSIDERING REJECTED PROJECTS

Mr. Gilles Caouette (Charlevoix): Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question for the Minister of Manpower and Immigration.

In view of his earlier reply relating to the extension of some projects, is the minister suggesting that he can include the acceptance of projects rejected in areas unjustly treated at the time of the first decision? Under those decisions, would it be possible today not only to grant extensions of time but also to review the previous decisions?

[*English*]

Hon. Robert K. Andras (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, my comments would indicate that projects which are in existence now will be considered, provided they fit in with the criteria I announced on April 27 and again this morning.

* * *

AGRICULTURE

REQUEST FOR ASSURANCE OF SUPPLY OF HERBICIDES TO CONTROL WILD OATS

Mr. Gordon Towers (Red Deer): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Agriculture. Because of the crucial shortage of new farm machinery all across Canada, which is forcing the agricultural industry to place more reliance on the herbicides avadex and carbine to control wild oats, would the minister immediately take it upon himself to ascertain the availability of these herbicides to ensure that the supply is adequate for this vital industry?

[Mr. Basford.]

Hon. E. F. Whelan (Minister of Agriculture): Mr. Speaker, we recently sponsored a symposium which was held in Saskatoon on the control of wild oats. We asked the man who had cleaned up his wild oats and the man who had not to be at that symposium to offer suggestions inasmuch as we realized that over $150 million worth of grain production is lost each year because of this noxious weed. We are working with the provincial authorities, who have first and foremost jurisdiction here, to make sure that we do everything we can to control it.

* * *

ENERGY

POSSIBLE ESTABLISHMENT OF REFINERY AT GROS CACOUNA—FEDERAL GOVERNMENT PARTICIPATION WITH QUEBEC IN DISCUSSIONS WITH SAUDI ARABIA

Mr. John Harney (Scarborough West): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources. In view of the fact the government of Quebec has had meetings with Saudi Arabia, which is interested in participating in a major refinery project proposal for the Gros Cacouna, Ile Verte and Riviere du Loup region of Quebec, could the minister tell the House whether his department is involved in these bilateral discussions, as it were?

Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): I would have to inquire, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Harney: I have a supplementary, Mr. Speaker. In the absence of the Minister of the Environment—I find it hard to tell from this vantage point whether he is here or not but I gather he is absent—may I direct this question to the Prime Minister. Even considering the fact that a predecessor of the Prime Minister, Sir Wilfrid Laurier, did promise the people of the region of Gros Cacouna a harbour, is his government taking into consideration the fact that the tidal conditions, the weather conditions and the shoaling conditions of the waters there make it an extremely dangerous place to bring in supertankers?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member is making a representation and he must assume that it has been taken into account.

* * *

CANADIAN BROADCASTING CORPORATION

AVAILABILITY OF EDUCATIONAL FILMS TO SCHOOL BOARDS

Mr. Dan McKenzie (Winnipeg South Centre): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Secretary of State. I would like to address it to his parliamentary secretary since the minister is not here today. Have the CBC and the minister reached any decision concerning whether CBC educational films will be made available to Canadian school boards?

[*Translation*]

Mr. Gilles Marceau (Parliamentary Secretary to Secretary of State): Mr. Speaker, this question is certainly

important. I have had the opportunity to discuss it with the minister; I will surely do it again early next week and I intend to answer my hon. friend as quickly and completely as possible.

* * *

[*English*]

INCOME TAX

SIMPLIFICATION OF FORM

Mr. Lloyd R. Crouse (South Shore): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct my question to the Minister of Finance. In view of the universal unrest throughout Canada over the present inadequate, complicated and unjust income tax forms, is the minister planning to review this matter in the hope that a more practical simplified form for the payment of income tax will be introduced next year in Canada?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I think this is a question which should be placed on the order paper. I appreciate its importance, but I think it should be placed on the order paper.

* * *

MANPOWER

LOCAL INITIATIVES PROGRAM—FURTHER EXTENSION OF PROJECTS

Mr. Jim Fleming (York West): Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary to an earlier question which I should like to direct to the Minister of Manpower and Immigration. Will the minister tell us if he will take into consideration the fact that there are less than two weeks left before the end of the LIP period, and is it possible that funds can be provided to extend those projects that will be given reconsideration beyond that point?

Hon. Robert K. Andras (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): Yes, Mr. Speaker. We will give some consideration to that in certain cases. We will be advising all projects within a week whether they will be eligible for consideration for extension. This does not mean automatic approval of extensions but whether or not they are going to be eligible.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The Chair will recognize the Leader of the Opposition and then call orders of the day.

* * *

SPORTS

MONTREAL OLYMPIC GAMES, 1976—INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION TO AUTHORIZE SPECIAL COINS BEFORE SUMMER RECESS

Hon. Robert L. Stanfield (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask the Prime Minister whether it is the intention of the government to introduce legislation respecting the coinage proposals associated with the Olympic games in Montreal before any summer adjournment?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Yes, Mr. Speaker. We hope that before the end of this month we will be tabling in parliament and giving first reading to legislation which would be of an omnibus character. It would attempt to cover the coinage aspect raised by the Leader of the Opposition and would also contain provisions concerning the special stamp issue and the lottery.

Mr. Hellyer: A supplementary—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. There are two hon. members seeking supplementaries. I indicated I would recognize the Leader of the Opposition and then call orders of the day because we have gone beyond the period allocated. The hon. member for Hastings rises on a question of privilege.

Mr. Ellis: It is just a brief question of privilege, Mr. Speaker. Since the Prime Minister was unwilling to answer my question in respect of the status of women, and since he and the Minister of Labour have collaborated, I wonder whether the Minister of Labour would take my question as notice.

Mr. Speaker: Orders of the day.

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

BUSINESS OF SUPPLY

ALLOTTED DAY S.O. 58—REQUEST FOR LEGISLATION TO IMPROVE PENSIONS AND REMOVE INJUSTICES TO WAR VETERANS

Mr. Jack Marshall (Humber-St. George's-St. Barbe) moved:

That this House urges the government to introduce priority measures to remedy present injustices to war veterans and, in particular, to remove those inequities arising out of basic rates of disability and other pensions, treatment services, allowances, and the Veterans' Land Act.

He said: Mr. Speaker, my party's motion today is introduced as an appeal to the government in an attempt to emphasize the need to fulfil a commitment made over 50 years ago to a special citizen of our country, the war veteran, a citizen who sadly is becoming less and less recognized at a time when he needs recognition most in his declining years. The motion reads:

That this House urges the government to introduce priority measures to remedy present injustices to war veterans and, in particular, to remove those inequities arising out of basic rates of disability and other pensions, treatment services, allowances, and the Veterans' Land Act.

I am sure everyone will agree that Veterans Affairs is one legislative area that has been non-controversial. In dealing with such legislation over the years, there certainly has been an atmosphere of co-operation regardless of party lines. I believe that, as a group of former soldiers learned in the use of military strategy, we veterans have been wrong in our attempt to have the government of the

day fulfill a commitment to war veterans made over 50 years ago, a commitment that Canada owed as a matter of right. The government deserves all possible support in their efforts to rehabilitate veterans in return for their fulfillment of their patriotic duty to our great country. The fulfillment of this commitment would allow them not only a decent living but an equal opportunity to re-enter society and to live a rich, full life along with other Canadians whose best years were not disturbed during the war.

● (1210)

So what have we done? For over 50 years we have followed the "nibble philosophy" because the original drafters of the veterans charter could not see far enough ahead, through no fault of their own, to design a plan which would deal with future needs of veterans in a changing society. However, no one is blaming these legislators, and over the years many good things have come about. Those who came before us and represented veterans in the House of Commons have served the veterans well and are held in the highest esteem.

Without casting blame on anyone, we must be big enough to admit that we have failed in many areas and now it is almost too late to make amends. However, we can correct the many inequities which exist at present. We have a chance to clear them up once and for all by showing a little human consideration and by stopping to think once in a while of the veteran for whom it is our duty to care.

Recently, we passed a bill to increase war veterans allowances, and we passed it in record time. Members from all parties gave complete support to the amendments to the act. We even threw bouquets across the floor to the minister and his government for bringing in the following amendments. First, we proposed that the bill increase benefits under the act to a maximum allowable of $2,293.68 for the single veteran and $3,926.52 for the married veteran. In addition, the table of allowances gave annual increments to orphans of veterans on an annual basis. Second, we proposed that the amendments allow exemptions to veterans on reaching the age of 65 of $15 if single and $30 if married. Third, we proposed that casual earnings be increased to allow the veteran or his wife to earn increased amounts up to $1,000 for the single veteran and $1,500 for the married veteran.

However, there are still a few inequities in the War Veteran Allowances Act which need revision, and by offering the first point of my party's motion we urge the government to introduce priority measures to remedy the following. First, the removal of the Canadian residence requirement for war veterans living abroad, which would involve the amendment of section 3(1) of the War Veterans Allowances Act. It is possible for a veteran to qualify for an allowance by returning to Canada for one year, and subsequently the benefit is continued even though the recipient may take up permanent residence outside the country. Although the required year's residence may be met without difficulty in border areas, it is more difficult for veterans long distances away to meet these requirements. Benefits first became payable outside of Canada through an amendment back in 1960 to permit the continuation of payment of allowances outside Canada primarily for reasons of health or family ties. As of January 1973 there were only 709 persons receiving allowances outside Canada. An amendment to the legislation removing the 12 month residence will extend the benefit to Canadian veterans who are unable to return to Canada to qualify.

Second, an amendment must be brought forth which would enable a surviving spouse to receive an allowance for a surviving child who is attending an educational institution, even though that child is 21 years of age. We must increase that age limit to 25 years or to the time when the child ceases to attend an educational institution. Surely, the government could provide these benefits until the age of 25, as is presently the case under the war dead educational assistance act, particularly when the number involved are so small. Surely, we must realize the basic need to extend this age limit to 25 without the need for any dramatic explanation or elaboration.

Third, the requirement for 365 service days should be eliminated and service in the United Kingdom before November 12, 1918, should be accepted as a qualification for world war I veterans.

The average age of world war I recipients of veterans allowance is 78.4 years, and it is unlikely that it would be much lower in the case of those with limited service in the United Kingdom. The removal of the one year clause would not apply to many veterans, and since almost all of them would be receiving OAS benefits, the cost involved would be small. However, it would provide a certain degree of additional comfort to these elderly recipients, and it would provide them with drugs and other assistance to which they are entitled now.

If these three inequities were corrected, we would have a good act fulfilling our commitment to these veterans once and for all. Surely, our consciences should dictate that we make these amendments in the next few months.

The greatest failure that exists in the present legislation has to do with the basic rate of pensions, and this was one of the main reasons for our motion today. The throne speech committed the government to increases in disability pensions as well as war veterans allowances, but here we are four months later having made no progress in this respect. I can only say that the government has callously reneged on its responsibility.

We have before us today a joint study report on the basic rate of pensions. It was conducted on the authority of the previous minister of veterans affairs and with the accord of the present minister, the chairman of the pension committee, a representative of veterans organizations and others. These individuals and groups brought before the standing committee recommendations that were reasonable and that, most important, were unanimously accepted by everyone concerned.

The report was signed by eight responsible and dedicated Canadians, including the representatives of the Department of Veterans Affairs, the Canadian Pension Commission and of all veterans organizations. They submitted a report which, in the main recommended the following points. First, the basic rate of pension should be established, on the basis of an average of a composite group of public servants, for the single pensioner at $4,529 a year. This is an increase over the present rate of $3,793. Second, the married rate of pension should be established at the

single rate plus 25 per cent. Third, the additional pension for children should be established at 13 per cent for one child, 22.5 per cent for two children, and for each additional child an additional 7.5 per cent. Rates should also be established for the widow of the veteran, the dependant parent, and dependant children. Furthermore, a recommendation was included in the report that pensions should be adjusted annually on a fixed date in accordance with changes in the average wage rates for the selected public service group, rather than on the basis of adjustments in the cost of living.

These recommendations were made after three months of study by a responsible group and referred to the Standing Committee on Veterans Affairs. They were accepted unanimously by all parties. Remember, Mr. Speaker, that the deputy minister of the Department of Veterans Affairs, the chairman of the Pension Commission, who was also chairman of the group, and the representative of all veterans organizations gave their signatures of approval. Remember also, Mr. Speaker, that the recommendations were referred to the Standing Committee and, without debate, accepted in record time after only token comments supporting the report by government and opposition parties. The Minister of Veterans Affairs (Mr. MacDonald) himself attended the meetings of the committee and supported the recommendations without question.

However, where do we stand today? We find ourselves in a dilemma. The legislation promised in the throne speech has not yet been produced. Why is that? Because the Liberal party hierarchy, the cabinet, will not accept the recommendation which proposes the new formula based on annual increases in accordance with the average wage rather than on the increases in the cost of living. This is the dilemma. They will not support the recommendations of the minister, of the Standing Committee on Veterans Affairs representing all parties, of the Chairman of the Pension Commission who is charged with the responsibility of dealing with the applications of thousands of veterans who submit claims, nor of the veterans' organizations of Canada, representing over 900,000 veterans.

● (1220)

Reports from the inner circle indicate that the strongest opponent to these recommendations is the President of the Treasury Board (Mr. Drury), a former top ranking officer in the Canadian army who led thousands of veterans during the Second World War. He, of all people, is opposing the justified increases to his comrades who followed him during that war, and if I were not a responsible member of parliament I would say something I know I should not say.

My party's motion therefore is justified in requesting priority measures to remedy this injustice. I plead with the minister, with the house leader and with the President of the Treasury Board that, if any legislation is ready for introduction to this House, it had better include all the recommendations of the joint study report or it will not be acceptable. Further, if after indicating, as the government did, that it will produce legislation before the summer recess, and this legislation does not include those recommendations, then I say to members of the government that they will not be fulfilling their commitment to the veterans of Canada.

Moving to another important phase of responsibility relating to disability pensions, it is the responsibility of the Pension Commission and of the Pensions Review Board to deal with new applications for pensions arising out of the Woods Committee report and recommendations. While we have been willing to accept the reasons given for delays, it is now time to take the necessary action to deal with these recommendations on a higher priority than presently exists. In spite of corrective action being taken by the addition of members to the Pension Commission, and in spite of the determined efforts of the Commission, the government must extend every effort to increase the capability of the Commission because too many veterans are dying while awaiting for its decisions. This, again, is a priority measure which must be introduced to remedy present injustices to veterans, as well as the injustices caused by the delays in respect of the treatment of prisoners of war. It is a shame that only now, at this late date, is a study being conducted into the condition of former European prisoners of war.

Another serious inequity has to do with the Veterans Land Act. The present legislation is completely out-dated, and rather than providing the relief necessary in the present period of inflation, veterans are stultified in their efforts to build a home because of the failure of the government to provide for rising costs in the act. Part II of the act provides that any qualified veteran who is approved for a loan under the National Housing Act may receive financial and other assistance to build his own home, on any lot acceptable for a single family dwelling. The amount that may be advanced is $18,000 or the amount of the NHA loan, whichever is the lesser.

The act provides also that a veteran must acquire a lot of one half acre, but in certain cases this can be reduced by 20 per cent. My question to the minister is this: how can anyone build a home for $18,000 at present costs, or how can any veteran acquire a lot of one half acre, less 20 per cent, at present costs before he even starts to build a home? This also brings into focus the terminal date for initial applications for assistance which is set at March 31, 1974. There are some 125,000 veterans with qualification certificates and, according to the annual report of the department, it is expected that only 5 per cent will take advantage of the VLA.

The reason for this is that the loan ceiling is too low in view of present day inflation. Further, the size of building lots required is unrealistic, and the down payment is entirely too high. The government must immediately review the act with a view to (1) raising the ceiling to an acceptable level which, in view of today's inflationary costs, might be $25,000 or $30,000; (2) reducing the size of the lot to that of a normal building lot; (3) changing the down payments to at least today's level, and in line with the National Housing Act; (4) extending the termination date of March, 1974 to a period commensurate with the needs of present Canadian Forces personnel when retiring; and (5) giving consideration to inserting a rehabilitation program into the act to allow veterans to repair their present homes, in the case of need, along the lines stipulated in the National Housing Act. I know that it is the

intention of the government to phase out VLA. All I ask is why? What purpose will it serve other than causing 125,000 veterans to join the hundreds of thousands of Canadians who cannot get a home now?

Finally, Mr. Speaker, and returning for a few seconds to the basic rate of pension, in a spirit of co-operation the joint study report was clear, concise and reasonable. The veterans' organizations on behalf of their members have accepted without question the patchwork amendments to the act over the years. We now have an opportunity, finally, to establish a basic rate which will re-establish some faith in the minds of our veterans with respect to the government's recognition of their service. I plead with the government to produce legislation, including the recommended formula of annual increases, so that we will not have to fight every two or three years for a review of the disability pension and the basic rate because of inflation. I plead further that the government call on the same study group to undertake a study and recommend measures to remedy the few remaining inequities in the various sections of the Pensions Act, so that we can settle the long overdue bill which was promised to be paid some 54 years ago to the veterans of Canada.

Hon. Daniel J. MacDonald (Minister of Veterans Affairs): Mr. Speaker, some hon. members appear to be under the impression that the Veterans Charter is a monolithic affair that has been left virtually unchanged for a generation or more and is now hopelessly out of date. Nothing could be farther from the truth.

The government has been keeping the Veterans Charter under continuous review, and a great number of changes have been made from year to year as the need has presented itself. I might add also that the Standing Committee on Veterans Affairs has played a very active part in making sure at all times that veterans' problems are fully aired and sympathetically considered, and I am glad to express the government's thanks to the committee for its helpful contributions.

Furthermore, Mr. Speaker, the Veterans Affairs budget had been rising from year to year, and I would expect that it would continue to do so for some years to come. The departmental expenditure budget has risen almost continuously from $396 million in 1966-67 to $480 million in the current year. Over the years there has been a slight reduction in total staff because of hospital transfers, but the authorized total still stands at 10,455 man years. I propose at this time to review some of the more important changes that have been made in the Veterans Charter during the past few years. First, I will deal with the area of disability pensions.

Since 1944, hardly a single year has passed without new legislation to up-date some aspect of the Pension Act. Then, between 1968 and 1970, the entire act was reviewed in great detail by the Woods Committee which presented no less than 146 proposed changes. The ensuing legislation, which received Royal Assent on March 30, 1971, just two years ago, represented the consummation of the most thorough review of the pension legislation in 50 years.

These main amendments had many far reaching effects, but I should at least mention the introduction of the exceptional incapacity allowance, the broadening of the benefit of the doubt rule, the special arrangements made for Hong Kong prisoners of war, the establishment of the independent Bureau of Pension Advocates and the Pension Review Board. Just last year, as one of the measures, parliament enacted legislation to provide for the first time that the rates of pension would be adjusted in January of every year to reflect upward changes in the consumer price index. Pursuant to this legislation, pension rates were raised by 3.6 per cent last year, and again by 4.5 per cent in January of this year. There will be another adjustment next January, and in every future year. This legislation ties disability pensions to the cost of living, so that they retain their real value from year to year. I need hardly add that the whole matter of the basic rate of pensions is at present under very active consideration by the government. I have already informed the House that I hope in the very near future to be in a position to make an announcement on this subject.

• (1230)

So much for pensions. Let me turn next to War Veterans Allowance, the so-called "burnt-out pension". There have been no less than four increases in WVA rates in the last two years. As in the case of pensions, the WVA Act was amended last year to provide that rates would be escalated each year as indicated by rises in the cost of living, and they were accordingly increased by 3.6 per cent last year and by a further 4.5 per cent in January, 1973. Just a month and a half ago a further large increase took effect, as was mentioned by the hon. member who spoke previously, in the same amounts as the increases under the Old Age Security Act. At the same time the act was amended to remove the "personal property" qualification, so that applicants would no longer be required to liquidate their assets before becoming eligible for War Veterans Allowance. In other words, the long standing "needs test" has been replaced by a modified "income test". We have also been conducting a large advertising campaign in veterans publications, in weekend supplements, in the farm press and on the radio, to make certain that veterans were fully informed on these changes.

With reference to our hospital transfer negotiations, I should like to take this opportunity to clear up a misunderstanding. Our purpose in seeking to transfer veterans' hospitals to local and regional authorities is not to get rid of the hospitals or to reduce our responsibility. Quite the contrary, our aim is to ensure that veterans continue to receive the best possible hospital care. If these institutions were to continue indefinitely as veterans hospitals, the average age of the patients would rise continuously and the hospitals would become geriatric institutions. On this basis, we would gradually lose our ability to attract and retain the best doctors, nurses and paramedical staff, and then the quality of the care of veterans would inevitably suffer. The only alternative is to blend the hospitals into the communities in which they stand, so that they may continue as active treatment hospitals for both veterans and others. Of course, in any transfer agreement the government ensures that a sufficient number of priority beds remain available to meet the needs of the veterans, and the government insists that the present hospital staff is taken over by the new authority without reduction in salary. I need hardly add that, following transfer, the

government continues to pay the treatment costs of entitled veterans.

Now, I should like to say a word about the Veterans Land Act. In recent weeks I have received a certain number of letters urging that the statute be amended to continue this program beyond the terminal dates specified in the legislation.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. MacDonald (Cardigan): Mr. Speaker, I believe that these requests, understandable though they are, have been based on misapprehensions regarding the aims of this program. The act was not designed as a program of urban housing, nor as a part of a retirement program for persons reaching the end of their productive careers. It was designed to provide financial assistance for the purchase of agricultural land to be used on a full time or part time farming basis by veterans. The purpose was to help them pick up the threads of civilian life following active service. Realizing that not all veterans would wish to use the Veterans Land Act, parliament enacted two other measures, re-establishment credits and postwar university training. I might note here, Mr. Speaker, that most of the letters I received from people wanting to construct under the Veterans Land Act illustrate three things that were available to all veterans. One was to establish them in part time or full time farming; another was to rehabilitate them through university training, and another one was money. In many many cases, we found upon investigation that one or other of these benefits had been received by practically all the veterans who wrote to me. A veteran could use only one of the three measures.

Recognizing that the act was intended as a measure of rehabilitation assistance in the period after wartime active service, as distinct from retirement from postwar occupations or careers, in 1965, eight years ago, parliament established the March 31, 1974 deadline for the purpose of phasing out Veterans Land Act lending operations in an orderly manner. By that date, almost 30 years will have elapsed since the end of the World War II, and 20 years in the case of the Korean conflict.

In the time at my disposal, I cannot of course cover all aspects of departmental operations. I should like, however, to say something about remembrance. First, let me say that each year during the past ten years the government has conducted ceremonies to commemorate the deeds and sacrifices of Canada's veterans, and in each year these ceremonies have been held in Canada and in the places where they fell. Last year my predecessor attended ceremonies in France to commemorate the landings at Dieppe. Within a few weeks I am taking a small delegation to Normandy, where as guests of the government of France we shall be marking the anniversary of the D-Day landings. Later this year, I hope to inspect a number of the cemeteries and memorials in Europe that are maintained at Canadian expense to commemorate the contributions by the thousands of Canadians in two world conflicts.

Mr. Speaker, I have said that the government keeps the Veterans Charter under constant review, and I believe what I have said will amply confirm the point. I can also assure the House that we shall continue to keep all these measures under review. The government fully recognizes its responsibility to its veterans and to their loved ones. We have been fulfilling that responsibility and will continue to do so.

Now, Mr. Speaker, to refer to some of the points brought out by the hon. member who moved the motion. With regard to the overseas veterans, as I have said in the Veterans Affairs Committee, this has been and is presently under review. As far as additional money for the children to age 25, that is in the same situation.

I want to make reference to the Pension Commission, also referred to by the hon. gentleman who proposed the resolution. We realize that there is a lot of concern on the part of veterans, veterans associations and people across the country that applications are not being processed as rapidly as many of us would desire. However, the House knows that we have added quite a number of people to the Pension Commission and it takes time to train them to deal with this situation and to understand the legislation. We have appointed people who are capable of assessing medical information and bringing the cases concerned to the attention of individuals looking after the pension matter. We are doing our utmost here. According to the last report I have had, pension applications are now being approved a little faster than we are receiving them. Many of those veterans, I have to say with respect, are and have been in receipt of pensions, possibly for a quarter of a century or more. It sounds bad to hear that so many are behind. At the same time, that does not mean that the veterans are starving. In many cases, we have a priority list. We bring urgent pension cases to the top of the list when they are brought to our attention.

● (1240)

It seems to us, in the department, that we have begun to cope with this situation in a much better way than in the past, and we are certainly going to get on top of it. I can say that the Pension Commission is very conscious of this, as is the pension chairman. I have the highest regard for him and know he is dedicated. Many members on the other side of the House, as well as on my side, know that many of these files are extremely thick. Sometimes, when there is no medical evidence to support an application, you have to look for people all over the country who served with the applicant. That is a very difficult job.

Mr. Marshall: Why not give them the benefit of the doubt?

Mr. MacDonald (Cardigan): Why not give them the benefit of the doubt? That is right. I think, with that, I will end.

Mr. Stanley Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, I should like to commend the hon. member for Humber-St. George's-St. Barbe (Mr. Marshall) for the motion he has presented to the House today. I also commend him on the speech he made on introducing his motion. Those of us in all parties in this House who are concerned about the welfare of our veterans welcome the opportunity presented to us today to discuss a number of matters that are of deep concern. Those last few words indicate that there are quite a number of issues relating to veterans that will be discussed. However, I agree with the hon. member for Humber-St. George's-St. Barbe that the

main purpose in bringing forward this motion today, the main thrust of the speeches that will be made, I trust, by members on both sides of the House, is that we want no more delay on the part of the government in bringing forward the bill to amend the Pension Act, the purpose of which is to increase the basic amount of the war disability pension.

The hon. member for Humber-St. George's-St. Barbe pointed out, as all hon. members are aware, that this legislation has been promised since the day the present session began. Early in January, the Minister of Veterans Affairs (Mr. MacDonald) indicated that the report of the special joint study group on the basic rate of the war disability pension would be referred to the Standing Committee on Veterans Affairs. That was done within a few days of the making of that promise. That committee took only an hour or two to make its report back to the House, unanimously supporting the recommendation in that report. The minister was present at the meeting and it was clear that he shared the view of all on the committee that it was an excellent report and should be implemented at the earliest possible date.

The Minister of Finance (Mr. Turner), when making his budget speech on February 19, indicated that the government was only waiting for the report from the Standing Committee on Veterans Affairs before acting. That report came down just a few days after the budget speech.

When we asked the Minister of Veterans Affairs questions prior to the Easter recess about the introduction of the bill to raise the basic rate of the war disability pension, he expressed the hope that he would be able to do it before Easter. Well, Easter is a movable feast, but it did not move quite that far. It has come and gone, and we are still without the legislation. Yesterday, in response to yet another question of mine, the minister said that he hoped to bring the bill in, if I may use his exact words, "before very long". When I asked him whether "before very long" means this month, he replied:

> Mr. Speaker, I would indicate that I am hopeful that it certainly means this month.

Mr. Marshall: The House leader said it would be brought in before the recess.

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Here we are, on May 18; the minister has 13 days left in which to do this. I am glad to see the President of the Treasury (Mr. Drury) sitting here and listening to the debate, because he will realize how keen the House is to have this piece of legislation introduced.

As has already been pointed out, the recommendation of the joint study group, which was supported by the Standing Committee on Veterans Affairs, calls for the basic rate of the war disability pension to be tied to the average rate of pay of five selected categories in the public service. That, indeed, is an attempt to fulfil a promise that has been around more than 50 years. I certainly join with all those who, over the years, have spoken on this matter, but I now say that we hope there will not be another arbitrary figure picked by the government and put in the legislation. This time we want what the joint study group has recommended, namely, that the basic rate of the war disability pension be tied to the average annual income of five selected categories in the public service.

[Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre).]

Mr. Peters: They are not those of deputy ministers, either.

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): No. I trust that remark is on the record. We are talking about five groups down near the bottom of the ladder.

The report pointed out that war disability pensions are not subject to income tax and that, therefore, in arriving at a figure a certain adjustment has to be made in what would be the gross average pay of those working in those five groups. For 1972, this worked out to the figure of $4,529 per year. There have been pay adjustments since then, so that for 1973 the figure would be a little higher. The amount of $4,529 represents an increase of 19.4 per cent over the amount now being paid as the 100 per cent basic rate. I would hope that, considering the increases which have taken place in wage rates this year, the figure might be somewhat higher still.

The important thing about this recommendation is not just the suggested figure, which is roughly 20 per cent higher than that in the present legislation. The important thing about it is that it recommends that that basic rate be tied to those rates of pay I have mentioned, so that in future years the basic rate will go up, as those rates of pay go up. This is well covered on pages 20 and 21 of the report of the joint study group which was signed by the nine persons to whom my hon. friend referred a few moments ago. May I point out, as well, that it is no longer good enough just to give veterans an increase equal only to the rise in the cost of living. Rather, they should be given increases that are related to the rising standard of living. The joint study group points out that the best way to do that is to tie the basic rate of the war disability pension to the average of the rates mentioned in the public service.

I liked the approach of the minister this morning in making it clear to us that the government has not forgotten these things. I liked his confirmation of his statement to me of yesterday that the bill is to be brought in soon. Yesterday he said that that "means this month", the month of May. I must say to him, however, that I am concerned, indeed, disturbed, that he stands up this late in the game and boasts about the clause in the Pension Act that provides for the basic rate to be escalated according to the rise in the cost of living. He should not still be boasting about that. The report of the joint study group, which included the Deputy Minister of Veterans Affairs, as well as Mr. Solomon, and three or four others, said that that is not good enough. I suspect that is the reason for the delay. I suspect this bothers the President of the Treasury Board (Mr. Drury). He does not mind giving an increase, but he is worried about this formula that would provide automatic increases in future years in accordance with the rise in the rates of pay of these selected groups. That is the whole issue. It is not just an issue because this study group recommended it. It has been an issue for more than half a century that the basic disability pension should be tied to certain levels of income and not just be a figure that the government can hand out from time to time by amending the act. Therefore, Mr. Speaker, I strongly urge

the minister to insist that his bill implement in full the recommendation of the joint study group.

● (1250)

I hope that as a result of today's debate, which is being listened to by the Minister of Veterans Affairs and the President of the Treasury Board, the bill will be brought in soon and that it will have in it the formula recommended in the report of the joint study group. The hon. member for Humber-St. George's-St. Barbe said that if this is not done, the bill will not be acceptable. We will find that out if we have to go through the sorry situation of the bill not being satisfactory when it goes to committee and the veterans organizations appear before that committee. My suspicion is that if the bill just contains an arbitrary figure without accepting the recommended formula, the veterans organizations will appear before us with some pretty strong representations. All of that can be avoided and the 50 year promise can be kept, if the government will bring in the bill recommended by the joint study group and strongly endorsed by the Standing Committee on Veterans Affairs. That is the main purpose of the motion before us today. I hope it will be the main purpose and main thrust of the debate.

All of us who will take the floor today are concerned about a number of other matters, and we shall have a few words to say about some of those matters. In particular, my colleague, the hon. member for Timiskaming (Mr. Peters), will have a good deal to say about the Veterans Land Act and what needs to be done with regard to it. There are a few other matters on which I think a comment or two should be made.

With regard to the War Veterans Allowance Act, we welcomed at the time and we are still glad that increases were made in the basic rate of the war veterans allowance. But like other members, I am receiving letters from veterans who are wondering why they did not get the increase. They thought there was an increase. Those over 65 years of age are glad that the ceiling was raised. This permits them to get the full amount of the old age security and guaranteed supplement increase. However, there is no increase for them in their war veterans allowances. The minister covered that very nicely in the letter he sent to veterans with their April cheques. He referred to the changes that had been made and then wrote this interesting sentence:

> At the same time, Old Age Security and Guaranteed Income Supplement combined payments were increased by the same amounts; which means that those of you who are aged 65 and over will find their increases in those cheques, instead of in their WVA/CWA payments,—

The rest of the sentence states that those payments would not be decreased. That is a nice euphemistic public service way of saying you will not be getting an increase in your war veterans allowance. It is true that those under 65 who are not at the ceiling will get an adjustment because of the higher rates. However, I feel it would have been appropriate to raise the ceiling on the permissible income under the War Veterans Allowance Act, not just by the amount of the increase in the old age security and guaranteed supplement adjustment, but by an additional amount so that those receiving the war veterans allowance would have an actual increase in that allowance as well as the increase in the old age security and guaranteed income supplement. I hope that something will yet be done about this. When we get the bill to amend the Pension Act back before the committee, perhaps we can have further discussion about this as well.

I support those who argue strenuously that the time has come to permit a veteran who has service in the United Kingdom prior to November 12, 1918, to be included for the purpose of the War Veterans Allowance Act. The number of those still around is dwindling. The number of years they will live to enjoy, if that is the proper word, these sums of money cannot be great. I hope this change can yet be made.

I agree with those who, when the minister was speaking, protested that all he could say about those who live outside of Canada, in the United Kingdom for example, and cannot draw the allowance unless they have the 12 months back in Canada, was that this is under review. After all these years, that is hardly good enough.

I hope the minister will take a further look at these various matters that relate to the war veterans allowance. In earlier speeches, I had something to say about the different ceilings that apply, depending on whether one is under or over 65 and whether he is single or married. All of this could be avoided if we just established a new higher set of ceilings for veterans under the War Veterans Allowance Act.

I see that it is almost one o'clock. I will try to complete my remarks now so that others may speak this afternoon. I leave to my colleague, the hon. member for Timiskaming, a discussion of the Veterans Land Act. The veterans who write to me know all about the rationale of the act. But I support their contention that because they fought for this land, surely they are entitled to purchase a little bit of it. The argument that it is only for those who make their living in agriculture does not stand up any longer.

With regard to the review of cases of veterans of World War I and World War II, I strongly urge that there be much more liberal interpretations by the Canadian Pension Commission of the benefit of the doubt clause.

In conclusion, may I say that veterans, especially those of World War I, should not have to face any more questions. There should be a level of income guaranteed to them. As far as I am concerned, the age of eligibility for this guaranteed income should be lowered. The place to start is by saying to our veterans, you have earned an income and it should be guaranteed to you. I hope the idea of a guaranteed income for veterans will be considered. But I end, Mr. Speaker, where I started. I hope the result of this debate today will lead to what I believe is its main purpose, that it will support the minister in his efforts to get his bill to amend the Pension Act through the cabinet with which he is associated and into this House not later than the end of next week.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: The hon. member will be recognized at two o'clock. It being one o'clock, I do now leave the chair until then.

At one o'clock the House took recess.

War Veterans

AFTER RECESS

[*Translation*]

The House resumed at 2 p.m.

Mr. Jean-Marie Boisvert (Drummond): Mr. Speaker, speaking of veterans, often leads us to think of Canadian history and particularly that of the last thirty years, during which our armed forces have served in the Second World War and the Korean War.

This House must show the greatest concern for these men who have risked their lives in the defence of our country, to enable freedom to survive.

Particularly during the Second World War, even though grudgingly at times, Canadian troops helped to overthrow the Nazi regime, to prevent it from spreading, and carried out great military exploits which should be born in mind when we talk of these problems. The House must show constant concern for veterans, and also continue to shoulder its responsibilities to them.

In our every day life, we come across people who, for lack of work or luck, live in poverty or have other problems. But when veterans are in difficulties, we must recognize that we are somewhat to blame for it.

I therefore hope that the Progressive Conservatives did not introduce this motion on an allotted day in order to make political capital out of the veterans, or just as a way of attracting attention to themselves.

I mentioned the Second World War and the Korean War; we must also remember the peace missions throughout the world in which Canada has given a good account of herself. She has built a good reputation for herself throughout the world.

Therefore, it is a very important duty to look after the interests of those persons and to assume our responsibilities towards them.

Recently, I received a phone call from the wife of a veteran who asked me to help her to obtain for her husband the pension he was entitled to. he was a man who became disabled as a result of his military service, who suffered from gout and who seemed to have been forgotten by the departmental authorities.

Therefore, I lost no time in helping him and in submitting the required representations for that person to obtain justice. It is a fact that those persons are unfairly treated and, as I said earlier, our first responsibility is to ensure that those injustices no longer exist. For instance, I feel that the basic pension rate is unfair. At present, those persons are not treated as they ought to be. They are not treated with the respect which should come before everything, according to the policy drawn up here.

That is why, Mr. Speaker, I am asking the government to take all necessary steps, in order that those war veterans know better days, that at last they enjoy the social justice that this government has often held out to us.

● (1410)

[*English*]

Mr. Duncan M. Beattie (Hamilton Mountain): Mr. Speaker, it gives me a great deal of pleasure to give my support to the motion of my colleague the hon. member for Humber-St. George's-St. Barbe (Mr. Marshall), or perhaps I should say St. Humble-St. George's-St. Barbe. This motion calls upon the government to get on with the job of implementing measures which have the support of the Standing Committee on Veterans Affairs and of this House. These measures are intended to alleviate the serious and pressing need of those who rallied to the call when Canada threw its resources together behind the massive effort to free a large part of the world from tyranny. Many of those who did answer the call lie in foreign cemeteries, many of those who returned are still in hospitals or confined to wheelchairs or trying to get along on pensions and allowances.

I should like to point out to the House that the motion moved by my colleague cannot be construed as criticism of the manner in which the new Minister of Veterans Affairs (Mr. MacDonald) is administering his portfolio.

Mr. MacDonald (Cardigan): Not too many bouquets now.

Mr. Beattie (Hamilton Mountain): I cannot think of any previous minister of veterans affairs at any time in my memory who has been better suited to the task than the present minister. By temperament and by first hand knowledge of the problems facing veterans, on a day to day basis, the minister is exceptionally well qualified to run that department. Those of us who sit with the minister in committee know that he has the interest of the veterans at heart. He served with distinction in World War II. As most of us on the veterans affairs committee are veterans, Mr. Speaker, I think that I can say without fear of contradiction that our committee is the only committee of this House that consistently functions above partisan politics.

Many thousands of veterans across our country are now looking to those who served alongside them, wondering whether or not we will now rally to their cause. If we do not, then there is nowhere else that they can turn. Where else can they go for help if we in parliament turn our backs on them, or even if we decide what we think is reasonable and just for them, and then let the proposals lie on a shelf and gather dust. Obviously this is not good enough. Those of us on the committee, and the many interested and concerned officials of the veterans organizations have spent hundreds of hours studying, debating and revising proposals and recommendations concerning what we should be providing in the way of benefits, pensions, medical care and the other aspects of a total veterans benefit package.

The package has been assembled and approved. I think that we now have a right to ask the present government: what is holding up the implementation of that veterans benefits package? When I have asked that question in the past I have not been able to get an answer. I will continue to ask the question, but my colleagues and I are running out of patience. We want an answer. I cannot help thinking that the answer is available to the government and needs only to be given to this House and to the veterans who are waiting. The main reason I was so anxious to speak on this motion is that I am deeply concerned about the attitude that appears to exist in the Department of Veterans Affairs in respect of the veterans affairs hospital in London, Ontario. The hospital is the Westminster Hos-

pital, and I do not like to think of what is going to happen to this hospital if the government's announced plans are carried out.

To begin with, I must say that I am not in agreement with the policy in the past few years whereby the Department of Veterans Affairs has gradually gone out of the business of providing and maintaining hospitals for veterans' domiciliary care. There has been a tendency to transfer veterans hospitals to provinces and municipalities for operation, reducing the capacity of these hospitals to deal with bedridden veterans. Provinces and municipalities are not, and have never been, in the business of caring for veterans. This is a responsibility of the federal government, and if I had been in parliament when this policy was first introduced, the department would have had a tough time with me. I would have fought it then, and I am quite prepared to fight it now, right down to the wire.

For some time now the federal government has been discussing with the province, and with the city of London, various schemes for the transfer of Westminster Hospital to the province or to the city. Dr. K. S. Ritchie, assistant deputy minister (hospitals) of the Department of Veterans Affairs said in an interview with the London *Free Press* last month that the real interest of the DVA was to see the Westminster Hospital become part of the community health facility in order that the future care of veterans will be safeguarded. This is a strange statement of principle. On the one hand, the assistant deputy minister expresses concern over the future welfare of veterans who require hospital treatment and care. At the same time, he says that this can best be assured by having the DVA turn the hospital over to another jurisdiction, jurisdiction incidentally that does not have any responsibilities for veterans care.

In addition to the buildings on the site, Westminster Hospital also has a vast parkland area comprising about 342 acres of prime land. In the past, this parkland has been available to veterans who were able to leave their beds and walk around the grounds, or sit and read or whatever they wanted to do, in a tranquil setting. It may well be that there are people in the DVA who feel this is too good for disabled veterans, men and women who have nothing else but this to look forward to for the rest of their lives. I cannot accept a policy that seeks to transfer responsibility for veterans care to any agency or jurisdiction other than that department in which the responsibility has been vested. That agency is the DVA, and I will insist on a better explanation from them as to why they are not disposed to retain that responsibility.

If some change is called for in the administration of Westminster Hospital, and if some new disposition is necessary, then I have a proposal of my own to make. This hospital was built and has been maintained through the years as a veterans facility. It should remain a veterans facility. My proposal is that it should be declared a national monument to those who have served our country, both to those who did not return, and to those who did return but who are destined to spend the remainder of their lives in the care of the veterans administration.

● (1420)

The grounds around the hospital should be preserved intact to serve the veterans who are domiciled in the hospital and also to serve the people in the community. We have other national monuments across our country that are less deserving of the distinction. I can think of no better way to preserve the memory of, and to do honour to, those of our men and women who have served their country in several wars. I will answer the cranks who would say that such a monument would honour war itself by saying to them that if they had served they would know that those who hate war the most are those who have served in one. I venture to say there are people who would fight my proposal with every means at their disposal. That beautiful land which surrounds Westminster must have some councillors and developers in London drooling and dreaming. I daresay that there are people who cannot wait for the Department of Veterans Affairs to divest itself of the hospital so that they may begin their politicking, scheming and manoeuvring.

I can see high rises, town houses and possibly a shopping centre rising almost overnight on those beautiful grounds. Some people might say at this point that the present council in London would preserve the ground and buildings intact, and that they would do their utmost to prevent it falling into the hands of developers. However, councils change and I doubt very seriously that anyone would suggest that the best way to preserve it as it is would be to have the Department of Veterans Affairs turn it over to someone else. I do not have any more faith in the province in this respect than I would have in any other political jurisdiction. The province does not have responsibility for the care of veterans. I do not believe it would be very long before the provincial government would decide that this area is too prime and too expensive to maintain, and would take steps to enhance the utility and the income potential of this facility.

There is only one way the future of Westminster can be assured as a veterans facility. That is by making it a monument as well as a continuing institution to provide domiciliary care for veterans. The designation of Westminster as a national monument would not preclude or prevent its use in other ways. In fact, if it were established as a continuing facility under the patronage of the federal government many additional programs could be developed for the hospital. For instance, there is no reason that portions of the hospital not required for veterans could not be utilized for other patients. London needs additional beds for children's care. This might be the answer to the problem for some time to come. A hospital such as Westminster would be ideally suited to the new role of a medical teaching facility in both pure and applied research as well as the training of doctors who want to upgrade their proficiency in specialized areas of medicine. In fact, if it could be established now that Westminster would continue in perpetuity as a medical facility with the primary function of ensuring domiciliary care for veterans, any number of additional uses might be made of these facilities through the years.

There is a possibility that we will be able to avoid becoming involved in any future wars. This is the fervent hope of all responsible people. In that event there will

come a time when there will not be any need for veterans hospitals as such. However, that time has not arrived, and we have a solemn responsibility to maintain sufficient facilities for the care of our veterans. We cannot slough off that responsibility to anyone else, however well-meaning they might be.

There are some other aspects of veterans care and benefits on which I planned to speak, but I felt I had to make my point with regard to veterans hospitals in general and Westminster hospital in particular. I should like to mention I am a bit disturbed about the apparent lack of real interest on the part of the government in extending the deadline on such an important program as the Veterans Land Act. This act has been a Godsend to the many thousands of returned veterans. Many members have spoken on this subject, but there is one area on which I should like to touch. There are approximately 200 to 300 persons who would qualify under the Veterans' Land Act who are still in the armed forces. When these people leave the armed forces, they must state the area in which they would like to build. If they have not done so by March 31, 1974 they will have to designate a province in which within seven or eight years they might wish to build. I would like to say that the department should extend the program just for that reason alone.

There is another area which is of great concern to me. I have risen twice in this House to seek the unanimous consent of the House to have immediate citizenship granted to war veterans who are honourably discharged from the armed forces. I did not receive such unanimous consent, and I can only assume the reason I did not receive it is that the same people who did not give the consent are the people who are holding up the passage of this bill. There is no reason in the world that we cannot grant at least citizenship to men who fought in the armed forces of this country, not necessarily on request but by right.

On a final note, I would urge the cabinet or whoever is holding up implementation of the benefit package we have approved to turn it loose and let it carry through to Royal Assent. It does not do anybody any good so long as it stays on the shelf. If our troops had discharged their responsibility in combat as loosely and as cavalierly as we seem to be regarding this latest benefit legislation, I shudder to think who would be running our country today. We certainly would not be.

Mr. H. T. Herbert (Vaudreuil): Mr. Speaker, I welcome this opportunity to speak briefly on the subject of veterans affairs. I am concerned lest our veterans suffer from the political competition that is a normal way of life in this House. As the proposer of the motion admits, committee discussion of veterans business is mostly non-partisan. I should like our House discussion also to be kept on the same plane. The hon. member for Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands suggested the motive behind the motion which is before the House. I agree with him, but I also suggest that this member's motivation in applying pressure to the minister and to the government in this manner is to drive in the thin edge of the wedge leading to future promotion of his socialistic theories.

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, on a point of order. I do not mind being accused of driving in the thin edge of the wedge, but I should like to be identified as the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre.

[Mr. Beattie (Hamilton Mountain).]

Mr. Herbert: I offer my sincere apology to the hon. member. I do not believe that such an objective should be a consideration in this debate. As the vice-chairman of the Standing Committee on Veterans Affairs, I have been pleased to see the unanimity of the members representing all parties in safeguarding and promoting the interests of our veterans. I believe we will achieve our joint objective by emphasizing the very special needs and rights of our veterans and their families.

There is one other point I should like to make which is of somewhat local character. It concerns the veterans hospitals in the province of Quebec and the program to transfer these hospitals, along with other veterans hospitals, to provincial jurisdiction in the future. I wish to make the point that the responsibility for the care of our veterans is 100 per cent a federal responsibility and in this respect, until we are sure that these rights and the wishes of our veterans will be looked after to the degree to which we, the federal representatives, want to see them looked after, we should not pursue such a transfer. Also, we must respect the rights of the veterans to have a very strong voice in this decision to transfer their hospitals to another jurisdiction. While there are a number of statutes and regulations contained in what we refer to as the Veterans Charter, I would like to deal at this time with the War Veterans Allowance Act and Part XI of the Civilian War Pensions and Allowances Act.

● (1430)

The War Veterans Allowance Act is that part of the Veterans Charter designed to ensure that those whose wartime service meets the requirements of the act shall, in spite of advanced age or incapacity, be assured of an income. This is attained by providing an allowance on a modified income test basis which ensures that the income of a veteran, his widow or orphans, does not fall below the amounts set out in the schedule of the act. We are deeply conscious of the debt we owe to those men and women who risked their lives in the interests of preserving Canada's freedom. This government has been alert to the needs of this important group of Canadian citizens and has taken a number of steps to assure them of a better standard of living.

On March 21, 1972 the regulations were amended to remove the four months restriction on casual employment. The result of this action was that the length of the employment ceased to be a factor and the dollar value of the earnings became the only yardstick to be applied. On May 15, 1972, we exempted the cost of living increases in the old age security and guaranteed income supplement monthly payments amounting to $15 for single recipients and $30 for married recipients. By doing this, the government ensures that those recipients aged 65 and over would receive an OAS/GIS increase and not have their allowances reduced by a like amount.

On May 19, 1972, we amended the War Veterans Allowance Act to provide for escalation of the rates and ceilings effective January 1, 1972, and on January 1 of each succeeding year in accordance with increases in the consumer price index. As a result of this, war veterans allowance

and civilian war allowances recipients will no longer have to wait and hope for an increase, wondering when it will happen and how much it will be. They now know that if the cost of living goes up, so will their allowances and income ceilings.

On November 9, 1972 the regulations were amended so that the value of a home in excess of $10,000 would no longer cause a reduction in the allowance paid each month. This was a great help to people whose homes had escalated in value. Before the regulations were changed, they did suffer a loss of income because of the increased values in real estate.

On January 13, 1973 the amount of casual earnings permitted in any allowance year was increased from $800 to $1,000 for single recipients, and from $1,200 to $1,500 for married recipients. This is one of the provisions of the War Veterans Allowance Act and Civilian War Allowances Act which help to make them outstanding pieces of legislation of which we should all be proud. While unfortunately all recipients are not able to avail themselves of this exemption, it is beneficial for those who can. The result of this change is that, in the absence of any other income, a single recipient can have a monthly allowance of $151.14 and earn $1,480 a year, for a total of $3,293.68 a year. Married recipients can have a monthly allowance of $257.21 and earn $2,340 a year for a total income of $5,426.52.

The War Veterans Allowance Act and Part XI of the Civilian War Pensions and Allowances Act are two very important parts of the Veterans Charter. Bill C-148, as all hon. members know, increased the rates in the War Veterans Allowance Act and the Civilian War Allowances Act by $20.14 for single recipients and $39.60 for married recipients. The War Veterans Allowance Act and the Civilian War Pensions and allowances Act rates have been increased by $30.14 a month or 24.8 per cent for single recipients and $56.21 a month or 27.8 per cent for married recipients since December 31, 1971. The rates for orphans have similarly been increased by more than 24 per cent during the same period.

Like all hon. members, I was pleased to see the rates and ceilings increased twice this year, once on January 1 and again on April 1. I was especially pleased, however, at the amendment to the act which removed for all time the restriction on personal property which, prior to April 1 of this year, was limited to $1,250 for single recipients and $2,500 for those who are married. As a result of the removal of the personal property limitations, the War Veterans Allowance Act and the Civilian War Pensions and Allowances Act, which were previously geared to a means test, are now geared to a modified income test.

There can be no doubt that the previous restriction caused a great deal of frustration and sadness on the part of many applicants and recipients. I have had letters from widows whose husbands had been receiving the war veterans allowance or civilian war allowances during their lifetime. The veteran died and left his wife $5,000 in insurance. No matter how old or crippled she was, until she reduced her insurance money to the permissible limit through ordinary maintenance, she was automatically ineligible for an allowance. In other cases, a recipient might receive a small inheritance and because the amount of personal property was then more than was allowed, that recipient would lose his allowance and possibly be faced with a recoverable overpayment. This particular amendment is a milestone in veterans legislation and will be beneficial to hundreds of recipients and applicants. I understand that last year alone 1,375 recipients had their allowance cancelled because their personal property increased over the legal amount. In many cases the excess was small, but the result was the same.

I am sure that all hon. members will agree that it is right that we should be constantly on the alert for ways to improve the legislation which affects our veterans and their dependants. I believe that the government has demonstrated that awareness and its willingness to take the legislative action necessary to bring about the desired improvements. These improvements, together with the abolition of the restriction on personal property holdings effective April 1, 1973, are concrete evidence of this government's determination to honour our debt to those who served Canada in her hour of need.

In conclusion, I want to add a word of praise of what our Minister of Veterans Affairs (Mr. MacDonald) has been attempting to do in his short term in this House. I advise hon. members that he is giving his weekend to the veterans, as he has done with so many weekends. He leaves by plane after this debate is concluded this afternoon to attend the Quebec legion convention at Ste Anne de Bellevue. He will be visiting Ste Anne de Bellevue veterans hospital tomorrow morning, and then he will fly out again to repeat the same process in Ontario. I feel that while veterans affairs are in the good hands of our present minister our veterans need have no fear that they will not be given a fair deal in the legislation which all members of the Standing Committee on Veterans Affairs are anxious to see before the House.

● (1440)

Mr. Ian Arrol (York East): Mr. Speaker, the first in need of our consideration are the last to be served in this session of parliament. Most of those on a government pension have had an increase established for them in this session of parliament, except the disabled war veterans. A parliamentary committee representing all parties has agreed on the need, and has agreed on the extent of what the increase should be. All parties are agreed on the necessity to make the increase as soon as possible.

The Minister of Veterans Affairs (Mr. MacDonald) indicated that legislation for the increase was to be brought to the House before the Easter recess. There is now an indication from the same minister that the legislation will be brought to the House before the end of May. There was also an indication from the House leader of the Liberal party that, hopefully, it would be brought to the House before the summer recess. Therefore, the hold up must be in the cabinet. It is easy in opposition to criticize; it is easy in opposition to say what should be done; it is easy in opposition to promise everything, because in opposition one doesn't have the responsibility for acting.

An hon. Member: Which side are you on?

Mr. Arrol: On the side of the DVA, as I hope you are. In opposition one is unhindered by the final responsibility, by the final formula. When one does not have the responsi-

bility, some of the complexities and complications are unknown. A government cannot immediately and always live up to its good intentions. But granted all that, Mr. Speaker, the government should move, because it must move to save the dignity and the peace of mind of those now on inadequate pensions.

Those who have given more than most are getting less than most. More than any, we are subjecting them to the torture of the government's indecision. The disabled, most of whom are denied a life of activity, have more time to think, have more time to be concerned, have more time to be dismayed. No matter what the complexities and the complications of coming through with a formula, the necessity of action now is so great that the government should make it a priority item.

The House has been spending more time in sympathy with the murderers of our society than with those in society who sacrificed to make our society safe for all. Let us get our priorities straight, and with the urgency of an emergency measure let the government act no later than next week to bring in the legislation, to bring justice to our disabled war veterans, to end the uncertainty and the real anguish as they wait from day to day. We cannot solve all the problems of the world or all the problems of the nation, but the government does have the wherewithal to serve the modest needs of the disabled war veteran.

Let the government have the determination. Let not grandiose plans for the future blind us to the practical needs of today. It is not that the disabled war veterans situation is going to result in measures which will cost the government hundreds of millions of dollars. There are not that many survivors of our wars. We, in Canada, have not been directly involved in a major war since Korea. We do not have the problem of a continuing number of disability cases. We have a situation where we are in debt to a small group of men, in debt for a very long time, and the need now is for immediate action in establishing the new basic rate for those on the war disability pension.

Mr. Joseph-Philippe Guay (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, I, too, would like to speak briefly on behalf of the veterans with respect to the motion that is before us today. I would like to bring to the attention of the House that, from time to time since last autumn, mention has been made of a possible increase in pensions paid under the Pension Act to veterans who suffered a disability related to military service, and to dependents in the event of their death.

I think it is important to note that the veterans are not just asking for an increase in pension rates. Rather, they seek a base rate of pension tied to one or more groups in the private or public sector. Hon. members will recall that the recommendations contained in the joint report by representatives of the veterans' organizations and officials of the Department of Veterans Affairs and the Pension Commission, were endorsed by the Standing Committee on Veterans Affairs some time ago. Those of us who were on that committee will recall that five categories in the public service were selected as representative of unskilled labour, a level acceptable to the veterans' spokesmen. Veterans tell me that the principle of finding a firm base for the rate of pension is at this point in time even more important than an increase in dollars. I understand that the matter is now under close study by the cabinet, and the House leader has stated that we can expect a bill before the House before the end of June.

Mr. Marshall: Where do you get your information?

Mr. Guay (St. Boniface): I have a pipeline.

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): My pipeline says before the end of May.

Mr. Guay (St. Boniface): I also would like that. I did not say that the legislation will not arrive in May. I said it certainly would come before the end of June, and if by chance the House leader brings it in within the next few days I will be most happy. I am sure that the Minister of Veterans Affairs (Mr. MacDonald) feels the same way as we do. I am sure that the minister wants to accelerate introduction of the legislation and have it approved as soon as possible. The vice-chairman of the standing committee has expressed his feelings about the minister. What he said was worth while hearing. I know he meant it. I, too, know the dedication which the minister has brought to his job ever since taking over the department. He deserves to be complimented. It is not every minister who will do the work that he does every weekend. It shows his concern for the veterans.

The veterans' organizations also asked for a standard formula, fixing the ratio on a firm percentage basis, to cover the additional pension paid to a veteran on behalf of his wife and child or children. Similarly, it was felt that the same basis should be provided for setting the rate of pension paid to a widow. Historically, an increase in disability pension was announced from time to time, but the percentage increase varied as did the ratio of additional pensions paid for dependants. There would seem to be some merit in the proposals put forward for many years by the veterans groups who have held that an increase in the basic rate when implemented should be measured against some point of reference.

● (1450)

This matter has now been successively before a study group, the standing committee and the government for almost a year, and has obviously been carefully analysed by all concerned. I share the hope of other hon. members that further information on this subject will soon be forthcoming.

Over the past year, most hon. members will have received letters from war veterans or their dependants seeking assistance in urging the Canadian Pension Commission to act on pension applications. I must confess I was shocked to learn only recently that as of April 24 last year the commission was faced with a backlog of 8,975 applications for a basic award, and I understand this does not include many ancillary benefits, including pensions for wives and children.

I have done a bit of research and was referred to a national magazine called *The Fragment*, put out by the War Amps of Canada. This magazine contains an article dealing with delays by the Pension Commission in granting pension awards, and points out all is not black or white. I will repeat that, Mr. Speaker: it points out that all

is not black or white. For example, one must realize it is now 28 years since the end of World War II and while there have been other brush-fire wars, the bulk of the claims outstanding relate to the 1939-1945 conflict. Most of the so-called routine claims from World War II have long since been granted; it is the difficult claims that require a great deal of research. In many cases, there is no intermediate medical report between 1945 and the death of a veteran in 1973. The widow may feel that her husband's fatal heart attack related to his arduous service in a battle area and submit a claim. One can readily understand the correspondence required by the commission, the bureau of pensions advocates, if involved in the case, and frequently a veterans' organization, in seeking records of medical treatment since 1945 and in seeking witnesses who may be able to support the widow's claim that her husband's health was not good over the many years since service.

I think it is of interest to note that since the amendments of March 30, 1971, a widow may claim an award in respect of a condition for which her husband neglected to claim during his lifetime. One need hardly mention the difficulties involved in this exercise, especially since the veteran is now out of the picture and there may be only meagre evidence, if any, in support of the claim.

Many of the claims advanced recently are not new. Hon. members are aware that the amendments to the Pension Act of March 1971 provided for an open door policy to all. This means that in addition to the many new measures introduced, any veteran whose claim to pension since 1918 was not granted is afforded an opportunity of starting over again. It will be readily apparent that a claim that has been aggressively prosecuted on a number of occasions over the past 35 years, has collected many volumes, and all this data again be reviewed if the claim is to receive the attention it deserves.

One must ask, then, what steps are now being taken to deal with the backlog? I find there has been a marked increase in the staff of the commission since April, 1971—indeed the total staff figure now stands at 359, an increase of 14 per cent over the past two years. In addition, hon. members will recall a bill was before the House last July to authorize an increase in the size of the commission to 24 members. Immediate steps led to the appointment of seven new members and, although I am advised a lengthy training period is essential, the new members will play a decisive role in reducing the backlog. In this regard, the chairman of the commission has recently stated he feels the corner has been turned, and since January of this year output is increasing and the number of claims pending has been reduced on successive months. He has cautioned, however, there will likely be surges from time to time, thus requiring constant review of methods to speed up the adjudication process.

To sum up, I am satisfied the officials of the commission are doing their best, but at the moment it is not quite good enough. Hon. members will, I am sure, join me when I suggest no concerned person in the Pension Commission can rest easy until every veteran's claim has received the attention it deserves.

In conclusion, Mr. Speaker, I should like to bring to the attention of members of this House the fact that the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre (Mr. Knowles) who for many years has participated on the Veterans Affairs Committee and in fact has always spoken about the various pension boards and commissions, who has dedicated almost all his life to the benefit of people who should rightly receive pensions, who sits opposite me but whom I have always recognized for the work he has done—that hon. gentleman will be 65 years young on June 18. I feel I should bring this to the attention of the House. At that time he will be eligible for the $100 a month pension through what he often refers to as the OAP, old age pension. All members of the House I am sure will want to wish him many more years of active life, health and happiness in doing what he is doing for the benefit of all Canadians.

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker—

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Probably the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre is rising on a point of order which is well deserved and I shall listen to him.

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, my question of privilege is that I want to thank the hon. member for St. Boniface (Mr. Guay) for telling the House that I am 65 so that hon. members will not think I am 75.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Well, the hon. member for St. Boniface really did not raise a question that should be dealt with by the Chair, except in a very congratulatory way, and I join with the hon. member for St. Boniface and I think every other member of the House in anticipating something that will happen in a few days time.

Mr. Arnold Peters (Timiskaming): Mr. Speaker, I hasten to add that the normal retirement age of the average Canadian is probably not going to affect the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre (Mr. Knowles).

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Hear, hear!

Mr. Peters: Therefore, it is only going to be another day in a long and illustrious career of fighting for pensioners. However, I do appreciate the words of the hon. member for St. Boniface (Mr. Guay) in relation to the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre. I believe that, in relation to this subject, that appreciation should be extended to most members with whom I have had the opportunity of sitting for 15 years. The hon. member for Vaudreuil (Mr. Herbert) who was vice-chairman of that committee, a fact of which I was not aware, started out by saying how terrible it was to raise this question. He condemned the hon. member for bringing it forward, and other hon. members for having endorsed the hon. member's position. He went on to say how wonderful the government has been to our veterans in paying the veterans allowances, not understanding that these only apply to people who are totally disabled and below the age of 60. If they are over 60, they have to pass a means test. That legislation does not apply to them if they are over 65, as those veterans are to get benefits from increased old age pensions and other old age assistance.

● (1500)

Therefore, his remarks were not in keeping with what has been happening for a long time in the Standing Committee on Veterans Affairs. The members of that commit-

tee are anxious, on behalf of all veterans in this country, to see the best possible type of veterans charter and legislation adopted. I think the minister would be the first to agree that in thus raising this issue the House is putting its weight behind the proposition that in this country there is general acceptance of the idea that the basic rate for disability pensions should be calculated by taking the average of wages paid for five junior categories in the civil service. This is a change in concept, and members of the opposition consider this so important that they wish to add their support to any application the minister might make to cabinet for such a substantial change.

When I first was a member of the Standing Committee on Veterans Affairs, I believe 15 or 16 years ago, the base rate mentioned was to be tied to the rate paid to sweepers, cleaners and similar categories in the civil service. This decision was made by a committee following the First World War on the ground that such categories ranked lowest in the federal civil service. It was felt that if a veteran was totally disabled he ought to get as much as if he were digging ditches or sweeping floors for the federal government. Everybody agreed. The only disagreement was over how one was to establish that concept. In the meantime, the sweeper has departed; the job of ditch-digger in the civil service has disappeared. Those categories were referred to but have not existed for some time. Therefore, the government has arbitrarily set a level of benefits from time to time that has not met a criterion that the veterans themselves believe to be fair and reasonable.

Certainly that was the opinion of the special joint study group that looked into this matter. The amount that group decided on is not large. It took into consideration payments such as income tax that would normally be made by civil servants in the course of their employment. The figure arrived at is, in my opinion, reasonable and will be applicable not only this year and next year but for as long as veterans depend on this type of pension. That, of course, will be for as long as there are surviving veterans from the Second World War and the Korean war.

I think the criterion arrived at is almost ideal. The determination of the basic rate will not be tied to the wages paid to a single category in the civil service. It will be tied to the average wage paid to five categories. It seems to me that so long as we stick to five categories, any one of which may fluctuate up or down but all five of which will be taken on average, we shall be dealing with this problem in a fair and reasonable way. I am surprised that the vice-chairman of the veterans affairs committee did not understand that the committee was totally in favour of that proposition and endorsed it almost without debate. This raises the question of whether we should do these things without debate. We thought everybody understood this position. We were of the opinion that everybody taking part in the debate today would not criticize the government but would support the proposition that the government should take this course of action. Perhaps, for the benefit of newer members, there should be more explanation of the subject. I think, nevertheless, that we would all come to exactly the same position as we now espouse.

The member who moved this motion today did not do so to embarrass the government. He did not move it as a non-confidence motion. His purpose in moving it was totally different. His purpose was to enable us in opposition parties to lend support, publicly, to the minister and to the committee so that the government and other members may have the benefit of opinions expressed in the committee and a decision on this question can be taken as soon as possible. He wanted to bring this matter to the attention of ministers and others who must make the final decision on matters affecting veterans. He did not move his motion for the purpose of getting any advantage from it, or for criticizing the government.

I want to raise a second point touched on by most speakers, that is, concerning the difficulty we are experiencing with a limited number of veterans who are reaching retirement age or are considering retirement and who want to move from the area in which they may have worked for a number of years to an area in which they can retire. These veterans wish to take advantage of the Veterans Land Act provisions which will allow them to buy a piece of land and build a small house—and under the terms of the VLA it will be a very small house in most areas! At any rate, they will be able to build a small house.

For the sake of those members who, like the vice-chairman of the committee, may not understand exactly what we have been talking about, let me explain that after the war three forms of help outside of the normal veterans' assistance were given to veterans. They were given re-establishment allowances which were not exceedingly large. I think the amount was usually under $1,000, depending on the number of months of service. Second, they were given the benefit of the university and retraining program. In many cases these benefits were extensive. I took advantage of that particular program.

The third form of help was given under the Veterans Land Act. Many farmers were re-established under the Veterans Land Act, others were established on smaller pieces of land under the smallholding provisions of the VLA. These holdings varied from two acres to approximately half an acre. Concessions were made to those holding even half an acre if the veteran was 50 per cent disabled. Also, that small piece of land could be fairly close to another piece on which he might build. In other words, the land did not all need to be in one block but all the pieces had to be reasonably close to one another.

It was decided in 1964—and I think it is safe to say the committee really did not put up much of a fuss—that 1974 was to be the cut-off date for building under the Veterans Land Act provisions. Most of us were thinking in terms of farmers and of the age of veterans. We were also thinking, when making that decision, that the final cut-off date was ten years away. Those ten years have gone awfully fast and we are rapidly approaching 1974, the final cut-off date for building. Many veterans really do not consider the smallholding provisions until they are about to retire. I have received a considerable number of letters from veterans in the past two or three weeks. These people are much better informed about the March, 1974, cut-off date than they are about the fact that they should have a certificate of qualification issued before October, 1968, in order to qualify under the Veterans Land Act.

● (1510)

I am asking that we extend this provision and eliminate the qualification date. Under the smallholdings section a veteran was able to obtain up to $18,000 under the Veterans Land Act for acquiring land and building a home. Of this amount $6,000 was at 3.5 per cent interest. Therein lies the advantage of the smallholding legislation. The remaining provision and advantages are involved in the repayment program. If the repayment was completed there were other built-in advantages amounting to about $1,500. In my opinion, there is no justification in cutting off the Veterans Land Act as far as it affects smallholdings. I do not want to see a farmer saddled with an operation from which he has to make a living and make payments at an advanced age, but the letters I receive with regard to smallholdings indicate a number of problems.

One of my colleagues showed me a letter the other day which he received from a person who has lived in Yellowknife since the war. That city is quite northerly and I presume this man does not want to stay there for the rest of his life. He has some savings and now wants to take advantage of the smallholding section of the Veterans Land Act and move to British Columbia. He said he did not know about the qualifying date, and I believe him. Therefore, he cannot take advantage of the Veterans Land Act. He also said he has not been able to take advantage of other sections. But if the record is checked I think it will probably be found that he did receive credits which will now have to be repaid. After 30 years, a person's memory sometimes tends to be faulty. This is not an insurmountable obstacle. That money could be repaid in order to take advantage of the qualification provisions.

I received a letter from one of my constituents who had received a re-establishment credit in 1954 of $270. After repaying his re-establishment credit he qualified under the smallholding section. He looked around for a suitable property but was unable to find one. When he notified the department that he was unable to find a suitable property he was refunded his re-establishment credit. He lost his certificate of qualification because he drew his re-establishment credit for the second time. Obviously, this man has qualified. Even though the qualification was withdrawn, I suggest that he is still qualified regardless of the fact that he gave up his certificate.

If the members of this House really believe the veteran has the right to take advantage of the Veterans Land Act, they will do three things to make it worth while. First, they will have to convince the minister and his officials that it is necessary to wipe out the qualifying date, at least with regard to smallholdings. I am sure that would be difficult for the minister to do. When I asked the minister if he would settle for ministerial discretion he said, "In no way." I do not blame him. If we are going to do this, I do not see why we should load all our problems on the minister and he should have to make the decisions. I think it should just be withdrawn.

Second, in order to be fair to someone living in an urban community I think the $18,000 restriction should be changed. It is unreasonable. In the Toronto *Star* the other day a lot for a house was advertised at $18,000. The lot was on the edge of a ravine which had not been filled. I am not sure whether the ravine would have to be filled before building, but after paying $18,000 for the lot there would not be much left for the tent he would have to put on it. A much more reasonable qualification would be $25,000, considering the change in land value in urban areas.

Third, if we are going to make this change we should also change that which is bothering the minister and his department, namely, the administration section in the Veterans Land Act. This smallholding section, including the terms and regulations, should be turned over to Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation or the Farm Credit Corporation for administration. There is really no justification for duplicating the administrative costs. The amount being spent on the Veterans Land Act program is not being increased but the per unit administrative costs are rising quite steeply. Despite what the vice-chairman of the committee says, we should make these kinds of suggestions. If they have the support of all members of this House, particularly in a minority government situation, they should receive consideration, because we are not necessarily dealing with a costly item.

The minister and the committee should give serious consideration to eliminating the qualification date of October, 1968, as well as eliminating the commencement of construction date of March, 1974, which is rapidly approaching. All veterans should have an equal right in making their own decision. This qualifying date eliminates that right for those who were not in a position to take advantage of this program ten years ago but are in that position today. If they are now in such a position we should make these advantages available to them.

In view of the service these veterans gave to our country they should be entitled to a 3½ per cent interest rate on the first $6,000. The balance would be at CMHC rates. If administration is the costly item, it should be taken over by Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation. If we do this we will be making a contribution to the welfare of the veterans of our country.

I hope the minister conveys to the cabinet and Treasury Board the support he has received from the opposition by using one of their opposition days for the veterans of Canada. I hope the minister can convince the cabinet that the proposal, particularly with regard to war veterans pensions, is reasonable, just and supported by all members of this House.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

● (1520)

Mr. S. Victor Railton (Welland): Mr. Speaker, I cannot tell you how pleased I am to be able to contribute to this debate. I was pleased to be a member of the veterans affairs committee. Most of us have only one thought, and that is to make a unanimous decision about the proper treatment of veterans as far as pensions are concerned. At present there seems to be one little snag, but I believe this will be overcome shortly.

All hon. members have been concerned about the availability of medical treatment for veterans. There are still about 900,000 veterans in Canada. In all quarters of the House, arrangements for their medical care are held to be of first importance. The amount of time devoted to treatment of members of the armed services by the Department

of Veterans Affairs amounts to 10,455 man-years annually. However, only about 20 per cent of the expenditures of the department are used for this purpose. It should be pointed out, also, that some of this expenditure is recoverable through provincial insurance plans.

After the First World War treatment services and hospitals were set up. Some treatment was, of course, carried out in civilian hospitals and by private doctors. At the present time, diagnostic and other treatment is available to recipients of war veterans allowances. I think most of those benefiting from these services have been fairly generously treated; at least, that has been the case in my experience and I believe most hon. members share this view.

However, the department also looks after current members of the armed forces, members of the RCMP and others in the public service, so the department has to administer about 5,000 beds in eight veterans hospitals in addition to 364 beds in three veterans homes. There is also some contracting-out of veterans care to university centres, especially in cases where hospitals have been turned over to the community. I saw some of this work in Sunnybrook hospital. It became fairly obvious that, taking account of the diminishing number of chronically ill or wounded, people who had succumbed to the advances of age or to their wounds, the treatment of veterans became concentrated on those with acute illnesses and that to carry on highly organized and beautifully equipped hospitals for veterans, when their numbers did not fill those hospitals, was both uneconomic and undesirable.

Moreover, we think very strongly that veterans should be given the very best treatment available; they need a high quality of care such as is available in community general hospitals and university teaching hospitals. For this reason there has been a change of emphasis in the type of treatment carried out. Since 1968 there has been a reduction of 12 per cent in the use made of hospital services on a patient-day basis.

As hon. members have pointed out, we have been very lucky, or blessed, because we have had no new wars to contend with. The number of veterans requiring chronic patient care is decreasing all the time, and we ought now to move in the direction of providing the required service to an increasing extent by reserving beds in community general hospitals. What worries most hon. members who are interested in the welfare of veterans is the feeling that some of the old, well-known hospitals have been graded down by being turned into community hospitals. I have mentioned Sunnybrook hospital. There is the hospital in Ste. Foy, Quebec, and there is the Lancaster hospital in Saint John, New Brunswick. These three institutions have been transferred. I do not think the problems mentioned by the hon. member for Hamilton Mountain (Mr. Beattie) are insoluble. Since one of my hon. friends may well be speaking about that aspect of the question, I shall not mention it further.

The implementation of hospital and medical care insurance plans by provincial governments is having an effect upon the occupancy rate of veterans hospitals, and we shall have to accept the situation. A high proportion of veterans are now insured under provincial plans so the cost of their medical treatment is recoverable from the province. Again, now that veterans are insured, many of them choose to enter hospitals near their own homes. This results in more vacant beds being left in the veterans hospitals.

In many instances the provinces realize that they already have a major responsibility for the operation of veterans hospitals. Increasing emphasis on regional health planning has encouraged the provinces to reassess the unused assets represented by facilities in veterans hospitals. Throughout negotiations the department has not neglected its responsibilities to veterans. It has intensified programs for the modernization of equipment and accommodation, ensuring adequate treatment and facilities for veterans and assisting in the retention of essential professional services.

Negotiations for the transfer of Deer Lodge hospital, Winnipeg, are nearing completion and they have recently been initiated for Westminster hospital, London. It is also understood that discussions with the provinces appear favourable toward the initiation of negotiations for the transfer of Camp Hill hospital, Halifax; Queen Mary veterans hospital, Montreal; Ste Anne's hospital, Ste Anne de Bellevue; Rideau veterans home, Ottawa; Colonel Belcher hospital, Calgary; Shaughnessy hospital, Vancouver; and Veterans hospital, Victoria. Although it is evident that the transfer of veterans hospitals may not be completed by the original target year of 1973-74, there is promise that it may not be delayed too long after next year.

● (1530)

I thank hon. members for allowing me to speak today. I want to add my felicitations to those of the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre (Mr. Knowles) in respect of the minister, for his superb handling of his ministry.

Mr. Bill Kempling (Halton-Wentworth): Mr. Speaker, I want to speak to this motion because I believe this parliament should do everything possible to speed benefits for war veterans as unanimously recommended by the Standing Committee on Veterans Affairs. I am sure representations have been made in the past year regarding the basic rate of pensions and the inequities of the system, particularly with the inflationary trend. I am sure persons making those representations on behalf of veterans have been told that a joint study group has prepared a report and that we must await the report before we can recommend to cabinet any changes in the present system.

The report has been submitted to and unanimously accepted by the standing committee of this House, and I am sure the speed at which the matter was passed through the committee must have established a record. There was not one dissenting vote. Everyone who spoke said he did not want to hold up the recommendations a moment longer than necessary. We did not even hear all the witnesses who planned to plead the case for war veterans. Newspapers, veterans' organizations and veterans' magazines all praised those who contributed to the study.

Many of us will recall reading newspaper headlines at the time the report went through, some of which were "Pension plan moves quickly", "Basic pension rate recommendations favoured", "Break for veterans", "New regula-

tions for the burnt-out pensioner", "Ottawa moves to raise pension of war veterans". Then came the one that caused some of us to raise our eyebrows, "New veterans pension plan encounters hurdles in cabinet". We were a little bit disturbed on reading that.

The minister is regarded highly by all members of the standing committee. We applauded his statement on the introduction of the joint study report and I am sure we all felt it would be a simple "a-b-c" matter when dealt with by the cabinet, but apparently this was not the case. I thought this year we had made a breakthrough, but with the delay in cabinet I expect we will be told that the recommendations will be changed or shelved. I am very disturbed about that prospect. Emotions run high when this sort of thing happens, especially when we think of the millions of dollars we pour into useless LIP programs; how some of the industry, trade and commerce people toss off a few million dollars to an industry group and say it was a calculated risk or that we are gaining experience in this field.

The Department of National Health and Welfare is pushing for more social increases; and one remembers that time in the past year when we paid out $1.5 billion in unemployment insurance benefits because of poor economic planning and forecasting. Yet now we find the government holding back on increases in veterans pensions. What group of people deserves more consideration than our war veterans? We will, with great fanfare, give millions of dollars in grants to emerging nations and rush to the aid of victims of national disasters in other countries and justify our gifts on humanitarian grounds, but what group in society needs more help than our war veterans?

I was somewhat embarrassed a few weeks ago when I participated in a celebration in memory of the battle of the Atlantic. It was a ceremony to commemorate those who died in that battle during World War II, involving the placing of wreaths by various veterans' groups, the municipality and the province of Ontario on the Cenotaph. It was discovered that the person representing the Department of National Defence had no wreath. I was contacted and I ordered a wreath comparable to those of the province and the municipality. I was later informed by the department that this was not an allowable expense. It is not the dollar amount which bothers me, as that is not important as far as I am concerned; it is the principle involved. I find it incredible that this government would not pay for a wreath to commemorate those who gave their lives in defence of their country.

The minister made reference to the aims and purposes of the Veterans Land Act. Like other members who have spoken, I have had many persons from veterans' organizations, legions and clubs speak to me about this act. We all recognize the original intent, but times and conditions have changed and the desires of those for whom the legislation was framed have changed. We all know that when the first national housing bill was introduced it did not cover all the conditions we find in the legislation today. If the desire of those eligible for VLA smallholdings is to have retirement acreage or a smallholding on which to spend the last years of their lives, then so be it. Let us change the act to bring that about. But let us not cut if off and give as an excuse the fact that the act was not designed as a retirement plan for veterans.

All this motion does is urge the government to bring in measures to remedy certain injustices in veterans pensions. There are 900,000 veterans still alive in Canada, of which about 78,000 receive war veterans allowances, 130,000 receive disability pensions and 30,000 widows and orphans get pensions. There are about 5,000 veterans in DVA hospitals, and about 60,000 benefiting from the Veterans Land Act program.

We urge the government to act on the joint study report passed unanimously by the standing committee, and to allow those receiving veterans benefits to live in dignity and be removed forever from the need to beg for increased allowances. We urge this government to act humanely and with compassion, and to introduce in the House the necessary legislation to enact the recommendations of the joint study group in respect of the basic rate of pensions.

Mr. Charles Turner (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Labour): Mr. Speaker, I wish to make some comments about the Veterans Land Act and in so doing I think it appropriate to commence by referring to the title of the act and several pertinent sections of the preamble. the Veterans Land Act is entitled "An act to assist war veterans to settle upon the land". The preamble reads in part as follows:

> Whereas many men now serving in the active forces of Canada have recorded their desire to settle on land or engage in farming when hostilities cease, and it is desirable that suitably qualified veterans be encouraged to seek rehabilitation in the agricultural industry;
>
> And whereas part-time farming coupled with other employment is an increasingly important aspect of rural and semi-rural life in Canada,
>
> And whereas it is in the public interest as a measure of rehabilitation to assist in acquiring the ownership of farm homes by qualified veterans . . .
>
> And whereas the great majority of prospective veteran settlers have limited financial assets and the lack of such assets has proved to be the main obstacle to the fulfillment of settlement contracts and to the acquirement of farm home ownership;
>
> And whereas it is the purpose of the Dominion Government to provide a measure of financial assistance to veterans on their performance of prescribed settlement conditions in order to promote their engaging in agricultural pursuits either as a full-time occupation or as a part-time occupation coupled with some other employment;—

I believe both the title of the act and those parts of the preamble to which I have referred make crystal clear what the intent, nature and purposes were conceived and understood to be when parliament, on behalf of a grateful country, enacted this rehabilitation measure more than a quarter of a century ago. It was not, of course, the only rehabilitation measure enacted. It was recognized that many veterans would not be interested or find it practical to settle on the land either as full or part-time farmers.

● (1540)

For such veterans, alternative benefits to those of the Veterans Land Act were provided. Here I refer to the university training allowances of the Veterans Rehabilitation Act and to re-establishment credits provided under the War Service Grants Act. Each veteran had the option

of deciding which of these alternative benefits best suited his particular rehabilitation needs or desires.

With the benefit of hindsight, one might contend that an additional rehabilitation measure should have been enacted in 1946 to offer veterans special financial and other arrangements with respect to urban housing. In fact, because such provisions were not enacted I believe there has been intermittent pressure over the years to try to make the part-time farming provisions of the Veterans Land Act into housing legislation, a field of course that is and has been covered by the National Housing Act.

As I indicated at the beginning of my remarks, the purpose of the Veterans Land Act clearly was to encourage and assist veterans at the end of hostilities and on their return to civilian life to settle on the land as full or part-time farmers. I believe this purpose essentially has been achieved and with a degree of success beyond all expectations. Dealing solely with the category of full-time farming settlement, I understand almost 32,000 veterans have been established on either commercial or family farm units. Public funds advanced to these veterans, including the ten-year conditional grant benefit of up to $2,320, exceed $347 million. Well over 50 per cent of this number have already repaid their contracts and acquired title to their properties.

It would be unreasonable to expect, of course, that every veteran would succeed. When you consider, however, that less than 200 of these 32,000—just over one half of one per cent—have had their contracts with the director rescinded after consideration by and with the consent of provincial advisory boards, I think it is self-evident that the legislation was well conceived, has been well administered and has achieved the rehabilitation purpose envisaged.

I observed earlier that the Veterans Land Act was enacted more than a quarter of a century ago. Today the average age of veterans of World War II is approaching 56 or 57. This is not the time of life to undertake settlement on the land as a full-time farmer, a fact which is borne out both by the limited number of new farm establishments which are being made under the act and by the number of veterans who are repaying the director and acquiring title. In the calendar year 1972, less than 100 veterans were settled on farms, compared with 11,398 in the fiscal year 1946-47, and close to 700 terminated their contracts.

Undoubtedly, having regard to the basic purpose of the Veterans Land Act and the extended period which had already elapsed since the end of World War II, in 1965 parliament approved terminal dates for loan applications with the object of phasing out VLA lending operations in an orderly manner. Taking all circumstances into consideration, I find that I share the opinion expressed by the minister in his statement to the Standing Committee on Veterans Affairs on March 6 last, when he said it appeared that the deadlines approved by parliament in 1965 were reasonable then and remain so.

Mr. Speaker, I have a few further comments to make about the Veterans Land Act and, in particular, about the provisions of the act which were designed to assist veterans of World War II, and later those of the Korean special force, to pick up the threads of civilian life following wartime active service by engaging in farming on a part-time basis coupled with off-farm employment. It is my understanding that the concept behind the part-time farming or smallholding provisions of the act evolved in part from the economic and employment difficulties of the thirties when many Canadian families found it possible to overcome, or substantially abate those difficulties by supplementing their meagre or irregular income by what they could produce from the land. Even without the environmental benefits available in rural or semi-rural locations, which are today being recognized by an increasing number of citizens, I believe the concept was sound and reflective of the sense of independence and pride still inherent in the majority of the Canadian people.

Undoubtedly, because economic and employment circumstances for the most part in the 28 years which have elapsed since World War II have not demanded the same degree of agricultural utilization of land by those engaged principally in off-farm employment, there has been a growing tendency to look upon the smallholding provisions of the act primarily as a medium to obtain housing accommodation, in urban areas if at all possible, on favourable financial terms.

Urban housing involves, of course, a field of legislation for which the provisions of the National Housing Act have been particularly designed and are fully applicable. Hence, any further departure from the agriculture use concept of the smallholding sections of the Veterans Land Act would bring them into conflict with and duplicate the provisions of the National Housing Act. The inadvisability of permitting this to happen was, in fact, recognized almost 20 years ago. In 1954, following favourable consideration by government of a proposal made by the Royal Canadian Legion, part II of the Veterans Land Act was enacted to provide financial and other assistance to a veteran who was not interested in, or was unable to settle under, the smallholding provisions of the act but who wished to build his own house on a city size lot. More than 4,300 veterans have obtained building loans under part II.

Since the inception of VLA operations 30 years ago, approximately 90,000 veterans have obtained financial assistance under the small-holding provisions of the act, totalling over $826 million. New house construction was involved in more than one-third of these establishments, including 2,673 homes which were built by the director in 1945-46 to help overcome the housing shortage being encountered by veterans on their return from overseas. As with veterans settled as full-time farmers, those established as small-holders have been equally successful in fulfilling the obligations of their agreements of sale with the director. Almost 30,000 have repaid their loans and acquired title to their properties, and some 6,000 have arranged sales to other veterans. Only 150 contracts have had to be rescinded after consideration by and with the consent of provincial advisory boards.

As I stated at the beginning of my remarks, the part-time farming provisions of the Veterans Land Act were designed to assist in the rehabilitation of veterans following their wartime active service. Some 28 years have elasped since the end of World War II, and almost 20 in the case of the Korean conflict. It is difficult, therefore, to conceive a continuing need for the act as a post-war rehabilitation measure. In fact, of the representations I have received recently for an extension of the new estab-

lishment loan deadline of March 31, 1974, almost invariably the desire has been indicated of wanting to use the provisions of the act following retirement from post-war occupations or careers.

The benefits of the Veterans Land Act were alternative to university training and re-establishment credit. The university training program was concluded some 20 years ago. The final date for the use of re-establishment credits was October 31, 1968, which corresponded to the deadline for obtaining a VLA certificate of qualification. We are now approaching the terminal date for new settlement loan applications approved by parliament in 1965, and by next March more than 140,000 veterans will have obtained assistance, under the various sections of the act, of more than $1.1 billion. The Veterans Land Act has been an outstanding success.

● (1550)

In closing, I say to the hon. member for Hamilton Mountain (Mr. Beattie) that one of the largest land developers in the city of London is the national president of the Progressive Conservative party. At present he is working on a housing project almost at the back door of Westminster hospital. The hon. member can rest assured that so far as I am concerned he will never get his hands on this beautiful piece of property. I believe this property would make a beautiful city park for the benefit of all Canadians and veterans.

[*Translation*]

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Boulanger): Order, does the hon. member rise on a point of order?

[*English*]

Mr. Marshall: Mr. Speaker, in the interests of a number of members who would like to offer comments on the motion, I wonder if we could obtain the unanimous consent of the House to limit further speeches to ten minutes.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Boulanger): The Chair must have the unanimous consent of the House. Is it agreed?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Mr. William Knowles (Norfolk-Haldimand): Mr. Speaker, I will take note of the time limit and confine my remarks to ten minutes. I am interested in speaking on the motion in order to try to do something about the long delay of the government in introducing legislation the effect of which would be to implement the report of the joint study group on the basic rate of disability pension for veterans.

In the report of the joint study group there is a recommendation for not only a monetary increase for veterans but the introduction of a new and important principle. Veterans pensions are to be based on the standard of living; they will no longer be based on the cost of living. There is a very important difference here, because the rate of increase in the standard of living is twice that of the increase in the cost of living. If the cost of living goes up by 3 per cent, it follows that the standard of living goes up by 6 per cent. Therefore, this recommendation will be of definite benefit to our veterans in receipt of disability pensions.

I should like to repeat something that has been mentioned before, because I do not think it can be repeated too often and also to convince the government of our unanimity on the principle of an increase in basic pensions. In addition, I wish to give support to the Minister of Veterans Affairs (Mr. MacDonald) in his battle with his cabinet colleagues to bring this legislation forward. Let me point out again that every member of the parliamentary standing committee agreed within an hour to send this report back to the House and recommend that it be implemented. Certainly all veterans' organizations agreed, and the Minister of Veterans Affairs himself is in total agreement with it. Finally, it was the work of a group composed of representatives of veterans' organizations, members of the Pension Commission and members of our Department of Veterans Affairs.

What is the reason for the delay, then? It must lie in the cabinet itself. It has refused to accept the report of the committee to which I have referred and it has refused to accept the report of the Minister of Veterans Affairs. Surely among all members of the House he, better than anybody else, understands veterans because he is a veteran and he was seriously wounded in the defence of his country. He is a double amputee. Here is a man who above all men should be listened to when he makes a recommendation to the cabinet for some action.

It is difficult to understand why the minister's colleagues are so callous in their attitude toward those men and women who dropped their civilian status, left their work on farms, in fishing, in forestry, in the factory and in the office to take part in the war. These are the men and women who gave their lives so that freedom and democracy should not perish on this earth. Why, then, does it take so long for a group of men to make up their minds to move on this vital issue?

Let us not quibble over a few paltry thousand, maybe million dollars. I think it is apparent to everybody, as I said before, that it is not the minister who is giving us trouble but, rather, the Treasury Board. Perhaps we could pin it right back on the President of the Treasury Board (Mr. Drury) himself, because I think he feels that if he takes this action it will be precedent-setting and other pensioners will then raise a hue and cry to have their pensions based on the standard of living. Surely the group of people with whom we are dealing is a very special group. Every member of the House and every Canadian knows what we owe these people. This benefit is only the just dues of a group of people who have earned it.

We hope very sincerely that the effect of this debate will strengthen the hand of the Minister of Veterans Affairs and will result in immediate action. I wonder sometimes if he should not carry some of his old hand-grenades into the cabinet meeting, pull the pin and say to his colleagues, "Look here, boys; it is time we settled this matter and brought the legislation forward". We hope that the debate today will have the effect of a hand-grenade under the seats of the people who are so tardy in taking this action.

I want to turn my attention for a brief minute or two to the Veterans Land Act which has been mentioned today. By and large, everybody agrees that it has been fairly administered except on one point. It seems to me that it is totally unrealistic, in today's situation with regard to

housing, that it should be required of a veteran that he own one-tenth of an acre before being eligible under the act for a grant to build a house. To purchase a lot of this size would require an astronomical sum of money. Nobody can afford to buy land of the size required in a residential area. Also, land suitable for the building of a house is too scarce; it is just not available. In addition, the municipal building by-laws would not permit the sale of this size of lot in a subdivision where a veteran would wish to build a house.

The veteran's increasing age makes it necessary that he locate his house, not out in the country somewhere where one could perhaps purchase a tenth of an acre on a farm but in a city, town or village where facilities, goods and services which he requires in his declining years are readily available. We raised this matter at one time in the Standing Committee on Veterans Affairs when the director in charge of the Veterans Land Act was present. He said it would not be fair to change the rules in the middle of the game. I submit that we are in a totally different ball game today from the time this act was first set up and these conditions laid down. I think it would be difficult for anyone to remember the conditions which existed at the time this legislation was brought into effect.

In conclusion, I have a final few words with regard to the cut-off date of March 31, 1974, when the veteran should take up his option to take advantage of the provisions of the Veterans Land Act and build his own house. If the government is adamant in sticking to this deadline, which it says it is, then I think this date should be given the widest possible publicity as it approaches. let no veteran say that he did not know it was coming. We can make it known through the veterans' magazines and through letters to veterans, if we know their address; and I know this is a problem because the department does not know the current addresses of many veterans.

● (1600)

Perhaps, Mr. Speaker, I have used more than my allotted time. I know others want to speak on this motion, but I think we cannot stress too strongly the need for cabinet action to bring forth legislation to give effect to this very important principle of standard of living escalation for veterans disability pensions.

Mr. Jack Cullen (Sarnia-Lambton): Mr. Speaker, I think it bodes well for the veterans of this country that so many hon. members wish to participate in this all-important debate that we must limit ourselves to ten minutes in order to allow all hon. members to have their say. The veterans should be cheered by this show of interest demonstrated by members on both sides of the House.

With all the splendid improvements in veterans legislation over the past few years one might expect to see a certain amount of complacency set in with respect to veterans affairs. But not so, Mr. Speaker. I suggest that this is not the case, due in large measure to the man who now holds the portfolio of Minister of Veterans Affairs (Mr. MacDonald), who has seen to it that that portfolio will remain a lively one, introducing legislation with beneficial changes for our veterans. Not to be forgotten is the fact that all the government's legislation introduced for the benefit of veterans is available for their use.

[Mr. Knowles (Norfolk-Haldimand).]

It seems to me that in a debate on a motion such as this it would be very easy for a member of the government or a supporter of the government to say that we have done so much and to pat ourselves on the back. But I do not think this should be the role of a government member. I also think that the Minister of Veterans Affairs put his case very well today and it does not need any supplementary argument from me.

In the previous parliament I had the honour of serving as a member, as vice-chairman and as chairman of the Standing Committee on Veterans Affairs. This has been one of the highlights of my short parliamentary career thus far, and it may be the reason why I am still receiving letters from veterans all across Canada. One of the things disturbing them is the long delay in rulings upon applications for disability pensions. Today I was very pleased to hear of the changes that have been made to reduce these delays, one of them being a 14 per cent increase in the size of the staff. This should help cut down the delays and should cut into the backlog of cases that must be heard. I was also interested to hear the hon. member for St. Boniface (Mr. Guay) indicate that the backlog of cases does not comprise simple cases, that most cases need a lot of research and a lot of work. Fortunately, we now have the personnel to do that sort of job.

I for one, Mr. Speaker, welcome the idea of the department moving out of the hospital field and the action already taken in that regard. As veterans get older there will be less tendency for physicians to take up work in veterans hospitals, because there they will be treating similar ailments; they will be dealing only with the geriatric type of disease. Because our veterans are entitled to the best care we should get them into the best hospitals. But, Mr. Speaker, that is going only part of the way. There is no suggestion of reducing the amount of money by having them cared for in other hospitals, and I suggest that the department has an obligation to follow up these transfers, to keep an eye on veterans and to see if they are properly treated and given the particular attention they deserve. I would also like to see the Standing Committee on Veterans Affairs perform a grand jury role and visit hospitals on an annual basis, talking to the veterans in them in order to make sure that they are getting the care and the attention they have earned.

I welcome the action taken by the minister so far as European prisoners of war are concerned. I have had great interest in the POW situation over the past five years. I know that former ministers made provision for a study of the files of veterans who had been prisoners of war to see if there was a common ailment running through them. Unfortunately, the files do not show many things that are bothering veterans. Many people have had nervous breakdowns and these are not shown in the records. That is why I welcome the study being conducted now by Dr. Hermann. He, too, is studying the files and meeting with veterans groups. I note that he has sent out a questionnaire. In my local newspaper I inserted a plea that veterans not be apathetic about that questionnaire. I pleaded with them to fill out the forms so that Dr. Hermann will be in a position to make a comprehensive report for the consideration of the department.

One other matter I would like to deal with is the pension paid to widows. At present there is a 48 per cent cut-off. If a veteran had 48 per cent disability, then his widow on his death would draw the widow's pension; but if he had disability beneath that level, she could not draw the pension. I believe consideration should be given to paying the widow a proportionate share of the pension. If her husband had 30 per cent disability, why not pay her 30/48ths of the full pension.

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Where were you when we needed you?

Mr. Cullen: I have been fighting for this for five years. My mother fell into that category, so I know something about it. With respect to the Veterans Land Act, having listened to the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Labour (Mr. Turner), I think his point is well taken so far as the Veterans Land Act is concerned. But I agree with the hon. member for Norfolk-Haldimand (Mr. Knowles) that we should be looking into the question of a new act. We have been receiving requests from veterans about the kind of assistance available under the act and I believe the department should circulate a questionnaire to find out how many veterans would be interested in taking advantage of a new Veterans Land Act. In that way we could discover positive recommendations for legislation.

I also think the time has arrived for passage of the basic rate legislation. This point has been made by others more eloquent than I am. I know that the minister is doing all he can to bring the matter to a head, and I do not think it is being delayed at the cabinet level. Mr. Speaker, I had many other things to say, probably of a more critical nature, but I see that my time has expired.

Mr. Donald W. Munro (Esquimalt-Saanich): Mr. Speaker, in the interests of saving time and allowing others to contribute to this debate, and to provide the minister with that additional strength which we all want him to have to take this matter to cabinet, I will not use a number of introductory remarks that I had ready. There are two areas of interest to which I will be turning my attention, but before doing so I want to remind all of us about something we owe our veterans.

There are many things we owe the veterans of this country, but let none of us forget that a great deal of the prestige enjoyed by Canada in world affairs today is due to the commitment of thousands of Canadians in uniform in the various theatres of war in which Canada shared the burden of horror and the glory of victory. Our stance at the United Nations, in NATO and on the world scene at large is in no small measure due to the selfless service our veterans gave to their fellow countrymen and to mankind. This is the background against which we should be considering these matters today.

There are in my riding many classes of veterans. There are some with longstanding claims to benefits of one kind or another. None wants to be a mendicant, yet unfortunately many of these veterans are obliged to adopt tactics that no self-respecting citizens, especially our veterans, should be forced to take. Our veterans should not be put in that position. They are proud men and they have reason to be proud.

● (1610)

My remarks this afternoon are confined to two particular sections—veterans hospitals and pensions to servicemen who retired early because of the age-rank formula at a time when salaries were well below the national average.

In respect of the veterans hospitals and the facilities offered to veterans there, I speak particularly about the veterans hospital in Victoria which serves many of my constituents. Reports are circulating in the area and it came to my ears earlier this week that negotiations between the federal government and the province of British Columbia relating to takeover of that hospital have been concluded or are nearing conclusion. I hope these reports are incorrect, because I would remind the minister that about three weeks ago he wrote a letter to me indicating that nothing that could be described as negotiations were in sight at that time, although conversations on the matter had been under way for some time. It would cause me considerable discomfort and worry to learn that he can say one thing to me in writing and yet sanction the continuance of negotiations to take over that hospital.

Whether we are at the conversation or the negotiation stage, I am wondering what action the minister is taking to reassure those who have an undeniable claim on the services of that hospital that they will continue to enjoy their earned rights. It is indeed my view that more should be done to provide this reassurance. Many of my constituents are worried and asked me for reassurance, and I give it on the strength of the letters I receive from the minister. However, not being in the government I cannot give them that assurance with the same effect as the minister can. I therefore urge that the minister speak specifically to this matter and reassure these people. It is all the more necessary, I submit, in view of correspondence that I have in my office and the rumours that none the less continue to circulate. I merely bring this to the attention of the minister so that the matter can be corrected.

My other concern, and the concern of a very large number of my constituents and of many ex-servicemen across the country, is with the pensions they receive because they retired in that period of our development, in the late forties, fifties and sixties, when their salaries, the base on which the pensions are calculated, were abnormally depressed below the wage and salary levels in effect across Canada. Meanwhile, those who remained in the service saw their salaries increase, so that when their time comes to retire they will have a base that will provide what might be called a livable pension, at least much more livable than those whose base in some instances was as low as $4,000 and few higher than $12,000, as compared with the $10,000, $12,000 and $25,000-range bases that exist today.

An escalation formula seems to be necessary, therefore, and it has been adopted in certain limited circumstances. Something much more energetic must be done in this area to take into account two significant developments: first, the salary increases that have occurred since these servicemen had to retire and, second, the inflationary forces that are attacking veterans pensions and pensions for all Canadians—all pensions, from whatever war. Something must be done to prevent these pensions withering away under the searing wind of inflation.

I thank you, Mr. Speaker, and I hope others will cover those aspects of this question which I should have liked to deal with. I am sure this debate will provide the minister with the ammunition he needs to convince cabinet that much more must be done, and done urgently.

Hon. Marcel Lambert (Edmonton West): Mr. Speaker, I, too, would like to congratulate the hon. member for Humber-St. George's-St. Barbe (Mr. Marshall) for the presentation of his motion this afternoon. We have had already some discussion of veterans affairs during this session of parliament, but I think that now we can isolate, in the debate on this resolution, those points which are still outstanding.

We have some converts, or spokesmen on the government side for these particular points. I must say, however, that I was somewhat disappointed in the minister's reply. I know that nothing has been mentioned about the European theatre of war prisoners, but that the matter is in hand and I am glad to see that progress has been made. I am anxiously awaiting progress reports. I have yet to meet a prisoner of war who has been contacted, and I am wondering just how the choice is made.

Mr. MacDonald (Cardigan): Were you?

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): No, but I am a living symbol of all the bad things that came out of it. Regardless of that, I am just wondering how extensive the sampling will be. I have heard some rather odd rumours about the surveys that are being made. Some of the questions may be considered to be rather prying regarding the present level of income, the present value of property occupied, etc. I do not want to compare them with veterans who were not prisoners of war and civilians to see what the position is, but there may be an argument for that. However, I should like to see the package before I agree to it.

I am glad that the hon. member for Sarnia-Lambton (Mr. Cullen), the former chairman of the Standing Committee on Veterans Affairs, has voiced support for the changes to benefit the widow of a veteran pensioner whose entitlement was less than 48 per cent. We urged this as far back as 1963. The cost of giving a portion of a deceased veteran's pension to his widow is minimal.

Starting four or five years ago one could see the attitude of cabinet toward veterans affairs. They did come through with some things, but reluctantly, and that was only after hard pressure. Perhaps this is just because of the composition of cabinet, because the age group is different. I hope the younger members of this House are not infected with the idea that I have heard some young people express today—"They have had their war and it is a matter of history. We do not need the parades and ceremonies; let's forget about it. They have written about it in books and it is all there." This is the rather callous, unheeding attitude of those who fail to recognize that if it had not been for the sacrifices of those men and women, the young persons of today would not have the opportunity of moving about and enjoying life as they do.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): The same thing applies in many, many countries. So I say a great debt is owed to a person who is totally disabled today. One has merely to go through the veterans hospitals to see what the results have been.

[Mr. Munro (Esquimalt-Saanich).]

One matter on which I must criticize the minister is in regard to the veteran who is residing overseas and who has not come back to qualify under the 12-month residence clause. The minister has said that matter is under review. I would say this question has come under active pressure, certainly from me, for six years and I am sick to the teeth of hearing the same blessed reasons. These are administrative matters. Frankly, considering the limited number of people in the United Kingdom who might be subject to this benefit—there are about 700—the difficulty, with a little bit of good will and the elimination of some of the tunnel vision that seems to exist at certain levels of the department, could be overcome. I could show the minister letters and replies, not from the previous minister but from the minister before that who was not even interested in this subject.

• (1620)

Let me make my last point. I must berate the hon. member for London East (Mr. Turner), the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Labour, for giving this House the same sort of answer with regard to the Veterans Land Act that has been contained in correspondence from 1971 on. Young veterans who have been in the forces and are now retiring have been kept in the forces because they were wired in, so to speak, under a pension scheme. The minister must know the effect of that wiring in. After so many years in the service, the serviceman pretty well has to stay in until his time has expired; otherwise he would lose too much under the servicemen's pension provisions. That veteran is now coming out. His contributions and sacrifices were as great as those of any veteran who got out of the service at the end of the war and availed himself of the veterans charter. He was in a position to avail himself of it; he took a claim check on it. The only trouble is that the government and the Minister of Veterans Affairs (Mr. MacDonald) are saying, "That claim check has now been discounted; it is worth only one-tenth of what it was worth." Entitlement is proportionate to relevant service.

Of course, we are not going to set up an agricultural rehabilitation program, any more than we would set up the homestead program that we set up after World War I. After World War II we did not ask the men to homestead as we had done after World War I. We are dealing with another generation now, and housing is the question that these people must face. The provisions of the Veterans Land Act are adequate; but, today just walk around any city and see how much these men would have to pay.

The department insists on half an acre, with some modifications. Mr. Speaker, the purpose of the Veterans Land Act is no longer that of turning veterans into farmers or part-time farmers. We are asking veterans to find an equity of $10,000, $15,000 or $18,000 simply because the government refuses to increase the ceiling on advances that can be made under the Veterans Land Act. Veterans are told, and I have correspondence to this effect, that they can go to CMHC.

Mr. Marshall: Shame.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): They are told to take their chances there. So in cases of that kind, what is the worth of the veterans charter? Our veterans are told it is not worth the paper it is written on. Borrowing ceilings are limited. These loans are not going to cost the government or the taxpayer more money, because mortgages are taken out. These moneys that are advanced to the veteran are repayable. The terms may be a little easier than those he would get from CMHC or a conventional mortgage company, but that was the very purpose of the scheme at the beginning. So why take the advantage away from him in this case?

I urge these considerations on the minister. I have correspondence on these subjects, some acknowledged, some not acknowledged. I have letters that repeat, frankly, the same out of date arguments as were put forward by the hon. member for London East in justification of the present attitude regarding the Veterans Land Act. In so many words they say, "The veterans program was determined by this government to be a running down program." I should like to see any minister of veterans affairs walk into a Canadian Legion hall tonight and say that the veterans program is a running down program. I wonder how long he would last.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Laniel): Order, please. I regret to interrupt the hon. member, but the time allotted to him has expired.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): Mr. Speaker, I apologize if I exceeded my time.

Mr. John A. Fraser (Vancouver South): Mr. Speaker, recognizing that we are running short of time, I shall be brief. I welcome this opportunity to take part, as a new member, in my first debate on veterans affairs. I say this with considerable feeling as my father was a veteran of the First World War and as, in a modest way, I served with the armed forces of my country some years ago.

I represent a riding in which there are a great many veterans and veterans' dependents, many of whom were in my constituency before I was elected. I have heard from them about some things which, under the present law, did not seem in their view to be right and I want to bring these to the attention of the minister and the House. In particular I wish to mention a matter that was brought to my attention by a lady of my riding, Mrs. Rodgers, whose husband, Archibald Graham Rodgers, was a soldier in the Canadian army and died recently. He was a veteran of the Second World War and served with the Royal Canadian Artillery, being wounded in action and mentioned in dispatches. As a result, he was awarded a pension of less than 48 per cent. As a consequence of his death, the pension has now lapsed and his widow and children are not able to benefit from it. His widow, Mrs. Rodgers, has said to me that this should be brought to the attention of hon. members of this House, and I agree with her.

It seems to me that there is an inconsistency in a pension system which is geared to help the veteran and his family but which, just when the family has the greatest need for money, takes it away. The second thing Mrs. Rodgers brought to my attention was that the entitlement to the option under the Veterans Land Act, an option which expires in March, 1974, expires if the veteran dies before that time. Again, I think she is right in saying that this does not make sense, inasmuch as the benefit which this country properly gave to its veterans will not go to the loved ones, to the family of the veteran, in case of death.

It is not always that members mention individual cases in the House. In the case of this widow and her now deceased veteran husband I thought it proper that the House hear that the sacrifices he made and the principles for which he fought have been mentioned by the widow to her Member of Parliament. Therefore I have had the privilege of bringing this matter to the attention of the House and am grateful for the consideration and attention I have received.

May I mention something else, Mr. Speaker. Reports from British Columbia indicate that the recent raises in veterans pensions have not been reflected in any increase in that province. I am sure the minister is aware of this and I hope he will give the matter consideration. Lastly, let me repeat a verse that was contained in a book about soldiering and the armed forces that someone gave me many years ago. The verse is part of an old sonnet which has come down, from hundreds of years ago. It goes like this:

God and the soldier we alike adore,
In times of danger, not before.
The danger gone, all things requited,
God is forgotten, the soldier slighted.

I think there is great truth in that old verse. However, I know that all members are united in their determination not to allow this to happen to our soldiers. Posterity will not say that that is an attitude of which we are guilty.

Mr. Edward Broadbent (Oshawa-Whitby): Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join with virtually all members who have spoken in this debate this afternoon to urge the government to take action now to increase the veterans war disability pension. As a former member of the Royal Canadian Air Force and now a member of the Legion in my constituency, I have had of course direct contact with men and women who are concerned about the veterans' increase.

● (1630)

The Minister of Veterans Affairs (Mr. MacDonald) has since assuming this portfolio done a great job for the veterans of Canada. I join the debate simply to ask him to extend the good work he has done to include this one category that so far has been excluded from significant improvement. On behalf of the government, the minister has promised an increase in the war disability pension but it has not yet been brought forward. We have not yet received a clear indication of the time when that change will be made. I suspect the minister is having a little trouble with the President of the Treasury Board (Mr. Drury), and perhaps with the Minister of Finance (Mr. Turner), in getting the needed financial resources to implement what I know he desires.

If the efforts of members of all parties can lead to a change in the attitude of the government, surely the debate this afternoon—which is a rare expression of virtu-

al unanimity on an issue—should provide additional support for the Minister in cabinet. I do not want to take the time of the House to repeat the points made by many others. This is an important area of concern. Major improvement is needed. The minister has indicated he wants to take action. The time for action is now.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Hon. W. G. Dinsdale (Brandon-Souris): Mr. Speaker, hon. members who have spoken in this debate have indicated their strongest support for immediate action to bring into line the disability pension. Customarily, when there has been reform of the veterans charter the reform has not proceeded on a piecemeal basis but right across the board.

One of the reasons this great concern has been expressed in this debate is that we have proceeded to increase the war veterans allowance and there has been delay in a similar increase in the disability pension. I hope that as a result of this resolution now before the House—and indeed this is the main purpose of it—the minister's hand will be strengthened and he will be able to convince the government that this matter requires the utmost priority.

The term "utmost priority" is quite frequently used with regard to governmental expenditures. One of the criticisms of the present administration is that it has its priorities upside down; it is dealing with shadow issues rather than substance issues. The group of veterans in this country who were faced with the ultimate priority, the survival of the thin fabric of democracy, should have the first consideration.

I want to make one other observation in this brief presentation, that is, to point out that the issues have been clearly laid down by veterans' organizations in this country. No one has to be uncertain as to where the priorities lie. I pay tribute to them. I hope their petitions, pleas, presentations and briefs will be reinforced by what has taken place here today.

There is one particular veterans' group I wish to mention at this time. That is the Polish Combatants Association which is meeting in Ottawa this weekend. It is the fifteenth conference of that association. They are honouring one of the outstanding veterans of World War II, General S. Kopanski. A lunch was sponsored today by the Minister of State responsible for multiculturalism (Mr. Haidasz) which was attended by General Kopanski. General Kopanski and his Polish comrades were the first to meet the onslaught of the totalitarian system. He is known as the hero of Tobruk. Had the supermen not been stopped at Tobruk in 1941, the history of civilization would have been changed. The Polish soldiers under the leadership of General Kopanski played a large role in that victory.

I mention these gentlemen because in their comments at the luncheon today they expressed gratitude to a former minister of veterans affairs from the Maritimes, the late Colonel Alf Brooks who during his term of office in this important portfolio undertook a major review of the veterans charter. It was as a result of that review that the members of the Polish Association Combatants, the SPK, now resident in Canada were given full benefits under the Canadian veterans charter. Colonel Brooks is typical of the many members of this House who have held the veterans affairs portfolio. I think the present incumbent would give the same emphasis and consideration that was given by the hon. gentleman to whom I have referred. Today is the twenty-ninth anniversary of the victory at Monte Cassino. In view of the convention taking place in Ottawa this weekend, it is interesting to note that the Canadian and Polish soldiers fought side by side in order to achieve that crucial victory.

There is one main consideration. Equalization of the pension rates at this time should have been considered simultaneously with the increase in the war veterans allowance. There is one other point I would like to raise. The benefit of the doubt clause for these veterans, who in many cases made the supreme sacrifice and engaged in the ultimate priority, is still not being adequately applied to veterans in their pension applications. I remind the minister, too, that the current backlog of pension applications is causing unnecessary hardship to these men to whom we owe so much.

All members of this House have indicated that they will give immediate consideration to the necessary legislation. I trust that as a result of this debate the minister will be able to get action through the cabinet.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

[*Translation*]

Mr. Henry Latulippe (Compton): Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the opportunity given me to comment on the National Veterans Association and specifically on their representations.

The War Veterans Act has been amended so often that veterans indeed like many other citizens, enjoy greater advantages, but there are still major inequities to be corrected. We request amendment of the act in order that those who have been left out may benefit more by it. In fact, in such associations, certains classes or individuals are always neglected.

We are pleased about the pension increase. We are aware that the budget provided for pension increases for veterans as well as for certain other groups. The budget provided for a number of increases, such as for old age security and disability pensions.

The claims of national veterans organizations are based on a calculation of adjusted incomes, and not just on a means test. These adjustments, Mr. Speaker, are a considerable help to those whose income is limited at a time when the cost of living is rising.

Mr. Speaker, we are in favour of the pension increase, but with certain reservations. We are aware that we will not solve the basic problems by continually raising pensions. We must see to the foundation of our economy. The more we raise pensions, the more we raise the cost of services.

We are aware, Mr. Speaker, that the correct solution does not involve throwing the economy off balance. The economy needs basic rebalancing, and I wish to point this out to my fellow members because we are elected to rectify the deficiencies that exist in our society. By raising pensions of all kinds we get into a visious circle. It puts up

the cost of living, and the more that increases, the more the economy is thrown off balance.

Mr. Speaker, if we want to stabilize our economy once again, we will have to use means other than those we have used until now. We will have to modify our structures because a succession of increases will lead inevitably to economic suicide.

Mr. Speaker, the more we raise pensions, the closer we get to an increasingly centralizing state and the use of progressively less revealing and less honest means for the citizens, because as they get higher pensions they lose part of their freedom. And so, Mr. Speaker, we are fighting to protect our freedom.

We also know, Mr. Speaker, and I should like to point it out before closing, that—

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Laniel): Order. I am sorry I have to interrupt the hon. member, but it being 4.45 p.m., pursuant to a special order given this day, the debate on the motion before the House is now deemed to be terminated.

● (1640)

[*English*]

Pursuant to special order made earlier this day, it being 4.45 p.m. the debate on the motion now before the House is deemed to have expired.

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Agreed.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Laniel): The House will now proceed to the consideration of objection relating to the report of the Electoral Boundaries Commission for the province of Newfoundland.

* * *

ELECTORAL BOUNDARIES READJUSTMENT ACT

CONSIDERATION OF OBJECTIONS TO REPORT OF NEWFOUNDLAND COMMISSION

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Laniel): On April 18, 1973, notice of objection in the form of a motion was filed with Mr. Speaker in the following terms:

That, pursuant to section 20 of the Electoral Boundaries Readjustment Act, (Chapter E-2, R.S.C. 1970), consideration be given by this House to the matter of an objection to the provisions of the report of the Electoral Boundaries Commission for the province of Newfoundland, laid before this House by Mr. Speaker on Thursday, April 5, 1973, on the grounds set forth hereafter:

1. Throughout Newfoundland the commission failed to give special emphasis to geographical considerations, the sparsity, density and relative rate of growth of the population, and ignored or overlooked the special problems of communication and transportation when they divided the said province into six new electoral districts.

2. The commission failed to give special consideration and special appreciation to accessibility of one region to another region in many of the rural electoral districts when determining the boundaries of the same.

3. The commission failed to pay proper attention to the physical, social or economic cohesion of many of the new electoral districts created and appeared to ignore and did ignore the question of unity or community of interests thereby rendering

adequate representation of the people in Parliament a virtually impossible task.

4. The commission failed to take into consideration that the boundaries of the majority of electoral districts of Newfoundland as they existed prior to redistribution were in accordance with the spirit of the terms of union between Newfoundland and Canada.

5. The inconvenience to any Member of Parliament attempting to maintain contact with constituents spread over some electoral districts would be considerable. The expense of travel in attempting to maintain such contact might well be considered exorbitant.

6. And such other objections that the undersigned Members may consider applicable in order to carry out the spirit and terms and conditions of the act in question.

Mr. James A. McGrath (St. John's East): Mr. Speaker, I shall be very brief. In accordance with the provisions of the Electoral Boundaries Readjustment Act we have to commence this debate today. The objections to the report of the Electoral Boundaries Commission are set out in the letter which was filed with Your Honour on April 13 and read into the record a few moments ago by Your Honour.

We object to the report of the commission because it fails to take into account all the arguments which we have set out in the letter which will appear in today's record. More particularly, we base our objection on the fact that the province of Newfoundland under the report now before the House will lose a seat and will be placed in the anomalous position of having fewer seats in parliament today than was the case 23 years ago when Newfoundland became a province of Canada and had a population one-third less than it has today.

We should also be placed in the anomalous position of having four seats fewer than the province of New Brunswick, which has virtually the same population but which is protected by the provisions of the House of Commons Act by virtue of which that province has ten seats in the other place. We, of course, have six seats in the other place; consequently, we feel the province will be underrepresented if this report goes through.

I urge upon the government that it take every step possible to ensure that Newfoundland shall continue to receive adequate representation in this House. We feel that if the report now before the House is adopted, the province will not, and indeed cannot be adequately represented because of the fact that we shall lose a seat, and because the six seats which are to be set up under the report of the commission do not take into account community of interest and all the difficulties which would be encountered by those who would be called upon to represent the province within the proposed new boundaries. Their task would be made more difficult, if not impossible.

Mr. William Rompkey (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of the Environment): Mr. Speaker, my first objection really does not lie within the terms of reference of the commission because I do not think its terms of reference were to deal with the question of six seats as such. The first point I wish to make is that Newfoundland cannot be adequately represented by six seats. We are a big province. Labrador alone is over 112,000 square miles in extent. We need more seats. I urge the government to consider the arguments put forward and to increase the number of seats beyond six, possibly to seven or even eight.

What concerns me more every day is the question of representation, the quality of representation we can give as Members of Parliament if we have constituencies such as Grand Falls-White Bay-Labrador or Humber-St. George's-St. Barbe. I am picking out the two which are largest in geographical area and which are among the most difficult to travel around. While I am quite prepared to serve one of those constituencies, and will do so to the very best of my ability—I am speaking about the people from Grand Falls to Nain—there is a limit to what any one person can do.

If we are to represent our constituencies properly, we need either a redistribution of boundaries or extra help as Members of Parliament, particularly today when large corporations and governments have such control over people's lives. Far be it from me as a new Member of Parliament to presume to tell other hon. members what the duties of an MP should be, but it seems to me that emphasis ought to be placed on the role of an MP as an ombudsman. It is all very well to get up and make speeches in the House of Commons, but I see an increasing need for a buffer between the individual and corporations or government departments whose activities increasingly affect his life and over which he has so little control.

From this point of view, I think our difficulties will be seriously increased by the boundaries which have been drawn. These boundaries do not take into account the changes that have taken place in Newfoundland since 1949. I do not want to be political about these changes; I simply want to say that the boundaries were drawn up when Newfoundland was a collection of bays. It is no longer a collection of bays; it is now a province with highways and access roads. We have improved transportation and communications; Newfoundland is not the same now as it was in 1949. The redistribution that has taken place does not recognize or take into account that fact, and the boundary lines bear no relation to changes that have gone on in the province.

● (1650)

Let me give an example. The line drawn down the northern peninsula of Newfoundland makes no sense whatever. I am sure my colleague for Humber-St. George's-St. Barbe (Mr. Marshall) would agree that the problems are the same on his side of the peninsula as they are on mine. It would seem to me that this type of matter was not recognized when these lines were drawn with respect to redistribution, so I think there are excellent arguments for redrawing the lines.

The final point I want to make is this, and I have made it before. I represent the unique area of Labrador. It has much more in common, really, with the Northwest Territories and the Yukon than it does with the island of Newfoundland, but it is legally a part of the province as determined by the 1927 boundary agreement and the decision of the British Privy Council. It has unique geographic, economic and cultural problems. These problems are difficult and require attention. They are just now coming to full flower. If we are to really make that part of the province an integral part, we must solve the transportation and communication problems in that area.

[Mr. Rompkey.]

As I said before, I speak for the people of Newfoundland because I am sure they want to see Labrador become an integral part of the province. If we are to move in this direction we must do justice to these people. I would therefore recommend to the commission that when it redraws these boundaries it considers establishing a seat for the district of Labrador alone, for the reasons I have enunciated.

In conclusion, I must say I do not agree that we should cut down the number of seats to six. We need more representation, and I urge the government to increase the number. Secondly, I suggest the boundary lines bear no resemblance to actual reality in the province and require major readjustment.

Mr. Jack Marshall (Humber-St. George's-St. Barbe): Mr. Speaker, in the couple of minutes I have at my disposal I want to support the objections raised by the hon. member for St. John's East (Mr. McGrath). I appeared before the commission when it sat in the city of Corner Brook in my riding of Humber-St. George's-St. Barbe, and I was astounded when the chairman of the commission told me that when I had another 112,000 square miles added to my district I would still have the easiest district in Newfoundland to cover. I do not know what was wrong with that judge.

The legislation which authorizes redistribution works directly against the purposes for which hon. members are here in parliament. Everyone knows how vast the workload of Members of Parliament has become. People are looking to members for advice and assistance, and at the same time we have a duty to visit our ridings. This whole procedure, to my mind, is not smart and does not make sense. I support the objections and hope, as the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) indicated some time ago, that changes will be made to the British North America Act which will make representation by population or by geographic area more relevant to the age in which we live.

Mr. John Lundrigan (Gander-Twillingate): Mr. Speaker, I did not expect to have so much time at my disposal because I honestly thought the hon. member for Humber-St. George's-St. Barbe (Mr. Marshall) would continue for the next couple of minutes. I just want to second the motion, if you will, which has been proposed today and commend my three colleagues on the arguments that have been presented. Those arguments are fundamental. The people of Newfoundland are against the whole concept as it has been perpetrated in the last couple of years and has come to the forefront today. The people are very concerned.

I speak today not as a Member of Parliament concerned about political interests but, rather, on behalf of the people who have widespread concern about what is happening in the province. They feel there is something radically wrong when a decision is made in 1973 to reduce representation from seven seats to six seats, particularly in view of what has happened to our population. Newfoundland has over 200,000 more people today than it had in 1949.

Those who recommended these redistribution changes must have had some principle in mind that is not well known, because their recommendations are against all

common sense and good reason. We were not allowed to present to the commission our arguments against this proposal. I, personally, filed my intention to present such arguments to that noteworthy judge—perhaps that is a bad choice of words—

An hon. Member: "Noteworthy."

Mr. Lundrigan: Yes, perhaps I have said "noteworthy." My intention to present these objections to the proposed number of seats was overruled and I was not allowed to do so. That is one of the reasons we are making these objections today. There is no need to repeat all the objections, but I want to make one final point before we call it five o'clock, in the hope we can proceed later with the debate.

Something has been happening in Canada in the past half a century with which we as Members of Parliament must take issue today. We are using Newfoundland today as the basis for this particular debate, but this has been taking place across Canada in the last half century. I refer to the urban drift. Most great leaders in our country are unable to cope with the problems facing our urban society. We are now seeing the signs and signals of what could in a decade very well turn into a drift away from rural areas. People are placing a great deal more emphasis on material things and the quality of life than they did half a century ago.

It is incumbent upon legislators, whether on a national or provincial basis, to discourage the population movement to urban centres in Canada. Consequently, the government of this country has a responsibility to maintain the number of seats in rural parts of Canada rather than allow them to decrease, thereby diminishing the power and strength exerted by rural Canada. In view of these events now unfolding, I think we will find that the people in western Canada have a great deal in common with those of us who live in the eastern rural parts of this country. If the trend continues we will not have the same power in confederation which has been traditionally ours.

With regard to the United States, I read recently that the agricultural society in that country has been protected by the constitution and as a result the government cannot ignore that sector as a political force. We are rapidly reaching the point that if we are not careful, or if we overlook the rural parts of Canada and allow a diminishing of political power in those areas, representation there will have no part in the decision-making in this country. This is what is of importance.

The hon. member for St. John's East referred to the confederation of states. We all know what effect this has on civilization. Many people in this country have great concern about the decision-making process. We now have only seven Members of Parliament. In the entire Atlantic provinces we have only 32 members at the present time, just a few more than the city of Toronto. Consequently politicians, being what they are, frequently favour areas with the largest political representation and make decisions on that basis. Very often this is not to the advantage of the country as a whole.

In conclusion, we think amendments must be made to rectify the situation. In this country today there are many points of dissension; not all of them are in Quebec or in the Atlantic provinces. Many of these dissensions are the result of lack of reasonableness on the part of our central government and its system and work to the disadvantage of various regions of the country.

Before calling it five o'clock, I should like, on behalf of my colleagues in the House of Commons, not just those from Newfoundland, to appeal to the government to do something to rectify these decisions.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Laniel): Order, please. The Chair is in a quandary at this time as to whether hon. members wish the Chair to put the question or call it five o'clock.

An hon. Member: Adjourn the debate.

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Five o'clock.

An hon. Member: Defer the debate.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Laniel): Order, please. Pursuant to section 3 of Standing Order 2, this House stands adjourned until Tuesday, May 22, at 2. p.m.

At 5.03 p.m. the House adjourned, without question put, pursuant to Standing Order.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Tuesday, May 22, 1973

The House met at 2 p.m.

ELECTORAL BOUNDARIES READJUSTMENT ACT

TABLING OF REPORT OF COMMISSION FOR PROVINCE OF MANITOBA

Mr. Speaker: It is my duty, pursuant to section 19 of the Electoral Boundaries Readjustment Act, chapter E-2, Revised Statutes of Canada, 1970, to lay upon the table of the House a certified copy of the report of the Electoral Boundaries Commission for the province of Manitoba, 1973.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

INDIAN AFFAIRS AND NORTHERN DEVELOPMENT

Fourth report of Standing Committee on Indian Affairs and Northern Development—Mr. Buchanan.

[*Editor's Note: For text of above report, see today's Votes and Proceedings.*]

* * *

FISHERIES

OWNERSHIP OF WATERS OVER CONTINENTAL SHELF—REQUEST FOR UNANIMOUS CONSENT TO MOVE MOTION

Mr. John Lundrigan (Gander-Twillingate): Mr. Speaker, I would like to move a motion under Standing Order 43 on a very important matter for the Canadian nation. In light of the unfortunate cod war between Ireland—Iceland—

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Lundrigan: The war would not have lasted this long if it were Ireland—between Iceland and several European nations I move, seconded by the hon. member for St. John's East (Mr. McGrath):

That Canada express its position to the fishing nations of the world, through the Secretary of State for External Affairs, that the principle of ownership by the coastal state of the waters over the continental shelf be upheld.

Mr. Speaker: The motion proposed by the hon. member under the terms of Standing Order 43 requires the unanimous consent of the House.

● (1410)

[*Translation*]

Is there such unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

[*English*]

Mr. Speaker: There is not unanimous consent and the motion cannot be put. Is the hon. member rising on a point of order?

Mr. MacInnis (Cape Breton-East Richmond): Yes, Mr. Speaker, on a point of order respecting the proposing of such motions in the House, following which the hon. member for Kenora-Rainy River has taken it upon himself to refuse them each and every day. Today he has done so from a seat other than his own.

Mr. Lundrigan: Mr. Speaker, I do not know what rule pertains thereto, but I am sure that if an hon. member is not permitted to rise in his place and declare his position on an issue certainly it is not permissible for a member to express his position from another seat in the House. I would think that the rules would protect hon. members on that point. I also hope that the sentiment expressed by the hon. member for Kenora-Rainy River does not express the attitude of the House of Commons. We have a serious problem on both our coasts with regard to marine resources, and I would have thought that this House would be very anxious to express to every nation of the world our position that the marine resources over our continental shelf belong to Canada.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member is attempting on the point of order to bring in an argument in support of the motion he proposed in the first place, and that is entirely out of order.

* * *

ENERGY

ECONOMIC EFFECTS OF PROPOSED MACKENZIE VALLEY GAS PIPELINE—REQUEST FOR UNANIMOUS CONSENT TO MOVE MOTION

Mr. Doug Rowland (Selkirk): Mr. Speaker, I ask leave of the House under the provisions of Standing Order 43 to move a motion of urgent and pressing necessity. The motion arises out of the revelations of potentially disastrous effects upon the Canadian economy of a major northern gas pipeline contained in a report on the evaluation of the impact on the national economy of a northern

Canadian gas pipeline, prepared by the economic impact committee of the task force on northern oil development. I would therefore move:

That the report on the evaluation of the impact on the national economy of a northern Canadian gas pipeline, prepared by the economic impact committee of the task force on northern development and all other reports prepared by or for the task force on northern oil development be referred to the Standing Committees on Indian Affairs and Northern Development, National Resources and Public Works, Finance, Trade and Economic Affairs, for study and recommendations.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Speaker: The House has heard the motion of the hon. member. Pursuant to Standing Order 43, this motion requires the unanimous consent of the House. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

Mr. Speaker: There is not and the motion cannot therefore be put.

* * *

[*English*]

FISHERIES

NORTH ATLANTIC ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION—REQUEST FOR UNANIMOUS CONSENT TO MOVE MOTION

Mr. Jack Marshall (Humber-St. George's-St. Barbe): Mr. Speaker, I too have a motion under Standing Order 43 which is related to that of my colleague, the hon. member for Gander-Twillingate (Mr. Lundrigan). The situation referred to as the cod war between Iceland and the United Kingdom emphasizes the seriousness of depleting marine resources in the North Atlantic community to a status of extinction because of overfishing by foreign nations. I therefore move, seconded by the hon. member for St. John's East (Mr. McGrath):

That the resolution passed at the North Atlantic Assembly recommending the appointment of a rapporteur to prepare a full report on this situation be referred to the Standing Committee on Fisheries and Forestry, and that the rapporteur, the hon. member for Laprairie (Mr. Watson), who made an interim report on May 19, be called as a witness.

Mr. Speaker: Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

Mr. Speaker: There is not unanimous consent.

[Mr. Rowland.]

ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

ENERGY

PROPOSED MACKENZIE VALLEY GAS PIPELINE—ECONOMIC IMPACT REPORT—BODY TO HEAR POSSIBLE APPLICATION—SUGGESTED COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION OF CRITERIA FOR APPROVAL

Hon. Robert L. Stanfield (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, I would like to address a question to the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources who last week indicated that an application for a gas pipeline through the Canadian north is expected perhaps in the final quarter of this year. In view of the wide-ranging questions raised by the draft report prepared by the economic impact committee of the task force on northern development, what body does the government intend to have hear this application that the minister expects in the final quarter? Would it be the National Energy Board?

Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): Mr. Speaker, under the National Energy Board Act the responsibility for approving, at least in the first instance, the construction of any pipeline and, indeed, the export of gas would fall upon the National Energy Board.

Mr. Stanfield: In view of the recommendations by the economic impact committee on page 15 of its report referring to certain basic studies that have to be completed before any decisions could really be made, I would like to ask the minister whether those recommendations have been acted upon by himself or by the government and whether the resultant studies will be made public?

Mr. Macdonald (Rosedale): Mr. Speaker, I do not have that document in front of me. I cannot be specific, but of course in general terms the government has been studying the impact of the pipeline from the standpoints of the environment, the social impact and the economic impact in order to put itself in preparation to receive such an application.

Mr. Stanfield: Since the government seems to be getting advice from its advisers indicating that the subject is much more complex than the minister has perhaps indicated in his answers to questions in the House, I would like to ask whether he would agree to confer with the government House leader and have referred to the appropriate standing committee the whole question of the criteria to be considered in the hearing, and the decision upon such an application, and the conditions under which such an application will be granted? Will this whole question be referred to the appropriate committee with all the reports and information that the government may have so that these questions may be considered by a committee of this House with public hearings, if necessary, rather than simply being decided secretly by the government?

Mr. Macdonald (Rosedale): Mr. Speaker, I would point out to the hon. gentleman that the conditions and the criteria have been set out by parliament in the National Energy Board Act and, of course, any application there would entail a public hearing. I do not know whether he is

expressing want of confidence either in the statute or in the board.

An hon. Member: Just the government.

PROPOSED MACKENZIE VALLEY GAS PIPELINE—TABLING OF STUDIES—REQUEST THAT PARLIAMENTARY APPROVAL OF CONSTRUCTION BE OBTAINED

Mr. Max Saltsman (Waterloo-Cambridge): I have a supplementary, Mr. Speaker. Since there have been references to a study I wonder whether the minister would be prepared to table that particular study and the various other studies of his department affecting the Mackenzie pipeline?

Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): Mr. Speaker, a great many of the studies with regard to the Mackenzie pipeline have already been published. With regard to internal discussion documents of this kind, I do not think I would be prepared to table them. I think the government should be entitled to examine these important questions within its own circle without having to make them public subsequently.

An hon. Member: Nonsense!

Mr. Saltsman: Mr. Speaker, I have a further question to the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources. It is somewhat similar to an earlier question but in view of its importance I think it is necessary to have a definitive answer from the government. In light of the important effects the construction of a pipeline would have on every part of the Canadian economy and every part of Canada, will the minister assure the House that it will not be left to an agency like the National Energy Board that is not directly responsible to the House to decide the matter but that the government will entertain an application only if it is made to the government so that the government can answer to the House and a debate can take place, and that no decision on the building of that pipeline will take place without the prior approval of parliament?

Mr. Macdonald (Rosedale): Mr. Speaker, perhaps I should remind the hon. member again that parliament has declared itself on this question. It has declared by law that such an application shall go to a competent tribunal, the National Energy Board. If the board's decision is favourable to the application, it will then come for consideration by the government. If the hon. member is counselling me to break the law, I do not intend to do so.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. There are a number of members seeking supplementaries. The Chair will recognize the hon. member for Waterloo-Cambridge. Order, please. Will the hon. member kindly resume his seat. I just wanted to indicate that I will recognize the hon. member for Waterloo-Cambridge for a supplementary and then the right hon. member for Prince Albert for further supplementaries.

Mr. Saltsman: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In order to clarify the situation, is the minister saying that the government intends to decide on the financing and construction of a pipeline without parliamentary approval and by so doing to repeat his government's political disaster of 1956?

Mr. Macdonald (Rosedale): No, Sir. Parliament has already given approval of the procedures being followed.

PROPOSED MACKENZIE VALLEY PIPELINE—STUDY OF CONSTRUCTION OF RAILROAD AS ALTERNATIVE

Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Prince Albert): Mr. Speaker, the minister has mentioned that the decision in respect of the pipeline will of course have to be made by the National Energy Board. Having regard to the doubts he has expressed respecting the environmental, social and economic effects of a pipeline, as set forth in the report to which reference has been made by the hon. Leader of the Opposition, may I ask the minister whether any task force or group is looking into the question of the efficacy of having a railroad built at approximately the same cost as a pipeline? A railroad would actually have the effect of opening up the north and assuring a large population in the north that would not otherwise take place without railway transportation.

Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): Mr. Speaker, my response to the right hon. gentleman is yes, there is such an evaluation under way. As the right hon. gentleman knows, the initial study made in this regard was the Queen's study which was in part funded by the government of Canada. In collaboration with my colleague, the Minister of Transport, that proposal is being evaluated. I hope to be in a better position to comment further on it by the end of this year.

Mr. Diefenbaker: Mr. Speaker, I thank the hon. minister for a very complete answer. Would he be able to let the House know when we might expect a decision in regard to the evaluation that is taking place because generally, all over western Canada, there is a widespread demand for just such a railroad?

Mr. Macdonald (Rosedale): Yes, Mr. Speaker. I would expect that by about the end of this year we would be in a position to respond more fully.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The Chair will recognize the hon. member for Vancouver South and then the hon. member for Yorkton-Melville for supplementaries, after which I will recognize the hon. member for Champlain and return to this matter later.

PROPOSED MACKENZIE VALLEY PIPELINE—GOVERNMENT POSITION IN LIGHT OF REPORT OF ECONOMIC IMPACT COMMITTEE—SUPPLEMENTARY STUDIES

Mr. John A. Fraser (Vancouver South): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the right hon. Prime Minister. In view of the fact that three ministers of the Crown have clearly stated that government policy is to favour the Mackenzie route, can the Prime Minister tell the House whether in fact the government agrees with the report mentioned earlier today or whether it disagrees and, further, if it disagrees, upon what possible basis has the government

for the last several months been assuring us that it prefers the Mackenzie route?

● (1420)

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I am informed that the report to which reference was made is an earlier draft of a report which was part of a series of studies that form the basis of recommendations to the various ministers and, by them, to cabinet. Therefore I see no contradiction in the question asked by the hon. member. There was a decision made by government. The hon. member has referred to statements by ministers. We cannot, of course, be bound by working papers of officials, especially earlier drafts of working papers by officials. If we want officials to give their unbiased opinion, it is clear that in some cases there will be elements of these things which will be contradictory of the final decision reached by the government.

Mr. Fraser: In view of the answer just given, can the Prime Minister assure the House that there have been in fact supplementary studies since the study done in October, 1972, which formed the basis of the government's apparent present position? If so, what are those studies, and will they be made available to the public?

Mr. Trudeau: Mr. Speaker, the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources indicated that many aspects of these studies have been made public.

An hon. Member: That is the answer to the question?

Mr. Trudeau: That is the answer to the question.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I wonder whether we should not, in fairness, give a chance to the hon. member for Champlain to ask a question, subject to returning to this matter. Before calling on the hon. member for Yorkton-Melville I think we should recognize the hon. member for Champlain, after which I will return to this subject matter.

* * *

[*Translation*]

THE CANADIAN ECONOMY

EFFECTS OF INCREASE IN PRICE OF GOLD AND DEPRECIATION OF UNITED STATES AMERICAN DOLLAR—POSSIBLE EXPANSION OF GOLD MINES

Mr. René Matte (Champlain): Mr. Speaker, I should like to put a question to the Minister of Finance.

In view of the tremendous increase in the price of gold coupled with the decreasing value of the American dollar, could the minister say briefly what effect these factors are having now on the Canadian economy?

Hon. John N. Turner (Minister of Finance): Mr. Speaker, it is very difficult to answer this question in only one sentence—

Mr. Matte: I should like to put a supplementary question, Mr. Speaker.

[Mr. Fraser.]

Could the minister tell us whether the government is now considering the possibility of further promoting the development of gold mines in Canada?

Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton): Mr. Speaker, I feel that gold prices show opportunities for the development of gold mines in Canada. As for the general state of the economy, the Canadian dollar remains stable in comparison with the American dollar.

* * *

[*English*]

ENERGY

PROPOSED MACKENZIE VALLEY PIPELINE—ECONOMIC IMPACT REPORT—SUPPLEMENTARY STUDIES

Mr. John A. Fraser (Vancouver South): Mr. Speaker, may I ask a supplementary to my previous question and direct it again to the Prime Minister. With respect, I do not think the Prime Minister has answered my question. In view of the considerable publicity today as a result of this report I am asking again, will the Prime Minister tell the House whether there are supplementary reports that negate the effect of this report we are discussing, and is it on the basis of those that the present apparent position of the government is stated?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The Chair will not prevent the Prime Minister from replying to the question, but the hon. member suggested that it was a repetition of the first question. The Prime Minister will be allowed to reply if he has any additional information to give to the House, after which I will recognize the hon. member for Yorkton-Melville on a supplementary.

Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): Mr. Speaker, if I might respond to the last question, the preliminary report the hon. gentleman referred to was negated, of course, in discussions in the committee, and there has been consideration and discussion since that time.

OIL AND GAS PIPELINES—SUGGESTED PAYMENT OF INCOME TAX ON NET EARNINGS—POSSIBLE TAX ON GAS EXPORTS

Mr. Lorne Nystrom (Yorkton-Melville): Mr. Speaker, may I direct a supplementary question to the Minister of Finance regarding the economic impact report. In view of information contained in that report that any pipeline would not pay income tax for the first ten years of operation because of tax deferrals and in view of the fact that Trans-Canada Pipelines has not paid income taxes since 1958, the year of inception, can the minister say whether he is considering introducing any changes in tax laws that will require pipelines, either existing or that will be built, to pay income tax based on their net earnings?

Hon. John N. Turner (Minister of Finance): Mr. Speaker, this question is still hypothetical, but I will take the hon. member's remarks into consideration.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The Chair will recognize the hon. member for Yorkton-Melville for one supplementary,

but we will have to try to move to another subject before the end of the question period. Following the question of the hon. member for Yorkton-Melville, the Chair will recognize the hon. member for Calgary North on the same subject.

Mr. Nystrom: Mr. Speaker, I believe the question is far from hypothetical. At any rate, can the minister state whether the government is now considering levying an export tax on all Canadian exports of gas from the Mackenzie Valley or elsewhere in this country, in effect creating a two-price system?

Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton): Mr. Speaker, that is not the sort of policy announcement that would be made during the oral question period.

REQUEST THAT GOVERNMENT ESTABLISH GUIDELINES FOR BUILDING NORTHERN PIPELINES

Hon. Alvin Hamilton (Qu'Appelle-Moose Mountain): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a supplementary question to the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources. In view of evidence that the National Energy Board has abdicated its responsibilities under the National Energy Board Act in its advisory function, will the government now consider the advisability of laying down guidelines on the various items that concern parliament and the country vis-à-vis the building of pipelines out of the north?

Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): Mr. Speaker, without accepting the preamble, which I think is unfair to the board, I would point out that guidelines have been laid down on a number of occasions directed rather to applicants than to the board as to the manner in which they should make their applications.

Mr. Hamilton (Qu'Appelle-Moose Mountain): Has the minister laid down any guidelines for the National Energy Board to consider when an application reaches them for an Arctic gas pipeline, vis-à-vis Canadian participation in financing?

Mr. Macdonald (Rosedale): Mr. Speaker, I have indicated that the objective of the government would be to give an opportunity to Canadians to acquire 51 per cent of ownership in any such pipeline and the expectation that it would remain under Canadian control.

* * *

LABOUR RELATIONS

REQUEST FOR REPORT ON EFFORTS TO SETTLE DISPUTES INVOLVING AIR CANADA, THE RAILWAYS, AND GRAIN HANDLERS

Mr. James A. McGrath (St. John's East): Mr. Speaker, my question is to the Minister of Labour. What progress has been made with regard to efforts to settle the dispute with Air Canada to avert a national airline strike in Canada? Perhaps the minister could also report to the House what progress he is making with regard to two other disputes under his jurisdiction, the railways and the grain handlers?

Hon. John C. Munro (Minister of Labour): Mr. Speaker, I wish to advise the hon. member that all the disputes in question are in the process of conciliation. With regard to the railways, since the parties could not agree on a chairman, last week the government appointed Mr. Justice Craig Munroe of British Columbia to be chairman of the conciliation board.

Mr. McGrath: Does the minister have anything to report with regard to the Air Canada dispute? Has he received a report on this dispute which threatens to tie up Canada's national airline during the peak traffic period in June?

Mr. Munro (Hamilton East): I have not received such a report, Mr. Speaker.

POSSIBLE GRAIN HANDLERS STRIKE AT THUNDER BAY—GOVERNMENT ACTION

Mr. Jack Murta (Lisgar): Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question for the Minister of Labour. Specifically, what is the government doing in connection with the threat of a grain handlers strike at Thunder Bay? Also, does the government have any plans in abeyance in case a strike comes about and our grain shipments are seriously disrupted?

Hon. John C. Munro (Minister of Labour): Mr. Speaker, obviously the government does not view with any degree of enthusiasm the possibility of a strike in the area to which the hon. member has referred. We are exhausting all available conciliation procedures to try to reach a settlement. We are watching the situation very closely and will do everything possible to prevent such a strike.

* * *

• (1430)

GRAIN

PROVISION OF SUFFICIENT RAILWAY CARS TO SUPPLY VANCOUVER TERMINAL ELEVATORS

Mr. Bill Knight (Assiniboia): Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question for the minister in charge of the Canadian Wheat Board. It is related to difficulties in transportation by rail. Bearing in mind that railwaymen are working to rule at the port of Vancouver, could the minister tell us what action he is taking through the Canadian Wheat Board to ensure that the necessary numbers of cars are there to keep the terminals going and move grain through the port? He has put $42 million worth of hopper cars at the service of the railways; yet there is still concern about the shortage of grain at those terminals.

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Justice): The hopper cars are, of course, improving the capacity of the railways to move grain and move it quickly. There are, however, a number of factors over which no one can exercise control, including a bridge out in the course of the last several

weeks. This situation has now been put right and grain is arriving again via the CNR in regular fashion. I am told there were some 1,100 cars in Vancouver today and that all terminals, including the Burrard terminal, will be operating today.

* * *

LABOUR RELATIONS

GUIDELINES FOR CONCILIATION OFFICERS IN SETTLING WAGE DISPUTES

Mr. Don Blenkarn (Peel South): Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary for the Minister of Labour. In view of the rapid increase in the cost of living, at the rate of some 13 per cent per annum on the basis of last month's figures, what guidelines is the minister giving to his conciliation officers in terms of settling disputes relating to wage demands?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. It seems to me we have gone a considerable distance from the original question asked by the hon. member for St. John's East. Perhaps we have brought this on ourselves by the inclusion of two additional matters in the hon. member's question. The Chair does not wish to be unfair to the hon. member. The Minister of Labour might reply briefly and then we will go to the next subject.

Hon. John C. Munro (Minister of Labour): Without agreeing with the premise of the question, may I say that I believe the question is based on a misconception of the duties of a conciliation officer.

* * *

[*Translation*]

SPORTS

MONTREAL OLYMPIC GAMES, 1976—ESTABLISHMENT OF MINISTRY FOR SPORTS AND RECREATION—PRIME MINISTER'S POSITION

Mr. Roch La Salle (Joliette): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the right hon. Prime Minister.

In view of the growing importance of leisure in our society and also of the additional emphasis placed on leisure by the coming Olympic Games, I should like to ask the Prime Minister whether while respecting provincial jurisdiction, he intends to appoint in the near future a minister in charge of sports and recreation in Canada.

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): No, Mr. Speaker, and I am not quite sure that if we did so the provinces would consider that we are effectively respecting their constitutional jurisdiction.

Mr. La Salle: Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary. Is the right hon. Prime Minister prepared to appoint someone responsible for sports and recreation within the Department of National Health and Social Welfare in view of bringing about recognition of the importance of sports and leisure in relation to the Montreal Olympic Games?

Mr. Trudeau: Mr. Speaker, under the administrative decentralization principle, such a matter would come under the jurisdiction of the Minister of National Health and Welfare.

* * *

[*English*]

PENITENTIARIES

POSSIBLE SUPERVISION BY PAROLE BOARD OF TEMPORARY RELEASES—STEPS TO PROTECT PUBLIC PENDING INVESTIGATIONS OF ESCAPES

Mr. Eldon M. Woolliams (Calgary North): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Solicitor General. May I ask whether the government intends to accept the recommendation by the chairman of the National Parole Board that the temporary release program be placed under the supervision of that board? If so, does the government propose to extend the facilities of the board and spread its membership across the nation in various centres so that it can arrive at proper decisions without the risk to society we have experienced in the past?

Hon. Warren Allmand (Solicitor General): As I mentioned on an earlier occasion in the House, a commission was set up last year under Judge Hugessen. That Commission has reported to me. We are presently studying such matters as were mentioned by the hon. member, and I intend to come before the House within a week or two with proposals along these lines.

Mr. Woolliams: In light of the fact that there have been further escapes from custody from various institutions over the weekend and bearing in mind that the minister has set up various investigative bodies, may I ask what immediate steps the minister is taking to protect society, particularly at a time when it would appear that the system of keeping people in custody is like a sieve. It is a very dangerous situation, especially when terrible murders are taking place—I have in mind the murder in the city of Hamilton—which are causing unrest and distress throughout society.

Mr. Allmand: With respect to escapes while on temporary absence with escort—I think that is what the hon. member was talking about—

Mr. Woolliams: No, I am talking about escapes. That is what I am talking about.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. May we have order, please.

Mr. Allmand: I understood the hon. member to open his question by talking about temporary absences with escorts and escaping from the escort. With respect to those I have issued instructions that there should be no more of them—

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Allmand: —no more temporary absences with escort unless the escort understands that the prisoner is not to be out of his sight at any time. It seems that some of these incidents happened after the escort had brought the man to a hospital, or to visit a sick parent, or something of

that kind; he left the prisoner out of his sight for a short period of time. I have given instructions that this should be done under no circumstances; if it is, the escort will be suspended immediately.

Mr. Woolliams: I should like to clarify my question, Mr. Speaker. I am talking about the sieve whereby these prisoners are escaping, other than those on temporary release. What immediate steps is the Solicitor General taking to prevent further escapes of dangerous, violent criminals from custody?

Mr. Allmand: It depends on the institution. There were a great many escapes from Cowansville. We have already taken steps to increase the number of guards, we have put barbed wire on top of the fence, we have cleared back the bush from the fence, put metal screens over the cell windows, and so on.

An hon. Member: Bolt the doors!

Mr. Baldwin: Let them know the price of food outside!

Mr. Allmand: With respect to the correctional development centre at Laval, the escape there was not due to defects in the walls or the hardware but to a human failure within the system. We are taking steps to ensure that this will not happen again.

* * *

TRADE

SUGGESTED VISIT BY PRIME MINISTER TO EUROPE TO PRESENT CANADIAN POSITION

Hon. George Hees (Prince Edward-Hastings): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Prime Minister. As Canada's export trade with the countries of the European Economic Community and Great Britain has declined by more than $200 million a year during the past two years, and since the loss of the British preference will seriously endanger further $500 million to $750 million of this trade, is it the intention of the Prime Minister personally to visit the heads of the countries forming the European Economic Community in the near future in an effort to improve Canada's trading relationship with those countries?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): That suggestion was made to me by another member of the hon. gentleman's party about a week ago. I thanked him for the suggestion and said I would consider it most seriously.

Mr. Hees: As Messrs. Heath, Pompidou, Brezhnev and Brandt have just completed, or are in the process of engaging in, meetings to improve the trade of their respective countries, and as President Nixon will be meeting shortly with Mr. Pompidou, Mr. Brezhnev and heads of the EEC countries, does the Prime Minister not consider it would be worth the time involved to announce a visit in the very near future to these important trading countries to improve our own bad relationship with them?

Mr. Trudeau: The hon. member will realize that these gentlemen he has mentioned are just catching up with what we did in the previous parliament.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Trudeau: I personally spoke to Mr. Brezhnev and Mr. Heath about this subject.

* * *

INCOME TAX

SUGGESTED REMOVAL OF TAX-FREE PERIOD AVAILABLE TO FOREIGNERS TEACHING IN CANADA

Mr. Frank Howard (Skeena): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Prime Minister relating to the Department of National Revenue. In the absence of the minister, I do not know to whom else I should address it. In light of the fact that 40 per cent of the university and college professors in Canada are not Canadian citizens but are from other countries and in light of the fact that many teachers in Canada in other grades of education are unemployed, can the Prime Minister say whether any steps will be taken to end the two-year tax-free period that is available to teachers from foreign countries when they teach in Canada?

Hon. John N. Turner (Minister of Finance): Perhaps I could deal with that question since it relates to tax policy. The problem is that the so-called exemption for teachers is provided for under tax treaties and cannot be changed until the treaties are renegotiated. However, we are in the process of renegotiating these treaties at the moment. Our policy has been clearly stated publicly and to the other countries concerned that have bilateral tax treaties with us: we do not intend to include a special exemption for teachers in the future.

● (1440)

Mr. Howard: Would the minister consider giving the same kind of advantage in the future to Canadian born teachers that he is giving nationals from South Africa, for example, and help them to stay at home?

* * *

[*Translation*]

MANPOWER

FARM LABOUR SHORTAGE—PROVISION OF SUMMER EMPLOYMENT FOR STUDENTS—ACTION TO MEET NEEDS

Mr. Adrien Lambert (Bellechasse): Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask a question of the Minister of Manpower and Immigration.

As there is a shortage of farm labour on the one hand and insufficient summer employment for students on the other, could the minister tell the House if he will undertake a special program designed to establish a liaison between students seeking employment and farmers in need of labour, thus making possible such a project under advantageous conditions?

[*English*]

Hon. Robert K. Andras (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, I shall certainly give that every consideration. We are taking some measures relat-

ing to this question. One problem is the location of students available for the jobs that are available and, of course, rates of pay and working conditions, but we are addressing ourselves to the problem which has also been raised by other hon. members.

* * *

SUPPLY AND SERVICES

DEPARTMENTAL POLICY RESPECTING INFORMATION REQUIRED FROM EMPLOYEES

Mr. Peter Reilly (Ottawa West): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Supply and Services. Would the minister say for how long it has been the policy of his department to require employees, on pain of prosecution under the Official Secrets Act, to fill out a form requiring them to give their nicknames, their full employment history, whether they are married legally or otherwise, names of blood relatives dead or living, as well as a full itinerary of their travels to communist countries since 1945?

[*Translation*]

Hon. Jean-Pierre Goyer (Minister of Supply and Services): Mr. Speaker, I shall look into this matter and reply to the hon. member as soon as possible.

* * *

[*English*]

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

KILLING OF TWO CANADIAN GIRLS WHILE VISITING VICTORIA FALLS, RHODESIA—PROTEST TO ZAMBIA—ASSSISTANCE TO PARENTS

Mr. A. D. Hales (Wellington): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct my question to the Secretary of State for External Affairs. Has Canada registered a formal protest with Zambia in connection with the death of two Canadian girls at Victoria Falls in Rhodesia just a week ago today?

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs): No, Mr. Speaker, we have not yet done this. As the hon. gentleman knows, we have an officer in Rhodesia examining the circumstances of this tragedy. As soon as we have a full report we will be in a position to decide what action to take. I should make it clear that we have not accepted the Zambian explanation, and this is one of the reasons we are making the investigation.

Mr. Hales: Can the minister advise the House whether every possible assistance is being provided to the families of these two girls, and what action has been taken in connection with the Zambian murderers?

Mr. Sharp: Mr. Speaker, Mr. Leith, our Zambian officer, is now in Rhodesia. He has arranged for the funeral of the Sinclair girl. We are in touch with the parents and, as far as I understand, arrangements are being worked out quite satisfactorily. Mr. Drijberg has now arrived in Rhodesia, and the instructions to Mr. Leith are to get in touch with Mr. Drijberg to see whether we can be of further assistance to him in his tragedy. As the hon. member knows, Mr. Drijberg still hopes that his daughter may be alive.

[Mr. Andras.]

AGRICULTURE

DANGER OF GRASSHOPPER INFESTATION IN PRAIRIE PROVINCES—REQUEST THAT BAN ON DDT BE RELAXED

Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Prince Albert): Mr. Speaker, a few days ago I asked a question of the Minister of Agriculture in connection with a possible grasshopper infestation and the danger thereof. The estimate now is that 350 billion grasshoppers are ready to receive the wheat, oats and barley in Saskatchewan alone. We do not want to be host to such an aggregation; therefore insecticides are needed, one of which is DDT. Although it has been banned, it has the record of being not the first but one of the first means of bringing about control. Would the minister give consideration to releasing the ban on DDT for a few weeks in order to meet the terrible danger that is faced not only in Saskatchewan but also in neighbouring provinces?

Hon. E. F. Whelan (Minister of Agriculture): Mr. Speaker, several different people from Saskatchewan and the other prairie provinces have made representations about the same matter that the right hon. gentleman has brought to the attention of the House. We have considered DDT. Other sprays and products are available but more of them has to be used to bring about control. I have not had a report today on what the conditions are, but if they do become very bad I would not hesitate to recommend DDT.

INCREASE IN MACHINERY PRICES—POSSIBLE INCREASE IN OVER-ALL PRODUCTION COSTS—REQUEST FOR INVESTIGATION

Mr. A. P. Gleave (Saskatoon-Biggar): Mr. Speaker, may I ask a question of the Minister of Agriculture. In view of statements by the three prairie Ministers of Agriculture expressing alarm over recent increases of 4 to 5 per cent in machinery prices in Manitoba, and in view of indications of similar increases in the other provinces, would the minister have his department conduct an investigation into the increasing prices of machinery?

Hon. E. F. Whelan (Minister of Agriculture): Mr. Speaker, the first I saw of this was in the press. No one brought to my attention during the last few days that the price had increased dramatically or to this extent. I have already asked my department to give me a report.

Mr. Gleave: May I also call the attention of the minister to the statement made by the agricultural economics research council—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. Would the hon. member ask his question. We are running short of time and he has been recognized for a supplementary.

Mr. Gleave: Would the minister also investigate reports that increases of up to 15 per cent in the over-all cost of farm production will be the sort of increases we will be trying to live with in the immediate future?

COMMUNICATIONS

PROPOSED CONFERENCE WITH PROVINCIAL MINISTERS

Mr. J. P. Nowlan (Annapolis Valley): Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask a question of the Minister of Communications. In view of the minister's parliamentary broadside levelled against Quebec on Friday last, has the minister had any success in arranging a conference of communications ministers, or has the parliamentary broadside adversely affected that conference?

[*Translation*]

Hon. Gérard Pelletier (Minister of Communications): Mr. Speaker, I am not aware of any negative effects. The conference of provincial Ministers of Communications has been tentatively scheduled, with the agreement of a majority of the ministers, for next fall, presumably in October.

Preliminary meetings between officers of all the provincial departments and officers of the federal Department of Communications are scheduled for early July.

[*English*]

Mr. Nowlan: In view of the fact that the invitation was extended in March for the first couple of weeks in July, I believe, would the minister tell the House whether all provinces have accepted the date in October as a firm date?

[*Translation*]

Mr. Pelletier (Hochelaga): No, Mr. Speaker. We have not set a definite date yet, and when we sent out the invitation or suggested that a meeting be held early in July, we did not know then that the provinces wanted to meet together twice before holding a Federal-Provincial conference. We were not even aware that they would postpone their own conference from the middle to the end of May, and maybe even to the beginning of June.

* * *

CENTRAL MORTGAGE AND HOUSING CORPORATION

MONTREAL—ALLEGED IMPLICATION OF CERTAIN EMPLOYEES IN ORGANIZED CRIME—REQUEST FOR INVESTIGATION

Mr. Roland Godin (Portneuf): Mr. Speaker, I wish to address a question to the Minister of State responsible for Urban Affairs.

In view of the fact that the investigations conducted in Montreal in connection with organized crime have enabled the authorities to identify important witnesses within Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation personnel, could the minister tell us whether he is considering having an investigation initiated concerning the operations of this Corporation in other Canadian cities?

● (1450)

[*English*]

Hon. Ron Basford (Minister of State for Urban Affairs): Mr. Speaker, I have not seen the evidence referred to in the question. I will immediately look at it, but any further answer would be dependent upon that evidence.

* * *

ENERGY

PROPOSED MACKENZIE VALLEY GAS PIPELINE—GUIDELINES FOR POSSIBLE APPLICATION—OPPORTUNITY FOR HOUSE TO DISCUSS

Hon. Robert L. Stanfield (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, my question is addressed to the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources who referred earlier to guidelines the government had announced a couple of years ago with regard to the building of northern pipelines. Will the application that the minister anticipates will be made before the end of the year be heard and dealt with under the guidelines as they have been announced or will these guidelines possibly be modified in some way?

Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): Mr. Speaker, the guidelines which were defined in general terms in 1970 were laid out in somewhat more precise terms in 1972 with regard to environmental and social impacts. We now have the national advisory committee on northern pipelines financing considering some of the financial and particularly corporate control aspects. The work of that particular advisory group could lead to additional guidelines on the question of ownership and control.

Mr. Stanfield: Will there be an opportunity provided for the House to consider the guidelines as they are put forward in final form under which any such application is to be heard?

Mr. Macdonald (Rosedale): Mr. Speaker, there have been ample opportunities, particularly in committee, to discuss the guidelines up to this point, but I am sure an additional opportunity can be arranged as and when they are made available publicly.

* * *

CANADA DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

REPORTED STATEMENT BY OFFICIAL THAT HEAD OFFICE WILL NOT BE LOCATED IN VANCOUVER

Mr. John Reynolds (Burnaby-Richmond-Delta): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Prime Minister. I should like to ask him whether the statement made by Donald Morrison, vice-president of the Canada Development Corporation, was a statement of government policy when over the weekend Mr. Morrison said—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. A question asked in those terms is obviously not in order. The hon. member should rephrase his question. He cannot refer to statements made outside the House.

Mr. Reynolds: Mr. Speaker, is the Prime Minister aware of statements emanating from the Canada Development Corporation to the effect that the head office of this

corporation will not be located in the province of British Columbia and the city of Vancouver?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): No, Mr. Speaker. I have not heard of that statement. I will look into the matter.

Mr. Reynolds: In view of the fact the Minister of Finance made the same statement in the House in the first week after the Easter break, and in view of the confusion on this issue, would the Prime Minister see that the president of the corporation makes a positive statement backing up the statement made by the Prime Minister in the House on April 5 that the head office of this corporation would be in Vancouver, British Columbia?

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for York East.

* * *

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

REQUEST THAT COMMISSION MAKE EARLY DECISIONS ON BENEFIT ELIGIBILITY TO AVOID OVERPAYMENT CLAIMS

Mr. Ian Arrol (York East): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Manpower and Immigration. In view of the fact that thousands of people who have been receiving and thought they were entitled to unemployment insurance benefits are now being assessed overpayment bills—one of my constituents was recently assessed $2,600 as an overpayment—would the minister instruct that if a person is not entitled to the payments he should be informed sooner than is now the practice in place of the current cruel practice of making payments month after month leading the recipient to believe he is entitled to the money and then billing the recipient for everything he has received?

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member appears to be making a representation to the minister and he has to assume it will be taken into account.

* * *

FISHERIES

COD WAR BETWEEN ICELAND AND GREAT BRITAIN AND WEST GERMANY—DIPLOMATIC REPRESENTATIONS BY CANADA RESPECTING MARINE RESOURCES ON CONTINENTAL SHELVES

Mr. John Lundrigan (Gander-Twillingate): Mr. Speaker, may I ask the Secretary of State for External Affairs a question on the situation between Iceland, West Germany and Britain. Can the minister indicate whether there was any exchange of diplomatic or, for that matter, undiplomatic notes between Canada and Britain and West Germany over the situation pertaining to the cod war? If so, can he tell the House the general tenure of the exchange in question and, if not, why not?

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, I shall have to ascertain whether there was any such exchange. If there was, I will try to give a report.

[Mr. Reynolds.]

Mr. Lundrigan: Mr. Speaker, I am astounded that the minister is not aware whether there was, but may I ask the minister whether he will undertake today to exchange notes between Canada and the various fishing nations of the world underscoring the principle that the marine resources of the continental shelves adjacent to coastal states are the territory of the states in question?

Mr. Sharp: Mr. Speaker, the hon. gentleman knows that the position of the Canadian government is that the coastal states have special rights and responsibilities for fishing off their coasts. This has been the position of the Canadian government even before the hon. member was a member of this House.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. A number of members are seeking supplementaries. Perhaps the Chair might be allowed to recognize the hon. member for Humber-St. George's-St. Barbe, and then the hon. member for Vancouver-Kingsway, and then call orders of the day.

REQUEST THAT MEMBER FOR LAPRAIRIE APPEAR BEFORE STANDING COMMITTEE TO DISCUSS INTERIM REPORT PRESENTED BY HIM TO NORTH ATLANTIC ASSEMBLY

Mr. Jack Marshall (Humber-St. George's-St. Barbe): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the chairman of the Standing Committee on Fisheries and Forestry. In view of the fact that an interim report has been prepared and presented to the North Atlantic Assembly by the hon. member for Laprairie and in view of the importance of the resolution unanimously approved by the North Atlantic Assembly on the depletion of marine resources, would the chairman of the committee ask the hon. member for Laprairie to appear before the Standing Committee on Fisheries and Forestry so that the committee can discuss the report?

Mr. Albert Béchard (Bonaventure-Îles de la Madeleine): Mr. Speaker, I will gladly look into that matter.

* * *

FOOD PRICES

INQUIRY AS TO ANNOUNCEMENT OF PERSONNEL OF REVIEW BOARD

Mrs. Grace MacInnis (Vancouver Kingsway): Mr. Speaker, can the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs tell us when we may expect an announcement about the appointment of the Food Prices Review Board?

Hon. Herb Gray (Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs): Mr. Speaker, I hope it will be very soon.

Mr. Speaker: Orders of the day. Is the hon. member rising on a question of privilege?

Mr. Hees: Yes, Mr. Speaker. A short time ago—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I believe the hon. member for Vancouver Kingsway has a supplementary. It might be more orderly to hear her supplementary and then the hon. member on his question of privilege.

Mrs. MacInnis (Vancouver Kingsway): Mr. Speaker, may I ask the minister whether he has been successful in making any appointments to the board yet and, if so, how many?

Mr. Gray: I think we are having a high degree of success, but I think it would be more appropriate for me to be able to make one announcement as to the composition of the entire board, which again I hope will be very soon.

Mr. Hees: Mr. Speaker, a short time ago today I asked the Prime Minister a serious question about a serious matter. I asked whether he was considering, for reasons which I pointed out, in the very near future visiting the heads of government of the European Economic Community. In reply he said that he had been asked a similar question about a week ago and that he had told the hon. member that he was giving serious consideration to his question. Here is the answer that the Prime Minister gave to the question asked by the hon. member for Calgary South:

RIGHT HON. P. E. TRUDEAU (PRIME MINISTER): Yes, Mr. Speaker. I appreciate the hon. member's suggestion that I do a bit of travelling.

A lot of laughter followed that.

I have the intention of preparing travel plans for the coming year.

Mr. Speaker, that is not what the Prime Minister today said he answered. He said he told the hon. member he was giving serious consideration to his suggestion that he take such a trip in the very near future. I asked the question again today and he has given a sneering, wise-cracking answer which misleads the House and is an insult to the House and to the people of the country.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. This is obviously not a question of privilege. The hon. member, with his long experience in the House, knows that he cannot rise on an alleged question of privilege to make reference to an answer which has been given in the House. The hon. member may be dissatisfied with the answer that has been given and he may feel there is a contradiction. He is entitled to his opinion about such matters, but this cannot be raised by way of a question of privilege. I suggest to hon. members that this is not very helpful in the conduct of the business of the House, and I would not think in the circumstances that the Chair should allow the matter to be pursued further. Is the right hon. gentleman rising on the question of privilege?

Mr. Trudeau: According to your usual courtesy, Mr. Speaker, you allow the person involved in the question of privilege to answer. I just want to put it very gently to the hon. member that when I said I was giving serious consideration to making travel plans I was—

Mr. Hees: You did not. You said you were giving serious consideration to his suggestion—

Some hon. Members: Order.

Mr. Trudeau: Mr. Speaker, if I could go on I would suggest that the hon. member should give serious consideration to his question because he prefaced the question to me by a series of statistics which were, I am sure unintentionally, misleading. If the hon. member will look at the statistics for the first four months of this year over the same period last year, he will see that we are well up by the largest measure in 20 years. To the United Kingdom our exports are up 26 per cent, to the ECC 23 per cent, and to Japan 102 per cent.

● (1500)

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. This is obviously a debate over statistics between the hon. member and the right hon. Prime Minister. This kind of debate could go on every day for a long time and I am not sure, as I said a moment ago, that it helps the conduct of the business of the House. The hon. member rose on a question of privilege. I agreed, as I have always done in the past, that there is nothing wrong with the person impugned or referred to in the question of privilege being given an opportunity to defend himself or to respond by making a brief statement, which is what happened. But I have to rule again that there is no question of privilege, and I do not think much advantage would be gained by pursuing the matter further. The hon. member disagrees with the Prime Minister and the Prime Minister disagrees with him. Perhaps they might get together in a private conference and announce to the House tomorrow the result of their discussion.

Mr. Hees: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. I cited the figures that were produced for me and other parliamentarians by the NATO legation in Brussels this **week. These are the latest figures available to Members of Parliament. What I said is absolutely true, and the Prime Minister knows this.**

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. Would the hon. member resume his seat. Orders of the day.

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

CRIMINAL CODE

REINSTATEMENT OF LAW RELATING TO CAPITAL PUNISHMENT THAT EXISTED PRIOR TO DECEMBER 30, 1972

The House resumed, from Wednesday, May 16, consideration of the motion of Mr. Allmand that Bill C-2, to amend the Criminal Code, be read the second time and referred to the Standing Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs.

Mr. Paul Dick (Lanark-Renfrew-Carleton): Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise in this House today to enter the debate. This is the first time, as a newly elected member for the constituency of Lanark-Renfrew-Carleton, that I have had an opportunity of speaking. My pride in being here as a member of parliament is somewhat tempered by humility, and the thought that I have been selected over two most worthy opponents.

Mr. Speaker, it was with interest and respect that I watched the unfolding of traditions and pageantry which marked the opening of this session and, in particular, the

Speech from the Throne and your election to the high office which you presently hold. On behalf of my constituents and myself, I should like to congratulate you on your unanimous selection.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Dick: Your reputation as a fair, honest, impartial and just Speaker has spread far and wide to all the distant corners of this great land. I only trust that my presence in this House will not make your difficult task more difficult.

Traditionally, all forms of government by means of councils, whether they were tribal councils or the early councils in the political arenas of Greece and Rome, and through the years the evolution of the English parliamentary system, have contained the principle of allowing representatives the freedom to cast their vote as they saw fit. I am particularly pleased that the topic which we are presently debating will be decided by a free vote. In many respects it is unfortunate that the parliamentary system has evolved in such a way that a truly free vote comes so rarely. I trust that all members of the House will jealously guard and take advantage of their proper right to vote as they see fit on this topic. I trust that each member will treat with contempt any person who might try to cajole that member behind the scenes to vote otherwise than as he sees fit for the sake of some so-called party policy or party preservation. I know that members of my party will be divided on this issue and that my party is allowing each member a completely free hand to vote as he wishes.

I can only hope that every other group in this House allows a similar freedom. I hope that this is what I will see when this debate is concluded, but I expect to find it otherwise. Surely, the NDP will vote as a block in favour of this bill, belying the true representation of their constituents. On the other hand, I expect some token division in the Liberal party, but in the majority, support for the government sponsored bill as pressure is applied.

Today, we are dealing with what is frequently considered to be sentencing for what is an ultimate crime. Perhaps this is the ultimate crime in the criminal context as held in the Criminal Code of Canada, but I would like to point out that the true crime is that we are debating this topic at all at this time when tens of thousands of Canadians find themselves in an economic struggle, squeezed between unemployment and inflation. It is truly the great shame of this parliament that the government has brought in this legislation at this time. Indeed, we have spent some seven days debating this topic since the twenty-ninth parliament began, including almost one week at the very beginning, when we should have been and should now be dealing with legislation to alleviate the problems of housing, of unemployment, the abuses to the unemployment insurance fund, inflation, and the budgetary matters which have been allowed to languish by the side, languish in a barrel of unfathomable political ineptitude. Perhaps I might be permitted to refer to the section in the Criminal Code known as section 319 which deals with false pretences. Let me read briefly from the definition as follows:

A false pretence is a representation of a matter of fact in the present or past made by words or otherwise that is known by the person who makes it to be false and that is made with a fraudulent intent to induce the person to whom it is made to act upon it.

In reading the Speech from the Throne, we note that the government's advisers have stated that the government has assigned the highest priority to two policy areas. The first listed was the economic policy to reduce unemployment, contain inflation, and to strengthen the economy generally. If that is the highest priority, then why are we dealing with capital punishment today. The government stated, first, that they wanted to expand job opportunities; second, to promote stable economic growth; third, to attain a reasonable price stability; fourth, to ensure that the regions of the country benefit through prosperity brought to all regions. It was proudly stated by the government that, having brought forth the two part program consisting of measures to provide more jobs and measures that would add fundamental strength to the economy, they would bring forth in a rush amendments to the Income Tax Act, the Excise Tax Act, the Customs Act, reintroduce measures announced earlier regarding screening and expand their policy on foreign take-overs, add to the social security system to assure people who cannot work, the aged, the blind and the disabled, a compassionate and equitable guaranteed income.

The entire throne speech refers to those issues which were discussed in the election campaign leading to the election on October 30. These are important issues for the majority of Canadians. Why has this legislation not been introduced? Why did we wait for 60 days to have parliament called. Why have we discussed pilotage bills, considered a lengthy Speech from the Throne which included platitudes and lollipops, had discussions on food prices, when these are only a small segment of the difficult economic problems which we face? Why was all the legislation not introduced so that it could be considered in good time, and why have we been saddled with a debate which affects, at the most, two or three people and only those people who have committed the ultimate criminal act in the context of the Criminal Code of Canada?

Truly, Mr. Speaker, the greatest criminal fraud is debating this legislation now rather than waiting to debate it at a more leisurely time. On January 26, the Solicitor General (Mr. Allmand) stated, as reported at page 681 of *Hansard*, that there was no person waiting on death row. Last week, in reply to a question of mine the Solicitor General said that no person has been indicted for having committed capital murder, other than the murder of a police officer or prison guard, and has now finished the entire legal process. Any person who has committed murder since the beginning of this year has yet to go through a preliminary hearing, and finish his trial process. The indictment itself would probably be still weeks away. Surely, this debate can be held in the months ahead. If by chance a person has been convicted and is facing the death penalty, which at the moment is not a fact that person would have his sentence commuted by the government. Perhaps such sentences should be commuted until this question is settled once and for all. At least, the date of execution could be postponed.

● (1510)

The great criminal fraud on the Canadian public and the tens of thousands of law-abiding citizens is that they are

being made to take second place to a lengthy debate which deals with only two, three, or perhaps four convicted criminals. Somebody has his priorities sorely misplaced. A reading of the throne speech and the platitudes which were enunciated at that time, to the effect that the government was earnestly going to tackle the economic problems of the country, indicates that the government is misrepresenting itself to the people. It is misleading and deceiving the people, hoping that they will act on that deceit and misrepresentation.

Again, I point out that according to section 319 of the Criminal Code those are the ingredients which constitute false pretence. Mr. Speaker, instead of debating capital punishment the public want us to get on with the main issues at hand, the issues of inflation, wage and income control, unemployment, the unemployment insurance abuses, and perhaps even a budget. The capital punishment situation may be inconvenient to two or three people, but the government can commute their sentences. However, it cannot commute, nor does it appear willing or able, and certainly it does not appear to have the ability or knowledge on how to commute the economic squeeze in which tens of thousands of honest Canadians find themselves. Let us deal with commuting their sentences, so that they can live as they should be able to live. Dealing with this legislation now rather than with important economic matters shows a callous disregard for the good, law abiding citizens of Canada. It is an abdication of responsibility in governing this great land.

I should like to take the time to point out that the controversy which is persuading Canada on whether we should have abolition or retention has been caused by the government's ineptitude in handling criminal justice. This whole question of abolition or retention would not be as emotionally charged today if the government had not misused the parole system during the last four or five years. If the government had not allowed convicted criminals to return to society after a far too brief stay in our penitentiaries, society would feel that justice was being served. The granting of weekend passes, for days and months at a time, has eroded the confidence of the Canadian public in our system, and today the Canadian public is demanding a return of capital punishment in order to give itself a feeling of protection from that portion of society known as the criminal element.

The 70 per cent of the Canadian people who want to retain the death penalty are making a conscious decision because they have been betrayed by the easy parole granted and the favouritism shown to the criminal element of our society. If the abuse of parole and the granting of leaves to criminals had not taken place, I am convinced that a true abolitionist bill would pass, hardly challenged. Not only is a true abolitionist bill an impossibility, and so recognized by the abolitionists, but the government has had to bring in this half-baked piece of legislation knowing that the majority of the Canadian people do not want even it passed. I know from having spoken with people in the parole service over the years that the general feeling is that they cannot rehabilitate the people in prisons. They have decided, therefore, to let them out on the streets as early as possible, hoping they could rehabilitate themselves better in society. This is not what the public expects. This is not what justice demands. We must protect society. Rehabilitation ought to be and should be a foremost consideration in sentencing, but the protection of society is just as important, if not more so, and the Canadian public is demanding that.

A second fault of the Liberal administration that has been in power since 1963, and which has undermined the confidence of Canadian society in criminal justice, has been the 100 per cent commutation by the so-called royal prerogative. This House of Commons, supposedly the highest court in the land, which makes the law, has had its powers usurped by a collection of some 20 cabinet ministers who sit in the so-called treasury benches. "Treasury benches" is a peculiar term, because the occupants of those benches cannot handle the treasury but they stick their noses into areas with which they are not supposed to deal. They have usurped and by-passed the laws of the land, and by breaking the law of the land I would say that they have committed a criminal act.

The law of the land as written in this book, the Criminal Code, provides for the death penalty in section 212, but in 100 per cent of the cases the members of the Cabinet have breached that law and made a law of their own, a function which the constitution does not grant them. Certainly, there is a royal prerogative of mercy, to be used in those few cases where mercy properly should be considered. But, Mr. Speaker, mercy should not be granted in 100 per cent of the cases because then mercy loses its meaning. The royal prerogative is not a prerogative when it becomes the final court proceeding.

You cannot tell me, Mr. Speaker, and nobody else in this House could convince me, that the Queen or her representative at any time has suggested that this prerogative be used in 100 per cent of the cases. It has only been used by those members who form the cabinet of the Liberal government, because they did not have the guts or the ability to carry out the law of the land. It was not their responsibility to make themselves the court. That function is carried out by others, by a judge and jury, duly selected.

For those two reasons, the misuse of parole and the misuse of the royal prerogative, the government has now caused society's great concern and has forced itself into an untenable position. This bill is neither fish nor fowl. It is not an abolitionist bill. The Solicitor General is an abolitionist. He has stated so. Even though he is an avowed abolitionist, he knows that he cannot successfully achieve that objective, and therefore is trying to put in the thin end of the wedge by means of this legislation. I say to him that if he is a true abolitionist let him bring in an abolitionist bill and get a true reflection of the feelings of the elected representatives in this House.

For many years I was an abolitionist. I regret, in many ways, that I am not one any longer. I am not voting against this bill because I know that 70 per cent of my constituents want to retain the death penalty. I am voting against this bill because I know that society as a whole feels cheated, and feels a need of protection. I will vote against this bill at all stages until we have adequately given society its proper right to experience a sense of security. I hope that in the next few years the royal prerogative will not be misused, that the parole system and leaves of absence will not be abused, and that this matter of abolition or retention can come up again after

society has experienced a period of security. At that time, I will be voting for the abolition of the death penalty.

● (1520)

I have no qualms about the loss of the life of a criminal. Mr. Speaker, we pay lip service to the loss of thousands of people each year through war and on the highways, and now we are trying to pay more lip service to that person who has taken a life than we do the many law-abiding citizens who lose their lives by accident. Life is important and it is precious—probably the most precious thing in this world but only to the person who possesses that life and to those persons who are near and dear to him or her. But nobody can convince me that the life of an unknown person is precious to me, as I did not know that person, so let us not pretend that this bill and abolition is the godly thing to do to protect the most precious thing in the world—life. Mr. Speaker, I am not convinced that we have to treat a person who has caused the death of another person in a criminal act any better than other criminals. It is only some philosophical moralistic burbling which causes certain people to shrink and shirk their proper duty.

Before taking my seat, I should like to inform this House, briefly that I have had experience in criminal law. For three years I prosecuted criminals in Ottawa, the capital city. I have prosecuted bank robbers who have committed five and six robberies and it is all there on their record. They are known as professionals. They call themselves and consider themselves professional robbers. On each occasion they have armed themselves with a sawed-off shotgun, a pistol, machine gun, a submachine gun, automatic rifle and with two or three companions entered a bank or the premises of their intended victim, after having planned for 10, 30 and sixty days in minute and complete detail every step that they were going to take. They have armed themselves, Mr. Speaker, with the full knowledge that they may use those weapons to take a life, and in most instances they are the types of people who would sooner shoot than give you the time of day.

I have no respect whatsoever for those people. They commit an armed robbery and are caught. They are given five years on their first attempt and they are out in 18 months. They are caught again, they get seven years and they are out in 2½ years. Perhaps they do not get caught for the next two or three times, but ultimately they are found out. Then, they are tried on two or three armed robberies at the one time and this time they are sentenced to ten or eleven years, so they are out in three or four years. Finally, in the course of a robbery they kill someone because that person happens to be interfering with their criminal act of robbing. When a criminal has such a record why should we give him special consideration? I think, Mr. Speaker, I would rather have special consideration given to the law-abiding public. Then, on the other hand, I have dealt with the criminals who were just sadists, and I would like to deal with one case in particular which gives some indication of whether or not the death penalty is a deterrent.

On January 3, 1969 at the end of the festive season, two couples, one couple in each car, were minding their own business and driving from Ottawa to Almonte. Three sadistic, brutal, vicious young men followed them for a period of what must have been 15 or 20 minutes or longer, then flagged down the cars pretending they were stranded at the side of the road. Then, having had the opportunity for 15 or 20 minutes of thinking what they were about to do, they cold bloodedly killed two men, the heads of families, while their wives watched, cowering underneath the dashboard of their car. They pumped bullet after bullet into those people, themselves unarmed, who were just good samaritans stopping to help somebody stranded at the side of the road. After having had an opportunity to consider what they were doing their course of action for 20 minutes, they deliberately murdered two men. The names of the three murderers were David John Brault, David Dwyer and Donald Phillion. It became known as the Carp murders. Now, the government and its advisers want us to vote in favour of those people.

Let me take this case one step further. I have here a partial copy of the transcript of the court proceedings, uncontradicted, of the preliminary hearing. The murderers went their separate ways after they had committed this act. One of them, David Dwyer, went to Windsor where he was tracked down by a police officer in the basement of a house. On page 251 of the transcript of the preliminary hearing, in examination in chief when giving identification, Mr. Chippit was asked:

Q. What name did you know him by at that time?

A. Dwyer, David Dwyer.

Q. When you saw him, how was he dressed?

A. He had a brown jacket on; hair blond and he had what appeared to be a .22 calibre rifle pointed at my head.

And a little later:

Q. How long was this weapon?

A. It was sawed off, cut down.

On page 252, continuing the examination in chief of Mr. Chippit:

Q. Was there any struggle?

A. No struggle at all, sir.

Q. Did Dwyer say anything at this point?

A. He just walked out very nonchalantly. After I said "Drop it", he said all right and walked out.

And a little later:

Q. Was there any conversation on the way to the station?

A. Yes there was.

Q. What was the conversation?

A. You are talking about conversation in the car after we left the scene?

Q. Yes.

A. That is correct.

Q. Yes?

A. The conversation was, if I remember, we were talking; it was brought up in regard—we were talking of an armed robbery in the city of Windsor. I stated, well, this time don't worry about it, and he—

Referring to Dwyer.

—said, "No, this is a bad city to pull a robbery." He says, "I have had better luck other places."

Q. This was Dwyer; is that correct?

A. This is correct.

Further, on page 254, continuing examination in chief:

Q. —What was the accused's attitude during the time you were in his company?

A. He was very nonchalant, sir. He asked me for a cigarette, and then when we were leaving the scene, or the car was leaving the scene in the police car W.H.Q.

Q. W.H.Q.?

A. Headquarters.

Q. Did you get the cigarette?

A. I looked at him and said, "You guys are crazy; just had a gun to my head and now you want a cigarette." He said—

This is referring to Mr. Dwyer.

—"I would not shoot you, I would hang for that."

That is the uncontradicted evidence of the preliminary hearing. Those men pleaded guilty and were sentenced for non-capital murder. As indicated, the Windsor police came to where Mr. Dwyer was staying in the basement, where he had his rifle in his hand, having a little target practice in the basement. When the police officer came down the man pointed the loaded rifle at his head but he did not shoot the police officer. As indicated in that transcript, ten minutes later when he was disarmed he asked the police officer for the cigarette and the police officer said "Man, you must be crazy, ten minutes ago you were in a position to shoot me and now you are asking me a favour; you want a cigarette". This person who had already killed two ordinary citizens for which he must have known he was not going to hang, then stated "I would not shoot you, I would hang for that." He did not hurt the police officer, because for that he would have had to hang. You say the death penalty is not a deterrent. There is proof. It was a deterrent for that criminal in that situation. If it was a deterrent for that person, it may be a deterrent for many others. I hope, as I have indicated, Mr. Speaker, that this legislation brought forward at this time will be defeated.

● (1530)

Mr. Cyril Symes (Sault Ste. Marie): Mr. Speaker, I wish to make it clear from the outset that, based on the evidence I have read and studied, I am in favour of abolishing capital punishmment in Canada. I, therefore, support the present bill as a compromise which extends abolition for five more years, except in the case of the murder of a police officer or a prison guard. I take this stand, Mr. Speaker, despite the survey that I sent to my constituents in January, in which 73 per cent of the over 4,000 people who replied indicated that they were in favour of retaining the death penalty. I know it would be politically safe to go along with them in what I consider a sincere decision on their part. But, Mr. Speaker, this is to be a free vote, and it is a vote of conscience. On the basis, of the evidence of my studies, I could not, with a clear conscience, support capital punishment.

I have listened to speeches in this House on capital punishment and read letters from individuals across Canada. What has struck me has been the legitimate concern of the public for its safety; but what disturbs me about much of this public concern is the lack of research and the undue emotionalism on which many of the arguments, both pro and con, are predicated. As I see it, if one is to argue for or against capital punishment, one can do so on three grounds: Whether or not the death penalty is a deterrent to crime; how society is to be protected from a repetition of capital offences by convicted criminals, and this of course involves parole policy; and, finally, to what degree should society seek the punishment or rehabilitation of the criminal. I should like now to put forth arguments on each of these three grounds, which I believe lead one who employs reason and logic to support the abolitionist position.

The most common argument used by those who are in favour of retaining capital punishment is that it serves as an effective deterrent to murder. Indeed, in response to my questionnaire on that question, 52 per cent of my constituents who replied thought that capital punishment was an effective deterrent. Common sense, it is argued by retentionists, tells us that people are afraid of death. Soldiers on the battlefield fear it, you fear it, Mr. Speaker, and I fear it. Likewise, it is argued that the potential murderer will not commit the crime of murder because of fear of execution. Yet does not common sense tell us that if we drive recklessly on the highway, without using a seat belt, we run the risk of a fatal accident? Does the fear of death stop the carnage on our highways? Doctors and medical science tell us that cigarette smoking contributes to death by lung cancer. Surely this warning, coupled with reason, would induce us to stop smoking; yet more people are smoking today than ever before.

The so-called common sense approach to the deterrent factor of death needs to be reassessed. A superficial analysis of this problem has no place in this debate. Common sense may tell us one thing, but reason tells us another. Reason, based on case study analysis, tells us that for many criminals the determining factor is not the fear of death or punishment but whether or not the criminal will be caught. The criminal commits the crime on the assumption he will not be caught. I can think of no better illustration of this than that in nineteenth century England, when pickpocketing was a capital offence and pickpockets were executed at public hangings, pickpockets made their greatest hauls at public executions when the eyes of the crowd were turned upward to the hangman's noose. Also, in nineteenth century England a chaplain who conducted 167 men to the gallows related that 164 of them had attended at public executions. Where was the deterrent?

The professional killers of organized crime, the political assassin or the man who commits homicide in the course of another crime, are not deterred by the death penalty. The professional killer is not deterred because murder is his job and, as he is skilled, he does not expect to be caught. The political assassin is not deterred, because to him the cause is the be all and end all, and he is ready to die for it. The thief who commits murder in the course of a robbery is not deterred, because in the majority of cases he does not plan to kill but does so as an immediate reaction to avoid capture.

According to my studies, such criminals account for only about 29 per cent of all murders in Canada, 71 per cent of murders in Canada being committed as a result of domestic quarrels or arguments with a friend. In these crimes, alcohol is often a contributing factor. Study after study has shown that the murder of a relative or friend, or the homicide committed by a drunk during a fight or by a mentally deranged person, is a murder committed on the spur of the moment, without premeditattion. It is committed in a fit of passion. The person in such a state of emotional hysteria thinks only of killing. He does not

reflect calmly on the fear of capital punishment. Capital punishment has not deterred criminals in the past; nor will it do so if it is reintroduced.

Canada abolished the death penalty in 1967, except for the murder of police and prison officials. Did this result in an increase in the frequency of murder in Canada? The important word here is, frequency. The number of murders increased, but this increase was part of the general increase in over-all crime, that is, in crimes of all categories. What is important is the rate of increase in homicides. The detailed and comprehensive study by Dr. Fattah of McGill University shows that the increase in criminal homicide is the lowest among all crimes of violence. Also, there is no indication of any consistent trend in the rate of homicide. The rate fluctuates from year to year. Indeed, the largest increase in the murder rate in Canada since 1964 occurred in the year before abolition, not in the year after. Nor has the retention of the death penalty as punishment for the murder of police or prison officials proved to be an effective deterrent. The largest number of police murders took place in 1962, when capital punishment was in effect. Two murderers were hanged that year. The murder of police has been on the increase since 1967, despite the fact that it is still a capital offence. Research shows that the murder rate of policemen is substantially similar in abolitionist and retentionist countries having the same social and economic conditions. Reason, Mr. Speaker, must convince us that capital punishment is not a deterrent to murder. We cannot retain hanging in Canada on the ground that it will reduce the homicide rate in this country.

The second ground for discussing this whole issue, as I mentioned, is, how is society to be protected from a repetition of capital offences by convicted criminals? It seems to me that much of the public's concern about the crime rate has to do with present-day parole procedures, the laxity of which in certain cases has led to the parole of dangerous criminals who have committed crimes while on parole. In my opinion, the way to alleviate this threat to the public's safety is not to parole certain types of criminals where rehabilitation is risky; for example, the sexual offender or the psychotic. Perhaps we should provide that the sentence of life imprisonment means the rest of a person's natural life in the case of a murderer involved in organized crime or a professional killer. The whole parole procedure should be reassessed and a more cautious approach should be taken in the matter of paroles. The public has a right to be concerned about our parole policy. I share their concern. However, I do not wish to dwell on this because I believe it is an ancillary issue to the real one we are debating in Bill C-2.

● (1540)

The other question before us, aside from the deterrent factor and the protection of society, is the degree to which we seek punishment and/or rehabilitation. Much of the debate has centered around the argument of a life for a life; he who murders should not expect mercy. I am perplexed that those who advocate capital punishment on the grounds that the murderer, because he has committed a most heinous crime, should be punished accordingly, do not carry their argument to its logical conclusion. If a man commits a brutal murder and if it is vengeance they want, is not hanging too good to him? Why not make him suffer as much as the victim? Why not revert to the medieval practice of torture before death?

We do not have to go back as far as the Middle Ages for an example of how this could be done. I refer to the case of Jean Calas in France in 1761. This event occurred in an age to which historians refer as the period of enlightenment; today, the age of reason. Jean Calas, a 64 year old Protestant merchant in Toulouse was falsely accused of strangling his son to prevent him from becoming a convert to Roman Catholicism. The public were outraged and wanted vengeance. He was tried, convicted of murder and sentenced to death. Calas appealed his case and, in order to elicit the truth, the court ordered that he be tortured until he confessed. Here is a description of what took place:

> The decision was appealed to the Parlement of Toulouse, which appointed a panel of thirteen judges. Sixty-three additional witnesses were heard. All the hostile evidence was hearsay. . . . The final decision condemned only the father. No one explained how a man sixty-four years old, unaided, could have overcome and strangled his mature son. The court hoped that Calas, under torture, would confess. He was subjected to the question ordinaire: his arms and legs were stretched until they were pulled from their sockets. He was repeatedly exhorted to confess; he repeatedly affirmed that Marc Antoine had committed suicide. After half an hour's rest he was put to the question extraordinaire; fifteen pints of water were poured down his throat; he still protested his innocence; fifteen further pints were forced into him, swelling his body to twice its normal size; he still maintained his innocence. He was allowed to expel the water. Then he was taken to a public square before the cathedral; he was laid upon a cross; an executioner, with eleven blows of an iron bar, broke each of his limbs in two places; the old man, calling upon Jesus Christ, proclaimed his innocence. After two hours of agony he was strangled. The corpse was bounded to a stake and burned (March 10, 1762).

If we carried out executions like that today we could, according to those who favour capital punishment, not only deter would-be murderers by the spectacle but satisfy our blood-lust for vengeance as well. I believe that Canadians are more civilized than that. Just as we no longer hang children for petty theft, as we did in Canada 150 years ago, so let us follow the civilized practice of the United Kingdom, Australia, Italy, Sweden, Finland, Austria, Germany and many other countries and abolish capital punishment. There is enough brutalization of society in our 20th century world without state murder.

If we are civilized, surely we should stress rehabilitation rather than vengeance. Where rehabilitiation fails or is impossible, let the punishment be life imprisonment, that is for the rest of the murderer's natural life. Let us not ignore the preventative aspect of the question. I have yet to see a baby born a murderer. We must work to eliminate these socio-economic environments which breed crime and distort human behaviour. If we put more effort into cleaning up slums, reducing unemployment and poverty, mending broken homes, tackling the problems of alcoholism and drug abuse and bringing in tighter gun controls, we will do more to reduce the crime rate in Canada than by throwing the criminals into jail or conducting them to the gallows.

I have tried to explain why capital punishment cannot be justified on the ground that it is a deterrent to crime. I have tried to show that society can be protected from the convicted criminal repeating a serious offence by a more

judicious parole system and tighter prison security. I have emphasized that rehabilitation is more important than retribution. I urge the members of this House and all Canadians not to regress to the barbaric practices of our ancestors. Surely, in a civilized and forward looking society, the philosophy of an eye for an eye or of brutal blood lust has no place. Man prides himself on his ability to reason. We pride ourselves on the rule of law that we have developed down through the ages. As Filippo Grammatica wrote in his treatise *Pena de Morte*, and I quote:

If the law of man does not allow murder, if murder has neither a human nor a social function and hence it is not lawful, if it is ill-advised, if it is immoral, if it is anti-aesthetic, how can it become lawful, moral, aesthetic and functional for a particular offence?

I suggest it can only become lawful if we forgo reason and regress to emotionalism or a primitive desire for revenge. Boris Pasternack wrote in his novel Dr. Zhivago, and I quote:

If the beast in man could be held down by threats—any kind of threat, whether in jail or retribution after death—then the highest emblem of humanity would be the lion tamer in the circus with his whip, not the Prophet who sacrificed himself.

It was that Prophet who, while hanging on the cross, forgave his murderers and taught us to pray "forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us". It is my sincere hope that, nearly 2,000 years later, we shall finally learn this lesson and abolish capital punishment in Canada.

● (1550)

[*Translation*]

Mr. Gilles Caouette (Charlevoix): Mr. Speaker, we are back again today on Bill C-2 and we see speakers rise one after the other, some of them wanting to retain capital punishment, others wanting to abolish it. What surprises me is precisely the fact that Bill C-2 in no way offers a choice between retention and abolition of capital punishment but is a request on the part of the government to postpone the decision on that issue.

We have arguments from both sides. Some hon. members say that capital punishment can diminish or reduce acts of violence in Canada; on the other hand, other hon. members on the basis of statistics, probably the same, say that it is not the solution to the problem. But everybody forgets that in the first place the government is not trying hard enough as far as the administration is concerned to minimize the incidence of murders or other offences. It is not doing enough to rightly help the population to live decently and it can be seen when studies are made in prisons that a good number of criminals come from low-income groups.

Theoretically, arguments and standpoints are easy to put forward but in reality, practically nothing is being done to control the causes of crime.

I read in the speech made by the right hon. Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau), and I quote:

Underlying all of these characteristics, which make our society so human, is the belief by Canadians that in such a social system they can flourish and pursue their lives free from fear of lawless elements.

I wonder whether the Prime Minister would say the same thing had he been attacked as some bank employees are, or had a member of his family been attacked as members of other Canadian families are? We realize that philosophizing is easy, but that concrete action is much more difficult. I resume my quotation from the Prime Minister's speech:

Jailbreaks will be dealt with as the enquiries and the Solicitor General recommend.

I remember that on February 9, when I asked the Solicitor General (Mr. Allmand) if he had read the report on the Pinel Institute inquiry on a psychiatrist who was implicated in murderer Réal Chartrand's case, the Solicitor General told me he had not. We are still waiting for his reply today, still waiting for a statement on the position of the government that part of the problem might be solved before abolishing the death penalty: first things must come first. The first thing the government should do is ensure the well being of society. The second, when citizens have broken the law, been caught and imprisoned, before anything else is to ensure the security of the places of detention.

No need to discuss the problem very long. We only need to read the latest newspapers to realize that there have been 34 escapes. Our prisons have become sieves. Is this the attitude of a law-abiding individual? Absolutely not. What steps are we taking? Inquiries! Inquiries leading where? Nowhere. This is exactly what happened after the inquiry allegedly made by the Solicitor General: no result. The psychiatrist is probably still in a position to parole criminals. Nothing is going to be done about that, yet the government is ready to help those who live on the fringe of society or of the law. As a matter of fact, the right hon. Prime Minister declared, and I quote:

. . . the administration of criminal justice in Canada. No ingredient in this process is less important than any other. None can be ignored by society; none will be ignored by the government.

However, because of the lack of action on the part of the government people are allowed to leave prisons, either as parolees, or as escapees—as is the case now—because of the inefficient prison administration. This is given as much importance as helping society.

I am seriously wondering. What does the government intend to do in this instance? Speaking of prisons, the right hon. Prime Minister said, and I am quoting:

Society intended them in the first instance to be secure. And this government intends to ensure that they are secure.

But what measures is it taking? Inquiries, again and again. Then, Members of Parliament are left to discuss the advisability of delaying or not the decision concerning capital punishment.

This whole system or argumentation is worthless because it does not guarantee prison security, it does not enable society to be sure that prisoners will remain in prison. And as a justification, the Prime Minister adds, and I quote:

And I say, too, with all the earnestness at my command that prisoners who have broken jail or who have exploited temporary leave and other humanitatian reforms—and who by doing so have placed these programs in jeopardy for thousands of other prisoners—

The government prefers helping prisoners to helping society. If some prisoners escape, they are recaptured and kept under surveillance, and people are sorry that they restricted other prisoners' freedom. One remembers the case of a prisoner who escaped, disappeared while visiting the Salon de la femme. How many law-abiding citizens are able to visit important functions such as the Salon de la femme, or go to hockey or football matches, as prisoners are allowed to? Can it be that the government prefers to help prisoners and maintain their standard of living, whatever their crimes, to the detriment of the rest of the population?

This is the funniest part of it all, and I shall end on this: the thing that surprises me most, of all the attitudes we see here in the House, is that those who do not want to take a stand, those who want to allow killers to go on killing, are the first to defend the right of abortion, the right to kill a child in its mother's womb. But they refuse the right to punish those who have killed a person. There is a double standard in the minds of these people.

Mr. Speaker, as long as the government will not consider different steps to be taken, rationally rather than emotionally, that is to say, as I said earlier, to secure the welfare of the people; as long as the government will not be assured that criminals will really remain in jail; as long as the government will not have statistics on the chances of rehabilitating some prisoners, namely those who have committed two or three murders and were allowed to return to society and commit another one before being put back in jail—which is precisely something about which society does not feel secure and in which it does not want to interfere—I suggest that we must at least create a feeling of fear among criminals by retaining capital punishment.

As a matter of fact, as soon as the government has passed legislation which will enable the Canadian people to feel secure and not to fear, whenever they are walking along the main streets of big cities, to be killed by some frightening person in the course of a holdup, we will feel better.

Criminals are ready to defend themselves but is society in a position to defend itself against such individuals? I am prepared to believe that statistics are of little meaning and that it is possible to use them to support opposite views but once again they do not in the least demonstrate the necessity of abolishing capital punishment now.

If the government by adopting measures—and I repeat it—guarantees to society the benefits I mentioned earlier, namely the welfare of the population, the security of jails and the rehabilitation of inmates, then it will be in a position to think of abolishing capital punishment.

This is briefly what I had to say today on capital punishment. Once more, I regret that Bill C-2 is nothing else than a measure to abolish or maintain capital punishment. Indeed, it is nothing else but a measure aimed at delaying this decision for quite a while.

Mr. Speaker, before voting on this bill, we should take our time to think about the pros and cons and above all to permit the government to act more efficiently in other areas than it seems prepared to do for deferring a decision such as that required by Bill C-2.

[Mr. Caouette (Charlevoix).]

This is what I had to say and, once more, I hope hon. members will take an honest decision on such a question before the vote.

• (1600)

[*English*]

Mr. Stan Darling (Parry Sound-Muskoka): Mr. Speaker, once more Bill C-2 has been presented to us for debate. To me, it seems stupid and ridiculous to waste the time of this House debating this bill when there is much more important business before the House which is of the greatest concern to the people of Canada. Parliament has been sitting for over four months now, and while some good legislation has been passed there is a great deal more waiting in the wings which is of vital importance, legislation that certainly should have been presented and passed into law by this time.

During the earlier part of the session when the debate took place I believe there were 35 eloquent and passionate speeches made both for and against capital punishment. The news media have polled about 91 members of the House and, with their expertise, have decided that the vote is going to be close. I believe only 10 members are wavering and have not yet made up their minds which way they intend to vote. I suppose it could be said by a great many of the members that just debating and debating the bill is an exercise in futility. We could quote the old statement: "My mind is made up, so don't confuse me with the facts".

We already know from the many eloquent speeches and quotations that anything that will be said from now on will only be repetition. I understand the right hon. Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) stated that as long as he is Prime Minister no one will hang. That statement was made a couple of weeks ago, but I believe he refuted it a little later. But regardless of that, since he has been Prime Minister, and in fact since 1962, there has been no capital punishment carried out. This is proof that this bill cannot be considered a high priority item and could very well be put at the bottom of the pile.

I understand that in Canada there is one lawyer for every 1,653 persons. However, the ratio is much greater in this House; I believe there are 63 lawyers among the 264 members. In fact, there could be even more, since some members who are qualified lawyers have another profession and may be differently classified. But with due respect to this august and most learned group, these legal people go on at great length speaking in terms and in language that the ordinary layman, especially the new member of parliament, does not understand. They speak about *de jure*, *de facto* and so on. I see no reason why they cannot speak plain, ordinary English so most of us can understand. Then, when these members send copies of their speeches in *Hansard* to their constituents, they will be able to understand it, too.

To get down to the bare bones of the case, I wish to state my position in no uncertain terms. I believe in some form of capital punishment as a deterrent, in the final analysis. If I decide to walk across this chamber, pull out a gun and shoot the Prime Minister in a cold-blooded and calculating manner, and if I am proven sane, I feel there is no other alternative for me but capital punishment. However, I am

not in favour of hanging. I think it is a gruesome and terrible form of capital punishment. Neither am I too impressed with the electric chair or the gas chamber. I feel some form of humane capital punishment is more appropriate, such as administering a drug which would be painless.

As we all know, statistics can be quoted one way or the other, depending on the views of the speaker. It is my belief that certain types of cold-blood and calculated murder can only be dealt with in one way. The dastardly murder of Pierre Laporte, a cold-blooded, premeditated murder, was a murder no one could deny fell into this category. We are all aware that the great majority of murders are crimes of passion, and there is no question that such murderers, if found guilty, will be sentenced to prison terms of varying duration. However, there are certain types of fiendish murder, such as rape killings, molesting and murdering of small children, which are so terrible and horrible that the greatest punishment must be available if circumstances warrant.

I am aware that many of the persons who commit this sort of murder are of unsound mind and on a great many occasions are committed to an institution. I have listened with great respect to many previous speakers, both at the present time and during the earlier debate, and in fact re-read a great many of the speeches that were made, and I was most impressed with them. However, whether we like it or not, we are living in a violent society. We have a great many depraved individuals running around loose who are potential murderers. We also have potential murderers running around loose as well as convicted murderers.

● (1610)

There are a great many cold-blooded gangsters who at this very moment in all probability, are plotting crimes which may lead eventually to the killing of some innocent victims. These certainly are not crimes of passion or crimes which are committed on the spur of the moment. This is the type of crime for which there should be the death penalty, if circumstances prove it is warranted. We have heard statistics quoted by previous speakers. While they concede that the number of crimes is up, they believe there are mitigating circumstances. The latest figures provided by Statistics Canada show that the number of violent crimes of murder has increased 113 per cent. Again, let me emphasize that I would recommend the most humane form of capital punishment available. This, I think, could be provided through an amendment. A great many speakers on the abolitionist side have gone into the gory details of hanging. They have resurrected ancient history by going back a thousand years.

One hon. member a short while ago cited a murder, and the terrible punishment involved, in the year 1762. Hon. members have gone into the matter in great detail. The right hon. member for Prince Albert (Mr. Diefenbaker) cited cases. I believe he went back to the time of William the Conqueror. Mr. Speaker, we are intelligent people. We are talking about capital punishment in this day and age, 1973. It is not necessary for us to refer to the gory details of ancient times or as far back as 1,000 years. This makes very good reading and makes cold chills run up and down the spines of many people. It starts them thinking that probably capital punishment should be abolished. Every day members of the police forces risk their lives trying to capture and imprison criminals. Then, they watch in dismay and anger while the courts juggle sentences that do everything except fit the crime. The more dangerous the criminal is the more protection the law seems to give him or her in attempting to evade prison, utterly ignoring the victim or possible future victims as soon as the criminal is loose again.

We seem to be going overboard in this permissive age in giving the greatest consideration to those who evade the law rather than to those who are the victims of the criminals. Several hon. members have forwarded questionnaires to their constituents. A great majority of these have been returned overwhelmingly in favour of the retention of capital punishment. Surveys taken by newspapers have also verified this. A survey taken by the Ottawa *Journal* last fall, with additions added to it, verified that over 90 per cent of the people were in favour of retention. Certainly, these 90 per cent could not be classified as morbid, vengeful people who have no compassion. I am aware that among younger people there are more in favour of abolition, but still the majority, the population favours some form of retention. I have received many letters from citizens in my riding outlining their views. The great majority favour retention of capital punishment. They also point out that this should not be restricted to the killing of policemen or prison guards, which would be the case if this particular bill should be enacted.

This brings up the point mentioned by previous speakers that this bill is neither flesh nor fowl. It is neither a bill for abolition nor for retention. There are, I believe six clergymen who are members of the opposition. I believe we should listen more closely to what is said by the six clergymen in this august House. A poll of these six members shows that three are in favour of abolition and three are in favour of retention. Certainly these distinguished and honoured members of this House should not be classified as vengeful people. I believe there is one clergyman on the government side who, I imagine, would be an abolitionist.

I should like to comment on that great moulder of public opinion, the news media. I believe a poll of this group would probably show the great majority to be in favour of total abolition. Therefore, it follows that editorial stories and news reports are slanted quite often in such a way as to portray the position of the writer. Cartoons show the scaffold and noose in the chilling dawn. On Tuesday morning of last week, I was up bright and early listening to the CTV news program "A.M." which I believe came on at eight o'clock. The reporter was giving news of the world. Then, he casually mentioned that the capital punishment bill would be debated on that day, which it was. Certainly, that statement was not biased in any way. However, behind him there was a cartoon denoting the noose and the scaffold. If that is not biased reporting by the CTV news media, then I do not know what is.

The Toronto *Star* some while ago made some comments on this bill and included a cartoon with a grey coloured chilly dawn, a scaffold and a rope. This makes the situation as gruesome as possible. Why should the cartoon not depict the sordidness of the murder of a young woman or child rather than this. *Weekend* magazine had quite an

article on hanging. Again, however, this is a misnomer in a way. This bill is called the hanging bill. It is a bill to retain capital punishment. It will enable the cabinet to reprieve the sentence, as the have done in the past.

Mr. Speaker, last week we listened with great interest to the Prime Minister (Mr. **Trudeau**), the Leader of Her Majesty's Loyal Opposition (Mr. Stanfield) and the Leader of the New Democratic Party when they spoke in sequence. As we know, they are all abolitionists. The Prime Minister cited the position of the government as well as the Solicitor General (Mr. Allmand) and voiced his opinion. Our own leader voiced his opinion. The eloquent and knowledgeable or know-it-all Leader of the New Democratic Party stated his opinion as if it were the Papal edict and the only one which should be considered. He stated he was an abolitionist. He conceded that the people in his riding were in favour of retention but that they probably did not know what they were talking about. He went on at great length to point out that this House should make the decision. Naturally, he was putting across his case for total abolition.

It has been emphasized during this debate by those who are putting across the case for abolition that those who are retentionists must be acting primarily on the basis of vengeance or on the basis that capital punishment is a deterrent. However, this idea of vengeance is really pleaded in a most vehement way. And, of course, they cite vengeful forms of capital punishment in use throughout the past 100 years.

● (1620)

There is one other thing which we must emphasize, and this has been brought out time and time again. We speak about compassion and mercy. It seems to me that all the compassion and mercy is for the criminal or the murderer. There does not seem to be too much consideration or compassion for the victim or for his loved ones who are left behind. They do not seem to be considered. It is the opinion of the abolitionists that no matter how depraved the criminal is, he can certainly be rehabilitated and put back into society. I think we are all aware that there are certain individuals for whom redemption is not possible and, therefore, they should be eliminated from society in the most painless way possible.

The ordinary man and woman have lost their faith in justice and those in authority, seem to be on the side of the criminal. The hon. member for Red Deer (Mr. Towers) suggested in the earlier debate that a referendum be held at the next general election. I am certainly willing to stand up here and vote as my conscience tells me. If it is the opinion that there should be a general referendum, then possibly there is merit in this suggestion. However, let me tell you that it seems to me the great majority of those who favour abolition are diametrically opposed to any referendum being held, and with good cause. They know only too well that a referendum will show that people are overwhelmingly in favour of retention, and we have these figures, 70 per cent, to put it at its lowest, or 90 per cent to put it at its highest, to prove that is the case.

Capital punishment for the criminal who has committed first degree murder must be put back on the statute books and enforced. Beyond the shadow of a doubt, justice must not only be done but must be seen to be done. A great many members of this House have been quoting learned people and experienced penologists. They have quoted Dr. Fattah, Dr. Thinner, and so forth. It might be a good idea to read into the record some of the comments of just plain, ordinary citizens. I have some letters here. One of them reads:

> Dear Mr. Darling: We wish to inform you we are against the government continuing its policy of abolishing the death penalty.
>
> Mr. X of Bracebridge.

Here is another one, and this one might be considered biased because it comes from a retired Royal Canadian Mounted Policeman. He writes:

> Mr. Stan Darling: Mad dog murderers should be disposed of permanently, not stored up in the pen. This means not only for the killing of policemen and prison guards, but for any other person. The entire population must receive this benefit. It is not the question of a deterrent, it is the question these murderers mut pay with their life—as simple as that. Politicians must be virile, strong people, look the matter squarely in the face. If any of their family or close friends were murdered, they would be the first to raise a fuss. As an ex-mountie, I, like other policemen, are sick of the pampering of criminals. No wonder the country is weak and divided . . .

And he goes on.

The following was conveyed to me by telephone by a merchant in the town of Huntsville:

> One of your voters wishes you to know that I have been talking to hundreds of people re capital punishment and they want it reinstated 99 per cent.

Then, he said: "Are you in favour of it?" Here is another letter which reads:

> We, the undersigned, wish to express to you our desire for the restoration of capital punishment for the crime of murder.

I could go on and on, and read all these into the record. These letters are from God-fearing citizens. Certainly, I have received letters from those who are in favour of abolition, but the letter run ten to one in favour of retention. I believe that three of the ministers in my riding stated that they hoped parliament would consider abolition on compassionate grounds.

We must forget about this inane compassion and mercy toward premeditated killers. This House will have to decide. I know the vote will be close, and I know the people of Canada are looking very closely at how this will turn out. When the time comes, I will be casting my vote for the retention of capital punishment. Let me hope that if I am privileged to be in the House for a number of years I will be here long enough to see the time when Canadians will be able to abolish capital punishment, but we are in a society now that does not warrant it.

Miss Flora MacDonald (Kingston and the Islands): Mr. Speaker, I enter this debate with some reluctance only because I want to see the bill sent to committee at the earliest possible moment, and I do not want to prolong the discussion. But I do hope that having reached committee stage certain amendments might be considered. For while I support the bill in principle and shall vote for it, I have two major reservations. First, being in favour of the total abolition of capital punishment, I find it illogical to make exceptions for any one group, be they prison guards, police officers or heads of state. Others have dealt with this

aspect of illogicality, and I shall not repeat their reservations which I share. Second, I do not believe that we need another five year trial period, and I shall return to that point later. Also, I regret that this debate on the retention or the abolition of capital punishment—for that is really what we are debating—is taking place at a time when the viability and effectiveness of both the penitentiary system and the parole services have been called into question by an increasingly sceptical and resentful public.

Recurring prison breakouts have become synonymous in the minds of many Canadians with the present debate on capital punishment to the extent where some people are quite convinced that all inmates are guilty of murder. I think we have a responsibility to delineate the differences in these major areas of concern, that is between capital punishment and reforms to the penitentiary and parole systems, in order to correct the distortion and the confusion that now abound.

We are all primarily concerned with the protection of society from the crime of murder. That goes without saying. There is no one here who does not consider the protection of the public to take precedence over every other concern. The question that naturally follows is whether or not capital punishment is a protective measure. It is, only if it can be clearly proven that it has a deterrent value. But the statistical evidence for such a conclusion is lacking.

I have heard statistics used to support the abolition of the death penalty and I have heard them used to support the retention of the death penalty. One statistic I have not heard used is that there have been only two murder repeats in Canada since 1897. Professor Fattah's study, which has been referred to repeatedly in this debate, shows that murder as a component of violent crime has risen less than other crimes of violence in recent years. His conclusions firmly state that "the increase in criminal homicide in Canada during recent years cannot be attributed to the suspension of capital punishment." He rejects the argument that capital punishment is a significant deterrent.

● (1630)

Other studies based on research done in the United States where, until a recent United States Supreme Court decision, individual states had the right to establish a death penalty or not for whatever crime they deemed necessary, have shown, (a) that the death penalty has had no discernible effect on homicide death rates; (b) that abolitionist states have fewer killings of police officers than states with the death penalty, and (c), that a comparison of homicide rates in states that have abolished the death penalty, before and after abolition, shows that abolition did not give rise to significant change in homicide rates. In Canada murder rates have increased less than many other indictable offences. Since the abolition of the past five years has resulted in no significant increases in murder rates, we can probably predict with some degree of accuracy that a return to capital punishment would not significantly reduce homicide rates.

But the area to which I would like specifically to direct my attention is rehabilitation rather than the contentious, and to this point unresolveable, argument about deterrence. And I must admit candidly that I find it difficult to discuss this or any other aspect of the capital punishment debate with dispassionate objectivity.

Having been involved in voluntary work in the prison system, having spent long hours in discussion with people sentenced for murder, having seen the work and effort put forward by individuals to rehabilitate themselves, all make it impossible for me to approach this debate impersonally. And I must say in this connection that having seen what some individuals have accomplished in the way of rehabilitation, my response to them is one of admiration. On occasion, I have accompanied inmates on their day out, have had women sentenced for murder visit my home while on special passes, and I have seen them go on to earn their parole and re-establish themselves in their communities. I know businessmen and community workers, in this city and in others, who were once convicted of murder and who are now contributing members of society.

There are other individuals currently in our penal institutions who have utilized their time to upgrade their skills and their education—yes, people who have committed murder, but who have spent long years working through correspondence to a university degree in social work, in law, in the arts and in other fields. And their acquired knowledge is being used to benefit their fellow inmates.

I mention these people only to express my firm belief in rehabilitation. These people, on whom society might have inflicted capital punishment, remained instead to contribute to that society. You may ask, but what about their victims and the relatives of their victims? What about compassion for them? I admit that I have never known the relatives of a person who has been murdered. But my stand in favour of abolition would in no way be changed were I to do so, for execution of a murderer would not restore the victim to life, nor would it comfort or solace his family and friends. It makes no sense to me that one protects the sanctity of human life by taking a life. If we consider that an act of violence, hanging, is necessary to avenge an earlier act of violence, murder, then surely we are saying that our society is bankrupt in its struggle to reach new levels of humanitarianism.

I cannot rid my mind of the possibility of mistakes being made in our judicial system. Neither our judges nor juries, like all other human beings, are without their imperfections. In this connection just the other day I read a letter in the Ottawa *Citizen* as follows:

> We have heard quite a few times about the date of the last hanging in Canada. How much do we know about the first one? While reading in the Kingston Public Library about the town (or village as it was then) of Bath, Ontario, in 1795, I found it was there the first hanging took place. The man was charged with stealing a watch and later was proved to have been innocent.

That was our first public hanging in this part of the country.

I wish to return now to my reservation about the five year trial period. We have already had one five year trial period, much of which has been wasted because the government and the department ignored, neglected or deliberately decided to do little or nothing in the way of research that would have provided the basic data and hard facts about murder on which a better informed judgment could have been made of this question at this time. I realize that

Professor Fattah's study has been published, but its terms of reference were limited primarily to the deterrent effect of capital punishment. Professor Ciale of the University of Ottawa is engaged in a more in depth study, but when will it be available? At the committee stage, I would like to see an amendment introduced reducing the trial period from five to two years, during which intensive efforts would be made to correlate information about those who have committed murder with mental stability, social and economic background, motivations, and many other factors, for I am convinced that not only murder but most crime is rooted in our slums, in our broken homes, in our deprived areas and with our deprived citizens.

Capital punishment is not the answer to the eradication of crime, but a concerted attack on the ills of society could be the answer. I urge this intensive study, Mr. Speaker, for we know so little about the reasons that turn people into criminals. In this connection, I wish to recount an incident which took place recently in one of our federal institutions. Dr. Jean Vanier was speaking to a group of about 200 inmates and his message to them was his well known appeal for change, for sharing, for love. "Every man has the right to know he is loved," he concluded.

A moment of silence followed Dr. Vanier's address. Then, one inmate in the audience burst out in an emotional indictment of the social conditions which brought him to a long sentence in prison. His words were like these: "You were speaking about, like, children going through hell. Well, you had it easy. You don't know what it's like to have your bloody brother stand by when you're eight years old while boy friends rape you. You don't know what its like to be burned with a cigarette. "You don't know what it's like to be six years old, and your junky old man comes home too sick to think, and you reach out and you cook the dust for him. Friends call you from the lane. You go to the window and say 'Wait a minute.'

"Your little sister bumps you. Out goes the fist with the fix. Your old man jumps from where he is sitting at the table, kicks you in the head and breaks your jaw, picks you up and throws you clear across the room against the wall. "You don't know what its like to have to steal out of parked cars and sell in pawn shops to feed yourself and your little twin sister, your kid brother and kid sister. And you have to end up hustling your body when you're nine years old because you can't provide no more by stealing—you can't get enough to fill their needs.

"You don't know what it's like to end up trying to escape the same way your folks tried to escape, with a fix, and you're ten years old—having to hustle even more. "You don't know what it's like to be 11 years old and walk into the room at 2 o'clock in the morning just to have the man in blue grab you and haul you away to a reform school until they can find a foster home for you, because they have busted your folks, and you have to bounce around. "Until you know—until the world knows and does something about it they better never speak to me about love cause I'll kick their head in!" That was the answer given to Dr. Vanier.

● (1640)

Until we know—until we know that it is situations like this in which crime flourishes and escalates—until we are willing to face up to the relationship between crime and social and economic injustice, we shall go on arguing and agonizing about the band-aid approach of capital punishment to a deeply ingrained cancerous illness which afflicts our nation.

Let us bring this debate to a quick conclusion so that we can direct our efforts and our energies to tackling the problem at its roots.

[Miss MacDonald (Kingston and the Islands).]

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Barry Mather (Surrey-White Rock): Mr. Speaker, this is a debate centering on the government's proposal for suspension of the law on capital punishment in Canada for a further five year period. It is an important debate and is being followed, I am sure, by a great many Canadians in every part of the country, but it is a curious debate. It is curious because the government, as far as I have been able to ascertain, has given no indication that in the event of the defeat of its proposal in parliament it will respect that decision any more than it respected the decision of parliament taken about six years ago requiring the death penalty for the murderers of prison guards.

Mr. Speaker, aside altogether from whether we favour abolition or restoration of capital punishment, and I have heard extremely good arguments on both sides, as we have heard them today, I submit that the government's failure to respect the decision of parliament, of this House and this body of people representing the people of Canada in the matter of carrying out the decision taken six years ago regarding capital punishment has, in my view, led to a lessening of public belief in parliament and to an eroding respect for that part of our democratic fabric known as the law of the land. Mr. Speaker, I say this is a curious discussion with great towering speeches which, so far as we know, will have no real effect on whether the policy of Canada will or will not be that of capital punishment. As has been said by a notable speaker of many centuries ago about the speeches of one of his contemporaries, "His speeches are like palm trees—they soar high but bear no fruit."

This is the first point I should like to make; that the government should state clearly that it will now respect the decision of parliament in this matter as to the retention, suspension or abolition of capital punishment. Otherwise, our talk here will be empty and those who sent us here will know it. It is natural that there has been a good deal of emotion in the speeches we have heard so far. The death penalty is a matter about which we are apt to have feelings and beliefs and/or prejudices that have their roots perhaps far back in our ancestral past. These feelings naturally influence our views and utterances on this subject.

For example, I suppose that we all know of people who will listen to no arguments for the abolition of capital punishment. Their hearts, and therefore their minds, are already made up. Some of them, surprisingly to me, are religious people. They are among the foremost in demanding restoration of the death penalty, seemingly not so much for any hope that it may save human life by acting as a deterrent. Really, as I understand their letters and I think many hon. members will have recieved similar let-

ters, these people have feelings and desires for retribution and indeed vengeance in this situation.

On the other hand, Mr. Speaker, we have abolitionists, not a few of them in my own party who recoil, who shut their ears and close their eyes to any arguments that it may well be right for a community to take a life which has destroyed the lives and liberties of other individuals and which threatens to do so again or which acts as an example, if unchecked, to others with like murderous or violent designs. No such prejudice motivates me, Mr. Speaker. I approach this subject as pragmatically as I did 15 years ago when I first proposed to the then Conservative government that consideration should be given to a five-year suspension of capital punishment for a trial period.

At that time, Mr. Speaker, as you may recall, back in 1958 there was at least in my part of the country, British Columbia, and no doubt other parts, a great controversy over the question of capital punishment or no capital punishment. Indeed, it continues to this day. It appeared to me then, and again in 1968 after I was elected to this House, that we should have a five-year or at least a test period without capital punishment. This came into being about 1967 and it was taken, I thought, after a great deal of soul-searching and debate and was supported by some members, including myself, solely on the basis that it would indeed provide some gauge or test of whether capital punishment was necessary in this modern age. I certainly supported that vote for the five-year suspension and, like many others, I kept track of the results of that five-year period.

The question I asked myself then and which I ask myself today is: does the absence of the law of capital punishment in the form of the death penalty utilized by the community, result in the increase in capital punishment which takes the form of murder by individuals who decree death and who carry out the execution of another? If it does, if the absence of capital punishment results in the loss of human life and liberty, then surely we must still, at this stage of our social development, retain it. If it does not, if collective capital punishment is not a deterrent to individual capital punishment, then I believe we should get rid of it.

In making the representation for a five-year trial period suspension of the death penalty in Canada in 1968, I did so as a writer, not then a member of this House. My feeling then and since has been the pragmatic one that such a test period could help to provide the public, the parliament and government of our country with a gauge to help to decide whether people still require the preventive and deterrent factor of the death penalty. I did not know and I had on open mind. I retain that view.

As I have said, and as others have said, I kept close tabs on the result of the suspension of capital punishment. The result is disconcerting to those who claim that capital punishment does not deter killing. Statistics Canada has the record and the record is this. An average of 360 people, being about one per day, have been murdered per year in Canada during the five-year non-death penalty period as compared to 233 persons per year in the previous five-year period. In 1971, the last year for which I have records, the number of murders had risen to 422—this against the 233 figure when capital punishment was at least on the books. That is an increase of 65 per cent in the number of murders during the five-year suspension period, from 1.3 murders per 100,000 population to 2.5 per cent. In light of those figures, I think the government would do well to take back the present proposal for a further five-year extension of the period of non-capital punishment.

• (1650)

Like the previous speaker, I would agree to a shorter period, say of two years. In view of the importance of the issue of violence, death, crime, and all the factors that are involved in it, I think the entire subject might be given further consideration and a more realistic decision might be arrived at than the one we are liable to arrive at now on the one or other side of this question. Certainly, the absence of capital punishment for murder in the past five year suspension period has been accompanied by a very substantial increase in the number of murders in Canada and the murder rate in Canada has gone up. The absence of the penalty, in my view, is not necessarily linked to the increase in the rate; nevertheless, it is there and I think that a further five year period of trial is too long. I think the further trial period should be for two years when, as I suggested, the whole matter could be further discussed.

It seems to me that those of us who wish and work for a more humane, more small "L" liberal, philosophy with respect to the rehabilitation of criminals should stop and take note of the fact that in recent years in North America it almost seems as if the rate of violent crime has been rising in direct proportion to the extension of so-called permissive steps. We will not help the improvement of the treatment of those who break the law if we close our eyes or our ears to the facts of life—in this case, to the facts of death. That will not help those who seek to reform our system of discipline. I think the reverse very likely will be the case.

In the light of the record of the previous five-year suspension of capital punishment period, in the light of the rising wave of crime and violence and the erosion of civil rights and liberty, I cannot support the present proposal of the government for a further five-year suspension of capital punishment. I think that if the suspension period were two years, as I have suggested, there might be a more comprehensive investigation of this cancer of violence which is afflicting North America in particular. I think a two-year ban would win support not only among members of this House, but among many members of the public who, having seen and felt the results of the first five-year suspension, would be unwilling to risk a second such period.

In conclusion, may I refer briefly to an article I wrote for the Toronto *Star* in the fall of 1971 on this subject. I said that the rate of murder in the suspension period up to that time was up by 53 per cent. Assaults were up by 52 per cent, according to my article. The rate for attempted murder had doubled in the same period, and so on. In fairness, I also noted that in 1970 one fire accounted for 40 victims, but only one person was charged. That should not be overlooked. Nevertheless, the rate of violent crimes had increased and has increased since then in Canada. These factors are important in determining how we are to review the matter of parole, sentencing, and rehabilitation procedures, which we are trying to improve.

Capital Punishment

We are dealing with a subject of extreme and vital importance to all Canadians, and I think we had better deal with it before, as has happened in many American cities, it is unsafe for us to walk alone at night and citizens, knowing themselves to be without real protection from violence by their constituted authorities, take the law into their own hands in the form of guns. If that happens, we will have everybody's law, which is nobody's law, and murders and violent crimes will grow among us. I, for one, hope to see us taking logical and sensible action on the issue before us. In my opinion, it is preferable that we not have a five-year suspension of capital punishment but a two-year suspension period. If that were done, we might well offset something, which I foresee arising in addition to crimes of violence, namely, an outraged and fearful public, whose backlash can erode our civil liberties just as surely as those are now threatened by the violent.

Mr. Douglas Roche (Edmonton-Strathcona): Mr. Speaker, some members regard this debate on capital punishment as a waste of time because each member knows how he or she will vote, irrespective of the speeches of colleagues. However, I think the debate has been good, because it has shown the serious division of opinion not only in this House, but among the public. Thus there is no immediate answer that will receive genuine, widespread approval. We must search for the best possible solution that will ensure as much as possible the proper penalty for murder and the security of the state.

As we know, and as those who have taken part in the debate have dwelt on, we have been asked to debate a bill that has three purposes: To reinstate the five-year extension of the ban on hanging, which expired on December 29, 1972, and to extend the ban to December 31, 1977; to eliminate the term "capital murder" in relation to murder punishable by life imprisonment; and to ensure that the definition of murder punishable by death refers to the murder of a police officer and prison guard, and so on.

The main issue, as we know, is whether Canada should abolish or retain capital punishment. Since 1962, no one has been hanged in Canada, and although there have been four convictions for the murders of police officers since 1968, the cabinet has commuted each one. Studies about the effects of capital punishment as a deterrent are inconclusive, not only in Canada but in other countries. For instance, the New Zealand experience of abolition and reinstatement of capital punishment shows that there is no significant effect on the murder rate.

From this point I want to develop my argument in depth Mr. Speaker, so I wonder if I could call it five o'clock and return to my remarks after the supper recess.

PROCEEDINGS ON ADJOURNMENT MOTION

SUBJECT MATTER OF QUESTIONS TO BE DEBATED

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Laniel): Order, please. Pursuant to Standing Order 40, it is my duty to inform the House that the questions to be raised tonight at the time of adjournment are as follows: the hon. member for Central Nova (Mr. MacKay)—Unemployment Insurance—Study on decentralization of offices—Publication of report; the hon. member for Meadow Lake (Mr. Nesdoly),—Agriculture—Brucellosis—Request that compensation to farmers be equated with fair market value—Suggested vaccination program; the hon. member for Scarborough East (Mr. Stackhouse)—Housing —Rochdale College—Possible use after foreclosure.

It being five o'clock, the House will now proceed to the consideration of private members' business as listed on today's order paper, namely, public bills, private bills and notices of motions.

PRIVATE MEMBERS' PUBLIC BILLS

CANADA ELECTIONS ACT

AMENDMENT TO ESTABLISH PERMANENT VOTERS' LIST

Mr. Judd Buchanan (London West) moved that Bill C-17, to amend the Canada Elections Act (permanent voters' list), be read the second time and referred to the Standing Committee on Privileges and Elections.

He said: Mr. Speaker, the purpose of Bill C-17, an act to amend the Canada Elections Act, is to change our present system of enumeration and to provide a permanent voters list. I am proposing this bill with the full understanding of the objections raised by such people as the Chief Electoral Officer and the representation commissioner about the feasibility of such a system. Our present system may be good; however, the problems of disenfranchisement, particularly those of the last election, indicate to many of us that it is not good enough. We, as a nation possessing high quality technical and human resources are capable of something better.

● (1700)

Today, Mr. Speaker, I should like to briefly outline why a change is needed in our present system, why a permanent voters' list would be more advantageous and what some of the possible systems are that we might borrow from or adopt. It is my belief, Mr. Speaker, that all members of this House are concerned that thousands of Canadians are denied the right to participate on the most fundamental level of our political system, elections. It is my hope that out of a concern for this problem, the members of this House will refer Bill C-17 to the Standing Committee on Privileges and Elections so that a thorough and extensive discussion of this important question can take place.

As in many western democracies, the concept of political participation plays a very important role within the Canadian political system. The right of a Canadian citizen to vote in elections has evolved from a period of restricted male suffrage to our almost complete state of universal suffrage. Because we have not always enjoyed universal suffrage, Canadians regard highly their right, at one time

their privilege, to participate in the electoral process. Compared to our neighbour to the south, we enjoy a relatively high enumerated voter turnout with some 70 to 80 per cent voting at each federal election. Thus, when the right to participate is denied a legitimate claimant, there is a grave and serious problem that must be overcome. The individual voter is upset and so are the foundations of our democratic system.

Our experience, particularly that of the last election, tells us that a great number of eligible Canadian voters were not enumerated and were unable to vote. During the election campaign of 1972, newspaper editorials and letters to the editor pointed daily to the inadequacies of our present system of enumeration. Many blamed these inadequacies on the new electoral law, on the shortage of time in which the election was called or on the fact that there were not enough good people to carry out the enumeration properly. However, problems such as these have existed in the past and we have coped with them. However, with the increasing population and the growing complexity and mobility of Canadian society, their present adequacy is in question.

Failure on the part of our present system to enumerate those who have a permanent and fixed residence is only one problem. It has been estimated that at least 6 per cent of these potential voters are not enumerated. There is another larger group of citizens who are continually disenfranchised because our present system has an enormous difficulty in coping with their residence status at the time of an election. These are the eligible voters who are living away from home, within or outside Canada, at the time of the election or those who are travelling here or abroad. The Canada Elections Act of 1970 did make provisions for proxy voting for fishermen, prospectors, the physically ill and students. However, the procedure involved is almost intimidating to the potential voter. For those Canadians who are travelling or temporarily living abroad, no real provision for absentee voting exists. At present, before this House, there are three bills, C-43, C-56, and C-140, and one motion that are attempting to rectify this problem and extend the franchise to those who are excluded. It is my belief that a permanent electoral list would provide the necessary checks and information to facilitate absentee and proxy balloting.

Poor enumeration can restrict people from voting but, perhaps more important, it can foster feelings of alienation and/or discontent among those affected. Even if people want to vote, they seem reluctant to overcome the obstacle of not having been enumerated. Often they turn to one of their candidates for help, but in a great many cases they are too late and succeed only in further aggravating themselves.

Another problem that supports the argument for a change in the system is the length of our present campaign and the resulting time span between parliaments. In the 1970's, with our systems of transportation and communication, one wonders if a 60-day election campaign is not an anachronism. Long campaigns involve an excessive wastage of time, energy and money. The public become saturated to the point of distinterest by the continual bombardment of events and news of the election. A shorter election campaign would ease the physical and emotional burden of all those concerned, including the candidates.

Of greater importance is the fact that the inevitable disruption in government caused by elections could become a serious problem. Since 1867, the average time between the date of the election and the first day of the new parliament is 82.7 days. On 20 occasions since 1867, the period has been more than 60 days. If we add this period to a long election campaign, almost a third of our year has vanished. In the world today, things happen too fast. If emergencies arise or problems have to be dealt with, will our present system allow us to adequately deal with them?

In trying to evaluate and compare systems of enumeration, I think that there are four basic criteria which should be kept in mind; first, comprehensiveness of enumeration; second, possible effects on voter turnout; third, time required to hold the election after the election writ is issued and, fourth, cost per person enumerated. It seems highly possible that we can develop a system of a permanent electoral list, which is updated periodically and which may be revised up to the fifteenth day before polling day, which would surpass our present system on all of the basic criteria except the fourth, cost per person enumerated. I would like to discuss briefly some of the present systems of permanent voter lists in our country and elsewhere, and to point out their advantage in the areas of enumeration, voter turnout and time. Before proceeding with this, I think it is necessary to examine the question of cost.

Nelson Castonguay in his report on "Methods of Registration of Elections and Absentee Voting" in 1968 concluded, and I quote:

> The system of continuous electoral rolls currently in use in the Commonwealth of Australia, including the method of compulsory registration on the part of the electors, can be adapted for use in federal elections in Canada, to reduce the time required for the holding of elections and to provide improved facilities for voting by electors.

However, he felt that such a system would be very costly. Other analysts have reached the same conclusion, that a permanent electoral list would cost more. The important question must then be asked: Are the benefits that will be derived from a permanent list worth the cost? If a permanent voters' list means that fewer people will be left off the rolls, the answer must be yes. In addition, if the same list were utilized by other levels of government, the provinces and municipalities, the cost per voter at each election would be significantly reduced.

On a more practical level, it must be noted that we have experienced an election every 3.6 years since confederation. When elections have been close together, such as the ones in 1957 and 1958, the cost of the latter enumeration has been very low. In 1957, 4.38 persons were enumerated per dollar spent. In the present period, when parliaments do not sit the full five years, the cost of the permanent list will not be as great as predicted.

Another practical administrative detail that should be considered is the problem of getting a sufficient number of relatively competent enumerators in the future. This problem was used as an excuse during the last election. Effective implementation of a permanent list, which would be

updated annually and have provisions for revision prior to the election, would require a permanent staff, and temporary employees needed could be used every year. If Canada were to adopt a system with a permanent electoral list, we would have to tailor one to meet our own needs. Because of our geographic size and the mobility of our population, it is clear that a permanent list, if it is to be an effective one, must not only be updated periodically, but must also be subject to revision quite close to election day.

The province of British Columbia and the Commonwealth of Australia are two examples of systems of continuous electoral rolls allowing revision up to a fixed date before polling day. From the Representation Commissioner's report of 1968 on "Methods of Registration of Electors and Absentee Voting", I should like to summarize the main points of these two systems and the benefits afforded by others mentioned.

● (1710)

In British Columbia, no yearly registration campaign takes place. Persons duly registered who vote at each election have their names retained on the electoral rolls. If a person moves and notifies the Registrar of the fact, the rolls are amended accordingly. If he does not so notify the Registrar, he may vote by absentee ballot as if residing at his former address, provided such address can be considered his place of residence by the terms of the Elections Act. Registrars keep their rolls up to date throughout the year by the addition of new registrations and by noting changes of address forwarded to them by the electors concerned. Registered persons who did not vote in the election are sent postcards and if they are returned undelivered, their name is taken off the rolls. Several years ago, all the rolls were cancelled and a complete registration took place. The method usually employed to keep the rolls uo to date is to cancel the rolls for certain electoral districts and take a door-to-door canvass, carried out by enumerators to compile new rolls for those districts. In other electoral districts, a partial cancellation may take place with registration centres set up at convenient places for the use of electors. Before the 1966 election, all registered voters were sent a card telling them they were eligible to vote. Those cards which were returned indicated to the registrar that the voter had changed his status in some way. A massive advertizing campaign encouraged those who did not receive cards to register at local centres or by mail. The onus to register is thus placed on the individual. The mailing procedure is supplemented periodically by a door-to-door campaign. Since there is a permanent list, a relatively secure system of absentee voting is possible.

Under the Australian system, enrolment as an elector is compulsory and responsibility for enrolment rests on the elector. In order to be enrolled, persons must sign an electoral claim which is available from all post offices and electoral offices. An annual review of the urban areas is carried out by casual labour making use of such aids as death certificates, prison records, etc. In rural areas, this review is undertaken by means of an electoral agency system which employes persons, usually public officers such as postmasters and police officers, who are appointed to note the changes which have taken place. Postal voting is permitted in Australia for several classes of citizens who may be absent from their electoral division on polling day. This privilige extends to citizens travelling under conditions that may preclude voting—including travelling abroad—or who are seriously ill, infirm, or, in the case of women, approaching maternity, or members of certain religious orders. The percentage of electors voting by post generally averages from 2 to 3 per cent of the total vote polled.

As in the case of other methods of voter registration, it is difficult to judge with accuracy the success of the enumeration undertaken. Under these systems, a great deal of emphasis is placed on the elector, the on-going updating that takes place, and the revision before an election. Under these systems voter registration is facilitated and encouraged, and late revision allows any concerned individual the opportunity to vote. When permanent lists are established, many persons who are normally excluded by other systems are able to vote by absentee or postal ballot. Moreover, the time needed before an election can be greatly reduced. In Great Britain, three weeks is all that is needed because no provision is made for revision. In Canada, the period of time needed would be four to five weeks.

The problems of complete enumeration will probably forever plague us. If we entrust the citizens of our country with the duty or responsibility of registration, then only they are to blame for any shortcomings. If this duty or responsibility is further strengthened by legislation and a systematic review, a great deal will have been done to encourage maximum participation at the electoral level.

As I said at the beginning of my remarks, Mr. Speaker, we can do better than our present system. To my mind, a permanent electoral list affords the best opportunity to bring about meaningful and necessary changes. As active participants in the last election, we are aware of the problem involved. There is a real need to review our present system and perhaps make a change—if only temporary in nature. It is my hope that Bill C-17, an act to amend the Canada Elections Act, will get second reading today and be referred to the Committee on Privileges and **Elections so that we, as Members of Parliament, can discuss, and make recommendations on, this most important question.**

Mr. Heath Macquarrie (Hillsborough): Mr. Speaker, I commend the hon. gentleman who has just spoken for his very fine research as well as for his sense of priorities. I think it is important we should constantly take stock of our electoral machinery and seek means whereby we can improve the process of elections.

After a good many years of studying many jurisdictions, I believe we are much blessed in this country; we have a very fine election doctrine and a good elections Act. A good election process is, it seems to me, far more important than a grandiose Bill of Rights—some countries have the latter in abundance but on polling day the practice and the theory are often far removed. We are intent on improving the Elections Act.

I believe every member will agree with me that we have been fortunate during many years that the person occupying the office of Chief Electoral Officer has been a man of ability and impartiality. We are blessed in this. I agree

with the hon. member that there are always areas in which improvement is possible. It used to be the practice that as soon as was reasonably possible after an election, the whole of the Elections Act was sent to the Committee on Privileges and Elections for careful examination. Whenever this was done, good suggestions were forthcoming. We did learn lessons during the last election. We found that mistakes had been made, and the day will come when these will need to be considered. For example, there were too many spoiled ballots. I have been a member of the committee for almost ten years—I am almost like a Father of Confederation on that committee. We thought what was done would be an improvement, but, somehow, we erred. Perhaps the city of Ottawa has come up with a better ballot, one with a circle. This is a matter which will have to be considered.

There is, of course, no perfect solution, no way of attaining that glorious day when every single qualified elector will find his name on the list. I agree with the hon. member that it is far better to be working on the list, structuring the list, at a time other than the beginning of a campaign. We found during the last election that it was a mad scramble to get information about the enumerators available to the returning officers 59 days ahead rather than 54. Even in a highly-organized, progressive and perceptive constituency like Hillsborough, where people have shown their good judgment for a long time, some effort was required to get those names in. So, people are appointed quickly, they do not have time in which to receive the necessary instruction, and they have to carry out their duties quickly.

It would be far better, in my judgment, as in the judgment of the hon. member, if there were an office, an emanation of the state, in which the lists were brought up to date regularly. I like the hon. member's suggestion that other jurisdictions could use the list. If they were smart enough, they could do so. But we need to be sensible about this; we cannot have one province saying a person is mature enough to vote at 19 while others say they are not mature until they reach the age of 21. Some pattern of co-operative federalism needs to be forthcoming. I should like to see an officer appointed who would look after the registration of voters. Other jurisdictions would make use of that office. The hon. member suggested that lists be kept open closer to the election date. Some countries open the lists only once a year, which allows for too much slipping in the accuracy of the list. He thought the list should be open until 15 days before polling. In other words, you would get 99.9 per cent of the job done. Then, you have properly trained officials with the required expertise who do their very best to get the other names in.

● (1720)

I quite agree with the hon. member that, while it is easy to say that if a citizen wants to vote he should make sure his name is on the list, we have found that that is not enough. This is the point of having revising officers and agents under the act. All of those involved in party politics—some of us get involved in that at election time, if not at any other time—would suggest we could give a little nudge there so people will get their names on the list. Parties spend money on advertising and I think they could suggest to these people that they put their names on the list. I am sure that every member of this House has been with the person whose name, by jove, is not on the list, but they do not tell you until it is too late, which is a most unfortunate thing. All people should be able to exercise this important act of citizenship, namely the right to vote.

I am not going to predict that we are going to have a series of minority governments; I think we will sweep through and have a comfortable majority next time. But the question is all the more serious if we are going to have elections every two and a half or two and a third years. I have gone through seven elections now. Constitutionally, we say it is a five year term, but politically it is a four year term. I should be 100 instead of looking like 100. If we are going to have the disruption of dissolution—and that does disrupt the country—there is also disruption in having a series of minority governments, so let us try and get some permanency into our structure by making provision for a permanent voters list.

Another argument that the hon. member put forth in a very reasoned and well organized presentation, if I may say so, was that his proposal would allow for absentee voting. I have always found that proxy voting is not enough, though there were certain examples in the last election that showed that proxy voting was too much. However, that was an aberration of the system, certainly not the purpose for which it was intended. The absentee voting system can function well, and in a practical way, if we have a permanent voters' list. We live in a more mobile society than ever before, and there are Canadians all across the country and in many parts of the world whose interest in, knowledge of and concern for, the parliamentary process is not vitiated by the distance they happen to be from their home. We can hardly expect Canadians to sit around waiting in case someone calls an election, and one of the great uncertainties of our system is that we are never quite sure when an election will be called.

I have also heard, as has the hon. member, of this question of expense, but I am not so frightened of that. I suppose having spent so many years in this place I have watched the big money spenders in action time and time again. However, I believe that once established, in view of the increasing cost of enumeration as election follows election, the cost differential will not be so enormous. Even if it would be more costly, the question we ask is not that but: Will it allow more Canadians to exercise their franchise? On that test, and on that test only, in my opinion, should this proposed bill be viewed. After the most careful consideration of the matter, I believe we would be well advised to push this bill on to committee, and in committee I do not think I would have the slightest hesitation in supporting it and doing everything possible to have it become part of our election structure before we next go to the polls.

I close, as I began, by commending the hon. member and assuring him of my complete support for his efforts to improve our election machinery.

Mr. Les Benjamin (Regina-Lake Centre): Mr. Speaker, in speaking to this bill presented by the hon. member for London West (Mr. Buchanan), I want to say at the outset that I agree with his motives, which I think are to make it possible for the largest number of Canadians to be in a position to exercise their franchise. I think this is the hon.

member's main motive. His second motive is to shorten the election campaign period, and I want to take some issue with that. However, I am glad that he has brought this bill forward. I have no objection to its passing second reading and going to the committee on Privileges and Elections because it is unlikely that we will be dealing with electoral law of much more significance than this, namely the matter of the control and limitation of election expenses.

The hon. member for Hillsborough (Mr. Macquarrie), myself and several other hon. members were members of the committee on privileges and elections in 1968 and 1969 when the committee dealt with the report of the commissioner, Mr. Castonguay, on a permanent voters list. If I am not incorrect, I believe the committee was unanimous in accepting Mr. Castonguay's report. Although the cost of the hon. member's proposal would be two to four times as high as the cost of the present system of enumeration, given a country with our kind of geography, mobility of population—a matter the hon. member for London West mentioned in presenting his bill—climate, living habits and a number of other factors, we chose to accept the report of the electoral commissioner.

This is not to say that the principle of a permanent list is invalid. Perhaps over the next number of months or years parliamentarians and people expert in electoral law may come up with a system that suits our needs. But let us not be under any illusion as to what will be the cost. In 1967 and 1968 when the electoral commission was conducting their investigations, they estimated the cost at $1 per voter. We suspect that by now the cost would be $1.50 per voter. If one updated the list once a year, that would entail spending $20 million to $30 million a year on maintaining a reasonably accurate and updated permanent voters list.

However, even a permanent list will always be out of date to some extent. We should remind ourselves that there are literally tens of thousands of people in this country who choose not to vote for religious, political or economic reasons, or a combination of all three. I would not be surprised if they amounted to one or two per cent of the electorate. They are people who will not vote for a variety of reasons, no matter how accurate the method of putting their names on the list.

I must also comment on the fact that in the course of the meetings of the committee on privileges and elections we talked with people from other countries, and I was surprised to find how complimentary they were about our method of enumeration, bad though we think it is. I have listened to people from Puerto Rico, Australia and some of the states of the United States being very complimentary to us in terms of the method we use in trying to enumerate the maximum number of people possible prior to a general election. So let us look both at what we are now doing to improve the system and at the establishment of a permanent list, something I do not foresee happening until at least one or two further general elections have been called. In light of the present parliamentary set-up, it is unlikely that a permanent list could be established.

However, we could make some relatively simple amendments to the present electoral law to increase the eligibility of the number of people able to vote on election day. Some of these have already been mentioned such as, for example, a method for absentee balloting and a larger number of days for advance polls.

• (1730)

We have had reference, also, to swearing in at rural polls as well as urban polls. I had the misfortune of driving three different voters to the polls on election day in Regina last fall, all of whom thought they were on the enumerator's list because they had that little slip of paper which the enumerator had left with them. They did not read the slip of paper carefully enough and thought their names were on the list. They were all born and raised in this country, but could not vote. Had they lived a mile, or even one yard, outside the city limits of Regina they could have cast a ballot in a rural poll by being sworn in. This situation seems to me to be intrinsically unfair. These are some of the things we could do now to improve the present system.

I wish to take some issue with the remarks of the hon. member about shortening the election period. His riding is London West. I do not know how much rural area he has in his riding. It is all very well for members who can walk around the constituency in a day because it is a mile wide and three miles long to talk about shortening the election period, but they should think of their colleagues who have 40, 60 or 80 communities in their constituencies. These members, even if they spent half a day in each community, would not be able to cover all of them between the time the election is called and the time the vote is cast. Members such as the hon. member for London West should think about other members who are entitled to as much opportunity as anyone else to visit a maximum number of their constituents. This is what I meant when I spoke about taking our geography into account when talking about the election period which it is alleged we could shorten by having a permanent voters' list.

My riding is of moderate size. It encompasses nearly 6,000 square miles. In it there are between 40 and 50 hamlets, villages and towns, in addition to half the city of Regina. I am ashamed to say that there were 12 or 14 locations which I did not have time to visit during the last election campaign. My campaign manager tells me, however, that this might have been a good thing, because I won in two or three of them. If one were to follow that argument to its logical conclusion, we would all stay home for the entire campaign and still be re-elected.

When talking about a permanent list, I believe it is legitimate to remember our geography and our climate, as well as how difficult it is for candidates of all parties in a reasonable manner and in a meaningful way to visit a maximum number of their constituents. If the election period were shortened in terms of the period between the time the writs are issued and election day, it would mean that the voters in a number of constituencies of Canada would have much less opportunity to see, meet, hear and question their candidates.

I feel, and have felt for some time—and this provision was included in the government's proposed bill last year on the control and limitation of election expenses—that the public is angry about the high cost of election campaigns and the continual bombardment on radio, television and the press for seven or eight weeks by all the

political parties and their candidates. The bill which the government brought forward last year proposed to limit the period in which that kind of campaign could take place to the last 28 days of the campaign. I submit that that is the kind of shortening of the campaign period the people of Canada want.

Most of the people are not particularly interested in, and do not care about the mechanics of setting up the election machinery, and so on. However, all of us who are experienced in respect of returning officers, election clerks, the Chief Electoral Officer and his staff, as well as the amount of work they have to do even once the election machinery is all set up, know that there is need for every possible day because of our thinly spread population, our geography and the problem of communications. So I submit we should look into this question and do everything we can to devise a permanent voters' list. In the meantime, there are a number of things which could be done to make the electoral process much better than it is now, by using the present law.

Proposals for a permanent voters' list have taken a number of different forms. From what I have been able to find out from the people who lived in British Columbia in the first few years when they had a so-called permanent list, it would seem that it was a debacle, a complete disaster, in some parts of the province. A large percentage of the population was unable to vote on election day. I have heard complaints about this type of system from people in Australia and Puerto Rico. However, that is their problem.

One could think of placing in a computer the name of every person in Canada and running the names off according to their social insurance numbers. In that way we might have a permanent list. The date of birth of each person would have to be on the social insurance card. The information on the social insurance card, which everybody has, ought to be sufficient. The card could be presented at the polling booth with other appropriate identification. Perhaps that would accomplish the purpose, or perhaps the Canadian citizenship card would accomplish the purpose.

The question is whether every voter would carry his card to the poll on election day. We all know the answer to that question. There would be those who would say that they had left the card in their other suit, or that it has been lost or stolen. Also, there would be the possibility of fraud. But I submit that no matter what kind of electoral system we have, there always will be the possibility of fraud. However, since such a tiny percentage of the electorate would resort to fraud, I would rather err on the side of making it as easy as possible for people to vote while maintaining reasonable safeguards.

This is a good bill for us to discuss and to turn over to the committee. I find it passing strange—or perhaps it is not too strange—that there is silence again by members of the government and of the official opposition concerning legislation on the control and limitation of election expenses. Unless we have some measure of control in this respect, a permanent list, enumeration or whatever method is used, the system will still involve wholesale inequities and there will still be in the minds of Canadians suspicion about how our elections are financed. I submit that much of the suspicion is justified.

In view of the scandals in our history, and the use to which political contributions have been put recently in the United States, it is all the more urgent that strong, effective and forcible legislation be brought in at once. Since 1966 I have listened ad nauseam to the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau). He said this reform is a must, a high priority item. I listened last year to the members of the government when they brought in a bill with two major loopholes in it which rendered meaningless the entire legislation. There was a limitation on candidates, but no limitation on parties. Isn't that handy for the bagmen of the old-line parties? There was not even an attempt at a modest form of disclosure, which rendered meaningless everything else in that bill.

I hope the House will agree to send this bill to the committee and that the government very shortly, I hope tomorrow, will bring in a half decent bill to control and limit election expenses.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Jean-Marie Boisvert (Drummond): Mr. Speaker, I am going to speak in favour of Bill C-17, in the interest of greater democratization, so that democracy will apply to all citizens, without restriction or bias, because it is well-known that when an election is announced, a voters list is hastily put together, made up of members of political parties who are committed people, not necessarily objective, and that during election campaigns you often come across passions and hatred in constituencies, with the result that the enumerators are often somewhat less than objective.

This is how certain abuses have been discovered in the past. Voters from areas that supported an opposition candidate were simply not on the voters list. This even happened in my constituency, during the last elections. Most of the tenants in the same block of apartments who shared the same political opinions were not to be found on the voters list. This is something that would not happen if we had a permanent voters list. These deliberate omissions could not occur, since people would have enough time to correct them.

Some elderly citizens, for example, who had lived in the same place within the same municipality for maybe 50 years, ever since they were born, discovered upon arriving at the polling station that their names were not on the list, that they had no more privileges than if they were Africans or Europeans. This sort of thing could not happen if we had a permanent voters list.

I will not comment on what is done in a move under hand manner, "fiddling" with lists, etc. In addition, the names of some individuals appearing on lists shown in public places, on posts for example, may not be included in the official book. When the official voters list will be used on voting day, these people will be unable to vote.

At the present time, there is no previous registration in rural areas, that is people vote if they can prove that they live in the area. There is no problem in that connection. Thus, the permanent voters list could perhaps apply only to urban areas, since this is were problems are found. A permanent list could be drawn up in cities. Such a system

has been established in Quebec this year. This very month, enumerators have undertaken their work even if no election has been called.

There would be no objection for the federal government nor the Quebec government to use the Quebec permanent electoral list, since in that province as in the federal system the same voting rules apply, I mean all citizens over 18 have the right to vote. The federal government could use those lists and pay a financial compensation to the province of Quebec for saving it the trouble of doing that work.

In those cases where there are provincial electoral lists, the federal government could use them without having to incur additional expenses to establish its own.

Speaking of costs, I do not think it is a sound argument, at a time when we genuinely want to democratize politics, when we really want to give all citizens the opportunity to express themselves, to defeat a government, as will happen, I hope, at the next elections. I think such thing is priceless. I much prefer paying a few cents more to give the franchise to a 50-year old who has always lived where he is to vote than to see others pass "telegraphs".

At this time, every one in Canada has a social insurance number. Now I suggest that the electoral officer might consider using that number to draw up the permanent list. No extraordinary expense would be involved and even if 10, 20 or 100 citizens bear the same name identification would be achieved through the different numbers.

I shall not go further into this issue as I should like to see this bill put in order that it may be referred to the Committee on Privileges and Elections.

[*English*]

Mr. Reid: Mr. Speaker, there has been consultation and I think that if there were agreement in the House to send the subject matter of the bill to the Standing Committee on Privileges and Elections and to discharge the bill, the government would have no objection. I hope this is acceptable to members of the House.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Laniel): Hon. members have heard the suggestion. Is it agreed that the order be discharged and the subject matter of the bill referred to the Standing Committee on Privileges and Elections?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Laniel): It is so ordered.

Order for second reading discharged and subject matter of Bill C-17 referred to the Standing Committee on Privileges and Elections.

Mr. Reid: May I call it six o'clock, Mr. Speaker?

[*Translation*]

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Laniel): Do hon. members agree to calling it six o'clock?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Laniel): The hour appointed for consideration of hon. members' business having expired, I do now leave the chair until eight o'clock.

At 5.45 the House took recess.

[Mr. Boisvert.]

[*English*]

AFTER RECESS

The House resumed at 8 p.m.

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

CRIMINAL CODE

REINSTATEMENT OF LAW RELATING TO CAPITAL PUNISHMENT THAT EXISTED PRIOR TO DECEMBER 30, 1972

The House resumed consideration of the motion of Mr. Allmand that Bill C-2, to amend the Criminal Code, be read the second time and referred to the Standing Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs.

Mr. Douglas Roche (Edmonton-Strathcona): Mr. Speaker, in the few moments for which I spoke before the dinner recess I stated that in this critical debate we must search for the best solution possible that will ensure justice, the proper penalty for murder and the security of society. We are dealing here with the highest question Members of Parliament can face, the question of life itself. We cannot slough off our responsibilities in the guise of adhering to questionable public opinion surveys. We are responsible to our constituents and to parliament itself to use our best judgment in resolving the capital punishment issue. The people who sent us here must be able to evaluate our reasoning process.

My mail on this issue has been sharply split into the retentionist and abolitionist camps. I will quote two letters, expressing opposite opinions, which are reflective of the opinions expressed in my mail. Mr. Robert B. Manly, of Edmonton, writes:

> My family, my friends and neighbours with whom we have discussed the matter are deeply concerned with the increasing lawlessness in Canada, especially the increase in the number of murders and other crimes of violence. We are therefore strongly opposed to any extension of the present ban on the death penalty .... No one is afraid to commit murder any longer in Canada. Even when, despite all the technicalities which hamper police officers in obtaining evidence and getting convictions, a conviction is obtained, our judges and juries have been too lenient, judges frequently giving out sentences that are absurdly inadequate.
>
> The only real deterrent to vicious crime is the certainty, upon conviction, of adequate punishment. In the case of premeditated murder such punishment must be the death penalty. Even the most vicious murderers do fear the death penalty. They certainly don't fear a sentence of four years in prison.

An opposite view is expressed by Mr. and Mrs. Lavern Burkhardt who urged me as in follows in a telegram:

> Please support legislation to entirely abolish capital punishment irrespective of type of victim. We favour life imprisonment for a minimum period of 25 years. Executing convicted murderers sparks more sympathy for executed person than for victim. Death is not a greater deterrent than imprisonment. Civilized people should not be vindictive.

The weight of my mail is on the Manly, retentionist, side rather than the Burkhardt, abolitionist, side. But as I studied the opinions expressed to me I became convinced that most of those who support the death penalty do so out

of a desire for more safety in society and less so for revenge or retributive justice. In the present mood of Canada it is not enough simply to be an abolitionist or a retentionist. The people are clearly disturbed at the rising crime rate and want more protection. More than a "yes" or "no" on the question of capital punishment is called for.

● (2010)

Another constituent, Hans D. Ehrenlechner wrote me. It was his letter which most clearly pointed out a moderate course for the country to follow. Here is what Mr. Ehrenlechner wrote:

As a voting member in your constituency, I would like to express by deep concern over the forthcoming decision by free vote to either completely abolish or reinstate the practice of capital punishment in some form.

From a religious, metaphysical and moral point of view I am most certainly opposed to the reinstatement of capital punishment in any form whatsoever. However, we live in an imperfect world and such a step would likely not accomplish in practice what theoretically it should—i.e., contribute to the humanization of our society. Nor do I feel that the majority of citizens want and expect total abolition of the death penalty. You must be aware of the rising concern over lawlessness which the average voter believes is taking a sharp upward trend in recent years, and all those who advocate the reinstitution of the death penalty rest their case on this and similar grounds.

Mr. Ehrenlechner continues:

Surely there is an alternative solution to the problem that would both serve to protect the public—which should be the first concern of the law—and yet not detract from the high standards and ideals it is in our power to realize in this generation.

Having thought about the matter for some time, I feel that the only fair course of action at this time is to initiate another five-year extension on the banning of capital punishment in Canada. Reluctantly, I agree that the capital punishment be retained for the murder of policemen, prison guards, etc., and all those whose lives would be immediately endangered by the absence of any form of capital punishment. Again, from an aesthetic point of view this discrimination between police officers and the general public does not make sense, but then we are dealing with an emotional issue here and any strictly intellectual or "religious" arguments could hardly come up with a solution acceptable to the people.

Mr. Ehrenlechner closes his arguments this way:

One further point. Let's put a stop to the farce of life imprisonment. If we are to relax the laws in some respects, let's at least enforce the ones we have. I'm sure you've heard the stories about the Parole Board and their candied sugar-plum attitude to criminals, lax granting of paroles and easy bail for law breakers. Our entire judicial system, and the government backing it, is to be severely reprimanded in this respect.

I am of the opinion also that an enforced sentence of life imprisonment would equal or even excel capital punishment as an effective deterrent to crime, if an effective deterrent exists, that is.

I have gone into some detail in revealing the various views of my constituents to indicate that I have taken them most seriously into consideration. It was through this correspondence that I realized just how strong is the desire for improved security in our country today. We are paying a heavy price for the permissiveness of modern society. But I have to ask myself if the death penalty will achieve the safety the people want. Thus, I have examined that precise question.

There is no way that I can abdicate my responsibility to use my conscience in forming my decision as to how to vote. Some people think a Member of Parliament is a delegate to carry out automatically the wishes of the majority of his constituents, assuming the majority can be defined. But that is not my concept of the job. I believe a person is elected by constituents who repose a sense of confidence, for the time being at least, in his judgment and expect him to use it. The assurance that he will always vote according to his conscience is the best service that a Member of Parliament can offer his constituents.

The starting point for my analysis of the capital punishment issue is my belief in the sanctity of life. When a murderer violates the sanctity of life by an act of violence on his victim, how is the sanctity of life preserved by another act of violence on the murderer, this time by the state? We are allowed to kill in self-defence, as we know, but for the state to execute a criminal is to perpetuate violence. I believe in a morality which excludes violence as permissible conduct. If we accepted execution as retributive justice in an earlier period, we should be thankful that society is becoming more sensitive and that there is a movement throughout the world for total abolition. I agree with the Solicitor General (Mr. Allmand) who said when introducing the present bill in the House:

The state must set the clear example of respect for human life, through the tolerant and patient application of law which looks to other more effective means of protecting society and discouraging crime, even murder.

In addition to the philosophical side of this question one must study the practical. As many have noted, the strongest argument for retention is that capital punishment acts as a deterrent. But does it? The government sponsored the now famous study of the deterrent effect of capital punishment by Dr. Ezzar A. Fattah, associate professor of criminology at the University of Montreal. Dr. Fattah studied the circumstances surrounding the slight increase in criminal homicide in Canada over the past eight years and concluded that the increase could not be attributed to the suspension of capital punishment. The increase in criminal homicide is the lowest among all crimes of violence studied, a fact, he says, which indicates that such increase can neither be attributed nor related to the suspension of capital punishment. In short, Dr. Fattah concludes:

A study of homicide statistics in Canada jointly with the statistics of other crimes of violence and comparisons between the provinces and between the years do not lend support to the assumption of the uniquely deterrent effect of the death penalty. Thus, in deciding on the question of the reintroduction or abolition of capital punishment, reintroduction cannot be justified on the argument that it is a more effective deterrent to potential killers than the alternative of protected imprisonment.

Others in this debate have quoted statistics showing there does not seem to be any relationship between the existence of the death penalty and the rate of murder either in jurisdictions where capital punishment has given way to abolition, as in New Zealand, or contiguous abolitionist capital punishment states in the U.S.A. The case for deterrence has not been proved, and thus we cannot look to capital punishment for safety in society. On moral and practical grounds, then, full-scale capital punishment should not be reintroduced in Canada. And yet, as I have said, a simple abolitionist position is not sufficient.

The government has undermined the safety of society by giving the impression that all sentences of execution for killing policemen and jail guards are being automati-

cally commuted. We know that there have been no executions since 1962. Moreover, the escape rate of convicts, including killers, has been inordinately high, and the rehabilitative system of early parole and weekend passes scandalously lax. I believe the news coverage of the aberrations in the penal process has obscured much valuable rehabilitative work. None the less, as a result of government mismanagement the people feel that the rehabilitation of the prisoner has been given a higher priority than the protection of the public. The people need to be assured that public safety will be given a higher priority than prisoner rehabilitation.

I am convinced that minimum mandatory sentences for killing, and stricter enforcement in penitentiaries, will actually act as more of a deterrent and give the public a greater sense of security than capital punishment, which will likely be commuted and followed by parole only ten years after the crime. The question is: What is a minimum mandatory sentence? At first I thought the judge should make this determination in sentencing, but as a result of the impressions made on me by correspondents I now believe that parliament should fix the specific minimum sentence for premeditated murder at 25 years. Again, I say that such a well-publicized sentence will, in my opinion, act as a stronger deterrent than capital punishment which is rarely invoked.

● (2020)

Thus, I shall vote for Bill C-2 on second reading, because at the very least it extends the trial period of partial abolition for another five years. But the principal purpose of my affirmative vote is to send the bill to committee where the 25-year amendment can be examined. It may be that the committee, and ultimately parliament will decide that we do not yet have enough evidence to justify taking a definitive step. If so, the next step should be the appointment of a royal commission charged with responsibility for collecting the needed factual information and for conducting public hearings where individuals and groups can express their views.

There should be no hurry to come to a quick decision; it is better to take a slow course to help develop public understanding of the complexities of this issue. One of the benefits of such an organized examination would be to throw a spotlight on the reasons for violence in our society and its effect on the murder rate. As the United Church of Canada recently put it:

> Our entire society needs creative outlets for expression of frustration or anger. Violence has become a way of life that we accept and that we condone in our so-called entertainment, and in our general approach to life. The death penalty is only one more violent reaction to violent action.

In other words, the causes of violence, from frustration through rage and all the way to murder, need to be examined so that we can purge our society of violence. A vast canvas will appear before us, including such factors as alcohol, drugs, gambling, emotional disorders, sexual deviation, the effects of brutalization dramatized on television, and the availability of deadly weapons. By reducing those elements in life which promote or lead to anti-social behavior we will be taking a big step forward, not only in the safety of society but in enhancing the dignity of human beings and the right to life itself.

[Mr. Roche.]

If Bill C-2 fails to pass second reading, Mr. Speaker, then we will have reverted to capital punishment. Many people think that the simple act of retention will improve society. But it will not, for unless we get a better understanding of crime and what leads to it, unless we pass stringent gun control laws, unless we make productive and valuable citizens out of men and women who would otherwise lead lives of crime, we will be deluding ourselves that progress is being made. We will improve society by attacking the reasons for violence.

The public must be adequately protected. The guilty must be punished, and proper systems of reform maintained. But to take simple recourse in retribution is to close our eyes to the sanctity of life and the complexities underlying crime in modern society.

Mr. Sean O'Sullivan (Hamilton-Wentworth): Mr. Speaker, a new member rising to join in the debate on capital punishment cannot help but recall the speech delivered by the right hon. member for Prince Albert (Mr. Diefenbaker) shortly after this session began. At that time the dean of this House advised new members that their first speech would be the most difficult they would be called upon to deliver. While this is not my initial opportunity of speaking in the chamber, it is my first encounter with a speech on such a complex matter that is to be decided by what is termed a free vote. Out of respect for the sage counsel of the right hon. gentleman, I am inclined to agree that this is indeed the most difficult speech. Moreover, I hope that future events will bear out his words, as I cannot contemplate facing a more difficult challenge than that presented to every member by the question of capital punishment.

Certainly, I have never had to make as difficult a decision and I do not believe that any more years of experiencing the workings of parliament, or experiencing life itself would have made the issue any clearer, the burden lighter or the decision easier. Rather, Mr. Speaker, I have spent the same months of study and research, anguish and soul-searching that have accompanied every member of this chamber in his or her consideration of the question of capital punishment. As we all know, the companion of this issue is the question, as old as parliament itself, as to the basis on which a member should decide how to vote. I believe that this latter, over-all question must be resolved before a member can begin to consider the specific legislation on which he shall vote.

My purpose, then, in rising today, Mr. Speaker, is to place before you and my colleagues, and before those whom I am honoured to represent, both my decision and the reasons for that decision—the basis on which I shall vote. I would no more have constituents agree with me for the wrong reasons than I would have them disagree because I failed to explain my position.

It is to the credit of all party leaders in this House that we are being given what is termed a free vote on this legislation. As a new member, I am particularly grateful to the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Stanfield) whom I am proud to support as leader of my party. The granting of this free vote acknowledges that the decision which hon. members are called upon to make transcends usual partisan considerations and so very deeply involves our con-

cepts of justice, morality, the powers of the state and, indeed, the value of human life.

We are summoned to this chamber to represent the people who have elected us. For whatever period they decide, we have the responsibility to share their dreams about this country, to advance their hopes, to voice their opinions and to ensure that they are represented when the decisions are made which affect their lives. I believe that my foremost responsibility is to represent here those who have sent me. Further, I believe that I represent them best when I act, on the basis of both intellect and conscience, to do what I honestly think is best for them and for our society.

This approach to my responsibilities is not to indicate that the views and feelings of my constituents should be unknown or unheeded by me. Quite the opposite. I am particularly grateful to the many who have taken the time and trouble to express their opinions on capital punishment. Every letter and conversation has received deep consideration and played a significant part in my decision.

I have tried to approach the extremely difficult question of capital punishment with an open mind and have weighed, to the best of my ability, the many and valuable arguments on both sides. All of us know that there are some people in this land who are so convinced their viewpoint is right that the possibility does not exist of there being another side to the question. No such intellectual luxury is open to the Member of Parliament, who must give fair and full consideration to all viewpoints. There is a tremendous gap between the onlooker who need only hold an opinion and the member of this House who must make the public decision on behalf of his constituents.

Of course, throughout the whole process of heartrending consideration I sought anxiously that one argument, that extra statistic, that new bit of information which would suddenly decide the question for me. As we all realize, no such convincing argument is to be found which would give us greater insight or more wisdom than that allowed to mortals. Rather, we have all sought and received from various sources the inconclusive statistics, the different viewpoints and the reams of information. It is left to us as individuals to consider all these things, to interpret them as best we can and then to face the questions. As uncertain as I am about this question and the ability of any man to deal with it, I do not shrink from the responsibility.

I shall not, Mr. Speaker, go into the numerous arguments on both sides. Time does not permit, and they are known to hon. members. Simply, I want to tell you that I have decided to favour the reinstatement of capital punishment for the crime of premeditated, rationally calculated and intentionally committed murder. I do so, not out of a lust for vengeance, not even out of a call for justice—for what is to be gained by revenge, and what justice can there be for the ultimate crime against a member of society? Rather, I call for the reinstatement of capital punishment out of hope—hope that even one innocent life might be saved, that society might be a bit better protected, by the restraint on he who ponders murder of the penalty to which he will be subject.

• (2030)

The deterrent effect is the crux of the question. Some state, with absolute sincerity, that capital punishment offers no deterrent effect; others believe, with equal conviction, that it does. The deterrent effect is an uncertain proposition, I readily admit, because one cannot prove it absolutely one way or the other. Nor can we ever lay claim to fully comprehending the actions of any man. However, in full consideration of the information available, and given my limited understanding of human behaviour, I believe that the threat of capital punishment can act as a deterrent to one who in full possession of his mental and physical faculties contemplates cold-blooded murder.

If one wished to get cynical, Mr. Speaker, he might even suggest that it is the deterrent effect of the threat of death that accounts for the success and loyalty to be found for decades in organized crime. A man's greatest temporal possession is his life, and his greatest fear is the loss of that life. That is my belief and the basis of my hope, and that is the reason I want innocent lives given the maximum possible protection. At this time might I just say that the over-all questions of the increase in crime and the need to review our laws and their enforcement are of great concern to me and I hope we shall find it possible to deal further with them during this parliament.

Being in favour of the return of capital punishment I am, of course, opposed to the provision of Bill C-2 as introduced by the Solicitor General (Mr. Allmand). However, it would not be surprising for me to join other retentionists, whatever their reasons, in voting "yea" on second reading so that the bill might be referred to the Standing Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs. This would allow further detailed study and an opportunity for amendment.

If the minister, for whom I have personal regard and respect for his efforts in his department, had introduced a bill for total abolition I would certainly agree to vote so that such bill might receive study in committee. I would, of course, reserve the right to vote against the bill when it returned to the House for third and final reading. However, Mr. Speaker, I can lend no such support to Bill C-2 in its present form—for while the end result of giving this bill second reading would be to have it referred to committee, the vote on second reading is known as approval in principle. I cannot give approval in principle to the furtherance, not even for study, of a bill which I regard as hypocritical.

For one thing, the minister—and, I would predict, almost all of his cabinet colleagues—are abolitionists. Yet they present us with a bill that provides for the death penalty in the case of murder of a prison guard or law enforcement officer. If that alone is not questionable, surely the hypocrisy of this legislation is clear when the government presents us with a proposal it has no intention of carrying out. If a government is unable, or just plain unwilling to carry out legislation, it insults this House by presenting such legislation.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. O'Sullivan: The present government would not enforce the penalty provided for in this legislation for the

murder of a policeman or prison guard. To suggest it would do so is preposterous; to incorporate that suggestion into legislation is hypocritical. For that reason, I cannot even consent to give this bill second reading.

Having put before this House my reason for asking the reinstatement of capital punishment, I wish to acknowledge that I rather doubt that my reason, my fervent but admittedly uncertain hope, will sway the decision of others. That is my intention for, as I have stated, this decision is a lonely one; to be made by each individual member, alone.

Mr. Speaker, I would end my remarks with an appeal to all hon. members to recall their duty, which is higher than just carrying out the wishes of their constituents. It is the duty to do what one thinks is right and is best for his or her constituents and for our society. In making this choice I ask hon. members to recall that we, just as murderers and criminals, will one day be called to judgment and for sentence by He whose work we are called to do but whose role we should not presume to play here on earth. Recognizing our shortcomings as those of all humans, I tend to think that He will be less concerned with how each of us voted on this question than with the sincerity and honesty behind each of our votes.

Given this most difficult decision to make, we might apply to ourselves the last words of society, under the British system of justice, to one sentenced to death: "And may God have mercy upon your soul."

● (2040)

[*Translation*]

Mr. Roch La Salle (Joliette): Mr. Speaker, I wish to take advantage of the few minutes allowed to me to express certain opinions on Bill C-2, which is quite simply an extension of the current legislation concerning the death penalty.

I respect the opinions that have been voiced here, and all those that will be expressed by hon. members who speak after me. I think it is important for every member to express his opinion on this bill, and I am glad that there will be a free vote on this matter. Hon. members will thus be able to satisfy the wishes of their constituents and the demands of their consciences.

This bill, which—the term is appropriate—is of capital importance, has been before us for some days, and we all know by now that it was necessary to introduce it, since more than five years have gone by since the legislation at present in force was adopted in 1967. The legislation before us, which is identical to that which existed previously, prescribes hanging for the murder of two sorts of people, prison guards and policemen. I need hardly say that this bill incurs very great responsibility for us, and we must think seriously about all the briefs and communiqués that we have received, as well as the statistics provided by the news media and official bodies.

After all this reading, I wished also to know what were the opinions of the constituents whom I represent. And so, a few months ago, I distributed to my constituents a questionnaire on the death penalty, and after receiving 6,000 answers from 83 per cent of my electors I came to the conclusion that they want me to vote in favour of the retention of capital punishment. I think that I cannot ignore those answers because as federal members of this Parliament it is our duty to respect the feelings of the people who elected us, and I will respect the wish of my electors.

In any case, it so happens that the wish of my electors coincides with my own. I think that some people have been trying for a certain time to inspire sympathy for the hard-core criminal. I am wondering to what extent we as members of this Parliament must let ourselves be influenced by statements from psychiatrists who say that society is always too hard on those who feel free to do anything.

For example, I am thinking about the improvement of our penal institutions. According to some people we must ensure that those criminals have the services which society offers us to the extent we abide by the law. It must be said that the criminal who was sentenced to a number of years in prison deliberately chose to deprive himself of certain liberties.

Perhaps I will now sound cruel by refusing to listen carefully to the advice and recommendations that are often made to improve prisons so as to make them really interesting for those who have to live there. In fact, now and again we hear complaints about the food, the lack of facilities to fill leisure time. I think it must be recognized that the condamned acted deliberately. They have run the risk of not getting caught in the act and, today, I clearly have the impression that people seem to take a little too seriously all these amendments which appear, to some individuals, a priority within our society. Therefore, I may appear somewhat less sympathetic than most to these reforms.

I refer to the professional criminals, because they certainly exist. For all sorts of other reasons, some inmates deserve a certain measure of rehabilitation and attention. There exist, however, some criminals in respect of whom we must take severe action because of the extremely severe action they have personally taken against their fellow human beings.

I should like to insist on prevention. Indeed, people are increasingly inclined to favour parole systems as preventive measures; yet, they must be seriously examined. It would be certainly too late to wait until an individual has reached an advanced age to consider prevention or rehabilitation in his case.

Very objectively speaking, it is the function of the state, I think, to provide for the most expedient implementation of preventive measures.

Therefore, in the present social context, there are shortcomings; one will readily admit that our society is faced with both economic and social problems. These are interrelated and, in certain environments, may result in some individuals becoming criminals because of extremely difficult circumstances.

To what extent can the state improve these difficult environments? How, in the present social context, will we succeed through enforcement of the death penalty in reducing the number of criminals? Hanging itself is certainly not a solution. I think however that, for the hard-core criminal, hanging is a cause of great concern.

The criminal who did not hesite to kill his neighbour to carry out his aim deserves a similar treatment. Endlessly repeating "Thou shalt not kill" is not a deterrent. Did the murderer also think about those words? And in the present social context, for instance, if we only reinstate capital punishment without thinking of other solutions which could possibly decrease the number of murderers, we will certainly be wrong. I am one of those who believe that the killer must suffer the same fate as his victim. Others, for all kinds of reasons, think differently.

We are dealing with a bill introduced by the government; all members are still free to express their views about this bill. We all know very well that the bill specified hanging for two categories of person.

We must recognize that capital punishment has not been applied for five years and I am concerned and disappointed. And we know also that the bill before the House calls for the suspension of capital punishment for five more years except for the death of prison guards and police officers. And until now the government has not taken a firm position against capital punishment. Does that mean that criminals responsible for the death of prison guards or police officers would have the advantage of having their death sentence commuted to life imprisonment? In view of the statements made this afternoon by a number of government members, we must ask ourselves some questions while evaluating the bill before us. If we are against hanging, we can absolutely not support this bill. If we are for the maintenance of capital punishment, we cannot support this bill either. Therefore, this bill is clearly inadequate and from our passed experience it is obvious that the former law was violated even though it was adopted on a free vote five years ago. I regret the government did not respect, as the House wished, a law which has been adopted in a most democratic way.

● (2050)

I would remind the House that 83 per cent of my constituents have participated in a poll made in my riding. I would like to invite the House to give special attention to what might be called the correction of a social climate. It has been demonstrated—and we realize this through various organizations and commissions—that our social context includes what we call underprivileged classes where people live under difficult conditions. To what extent is it possible for a government or a Parliament to set up organizations or commissions responsible for implementing a prevention system? I think we have much to do in this field and, once more, I will not insist by blaming the government. However, as members of Parliament, we should see to it that this prevention system be implemented so as to prevent an ever increasing number of people from taking inadmissible liberties, whatever their motives.

I think it is incumbent upon us to set up organizations which could improve considerably our social climate. We are perfectly aware as well of the fact—and we admit it—that 30 per cent of the people live in poverty. Certainly, in such conditions, there are people who do not have what we call the vital minimum and, therefore, if we do not correct this injustice, if we do not improve social conditions, we might experience difficult times when it comes to criminality. I suggest, Mr. Speaker, that we must seriously consider deterrents.

As for parole, many people have spoken about it. We know the results of some experiments that took place; it is out of question, of course, to release on parole a criminal recognized as such. However, there are groups of criminals who have committed quite serious crimes, but not the most serious, and who surely deserve special consideration for rehabilitation. I suggest that it is our responsibility to enable these groups of criminals to be rehabilitated, but we must first proceed with a careful screening.

In my opinion, we should give priority to all possible deterrents which would eliminate at the same time the need for rehabilitation.

Of course, our law enables the accused to defend themselves. It is quite normal, in a civilized society, that criminals be able to defend themselves. We often come to wonder whether a given crime was premeditated or not. We must not hesitate to bring back capital punishment for so-called hired guns. We are perfectly aware that there is a group of people who, for a few hundred dollars, do not hesitate to kill somebody, and the real criminal, as a rule, is not quite he who commits the crime. Nevertheless, the indivudual who decides to take someone's life must expect the state to take action to protect society and to ensure respect of the right to life. And I believe the paid killer should expect no sympathetic treatment from justice.

I also have in mind the man who does not hesitate to commit a bank robbery, or to gun down either a teller or a policeman. We will often be told, of course, that he did not intend to kill. Why, then, did he enter a bank after taking good care to load his weapon?

My opinion is quite clear on that point: the same man could carry out his robbery without necessarily loading his weapon. If his intention is only to frighten the teller, he will achieve it. But if he goes to the trouble of loading his gun, I believe he accepts the idea of killing in case it should become necessary, and in my opinion it is evident that if he foresaw that it might be necessary to kill in order to succeed in his venture, we are dealing with a criminal who has no right to freedom.

In the underworld, there is no reluctance to use a gun and I believe it is the government's responsibility to protect society against this group of people who, as we well know, have leverage in many places. I feel the mafia should not escape severe justice and that we should therefore not hesitate to restore the death penalty, at the least for murders of policemen and prison gards. There are other categories of murderers who, for debatable reasons, may win some sympathy either from the court or the public.

For about ten years now, we have been dealing with drug users. In some minds, it is clear that whoever, for some reason or other, takes a small dose of drugs, is not responsible for the carnage he may provoke. Still, it is surprising that the same man should be able to go to the address he was given to commit his crime. Some will be tempted to prove, by all sorts of means, that he was not aware of what he was doing; yet, he committed his crime perfectly. I therefore have many reservations about whoever justifies himself by claiming that he was drunk or

under the influence of some drug or other, and who therefore is not responsible for his act.

Let me return again to a wider use of preventive measures. It is important for parliament to set up a mechanism whereby young people can, at early age, be withdrawn from an unwholesome environment, conducive to making of him a hardened criminal.

We know that with the parole system, some criminals may serve a certain number of years in jail and then be released. The people are very much concerned about this and I have had the opportunity of getting several opinions on this from the public. I have read the brief presented by the police association which is very much concerned about the freedom that is being granted to some dangerous criminals. And we recognize more and more that guards and policemen are worried about the release of certain dangerous criminals. I think that this should make us show much more severity toward these criminals.

They will try and justify themselves with statistics. What is the use of statistics when one is faced with crimes such as those we have seen these past few years? For those who believe that the death penalty is not a deterrent, I repeat that it gives the most hardened criminal cause for reflection and I think that for the one who took the liberty of killing his neighbour, there is no other punishment than that of death penalty.

The recent escapes may have been found more or less funny. I think that the department concerned must quickly undertake the investigation which it requested and find who is responsible for those escapes. I would not dare say that the minister must be held responsible for those escapes, surely not. I know the Solicitor General (Mr. Allmand) and his great sincerity. However, we find it very strange how easily some prisoners recently escaped. I think that the investigation should be held as soon as possible and that we must ask serious questions about the management of our prisons. I imagine that the inquiry will bring us sufficient evidence to show that there are guilty parties in the prisons; as for those outside, I know nothing about them. One thing is sure, however; offenders should be severely reprehended and escapes have become a joke among people as well as a most serious and alarming problem. They should end as soon as possible.

Mr. Speaker, I wanted to make these few remarks because I consider the legislation under consideration quite important. I believe that as members we should take part in this debate and express our views. In fact, it is important that the opinions held in our various regions should be made known in the House. There will always remain this basic question: Why and how does one become a criminal? I think this will be the everlasting question for us to ask ourselves every day and that the state's task is to spare nothing in order to set up these prevention and rehabilitation systems whenever the latter is possible.

The government and Parliament have the responsibility to severely punish whoever abuses individual freedom. Therefore, it is quite clear that I shall vote against this bill which is the repetition of a law that we have had. Being dissatisfied with the legislation already passed, I could not honestly support the bill that is before us now.

[Mr. La Salle.]

And if this bill is to be defeated, I shall be only too happy about it because I believe in the reinstatement of capital punishment for the criminal who does not stop at anything to make his wishes come true by any means. And I trust that Parliament will continue to try and set up prevention services which would also reduce the number of criminals. To the extent where the social climate is improved, their number will be reduced. To my mind, we have a great deal to do to set up various institutions in order that these corrective measures be applicable and applied as soon as possible.

In conclusion, I would like to say once again that I admit that it is not only by reinstating capital punishment that we will improve our society, but through the implementation of several corrective measures. If the responsible departments use a great deal of imagination, if the social climate is improved, we may at last reduce the number of criminals. I am convinced that the criminal who deliberately commits murder must be severely punished and that means the death penalty.

● (2100)

[*English*]

Mr. Derek Blackburn (Brant): Mr. Speaker, I enter this now rather agonizing debate because of my own moral conviction that capital punishment serves only to wreak social vengeance on the one hand, and brutalize our entire penal system on the other. Although I believe in total abolition, I am prepared to support Bill C-2 which calls for a further extension of the trial period of abolition of capital punishment except in cases relating to the murder of policemen or prison guards as defined in the Criminal Code.

For those who would argue on fundamentalist grounds that the noose should be brought back, I can only say that it is my belief that the Christian ethic of love and forgiveness precludes the taking of a life for a life. In my opinion, one act of violence does not in any way call for or demand another act of violence. In the past decade we have seen, on a global scale, violence beyond imagination where legal murder in the name of war and political idealogy has wiped out many thousands of lives. We have lived through a violent decade. Must we continue, through capital murder, the destruction of human life?

I am not a bleeding-heart when it comes to sympathizing with a convicted murder who in cold blood and full knowledge of his act has taken the life of an innocent person. But what advantage is gained in legally murdering the perpetrator of a crime, no matter how useless a human being the convicted slayer might be? To me, capital punishment is morally and socially debasing. It appeals to the lower animal instincts of revenge and retribution, totally disregarding the years of effort, study and the practice of rehabilitation on the part of those dedicated to improving the dignity of even our most anti-social citizens. How can you rehabilitate a dead person?

This latter view is particularly cogent when one considers the following statistics, although I am aware of the fact that in this particular debate statistics can be misleading. Between 1920 and 1967, 151 persons who had been sentenced to death in Canada had their sentences commuted and were subsequently paroled. Of this number, 92

were successful in that they were never returned to prison on any charge. This experience is similar to the experience in the United States in respect of recidivism related to parole. The recidivism rate of paroled murders is very low.

It is interesting to note that of all types of criminals, most murderers, with the exception of the mentally ill, are the most responsive to rehabilitation. Indeed, experience has indicated that a majority of persons convicted of murder are not criminals in the sense that they earn their living from crime but, rather, are involved in a crime of passion, often of a domestic nature, and their violent act is a once in a lifetime matter. Such persons often can be safely and usefully released back into society long before 25 years. Some members have proposed a 25-year imprisonment period, which is totally unacceptable to me personally because we would be lumping all convicted murderers into one group. Some, obviously, cannot be rehabilitated in 10 or 15 years, and perhaps some never.

I wish to emphasize that I am not referring to convicted murders who fall into the general category of the criminally insane, the sexual psychopath and the hardened criminal. In fact, we must tighten our parole and pass system to ensure that such criminals do not gain even temporary freedom until fully cured, if indeed they can be cured at all. If the latter is the case, and unfortunately it is in most cases, then society must be protected and they must be denied their freedom even if it means for a lifetime. It is my opinion that inmates who are incapable of parole should not be left to rot behind bars but, under very controlled circumstances, should be put to work in gainful employment contributing in some way to the development of this country. For example, why not put them to work in various parts of the country building highways, bridges or airfields, or put them to any other gainful employment?

● (2110)

For those who argue for the retention of the death penalty on grounds of the deterrent factor, a great deal already has been said. Impressive arguments for and against the effectiveness of capital punishment in deterring others from committing murder have been made, and statistics have been used and abused. Murderers usually fall into three main categories: the person, otherwise law abiding, who in a fit of passion kills a person without premeditation; the mentally ill or the psychopath; and the hardened criminal whose life of crime one day results in murder, premeditated or otherwise.

Jealousy, greed and emotional instability are difficult to control by those so afflicted although they live useful lives within the law. To what extent does the threat of the death penalty deter those caught up in passion and rage? I suggest there is no deterrent factor here at all. Let us keep in mind that this first category comprises the vast majority of murderers. Also in this group are those who kill as a result of being in a state of intoxication or under the effects of drugs, or a combination of both.

Does capital punishment deter the mentally ill? Again I suggest the answer is no. The only real deterrent here is cure through medical science, which unfortunately is woefully ill-equipped to handle such persons in our mental institutions today due to insufficient funds for research, lack of staff due to inadequate salaries compared to those of psychiatrists who work in a free enterprise system and, as a consequence, difficult working conditions for the personnel who have the courage and dedication to enter upon such difficult careers. Trying to cure the criminally insane today is a horrendous undertaking, and I suggest that governments at all levels must drastically improve the situation.

We come now to the hardened criminal. In most cases these people come from socially deprived backgrounds; not always, but usually. They often come from broken homes where a sense of human dignity and the worth of the individual are virtually non-existent. They have been battered and bruised both physically and emotionally for years—unfortunately, the young, impressionable years. They develop anti-social attitudes and a complete disrespect for authority. They turn to crime because they have no respect for their fellow human beings. They have no sense of human involvement or community involvement. Society is to be paid back for what society has done to them in the form of neglect, poverty or rejection: at least, this is their attitude. It may be a warped attitude, but it is their attitude.

Does capital punishment deter this kind of criminal? It might in some instances, but statistics neither prove nor disprove that the threat of being hanged enters a hardened criminal's mind on the way to the bank with a loaded pistol that results in the death of the manager or some innocent bystander.

Professor Fattah, in "A Study of the deterrent effect of capital punishment with special reference to the Canadian situation", concludes that the effectiveness of capital punishment as a deterrent is so limited that its abolition cannot have any serious effect on the incidence of murder. He cites the following limits of deterrence: first, deterrence is irrelevant to the bulk of the population which follows the normal norms of society and whose self-concepts will not permit them to commit crimes. I am referring to the conclusions in his report.

Second, deterrence cannot be effective in the case of certain acts of an impulsive nature where high emotions or strong motivations are involved. Third, deterrence cannot be effective for certain categories of criminals such as insane, abnormal, impulsive or compulsive offenders or those consciously or unconsciously seeking to be punished. Fourth, the death penalty cannot be an effective deterrent for those who are not afraid to die or those who have a conscious or unconscious desire to die. This includes murderers who commit suicide. Fifth, deterrence cannot be effective in cases where punishment can be avoided.

The error of the deterrence theory can also be shown statistically with reference to the United States. Now that several states have had no death penalty for several years, it is possible to compare some neighbouring states with similar populations and educational and economic levels, some with and some without capital punishment. For example, Rhode Island, without capital punishment, has a consistently lower murder rate in proportion to the total population than its neighbours, Connecticut and Massachusetts which do have capital punishment.

Similarly, Michigan, without capital punishment, has a better record than Indiana or Ohio both of which have

capital punishment. Wisconsin, without capital punishment, has a better record than Iowa or Minnesota which do have capital punishment. If all the states are compared, the murder rate is from two to three times greater in the states which have and enforce the death penalty than in those that do not.

This by no means proves that abolishing the death penalty will reduce the crime rate by one half, but it does prove that other considerations—social, economic, educational, racial—have far more to do with deterring or favouring crime than does the kind of punishment called for by the law.

If the retentionists are really convinced that capital punishment is in fact a deterrent to the commission of murder, then I wonder why hangings are held in secret, in the middle of the night, and not in the market square in public, complete with colour television cameras. I know this has been said before, but it should be repeated: once hangings were done in public—without the cameras, of course—but we still had murder.

The Ontario Association of Professional Social Workers argues that the issue of the death penalty is really one of ethics and morality. I quote their words:

> As social workers, we feel that the worth and dignity of man is cheapened and lessened by state execution. We are in strong support of abolishing the death penalty.

The association goes on to say:

> We believe that there are more important issues than the issue of capital punishment, such as the inadequacy of current rehabilitation schemes and the need for effective programs in combating the causes of crime.

This brings me to the crunch of the whole argument as I see it. It is my opinion that due to the obvious increase in the crime rate as a whole, the general public, concerned about public safety and protection as they should be, are confusing the death penalty as a deterrent to murder with the death penalty as a deterrent to all serious crimes. In other words, bring back hanging and we will have fewer bank robberies, muggings, crimes of breaking and entering, and so on. This is a fallacious argument, in my opinion. While the crime rate has gone up in recent years, the murder rate has not gone up at a corresponding rate; in fact, Statistics Canada report that in the year 1972 the crime rate in Canada actually declined slightly.

I mentioned earlier that we must get tougher with first and second offenders while they are still young and at least potentially responsive to proper rehabilitation. We must also make sure that dangerous inmates are not prematurely released back into society to pose a threat to life and property. We must continue with an enlightened parole system based on successful rehabilitation, provided that the authorities are not lax in the screening processes they have developed. If a person is given a life sentence, and if he cannot be rehabilitated, then his freedom to mix in society must be permanently curtailed. We must tackle the social, economic and educational problems which create and promote criminality.

● (2120)

The increase in the murder rate in the last five years was the lowest among all crimes of violence, a fact that indicates that such increase can be neither attributed nor related to suspension of capital punishment. The increase in murder is part of a general increase in criminal violence. Most murderers are not responsible for their crimes in a vacuum; all of us in Canadian society must share the responsibility because we allow conditions of poverty, exploitation and discrimination to exist in the context in which murder takes place.

I call on hon. members to vote for Bill C-2, to give their support to another five-year trial period in the hope that more evidence at the end of that time will unquestionably show that the state taking a life for a life is not a deterrent, or at least an effective deterrent to murder. If Luxemburg could abolish the death penalty in 1822, Belgium in 1863, Portugal in 1867, Holland in 1870 and Brazil in 1891, then surely we in Canada can support this bill extending the moratorium on hanging in the hope that at the end of the new trial period we will abolish capital punishment forever.

Some speakers in this debate have made reference to the growth of violence. Unfortunately, we live beside a nation which from its very origin has to some degree almost boasted about the law of the gun. I am not anti-American when I say this, but for generations the gun has been law in certain parts of the United States. And yet we have had hanging in the United States, we have had the gas chamber, we have had electrocution: until recently we had the death penalty in 39 of the 50 states. It is true that in the last two or three years they have not been putting people to death, but up until five years ago some states were putting convicted murderers to death; yet the crime rate increased.

Unfortunately for law-abiding Americans, the American city today is no longer safe. I ask those who are retentionists to reflect upon this point, that that country in its major cities has become a violent nation. Yet for generations, indeed for centuries, it put people to death for murder and for other acts of violence. And we still have this growing crime rate.

In closing, Mr. Speaker, I would suggest to the retentionists that hanging in the United States has not worked as a deterrent. It is possibly the best example of any country in the world where hanging, or the death penalty in general, has not worked as a deterrent. I think that should be adequate proof that at least this bill to extend the moratorium on capital punishment should be passed on second reading.

Mr. Doug Neil (Moose Jaw): Mr. Speaker, I have listened with interest to the many speeches made in this House and I feel that by now we have aired all the views both pro and con. Consequently, it is my intention to make my remarks brief and of a general nature only. It is my opinion, having discussed the question of capital punishment over the years and listening to the speeches made in this House, that it is virtually impossible to convert a confirmed abolitionist into a retentionist or to convert a confirmed retentionist into an abolitionist. Both have arguments to support their views, both are sincere and both are able to adduce statistics to support their arguments.

Bill C-2 which we are debating today has the effect of placing a moratorium on the death penalty for a further

period of five years except as it relates to the murder of police officers and prison guards or officials. We are being asked to extend the ban after a five-year trial period because, in the words of the Solicitor General (Mr. Allmand), the government does not have the full data for the whole of the previous five years. He said in the debate in this House on January 26, as reported at page 688 of *Hansard:*

> Statistics are some two years behind and therefore at the moment we are only in possession of full data covering the first three years of the trial period.

I find that statement hard to accept in this age of computers. Surely the government, being aware of the fact that there was need to deal with this matter on or before December 30, 1972, could have given top priority to the compilation of statistics in order to have the information available to this House. But supposing we did have the statistics, Mr. Speaker—what would they prove? I suggest they would prove nothing, because since 1962 no person has been hanged in Canada. In effect, there has been no capital punishment in Canada since 1962. Since 1968 there have been four convictions for the murder of police officers and the government has commuted their death sentences.

After listening to the remarks of the right hon. member for Prince Albert (Mr. Diefenbaker) in this House on January 30 last, I can appreciate the heavy responsibility that is placed upon the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) and members of his cabinet when faced with the decision of whether or not a sentence of death should be commuted. But I find it hard to believe that the circumstances surrounding all murders since 1962 have warranted commutation.

There is great concern amongst responsible citizens in Canada as to the direction in which our society is going. They are concerned about the safety of their families, and well they should be under present circumstances where bail procedures are such that potentially dangerous criminals are allowed out on bail to commit further crimes, where weekend passes from prison are almost a right rather than a privilege, and where prison breaks in Canada are almost a weekly occurrence.

It is the responsibility of the government and of this House to take steps to make certain that society is protected and that citizens are able to live without fear of violence. How does a government assume this responsibility? Mr. Speaker, it assumes it by passing the legislation which makes certain that we have law and order in our country, laws which provide the rules by which we live and penalties that are punitive in nature and will deter an individual from breaking the law.

It is a further responsibility of a government to see to it that the law is enforced and that the sentences handed down by the courts are carried out. The extent of the punishment depends upon the seriousness of the crime. There is no point in having the same punishment for robbing a parking meter of a few dollars as there is for robbing a bank at gun point of $10,000. Therefore, we must have punishment which fits the crime in that the punishment must be of such a nature that it will act as a deterrent.

There is no greater crime than the taking of another's life. It has long been recognized, however, where a person was insane at the time of commission of the crime and did not know the nature and consequences of his act, that he was not guilty of murder. It has been recognized that killing in self-defence is not murder. It has been further recognized that people, being human and having emotions, at times due to aggravation, are unable to control their emotions and kill one another. This is not necessarily murder, depending upon the degree of aggravation.

● (2130)

Mr. Speaker, in instances where someone deliberately and with premeditation kills another, that is murder. It is also murder when a person kills someone in the commission of a crime, for in these instances he knows what he is doing and must be held accountable. If he is prepared to knowingly assume the risk, he must also assume the consequences if we are to have law and order.

In my opinion, there is no distinction between the killing of a policeman or a prison official or the killing of a private citizen. It is a life of an individual, not the life of a person in a particular occupation that is important. It is my opinion that capital punishment should be extended to those persons who kidnap another and hold them for ransom in fear of their lives, or those persons who hijack an aircraft and endanger the lives of the passengers. This, Mr. Speaker, is the stand I took throughout the election campaign and a conviction I have held for a number of years. It is not based on any poll that I took of my constituents, or on public opinion.

I know that the abolitionists will say that capital punishment is revenge on the part of society, but I ask them: Is it revenge to spank a child when he misbehaves? Is it revenge to send a man to jail for robbing a bank, or to fine him for speeding? It is my opinion, Mr. Speaker, that a man who commits murder has forfeited his right to live and remain as a part of our society.

I was disappointed to hear the hon. Solicitor General in the closing part of his argument recite some of the gory details of execution, possibly in an atttempt to emotionally shock retentionists into changing their opinion about capital punishment. I did not hear him speak of the victim or the families of victims. Perhaps he has not spoken, as I have, with members of families who lost a son or a daughter as a result of murder, or to a woman who was present when her husband was murdered. Perhaps he has not given thought to the terror experienced by a young female child or young woman who was sexually assaulted before being violently beaten to death.

With respect to the method of execution, I am not satisfied that hanging or the gas chamber or electrocution is the means by which the death penalty should be carried out, because surely in this day and age there must be a more sophisticated means of putting a person to death. It is the fear of death, not the method of death, that is the deterrent.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, we live in a democratic society, one in which the government must express the will of the people. I do not feel that simply because I was able to win an election and come to Ottawa as a Member of Parliament that I have suddenly become more knowledgeable

than my constituents when it comes to making a decision on what I believe is basically a moral matter. The Gallup polls have indicated that an overwhelming majority of people in Canada believe in capital punishment. That is the will of the people; that is democracy. If the abolitionists who are in the minority can satisfy the majority that capital punishment is wrong, then it will be abolished. But let us not, as representatives of the people, be swayed by emotion or by statistics which are inconclusive.

Mr. Speaker, it is therefore my intention to vote against this bill.

Hon. W. G. Dinsdale (Brandon-Souris): Mr. Speaker, the subject of abolition of capital punishment has been under debate in this House for at least the past two decades. I have just listened to the hon. member for Moose Jaw (Mr. Neil) express his viewpoint and I recall that it was an earlier member for Moose Jaw who introduced the private member's resolution for the original debate in this House on the abolition of capital punishment. I refer, of course, to the late Ross Thatcher who once was the member for Moose Jaw. At that time the abolitionists were outright abolitionists and you had a clearcut decision when the vote came before parliament. In response to the debate during that decade, the government of the day moved forward with legislation which again gave Members of Parliament a firm legislative basis upon which they could make a decision.

The government of the day back in 1961, I think it was, introduced legislation which divided the crime of homicide into two distinct categories, capital and non-capital. That was the legislation that applied until the more murky decade of the 1960s when the element of uncertainty, which hovers over this debate tonight as it has during the whole period the matter has been under discussion, was introduced. We are not debating abolition, and we are not debating retention tonight; we are debating a compromise piece of legislation which would retain capital punishment, for reasons that can only be known to the government, for two isolated instances of homicide.

As a matter of fact, we are back to the legislation of 1961, because the trial period that began in 1967 expired at the beginning of the year and we are now operating under the legislation of the two distinct categories, capital and non-capital murder. It is my submission, Mr. Speaker, that the compromise legislation of the government only tends to confuse the issue.

I think there is a much more important issue which demands the attention of this House, otherwise we are going to lose the progress we have made in the field of the rehabilitative approach to the handling of crime in Canada and we are not going to settle the very difficult issue of capital punishment. The atmosphere and the mood, as I have listened to the debates in this House of Commons and as I have read the editorial comments in the newspapers across the nation, refer to the fact that because of the breakdown in our penal system it is impossible for either parliamentarians or the people of Canada to make a clearcut decision on this matter at the moment. The issue we should be discussing, and which will be considering in committee when the committee starts functioning, is the whole question of penal reform.

• (2140)

As the Solicitor General (Mr. Allmand) himself has indicated, our prisons are overcrowded and rehabilitation programs are inadequate. As we know, the inevitable result has been the increase of breakouts, which have been referred to by hon. members and which have brought our penitentiary system into disrepute during the past few weeks.

I would also remind the Solicitor General that there is a piece of legislation that is fundamentally important to rehabilitation but is being left in a state of suspension. I refer to the government's attempt to amend the Juvenile Delinquents Act, which fell by the wayside one year ago. It was withdrawn and has not yet reappeared on the order paper. If there is any period in life when it is more important than in any other period to deal with the rehabilitative approach to crime, to recidivism and to all the other problems associated with lawbreaking in this country, it is the juvenile years when there is some hope for bringing about reform and in redirecting the lifestyle and personality of young Canadians.

It is tragic that Parliament is being forced day after day to discuss an issue which from the standpoint of retention or abolition is to some extent phony. Even the Minister of Justice (Mr. Lang), when he spoke the other day, said that he is an outright abolitionist but will be forced to vote for this bill which is partly retentionist.

My recommendation, Mr. Speaker, is that we remain where we are at the moment. At least Members of Parliament will know where they stand, and at least the people of Canada will know where we stand. The legislation which provides for capital and non-capital categories of murder makes it possible for the courts of this country, under our system of jurisprudence to exercise a rehabilitative approach in cases of non-capital categories which involve unpremeditated murder, and so on. On the other hand, the law makes it possible for the courts—that is, the judges of Canada—to exercise their responsibilities, and surely they have responsibilities under our system of jurisprudence, and decide what categories of crime shall come under the capital murder category.

At present we are living in an era of moral confusion and uncertainty in this country. That may be the reason for the government's fuzzy thinking on this issue. There are murderers, perpetrators of homicide who will not respond to rehabilitation under any circumstances. The hon. member for Lanark-Renfrew-Carleton (Mr. Dick) dealt with one such specific instance in his contribution to the debate this afternoon. Some murderers are placed in the category of psychopaths. They have no sense of values, no conscience, and murder with impunity. Their existence, I think, reflects the fact that we live in a society that is confused and morally sick.

Many editorials have appeared on the subject. One appeared in the *Globe and Mail* of January 22 of this year. An article on rehabilitation under the byline of Jackson Toby referred to the fact that some criminals will never respond to any attempt at rehabilitation because of their childhood circumstances and experience. There is the childhood of the unwanted child, the slow learner in school, the stigmatized child in the neighbourhood. When these people grow up they are incapable of rehabilitation

because they have developed what the psychologists call a psychopathic personality. Those are the categories to which the hon. member for Kingston and the Islands (Miss MacDonald) referred this afternoon. No prison, no probation, no psychiatrist can provide a new childhood, said Mr. Jackson Toby, and anything but a new childhood is too late in dealing with this category. Perhaps that is why the founder of Christianity referred to the new birth as the only solution to behaviour of this kind, and why modern psychology is working on the whole question of behaviour modification.

Scandinavia has recognized the problem and has now resorted to what it calls internment, which is long deprivation of liberty without duration fixed in advance. In other words, for the psychopathic personality involved in homicide there is indeterminate sentencing. Internment is their treatment of the crime, in place of capital punishment.

One of the reasons for moral breakdown, of course, is that there is breakdown in the basic institutions of our society. The family, which should be the healing place of the soul, has become the breeding ground for juvenile deliquency, divorce and all the other problems which beset the modern family. I think we are all aware that the late Governor General, Georges Vanier, and Madam Vanier instituted the Vanier Institute of the Family to deal with this fundamental problem in our society.

Our schools are having the same difficulty. As someone has said, and oversimplified, in addition to teaching the three R's, our youngsters are being taught the fourth R, that of rebellion. The problem is reflected in some of the legislative initiatives of this government, inasmuch as the permissive legislation of recent years has reflected the moral decline of society. Several members have said during this debate that to resort to capital punishment even for the heinous kinds of crime that have been referred to, even for murder performed by the psychopathic personality who has no moral compunction, is to brutalize society and lessen respect for life.

To show the moral confusion that this reflects, let me say, as I think we are aware, particularly since the Alliance for Life was in Ottawa some two years ago, that the so-called therapeutic abortion legislation in effect means on demand. This indicates an absolute disrespect for life inasmuch as thousands of unborn human beings can have their very lives terminated in the name of therapeutic abortion. When the Alliance for Life was in Ottawa it referred to the moral crisis of the nurses who have to gather the dismembered bodies of those children. They referred to the slaughter of the innocents. That indicates how life has become brutalized and how confused we are in our moral concepts. On the one hand we defend the right of the psychopathic criminal to life, and on the other hand we deny the right to life to the innocents who are now being eliminated by the thousands in what, in effect, is abortion on demand.

Murder is the ultimate crime. I am not going to argue the problem on religious grounds because you can get theologians to argue on both sides of the question. There is a phrase that I think is appropriate, that man was made in the image of God. When someone commits murder against his fellow man, that creature made in the image of God is destroyed. It is the ultimate crime. In some instances it deserves the ultimate penalty.

● (2150)

As society has progressed there has been a gradual elimination of the death penalty. I only wish that in the society in which we live Canada could go for complete abolition. This is not possible. This was determined back in the fifties by legislation of that day. The government in its wisdom has concluded that it is not possible to do so because it retains capital punishment for the murder of prison guards and police officers.

This House would much better use the time at its disposal by dealing with urgent issues awaiting the consideration of hon. members, leaving this matter where it stands with capital and non-capital murder. The safety of the state would be assured in cases of syndicated crime, the Mafia sort of homicide, hijacking, treason, murders carried out in cold blood by individuals who in many instances are psychopathic.

I am not going to argue from the standpoint of deterrence. That is beside the point, because social scientists can quote statistics on both sides. I argue that there is something in mankind; as the hon. member for Hillsborough (Mr. Macquarrie) said the other day when quoting Pasternak, there is a beast lurking in every human heart. The same thought is expressed by the concept of the id lurking in the murky labyrinth of the subconscious which is supposed to bubble to the surface and cause the perpetration of all sorts of heinous crimes. I am talking about the Christian concept of human nature which says that the heart of man is desperately wicked beyond all human understanding. Here is the situation, in human nature, in the moral confusion of society at the present time that has brought about the growing feeling of concern and anxiety of an increasing number of people in Canada.

Let us get on with the task of dealing with the breakdown of our penal system. Let us get on with the task of a comprehensive examination of the growing problem of crime and violence. Punishment is something we must retain in our criminal system unless we are going to make the whole system meaningless. Whether that punishment be life imprisonment, capital punishment or a different penalty, we have at the moment legislation that is adequate to deal with the problem as reflected in the expressed concern of thousands of Canadians across this country who want to see capital punishment retained for certain crimes and eliminated for others.

Let us carry on with the business of the nation, and not compound and confuse the issue with the half-baked legislation before us. Some will vote for the legislation as retentionists, some will vote against it as retentionists, some will vote for it as abolitionists and others will vote against it. Nothing will be settled; we will be back where we started. The problem of penal reform is much more important.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

[*Translation*]

Mr. Léonel Beaudoin (Richmond): With your agreement and that of the House, Mr. Speaker, I would like to call it ten o'clock.

[*English*]

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Is this agreed?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

PROCEEDINGS ON ADJOURNMENT MOTION

A motion to adjourn the House under Standing Order 40 deemed to have been moved.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE—STUDY ON DECENTRALIZATION OF OFFICES—PUBLICATION OF REPORT

Mr. Elmer M. MacKay (Central Nova): Mr. Speaker, on two different occasions I directed questions to the attention of the Minister of Manpower and Immigration (Mr. Andras) relating to the administrative costs of the Unemployment Insurance Commission. These were on March 7 and March 16 of this year. At that time I asked whether there was a blitz on in the department against administrative efficiency and excessive expenditures to correspond with legislation presently in effect whereby claimants were being given a hard time with regard to their UIC benefits. I do not wish to be quarrelsome this evening but there are a few points I wish to raise in connection with the administrative costs of the unemployment insurance program.

There has been a great deal of verbiage this session about the various ramifications of Governor General's warrants and other aspects of the unemployment insurance program. However, little has been said in this House about the horrendous increase in costs and the great problems of inefficiency that have been manifested to those who have studied what has gone on in this department in the past few years.

I want to raise just a few points. First, I wish to protest against the administrative costs that have resulted in the misguided attempt to restructure the unemployment Insurance Commission. According to my information, two or three years ago the administrative costs were in the vicinity of $43 million to $46 million. At that time the committee and the public were told that when computers and decentralization were brought in regional pay offices and the so-called improvements, they would result in benefits to the claimant and the taxpayer. Unfortunately, this has not been the case.

Recent news items and news releases indicate that in this administrative year the commission is going to spend $14 million to put the service back to where it was in 1971 before district offices started being closed. The real scandal is that it is now costing in the vicinity of $145 million for administrative costs, whereas a couple of years ago this cost the taxpayers of Canada between $43 million and $46 million.

What has happened is that in many areas of Canada there has been great hardship. My constituency is only one

of several areas where people have had to spend a great deal of money and go to a great deal of trouble in order to receive the service they once received as a matter of course. The former national employment service was not bad in that respect. One of its architects was Tom Kent, at that time an eminence gris in this venerable place.

● (2200)

Mr. MacInnis (Cape Breton-East Richmond): He won his war on poverty.

Mr. MacKay: He was the man who came out with the concept of a national manpower strategy. This has been nothing less than a disaster. What has happened is that labour unions, claimants and all those affected by the Unemployment Insurance Commission have borne the brunt as far as the organization of the UIC is concerned. The ridiculous part is that after causing a lot of misery to the people of Canada, the government is spending $14 million to put back what they took away only a few months ago.

I want restoration of the type of service once provided for my constituents. I say this as a result of many complaints and representations made to me by labour unions and by people who have legitimate complaints to make against the UIC. My complaints—I want to make this clear—in no way reflect upon the efficiency or the co-operative spirit with which the UIC staff has acted in the terrible situation which has been foisted upon them by those who are supposedly in control of the department. The Halifax regional office and, indeed, the New Glasgow regional office have done their best in individual cases to bring satisfaction to individuals who have been adversely affected by government policies. But the way in which administrative costs have gone up by millions of dollars, at the same time as service to the client has degenerated, is nothing less than a national scandal. There has been a complete failure of planning and, as a consequence, unnecessary work has come to the attention of Members of Parliament in all parties.

I hope the government has learned a lesson from this colossal blunder involving the administration of the UIC. I take pleasure in stating that unless some effort is made to put the blame where it belongs, that is, on the senior officials of the department, the government will encounter even greater difficulty in obtaining co-operation from Members of Parliament. The minister has requested hon. members to put forward suggestions. He has asked that we be patient. But unless the government pays attention to the situation it is creating as a result of these bureaucratic blunders, it will receive no co-operation either from the people of Canada or from those directly affected. The way the government has administered the affairs of the UIC amounts to nothing less than a disaster.

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, I have just come from a meeting of the Standing Committee on Labour, Manpower and Immigration at which colleagues of the hon. member closely questioned my minister on these very matters. My answer here must naturally be much more summary than that which my minister was able to make before the committee.

I am advised that a special report prepared after implementation of computerization concluded that in 1970-71 the Commission realized a saving of $1,841,000, based on the 1967-68 manual operation. The reason for the increase in costs is therefore other than the institution of the computerization program. In actual fact, administrative costs for 1971 and 1972 were as follows: the costs for 1971 amounted to $86,098,000; for 1972 the cost was $122,174,000; and the estimated cost for 1973 is $145,163,000.

Starting in 1970, increases in the workload and major operational changes resulting from the introduction of the new act have caused expansion of the regional facilities. The increase in program administration costs is due to a number of factors. Escalating costs, such as salary increases, accommodation, rental costs, postal rate increases and the elimination of mailing privileges have affected the administrative expenditures. Increased costs have also been incurred in providing improvements in service to the public through a more personalized approach in dealing with claimants and the decentralization of the commission's operations. In addition, the increase in the workload I have already noted has resulted in the need to increase the staff complement to a level commensurate with that workload.

Last year the commission responded to 13 million inquiries, handled 2.5 million claims and made 17 million benefit payments. These are impressive figures indeed, and when we put up against them the fact that only in a fairly small number of cases were there problems on the part of claimants, problems that we are doing our best to remedy, we realize that the system is working very well.

If we had thought it was working perfectly, we would not have felt it necessary to implement the changes that were recently brought into effect. However, I assure the hon. member that the commission itself is making every effort to provide the best possible service, and the new system of decentralization which is being instituted we believe will ensure an even better service than has been the case in the past two or three years.

AGRICULTURE—BRUCELLOSIS—REQUEST THAT COMPENSATION TO FARMERS BE EQUATED WITH FAIR MARKET VALUE—SUGGESTED VACCINATION PROGRAM

Mr. Elias Nesdoly (Meadow Lake): Mr. Speaker, I asked a series of questions last Thursday, May 17, and also on the following day, regarding Bang's disease, more scientifically known as brucellosis, which has occurred in northern Saskatchewan. Some of the answers that the minister gave me at that time were quite satisfactory, although I think some of them were slightly evasive and not too satisfactory so far as some of my constituents are concerned. It is unfortunate that the Minister of Agriculture (Mr. Whelan) is not in the chamber; he was here until a few minutes ago.

Saskatchewan was a Bang's-free area until several years ago. During the 1950s there was a program of extensive vaccination of cows or heifers against Bang's disease. This program was dropped by the federal government in the late 1950s and early 1960s in favour of eradication of the disease by eliminating reactors. Some veterinarians now tell us—there seems to be some conflict here among veterinarians—that cows are not suitable for the export market if they have been vaccinated against this disease because they can show up as reactors or give a positive result when tested. On the other hand, I hear from good sources that many states in the United States do not accept imported cattle unless they have been vaccinated. I am told that the only countries in the world that do not accept cattle vaccinated against Bang's are countries like Japan and Russia.

In addition to the questions I asked the minister last Thursday, there are several other questions that I want to pose to him tonight in response to points raised at a meeting held in the area of Big River, Saskatchewan, in my constituency, by a group of farmers who are very concerned about the spread of this disease. There have been cases of this disease in the area around Prince Albert, Debden, Victoire, Big River, Meadow Lake and Pierceland. This covers an area of about 200 miles from Prince Albert to the Alberta border. It also extends south and north of this line.

• (2210)

Some of the farmers whose animals have been affected by this disease made the following suggestions at a number of meetings they have held in the past several weeks. I would like the minister, or his parliamentary secretary, to reply to some of these suggestions. First of all, it is felt that the Animal Contagious Diseases Act should be amended in such a way that farmers who have an infected herd would be required to dispose of their herd entirely, and the federal government should exempt those farmers from income tax for a period so that they could restock their herd. Further, a farmer should be required to restock only after a waiting period of one year, under the supervision of the health of animals branch, and compensation for cow and calf should be in line with the replacement value plus one calf crop for one year.

I might add that I have received many letters from farmers who have been asked to dispose of their cattle because of Bang's disease. On the average they have been receiving around $200 for a cow at the stockyard. Further, they receive on the average about $100 in compensation. It works out to an average figure of $300 per animal. When a farmer buys a cow, he must pay $400 to $450 on the open market. Since the farmer probably has lost a cow which has been aborted, he has also lost a calf which would be valued at between $100 and $200. These farmers feel the compensation should be considerably higher than it is, and that it should be equivalent to the replacement value.

The Canadian producers in our area, and I would say throughout northern Saskatchewan or any area in Canada which is affected, feel there should be a little more provincial-federal co-operation in respect of the control of brucellosis and that, particularly, there should be more stringent action regarding disinfecting stations. The farmer who sells diseased animals to the stockyards should have access to proper disinfecting equipment. I understand that in many cases they do not have access to such equipment.

There should be more stringent regulation of community pastures. The farmers also feel that where there is any possibility of infection, or where animals have been in a community pasture and have had Bang's disease, there

should be a hay area or buffer zone established around the area so that the animals in community pastures would be controlled so far as contact with healthy animals is concerned. It is also felt that many patrons who use the big community or PFRA pastures should be notified that there is Bang's disease in the area, so they can take appropriate precautions.

Furthermore, many farmers in the area feel that the Department of Agriculture should post a notice on property where infection is known to have occurred, indicating the presence of brucellosis. This notice should remain in place for a period of one year or until the property is properly disinfected and certified as being free of Bang's disease. It is also felt that the Department of Public Health in areas where there is Bang's disease should be notified so that it can monitor hospitals to determine whether or not Bang's disease has spread to humans. In humans this disease is known as undulant fever. There are four things—

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Laniel): Order, please. I regret that I must interrupt the hon. member because the time allotted to him has expired.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Leopold Corriveau (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Agriculture): Mr. Speaker, the hon. member referred to the level of compensation payable under the Animal Contagious Diseases Act. The problem is under very careful study, and it is hoped that there will be a statement on this matter soon.

The number of reactors to this disease, in Saskatchewan, are as follows:

1966-67	889 cases
1967-68	711 cases
1968-69	389 cases
1969-70	885 cases
1970-71	1078 cases
1971-72	2033 cases
1972-73	2544 cases

For 1973-1974, 1109 reactors have been found to date. The situation is under constant surveillance, by the department's Health of Animals Branch.

At this point, I should perhaps mention that there are two justifications for this increase. First, the slaughter of entire herds when there is evidence of a large number of reactors. As the herds increase in size, the number of reactors follows suit.

The incidence of the disease has increased in the north of Saskatchewan. The department has intensified surveillance and testing in cattle enclosures, auctions, etc., and is doing everything possible to have animals identified as reactors slaughtered as quickly as possible. An extra official has been sent to the area to help implement the checking program.

The hon. member spoke of vaccine; I should like to mention that there is an available vaccine for calves. However, it is not 100 per cent efficient and it interferes with the testing program, since it is impossible to distinguish between animals that have been vaccinated and those that have been infected naturally.

[Mr. Nesdoly.]

As regards cases of the disease in human beings, the Health of Animals Branch gets its information from officials of the provincial health units.

For Saskatchewan, three cases were reported in 1967, three in 1968, one in 1969, two in 1970, one in 1971, and four in 1972.

The Saskatchewan Department of Public Health stated that it had not yet obtained statistics for 1973.

[*English*]

HOUSING—ROCHDALE COLLEGE—POSSIBLE USE AFTER FORECLOSURE

Mr. Reg Stackhouse (Scarborough East): Mr. Speaker, I thank the minister for his attendance tonight. This subject was discussed last week in one of the adjournment debates and a statement was made by the parliamentary secretary that the Minister of State for Urban Affairs (Mr. Basford) wrote on April 13, over a month ago, to the metro police commission chairman and to the attorney general of the province of Ontario setting out the federal position respecting Rochdale, and offering full co-operation in the attorney general's proposed investigation of that institution. He asked for the consent of hon. members to table copies of the minister's letter at that time.

I called Sessional Papers this afternoon asking for a copy of that tabled letter, but was told that it had not been received because it was contrary to the rules for any documents to be tabled during these adjournment debates. That being the case, Mr. Speaker, I would welcome a copy of the minister's letter if I could receive it in some other way.

Recently at Rochdale college in Toronto a young man in my constituency met a tragic death. Nothing can be done to restore him, but something must be done to prevent this tragedy being repeated. Rochdale college should become a place in which the public can believe and of which it would not be ashamed. It was erected as an institution for free education; it has become a supermarket for drugs. The government has been urged many times to put this government-financed building to better use, but it has been slow to act. Perhaps it has been reluctant to admit it made a mistake in the first place when it funded the construction of Rochdale and then subsidized it with LIP and OFY grants. Whatever the reason, it has been slow to act.

The government has begun foreclosure proceedings in the courts. It has appointed a management receiver to supervise administration. But such steps are not enough. While foreclosure proceedings drag on, the drug traffic continues. While the receiver makes his efforts at reform, violence still reigns. A report on police activity at Rochdale shows how sordid a record this social monstrosity has. This report tells of drug trafficking so extensive that since January 1, 1973, 379 persons have been charged with drug and narcotic offences, 100 have been charged with trafficking and seizures have been made ranging up to 450 pounds of marijuana. Other offences have included robbery, dangerous weapons, thefts, obstructing and assaulting police, harbouring criminals, dangerous driving, driving under suspension, and even one case of murder.

● (2220)

J. S. Boldizar, vice-president of Rochdale, is reported in the press as saying that as many as eight major drug suppliers and 75 dealers operated in Rochdale last summer. The receiver has recently announced that drug traffickers and users must go. This action is welcome, but in many ways it is too little and too late.

I urge the minister to take an action on which I have sought legal advice. Let him, through the management receiver, take over full authority for this building. Let him appoint new administrators. Let him clear out the present tenants. Let him replace them with other citizens who will devote this building to a decent and useful purpose. It could be a home for senior citizens. It could be an apartment house for low-income earners. Every week I receive appeals from pensioners who now have to wait up to two years for public housing because the need is so great. Every week I receive appeals from low-income earners whose names are at the bottom of an Ontario Housing waiting list 17,000 names long.

The minister may defend his policy of doing little and as late as possible, but the people of Canada cannot take him seriously if he says they have put about $5 million into a building and yet must allow it to be abused this way. The management receiver is said to have told the Rochdale college council that his firm had no mandate to clear out the building. I urge the minister to give the receivers that mandate and tell them to act on it.

Rochdale is reported to be more than $1,375,000 behind in mortgage and tax payments. Over $150,000 in collected rent is said to have disappeared in five years. What home owner, struggling to pay his mortgage and his taxes, could get away with that? When representatives of the government tell us that the law forces us to tolerate this, the ordinary citizen must conclude that Mr. Bumble was right and the law really is an ass.

I urge the minister to take an action that the law will permit—to take over the management of Rochdale college and devote it to a purpose the public can support. Threats of riot and mayhem must be rejected. We have been told that there would be a bloodbath, that there would be chaos if the government moved in this direction. But if a group can blackmail a government with that kind of threat, we no longer have a government.

Hon. Ron Basford (Minister of State for Urban Affairs): Mr. Speaker, I have listened to the hon. member with some dismay because this analysis of the situation, with all due respect, comes from a person who is either being deliberately mischievous, ignorant or grossly stupid. When the hon. member suggests that the government should do this or that, and that the minister should tell the receiver manager to do this, that or the other, I would like to put the facts on the record.

The fact of the matter is that the position of the Government of Canada with regard to Rochdale is simply that of anyone who has lent money on a mortgage. That mortgage is in default and CMHC has acted as quickly as the law allows. We have to live within the law—I think even the hon. member would agree with that—and the government has proceeded within the law to secure its rights under that mortgage with all the expedition that the law allows. It commenced foreclosure proceedings on August 17, 1971. At that time it sought in the courts of Ontario interim possession and interim receivership of the building, and was refused by the courts.

If the hon. member is telling me that in spite of that court order which refused Central Mortgage and Housing, refused the Government of Canada possession of the building, the government should take possession illegally, then he is very ignorant or is being very mischievous. Having failed through the courts to get interim receivership or interim management of the building, we took unusual and novel proceedings, which have worked, by applying to the courts for the appointment of a court appointed receiver, not for Central Mortgage and Housing but for all of the creditors. That was granted and on September 1, 1972, the Clarkson company was appointed by the courts as interim receiver and manager of the building.

That receiver accounts, not to me, not to Central Mortgage and Housing but to the Ontario Supreme Court. He reports to the court and is under orders of the court. On the basis of Friday's press release, I think he is making progress in cleaning up the situation in Rochdale. In the meantime, Central Mortgage and Housing and its solicitors, under my instructions, are proceeding as expeditiously as the law allows to prosecute its foreclosure proceedings. I hope they will be set down for trial as early as possible.

I hope the Chief Justice of Ontario, who is responsible for placing matters on the trial list, will see that the action of Central Mortgage and Housing on foreclosure receives an early trial and is handled expeditiously in the Supreme Court of Ontario. That is not under my control. As the hon. member knows, the setting of the trial date is a court proceeding in itself. However, I hope it would not be improper of me to suggest, in regard to these proceedings, that the Chief Justice take note of their special nature and the need for the protection of the interests of the taxpayer and give this matter an early trial.

In the meantime, if the hon. member and his colleagues want to continue making political hay out of this situation in which the government is acting as fast as the law allows, he should use his political influence to get an answer to the letter he mentioned which was written to the chairman of the metropolitan board of police commissioners, and send a copy to the attorney general of Ontario asking for co-operation. He might get a reply to that letter from his Conservative colleagues in Ontario. It has not been replied to as yet. If the hon. gentleman wants to make political hay, I will meet him on these grounds. But he is rather silly to be urging the government to take action that the courts of Ontario have specifically barred it from taking.

Motion agreed to and the House adjourned at 10.30 p.m.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Wednesday, May 23, 1973

The House met at 2 p.m.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

PENITENTIARIES

TABLING OF TERMS OF REFERENCE AND PRESS RELEASE CONCERNING INQUIRY INTO INSTITUTIONS IN QUEBEC

Hon. Warren Allmand (Solicitor General): Mr. Speaker, according to the request made last week by the hon. member for Yukon (Mr. Nielsen), I wish to table, under Standing Order 41(2), the terms of reference and the press release relating to the establishment of the inquiry into the penitentiaries in Quebec.

* * *

PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

TABLING OF AUDITOR GENERAL'S REPORT FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 1972

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Acting Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the Minister of Finance I wish to table in both official languages the report of the Auditor General for the fiscal year ended March 31, 1972.

Mr. Baldwin: About time—four and a half months late!

* * *

FLOODS

HIGH WATER LEVEL IN LAKE ONTARIO—REQUEST FOR UNANIMOUS CONSENT TO MOVE MOTION

Mr. Sean O'Sullivan (Hamilton-Wentworth): Mr. Speaker, I rise under Standing Order 43 to propose a motion on a matter of urgent and pressing necessity. In view of the increasingly serious threat posed by high water levels on the Great Lakes, a problem now emphasized by the evacuation of more families from their homes along Lake Ontario, I therefore move, seconded by the hon. member for Hamilton Mountain (Mr. Beattie):

That the government immediately take emergency measures to relieve the hardship suffered by residents of East Hamilton, Saltfleet Township and other areas, who have been flooded out of their homes along the shores of Lake Ontario, and that the government take short and long-term measures to avoid further threats to the well-being and property of those families.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member's motion requires unanimous consent. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

Mr. Speaker: There is not unanimity.

* * *

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE COMMISSION

REQUEST FOR UNANIMOUS CONSENT TO MOVE MOTION

Mr. Frank Howard (Skeena): Mr. Speaker, I rise to seek the unanimous consent of the House to move a motion under Standing Order 43, occasioned by the receipt this morning of information in a news release from the Unemployment Insurance Commission on what is called the new approach, and the like. I would therefore like to move, seconded by the hon. member for Comox-Alberni (Mr. Barnett):

This House expresses its appreciation for the distribution to members of the information relating to the Unemployment Insurance Commission reorganization, and further appreciates that it only took the Minister of Manpower and Immigration a period of 42 days to accomplish this feat.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Speaker: I am sure the hon. member does not wish the Chair to put the motion. I have some hesitation in doing so.

* * *

PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

REFERENCE OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS FOR YEARS ENDED MARCH 31, 1971 AND 1972, AND AUDITOR GENERAL'S REPORTS THEREON TO STANDING COMMITTEE

Mr. G. W. Baldwin (Peace River): Mr. Speaker, I rise on a matter of very urgent and pressing necessity. Since we are now four and a half months into this session and there has been no complete examination of the public accounts for the year ended March 31, 1971, it is imperative that the accounts of two years ago be examined immediately before they are of historical interest only. I therefore ask unanimous leave to move, seconded by the hon. member for Saint John-Lancaster (Mr. Bell):

That the public accounts for the year ended March 31, 1971—

And because of what the Acting Prime Minister has just done I have now added:

—and for the year ended March 31, 1972, and the reports of the Auditor General thereon, together with the evidence adduced by the committee during the fourth session of the twenty-eighth Parliament, be referred to the Standing Committee on Public Accounts.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Speaker: Is there unanimous consent?

Rochdale College

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Mr. Speaker: There appears to be unanimous consent. There seems to be no protest, and I am prepared to put the motion to the House. Is it the pleasure of the House to adopt the said motion?

● (1410)

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Motion (Mr. Baldwin) agreed to.

* * *

[*Translation*]

MANPOWER

REQUEST FOR PARITY BETWEEN RETRAINING ALLOWANCES AND UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE BENEFITS—REQUEST FOR UNANIMOUS CONSENT TO MOVE MOTION

Mr. Adrien Lambert (Bellechasse): Mr. Speaker, pursuant to Standing Order 43, I request the unanimous consent of the House to move a motion related to a very important matter which is undoubtedly pressing.

It has to do with workers who are screened by manpower centres for retraining in their trade in order to meet the requirements of demand on labour market as well as trade and work regulations and who lose their entitlement to extra unemployment insurance benefits for the duration of this training. I therefore move, seconded by the hon. member for Charlevoix (Mr. Caouette):

That a special House of Commons committee be instructed to study this serious problem and to make relevant recommendations for amendments to the act and the regulations as well as to Department of Manpower programs tending to facilitate better co-operation between manpower centres and unemployment insurance offices.

Mr. Speaker: The House has heard the hon. member's motion. Under Standing Order 43, the motion requires unanimous consent of the House. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Yes.

Some hon. Members: No.

Mr. Speaker: There is no unanimity and the motion therefore cannot be put.

* * *

[*English*]

HOUSING

ROCHDALE COLLEGE—TABLING OF LETTER FROM MINISTER TO CHAIRMAN METROPOLITAN BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF POLICE, TORONTO

Hon. Ron Basford (Minister of State for Urban Affairs): Mr. Speaker, I should like to table a letter dated April 13 to Judge Carl O. Bick, Chairman, Metropolitan Board of Commissioners of Police, Toronto, with regard to Rochdale College. It is being tabled because it was mentioned in two adjournment proceedings this week and last and under the rules could not be tabled during those proceedings. It should, I think, be tabled at this time, and it would be useful if hon. members would give their consent that it be appended to *Hansard*.

Mr. Speaker: Is this agreed?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

[*Editor's Note: For text of letter referred to above, see Appendix A.*]

* * *

REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT

CONCURRENCE IN FIRST REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

Mr. B. Keith Penner (Thunder Bay) moved that the first report of the Standing Committee on Regional Development presented to the House on Wednesday, April 18, 1973, be concurred in.

Motion agreed to.

* * *

NARCOTIC CONTROL ACT

PROVISION OF SEVERER PENALTIES FOR OFFENCES AND DENIAL OF BAIL

Mr. John Reynolds (Burnaby-Richmond-Delta) moved for leave to introduce Bill C-181, to amend the Narcotic Control Act.

Some hon. Members: Explain.

Mr. Reynolds: Mr. Speaker, the purpose of this bill is to amend the Narcotic Control Act to provide more severe penalties for the offences of trafficking, possession and importing and exporting narcotics and to deny bail to those persons charged with these offences. The bill represents a declaration of all-out war on those who violate the Narcotic Control Act.

Motion agreed to, bill read the first time and ordered to be printed.

* * *

CANADA PENSION PLAN

INCLUSION AS DEPENDANT OF CHILD BORN AFTER PARENT FOUND TO BE DISABLED

Mr. J.-J. Blais (Nipissing) moved for leave to introduce Bill C-182, to amend the Canada Pension Plan (disabled contributor's child).

Some hon. Members: Explain.

Mr. Blais: Mr. Speaker, the purpose of this bill is to amend the disability provisions of the Canada Pension Plan in order to remove an anomaly. The act as it now stands does not permit a disabled parent to include as a

dependant child, a child born after the time the parent is found to be disabled. In other words, once found to be disabled under the act as it now stands, the pensioner is presumed to be impotent or, at the very least, sterile.

Motion agreed to, bill read the first time and ordered to be printed.

* * *

COOPERATIVE CREDIT ASSOCIATIONS ACT

AMENDMENTS RESPECTING DEFINITIONS, MEMBERSHIP, INCORPORATION, OBJECTS AND POWERS

Hon. Allan J. MacEachen (for the Minister of Finance) moved for leave to introduce Bill C-183, to amend the Cooperative Credit Associations Act.

Motion agreed to, bill read the first time and ordered to be printed.

QUESTIONS ON THE ORDER PAPER

(Questions answered orally are indicated by an asterisk.)

PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA—POSSIBLE OPENING OF CONSULAR OFFICES IN CANADA

Question No. 225—Mr. Dinsdale:

Is the government giving consideration to the request of the People's Republic of China that Consular Offices be opened in the major cities of Canada and, if so, in which cities would the Consulates be located, and at what time would they be operational?

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs): As the Canadian government wishes to negotiate a consular understanding with the People's Republic of China, we consider that it would be desirable to define the terms of our consular relations before giving more detailed consideration to the Chinese Embassy request to establish a Chinese consular or trade office in a Canadian city outside Ottawa.

INFANT MORTALITY RATE AMONG INDIANS AND INUITS

Question No. 724—Miss MacDonald (Kingston and the Islands):

1. What was the infant mortality rate among Indians and Inuits between 1964 and 1968, and between 1969 and 1972?

2. What was the life expectancy of Indian and Inuit males and females in 1968, 1969, 1970, 1971 and 1972?

Hon. Marc Lalonde (Minister of National Health and Welfare): 1. See below.

2. Tables of average life expectancy for Indians and Eskimos (Inuit) for the individual years 1968, 1969, 1970, 1971 and 1972 are not available. Canadian Indians: Average life expectancy (based on mortality for 1965-68): *at age 0, males 60.49, females 65.60; at age 1, males 63.16, females 67.80.; The only known Eskimo Life Table is based on observations of the mortality experienced amongst Eskimos of the Northwest Territories from 1963 to 1966. One difficulty is that the number of Eskimos involved of either sex, at any year of age, in any one year during the observation period never exceeded 250 and, in fact, only reached that number at birth. In a small racial group only careful observations recorded over an extended period can give any really reliable basis for a life table. The four year period chosen was barely adequate. Observations over a more extended period would probably have resulted in somewhat lower mortality rates. For these reasons the table deals with Eskimos as a whole and cannot be applied to either sex with any degree of accuracy. Canadian Eskimos: Number of years of further life expectancy (based on reported mortality for 1963-66): *at age 0, 50.59; at age 1, 54.85.

*Due to a high incidence of infant mortality, it is necessary to indicate life expectancy at age 0 and at age 1.

Infant Mortality Rates per 1000 Live Births
Both Sexes

Year	Canadian Registered Indians	*Eskimos of the Northwest Territories
1964	Not available	93.7
1965	49.3	95.4
1966	48.5	108.8
1967	49.7	83.8
1968	44.5	89.1
1969	41.5	90.5
1970	34.9	105.0
1971	Data not yet sufficiently complete to permit calculation of rate	97.8
1972	Data not available	Not available

*Data on Quebec Eskimos are not sufficiently complete to permit rate calculation.

Most provinces no longer report racial origin in vital statistics data.

PRACTICE OF ACUPUNCTURE IN CANADA

Question No. 1,030—Mr. Macquarrie:

1. Is any branch or division of the Department of National Health and Welfare pursuing any program of research into the feasibility of the possible practice of acupuncture in Canada and, if so, what is the nature and extent of research and how many researchers are involved?

2. How many individuals or groups have suggested the clinical utilization of acupuncture techniques?

3. Has the Department positive knowledge of acupuncture technique being used in Canada and, if so, what and how frequently?

4. Are there at present any licenced practitioners of acupuncture in Canada and, if so, what is their number and location?

Order Paper Questions

Hon. Marc Lalonde (Minister of National Health and Welfare): 1. No.

2. The Canadian Medical Association has expressed an interest in evaluating the validity of the technique. Both the Canadian Medical Association and the Federation of Registrars of the Provincial Medical Colleges are in favour of properly conducted research within Canada on this subject. A delegation of Canadian doctors and health administrators visited China from April 20 to May 5, 1973, as guests of the All-China Medical Association. The use of acupuncture in the treatment of certain diseases and also anaesthesia during surgery are amongst the subjects which received particular attention during this tour.

3. It is known that acupuncture techniques are being examined on a research basis at a number of university medical centres in Canada. These projects are not, however, being financed by the department, with the result that the precise details of techniques and frequency of use are not known.

4. No. The registration and licensing of health professionals is a matter which falls within the jurisdiction of the provinces. To date, no province has made specific provisions for the licensing of acupuncturists.

LOCAL INITIATIVES PROGRAM—NOVA SCOTIA

Question No. 1,051—**Mr. Nowlan:**

By federal constituency in the Province of Nova Scotia for the 1972-73 period (a) how many applications for LIP grants were received (b) how many projects were approved (c) what was the total amount in dollars involved (d) how many man weeks of employment were generated by the projects approved?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): (a) See following Schedule 1 Column 1; (b) See following Schedule 1 Column 2; (c) See following Schedule 1 Column 3; (d) See following Schedule 1 Column 4.

Schedule 1

Constituency	Number of Applications Received	Number of Projects Approved	Value of Approved Projects	Manweeks of Work on Approved Projects
	Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Annapolis Valley	76	23	$ 801,563	7,401
Cape Breton—East Richmond	50	13	361,193	3,545
Cape Breton Highlands—Canso	212	73	1,933,256	17,360
Cape Breton—The Sydneys	160	48	1,486,103	13,453
Central Nova	105	28	828,820	7,425
Cumberland-Colchester North	92	23	514,911	4,841
Dartmouth-Halifax East	61	20	695,923	6,454
Halifax	135	51	1,546,114	14,283
Halifax-East Hants	48	13	411,926	3,869
South Shore	76	29	623,998	5,828
South Western Nova	82	32	867,270	8,251
Totals	1,097	353	$10,071,077	92,710

RIGHT OF BRITISH SUBJECT TO VOTE

Question No. 1,053—**Mr. Whittaker:**

1. Does the government intend to enforce Subsection 3 of Section 14 of the Canada Elections Act after JUne 26, 1975 when the right of British subjects to vote will terminate and, if so, what are the plans to publicize this fact?

2. Will the government give consideration (a) to improving citizenship facilities to cope with the last minute rush of applicants facing disenfranchisement (b) to amending that Section of the Act to eliminate the disenfranchising of the many persons who have spent most of their lives in Canada?

Mr. John M. Reid (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): 1. Pursuant to section 4 of the Canada Elections Act, it is the Chief Electoral Officer who has the statutory responsibility to enforce the provisions of Subsection 14(3) of the Act. The provisions of that subsection were publicized by the Chief Electoral Officer at the recent federal general election through pamphlets and other media. Similar action will be taken in respect of future elections.

[Mr. Macquarrie.]

2. Improvement of existing citizenship registration facilities will shortly be carried out; (b) no.

LIP—APPLICATION FOR GRANT RELATING TO PROJECT No. H-3043

Question No. 1,217—**Mr. Beaudoin:**

1. On what date did the government receive an application for a grant under LIP concerning project No. H-3043?

2. On what date was the application either approved or refused?

3. What were the reasons set forth by the government for its refusal or approval of said project?

4. If the project was accepted, what was the amount granted by the government to finance it?

5. How many jobs were created by the implementation of this project?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. November 24, 1972.

2. Rejected on March 3, 1973.

3. The Department received a far greater number of applications than funds were available for. All applications were carefully assessed and many difficult decisions not to approve had to be made.

4. N/A.

5. N/A.

LIP—APPLICATION FOR GRANT RELATING TO PROJECT No. H-2933

Question No. 1,218—**Mr. Beaudoin:**

1. On what date did the government receive an application for a grant under LIP concerning project No. H-2933?

2. On what date was the application either approved or refused?

3. What were the reasons set forth by the government for its refusal or approval of said project?

4. If the project was accepted, what was the amount granted by the government to finance it?

5. How many jobs were created by the implementation of this project?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. November 29, 1972.

2. Rejected February 4, 1973.

3. The Department received a far greater number of applications than funds were available for. All applications were carefully assessed and many difficult decisions not to approve had to be made.

4. N/A.

5. N/A.

LIP—APPLICATION FOR GRANT RELATING TO PROJECT No. H-2789

Question No. 1,219—**Mr. Beaudoin:**

1. On what date did the government receive an application for a grant under LIP concerning project No. H-2789?

2. On what date was the application either approved or refused?

3. What were the reasons set forth by the government for its refusal or approval of said project?

4. If the project was accepted, what was the amount granted by the government to finance it?

5. How many jobs were created by the implementation of this project?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. November 23, 1972.

2. Rejected on February 5, 1973.

3. The Department received a far greater number of applications than funds were available for. All applications were carefully assessed and many difficult decisions not to approve had to be made.

4. N/A.

5. N/A.

LIP—APPLICATION FOR GRANT RELATING TO PROJECT No. H-2572

Question No. 1,220—**Mr. Beaudoin:**

1. On what date did the government receive an application for a grant under LIP concerning project No. H-2572?

2. On what date was the application either approved or refused?

3. What were the reasons set forth by the government for its refusal or approval of said project?

4. If the project was accepted, what was the amount granted by the government to finance it?

5. How many jobs were created by the implementation of this project?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. November 21, 1972.

2. Rejected on January 23, 1973.

3. The Department received a far greater number of applications than funds were available for. All applications were carefully assessed and many difficult decisions not to approve had to be made.

4. N/A.

5. N/A.

LIP—APPLICATION FOR GRANT RELATING TO PROJECT No. H-2313

Question No. 1,221—**Mr. Beaudoin:**

1. On what date did the government receive an application for a grant under LIP concerning project No. H-2313?

2. On what date was the application either approved or refused?

3. What were the reasons set forth by the government for its refusal or approval of said project?

4. If the project was accepted, what was the amount granted by the government to finance it?

5. How many jobs were created by the implementation of this project?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. November 2, 1972.

2. Rejected on January 23, 1973.

3. The Department received a far greater number of applications than funds were available for. All applications were carefully assessed and many difficult decisions not to approve had to be made.

4. N/A.

5. N/A.

LIP—APPLICATION FOR GRANT RELATING TO PROJECT No. H-2307

Question No. 1,223—**Mr. Beaudoin:**

1. On what date did the government receive an application for a grant under LIP concerning project No. H-2307?

2. On what date was the application either approved or refused?

3. What were the reasons set forth by the government for its refusal or approval of said project?

4. If the project was accepted, what was the amount granted by the government to finance it?

5. How many jobs were created by the implementation of this project?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. November 22, 1972.

2. Rejected on December 19, 1972.

3. The Department received a far greater number of applications than funds were available for. All applications were carefully assessed and many difficult decisions not to approve had to be made.

4. N/A.

5. N/A.

LIP—APPLICATION FOR GRANT RELATING TO PROJECT No. H-2261

Question No. 1,224—**Mr. Beaudoin:**

1. On what date did the government receive an application for a grant under LIP concerning project No. H-2261?

2. On what date was the application either approved or refused?

3. What were the reasons set forth by the government for its refusal or approval of said project?

4. If the project was accepted, what was the amount granted by the government to finance it?

5. How many jobs were created by the implementation of this project?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. November 17, 1972.

2. Rejected on February 28, 1973.

3. The Department received a far greater number of applications than funds were available for. All applications were carefully assessed and many difficult decisions not to approve had to be made.

4. N/A.

5. N/A.

LIP—APPLICATION FOR GRANT RELATING TO PROJECT No. H-1933

Question No. 1,226—**Mr. Beaudoin:**

1. On what date did the government receive an application for a grant under LIP concerning project No. H-1933?

2. On what date was the application either approved or refused?

3. What were the reasons set forth by the government for its refusal or approval of said project?

4. If the project was accepted, what was the amount granted by the government to finance it?

5. How many jobs were created by the implementation of this project?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. November 20, 1972.

2. Rejected on February 2, 1973.

3. The Department received a far greater number of applications than funds were available for. All applications were carefully assessed and many difficult decisions not to approve had to be made.

[Mr. Beaudoin.]

4. N/A.

5. N/A.

LIP—APPLICATION FOR GRANT RELATING TO PROJECT No. H-1932

Question No. 1,227—**Mr. Beaudoin:**

1. On what date did the government receive an application for a grant under LIP concerning project No. H-1932?

2. On what date was the application either approved or refused?

3. What were the reasons set forth by the government for its refusal or approval of said project?

4. If the project was accepted, what was the amount granted by the government to finance it?

5. How many jobs were created by the implementation of this project?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. November 20, 1972.

2. Rejected on January 29, 1973.

3. The Department received a far greater number of applications than funds were available for. All applications were carefully assessed and many difficult decisions not to approve had to be made.

4. N/A.

5. N/A.

LIP—APPLICATION FOR GRANT RELATING TO PROJECT No. H-1761

Question No. 1,228—**Mr. Beaudoin:**

1. On what date did the government receive an application for a grant under LIP concerning project No. H-1761?

2. On what date was the application either approved or refused?

3. What were the reasons set forth by the government for its refusal or approval of said project?

4. If the project was accepted, what was the amount granted by the government to finance it?

5. How many jobs were created by the implementation of this project?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. November 9, 1972.

2. Rejected on February 22, 1973.

3. The Department received a far greater number of applications than funds were available for. All applications were carefully assessed and many difficult decisions not to approve had to be made.

4. N/A.

5. N/A.

LIP—APPLICATION FOR GRANT RELATING TO PROJECT No. H-1753

Question No. 1,229—**Mr. Beaudoin:**

1. On what date did the government receive an application for a grant under LIP concerning project No. H-1753?

2. On what date was the application either approved or refused?

3. What were the reasons set forth by the government for its refusal or approval of said project?

4. If the project was accepted, what was the amount granted by the government to finance it?

5. How many jobs were created by the implementation of this project?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. November 14, 1972.

2. Rejected on January 15, 1973.

3. The Department received a far greater number of applications than funds were available for. All applications were carefully assessed and many difficult decisions not to approve had to be made.

4. N/A.

5. N/A.

LIP—APPLICATION FOR GRANT RELATING TO PROJECT No. H-1552

Question No. 1,230—**Mr. Beaudoin:**

1. On what date did the government receive an application for a grant under LIP concerning project No. H-1552?

2. On what date was the application either approved or refused?

3. What were the reasons set forth by the government for its refusal or approval of said project?

4. If the project was accepted, what was the amount granted by the government to finance it?

5. How many jobs were created by the implementation of this project?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. November 10, 1972.

2. Rejected on February 27, 1973.

3. The Department received a far greater number of applications than for which there were funds. All applications were carefully assessed and many difficult decisions not to approve had to be made.

4. N/A.

5. N/A.

LIP—APPLICATION FOR GRANT RELATING TO PROJECT No. H-1199

Question No. 1,233—**Mr. Beaudoin:**

1. On what date did the government receive an application for a grant under LIP concerning project No. H-1199?

2. On what date was the application either approved or refused?

3. What were the reasons set forth by the government for its refusal or approval of said project?

4. If the project was accepted, what was the amount granted by the government to finance it?

5. How many jobs were created by the implementation of this project?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. October 26, 1972.

2. Rejected on February 26, 1973.

3. The Department received a far greater number of applications than funds were available for. All applications were carefully assessed and many difficult decisions not to approve had to be made.

4. N/A.

5. N/A.

LIP—APPLICATION FOR GRANT RELATING TO PROJECT No. H-1029

Question No. 1,234—**Mr. Beaudoin:**

1. On what date did the government receive an application for a grant under LIP concerning project No. H-1029?

2. On what date was the application either approved or refused?

3. What were the reasons set forth by the government for its refusal or approval of said project?

4. If the project was accepted, what was the amount granted by the government to finance it?

5. How many jobs were created by the implementation of this project?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. October 23, 1972.

2. Rejected on February 5, 1973.

3. The Department received a far greater number of applications than funds were available for. All applications were carefully assessed and many difficult decisions not to approve had to be made.

4. N/A.

5. N/A.

LIP—APPLICATION FOR GRANT RELATING TO PROJECT No. H-1018

Question No. 1,235—**Mr. Beaudoin:**

1. On what date did the government receive an application for a grant under LIP concerning project No. H-1018?

2. On what date was the application either approved or refused?

3. What were the reasons set forth by the government for its refusal or approval of said project?

4. If the project was accepted, what was the amount granted by the government to finance it?

5. How many jobs were created by the implementation of this project?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. October 16, 1972.

2. Rejected on February 5, 1973.

3. The Department received a far greater number of applications than funds were available for. All applications were carefully assessed and many difficult decisions not to approve had to be made.

4. N/A.

5. N/A.

Order Paper Questions

LIP—APPLICATION FOR GRANT RELATING TO PROJECT No. H-6557

Question No. 1,236—**Mr. Beaudoin:**

1. On what date did the government receive an application for a grant under LIP concerning project No. H-6557?

2. On what date was the application either approved or refused?

3. What were the reasons set forth by the government for its refusal or approval of said project?

4. If the project was accepted, what was the amount granted by the government to finance it?

5. How many jobs were created by the implementation of this project?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. January 17, 1973.

2. Rejected on February 12, 1973.

3. The Department received a far greater number of applications than funds were available for. All applications were carefully assessed and many difficult decisions not to approve had to be made.

4. N/A.

5. N/A.

LIP—APPLICATION FOR GRANT RELATING TO PROJECT No. H-6556

Question No. 1,237—**Mr. Beaudoin:**

1. On what date did the government receive an application for a grant under LIP concerning project No. H-6556?

2. On what date was the application either approved or refused?

3. What were the reasons set forth by the government for its refusal or approval of said project?

4. If the project was accepted, what was the amount granted by the government to finance it?

5. How many jobs were created by the implementation of this project?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. January 17, 1973.

2. Rejected on February 15, 1973.

3. The Department received a far greater number of applications than funds were available for. All applications were carefully assessed and many difficult decisions not to approve had to be made.

4. N/A.

5. N/A.

LIP—APPLICATION FOR GRANT RELATING TO PROJECT No. H-6394

Question No. 1,239—**Mr. Beaudoin:**

1. On what date did the government receive an application for a grant under LIP concerning project No. H-6394?

2. On what date was the application either approved or refused?

3. What were the reasons set forth by the government for its refusal or approval of said project?

4. If the project was accepted, what was the amount granted by the government to finance it?

[Mr. MacGuigan.]

5. How many jobs were created by the implementation of this project?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. January 12, 1973.

2. Approved on February 13, 1973.

3. One of those projects that best combine the dual objectives of job creation and a realistic and identifiable contribution to community betterment.

4. $10,530.

5. Eighty-six man-weeks of employment.

LIP—APPLICATION OF GRANT RELATING TO PROJECT No. H-6292

Question No. 1,240—**Mr. Beaudoin:**

1. On what date did the government receive an application for a grant under LIP concerning project No. H-6292?

2. On what date was the application either approved or reused?

3. What were the reasons set forth by the government for its refusal or approval of said project?

4. If the project was accepted, what was the amount granted by the government to finance it?

5. How many jobs were created by the implementation of this project?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. January 12, 1973.

2. Approved on February 13, 1973.

3. One of those projects that best combine the dual objectives of job creation and a realistic and identifiable contribution to community betterment.

4. $12,454.

5. One hundred and eight man-weeks of employment.

LIP—APPLICATION FOR GRANT RELATING TO PROJECT No. H-6291

Question No. 1,241—**Mr. Beaudoin:**

1. On what date did the government receive an application for a grant under LIP concerning project No. H-6291?

2. On what date was the application either approved or refused?

3. What were the reasons set forth by the government for its refusal or approval of said project?

4. If the project was accepted, what was the amount granted by the government to finance it?

5. How many jobs were created by the implementation of this project?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. January 12, 1973.

2. Rejected on February 6, 1973.

3. The Department received a far greater number of applications than funds were available for. All applications were carefully assessed and many difficult decisions not to approve had to be made.

4. N/A.

5. N/A.

LIP—APPLICATION FOR GRANT RELATING TO PROJECT No. H-6148

Question No. 1,242—**Mr. Beaudoin:**

1. On what date did the government receive an application for a grant under LIP concerning project No. H-6148?

2. On what date was the application either approved or refused?

3. What were the reasons set forth by the government for its refusal or approval of said project?

4. If the project was accepted, what was the amount granted by the government to finance it?

5. How many jobs were created by the implementation of this project?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. January 11, 1973.

2. Rejected on February 9, 1973.

3. The Department received a far greater number of applications than funds were available for. All applications were carefully assessed and many difficult decisions not to approve had to be made.

4. N/A.

5. N/A.

LIP—APPLICATION FOR GRANT RELATING TO PROJECT No. H-6167

Question No. 1,243—**Mr. Beaudoin:**

1. On what date did the government receive an application for a grant under LIP concerning project No. H-6167?

2. On what date was the application either approved or refused?

3. What were the reasons set forth by the government for its refusal or approval of said project?

4. If the project was accepted, what was the amount granted by the government to finance it?

5. How many jobs were created by the implementation of this project?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. January 11, 1973.

2. Rejected on February 20, 1973.

3. The Department received a far greater number of applications than funds were available for. All applications were carefully assessed and many difficult decisions not to approve had to be made.

4. N/A.

5. N/A.

LIP—APPLICATION FOR GRANT RELATING TO PROJECT No. H-5541

Question No. 1,244—**Mr. Beaudoin:**

1. On what date did the government receive an application for a grant under LIP concerning project H-5541?

2. On what date was the application either approved or refused?

3. What were the reasons set forth by the government for its refusal or approval of said project?

4. If the project was accepted, what was the amount granted by the government to finance it?

5. How many jobs were created by the implementation of this project?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration: 1. January 4, 1973.

2. Rejected on February 16, 1973.

3. The Department received a far greater number of applications than funds were available for. All applications were carefully assessed and many difficult decisions not to approve had to be made.

4. N/A.

5. N/A.

LIP—APPLICATION FOR GRANT RELATING TO PROJECT No. H-5511

Question No. 1,245—**Mr. Beaudoin:**

1. On what date did the government receive an application for a grant under LIP concerning project No. H-5511?

2. On what date was the application either approved or refused?

3. What were the reasons set forth by the government for its refusal or approval of said project?

4. If the project was accepted, what was the amount granted by the government to finance it?

5. How many jobs were created by the implementation of this project?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. January 4, 1973.

2. Rejected on February 15, 1973.

3. The Department received a far greater number of applications than funds were available for. All applications were carefully assessed and many difficult decisions not to approve had to be made.

4. N/A.

5. N/A.

LIP—APPLICATION FOR GRANT RELATING TO PROJECT No. H-5417

Question No. 1,246—**Mr. Beaudoin:**

1. On what date did the government receive an application for a grant under LIP concerning project No. H-5417?

2. On what date was the application either approved or refused?

3. What were the reasons set forth by the government for its refusal or approval of said project?

4. If the project was accepted, what was the amount granted by the government to finance it?

5. How many jobs were created by the implementation of this project?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. January 2, 1973.

2. Rejected on February 2, 1973.

3. The Department received a far greater number of applications than funds were available for. All applications were carefully assessed and many difficult decisions not to approve had to be made.

4. N/A.

5. N/A.

LIP—APPLICATION FOR GRANT RELATING TO PROJECT No. H-5324

Question No. 1,247—**Mr. Beaudoin:**

1. On what date did the government receive an application for a grant under LIP concerning project No. H-5324?

2. On what date was the application either approved or refused?

3. What were the reasons set forth by the government for its refusal or approval of said project?

4. If the project was accepted, what was the amount granted by the government to finance it?

5. How many jobs were created by the implementation of this project?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. December 29, 1972.

2. Rejected on February 14, 1973.

3. The Department received a far greater number of applications than funds were available for. All applications were carefully assessed and many difficult decisions not to approve had to be made.

4. N/A.

5. N/A.

LIP—APPLICATION FOR GRANT RELATING TO PROJECT No. H-5148

Question No. 1,248—**Mr. Beaudoin:**

1. On what date did the government receive an application for a grant under LIP concerning project No. H-5148?

2. On what date was the application either approved or refused?

3. What were the reasons set forth by the government for its refusal or approval of said project?

4. If the project was accepted, what was the amount granted by the government to finance it?

5. How many jobs were created by the implementation of this project?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. December 28, 1972.

2. Rejected on March 12, 1973.

3. The Department received a far greater number of applications than funds were available for. All applications were carefully assessed and many difficult decisions not to approve had to be made.

4. N/A.

5. N/A.

[Mr. MacGuigan.]

LIP—APPLICATION FOR GRANT RELATING TO PROJECT No. H-4966

Question No. 1,249—**Mr. Beaudoin:**

1. On what date did the government receive an application for a grant under LIP concerning project No. H-4966?

2. On what date was the application either approved or refused?

3. What were the reasons set forth by the government for its refusal or approval of said project?

4. If the project was accepted, what was the amount granted by the government to finance it?

5. How many jobs were created by the implementation of this project?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. December 22, 1972.

2. Approved on February 20, 1973.

3. One of those projects that best combine the dual objectives of job creation and a realistic and identifiable contribution to community betterment.

4. $9,945.

5. Eighty-five man-weeks.

LIP—APPLICATION FOR GRANT RELATING TO PROJECT No. H-4849

Question No. 1,250—**Mr. Beaudoin:**

1. On what date did the government receive an application for a grant under LIP concerning project No. H-4849?

2. On what date was the application either approved or refused?

3. What were the reasons set forth by the government for its refusal or approval of said project?

4. If the project was accepted, what was the amount granted by the government to finance it?

5. How many jobs were created by the implementation of this project?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. December 21, 1972.

2. Approved on February 28, 1973.

3. One of those projects that best combine the dual objectives of job creation and a realistic and identifiable contribution to community betterment.

4. $48,438.

5. Four hundred and fourteen man-weeks.

MINISTER OF TRANSPORT—NAMES OF OFFICE EMPLOYEES

Question No. 1,282—**Mr. Cossitt:**

What are the names of all persons employed by, on loan to or attached to, the Office of the Minister of Transport and in each case (a) what are the duties performed by such individuals (b) what are their salaries for the current fiscal year, in dollars?

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport):

Name	Duties	Salary
J. Davey	Special Advisor (Transportation Matters) on secondment to Minister's Office	$30,000-35,000
Miss C. Carrière	Executive Assistant to Minister	17,500-20,000
S. Joyal	Special Assistant—work in connection with Province of Quebec	15,000-17,500
A. Giroux	Special Assistant—Quebec Constituency Office	15,000-17,500
G. Black	Special Assistant—work in connection with all Provinces other than Quebec	15,000-17,500
Mrs. M. Doyle	Special Assistant—House of Commons	7,500-10,000
Miss H. Lefort	Private Secretary	9,762-10,728
M. Renaud	Driver to the Minister	7,496- 8,238
Mrs. J. Plante	Secretarial	6,233- 6,849
R. M. Ross	Departmental Assistant	18,867-21,442
L. Beasleigh	Chief of Administration and Special Projects	17,482-19,865
R. Charbonneau	Senior Administrative Officer	14,778-16,796
Mrs. R. Grant	Administrative Assistant	8,569- 9,415
Mrs. C. M. Beauchamp	Coding Clerk	6,707- 7,372
Miss S. Wood	Receptionist	5,486- 6,028
Miss L. M. St. Louis	Registry Clerk	5,486- 6,028
Miss M. G. Innis	Registry Clerk	5,486- 6,028
Miss M. C. Charette	Registry Clerk	5,486- 6,028
Miss A. J. Goodwin	Secretarial	8,569- 9,415
Miss A. Larose	Secretarial	7,460- 8,200 and 7 per cent
Miss S. Johnson	Secretarial	6,676- 7,338 and 7 per cent
Miss L. Lepine	Secretarial	6,676- 7,338 and 7 per cent
Miss M. Dutrisac	Secretarial	6,676- 7,338 and 7 per cent
Miss J. Nolet	Secretarial	6,676- 7,338 and 7 per cent
Miss L. Leblanc	Administrative Assistant	9,348-11,133
Mrs. L. Laflamme	Registry Clerk	5,486- 6,028
R. Robert	Messenger	2.76 per hour
J. M. Bergevin	Messenger	2.76 per hour
Mrs. M. Rossiter	Secretarial	6,676- 7,338
Miss M. Potvin	Supervisor of the Support Unit	7,496- 8,238

LIP—APPLICATION FOR GRANT RELATING TO PROJECT No. H-1428

Question No. 1,345—Mr. Allard:

1. On what date did the government receive an application for a grant under LIP concerning project No. H-1428?

2. On what date was the application either approved or refused?

3. What were the reasons set forth by the government for its refusal or approval of said project?

4. If the project was accepted, what was the amount granted by the government to finance it?

5. How many jobs were created by the implementation of this project?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. November 1, 1972.

2. Approved on December 19, 1972.

3. One of those projects that best combine the dual objectives of job creation and a realistic and identifiable contribution to community betterment.

4. $30,420.

5. Two hundred and sixty man-weeks.

LIP—APPLICATION FOR GRANT RELATING TO PROJECT No. H-1722

Question No. 1,346—Mr. Allard:

1. On what date did the government receive an application for a grant under LIP concerning project No. H-1722?

2. On what date was the application either approved or refused?

3. What were the reasons set forth by the government for its refusal or approval of said project?

4. If the project was accepted, what was the amount granted by the government to finance it?

5. How many jobs were created by the implementation of this project?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. November 8, 1972.

2. Approved on December 4, 1972.

3. One of those projects that best combine the dual objectives of job creation and a realistic and identifiable contribution to community betterment.

4. $49,590.

5. Four hundred and twenty-five man-weeks.

Order Paper Questions

LIP—APPLICATION TO GRANT RELATING TO PROJECT No. H-2019

Question No. 1,351—**Mr. Allard:**

1. On what date did the government receive an application for a grant under LIP concerning project No. H-2019?

2. On what date was the application either approved or refused?

3. What were the reasons set forth by the government for its refusal or approval of said project?

4. If the project was accepted, what was the amount granted by the government to finance it?

5. How many jobs were created by the implementation of this project?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. November 15, 1972.

2. Approved on February 3, 1973.

3. One of those projects that best combine the dual objectives of job creation and a realistic and identifiable contribution to community betterment.

4. $52,556.

5. Four hundred and fifty man-weeks.

LOCAL INITIATIVES PROGRAM

Question No. 1,371—**Mr. Kempling:**

For the 1971-72 LIP Programme (a) how many LIP projects were financially audited (b) what proportion of LIP projects were financially audited (c) how many individuals were determined as receiving a weekly salary of $200 or more and for each project what was (i) the name of each individual who was paid a salary of over $200 (ii) the specific salary (iii) the number of weeks worked (iv) the total salary each individual received (d) what was the total number of work weeks known to have been paid at a rate of $200 per week, or more (e) what was the total payment known to have been made for weekly salaries in excess of $200 (f) what were the names and number of projects known to have had inadequate work attendance records?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): (a) 1395 interim audits and 1623 final audits; (b) 30 per cent (c), (d), (e) and (f) to provide accurate information would involve costly expenditures and the hiring of additional staff resources to undertake the extensive research required.

NATIONAL NUTRITION SURVEY

Question No. 1,393—**Mr. Schumacher:**

1. Did the government decide to discontinue Nutrition Canada and, if so (a) on what date (b) what were the reasons for this decision?

2. Is it intended to publish a final report of the surveys taken and, if not, for what reason?

3. What is the total amount of expenditure on this project to date?

Hon. Marc Lalonde (Minister of National Health and Welfare): 1. No. The field work for the National Nutrition Survey has been successfully completed, and at present, the data processing is under way and on schedule. It is expected that the laboratory analysis will be completed very shortly.

[Mr. MacGuigan.]

2. The Government has already announced its intention to release the provincial reports to the public about mid-October of this year to be followed by release of the statistical findings intended for the use of the scientific community as they are available.

3. $2,573,000.

BRITISH COLUMBIA—LIP PROJECTS

Question No. 1,564—**Mr. Latulippe:**

How many LIP projects were approved for the Province of British Columbia and what were the amounts thus granted in each constituency as of March 13, 1973?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 911 (See following schedule for amounts granted to each constituency).

Schedule

Constituency	Amounts Granted $
Burnaby-Richmond-Delta	168,070
Burnaby-Seymour	269,063
Capilano	671,712
Coast Chilcotin	1,058,248
Comox-Alberni	1,011,288
Esquimalt-Saanich	115,528
Fraser Valley East	745,265
Fraser Valley West	389,463
Kamloops-Cariboo	1,098,146
Kootenay West	796,085
Nanaïmo-Cowichan-The Islands	703,714
New Westminster	986,098
Okanagan-Boundary	874,836
Okanagan-Kootenay	1,073,683
Prince George-Peace River	1,004,040
Skeena	1,016,978
Surrey	600,824
Vancouver Centre	1,952,847
Vancouver East	1,788,787
Vancouver Kingsway	443,133
Vancouver Quadra	578,548
Vancouver South	152,573
Victoria	1,324,478

COST OF FEDERAL ELECTIONS

Question No. 1,657—**Mr. Harding:**

1. What was the total cost to the Federal Treasury for each of the Federal Elections held in 1962, 1963, 1965, 1968 and 1972 inclusive?

2. What was the cost of printing the ballots for each of the above years?

3. Has a study been done on the cost of using voting machines in Federal Elections and, if so, what would be the comparable cost of using such machines over a period of five elections?

Mr. John M. Reid (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): I am informed by the Chief Electoral Officer as follows: 1. 1962, $10,898,486; 1963, $12,463,203.

Note (1):—Comprises the expenditures incurred by electoral districts and expenditures for election materials and supplies by the Office of the Chief Electoral Officer. 1965, $12,974,456.35; 1968, $13,841,484.08.

Note (2):—In addition to the items referred to in Note (1), these expenditures include items of expense incurred by the Office of the Chief Electoral Officer such as express, telephone, postage, etc. 1972, $20,435,277.54.

Note (3):—In addition to items of expenditure contained in Notes (1) and (2), this item includes salaries and wages of casual personnel engaged in the Office of the Chief Electoral Officer in respect of the election.

2. 1962, $143,684.81; 1963, $171.628.16; 1965, $178,673.55; 1968, $188,850.69; 1972, $311,472.66.

3. No; not applicable.

FEDERAL ELECTION EXPENDITURES

Question No. 1,730—Mr. Danson:

1. What candidates in the October 1972 Federal Election reported election expenditures in excess of $50,000 in their returns to the Chief Electoral Officer and what amounts were reported by each?

2. What is the largest sum ever recorded by any candidate in a federal election in the returns to the Chief Electoral Officer?

Mr. John M. Reid (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): I am informed by the Chief Electoral Officer as follows: 1.

Electoral District	Candidate	Return of Election Expenses filed with Returning Officer
York North.....	Stephen B. Roman.....	$92,103.00
Don Valley.....	Jim Gillies.....	64,278.85
	Robert P. Kaplan.....	52,306.48
Portneuf.....	Claude Bernard.....	57,921.96

2. $92,103.

Note 1:—Pursuant to the provisions of section 63 of the Canada Elections Act and its predecessors, a return of election expenses is required to be filed by a candidate and his official agent with the applicable returning officer and not the Chief Electoral Officer. Such information is only requested of returning officers and received by the Chief Electoral Officer as a result of an Order of the House for such information. Such an Order was issued by the House of Commons in respect of the 1949 general election and each subsequent general election. In all cases, the returns, as prepared by the Office of the Chief Electoral Officer based on information received from returning officers, have a cut-off date of a few months subsequent to polling day and information is not available respecting returns which may have been filed with returning officers subsequent to the cut-off date.

Note 2:—Information respecting election expenses returns filed with returning officers is not available for elections prior to the 1949 federal general election.

INCREASE IN SALARIES TO DEPARTMENT HEADS AND DEPUTIES

Question No. 1,766—Mr. Stewart (Okanagan-Kootenay):

What was the average increase in salaries given to department heads and deputies in the Public Service in each of the years 1960-72 inclusive?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Records are not available to give details of actual salary increases awarded since 1960; it is possible, however, to give details of the movement of the salary ranges. One difficulty to be taken into account is that in 1968/69, the salary structure for the executive category was changed from single salary rates to salary ranges. (See First Report of the Advisory Group on Executive Compensation in the Public Service.) The figures given below are based on the actual salary of the middle DM level before 1968-69 and on the mid-point of the DM 2 range since 1968-69.

Year	Percentage increase in salary
60-61	5.0
61-62	—
62-63	13.6
63-64	—
64-65	8.0
65-66	—
66-67	6.5
67-68	—
68-69	21.7
69-70	—
70-71	13.6
71-72	6.9

PETITION FROM CAPE SMITH ESKIMO PEOPLE

Question No. 1,873—Mr. O'Sullivan:

1. Has the Minister or the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development received a petition from Mr. Moses Smith, a representative of the Cape Smith Eskimo people who are now residing in Povungnituk, Arctic Quebec, and are desirous of returning to their ancestral settlement at Cape Smith, Northwest Territories and, if so (a) on what date was this petition received (b) what action has the Department decided to take on this petition?

2. For what reason has the Department not invited representatives of the Cape Smith people to Ottawa and Quebec City to discuss their desire to return to Cape Smith, Northwest Territories?

Order Paper Questions

Hon. Jean Chrétien (Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development): 1. Yes; (a) March 12, 1973; (b) The department arranged a meeting between representatives of the Cape Smith Eskimo people and departmental and N.W.T. officials to discuss the matter further. The meeting was held in Ottawa on April 11, 1973.

2. See answer to part 1.

CANADIAN AND INTERNATIONAL AIR TRAFFIC, CN TOWER, TORONTO—HAZARD NOTICES

Question No. 1,876—**Mr. Forrestall:**

1. What special notices does the Minister of Transport intend to issue to the Canadian and international air traffic of the critical hazard that the proposed 1800 foot CN Tower in downtown Toronto poses?

2. For what reason did the Minister not exercise his authority under Chapter A-3, Part 1, Section 6(1)(j) of the Aeronautics Act to limit the height of the Tower to the height of other buildings in the area to achieve maximum air safety?

3. When flight rules are applied that concern "Visual Flight Rules" and "Instrument Flight Rules" flights in the vicinity of high obstacles, how many cubic miles of otherwise navigable airspace will be lost to air traffic presently using Toronto International Airport and Toronto Island Airport as a result of the CN Tower being constructed?

4. Will the erection of the CN Tower result in the minimum enroute obstacle clearance being raised in that area of Toronto and, if so, to what specific height?

5. Will the erection of the CN Tower mean that the approach procedures will have to be changed for aircraft landing at the Toronto Island or Toronto International Airports and, if so, what specific procedural changes will be required?

6. Will the erection of the CN Tower disqualify the Toronto Island Airport from "Instrument Flight Rule" capacity?

7. Were consultations carried out by DOT, prior to the decision to preceed with the Tower, with the Canadian Air Line Pilots Association or with the Canadian Owners and Pilots Association and, if not, for what reason?

8. Were similar consultations carried out by CN with either CALPA or COPA and, if not, for what reason?

9. Did CN consult with the Department of Transport seeking approval of their plans prior to the decision being made to approve and proceed?

10. Were general atmospheric conditions, such as haze and smog, taken into consideration before approval by the Minister was granted and, if so, what were the results of such considerations?

11. Did the Minister of Transport seek a legal opinion from law officers of the Crown respecting liability for accident claims against the government and the Department of Transport with respect to duties and responsibilities charged to the Minister of Transport under the Aeronautics Act and (a) if not, for what reason (b) if so, what was the opinion or the nature of the opinion?

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): 1. It is not intended to issue any special notice indicating that the proposed CN Tower in downtown Toronto is a critical hazard as this is not the case. It is intended, however, to ensure that it is shown on aeronautical charts and in other publications, in order that the flying public will be aware of its location and height.

2. No specific regulation has been enacted under the section of the Aeronautics Act referred to in the question because it was not determined to be required in the interests of air safety.

3. The aeronautical study has determined that the tower will have no effect upon airport traffic patterns in the Toronto area, and will raise the minimum en route altitude of R1 airway from 2,500 to 2,800 feet, but this will not be of any consequence because the minimum flight planning altitude is 3,000 feet.

4. One minimum en route altitude will be raised on R1 Airways from 2,500 feet to 2,800 feet but this will not be of any consequence as the minimum flight altitude is 3,000 feet.

5. No procedural changes are anticipated.

6. No, Toronto Island Airport has no IFR capacity now, for conventional operations, due to existing structures.

7. No, it is not the practice of the Ministry to consult with industry concerning these matters since the decision to approve or not is based on established specific obstruction clearance criteria which have been discussed with the industry.

8. This is unknown, but is being investigated.

9. Yes.

10. Yes, all factors were considered and it was decided the tower was acceptable.

11. No. There are no zoning regulations made under the Aeronautics Act relating to this location.

[Mr. O'Sullivan.]

ALBERTA—TELEVISION AIRTIME

Question No. 1,882—**Mr. Paproski:**

1. What is the anticipated increase of "airtime" to be allocated for Alberta programs in Alberta?

2. What are the anticipated increases in Alberta's allocation of budget to cover (a) program production (b) capital equipment (electronic) (c) technical and production staff?

3. What guaranteed increase of access to television will now be available to Alberta writers, performers, actors, musicians, events, producers, etc.?

Hon. James Hugh Faulkner (Secretary of State): I am informed by the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation as follows: 1. For the fiscal year 1973-74, plans are to increase local CBC radio programming in Alberta by approximately five hours per week. In television, no significant change in the number of local program periods is anticipated for 1973-74, but it is planned to extend the CBXT "Hourglass" period, telecast Monday through Friday, over 43 weeks instead of 39 weeks.

2. An increase in both CBC operating and capital budgets for Alberta radio and television is anticipated for 1973-74 over the previous fiscal year, over and above normal price increases. The increase for program production, including technical and production staff, would amount to between five per cent and six per cent of the operating budget. The increase for capital equipment would amount to about sixty per cent of the capital budget. It should be noted that despite this apparent disproportion in the percentage figures, the dollar increase in the operating budget for program production will actually be several times greater than the dollar increase in the capital budget for equipment. This is due to the fact that the operating budget is much larger than the capital budget, hence the bases from which the percentages were calculated are not comparable.

3. The projected over-all increase in talent spending for 1973-74 over the previous fiscal year amounts to approximately ten per cent.

AIR CANADA—COST OF ECONOMY MEAL

Question No. 1,884—**Mr. Leggatt:**

What is the charge, at Toronto, for a single economy fare dinner served by Air Canada and supplied by CARA Operations Ltd.?

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): The management of Air Canada advises as follows: Details of contracts are proprietary information.

NATIONAL REVENUE—DISCONTINUANCE OF SENDING PERSONALIZED TAX FORMS TO ELDERLY PEOPLE

Question No. 1,888—**Mr. MacLean:**

Is it the intention of the Department of National Revenue to discontinue the practice of sending personalized tax return forms to the poor elderly people who could not possibly be liable for income tax, capital gains tax, tax on recapture of capital cost allowance or Canada Pension Plan contributions and, if not, for what reason is it being continued?

Hon. Robert Stanbury (Minister of National Revenue): In so far as the Department of National Revenue, Taxation, is concerned: At the request of the government of the provinces of Ontario and Manitoba only, personalized returns were mailed to all taxpayers of the said provinces who were receiving the Guaranteed Income Supplement, to ensure that each would have an Income Tax return on which to claim his provincial tax credit. Since it is in the interest of elderly persons to have the opportunity to obtain a provincial tax credit to which they may be entitled, the department will continue to distribute personalized tax forms to elderly people of these provinces.

CONSTRUCTION OF TWO POLAR ICEBREAKERS

Question No. 1,901—**Mr. Forrestall:**

1. To the knowledge of the government is Lockheed Shipbuilding Company, Seattle, Washington, currently in the process of constructing two polar icebreakers within the order of 100,000 horsepower each, with estimated completion date later this year?

2. Does the government consider that such icebreakers would be used for the American North Slope oil and gas deposits?

3. If the North Slope reserves are accessible and ice free 12 months of the year, then in what areas does the government think such polar icebreakers will be employed?

4. Would the government consider the use of U.S. icebreakers in the Canadian Arctic Archipelago in the interest of Canadian claims to sovereignty?

5. Has there been any consultation between Ottawa and Washington on the use of such icebreakers, for probable use in the Canadian Arctic Archipelago and (a) if so, what use are they intended (b) if not, for what reason?

6. Has there been any technical consultation with regard to these polar icebreakers with respect to design or construction characteristics with the Canadian authorities and the U.S. authorities and (a) if so, of what nature (b) if not, for what reason?

7. (a) Does the above information in terms of a U.S. construction plan for polar icebreakers have any influence on Canadian plans to do the same in terms of projected date of necessity (b) is such a plan being accelerated in the light of the U.S. development capability?

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): 1. Yes, two vessels with a shaft horsepower in excess of 60,000 and scheduled for completion in 1974 and 1976.

2. If the U.S. intends to ship oil and gas out of the North Slope area by surface tanker, it is likely that their new icebreakers would provide assistance, if required.

3. The Antarctic.

4. In accordance with existing Canada-U.S. agreements, U.S. vessels and aircraft assist in search and rescue operations if requested to do so. Canadian ships and aircraft also assist in U.S. waters.

5. (a) No; (b) none has been required.

6. There has been technical consultation, U.S. officials have visited Canadian ships and Canadian officials are visiting Lockheed.

7. (a) No; (b) no.

DREE GRANTS TO INDUSTRIES IN CHAMPLAIN CONSTITUENCY

Question No. 1,903—**Mr. Matte:**

1. How many industries established in the constituency of Champlain received grants from the Department of Regional Economic Expansion?

2. What are the names of such industries and what amount did each receive?

Mr. Marcel Prud'homme (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Regional Economic Expansion): 1. From the coming into force of the Regional Development Incentives Act to March 31, 1973, there were 13 net accepted offers in the Constituency of Champlain.

2. The names of the companies and the amount of the accepted offers are as follows:

Company	Estimated Amount of Incentive Grant $
Spliced Veneer Specialties Ltd.	21,400
D.P.M. Thibault Inc.	18,831
Industries Zodiac Ltée	126,300
Produits Labonte Inc.	20,275
Fonderie Gosselin Inc.	7,035
Godin Knitting Inc.	16,000
Jos. Paquin & Fils Ltée	62,950
Adrien Vohl Ltée	65,502
Skirt Togs Industries Limited	174,600
Gerard Fugere Ltée	50,000
Construction Marmico Inc.	41,940
Eloi Moisan Inc.	22,940
Groleau Inc.	29,000

Order Paper Questions

CHARLEVOIX CONSTITUENCY—GOVERNMENT WHARFINGERS

Question No. 1,916—Mr. Caouette (Charlevoix):

In the constituency of Charlevoix (a) how many wharfs have been staffed with guards (b) what are the names of such guards and their date of appointment (c) how much are they paid or what type of remuneration do they receive?

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): (a) Seventeen.

(b) Location	Wharfinger	Date of Appointment
Baie Ste. Catherine (Anse-au-Portage)	Cyranius Boulianne	23/ 2/71
Bergeronnes	Luc Guay	8/12/59
Cap-a-L'Aigle	Laurent Mailloux	1/ 7/63
Forestville	Armand Cantin	20/ 3/52
Ile aux Coudres (North and South)	J. R. Tremblay	16/11/63
St. Simeon (Old Wharf)	Adrien Tremblay	1/ 4/60
Tadoussac (Anse a L'Eau, Anse a Tadoussac)	Pierre Tremblay	/9 4/46
La Petite Riviere St. Francois	Mr. Aime Racine	7/ 9/65
Les Eboulements	Jacques Tremblay	15/ 5/54
Les Escoumains	C. E. Boucher	29/ 9/39
Pointe-au-Pic	Edgar Desbiens	1/12/64
Sacre Coeur (Grosse Roche)	Ulysee Maltais	8/ 1/56
Ste. Irenee	Wilfred Girard	3/ 4/67

(c) Wharfingers receive annual remuneration for their services on a commission or percentage basis. They are paid a portion of the wharfage tolls and dues collected for the use of the wharf at the following rates: 100 per cent of the first $100 collected; 90 per cent of the next $300 collected; 50 per cent of the next $300 collected; 25 per cent of the next $1,800 collected; 15 per cent of the next $13,500 collected and 5 per cent of any remainder.

CANADIAN TECHNOLOGY SATELLITE PROGRAM—DESIGN AND TEST INFORMATION ON CANADIAN TECHNOLOGY

Question No. 1,918—Mr. Saltsman:

1. Under the Department of Communication's Canadian Technology Satellite Program does NASA receive complete design and test information on Canadian developed technology and, if so, for what reason?

2. What assurances does Canada have that NASA commercial division will not transmit design data to American communications industries?

3. Is the government subsidizing development costs of American industry by sending complete design data packages to NASA?

4. Is NASA reciprocating by sending design data details and drawings of their subsystem to the Department of Communications?

Hon. Gérard Pelletier (Minister of Communications): 1. No. NASA does not receive complete design and test information on Canadian developed technology under the joint DOC-NASA Communications Technology Satellite (CTS) program. However, this is a joint program covered by a formal Memorandum of Understanding and there is a joint obligation to ensure the satellite is technically viable. There is, therefore, an exchange of technical information to this end and also to permit the proper integration and testing of the various subsystems contributed to the program by DOC and NASA.

2. NASA has undertaken to respect the confidentiality of information received under this joint program.

3. No.

[Mr. Prud'homme.]

4. There is an exchange of technical information as noted in the answer to Question No. 1.

COST OF CANADIAN TECHNOLOGY SATELLITE PROGRAM

Question No. 1,919—Mr. Saltsman:

1. Is the Canadian Technology Satellite Program the first in which the government is acting as a spacecraft general contractor?

2. What practical business experience do the Canadian Technology Satellite project manager and program manager have in general contracting?

3. Have these gentlemen ever been employed by private industry in the capacity of managers?

4. Does the reported program cost of fity-one million dollars include the cost of government supplied services, personnel, materials and accommodation?

5. What is the expected total cost of the Canadian Technology Satellite Program?

Hon. Gérard Pelletier (Minister of Communications): 1. No. The Alouette I satellite was produced primarily within government laboratories with a small portion of the work being done through contract with industry. The Alouette II satellite was produced with the government acting as prime contractor much in the manner of the CTS satellites.

2. The CTS program manager has had twenty years of experience in the management of research and development programs involving large contracts with business firms. The CTS project manager has had eleven years experience in management involving large contracts with business firms, including the Alouette and ISIS series of satellites.

3. No.

4. The estimates given in the Blue Book include direct costs of government personnel employed on the project, of materials and the capital cost of the spacecraft assembly and test laboratory.

5. The estimated cost of the Communications Technology Satellite program, as reported in the Blue Book, is $51.143 million.

CANADIAN TECHNOLOGY SATELLITE PROGRAM—NASA COST CONTROL SYSTEM

Question No. 1,920—**Mr. Saltsman:**

1. Is a NASA cost control system being imposed (unaltered) on the Canadian Technology Satellite Program and, if so, for what reason?

2. For what reason is the cost control system being changed in the middle of the program?

3. What evidence of poor cost control caused this system to be implemented?

4. What is the estimated cost of implementing the new cost control system?

5. What delay or disruption of the program might the new system cause?

6. What is the estimate of savings expected as a result of the new management control system?

Hon. Gérard Pelletier (Minister of Communications): 1. No.

2. There has not been a change in the cost control system for the CTS program as a whole. New procedures in cost reporting are being introduced in the normal course of moving into the manufacturing phase of the CTS program.

3. Same as Question 2.

4. Same as Question 2.

5. None.

6. Same as Question 2.

CANADIAN TECHNOLOGY SATELLITE PROGRAM—CONVERSION OF CONTRACTOR'S EMPLOYEES TO PUBLIC SERVICE POSITIONS

Question No. 1,921—**Mr. Saltsman:**

Is it the policy of the government to give Canadian industry experience in the design and construction of communication satellites and, if so, for what reason does the Canadian Technology Satellite Program management continue to convert contractor's employees to civil service positions?

Hon. Gérard Pelletier (Minister of Communications): Yes. There has been no substantial conversion of contractors employees to Civil Service positions. There are approximately 350 Canadian contractor employees working on the CTS program at the employer's premises and sixty-six contractor employees, twenty-eight private contract personnel and twenty Public Service personnel working on the CTS program at the Communications Research Centre. Of this number, two former contractor's employees have won PSC competitions for permanent public service positions and two more have been hired as term public servants for the duration of the CTS program.

CANADIAN TECHNOLOGY SATELLITE PROGRAM—CONFIDENTIAL BUDGET

Question No. 1,922—**Mr. Saltsman:**

Have the Canadian Technology Satellite Project Manager and the Canadian Technology Satellite Program Manager sent copies of their confidential budget and schedule contingencies to the contractor's management and, if so, for what reason?

Hon. Gérard Pelletier (Minister of Communications): One senior manager from each of the two major Canadian contractors was retained by the Program Manager in an advisory capacity to help assess the impact of program redefinition. Since cost and schedule, as well as technical parameters were involved this information was provided as essential background data.

TRANSPORT—CAUSEWAY AND BRIDGE TO BIRCH ISLAND IN SAND LAKE

Question No. 1,933—**Mr. Cossitt:**

1. Has the Department of Transport been examining the situation of the causeway and bridge to Birch Island in Sand Lake, Township of South Crosby, County of Leeds, Ontario and, if so (a) on what date was this examination begun (b) what date will it be concluded (c) what are the results?

2. Specifically will the Department of Transport take steps towards removal of this causeway and bridge as requested by municipal officials and property owners in the area?

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): 1. The Ministry of Transport is examining the situation of the causeway and bridge to Birch Island in Sand Lake, Township of South Crosby, County of Leeds, Ontario. (a) April 12, 1973; (b) no firm date has been determined; (c) investigation is continuing.

2. If the owners do not comply with the conditions of the approval given under the Navigable Waters Protection Act, steps will be taken towards removal of this causeway and bridge.

DREE GRANT TO BERGERONNES AIRPORT

Question No. 1,985—**Mr. Caouette (Charlevoix):**

1. What conditions did the Department of Regional Economic Expansion set for the granting of $12,000 to the Bergeronnes Airport?

2. Were the conditions met?

3. If no condition was set, for what works was the grant made?

Mr. Marcel Prud'homme (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Regional Economic Expansion): 1. The Department of Regional Economic Expansion has not provided any grant to the Bergeronnes Airport.

2. N/A.

3. N/A.

*EXPORT DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

Question No. 1,999—**Mr. Stevens:**

1. As of April 18, 1973, what were the total number of signed contracts executed by the Export Development Corporation and still outstanding under section 29 of the Export Development Act?

2. As of the same date, what were the total liabilities outstanding under section 29 of the Act and what was the relationship of such liabilities to the statutory ceiling on section 29 financing?

Mr. Herb Breau (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): Mr. Speaker, as the answer to that question is somewhat lengthy, I would

suggest that it be printed in today's *Hansard* as having been read.

Mr. Speaker: Does the House agree?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

[*Editor's Note: The answer to the above question follows:*]

Export Development Corporation states that:

(1) the total number of signed contracts executed by the Export Development Corporation and still outstanding under section 29 of the *Export Development Act*, as of April 18, 1973, was 130; and

(2) (i) notes receivable under section 29 of the *Export Development Act*, for which the foreign customers' liability under section 30 at any time may not exceed $850 million ($1,500 million following the amendment to section 30 on that day), amounted to $513.8 million as at April 18, 1973; in addition the Corporation had signed loan agreements aggregating $377.0 million outstanding on that date which, subject to the fulfilment of the terms and conditions of these agreements, may result in a foreign customer liability of the same amount; and (ii) as of April 18, 1973, the relationship of the total liabilities mentioned in paragraph (i) to the statutory ceiling on section 29 financing, was that the liabilities were $336.2 million lower than the ceiling, fixed in section 30, as it stood before the amendment which came into force on that day; Bill C-3, *an Act to amend the Export Development Act*, received Royal Assent on that day, and following that amendment, the liabilities were $986.2 million lower than the ceiling.

LIST OF BOOKS AND PHONOGRAPH RECORDS PROHIBITED ENTRY TO CANADA

Question No. 2,007—**Mr. Clarke (Vancouver Quadra):**

With reference to Section 14 of the Customs Tariff Act and to Item 99201-1 of Schedule "C" of the Customs Tariff, what are the titles, in alphabetical order, of all the books and phonograph records currently prohibited entry to Canada?

Hon. Robert Stanbury (Minister of National Revenue): Material related to this tariff item is treated in the same manner as other imported goods in that each shipment is examined and classified as admissible or prohibited and the importer is provided with a ruling in each case. Because of the volume of titles and issues of the publications involved and the innumerable changes in both their titles and content, it has been found impractical to maintain a list as such. Accordingly, the information requested is not available.

* * *

QUESTIONS PASSED AS ORDERS FOR RETURNS

DEPARTMENT OF SUPPLY AND SERVICES—RESEARCH EXPENDITURES

Question No. 99—**Mr. Nystrom:**

1. What was the total amount of money spent in each of the fiscal years 1968-69, 1969-70, 1970-71, 1971-72 by the Department of Supply and Services on contracts to outside persons and organizations for research, development and other consulting services?

2. What are the names and addresses of these outside persons and organizations and what amounts of money were involved in each contract?

3. What was the purpose of each contract and title of each report submitted?

4. What are the names and addresses of outside persons and organizations who were awarded contracts for research, development and other consulting services in the current fiscal year, what are the amounts of money involved in each case and what is the purpose of each contract?

Return tabled.

PUBLIC SERVICE—UNILINGUAL AND BILINGUAL EMPLOYEES

Question No. 555—**Mr. Latulippe:**

What is the percentage of (a) unilingual (i) French employees (ii) English employees (b) bilingual employees in each department in the National Capital area?

Return tabled.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE COMMISSION

Question No. 956—**Mr. Grier:**

1. What are the reasons for the differences in the monthly counts of unemployed persons by the Labour Force Survey (Statistics Canada), the Unemployment Insurance Commission and the Department of Manpower and Immigration (clients without employment and seeking employment)?

2. What are the pertinent definitions of unemployed persons in each of the three above cases?

3. What is the reconciliation, in quantitative terms, of the three counts of the unemployed?

4. What is the explanation of the residual amounts, if any?

Return tabled.

FOREIGN AID TO DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

Question No. 1,533—**Mr. Haliburton:**

1. What was the total amount of foreign aid given to developing countries during the years 1960, 1965, 1968 and 1972?

2. What amount of such monies were given in aid to member countries of various international organizations of which Canada is a member (a) what Commonwealth countries and in what amounts (b) what Association of Francophone countries and in what amounts (c) what members of the United Nations exclusive of Parts (a) and (b) and in what amounts (d) other countries?

Return tabled.

CUSTOMS OFFICES

Question No. 1,765—**Mr. Stewart (Okanagan-Kootenay):**

1. How many Customs Offices are there in Canada and where is each located?

2. What was the total cost to maintain and staff each Customs Office in Canada for each of the years 1960-72 inclusive?

3. How many Customs Officers are there in each of the Customs Offices in Canada?

Return tabled.

GAME SANCTUARIES

Question No. 1,821—**Mr. Stewart (Okanagan-Kootenay):**

How many game sanctuaries are there in Canada and (a) where is each located (b) what is the size of each (c) what type of game is protected in each (d) how much is the cost to the government to maintain each sanctuary?

Return tabled.

● (1420)

Mr. Cossitt: Mr. Speaker, I rise on the same point of order for the third or fourth time with regard to question No. 1769. On two previous occasions the parliamentary secretary told the House he would look into the matter to see when the answer would be forthcoming. This question concerns the Police and Security Planning and Analysis Group and the employment for the previous five years of the personnel of that group. All other questions on this subject have been answered. I have been unable to get an answer from the government as to why they will not answer this specific question. Could I be enlightened today in this regard by the parliamentary secretary or the Solicitor General?

Mr. Reid: Mr. Speaker, that question will be answered on Monday.

Mr. Barnett: Mr. Speaker, I rise to inquire from the parliamentary secretary about question No. 1047 which has been on the order paper in my name since February 20. I may say I do not feel I have overburdened the order paper with questions. I put this question on the assumption it would have been answered long before one is called upon to make any decision on the estimates of the fisheries services of the Department of the Environment. I would like to have an answer before that deadline is reached because my position on certain aspects of the estimates hinges on the answer to this question.

Mr. Reid: Mr. Speaker, I will look into this matter, but from a cursory look at the question it is evident that it involves answers from as many as three or four departments.

MOTION FOR PAPERS

Mr. John M. Reid (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): Mr. Speaker, notices of motion for the production of papers Nos. 214, 216 and 220 are acceptable to the government.

TRIDENT STEAMSHIPS LIMITED—COPY OF FREIGHT TARIFF

Motion No. 214—**Mr. Beattie (Hamilton Mountain):**

That an Order of the House do issue for a copy of the Trident Steamships Limited freight tariff.

Motion agreed to.

Motions for Papers

"M. V. TRAVETAL"—OWNERSHIP PARTICULARS

Motion No. 216—**Mr. Beattie (Hamilton Mountain):**

That an Order of the House do issue for a copy of the full particulars as to ownership of vessel *M. V. Travetal.*

Motion agreed to.

"M. V. CHIMO" AND "M. V. CABOT"—OWNERSHIP PARTICULARS

Motion No. 220—**Mr. Beattie (Hamilton Mountain):**

That an Order of the House do issue for a copy of the full particulars as to ownership of the vessels, *M. V. Chimo* and *M. V. Cabot.*

Motion agreed to.

Mr. Reid: Mr. Speaker, would you be so kind as to call notices of motions Nos. 217 and 218.

CANADIAN TRANSPORT COMMISSION AND NEWFOUNDLAND STEAMSHIPS LIMITED—COPY OF AGREEMENT

Motion No. 217—**Mr. Beattie (Hamilton Mountain):**

That an Order of the House do issue for a copy of the agreement between Canadian Transport Commission and Newfoundland Steamships Limited.

Mr. Joseph-Philippe Guay (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, there is no agreement between the Canadian Transport Commission and Newfoundland Steamships Limited. In these circumstances the hon. member may be willing to withdraw his motion.

Mr. Beattie (Hamilton Mountain): Agreed.

Mr. Speaker: Dropped.

Order discharged and motion withdrawn.

NEWFOUNDLAND STEAMSHIPS LIMITED—COPY OF FREIGHT TARIFF

Motion No. 218—**Mr. Beattie (Hamilton Mountain):**

That an Order of the House do issue for a copy of Newfoundland Steamships Limited freight tariff.

Mr. Joseph-Philippe Guay (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, Newfoundland Steamships Limited is not required to file freight tariffs with the Canadian Transport Commission under any statute. Hence the tariff is not available from government sources. In these circumstances, the hon. member may be willing to withdraw his motion.

Mr. Beattie (Hamilton Mountain): Mr. Speaker, I would like to pursue this matter as this steamship company is receiving a subsidy from the government. I ask that it be transferred for debate.

Mr. Speaker: Transferred for debate.

Mr. Reid: Mr. Speaker, I ask that the remaining notices of motions stand.

Mr. Speaker: Shall the remaining notices of motions stand?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

ALLEGED SENDING OF BILL TO MARC CAYER FOR TRANSPORTATION COSTS

Hon. Robert L. Stanfield (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Secretary of State for External Affairs. The minister will recall that on February 12 he gave an assurance that the transportation costs of Lloyd Oppel and Marc Cayer, prisoners recently released from Viet Nam, would be paid. His words were:

> . . . my instructions are that the public should pay the expense of the return of these two Canadians.

Can the minister explain why on April 5 Marc Cayer was sent a bill under the auspices of the Minister's department for $1,275.50—

Some hon. Members: Shame!

Mr. Stanfield: —and a follow-up letter on May 5 demanding payment of this sum, though admittedly some $50 odd related to clothing to replace the prisoner's uniform and is not strictly transportation? Has the minister any explanation to give as to why the assurance he gave at that time has not been lived up to?

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, Mr. Cayer has not been sent any bill. Mr. Cayer has been asked by my department to let us have a response to the list of the expenses that Mr. Cayer presented to the organization called International Voluntary Services. At no time has Mr. Cayer been asked to pay any of these expenses.

Mr. Stanfield: I do not, of course, wish to question the word of the minister, but do I understand him to say that no bill in the amount of $1,275.50 has been sent to Marc Cayer for transportation or other expenses following his release as a prisoner in Viet Nam, and that no follow-up letter of any sort was sent to Marc Cayer on May 5 seeking payment of this amount?

Mr. Sharp: Mr. Speaker, on May 1 the director of consular operations of my department wrote to Mr. Cayer asking him what results he had got from the submission of his account to International Voluntary Services.

Mr. Stanfield: Taking the minister at his word, of course, why did he say in the House on February 12 that his instructions, I take it to his department, were that these accounts were to be paid at the expense of the public, and then change his position?

[Mr. Reid.]

Mr. Sharp: Mr. Speaker, there has been no change in position. At no time has the government asked Mr. Cayer to pay any part of his expenses.

Mr. J. M. Forrestall (Dartmouth-Halifax East): A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. While we are on Viet Nam, may I ask the Secretary of State for External Affairs whether or not the government has advised Canadian personnel on the ICCS that they should be prepared to withdraw—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. Obviously that is not a supplementary. I recognize that the hon. member may have an important question to ask. When we have completed the first round of questioning the hon. member will be given the opportunity to ask that question as a leading question rather than as a supplementary.

* * *

ENERGY

PROPOSED MACKENZIE VALLEY PIPELINE— GOVERNMENT DECISION

Mr. David Lewis (York South): Mr. Speaker, in the absence of the Prime Minister at the conference of first ministers, may I pose a question to the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources. During the question period yesterday, in reply to a question by the hon. member for Vancouver South, the Prime Minister stated that a decision was made by the government with respect to something concerning the Mackenzie valley route. May I ask the minister what decision has been made by the government with respect to that question?

Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): Mr. Speaker, I would have to look at the response to the actual question. The decision I have in mind is the decision to proceed with a highway in the Mackenzie valley, and the decision made specifically on the timing of it and the ecological studies that would precede any further construction in the valley.

Mr. Lewis: Mr. Speaker, in view of the fact that none of the questions asked yesterday—I was not in the House but I have read them carefully—had to do with a highway but with a pipeline, may I ask the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources whether the government has made any decision respecting a pipeline, gas or oil, down the Mackenzie valley?

Mr. Macdonald (Rosedale): Mr. Speaker, the government has put before the House and the public several times in the last several years some guidelines with respect to the development of a Mackenzie valley corridor, in the first place, and, second, with respect to development of pipeline routes in particular. Those decisions have been made. With regard to the construction or non-construction of a pipeline, of course no decision has been made, and under the law passed by parliament the government will not be presented with that question until an application has been made to the National Energy Board and that board has found in favour of the application and referred it to the government for decision.

● (1430)

Mr. Lewis: Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask the minister whether the decision he is now talking about bears no relation at all to the invitation he has informed the House has been publicly made to corporations to make application to the National Energy Board? Has that invitation in fact been made and, if so, has the government made up its mind that a pipeline down the Mackenzie Valley is desirable?

Mr. Macdonald (Rosedale): Mr. Speaker, we have not made up our minds on the last question because we do not know all the facts. Indeed, we will not know all the facts until a specific proposal is put before us. Of course, the law has always been there with regard to the making of an application, but we have indicated within the past 12 months that we are completing our studies for the purpose of evaluating such an application and that we expect about the end of this year to be in a position to evaluate any application that comes forward. For that reason we have not issued an invitation to any specific group, but we have indicated that we are in a position to deal with such an application under the law.

* * *

[*Translation*]

MANPOWER

PARITY BETWEEN RETRAINING ALLOWANCES AND UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE BENEFITS—PROPOSED MEASURES

Mr. Gilles Caouette (Charlevoix): Mr. Speaker, I should like to put a question to the Minister of Manpower and Immigration or in his absence to his parliamentary secretary.

Considering the mess in the administration of the department concerning the co-ordination of the manpower retraining program on one hand and the unemployment insurance benefits on the other, can the minister or his parliamentary secretary tell us what steps have been taken to ensure better understanding between both divisions of the department in order to remove penalties levied by the Unemployment Insurance Commission on citizens enrolled in the retraining program?

[*English*]

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): Naturally, Mr. Speaker, I do not accept the premise of the question. If the hon. member could be more specific either here or elsewhere, we would try to get him an answer.

* * *

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

VIET NAM—POSSIBLE WITHDRAWAL OF CANADIAN PERSONNEL FROM CONTROL COMMISSION—EXCHANGE OF CIVILIAN PRISONERS

Mr. J. M. Forrestall (Dartmouth-Halifax East): Mr. Speaker, I direct my question to the Secretary of State for External Affairs. I should like to ask about Canada's role in the International Commission of Control and Supervision. Has the government issued any advice or instructions to the Canadian participants to be prepared to withdraw early in July and, if so, on the basis of what advice, and can we construe that to mean that in fact the government has now arrived at a tentative decision?

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, the government has not yet made a final decision on the matter. No instructions have been released. I was as puzzled as the hon. member by the reference in what I understood is a weekly newspaper in Nova Scotia.

Mr. Forrestall: Mr. Speaker, it is one of the finest weekly newspapers in Canada. As we approach the time of decision-making and in light of the extreme importance of this question to Southeast Asia, has the government made any overtures or taken any initiative with the signatories to the agreement in respect of this incredible cease-fire, if you will, and proposed specific initiatives that the commission might pursue such as inspection in relation to persons detained as so-called political prisoners?

Mr. Sharp: Mr. Speaker, it has been the purpose of the Canadian delegation to the International Control Commission to see that the commission itself carries out the terms of the peace agreement. It has certain limited responsibilities for the exchange of prisoners, civilian prisoners included, but these are very limited. As my hon. friend may have noticed, Michel Gauvin has been promoting these purposes and we are very anxious, as I am sure all hon. members are, to see the release of all civilian prisoners, whether held by the South Viet Nam government or by the PRG.

VIET NAM—INSPECTION BY CONTROL COMMISSION OF PLACES WHERE CIVILIAN PRISONERS HELD

Mr. Andrew Brewin (Greenwood): Mr. Speaker, my question really covers the same ground, but I should like to ask the minister specifically whether Ambassador Gauvin has sought to have the control commission arrange for the inspection of camps and prisons where civilian prisoners are being held in South Viet Nam, whether administered by the Provisional Revolutionary Government or the other government and, if so, what success has he had in his endeavours to arrange for such inspections?

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, as I recall the provisions of the peace agreement, they provide that the International Control Commission shall simply check that the people who are being released are the people included on a list. Its responsibilities otherwise are very limited. The Red Cross organization, of which it was thought at one time that Canada might provide a unit, has other responsibilities but so far these have not been discharged. The situation is not very promising except in one respect, and that is that a large number of civilian prisoners have already been released under the supervision of the ICCS.

Mr. Brewin: Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I would hope that we would limit as much as possible the number of supplementary questions. The hon. member might ask his supplementary question and then the hon. member for Prince Edward-Hastings might ask his—order, please; the hon. member might resume his seat for a moment—and following that I will recognize the hon. member for Peace River.

Mr. Brewin: Mr. Speaker, I do not think the minister answered whether Ambassador Gauvin has written a letter to the other members of the commission asking that the commission act together in respect of prisoners.

Mr. Sharp: Mr. Speaker, I would doubt very much that Mr. Gauvin would have done that. We are finding enough difficulty in enforcing the terms of the peace agreement and trying to get the other members to agree with us that we do not want to extend the responsibilities until the commission has discharged the responsibilities laid upon it by the peace agreement.

SOUTH VIET NAM—POLITICAL PRISONERS—REQUEST THAT MINISTER MEET GROUP PRESENTING PETITION

Hon. George Hees (Prince Edward-Hastings): Mr. Speaker, in view of the fact a considerable group of public-spirited Canadians is in Ottawa today and tomorrow who desire to see the Secretary of State for External Affairs about this matter of political prisoners in South Viet Nam and claim to have specific knowledge that as many as 5,000 are being held, is the minister planning to see this group today or tomorrow, and does he have any information about the possibility of such a large number of political prisoners being held in South Viet Nam?

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, I think the hon. gentleman made a slip of the tongue. The group in Ottawa today that has presented this petition with many thousands of signatures is claiming there are 200,000 political prisoners in South Viet Nam. If possible, and if the question period does not last too long, I intend to see this delegation.

* * *

AUDITOR GENERAL

REQUEST THAT PRESENTATION OF BILL BE EXPEDITED

Mr. G. W. Baldwin (Peace River): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Secretary of State for External Affairs in his capacity as acting head of the government and Acting Minister of Finance. In view of the problems created by the difficulties the Auditor General has experienced in recruiting staff, and in light of the fact that a new bill was to be presented to cover the situation about which the Auditor General states in the report just tabled, "I consider the draft bill in the form proposed to be highly satisfactory and have no hesitation in commending it to the Public Accounts Committee and to the House", will the hon. gentleman do what can be done to facilitate the presentation of this bill to that committee and ultimately to the House?

[Mr. Brewin.]

Hon. C. M. Drury (President of the Treasury Board): Mr. Speaker, I welcome the initiative taken in preparing the new draft bill and I heartily agree that it should be studied by the Public Accounts Committee. However, I think it would be extremely useful to have the comments of the newly appointed Auditor General before proposing it to the House.

* * *

[*Translation*]

MANPOWER

PARITY BETWEEN RETRAINING ALLOWANCES AND UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE BENEFITS—PROPOSED MEASURES

Mr. Adrien Lambert (Bellechasse): Mr. Speaker, I wish to ask a supplementary question of the hon. Minister of Manpower and Immigration concerning the one asked to him by the hon. member for Charlevoix.

Since the parliamentary secretary answered that he did not understand the question thoroughly and that this is an extremely important matter, I want to ask him the following question: Since manpower centre officials are making inquiries to find workers qualified to undergo retraining and since the persons who follow those courses receive from the Manpower centres allowances which are lower than Unemployment insurance benefits, may I urge the parliamentary secretary to examine this matter very seriously in order to do justice to that category of persons?

● (1440)

[*English*]

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, I believe that is a representation and we will examine it as such.

* * *

SUPPLY AND SERVICES

REQUEST THAT ALL TENDERS BE OPENED IN PUBLIC

Mr. Sinclair Stevens (York-Simcoe): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Supply and Services. In view of the minister's statement in the House that he has been studying for five months his department's irregular practice of opening tenders for government work in secret, in view of the minister's statement 12 days ago that he had that day received a report on this subject from his officials, and in view of reports that over $100 million a month is still being awarded by his department after tenders are opened in private, some 11,600 contracts worth over $1 billion having been signed in the past 12 months, would the minister now inform the House if he is prepared to end this highly questionable and in fact shameful procedure immediately?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I will not ask the hon. member to rephrase the question because we have already taken some time during the question period, but hon. members appreciate, I am sure, that questions worded in

this way are really not regular. Hon. members should ask questions and not put questions that include statements or are prefaced with suggested facts and figures. Hon. members should seek information, not provide information as part of the questions they pose during the question period. All this having been said, the minister might be given an opportunity to reply.

[*Translation*]

Hon. Jean-Pierre Goyer (Minister of Supply and Services): Mr. Speaker, I certainly do not accept these premises as the hon. member has formulated them. I have indeed received the report. I have already studied it with the department officials. It is a very complex matter, involving a large number of problems, but I shall be glad to give the hon. member any further information he may desire. I intend to continue with my study. For the hon. member's guidance, and to throw light on some points he has already raised, let me say the Ontario practice is exactly the same as that of the federal government.

[*English*]

Mr. Stevens: My supplementary question is for the Minister of National Revenue. Would the minister explain why his department has found it necessary to order from the private sector hundreds of thousands of forms to be printed at a cost of several million dollars where tenderers are given as little as eight business hours to submit their tenders and then the tenders are opened in secret?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. Perhaps the minister should be given an opportunity to reply, but I suggest to the hon. member for York-Simcoe that his second question is the type of question that should normally be put on the order paper.

Hon. Robert Stanbury (Minister of National Revenue): Mr. Speaker, I am sure you would not want the hon. member to be allowed to smuggle in that kind of allegation without some kind of response.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Stanbury: I will be glad to look into that allegation.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Hees: So it is true.

Mr. Stanbury: But as hon. members know, supplies are normally obtained through the Department of Supply and Services, and I presume—

Mr. Hees: On the advice of the Liberal organization.

Mr. Stanbury: —that that was the case. No doubt the usual procedures were followed, but I will be glad to inquire and advise the hon. member.

ENERGY

CONSIDERATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS ARISING FROM PROPOSAL SUPERTANKER PORT IN GROS CACOUNA-ILE VERTE AREA OF QUEBEC

Mr. John Harney (Scarborough West): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of the Environment. It has to do with the proposed supertanker port in the Gros Cacouna-Ile Verte region of Quebec. In view of the fact that the McGill University Marine Science Centre report published in December states that from an environmental point of view Ile Verte is probably the worst possible site for an oil tanker terminal in the Gulf of St. Lawrence, would the minister inform the House whether the government has given full consideration to the environmental problems entailed in the building of a supertanker port in the Cacouna-Ile Verte area of the St. Lawrence River?

Hon. Jack Davis (Minister of the Environment): Mr. Speaker, the government is vitally concerned with the environmental problems associated with supertanker port construction anywhere on Canada's east or west coasts. This is increasingly so in respect of inland or close-in locations such as the one the hon. member mentioned.

POSSIBLE SUPERTANKER PORT IN ILE VERTE REGION—PROPOSED DELIVERY OF OFFSHORE OIL ACROSS OTTAWA VALLEY LINE—GOVERNMENT POLICY

Mr. John Harney (Scarborough West): Mr. Speaker, may I direct my supplementary question to the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources. Since the proposal to build a supertanker port in the Ile Verte region also includes a proposal to deliver offshore oil landed at that port across the Ottawa valley line and possibly to Oswego, New York, would the minister inform the House whether or not the government is preparing to change the national oil policy?

Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): Mr. Speaker, of course any proposal of that kind would have to receive the approval of the National Energy Board. At the present time we do not have any intention of changing the policy.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. Again I appeal to hon. members. Will the hon. member resume his seat. If there are two or three supplementaries to each question we will find ourselves short of time. Hon. members will have only themselves to blame if only a few members are recognized during the question period. The hon. member wishes to ask a third question.

Mr. Harney: Mr. Speaker, my question is now directed to the Acting Prime Minister. In view of the fact the resources minister of the province of Quebec stated last December that approval had been received from the federal authorities for this supertanker port, could the Acting Prime Minister please inform the House who in the federal government has given this reported approval?

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Acting Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I will take that question as notice.

Oral Questions

PROPOSED SUPERTANKER ROUTE IN PLACENTIA BAY AREA—CONSULTATION WITH FISHERMEN

Mr. Walter C. Carter (St. John's West): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of the Environment and Fisheries and it concerns the tanker route corridors being planned for eastern Canada, in particular in the Placentia Bay area where a large refinery is about to go into production. Can the minister say whether these corridors will be specifically for supertankers or will they involve other shipping as well? Can the minister also tell us whether fishermen in the area are being consulted in the negotiations dealing with these corridors?

Hon. Jack Davis (Minister of the Environment and Fisheries): Mr. Speaker, there is close consultation not only with fishermen but between the federal and provincial departments concerned with developments of this kind. It should be noted in this case that the provincial government took the decision to build a refinery in that area, and the tanker problem is a serious one.

* * *

FLOODS

HIGH WATER LEVEL OF LAKE ONTARIO IN HAMILTON AREA—REQUEST FOR MEETING BETWEEN OFFICIALS OF DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND CITY

Mr. Lincoln M. Alexander (Hamilton West): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Minister of the Environment. Can he advise the House whether he is in receipt of a telegram from the secretary of the Hamilton Board of Control reading in part that the high level of Lake Ontario in Hamilton harbour has caused serious flooding conditions and damage to residences on the beach strip in the east section of Hamilton? Is the minister aware of such a telegram or has the city of Hamilton made any representations in this regard to him?

Hon. Jack Davis (Minister of the Environment): Mr. Speaker, I have not personally seen the telegram but I will make inquiries to see if it has been delivered during the question period.

Mr. Alexander: Because of the urgency of the matter the telegram has been circulated to members from that area. In light of the urgency of the situation, can the minister assure the House, and particularly members from the Hamilton area, that a meeting will be set up with his department and officials of the city of Hamilton in order to look into the possibility of long-term and short-term measures to alleviate the situation? Can he give us that assurance?

Mr. Davis: Yes, I think I can. However, as is normally the case, we will work closely with the provincial government in this regard. As the hon. member knows, the Canada Centre for Inland Waters is located nearby.

[Mr. Sharp.]

AGRICULTURE

REQUEST THAT TARIFF BE REINSTATED ON IMPORTS OF COMMERCIAL CATTLE FROM UNITED STATES

Mr. Ken Hurlburt (Lethbridge): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Agriculture. In light of the fact that hundreds of commercial cattle, particularly grade bulls, have been imported into Canada, causing a financial burden for the established Canadian purebred cattlemen, would the minister report to the House why he has not demanded that import tariffs on cattle from the United States be immediately reinstated until such time as a reciprocal agreement can be negotiated with the United States government?

● (1450)

Hon. E. F. Whelan (Minister of Agriculture): Mr. Speaker, this is the first time this has been brought to my attention—

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Hees: Where have you been?

Mr. Whelan: —at least in the same terminology that has been used by the hon. member to emphasize that a certain species of animal is coming into Canada. I will check on the bull shipments as soon as possible.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Hurlburt: Mr. Speaker, this is the second time that I have asked this question in the House. Some 50 cattlemen travelled distances of up to 150 miles and asked me, on my third try, to get an answer from the Minister of Agriculture.

Mr. Whelan: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, I met the Canadian Cattlemen's Association last week. We went over all these figures on the movement of cattle both ways across the border, both out of Canada and into Canada, and it was not pointed out to me that there was any large movement of bulls into Canada.

* * *

CORPORATE AFFAIRS

POSSIBLE PROSECUTION OF CAN COMPANIES FOR FALSE ADVERTISING REGARDING RECYCLING OF SOFT DRINK CANS

Mr. Ron Atkey (St. Paul's): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs. Would the minister tell the House whether he has decided to prosecute five major can companies in Ontario for false or misleading advertising as a result of their full-page newspaper advertisements and radio announcements which lead the public to believe that soft drink cans are being recycled and therefore are not a pollution problem, when in fact less than 2 per cent of the garbage processing facilities in the province now have this capability?

Hon. Herb Gray (Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs): Mr. Speaker, the answer to this question is that the matter is presently being studied by officials of the combines branch.

Mr. Atkey: Is the minister aware that the only plant having the capability referred to in the advertisements is the plant in the city of Hamilton, the so-called solid waste reduction unit, and that it does not seem to be working because it cannot separate other garbage from the tin cans?

Mr. Gray: Yes, Mr. Speaker. I have read the same article as the hon. member.

* * *

GRAIN

AVAILABILITY OF SHIPS FOR MOVEMENT OUT OF THUNDER BAY—POSSIBLE GRAIN HANDLERS STRIKE

Mr. Gordon Ritchie (Dauphin): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the minister in charge of the Wheat Board. Has the minister ascertained whether shipments of grain out of Thunder Bay are being seriously jeopardized because of Russian grain ships being tied up in the American gulf ports and, further, has the government taken any action to herd off a grain handlers' strike?

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Justice): Mr. Speaker, the Minister of Labour commented in the House yesterday that this labour problem is at the conciliation stage and he is watching it very closely, representing our earnest concern to see that grain continues to move. The hon. member is right in thinking that the problem the United States is facing in bringing grain to the gulf ports particularly and loading it on ships is having some effect on the presentation of ships in Canadian ports, and as a result not as much grain is moving out of Thunder Bay as we would have the capacity to load if ships were presenting themselves.

* * *

[*Translation*]

PUBLIC WORKS

CONSTRUCTION OF NEW POST OFFICE AT LAC MEGANTIC—INQUIRY AS TO DATE OF TENDERS

Mr. Henry Latulippe (Compton): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the hon. Minister of Public Works.

Is he aware that tenders for the construction of a post office or federal building in Lac Megantic were supposed to be called six years ago, that they have never been called and that it was recently decided irrevocably that these same tenders were to be called by the end of April 1973? Will the minister tell us what has been done about this and when the tenders will be properly called?

Mr. Speaker: I would point out to the hon. member, as I did before, that questions having to do with calling of tenders for construction of post offices should normally be put on the order paper.

[*English*]

GRAIN

THUNDER BAY GRAIN HANDLERS DISPUTE—CONSULTATION WITH COMPANIES ON ESTABLISHMENT OF SEVEN-DAY WEEK

Mr. A. P. Gleave (Saskatoon-Biggar): Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the minister in charge of the Wheat Board whether, in regard to the Thunder Bay dispute, he has had consultations with the grain companies on a seven-day week, and whether he is putting any pressure on them to establish a seven-day week in the Thunder Bay area terminals?

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Justice): Mr. Speaker, I have not had direct consultations in a recent period of time with the companies concerning this matter. However, I think it is well known to the industry generally that it is the view of everyone, I believe, who has considered the matter that it is much more expeditious for the total movement of grain, and therefore advantageous from a cost point of view, if a seven-day operation exists throughout the whole delivery and handling system.

* * *

POST OFFICE

SUGGESTED RESCINDING OF INCREASES IN POSTAL RATES TO ASSIST ETHNIC PRESS

Hon. W. G. Dinsdale (Brandon-Souris): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Postmaster General. In the light of the announcement last week by the Minister of State in charge of cultural affairs of government assistance for the ethnic press, when will the Postmaster General be announcing the rescinding of the sharp increases in postal rates that have forced some of the ethnic papers out of business?

[*Translation*]

Hon. André Ouellet (Postmaster General): Mr. Speaker, I am sorry, but there was so much noise that I could not understand the hon. member's question. I could perhaps read it in *Hansard* and reply to it tomorrow.

[*English*]

Mr. Speaker: Perhaps the hon. member might like to repeat the question.

Mr. Dinsdale: Mr. Speaker, I will be very glad to repeat the question because it is an important one. In the light of the policy announcing support of the ethnic press in Canada, when will the Postmaster General be rescinding the sharp increases in postal rates that have forced many of those papers out of production?

[*Translation*]

Mr. Ouellet: Mr. Speaker, there are various ways to help the press I think, the ethnic press especially. Projects have been drafted for this specific purpose. This has nothing to do, I believe, with current rates at the Post Office.

Oral Questions

[*English*]

NATIONAL CAPITAL

TASK FORCE STUDY UNDER DOUGLAS FULLERTON—PUBLIC HEARINGS

Mr. Walter Baker (Grenville-Carleton): Mr. Speaker, I would like to address a question to the Minister of State for Urban Affairs. In view of the fact Mr. Douglas Fullerton has now entered upon his duties as chairman of the task force with respect to the national capital, has the government made any decision with regard to the methods of investigation to be followed by this task force? Specifically, has it decided whether or not the practice of public hearings will be urged upon the chairman so that in formulating his opinion he will have the benefit of the views of all interested parties with respect to this question?

Hon. Ron Basford (Minister of State for Urban Affairs): Mr. Speaker, the chairman, who commences the duties to which the hon. member referred in June, made statements yesterday as to the method that he envisaged in carrying on his study. He envisaged proceedings more along the line studies and analysis and research projects which would then form the basis of his report. I am sure that the chairman, of course, would welcome whatever views people wish to provide him with. Further, in the announcement of his assuming this task for the government it was envisaged that the government would give consideration, as I mentioned before, to parliamentary hearings on that study. These hearings, of course, would be public proceedings and, hopefully, would be accompanied by briefs and comments not only from members of parliament but from all sectors not only of the national capital region but of the country by people who are concerned about developments in the national capital.

Mr. Baker: Would the minister consider discussing the question of public hearings with Mr. Fullerton in view of the importance of this subject to the Ottawa area?

Mr. Basford: I really think that the place for public hearings is a function of parliament and of the parliamentary committee, but I will be happy to discuss the hon. member's comment with the chairman.

* * *

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

ALLEGED SENDING OF BILL TO MARC CAYER FOR TRANSPORTATION COSTS—REQUEST FOR TABLING OF CORRESPONDENCE

Hon. Robert L. Stanfield (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Secretary of State for External Affairs. Would he table in the House copies of the account rendered Marc Cayer on April 5 and of the letter written to him on or about May 1. Also, has the minister any explanation as to why this account was sent for collection from International Voluntary Services, as the minister suggests, in view of his statement that his instructions were that the public should pay the bill and in view of the fact, as I understand it, that quite properly no similar account was sent to Lloyd Oppel?

[Mr. Ouellet.]

● (1500)

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, I think the assumption had been that the former employer of Mr. Cayer, International Voluntary Services, might wish to pay part of these costs, but that is for them to say. All we have asked Mr. Cayer to do is to let us know the response of International Voluntary Services. At no time have we ever submitted an account for payment to Mr. Cayer. I have the correspondence here but I have only one copy. I think I must table it in two copies, and I will do so.

* * *

GRAIN

REQUEST THAT HARBOURS BOARD TERMINAL NO. 2, VANCOUVER, BE UTILIZED FOR MOVEMENT OF SPECIALTY CROPS

Mr. Les Benjamin (Regina-Lake Centre): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the minister in charge of the Canadian Wheat Board on a matter that has been raised yearly for the past three years. In view of the representations made to the minister and others in the government to make use of the National Harbours Board No. 2 terminal in Vancouver to handle specialty crops such as rapeseed, mustard, and so on, to relieve the terminal congestion in handling bulk quantities of wheat and barley, could the minister tell the House whether further consideration has been given to this matter and if he has made representations to the National Harbours Board to make modest renovations and open the terminal for that purpose?

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Justice): Mr. Speaker, one of the problems associated with that terminal is that it is not necessarily possible to open it with modest renovations but, rather, with quite significant renovations. We have had the availability of the terminal as a possible vehicle for moving grains constantly in our minds, and in our studies we have examined a number of different forms of its use and operation. At no time have we been able to conclude that the advantage of putting it into use would outweigh the combination of costs and the disadvantages in terms of rail movement which are involved, or either one of them.

Mr. Benjamin: In view of the fact that the head of the National Harbours Board has told some Members of Parliament that, for purposes of handling dry specialty crops, with modest renovations this terminal could be put to use, will the minister now prevail upon the Board of Grain Commissioners, if the National Harbours Board will not operate it, to repair the terminal for that purpose?

Mr. Lang: Mr. Speaker, it may be true that certain very small quantities of very specialized products could make use of the terminal, but with certain problems in relation to the over-all movement. At no time has it been shown to us that those products were not capable of being moved by the other terminals and facilities in operation without such costs being incurred.

CANADA PENSION PLAN

HUTTERIAN BRETHREN OF CANADA—REQUEST FOR EXEMPTION FROM PAYING PREMIUMS

Mr. Jake Epp (Provencher): Mr. Speaker, I would direct my question to the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of National Health and Welfare. In view of the fact that the Hutterian Brethren of Canada take vows of poverty and perpetual poverty, and because they are church-employed, would the minister indicate whether he will present legislation to the House to exempt the Hutterian Brethren of Canada from paying Canada Pension Plan premiums?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I would think that a question such as this should be placed on the order paper. If there is urgency, the hon. member can ask that it be given priority at the time of adjournment.

* * *

PENITENTIARIES

WILLIAM HEAD—REQUEST THAT CONVERSION TO MEDIUM SECURITY PRISON BE SUSPENDED PENDING REPRESENTATIONS BY LOCAL RESIDENTS

Mr. Allan B. McKinnon (Victoria): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Solicitor General. Last week a prisoner at William Head minimum security prison reported back from pass at 10 p.m. and chose to escape at 11 p.m. Before being apprehended he apparently committed two acts of violence and robbery. The residents of the area are now taking up a petition concerning the future of William Head prison. Will the minister assure the House and the residents of Metchosin that he will now hold in abeyance any progress that has been made in the conversion of William Head to a medium security prison until he has received and considered the representations of the residents of that area?

Hon. Warren Allmand (Solicitor General): Mr. Speaker, I visited William Head penitentiary last week on the day after this escape took place. At that time I met with representatives of the Metchosin ratepayers' association. I also spoke to the president of the ratepayers' association at great length on the telephone this week, or at the end of last week, and promised him that I would examine his proposals. I pointed out that the decision had been taken to make this into a medium security institution but that the decision had not been implemented yet, and that we would look at his proposals first before doing anything.

* * *

POST OFFICE

REQUEST FOR EXAMINATION OF EFFECT OF INCREASED POSTAL RATES ON PUBLICATIONS

Mr. Douglas Roche (Edmonton-Strathcona): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Postmaster General supplementary to the one asked by the hon. member for Brandon-Souris. When the Postmaster General examines the postal rates for the ethnic press, would he also examine the financial damage that has been done to other classes of publications in Canada, namely, scientific, educational and religious publications, as a result of the high increase in postal rates brought in by the government three years ago?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. That is a representation. The hon. member for Mackenzie.

* * *

REGIONAL ECONOMIC EXPANSION

PLACING OF CATTLE ON COMMUNITY PASTURES BY FEED LOT OPERATORS—GOVERNMENT POLICY

Mr. S. J. Korchinski (Mackenzie): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Regional Economic Expansion. As a result of the reorganization of his department, has the minister come out with a policy that allows feed lot operators to place cattle on community pastures at the expense of breeders and farmers?

Hon. Donald C. Jamieson (Minister of Regional Economic Expansion): Mr. Speaker, I do not think I can answer that specific question other than to say that part of the review involves the whole future of the operation of feed lots and community pastures. I have within the last six days talked with representatives of three prairie provinces and set up discussion groups on this and a number of related issues.

Mr. Korchinski: In the course of his investigation, would the minister also investigate the mutual feed lots at Kenora that have placed 143 cattle, while farmers in that area have not been able to place cattle?

* * *

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE COMMISSION

EMPLOYMENT OF FEMALES AS BENEFIT CONTROL OFFICERS—GOVERNMENT POLICY

Mr. John Rodriguez (Nickel Belt): Mr. Speaker, in view of the government's expressed determination announced by the Minister of Manpower and Immigration in April, 1972, to remove discrimination and to move toward the full participation of women in all aspects of Canadian society, and in view of last night's prejudicial statement by the chairman of the Unemployment Insurance Commission that there are only eight female benefit control officers in all of Canada, can the minister inform the House when he intends to correct this discriminatory practice, and to what extent?

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, this matter was brought to the attention of the minister last night.

[*Translation*]

AGRICULTURE

INQUIRY RESPECTING OFFER OF JOB TO MARC CAYER

Mr. Roland Godin (Portneuf): Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask a question of the Minister of Agriculture.

As Mr. Marc Cayer, a former prisoner in North Viet Nam is an agronomist, could the minister tell us if someone from his department has contacted him in order to offer him employment with the Department of Agriculture?

[*English*]

Hon. E. F. Whelan (Minister of Agriculture): No, Mr. Speaker.

* * *

FISHERIES

REQUEST FOR PATROL BY ARMED FORCES NAVAL VESSELS

Mr. James A. McGrath (St. John's East): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Fisheries in order to underline Canada's concern about the overfishing that is taking place off our east coast and on the eve of the Law of the Sea Conference. Is the minister prepared to ask his colleague, the Minister of National Defence, to provide Canadian Armed Forces naval vessels to patrol our coasts, especially in view of the fact that the aerial surveillance is totally ineffective at night when most of the incidents occur?

Hon. Jack Davis (Minister of Fisheries): Mr. Speaker, the fisheries service has been receiving excellent co-operation from the Department of National Defence. In this regard, as the hon. member knows, a special effort has been made to step up air surveillance. Other methods, of course, will have to be introduced as equipment becomes available.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. We have gone beyond the question period. Perhaps the Chair might be allowed to recognize the hon. member for Carleton-Charlotte. I recognize that a number of members are still awaiting the opportunity to ask supplementaries to this or other questions and I will try to recognize them tomorrow and give them some kind of priority. For the moment, before calling orders of the day the Chair will recognize the hon. member for Carleton-Charlotte.

* * *

ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

PROPOSED OIL REFINERY AT EASTPORT, MAINE—CANADIAN REPRESENTATIONS

Mr. Fred McCain (Carleton-Charlotte): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Minister of the Environment. There has been a great deal of publicity about the possible construction of a refinery at Eastport, Maine, and the fact that there will be large tankers to support this refinery that will be travelling a very hazardous route. Has the Minister of the Environment decided to make any representations to the proper authorities in respect of the possible effect on the environment of the Bay of Fundy and, if so, what are the representations he has made or plans to make?

Hon. Jack Davis (Minister of the Environment): Yes, Mr. Speaker, we will be making representations, and they are opposed to the construction of that refinery on the United States side near Eastport, Maine.

Mr. Speaker: Orders of the day.

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

CRIMINAL CODE

REINSTATEMENT OF LAW RELATING TO CAPITAL PUNISHMENT THAT EXISTED PRIOR TO DECEMBER 30, 1972

The House resumed, from Tuesday, May 22, consideration of the motion of Mr. Allmand that Bill C-2, to amend the Criminal Code, be read the second time and referred to the Standing Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Beaudoin: Mr. Speaker—

● (1510)

[*English*]

Mr. MacEachen: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. Originally we had intended to have an opposition day tomorrow. Instead, if this debate is not completed today, which is not likely, we would call the capital punishment bill for debate tomorrow, Thursday, and would have an opposition day on Friday and another opposition day on Monday. We would call the capital punishment bill again, if need be, on Tuesday.

In any event, following discussions with other parties in the House it has been agreed that it might be possible to have an order of the House indicating that all questions, including any amendments necessary for the disposal of the second reading stage of the capital punishment bill, Bill C-2, would be put at 9.30 p.m. on Tuesday, May 29, 1973. That agreement could be put in the form of an order of the House. This would determine our business for the next several days.

Mr. Baldwin: That is satisfactory, Your Honour.

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): We agree to this, Mr. Speaker.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Beaudoin: We agree, Mr. Speaker.

[*English*]

Mr. Speaker: There appears to be agreement and unanimous consent for the proposition submitted to the House

by the President of the Privy Council. Is it agreed that it be so ordered?

Sone hon. Members: Agreed.

Mr. McGrath: I rise on a point of order, Mr. Speaker. I ask the government House leader, now that one phase of government business has been satisfactorily concluded with this order of the House, clearing the way for the government to bring on legislation, what priority the government intends to give the legislation respecting the proposed increase in family allowances, and when will that legislation be brought before the House?

Mr. MacEachen: Mr. Speaker, I certainly give very high priority to the family allowance bill. I should like to see it cleared away if possible before the summer adjournment. However, it is not likely that we will have the bill until early in the month of June.

Mr. Beatty (Wellington-Grey-Dufferin-Waterloo): Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. Prior to our adjourning for the Easter recess the Minister of National Health and Welfare indicated that he would be bringing in legislation which would exempt the Old Order Mennonites from making compulsory payments under the Canada Pension Plan. Could the government House leader indicate the priority for that legislation?

Mr. MacEachen: Mr. Speaker, the changes that my hon. friend mentioned would require amendments to the Canada Pension Plan Act. That is on my list; I attach great priority to it and, hopefully, we will get it through.

Mr. Alexander: What about the Immigration Appeal Board Act?

[*Translation*]

Mr. Léonel Beaudoin (Richmond): Mr. Speaker, in the few minutes allowed me, I would like to express my views on the important question of the abolition of the death penalty or the retention of certain restrictions in the act, restrictions which have been incorporated since 1967 in the Criminal Code, as stipulated by Bill C-2 now before the House, with a view to extending those restrictions for another five years.

Mr. Speaker many hon. members have already spoken on this subject, and I must say I followed the debate very closely in order to weigh the pros and cons of that important matter, in the light of the research I have done, just as the other hon. members did, I am sure.

Unfortunately, I am disappointed with the way this debate is shaping out: once again we find that statistics are tricky to manipulate and that, on occasion, they can be misleading.

I see that hon. members in favour of passing this bill currently before us enlighten their speeches with official statistics showing that the existence of capital punishment has no effect in Canada or in other countries that they mentioned in their remarks.

On the other hand, those among us who want capital punishment in Canada to become really effective, as prior to 1967, are trying to prove with official statistics that since capital punishment was abolished the rate of major crimes has increased in Canada, precisely as a result of that abolition.

I think that in fact capital punishment still exists in Canada. Thugs and professional killers and all the others who continue as I speak to take it upon themselves to inflict capital punishment but through illegality and crime—call it assassination or whatever you want—kill shamelessly and without any fear of justice those who stand in their way. They mercilessly riddle with bullets all those who could prevent them from committing their rapes, robberies or other crimes. I think that they are now the unchallenged masters in Canada because they no longer fear the gallows, and I think that fear is the beginning of wisdom. They are increasingly becoming masters everywhere.

That is why I blame this government for not administering the act as passed in 1967. There have been many murders of policemen and prison guards since 1967, and all criminals convicted of those reprehensible acts were reprieved in last recourse by the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) or the Governor in Council.

I do not wish to produce here tons of statistics to show whether capital punishment influences criminals or not. Moreover, I have dealt with the matter on several occasions in this House during the last parliament and I then quoted statistics in support of my speech.

Today, I wish to make my position clear and according to my conscience, I should take a logical and reasonable stand. I had then consistently asked for restoration of the death penalty and I have not changed my mind.

I think that my role is to state in the House what are my constituents' views as if they were present.

Mr. Speaker, I have promised my constituents after my first election to seek their advice on every important matter of general interest concerning the Criminal Code or any other legislation coming under federal jurisdiction.

• (1520)

I have therefore held information meetings in the past—I still do—and taken the habit of contacting my electors at least every month on any subject of concern which is bound to have an effect on their life. In the light of their answers, I can make up my mind more easily and truly say what they think on the basis of papers in my possession.

So, during the last election campaign, I confirmed to my electors that I would uphold my position on this matter and they approved me. And I think that they approve my habit of consulting them, because I was elected with a stronger majority than in 1968. In October 1971, I asked all voters of the Richmond riding to express themselves on the restoration of the death penalty and more than 25 per cent answered my questionnaire. Of these 25 per cent, 92.6 per cent were in favour of restoring capital punishment as it existed in 1967. And I sincerely believe that at this time the percentage of those in favour of reinstating capital punishment in Canada would be still higher.

Mr. Speaker, my decision has therefore been taken in the light of the wishes expressed by my constituents, and I insist on pointing out to the House that I shall vote against Bill C-2 tending to suspend capital punishment in certain cases. I am in favour of the reinstatement of capital pun-

ishment in all cases where the guilt of the accused has been established without any doubt whoever his victim might be. I shall even go so far as to extend application of this punishment to abortionists who bring death to children who have the right to life.

In order to justify their wish to vote in favour of this legislation, a number of people will resort to such arguments as dignity, the right to life for murderers, and moral progress. I wish to point out incidentally that I differ from the hon. member for Vancouver-Kingsway (Mrs. MacInnis) who, a few days ago, urged the government to eliminate capital punishment from the Criminal Code, whereas for the past five years she has repeatedly been asking the government to legalize abortion in Canada.

In my opinion, an individual who deliberately provokes an abortion should, after adequate evidence, be punishable by death and such a provision should be introduced into the Criminal Code.

Mr. Speaker, those who want to abolish capital punishment from the Criminal Code resort to weak and contradictory arguments. Have they considered for a single moment that it is society's strict obligation to protect the integrity of the individual against all that threatens it? I suggest that murderers are a threat, directly or indirectly, to society.

In my opinion, the legislator born of a society which has elected to be respected and respectable must punish the individual who is really found guilty of having willfully taken the life of one of his fellow citizens. Moreover, the Canadian legislator who, owing to his duties, is responsible for protecting the members of that society, must give the courts, by including some provisions in the Criminal Code, the necessary tools in order that the chief justice of the court and the jury might, if they wish, prescribe capital punishment for the individual guilty of the premeditated murder of a policeman or anybody else.

I have already said and I repeat that, at birth, the individual is pacific and that it is our society which makes him aggressive, nervous and unsociable. One of the reasons for this is the apathy shown by the parents in assuming their responsibilities towards their children, for too many young mothers work outside home to make both ends meet or pay the income tax. A child left to himself, without his mother and often without supervision, starts to commit minor offences against the society around him and sometimes against himself, and as he grows these offences grow correspondingly bigger.

Our modern society also contains the monstrosities that are called "schools" or "colleges", in which, supposedly to increase efficiency, 1,500, 2,000 or even 3,000 pupils are heaped together, almost without supervision because there are too many of them; these school children, who are often quite young—from 9 to 15 years old—are treated like numbers. I call these groups of schoolchildren school herds, in which the child is deprived of the love and understanding of his teacher, society and those around him.

Our governments have failed, in my opinion, to get to the roots of crimes committed by groups of young people. Every day one sees young children, in school or elsewhere,

[Mr. Beaudoin.]

committing offences, using drugs, etc. for lack of supervision.

I admit, Mr. Speaker, that this is a large-scale undertaking that would require a lot of patience and effort, but I am convinced that the only way to abolish the death penalty, which is the matter before us, would be to take better care of society before young people, especially, start to commit offences. Our schools should become more humane, while aiming also at providing education and instruction. At present, we hand out instruction to students, but when they leave school with their diplomas, there is no place for them in our society. That is why we see so many young people aged between 17 and 25 turning to crime.

Young people, Mr. Speaker, are our future. It is incumbent upon us to give our young people everything they need to succeed in life. Thus we would see no more unbalanced people steal and sometimes, under too strong a tension or from the effect of drugs, kill to get what they want.

Let us give young couples the possibility of raising their children in happiness and safety without their having to wonder always about their future. Let us legislate so that we can live under a system of distributive justice, of comprehension and love where money, luxury as we know it, vanity and envy are no longer the masters of our destinies and then we will not longer be required to discuss a bill such as the one before us now.

Finally, I must say that we should rid Canadian society of its undesirable citizens but even more I think that the government should seriously consider the deep-rooted reasons which prompt society to adopt such a legislation. In my opinion, I think members of Parliament and the federal and provincial governments, because they have adopted certain laws, are mainly responsible for this high proportion of murderers. A murderer is an individual who spent his childhood in the street. He has grown up like a tree; in my opinion, we surely should grant more importance to the surveillance of young people in our society. Thus, tomorrow we will be able to see a responsible and flourishing society flourish and people who will learn to enjoy life.

[*English*]

Mr. Gordon Ritchie (Dauphin): Mr. Speaker, I wish to place on the record, as have many members, my views on this bill and on the matter of capital punishment. Perhaps this is one of the most important problems with which this parliament will have to contend. The end result will likely be very little different from that of the present situation. It is good the House will have a free vote on this matter. I think the discussion will be useful to whatever will be the ultimate decision.

It is significant that in western civilization the death penalty at least has been steadily eliminated and is now applied only to so-called capital murder. Since legislation on this matter was last passed in this House no death sentences have been carried out on persons convicted of killing prison guards or policemen; these cases have all been commuted by the Governor General on orders from the cabinet.

There has been widespread discussion on whether capital punishment acts as a deterrent to those who would commit murder. From my observation of murder cases about which I have personal knowledge, the deterrence of capital punishment was only vaguely recognized by the murderer when he carried out his crime. My position with regard to capital punishment being a deterrent to an individual carrying out the act of murder is that it is very secondary.

Man is essentially a creature that is both aggressive and suspicious. Wars and acts of violence seem to be a legacy in our long history of evolution and development. By nature, man is a violent person at times. The overlay of social conscience, customs and inhibitions seems to have determined that society will obey considerable restrictions in order that people may live in communities and obey some laws. It is interesting to note that when our cities become increasingly congested, there are increasing acts of violence, murder and rape. The people in these large cities become depersonalized and have little interest in what is happening to individuals about them.

My own feeling is that most murderers are of distinct personality types. Whether or not they are insane, as has been assumed in many successful defences of murder cases, I think it can be said that certain mental states will cause temporary loss of normal inhibitions and murder may take place. It has been insufficiently recognized that a murderer is a distinct personality type and commits murder according to his own dictates and ideas. Also, it has not been recognized that these people always will have such personality deficiencies. Faced with the same circumstances, a murderer will always repeat the crime. To him, that is the immediate solution to the problem and he can see no other way. With this in mind, I believe these people must be removed from society. There are two obvious ways in which this can be done. The first is the institution of capital punishment whereby the murderer is put to death. The state is thus spared much expense and society is protected from the murderer forever.

I am reminded of an answer to a questionnaire sent out by a member of this House. The respondent's reply was: "I am for capital punishment. It may not be a deterrent, but at least it prevents repetition." The second solution would be to lock up the murderer for the rest of his natural life. In this way society would be protected from individuals who had committed murder. It would be simple to assume that the first solution, the removal of the murderer from society by death, would be easy, final and would recommend itself to many people. However, I believe that this final solution does not remove the risk of putting to death those who are innocent but happened to be in a circumstantial position whereby suspicion was laid upon them.

● (1530)

After an innocent person is condemned to death and suffers the ultimate fate, society in no way can repay him for the loss of his life. But if he is confined to prison by misadventure and is serving a sentence, society can make some recompense to him for the injustice and punishment that has been meted out to him.

My position on capital punishment is that if I were sure that justice was always right and that the accused had committed a crime, I would not hesitate to have the death penalty carried out. But history is full of significant miscarriages of justice, and at times innocent people have suffered the death penalty.

In times of great national emergency this might well be a necessity and people might find themselves unfairly but inadvertently victimized. In the normal course of events, which regard to murder that occurs in society we should take all precautions possible to make sure that the innocent are not convicted and lose their lives. In other words, I feel that the risk of making an error is greater than the value obtained from the deterrent effect of capital punishment.

At this time there have been no convincing figures to show that capital punishment acts as a deterrent, at least in what is called normal times in our society. Perhaps at some time in the future we will have to recognize this or that statistic, and other indices may show that capital punishment is necessary as a deterrent. But that time is not yet, and I do not think this House has to vote for capital punishment on the basis that only in this way will murders be reduced, or because the incidence of murder is getting out of hand.

I stated previously that murderers had a definite personality problem and that these people should be removed from society forever. In other words, I think that life imprisonment should mean life imprisonment, particularly for these people. We seem to be living in a very permissive society and I believe that one of the public's concerns and anxieties is over the laxity of a penal system that allows murderers to be paroled after what seems a short time and again inflicted on the public. We as well as all the other citizens of Canada would like to believe in the parole system; that criminals should be rehabilitated and that there should be a place outside the prison walls for them. But in so far as murderers are concerned, I believe that we should apply to them severe restrictions by imprisoning them for life when they are found guilty of capital murder.

There are those who say that this is a fate worse than being committed to death. This may be true in the eyes of many. I believe, though that society as a whole wishes to preserve life, and that until fresh evidence comes forward to make a decision for us it is the best solution to what is obviously a problem in respect of which all possible solutions are not very satisfactory. I would be more happy to support this legislation if we could be assured that in committee amendments would be introduced to make a life sentence mean a life sentence. One who has committed a murder has certainly forfeited his right to continue being a citizen with the same rights and privileges as is afforded to most other people. One of the criticisms of capital punishment is that the death penalty is not applied uniformly but selectively. It is done in a way where risks are both arbitrary and discriminatory.

A recent editorial suggested that a total of 701 convicted murderers have been executed in Canada since confederation. An almost equal number, more than 600, have had their sentences commuted by the cabinet. The cabinet was exercising the Queen's prerogative, but the cabinet is a political rather than a judicial body which, by its very nature, can have no fixed criteria in such matters. I do not

see how the federal cabinet of, for that matter, any cabinet in this country could have such criteria because of their make-up.

So, Mr. Speaker, from the aforementioned figures which show that almost half of the total number of murderers in this country have had their sentences commuted by the cabinet, it is evident that sentences passed by the judiciary in carrying out justice are somewhat less than a final judgment. In other words, the judiciary, who presumably should know best and are better trained than anyone else, have had their sentences opposed in almost half of the cases where the murderer was sentenced to capital punishment.

The tide at this time seems to favour the retention of capital punishment by the public as a deterrent and as a means of stabilizing society at a time when values appear to be deteriorating and lawlessness is on the increase. I do not feel that the bill passed in 1966 has definitely proven one way or the other that capital punishment must be abolished altogether or brought back to its pre-1966 status. According to my research, it seems that there have been no hangings since December 1962, and this is significant. It seems to indicate that whatever the judiciary may say, the cabinet is very reluctant to have the death sentence carried out. But, Mr. Speaker, the public does want more assurance than it has been getting that if the death sentence is not carried out, then there must be more protection for the public within whatever means are currently available.

In committee I would hope that amendments or some indication will be made by the government that the parole system will be revamped, that murderers are not considered to be rehabilitable but that they should be removed from society for the rest of their lives. Certainly I as an individual taxpayer would be happy to pay my taxes so that these people would not be again inflicted upon society. I do not think this problem is altogether solved, because I do not think it is yet possible to ascertain just what effect the complete abolition of the death penalty would have. For this reason, unsatisfactory as it may be, I think we have to wait longer before a suitable solution may become apparent. But it seems to me that unless amendments are made to ensure that murderers are confined for life, then surely we will have to return to capital punishment as the only way that society can be protected.

Mr. John Wise (Elgin): Mr. Speaker, there has been a great deal of debate in this House by many hon. members on the subject of capital punishment. Hon. members on both sides of the House have spoken both for and against the bill. Let me make it clear at the outset that I have listened to their remarks with interest and to their expressed opinions with respect. My contribution to this debate will, hopefully, be a mixture of my own personal views and the expressions of the majority of my constituents, the people of Elgin, as they have been conveyed to me by many means over past weeks and months.

I am glad to see that throughout the debate there has been consensus that the present treatment of murderers, as a substitute for capital punishment, has been far too lenient. This is a refreshing change from the position of some who have shown the most overwhelming concern for the criminal, to the point that they fail to show any genuine concern for the innocent members of society, members of society whose lives have been jeopardized by the fact that the life of a murderer has not only been spared but that he has been permitted to walk the streets, free again, after only eight years in prison.

I understand that there have been four documented cases in this country of murderers who have been released on parole and who have killed again. I wonder whether they will be paroled after another eight years or so? People are fed up with this ridiculously lenient treatment of criminals and are becoming concerned. And deeply concerned they should be, Mr. Speaker. The average law-abiding citizen is genuinely worried about the safety of his family, the safety of his friends and himself, and is having grave misgivings about the ability of the law to offer the protection that he deserves.

Some hon. members have argued that we should ignore what appears to be a majority opinion that the death penalty should be reinstated. It is true there has been no official, scientifically planned survey to gauge the feelings of all Canadians, but judging from the response of constituents over this issue and the results of some public opinion surveys, the general opinion is that capital punishment should be retained. To completely ignore this attitude is somewhat dangerous and is a slap in the face of true democracy. I caution this House, Mr. Speaker, that we would be courting a backlash of public opinion if we were to totally ignore the arguments of many responsible constituents and the general attitude of the Canadian people.

● (1540)

What I particularly dislike about the present treatment of murderers is the fact that we seem to have twisted our values around. The government has permitted cold-blooded and callous murderers to walk the streets again after only eight years in prison. A thief, in many cases, can receive a longer sentence. Does this perhaps mean that the material goods stolen by a thief are worth more than the life taken by a murderer?

Surely we can all agree that murder is the worst crime; so it follows that a murderer should receive at least a harsher penalty than a person guilty of any other crime. To this extent I assume we are in general agreement. It is a little ridiculous to give a murderer about the same sentence as that given to a dangerous thief. In a sense we are equating the value of human life with that of material wealth. Fortunately, we have advanced from the time when a thief could be hung, but now we seem to have gone full tilt in the other direction and our values are just as warped as they were in earlier times. When any human life can be equated with anything other than human life, we can scarcely be surprised at the moral consequences.

The argument has been put forward by abolitionists that a civilized, compassionate society does not have the right to take a human life. I suggest that whether or not we are a civilized, compassionate society is a matter in itself for debate. Putting that aside, Mr. Speaker, I believe our society, in fact any society, has the right and indeed the responsibility to use, in the words of the right hon. Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) "whatever means are necessary to protect itself from those forces that would seek to destroy it".

The ideal purpose of a society is to protect the individuals within it and to ensure their total well-being. If any members of that society are attacked from within or from without, that society is fully justified in using whatever means are necessary to defend its members. Surely we can agree that our society is justified in making war if truly endangered. This is actually a civilized and compassionate action in that it reflects a concern for the over-all well-being of its members. Society is justified in taking the life of a murderer who attacks it from within.

The abolitionists will argue that the death penalty is not necessary and serves no purpose in that it is not a deterrent. Some pretty convincing statistics have been presented to prove this. Most abolitionists agree that the death penalty should be retained for the murderers of policemen and prison guards. But why? Are their lives worth more than those of civilians? The answer is, of course not. Even abolitionists agree that the presence of the death penalty will deter murderers of law enforcement officers. So in fact abolitionists do agree that the presence of the death penalty does have some deterrent effect. Why should civilians not have the same right to this protection? The death penalty should apply to the premeditated murder of any citizen.

There appear to be two types of murderers. First, there are those who are mentally deranged or are suffering temporary or prolonged mental shock. The law should, and does provide for leniency in such cases. What about the brutal, callous murderer who has deliberately planned his crime and is fully aware of the consequences? How do we deal with the hired killer in organized crime who murders for money? How do we deal with the revolutionary assassin who coldly plots his crime against the very society from which he expects justice? How do we deal with such people as the bank robber who coldly informs his hostages, "I will shoot anyone in the bank, and the Supreme Court will let me get away with it. The is no death penalty, so I can shoot everyone here, then throw down the gun and walk out and they cannot put me in the electric chair"? For such people the death penalty is clearly a deterrent. They are fully aware of what they are doing and the consequence of their act.

The argument is also put forward that the death penalty is vengeance pure and simple and as such is a barbaric vestige of man's animal nature. In all honesty, is not all punishment for crime a matter of vengeance? Whatever penalty was imposed for murder, it will still be vengeance. Is not this vengeance largely the result of justifiable moral outrage by society against the viciousness of the murderer's act? Vengeance, as we call it, is actually an act of self-defence by society. A murderer kills a child, and the parent reacts by demanding his death. The murderer has in a way attacked that parent, who responds in self-defence. In much the same way, society is a single, living unit of which its individuals are a part; an attack upon one of them is actually an attack upon society, and society has the responsibility to act defensively for the benefit of the rest of its members.

To conclude, it is the fate of a deliberate killer that we are deciding, not the barbaric means of execution used today. I believe the law should recognize all the circumstances and give the benefit of the slightest doubt. But when the courts have referred those persons they can for psychiatric care, when they have acquitted others for lack of conclusive evidence, when social and economic conditions have been improved in order to remove the breeding grounds of crime and violence, when the penal system has been restaged to provide rehabilitative services instead of apprenticeships in crime—when all this has been done society inevitably comes face to face with the real issue in this debate.

We are dealing with the fate of a callous, brutal murderer who has planned his crime with full awareness of the consequences, has weighed the life of his victim in the balance and has valued at less than his possible gain. The death penalty would remind such a murderer who has lost any sense of the value of life that a life is in fact very dear, at least as dear as his own. What other way is there to understand the horror of taking a person's life, if not directly equating it to the life of that person's killer? In all honesty, capital punishment is an obscene thing, but I believe it is necessary to establish the value of life in our society and I will vote against the bill.

Mr. Peter P. Masniuk (Portage): Mr. Speaker, I should like to take this opportunity of thanking you for allowing me to deliver my first speech in this House. Like my colleagues sitting in the House for the first time, I have been looking forward to this opportunity for some time.

The bill on capital punishment presently before us in the House is one of Canada's most explosive political and legal issues ever placed before this House. It is an issue in respect of which there are not any cut and dried answers. It is an issue which, regardless of the outcome of the vote, will never be resolved. Many of my colleagues have presented very strong and excellent arguments for and against punishment. Many members have quoted statistics to back up their stand. Yet even these statistics counterbalance each other and we are left with that nagging question as to who is right and who is wrong. Many of us in this House represent many of the religious faiths of this nation, yet even our religious leaders are divided on this issue.

Putting aside all the arguments for and against capital punishment, there still remains a basic fact which many of us, including the abolitionists, seem to have overlooked. We must all face the fact that increased permissiveness in today's society has created a climate in which respect for law and order is no longer accepted by many of its members. This being the fact, the crime rate in Canada and throughout the world has steadily increased over the past ten years, and continues to increase. This increase in crime will continue unless legislators enact stiffer laws which will make the penalty for murder and other serious offences heavier than the penalty for robbing a bank.

● (1550)

Every country in the world is faced with these facts, and many countries which have abolished capital punishment or placed it on a five-year trial basis are having second thoughts on the matter. England and West Germany are experiencing, as we are in North America, a new wave of thought which is leaning very strongly toward the retention of capital punishment. Our abolitionists would say to all this, "Hogwash". Nevertheless, the fact still remains

that with the increase of permissiveness in our society, our crime rate has increased and will continue to increase unless we legislate stiffer penalties for crimes committed against society.

Those of us who are retentionist are often accused of coming out of the dark ages in our ideas. Yet I wonder if man has ever, or will ever come out of the dark ages so far as his relationship with his fellow man is concerned. It seems ironical that men have walked on the face of the moon, that technology has advanced beyond man's wildest dreams, that in the field of medicine we are capable of replacing run down parts of the body with new parts and in the near future we will see a whole new generation of test tube babies, yet in spite of all man's advancements, man continues to kill his fellow man just as he did so indiscriminately in the dark ages. Have we progressed to the point that we are regressing, or has man, with all his advancement, ever really progressed?

In our benevolent or liberal-minded attitudes today we have created a society in which the criminal elements are protected while society is left unprotected from the onslaughts of our criminals. A couple of weeks ago in the Montreal *Gazette,* the Solicitor General (Mr. Allmand) was quoted as stating that things have gone too far, and he announced an independent judicial inquiry into the recent rash of escapes from federal prisons in Quebec.

I do not doubt for a minute that the minister is sincerely concerned, but he is quite correct when he says that things have gone too far. This sort of nonsense occurred constantly during the term of office of the previous solicitor general when the government had a majority in this House. At that time the people of Canada strongly voiced their indignation, as they are doing now; but their cries of indignation went unheard. Now our Solicitor General finds himself to be a member of a minority government and neither he nor the cabinet can ignore the outcry of the Canadian people.

The Solicitor General has issued orders for stricter security measures in all federal prisons. Why was this not done before? Why was this not done during the period in office of the previous solicitor general? It is obvious to me, and I am sure to others, that the government realizes that they can no longer ignore the voice of the people and if they want to remain in power they must smarten up. Thus, stricter controls are now being initiated in all federal prisons.

The increase in crime and prison outbreaks has made a mockery of our system of justice, and all Canadians are angered and concerned and want action. I feel that this is an appropriate time to bring forth a fact that too many of us, including the present government, seem to forget once we are elected to this House, namely, that we are elected at the will of the people and for the people. I feel that it is time the present government was reminded of the fact that the people of Canada gave it a minority vote in the last election because they were not satisfied with its past performance. Unless the government smartens up and stops making excuses or appointing special inquiries, and gets down to the business of cracking down on our increase in crime and prison outbreaks, it will again soon feel the wrath of the Canadian people in the next election. Our country can no longer afford this breakdown in our judicial system. We have seen this happen in other countries, and it has brought disastrous results. Justice can no longer continue to be mocked by our criminal elements. This is one of the many reasons why I am a retentionist.

Unlike some of my colleagues, I am mindful of what the people in my riding expect of me. I have a federal prison and a county jail in the riding of Portage, and the people who work in these places have expressed deep concern over the breakdown of penal reform in our prisons. They are also concerned about the way in which our prisoners are pampered and coddled while society is less and less protected from criminal elements. Much of the correspondence from my constituents has been in favour of the retention of capital punishment. My constituents are not pleased with the present system and they want the death penalty brought back for all murders against society, not just for the murder of prison guards and policemen. My constituents are not revenge-seeking people, but they want justice dealt out fairly. They want to feel secure in their homes. They want to know that their rights and freedoms are secure and that their lives are safe from our criminal elements.

People today are no longer fooled by political talk; to them this is no longer acceptable. They want action to curb the increase of crime in our society; and they want action, not talk, to curb prison outbreaks. We have the obligation, as their elected representatives, to provide them with such security as will protect them from our criminal elements.

Some people will argue that hanging is not humane. I agree. But can anyone in this country or in the House come up with a more humane method? Is it more humane to lock up a man for life in a prison where he is denied all the freedoms and pleasures that we enjoy and which he enjoyed before he committed his crime? We could all argue left and right on these points and not come to any agreement, but the fact still remains that we have not found a proper or workable solution in dealing with crime and penal reform.

Perhaps the old methods were not humane, but at least we had law and order and respect for law and order which we do not have today. My people want law and order and respect for law and order brought back. I am sure that this is also the wish of the people of Canada generally. Let me say in conclusion, Mr. Speaker, that the reason I shall vote for the retention of the death penalty is that I want to bring back that law and order to which the people of this country are entitled.

Mr. Steven E. Paproski (Edmonton Centre): Mr. Speaker, I rise to take part in this debate on Bill C-2. It was not my intention to speak at this point in the debate, but in view of recent events, including attacks on police officers, I feel it is my duty to make known my position on this issue.

One of the problems seems to be lack of clear understanding of what we are discussing. Talk about vengeance and punishment is out of place. Most people do not regard the issue in that light. Some speak about the deterrent value and hinge the whole debate on that issue, yet the deterrent aspect is not the central issue. Let us look at the central issue. It appears to me that the central issue is the

responsibility of the state to render adequate protection to the individual. Accompanying this is the expectation of the individual that the state will afford security to himself, his family and his property.

Let us consider the rights of the murderer. These rights are balanced against the rights of a person who has been found guilty, after due process of the law, of wilfully and violently taking away the life of another person. Does a killer have some sacred right to life which is denied the ordinary person? Some people taking part in the controversy on capital punishment have suggested that the state does not have the right to resort to ultimate means to protect the individual citizen. I respectfully beg to disagree. If the state has the duty to protect citizens, then the state has the right to exercise the ultimate sanction in that regard. Even peacekeeping troops are given sidearms with instructions to use them if their lives are menaced. Does anyone deny the right of a government to issue those instructions?

● (1600)

In dealing with the harsh realities of life, societies must be prepared to face unpleasant facts, among which are murder and the homicidal urge which motivates some persons to the peril of others. Until such time as governments, by brainwashing, hypnotism or some other scientific or chemical means eliminate the urge to kill, the state must continue to retain the right to the ultimate sanction. One thing at least is certain. Capital punishment is an effective deterrent to the person to whom it is applied. He at least cannot kill again.

If the state fails to provide a degree of security sufficient to reassure individuals, then individuals will be tempted to look after their own security and we will face anarchy. This is exactly what is happening in those states where capital punishment has been suspended for a long period. Householders are arming themselves all over the United States, and that kind of violence is spreading into Canada. I think it is safe to say that our society is experiencing a wave of violence such as we have not seen for many decades. Every day newspapers carry almost unbelievable stories of shootings, murders of various kinds and other crimes too horrible to describe. Citizens feel they are without protection and that if their homes or properties are invaded they must rely on themselves for defence.

Let us look at the deterrent argument. The deterrent argument is a specious argument; it is simply a red herring. Does the threat of prison deter bank robbery? Shall we now abolish prisons? When I see what kind of people are escaping, it might be better for us to be in prison. Do fines deter speeders? Shall we abolish fines and speed limits? The threat of capital punishment deters some people and saves some lives. We know that some criminals cannot be deterred, regardless of legislation. The question is, shall they be free to kill again?

Experience shows that long-term sentences are not, and will not be carried out. Anyway, what is so humane about putting a person in jail for 25 years? Nowhere in the constitution of this nation or in the constitution of any nation does it say that a person who has wantonly and cruelly killed—that is, who has taken away someone else's life for his own advantage—retains a God-given right to enjoy his own life. It has been held through the ages that those who wantonly take away life forfeit their own right to life. Whether one believes this or not, I submit it is difficult to make a case in favour of an inalienable right to life for confessed or convicted killers.

Most people will share the opinion that a person who wantonly kills another forfeits his own right to life. It is possible that the state, in consideration of a recommendation for mercy, may refrain from putting the death sentence into effect. No one denies that right. On the other hand, no one should deny the state the right to take away, by the most humane method possible and after due process of law, the life of a person convicted of one or more murders. The duty of this chamber is not to make the world safe for killers. It is not to underline and confirm some imaginary right to life on the part of those who have taken life. Such a right never existed.

We live in an era where violence has become a way of life, where violence is organized, where violence has been granted privileges, where violence and organized crime are apparently tax-free, as revealed in evidence in Montreal recently. The existence of professional criminals and fanatical groups dedicated to the liquidation of their imaginary enemies makes it all the more mandatory that the state must not surrender its right to defend the citizen and his family.

While I admit that polls are not infallible and are not a substitute for conscience, I am convinced in this case that the polls reflect a reality that exists in the minds and hearts of Canadians disturbed by growing violence, disturbed by the apparent inability of the state to ensure protection for themselves and their families. Surveys show that Canadians are not prepared to surrender the right to exact the ultimate penalty from confessed and convicted killers. Very few in this chamber are likely to be threatened or menaced, or have their homes or the lives of their loved ones put in danger from violent men. But in October, 1970, when fanatical groups ran riot, the situation was different. Many members of this chamber were given protection in the form of armed guards. The ordinary citizen is denied that kind of protection. He must take his chances. It is up to the state to see to it that those chances are kept at a minimum. Capital punishment is a weapon in the arsenal of national security.

The situation in the last ten years has been conducive to the utmost licence in the area of violence. The law exists but it is not applied. Either the law should be scrapped and capital punishment abolished, or the law should be applied. The present situation constitutes the worst of both worlds and is simply a wide-open invitation to kill. I strongly doubt that police and prison guards will go on meekly being targets for the violence and animosity of conscienceless individuals. Policemen are liable to start shooting back, and when they do people are going to get hurt, some of them innocent people.

A continuation of the present situation invites widespread anarchy. The present motion should be defeated and members should be given a clear choice either to retain the right of the state to undertake the ultimate sanction or abolish it. Personally, while I recognize the dedication and courage of police officers I nevertheless

feel that the life of any individual is as valuable to him and his family as that of a policeman or guard.

I do not feel that the violent removal of an individual's life by a cold-blooded killer is adequately dealt with by a few years in jail at the end of which the killer is free to kill again. The violent removal of life must be met by the power of the state to exact the ultimate penalty, otherwise we reduce murder to the rank of an ordinary misdemeanour.

Mr. Norval Horner (Battleford-Kindersley): Mr. Speaker, I would like to add my views on capital punishment. I intend to vote against the motion for continuation of the moratorium. This bill is neither an abolitionist nor a retentionist bill but is, rather, a measure of partial abolition or partial retention, whichever way one would like to look at it. The government could have introduced a bill to abolish capital punishment and we could have debated it on that basis. I think the Canadian people are ready for that question, and most of them actually think that is what we are debating.

I believe that in any society there must be law and order. Order is the prime requirement: Without it you have chaos. We ask the police to keep order and carry out our laws. They favour capital punishment; they feel it will help them to carry out their duties. I feel it is my responsibility to co-operate with them and help them, so the least I can do is to vote for capital punishment. I am not certain why they want capital punishment, and I am not sure I should question each of them about it. Governments must trust and take advice from many sources. Basically, it is simple: We ask the police to maintain law and order and they in turn ask us to retain capital punishment.

● (1610)

I say, let the abolitionists convince the police that capital punishment is not necessary and I will vote to abolish it. Failing that, let the abolitionists discover some other method to maintain order. I feel it is necessary to stand with the police and prison guards because I would like to encourage the best young men in Canada to become part of the police force, and I want them to feel they have the confidence and support of legislators. If we fail to do this, the police will become a law unto themselves; they will shoot first and ask questions later. If they were about to capture a person who had killed many times, they might not be inclined to risk their lives to capture him so that he may become a guest of the state.

In this debate are we not asked to choose between life imprisonment or death for a handful of convicted murderers, on the one hand, and the morale of the police force on the other. The choice for me is a simple one. I am in sympathy with the police. I know it is not the modern thing to do, in an age when we tend to worship the misfit and apologize to him on behalf of society.

Another reason for voting against this bill, Mr. Speaker, is that I share the concern of thousands of Canadians about the rapid increase in violent crime. I know we have been quoted figures which indicate that the increase of murder has not been as rapid as the increase of lesser crimes. Is this a reason for voting for abolition? More people speed at 65 or 70 miles an hour than at 100 or 110 miles an hour, so should we lessen the penalty for speeding at 100 miles an hour?

Murder is the ultimate crime. If we lessen the penalty for murder, Canadians feel that penalties for all crimes will be lessened and that crime itself will be more acceptable to our society. This is why Canadians are urging us to retain capital punishment. They want to bring about respect for law and order in our society. They feel that if we maintain a severe penalty for the ultimate crime, the penalties for other crimes will be maintained.

The abolitionists say that it is barbaric for the state to take a man's life;—that we are committing group murder. Can the state blindly lead society, or must it mirror society? In my opinion, in the maintenance of law and order we cannot afford to be idealistic and we can only reflect what society is. Pretending that people are good, and that if we do not hang the murderer there will be no murder, is wishful thinking. By all means let us make every effort to become more civilized. This is a challenge to our educational institutions and our churches, to our schools and universities where our society spends so much of its time and where we spend so much of our money. Let these institutions do more than mirror society. Let them lead society to greater things. But let the law and the way it is enforced reflect what society really is.

Our whole basis for law is an attempt to have the punishment fit the crime. We assume that time to everyone is precious, and to try to keep order the state says: If you break the law we will take some time away from you. This process if not new, but ancient. It is understood by everyone. We do not have laws to punish people; we have laws in an attempt to prevent crime and to protect people and property. No one desires to see the state execute anyone; the intention is that the crime be not committed in the first place. Retentionists are not blood-thirsty. We would be content if no murders were committed; then there would be no murderers to deal with.

The reason we must maintain capital punishment is that we must distinguish between crimes like making homebrew or liquor illegally, between destruction of property, between speeding on the highway or not stopping at a stop sign, between stealing of material things including money, and the taking of a human life. Without capital punishment there is no clear distinction between the taking of property and the taking of life. Surely there is a difference, but not according to the law of the last ten years. If you rob a bank, you might serve a seven-year sentence. If you rob the same bank and kill the manager, you might serve a year or two longer. Paper money and those who possess it apparently are as important as a human life. There is a difference between a human life and a material object, and our laws must indicate that difference. There must be a difference not only in time but in the kind of penalty.

The state executes many times and nothing is said. Recently a man was shot and killed as he stood in the doorway of an airplane he threatened to hijack. They managed to get him to the door, and he was holding a girl hostage with one hand. I am sure the person who gave the order to shoot was told to kill. In this case the state executed that man. He had done nothing. He had threatened to hijack the plane, but he had killed no one. The

state executed him and nothing was said. However, if he had killed the girl, had been captured and had sat in jail for months, some in our society would have heaped sympathy upon him. Perhaps 20 per cent of our society would have said, "We cannot bring back the victim; let's be easy on him."

Capital punishment is an admission that the murderer cannot be rehabilitated. This is a statement often used by those who would abolish capital punishment. I do not deny the statement, but I certainly question the ability of doctors to say for certain who will not murder again. There needs to be much more study and research done to learn about the behaviour of man before we can say who has been rehabilitated, who it is safe to return to society.

A few years ago, near where I live a man was released from a mental hospital because they said he was fit to return home. Ten days later he killed eight people. Obviously, he was a very troubled young man. In no way was he fit to return to society, but in the opinion of the doctors he was. This kind of thing happens all the time and it is the reason why Canadians are so concerned and are looking to us to restore order and bring about a society in which their families can feel safe. Mr. Speaker, it is for these reasons that I am prepared to vote against the moratorium.

Mr. J. R. Holmes (Lambton-Kent): Mr. Speaker, with the knowledge that the issue of capital punishment would come before this House I have reviewed the subject extensively, taking advantage of the information provided by various parliamentary sources, reviewing numerous position papers presented by various groups, assessing press coverage and various research agencies and, above all, analysing carefully the attitude of constituents who have expressed varied opinions on the matter.

It has been my impression, and I feel it is important to emphasize this, that in the many discussions I have had with groups of individuals on the merits of capital punishment, the content of the dialogue invariably goes beyond a political discussion and each person decides the issue according to the dictates of his conscience and his judgment. It is a rare individual that will alter his opinion from reading reports, studies or statistical surveys; but it is also a rare individual that will not be aroused emotionally by acts of violence.

● (1620)

I would like to illustrate the latter point by referring to an article in the Chatham *Daily News* of January 13, 1973, which carried the headline, "Suspect picked up for the killing of Mr. Wilson." The suspect was serving a life sentence handed down in 1966 for non-capital murder of a child. The victim lived but a short distance from my home and I can assure the House that the fear experienced in our area and the criticism directed toward the ineffectiveness of our system of justice was shared by all residents, including myself.

I would like to enlarge on the matter of conscience and judgment which I referred to at the outset. The Concise Oxford Dictionary defines "conscience" as a moral sense of right and wrong, and "judgment" as a critical faculty, discernment or good sense. I wish to re-emphasize the words "conscience" and "judgment", not to suggest that there is a similarity in meaning but, rather, to make it clear that the meaning and intent of the two words is distinctly different and in my opinion must be assessed separately before a rational union of the two can occur. If we are guided by conscience alone, a meaningful solution is not possible because the faculty to analyse all the available data has been ignored. If we are guided by judgment alone, we are then ignoring our moral values which are fundamental to our Christian way of life.

Theologians and philosophers have debated the subject of conscience for centuries. Their arguments for and against capital punishment on philosophical and religious grounds are well documented. There are those who recall Calvin's delcaration that a judge who imposes the supreme punishment is also administering devine vengeance and obeying God's orders. Others recall the words of St. Augustine in the fifth century A.D. following the murder of Christians:

> We do not wish to have the sufferings of the servants of God avenged by the infliction of precisely similar injuries in the way of retaliation. Not, of course, that we object to the removal from these wicked men of the liberty to perpetrate further crimes, but our desire is rather than justice be satisfied without the taking of their lives or the maiming of their bodies in any particular; and that by such coercive measure as may be in accordance with the laws, they be drawn away from the insane frenzy to the quietness of men in their sound judgment, or compelled to give up mischievous violence and to take themselves to some useful labour.

There are those who support their views by the Judaic Christian scriptures. One position is frequently supported by Romans, chapter 13, verse 4:

> For he is minister of God to thee for good. But if thou do that which is evil, be afraid; for he beareth not the sword in vain; for he is the minister of God, a revenger to execute wrath upon him that doeth evil.

The other position is frequently supported by the scriptures, for example, Matthew, chapter 5, from the Sermon on the Mount:

> Ye have heard that it hath been said, An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth . . . But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you.

I do not find it difficult to understand this divergence of opinion. I can appreciate the strong convictions of both groups, and I do not challenge the conscience of another individual; but I, too, have a conscience for which I am accountable to a supreme being, a conscience that has been shaped by religious and moral convictions, and in my instance, as a physician dedicated to saving lives, my conscience will not permit me to take a human life.

During my postgraduate days in Washington, D.C., I practised medicine in private and public hospitals, and at the District of Columbia General Hospital I was in close association with the Washington Penal Institution. On my return to Canada I established a medical practice and, in addition, served as a coroner. This varied experience with all elements of society, including numerous medical-legal problems, has taught me the value of human life and the tragedies accompanying death.

As I indicated previously, conscience alone without judgment cannot result in meaningful solutions. Fear exists within our society, an apprehension of excessive

permissiveness is voiced by the majority of Canadians, and a genuine belief that law and order has, and is deteriorating is shared by most Canadians. I share these views and would like to take a few moments to dwell on the matter of judgment, as I see it, in relationship to the previous observations.

I do not intend to elaborate on the role of society and our present system of values. I shall not bore you with endless statistics and detailed studies, many of which have been adequately covered by other hon. members. But I would like to mention briefly the matters which I feel are relevant and in keeping with the thinking of most Canadians. I must concur with the comments of the hon. member for Welland (Mr. Railton) and his observations with respect to rehabilitation and parole. Although the word "rehabilitation" has been used for years, it has taken on a new meaning and new "implications in the field of psychiatry and sociology, and more particularly as it relates to penal reform.

I do not object to such studies, and indeed such should continue, but I would remind hon. members that there are adequate studies to reveal that at our present stage of development, rehabilitation in many instances is impossible. There are innumerable instances of murders committed by psychopathic personalities or schizophrenics, crimes that have been committed on impulse, without reflection and with no thought of punishment. The offender's total thought is of killing. Such a person is a threat to society and a sentence of life imprisonment should, in these circumstances, mean life in prison. The present policy of life imprisonment permits parole after ten years, and this in my judgment is neither a deterrent nor a substitute for the death penalty.

A view frequently expressed is the inherent risk that an innocent man may be put to death. I can accept this opinion and recognize that it can be substantiated by specific cases. I also recognize the great safeguards through various legal procedures to ensure the protection of the accused. What I cannot understand is the limited safeguards and ineffectiveness in the assessment of a criminal who is paroled. In my judgment, if there is the slightest risk that the criminal continues to harbour an abnormality in his psychodynamic pattern, then the public should have the assurance that such individuals are segregated from society indefinitely.

I must mention in this regard the sentence imposed by an Israeli tribunal upon the surviving Japanese terrorists who aided in the mass slaughter at the Tel Aviv airport. The tribunal maintained that life imprisonment was the worst punishment that could be imposed. Both prosecution and defence lawyers insisted that incarceration for life would be most effective in preventing a repetition of the insanity that took place in the airport customs hall.

I wish to comment briefly on the deterrent effect of the death penalty, which is the major argument presented for its retention. Despite my previous comments I have always held the view that if the death penalty was unequivocally a deterrent, I would be forced to reconsider my entire position. Extensive reviews have covered this aspect in depth and the studies agree that the present statistics provide inconclusive findings and no final consensus exists. I must make mention, however, of the study carried out by Dr. Fattah on the deterrent effect of capital punishment with special reference to the Canadian situation. I shall not bore listeners with his detailed conclusions but simply quote from the introduction of the conclusions:

> We have seen that there has been a slight increase in criminal homicide in Canada over the past eight years. Can this be attributed to the suspension of capital punishment? Now after having examined the different aspects of the problem we are able to answer this question and the answer is no!

To summarize, I feel we should abolish capital punishment; but to obtain effective reform in the Criminal Code and to offer the protection and safety our citizens demand, we must recognize that murderers are rarely amenable to rehabilitation, and major reform in the parole system is essential to ensure that life imprisonment means life imprisonment.

● (1630)

[*Translation*]

Mr. Charles Eugène Dionne (Kamouraska): Mr. Speaker, as I begin these comments on a matter of such great concern for the Canadian public, especially following the diversified advertising campaing to which we have been submitted over the past few months and whose purpose was to bring the government to spend a few days debating the issue of retention or abolition of capital punishment—a debate which must be concluded by a free vote—I should like to bring to your attention the fact that at long last a member of Parliament will have the opportunity to decide freely on a very important issue of general interest. This is the part of the decision making process which is an improvement over the established custom in respect of the procedure within the political parties of our so-called democratic system. If, in the present circumstances, this practice contributes to increase in a practical way the respect for the freedom of opinion within our parliamentary institutions, we should at least have contributed to the establishment of a climate where every one could freely assume his responsibility. In fact, this is what the citizens of this country want, namely that their elected representatives decide according to the general interest of the country rather than that of a party, for the purpose of really improving the situation in all areas.

On a number of occasions, many people who are aware of the Canadian circumstances have urged that a referendum be held to give the Canadian population the opportunity to indicate its feeling on retention or abolition of capital punishment. Unfortunately, those who have been in authority for the past five years have disregarded the request for such a referendum.

In view of the present circumstances, I believe that most of my constituents share my opinion, having received a great many answers to a questionnaire; while a very limited number appear to favour the abolition of capital punishment, the majority have indicated they are in favour of its retention.

Various suggestions have been made to me concerning possible methods of execution; most of my constituents would recommend using the gas chamber, and I share this opinion.

I wish also to point out that I do not understand the reasons behind the attitude of those who claim that capital punishment can be retained for certain classes of people. I see no difference in value between the life of a father or mother, and that of a policeman or a prison guard, a manufacturer, a businessman, a poor man or a rich one. Each and all of them have a right to live.

In many fields, supervision is inadequate. It is as though the publicity media are used to adapt society to an inverted social system, for their harmful mood of irresponsibility encourages excessive laxity in publications such as newspapers and magazines, and in the broadcasting of films in which the criminals often seem like heroes, giving the impressionnable mind the most striking examples of crimes, thefts and other misconduct. After our lack of judgment in harbouring certain undesirable immigrants, we become alarmed at the consequences of our stupidities. Courts of justice sometimes become a theatre for all kinds of provocations.

Right here in the House, we have witnessed the uncovering of scandals that were hardly calculated to inculcate in citizens a respect for the established authority. Can we say now that we have used every possible means to make life pleasant for all citizens of Canada, a young country on which Providence has bestowed unlimited riches? This is the task that members of Parliament should pursue with determination, instead of talking about the abolition or retention of the death penalty. It would be much wiser, at this time, to bring about renewed hope for a better life among Canadians, by means of less materialistic and more humane legislation.

If we had a system that allowed each and every citizen to find work, or at least, a sound occupation that would be suitable to them and means of living honestly, I have good reasons to believe that the number of criminals would be reduced.

In the light of the present situation, we should try to find a middle way between excessive severity and exaggerated clemency. I feel we should try everything to rehabilitate an individual who took the wrong direction. But keeping in mind the present situation, we must necessarily adopt a position which will help reduce the number of murders. We have had the opportunity to read newspaper articles written by authorities on this issue, who recommended that capital punishment be maintained for a certain percentage of criminals. I am therefore reluctant to give a green light to the hangman.

In my opinion, capital punishment must be maintained, and that for several reasons. First of all, we must at all costs protect honest people against gangsters, offenders, thieves and mostly against murderers. It is imperative that we take right now the appropriate measures under the present circumstances. It would involve the establishment of a national indemnity fund to help dependents of murderers' victims.

I find it difficult to understand why criminals deserve so much protection against the death penalty, because nobody compels them to commit such a crime. When dealing with criminals for whom all possible means of rehabilitation have been used, with those who leave jail only to commit again the most hideous crimes, with those who have vowed to make a career for themselves in holdups and looting, society has the duty to protect itself as best it can. Indulgence would then become connivance. I feel very sorry for prisoners but I do not forget the harm they are causing by their offences. May I add that, in having recourse to drastic measures, society does not take vengeance but protects itself.

[*English*]

Mr. Alex Patterson (Fraser Valley East): Mr. Speaker, in participating this afternoon in this debate I am reminded of the situation that existed here in 1966 and 1967 when protracted debates took place on this subject. Many of us felt that the debate in March and April, 1966, settled the question of abolition or retention of the death penalty. The House of Commons had fully debated this subject and decided to retain the death penalty for capital murder. However, 18 months later the government introduced another bill that would in effect have abolished capital punishment for all murder except in the case of policemen and prison guards.

As I think back to that second debate in 1967, I remember that many members who rose to address themselves to the question wondered why the government had reintroduced the same question to the same parliament within a matter of months. At that time my colleague, the hon. member for Calgary North (Mr. Woolliams), asked the government about its priority list. I wish to quote from *Hansard* of November 9, 1967, at page 4084 where the hon. member for Calgary North asked:

> Where is the program that the Minister of Finance (Mr. Sharp) speaks of with great pride while government ministers go on spending to combat the obvious and admitted financial debacle that is facing the nation? Where is their program for dealing with high interest rates? Where is their program to arrest the high cost of living? Where is their program to eliminate high government spending, high unemployment, and lay-offs?

● (1640)

I suggest we could ask the same questions today and they are just as appropriate as they were back in the days of 1967. It is obvious that the five and a half years of Liberal government since that time has not changed the situation; in fact, these problems have become more serious during that five and a half year period. I wonder now, as my colleagues did in 1967, why the urgency to hold this debate at this time? The decision that is registered will not affect the actions of the government in dealing with murderers.

A number of hon. members in 1967 saw, as well, there was an obvious economic diversion here. They were perceptive enough to see that the bill introduced in 1967 by the then solicitor general was a government ploy, first of all, as I have stated, to divert public attention from economic problems, and second, through the inclusion of the clause on capital punishment for the murder of police officers and prison guards, to influence members into thinking that they were not voting for abolition, and thus get the bill passed by parliament.

So I suggest it was clear then—and history has proven us correct—that the government had no intention whatsoever of carrying out the wishes of parliament. The government disregarded the will of parliament in 1966 by introducing the new bill on capital punishment in 1967. It has disregarded the will of parliament since that time by

commuting death sentences passed on those convicted of capital murder. In my view, the government has acted in a lawless manner in not upholding the law, and as well has attempted and is now attempting to deceive parliament and the people of Canada. As in 1967 it had no intention, in 1973 it has no intention of obeying the will of parliament if this measure is passed at this time.

I believe this situation has led to a general and widespread deterioration in our total system of justice. The abolitionists state that murder statistics are meaningless because all crime is on the increase, and that if there are more murders it is only because there is more crime. I submit there is more crime in part because of the bad example set in this connection by the government.

If, as the abolitionists state—and I attribute to them honesty of purpose, intention and thought—the murder statistics are not really that bad when compared with the over-all crime rate, it may well be that the publicity campaign of "don't resist a criminal" has been heeded and that, in the words of the Canadian Association of Police Chiefs, "there are less dead heroes today than there were yesterday". I would, if I were permitted, call attention to a number of illustrations that point out the seeming failure of the government to recognize its responsibility in properly handling this question of administration of justice, but I think enough of them have been brought to our attention in previous debates to make this unnecessary.

Our friends who believe and are promoting the view that capital punishment should be abolished speak in idealistic terms of removing the convicted killer from society. They speak of protecting the public through the imposition of life sentences for capital murder and extended sentences for other classes of murder. I believe two hon. members of the House intend to propose amendments to this bill that will effectively remove murderers from society for 25 years. However, I am sure all hon. members of the House would agree that not all murderers deserve a sentence of 25 years. There is a difference between the cold-blooded, hired killer and those who perhaps under stress, strain and in extenuating circumstances commit murder.

Secondly, I would ask what assurance we would have that the government would carry out a mandatory sentence. The government has refused to fulfil the will of parliament in allowing the penalty for the murder of policemen and prison guards to be carried out, so what guarantee have we that they would ensure that killers in this particular category would remain in prison for 25 years? If we could be guaranteed in some way that a convicted murderer would be isolated from society for the rest of his natural life in the case of premeditated murder, or until rehabilitation could take place in other cases, I am sure many Canadians would re-evaluate their position on this particular matter.

Again, there are those who would transfer the burden of responsibility from the shoulders of the murderer to society as a whole. I think I dealt with this matter in a debate a few days ago when I said that I and a great many Canadians objected to being blamed for the fact that people were put in jail. I cannot agree with this transfer of responsibility. The question is: Should there be any rules set in society? I believe that all or most hon. members agree that there should be. If we are going to have rules, let us obey them. Personally, I am in favour of the rules applying to everyone. Although various arguments have been advanced in support of the retention of capital punishment, my main contention in this respect is that punishment in general is a technique for preventing breaches of rules, and like any technique it must be judged by its results.

Our society has set up a system of rules, one of which is that one person shall not willfully and intentionally take the life of another person. This system of rules or laws, like any other system of rules, once adopted implies there is a case for implementation in particular instances, so that in any normal case it is sufficient to point to a breach of a rule of the appropriate type to justify a penalty.

As well, when we allocate punishment to a class of offences we are, in a sense, deciding how much crime of that type we are ready to tolerate in preference to the alternative of a stricter penalty. If the penalty for taking the life of an individual is not severe, then we as a society are admitting that we are willing to tolerate more crime of that type. If, on the other hand, the penalty for taking a life is severe, then we are admitting that we are willing to tolerate less of that type of crime. If the penalty is not used, then the whole system breaks down. We set up rules and then let them be diluted, we insist on people being free and responsible, and then we make excuses for them so they do not have to take responsibility for themselves. Punishment, then is not the sole technique for ensuring that laws are kept. There are more responsible people who obey laws because they respect them than there are people who obey them because they fear the consequences of breaking them.

The government complains that there has not been sufficient time for an intensive study into the problem of capital punishment to warrant a decision one way or the other, be it abolition or retention. That is no reason for complaint. For 11 years we have had in Canada *de facto* abolition; every death sentence passed during that period of time has been commuted. In the last five years the number of death sentences has been lowered because of the provision in the bill passed in 1967. The majority of those convicted of premeditated murder were sentenced by the courts to life imprisonment; the rest of the sentences were automatically commuted to life imprisonment by the cabinet. The lack of action by the government in not undertaking a serious study in the last five years particularly indicates to me that the government really has no intention of carrying out the provisions of this bill, if it is passed by parliament, and that it will continue its policy of commutation, hence *de facto* abolition.

● (1650)

The question of the double standard for murder, death for the killers of policemen and prison guards and not death for murderers of others, has been dealt with adequately and effectively by other speakers during this debate. I would simply reiterate that I do not believe the Solicitor General (Mr. Allmand) seriously believes in this double standard. I have the utmost respect for the Solicitor General; I think he is sincere in his belief in abolition of the death penalty, as I think all hon. members are who espouse that view, and for this reason I cannot understand

why he would introduce a bill that would perpetuate this double standard.

This bill only confuses the question of capital punishment. If the government had the courage and the fortitude to face Canadians with a clearcut alternative, to retain capital punishment or abolish it, we would be in a much better position to decide on this question. However, I am afraid that if this bill is passed the situation we have had in the past five years will be perpetuated in that the cabinet will continue its practice of automatically commuting the death penalty.

My desire is that the government should invoke the law and the will of parliament, whatever that may be. If hon. members, in their wisdom, decide that the bill should pass, my desire is that the will of parliament be upheld and that murderers of policemen and prison guards be executed. If hon. members, in their judgment, pass an amendment that for instance would require a mandatory sentence of 25 years imprisonment for premeditated murder, then my desire is that the government obey the law and have the murderer serve the 25 years. If we decide not to pass the bill and decide that we should retain the death penalty for premeditated murder, I believe the government should obey the law as parliament has enacted it. In conclusion, then, I would say that it is the responsibility of members to decide what the law should be, but it is the responsibility of the government to carry out the law and to see that it is enforced. The people of Canada have the right to expect that much. We all expect the citizens of this country to obey the laws we enact, but what example do they have when even the government does not uphold the law? Finally, I would urge the government to respect and abide by the decision of parliament whatever that decision might be.

Mr. Joe Hueglin (Niagara Falls): Mr. Speaker, it is often the ploy of abolitionists to raise the spectre of the horrors of hanging; of an innocent man being sent to his death and of the state being more deliberate, and thus more callous, with human life than the individual convicted. Retentionists do not insist on hanging, but on death; execution only for those clearly and unequivocally guilty on the basis of hard, and not circumstantial evidence, and then only for those who have premeditated a murder. These are my views and the views of the vast majority of the citizens of Niagara riding who returned a questionnaire sent to them in February of this year.

This questionnaire did not seek simply a yes or no answer to this question. Rather, it asked the citizens to select one of five options and to state their reasons for holding the positions they hold. The choices were: retention for all who premeditated and executed a murder, retention for all who murdered police officers, abolition totally with a minimum of ten years sentence to be served, a minimum of 25 years to be served and, finally, total abolition but with the sentence to be incarceration for the rest of the murderer's natural life. More than 5,500 questionnaires were returned. On the vast majority the names of the respondents were written, and in most cases two names were to be found; on many three, four and even five opinions were noted. It was a great outpouring of opinion that any professional pollster would find astounding and beyond his experience of percentage of return.

Both during the election campaign and after, many of my fellow Niagarans asked me what my views were on this issue. That the question was posed so many times illustrates clearly the interest my people have in this matter. Each person was given the same answer, that in my opinion anyone who uses his reason to plan and carry out an act which costs another human being his life has, by that act, forfeited his own life. I submit that it is reason which has developed society from chaos, and that the misuse of reason in planning the death of another places an individual in the position that he must be permanently removed from society. Both during and after the election this view was accepted by the vast majority of those who asked the question.

When this bill we are debating was introduced, the Solicitor General (Mr. Allmand) quoted figures from a survey he said his department had undertaken. In order to determine whether the citizens of Niagara riding would affirm my position or whether they would support that of the Solicitor General and the government, the questionnaire was distributed. Overwhelmingly, those who replied rejected the present bill and seriously brought into question the validity of the Solicitor General's survey, a survey upon which he bases the desirability of the present bill being enacted into law. In his survey 20.9 per cent favoured complete abolition. In Niagara riding only 16.1 per cent were disposed toward complete abolition, and of these 8.9 per cent only on the basis of natural life being the penalty, something this bill in no way guarantees. In his poll, only 19.1 per cent favoured retention in all cases of premeditated murder, and 59 per cent in limited cases.

How different this is from the 80 per cent of Niagarans who chose retention for all premeditated murders, whereas only 1.3 per cent opted for selected instances such as the murder of police and prison guards. Clearly, the Solicitor General's survey was not conducted among a constituency representative of all Canadians. Rather, it presumably was held within a selected group. I say this for two reasons, firstly because the results of the poll in Niagara riding have been supported in ridings from one end of the country to the other, overwhelming public support for retention, and secondly because it follows the precedents set by other government soundings of opinion, be it the LeDain commission, the Committee on Youth, or what have you; the precedent of blithely ignoring the opinions of the silent majority and of mouthing the beliefs of the permissive, vocal minority that ignores responsibility to society and seeks personal freedom of action.

The abolitionists make light of the outpourings of public sentiment contained in the various polls we have conducted. Remember it was the Solicitor General who in opening this debate introduced his survey to enable him to justify this bill which, as it is written, can satisfy neither an honest abolitionist nor an honest retentionist. At page 689 of *Hansard* the Solicitor General is reported as having stated, using his poll as his basis of assessment:

> —it would appear that to move to either extreme; to move either toward total abolition or toward total retention at this time is neither possible nor desirable under prevailing circumstances.

It was he who introduced a survey to justify this bill. It must now be he who, if he wishes to remain credible, must recognize that "prevailing circumstances" are not as he

perceived them through his limited survey but, rather, that there is a clear consensus among Canadians or, if you will, an absolute majority of somewhere between 70 per cent and 80 per cent that all convicted premeditated murderers should be the subject of sentence of death.

The minister stated that no alternative to this bill was possible and that it would not be prudent to go in either direction. There is an alternative clearly acceptable to the vast majority of ordinary Canadians but this abolitionist government cannot agree to it, just as it could not agree to honour the law of the last five years as it was written. The Solicitor General quite rightly states it would not be prudent to seek total abolition. Why should the government be imprudent by giving us a clear choice when it can have abolition in fact through the passage of this bill, even though it does not grant abolition in law? We all know that commutation for the murderers of police officers will follow their conviction surer than night follows day. This is the way honest, law-abiding Canadians perceive this bill and that is the reason it is so widely opposed.

● (1700)

Let us state it clearly: Canadians want retention; this government does not. It is using its survey as an argument for denying us a clear choice which it knows would be against its wishes, and offers us instead this compromise which has in the last five years, and will in the next five if this bill passes into law, enable it to achieve by executive decree what it could not obtain by legislative act—complete abolition of death as a punishment for the murder of anyone, by any means.

I find it ironic that this cabinet, by championing permissiveness in other areas, has been in large measure the author of the great popular resistance it is encountering in implementing this *de facto* abolition which it now seeks. It is interesting to look at the Gallup polls over the years. In 1953, 71 per cent were in favour of retention; in 1966, the number dropped to 53 per cent; in 1972, it rose again to 63 per cent; in 1966 to 1972, the years of the present government's administration, the number has risen and I would suggest that it has further risen since this poll was taken in February of 1972.

That this has been recognized by the cabinet and even by the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) can be proven by his speech of May 16 in which he cast himself in the role of the protector of society. It can be proven by his speech in which he stated that adjustments may be needed in certain areas and in which he begged people to differentiate between the present debate and the problem of the general direction of our society in matters of peace and order.

May I suggest that although the media may have considered this speech as proof that his countervailing theories are again coming to the fore, or as another act of contrition and renewal or as a brilliant recognition of reality sincerely delivered, in fact it was none of these. Actually, it was a thoroughly political move designed to shore up utterly bankrupt prison policies. The Prime Minister stated that he would save us from the perils that many of us feel, that others of us have suffered from directly, some to the point of their own death, and which arise directly or indirectly out of the innovations of this government over the last five years.

[Mr. Hueglin.]

The Prime Minister spoke of protection from fear and uncertainty and he told us how he would provide protection. It was a speech that a pied piper of old could have given, a pied piper who, having deliberately introduced rats into a town, when faced with the cries of concerned citizens states, "Yes, there are rats and I will take care of them for you. Follow my tune and all will be well".

Many of my more learned colleagues will debate this bill on the basis of abstract theory—deterrence versus no deterrent effect, and moral right versus moral wrong. While some of the people in my riding argue this way, and as stated previously they believe overwhelmingly that retention is a deterrent as well as a moral imperative, most are concerned not with the abstractions of theory but with the practical reality of living. Their reasons for supporting retention are based upon their very real sense of insecurity.

The Prime Minister recognized some of the reasons for their concern when he stated that these factors should not be considered in dealing with this bill. But they are considerations of very real importance to most of the people in our society. Let the Prime Minister ignore these honest concerns, if he will, as he ignored them prior to October 30, but let his followers take note of the fact that the law of retaliation still exists and that artificial distinctions are not acceptable to a populace that considers itself at the mercy of the criminal element in our society.

It is my intention to put on the record the thoughts that have led the good people of Niagara riding to support retention. The ease with which criminals are able to return to society, the adoption of permissive attitudes on the part of this government, the fact that no death sentence has been imposed, together with the widespread statements regarding the cost of maintaining prisoners in the increasingly better-appointed penal institutions, have all led to increased support for the retention of the death penalty. Argue as you will, security of life and property is the greatest concern of all those who do not have it. Intellectuals and the wealthy, both of whom are insulated from the reality of life, can argue theory but the rest of us find real only that which is tangible.

In Niagara Falls we have experienced a particularly vicious and undoubtedly premeditated murder. A man and his mistress drowned his pregnant wife in her bath. By this act two lives, not one, were taken—one life that had quickened and another which some at least consider no less real, but as yet unborn. The man received a life sentence and the woman seven years for this heinous act. Within three years Louis Vigna may be given a weekend pass. Within ten years he may be released, and he surely will be for he is no doubt a model prisoner. In fact, he wrote me a letter congratulating me on my victory, wishing me a good Christmas season, and casually mentioning his parole. My people see no justice in this, and I find it strange to receive a letter from a man I would condemn, but so widespread is the belief that this government will countenance anyone obtaining an early return to society that it is the common belief in Niagara Falls that this man has already been released a number of times.

The cabinet must bear the responsibility for the abhorrence felt by the public at large and for their demand that such creatures who are able to return so easily to society

must be destroyed. Not only abuse of early parole and weekend passes is responsible for this insecurity, but also the manner in which the so-called bail reform act has been implemented. Time and time again, when men are apprehended in the commission of a crime, with no thought as to their past record, they are returned immediately to society under this bail reform act. When they go beyond their normal occupations of drug pushers and thieves and become murderers as well, does the government accept blame for the fact that they are at large? Not likely!

Not only will the government not accept any blame, but the police are accused by the Minister of Justice (Mr. Lang) of attempting to subvert the act by returning these men to society. Not content with this, this same minister who is responsible for justice tells judges who criticize his policies that they are to remain silent, that they are not to comment on this government's policies. Surely it is irresponsible for a minister, when faced with the patent failure of a law to protect the public—however much it may be protecting the criminal—to further increase the insecurity of an already jittery public by attacking the very men upon whom our security rests on a day to day basis.

In this I do not exaggerate. Some of my people are concerned about the fact that under prevailing conditions it may no longer be possible to attract good men into our police force. It is clear that the present government has acted in such a manner that the police are seriously inhibited in the performance of their functions, and that this has engendered such insecurity that retentionist sentiment has grown.

The easy return of criminals into society is the greatest cause of insecurity, but the general tone of permissiveness that this government has engendered has played its part as well. Parents are concerned about the world into which their children are growing. The people of Niagara riding are concerned about drug abuse because they see its effects upon many of our young people. But the LeDain commission and the Committee on Youth are all for legalization. The Prime Minister stated "there is little difference between marijuana and alcohol use," and the Minister of Manpower and Immigration (Mr. Andras) said that Rochdale is "an experiment worth continuing." The Minister of National Health and Welfare (Mr. Lalonde) downgrades the drug problem by making alcohol the prime concern. These acts by the government have not gone unnoticed. In fact, they have led to many suggestions that drug pushers should be executed.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Laniel): Order. The Solicitor General (Mr. Allmand) wishes to rise on a question of privilege?

Mr. Allmand: Yes, Mr. Speaker. I do not think the hon. member would want to mislead the House, but neither the LeDain commission, the government, the Minister of Justice nor the Minister of National Health and Welfare have ever suggested that marijuana should be legalized. I suggest that the hon. member read the report of the LeDain commission. It did not make that recommendation, nor did any members of the government.

M. Hueglin: I did not mislead the House. I did not say that they said it should be legalized—the LeDain commission said that.

Mr. Allmand: It did not. It suggested that the penalties should be changed.

Mr. Hueglin: What is the difference?

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Laniel): Order, please. Unless these kinds of interventions are made so as to correct a misunderstanding, they are not in order.

Mr. Hueglin: I take the matter under advisement, Mr. Speaker. If the minister wishes to make a distinction between removing the penalties and making marijuana legal, then I am prepared to accept the criticism. It makes no difference in the minds of the people.

● (1710)

"Doing your own thing" until the October 30 election was the theme of the government, and while it has not been so pronounced during this Parliament, the damage of four years has taken its toll. Average law-abiding citizens are concerned about the direction of the society in which they and their children are living. But what assurance did they get from the government, even as late as the Speech from the Throne? They got the reassurance that rehabilitation of the criminal element came first and that protection of society came second. First comes the individual, even though he has already outlawed himself, and only then comes society. Most Canadians are tired of being used as guinea pigs for fancy theories.

It is strange that even the argument used to justify the release of prisoners has come back to haunt the government: Save money by releasing prisoners. Save thousands of dollars per head. Well, this argument is now advanced by many who have been influenced by such propaganda, but in this form—if it costs so much to incarcerate a murderer, let him hang. Ironic, isn't it, how governments' arguments are of times used against them? Try as he will, Mr. Speaker, the Prime Minister cannot make this question academic. He cannot do so because our citizens are concerned about the safety of their families and they perceive the law relating to premeditated murder as the keystone in the arch of justice, a keystone that if removed will cause the whole arch to tumble and leave them defenceless at the hands of criminals. In the words of Bernard Cohen, published in Chitty's Law Journal of March, 1972:

> Nowadays, by common consent, murder is considered as no more than the principle highlight in a broad spectrum of impermissible acts. Since the intention is that everyone be penalized in proportion to the gravity of his offence, scarcely any sociological commitment is required on the part of anyone, to discover that the scaling down of the traditional penalty for murder, in all logic, ought to be attended also by some adjustment of penalties for secondary crimes such as manslaughter, rape, theft, and so forth; and this adjustment has indeed taken place. The cancellation of the death penalty for murder can be said to have marked the beginning of, and set the stage for, our present era of laissez faire towards all crimes and criminals.

Peace, order and good government are the primary responsibilities of the federal government of Canada under the written section of our constitution. That the

peace and order of this country are threatened is clear in the minds of most citizens. That the government's policies, as described above, have contributed to this insecurity cannot be honestly denied.

This present bill is an intellectual compromise, arrived at to bring in abolition in fact when it could not be brought in by law due to the oft expressed opinion of the vast majority of our fellow citizens. Both as an individual member acting on my own conscience and as the representative of the people of Niagara riding, I shall vote against this bill in favour of the maintenance of peace and order in our society.

Mr. A. D. Alkenbrack (Frontenac-Lennox and Addington): Mr. Speaker, one might deem this to be an historic debate: we debated this subject in 1967 and we are debating it again in 1973. But before I begin to talk about the theme of the debate, which rests mainly on law and order, I would like to make reference to a recent murder committed extraterritorially of this country. I refer to the recent foul and deliberate murder of two young Canadian girls by Zambian troops along the Zambezi River. I call on the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) and the government to demand a national apology to and restitution for the bereaved families of these girls from the Zambian government. Mr. Speaker, I took the liberty to make these remarks knowing that you, too, would be sympathetic.

Secondly, while still talking about law and order, which are the basic requisites of any civilized society, I take more pleasure in my next remark. On this occasion I wish to pay tribute to the Royal Canadian Mounted Police as they and this nation mark the one hundredth anniversary of the founding of this typically Canadian body of men. One can truly say that Canada would not exist as it does today were it not for the services rendered in the past by this respected institution. Law and order and the protection of persons and property have been their duty and watchword. As just one of 22 million Canadians, I thank and congratulate the RCMP as they mark their centennial.

I am very pleased to be able to participate in this debate on Bill C-2, a bill that seeks to extend the temporary ban on capital punishment. In one way, Sir, it is unfortunate the recent rash of prison breaks and the concurrent rash of murders of police officials have been occurring at a time when Members of Parliament are attempting to deal objectively with one of the most pressing problems of our time. On the other hand, it has become very clear in recent months that we cannot deal with this problem on an emotional basis. We must be prepared to be as objective as is humanly possible when we decide what we, as parliamentarians, must do in order to ensure that innocent people are not made to suffer because we are too squeamish and indecisive.

We hear over and over again that it is wrong to take a human life even in the name of justice. We are told that legal execution should not be reinstated as an instrument of the state and that there is no evidence that the death penalty is a deterrent against murder or other violent crimes. Mr. Speaker, you and most members of the House know where I stand regarding capital punishment. I say again that I am in favour of the retention of capital punishment, first because of my basic belief—and it is very basic and fundamental—that all civilized nations which use what is called the democratic system should never relinquish the right to demand the life of any one of their citizens for certain capital crimes.

Arguments such as those that I have mentioned are specious. In the first place, there is no way that anyone can assess the effectiveness of a law unless that law is applied in the manner called for by its wording. The present government has not applied the law, approved by parliament, that we are debating today. The law as it exists today calls for the death penalty for convicted murderers of police officers and prison officials. This was supposed to extend for five years, during which time we would be amassing some good, solid evidence as to how this law would work if it were made permanent. At the end of the five-year test ban, parliament was committed to decide whether or not the death penalty would be permanently banned or whether it would be reinstated. We are not debating that issue, Mr. Speaker; we are debating whether or not to extend the test ban for another five years. In other words, we are being asked to allow the government to pass the buck to some other parliament five years from now.

This is the same government that was in power when the present law was approved by parliament. It knows very well what the intention of parliament was at that time. It is not surprising that the government wants to put off a decision as long as possible. I do not think that it has anything to do with the question of whether or not it is inhumane to carry out legal executions. The plain fact is that the present government cannot bring itself to make a firm decision on a matter as controversial as capital punishment. Over the past five years the government has commuted every single death penalty imposed by our courts on murderers of policemen and prison officials. Being realistic, I say that is not a good record because they have in this manner flaunted the orders put forward. This was a clear abdication of responsibility, and in a sense was tantamount to flouting the law.

● (1720)

I have said, Mr. Speaker, that the government has tried to follow two courses. I have here an article which appeared in the Kingston *Whig Standard* on Thursday, May 17. The front-page headline reads, "Trudeau backs legislation to retain death penalty". How devious can a headline be? It reflects either very poor proof-readers or a deliberate attempt to fool the readers of this newspaper. It is a perfectly good Canadian press article, but the headline is most devious. Referring to the Prime Minister the article says:

> And he assured parliament that commutation of the death sentence for such murders will not be automatic if the bill is approved.

In the very first paragraph, correctly reporting the Prime Minister's speech the writer says:

> He reaffirmed his position against the death penalty and he defended the government's actions in the past in commuting death sentences.

How equivocal can the Prime Minister be in his efforts to bolster his faded image regarding protection of persons and property in this country and the carrying out of the laws which this parliament has legislated? It cannot

be said by anyone that there were extenuating circumstances in each and every one of those commutations. Some of them were calculated, cold-blooded murders of policemen who happened to be in range of the murderer's gun; some were so completely senseless and brutal that I cannot see how any responsible minister of the government could vote to spare the life of the murderer. In commuting all these sentences the government served notice to all those who might be inclined to murder a policeman in order to avoid capture that the most they could expect by way of punishment would be a short prison sentence.

We know that our former colleague in the last parliament—I forget the name of his riding—Mr. Cowan, did a lot of homework during a former debate and found out that on average the death sentence meant a little more than eight or nine years. All recent death sentences have been commuted to life imprisonment, as we know. What is a life sentence? It is perhaps eight or ten years unless the prisoner gets tired of prison life and decides to climb the fence.

There is another aspect of the commutation of the death sentence that makes a mockery of the situation; that is the fact that the last five years have been a waste of time with respect to being a test of this legislation. When the government persisted in commuting all the death sentences imposed by the courts, it destroyed the validity of the data collected on this problem and it destroyed its own credibility, in the judgment of the Canadian people.

There is no way that anyone could talk knowledgeably about the deterrent effect of a law that has never been applied, Mr. Speaker. I cannot accept arguments that are based on the findings of the last five years in the operation of this temporary test ban. The temporary ban on capital punishment has been treated by the present government as a moratorium on capital punishment across the board, so the data that has been collected is useless to us. That is one reason why I am not quoting statistics in my speech. I have heard them quoted, and I give fellow members credit for digging them up, but I say they are no use to us because of the posture of the government during the past five years.

I do not want to pass the buck to some other parliament, and neither do other hon. members, for a number of reasons. The incidence of violent crime, against police officers in particular, the breakdown in the parole system, the increase in the number of prison breaks and the general deterioration in all aspects of law enforcement demand that we as parliamentarians take a firm and positive hand in these matters because the Canadian people are filled with revulsion at the way things are going now.

There are scores of specific cases that I could relate with respect to the seriousness of the situation, but these are well known to all of us. I will refer to one case; it concerns an inmate of Collins Bay medium security prison. That is the riding of Kingston and the Islands, but it is my neighbourhood. This man, Laslo Eper, was convicted of attempted murder of a policeman and was serving two life sentences. As I was preparing my remarks last night, Eper was still at large. A few days ago he stole an automobile from a prison employee at gun point. His warning to his victim should go into the record: he said, "If you warn them in any way, I'll kill you and the cops as well. It'll be a bloody day today."

Mr. Speaker, this is a perfect example of how a criminal looks upon a law that he knows will not be carried out. Eper knows that if he kills anyone, even a policeman, he will have another life term tacked on to the two terms he is already serving, which does not mean very much to him.

This situation has been reflected in other parts of the world and other parts of this continent. I should like to quote an excerpt from the "Canadian Intelligence Service" of April, 1973. This is the truth, too. It does not necessarily reflect upon the Liberal party, but it reflects upon the type of liberalism that is rampant in the world today. I refer to it because I think the House would be interested to hear what it is all about. The article entitled "Incentive to murder" reads:

> Does the death penalty provide a deterrent to murder? Learned authorities argue about this and often quote statistics which they allege support their conclusions. I suspect that most participants in the debate select the statistics they use to confirm conclusions they have reached by other means. However, when all the "experts" have given their arguments, most sensible people remain convinced that fear of the penalty of death will deter some people who may be considering committing homicide. Most of us know that the possibility of the death penalty would deter us if we were tempted to such a horrendous act.
>
> While there is debate concerning the role of the death penalty as a deterrent, there can be no doubt that the abolition of the death penalty has created an incentive to kill. Most people who indulge in criminal activities wish to escape detection and punishment. Consider a criminal engaged in a major crime such as kidnapping or armed robbery. He is anxious to escape capture and punishment. If he is caught and convicted, the penalty is substantially the same whether he has killed or not. His security is enhanced if no witnesses survive who can identify him for the police and give evidence against him in court. The temptation to kill potential witnesses must be strong in such circumstances. The criminal has much to gain and nothing to lose by murder.
>
> The abolition of the death penalty has placed the lives of many innocent people in jeopardy. It illustrates the paradox that characterizes this epoch: Intense concern for the rights and well-being of the criminal; little concern for the rights and well-being of the victim.

Is that not true, Mr. Speaker? I now come to the part of the article which impressed me most:

● (1730)

> A shock of horror swept this nation when in Khartoum, the capital city of the Sudan, the Black September group of Palestinian guerrillas cold-bloodedly and brutally murdered the U.S. Ambassador to the Sudan, Cleo A. Noel, Jr., and the Chargé d'Affaires, George C. Moore. Those who have succeeded in abolishing the death penalty in the U.S., share some of the responsibility for these deaths.
>
> The guerrillas claim they killed because their demands were rejected. One of these demands was that Sirhan Sirhan, Arab assassin of Senator Kennedy, be freed. This demand was possible because Sirhan Sirhan is alive. After the death of Senator Kennedy, he was arrested, tried, convicted and sentenced to death. This sentence was commuted to life imprisonment when the death penalty was abolished.

That is, it was abolished in the United States. I continue:

> His presence in prison provided an incentive for the crime.

I think the hon. member who spoke a few minutes ago will agree that Sirhan Sirhan should not be alive. However, as his sentence of death was never carried out, he stayed alive and this provided the incentive to the Black

September gang for its actions, which led to two more murders. I will finish quoting from the article:

> Most violent criminals have colleagues and friends who are also violent. Doubtless many ruthless men are presently considering their choice of victims to kidnap in order to force the release of some imprisoned murderer. One successful venture would trigger an epidemic.
>
> Many thinking people throughout the world must have been startled when the U.S. Secretary of State, William P. Rogers, urged the Sudanese authorities to execute the murderers of Cleo A. Noel and George C. Moore. They knew that the American authorities could not have executed the assassins if the crime had been committed on American soil. To them this must have seemed imperialist hypocrisy, flavored with colonialism and racism—one law for the rich, the U.S.A.—another for the poor, the Sudan.
>
> Whatever their motives, those who have succeeded in abolishing the death penalty in this country—

That remarks applies to this country also.

> —have merely substituted the deaths of the innocent for the guilty.

I think that article is worthy of being included in the record and that is why I read it, Mr. Speaker. We can take this as the basis of a hypothetical case, and make a projection as to how an extension of the temporary ban would work in the future. We can suppose that a man such as Eper, to whom I referred, might kill a prison guard or two in making an escape and then shoot it out with the police to avoid being apprehended and returned to prison. He might kill one or more policemen, and in the end he might be given three or four or even five life sentences to serve. After a while it becomes ludicrous. Instead of dealing with crime, this bill will simply make a mockery of the law. And, Mr. Speaker, I cannot, nor can some other hon. members, be a party to anything that makes a mockery of the law. We already have a situation in which the only people who have any respect for the law or fear of retribution are those who obey the law.

It might be said by the total abolitionists that I have do not have any feeling for the sanctity of life. But nothing could be further from the truth. I have a deep-seated revulsion for violence and no one could have any more feeling for the finality of death than I have. However, unlike the abolitionists, perhaps, I reserve my deepest sympathy for the victims of violent criminals. My sympathies go first to those innocent, law-abiding Canadians who might be unfortunate enough to be in a bank when it is being robbed. My sympathies are for the policemen who are shot down in the course of their duties while protecting our lives and property from violent criminals. In this regard, Mr. Speaker, I have been concerned since the convict Eper escaped that he might kill someone as he tries to get automobiles and money, or that he might kill one or more policemen if he is cornered.

In my view, it is strange logic when someone casually accepts the deaths of criminals in a gun battle with police officers at the scene of a crime. Hardly anyone mourns their passing. But if there happens to be a survivor and he is convicted and sentenced to death, there is a hue and cry about the sanctity of his life. He cannot be put to death by the state because, it is said, legal executions are barbaric. Some people even excuse this attitude by saying that anyone who choses the police as a career knows in advance that he might at some time be required to put his life on the line. They say it is one of the hazards of his profession. I cannot excuse killers of policemen as lightly as that, Mr. Speaker, and I doubt if many people can accept this if they look deeply enough into their conscience.

I would not attempt to influence any of my colleagues in the way they will vote on this bill. It is much too serious a matter and can only be decided on the most personal basis. It is a question that defies an answer that would deal with criminals as harshly as they deal with their victims, but at the same time satisfy those who place the sanctity of the lives of murderers above the barbarity of the criminals' acts. However, although I would not attempt to influence them directly, I think it would be in order to suggest that every member of this House should think seriously about the way our statements and actions in this House will be viewed by the lawless elements in our society. I am sure that they are going to be heartened by comments to the effect that the sanctity of a murderer's life overrides the barbarity of a brutal, premeditated murder of an innocent victim.

There are hardened, vicious inmates in our prisons who would like very much to get out. Some of them will take the calculated risk involved in resorting to violence in order to gain their freedom. If they believe that the worst they can get is a prison sentence, then what have they to lose? The plain fact is that over the past year the violent criminal has been getting more attention and more consideration from the present government than has been given to his victims. Unless this attitude changes abruptly I am afraid the efforts of our police, our courts and our prison system in dealing with crime will be thwarted.

Sir, we have an opportunity right now, while we are debating whether or not we will pass the buck to another parliament, to take positive steps to deal with one of the most pressing issues of our time and of our civilization. We can decide now that we will not put off this opportunity to wage war on crime and on those who make crime their profession.

There can be no doubt in anyone's mind that the government's handling of the test ban on capital punishment has created confusion in the minds of criminals and law-abiding citizens alike over the past five years. For one thing, we appear to take the same attitude toward the person who kills without intent or plan, and the criminal who kills in the course of following the profession of crime. When the government commutes the sentences of those specifically mentioned in a piece of legislation and accords them the same treatment as those who might be guilty of manslaughter, there is no way we can convince law-abiding citizens that their well-being is uppermost in our minds.

In conclusion, Mr. Speaker, I must say to this House that I cannot in all conscience accept the premise of this bill. It is not designed to correct the present tendency toward violence in our society. It will not further the ends of justice and certainly will not serve to deter anyone who decides on a life of crime. It will not deter people from taking the lives of policemen or prison guards, and it will not give anyone the impression that we in parliament are interested in erecting safeguards for the innocent victims of crime. In fact, Mr. Speaker, short of giving comfort to criminals and potential criminals, passage and implemen-

tation of this bill will accomplish exactly nothing. I cannot, and will not support it and will register my vote against it.

Mr. John Harney (Scarborough West): Mr. Speaker, in rising to speak on this bill I think it is important for me to clear up a couple of matters. First, it is important to decide what this bill is not about. This bill is not about the present parole laws or their application in this country. This bill is not about the present bail laws or their application in this country. These are matters for the administration of justice. I know that this House is certainly taken up with concern over these matters and, along with many hon. members, I hope there will be a thoroughgoing debate and considerable deliberation in relation to them.

What we are talking about is a bill which has to do with the ultimate punishment, death, for certain crimes. I know that many members of this House, as well as members of the public, feel that the exercise we are going through is in a sense futile. Certainly it is a very slow and deliberate one. Even though it is a slow and deliberate exercise and some observers outside the House, as well as in, may feel that this parliament is not progressing all that much in the sense that not very many people are changing their minds, I rise to speak not in the hope that I will be able to change many minds but with the knowledge that men's minds have been changed over the years.

● (1740)

In the middle of the nineteenth century, in the city of Montreal a boy of 14 was hanged for stealing a cow. It is even more ironic to consider that his name was Clement. Certainly, none of us in this House today would consider restoring that kind of law which could apply that kind of severity to such a young person committing so paltry a crime. Over the years, slowly and imperceptibly, our minds are changed. We have arrived at a different conception of ourselves as human beings. We have different views with regard to our attitudes and how our attitudes affect our actions.

It is a matter of historical record that as the years have gone by and legislatures around the world have removed the death penalty from crime after crime, the incidence of those particular crimes has not gone up, but down. Members of this House were apprised of a study this year which indicated this fact very clearly. This fact was very well founded in statistics.

It is obvious to me, as it is to everyone else, that human progress, though slow at times, is sure. I take it that very few members entering this debate have quoted the ancient biblical words saying that we must take an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth. However, if the adage was quoted in support of the retention of capital punishment, I would have to say that the import of the adage was misunderstood. When it was said in those ancient days that we should take an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth, it was a progressive statement. Before that, more than an eye was taken for an eye and more than a tooth was taken for a tooth. It was a clear statement against the principle that vengeance had to be complete and thorough.

The principle had been that if a man found that another man had taken his brother's life, he was not only allowed to take the life of the killer but the lives of the killer's wife, his children, brothers, sisters and all those in his house. We cannot go back to that adage and say that was a strict code of justice calling for total retribution. In its day, it was a progressive step. Just as it was a long time ago a progression in the ascent of man into a better conception of himself, so today we are considering an act which is a step, albeit a very small one, in that ascent of man toward a better conception of himself.

Along with many members of this House, I have received word from my constituents on the question of the retention or abolition of capital punishment. I am not disclosing any secret when I say that the opinion of those who responded to the questionnaire I sent out early in the year was overwhelmingly in favour of the retention of capital punishment. I forget the exact percentage breakdown, but roughly 70 per cent of the people who wrote in from my constituency said they wanted capital punishment retained or, more accurately, restored. Some 30 per cent were either indifferent or opposed to the retention of capital punishment.

I could try to explain away those figures by saying that I received only 2,000 answers and there are some 55,000 voters in my constituency. I could try to kid myself by saying there are many, many people in my constituency who did not answer and who probably favour the abolition of capital punishment. I can certainly try, as I do, to weigh this expression of opinion against the consistent expression of opinion on the part of church and other groups in my constituency, my city, province and country, which have written to me, as they have to other members of this House, asking us to vote for the abolition of capital punishment.

Certainly, there is a strong division of opinion. I cannot kid myself into thinking that there are many people in my constituency, city, province and country who agree with my point of view. However, I detect many of those who wrote to me in favour of retention were concerned about public safety. I have to respect their concern because it is very real. I cannot for one moment condemn them for expressing this concern or judge them harshly for resorting to the belief that the restoration of capital punishment would increase public safety.

I could certainly use an argument that would run like this: If you are so concerned about saving human lives, then why not concern yourself with changing the law as it controls construction safety in this country, because many more people are killed at work than are killed by murderers. I forget the exact figure for the last year, but it amounted to well over 900. If our concern was to preserve human life against accidents which are avoidable and which happen because we are all somehow greedy and want cheaper buildings, more profits and so on, then we should certainly address ourselves to the laws which control construction safety. As I suggested a moment ago, I am not going to divert the argument in this direction, although it is an important consideration.

I want for a moment to consider what justifications there are for punishment, and not just capital punishment. It seems to me there are three basic justifications for punishment. Safety is the first one. We put people away for reasons of public safety, and under this rubric of safety

is the notion of rehabilitation. We feel that if we put a person away for a time we can get him to mend his ways, to use an old term; that we can rehabilitate that person so that when he emerges into society again he will be no cause of threat to public safety. Very obviously—I am not trying to be ironic here—we cannot justify capital punishment on the basis of rehabilitation, so we have to look elsewhere for justification.

● (1750)

Deterrence is the second justification for punishment. For some years now I have become convinced that capital punishment is not a deterrent. It is understood, of course, that I tend to see statistics in quite a different way from a person who is convinced that capital punishment is a deterrent to murder. But to me, the argument about deterrence is neither here nor there. I quite readily grant to those who argue that we need restoration of capital punishment that the case for a deterrent, either for or against, is not proven.

I repeat: the case presented by the statistics satisfies my judgment, but I can understand if other members of the House do not have their judgment satisfied by the figures. In an absolute sense, the case for deterrence is not proven. It is not destroyed. It is not established. It is not proven. However, I cannot help but be affected by the fact that in those jurisdictions where there is no capital punishment there seems to be a very low rate of capital murder.

A critic of my view could say, "Well, which came first? Was it the case that at first you had a relatively non-violent society which in turn felt no need for the imposition of capital punishment and therefore removed capital punishment from its laws, or did it work the other way around?" I do not think we can go through any kind of mechanistic calculation that will give us the answer. I suspect, indeed I believe very strongly, that a state that says simply and clearly that it will not take a life deliberately somehow sets up a tone, an attitude, a mood, a way of looking at things in that society which in turn tends to reduce the level of violence. And as it reduces the level of violence, so it also reduces the level of capital crime.

So I say to those who are concerned with public safety: Look to those states that have eliminated the death penalty and see how they have also reduced the amount of violent crime. The correlation may not be exact, the logic relating the cause to the effect may not be clear, but nevertheless it is there. If we are concerned about saving lives, I would advance the thesis, which may appear to be paradoxical, that the abolition of capital punishment might have more to do with the saving of lives than the harshest punishment can propose.

The final justification for punishment is that of retribution. I spoke earlier of retribution when I referred to the ancient adage of an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth. I suppose that one form of retribution is vengeance, but I do not suggest for one moment that any member of this House supports the retention of capital punishment for reasons of vengeance. I do not even suggest that the people in my riding who want capital punishment reinstated are motivated by vengeance. I think what they are seeking is a sense of justice, a feeling that somehow this universe is a moral and fair one; that those who go to the ultimate step of taking another person's life deliberately must somehow make retribution so that justice is served.

The only argument in favour of capital punishment that is worth while looking at in a moral or philosophical sense is the one that says that society must impose capital punishment for certain crimes in order that society may clearly indicate to all its members its abhorrence for that kind of action. That is a serious argument, one on which we must dwell for a moment. I grant its power as an argument and I suspect that behind much of the debate we have heard in support of retention we can find the premise that somehow or other society has to indicate that certain actions cannot be taken with impunity, that punishment for certain actions must be absolute. Against this argument I pose a counter argument which says very simply this, that the state must indicate through its deliberate and considered action its sense of the value of human life, and it must state that it, the state, will not lower itself to the status and level of the criminal.

If you will allow me another 30 seconds, Mr. Speaker, that is all I need to finish my point. I understand the motivations for vengeance. I have the same feelings myself. To the person who asks me what I would do if a rapist strangled and killed my daughter, my immediate reaction is to say that I would strangle him with my bare hands. But I know that I must not act in this way. The history of man is such that any man who acts according to these urges knows that this is the wrong way to act. What we are doing here is sitting in full, considered and cool deliberation, not in the heat of the moment. We parliamentarians, men and women representing the people of this country, must decide that our country, our state will not lower itself to the level of the criminal.

I hope that before this debate is ended I will have an opportunity of voting for total abolition. In the meantime, I simply want to put my position before the House. I urge the few hon. members of this House who may be wavering to reconsider, because although it is a slow process we are here again re-establishing and restating our full consideration of the value of human life.

At 6.02 p.m. the House adjourned, without question put, pursuant to Standing Order.

APPENDIX "A"

Minister of State
Urban Affairs
Canada

April 13, 1973

Judge Charles O. Bick
Chairman
Metropolitain Board of Commissioners
of Police
590 Jarvis Street
Toronto, Ont. M4Y 2J5
Dear Sir:

I wish to thank you for having your Executive Secretary send to me a copy of the report dated March 9, 1973 from the Chief of Police concerning Rochdale College in the city of Toronto.

I join with the members of your board in expressing concern over the contents of this report and I appreciate your courtesy in sending to me a copy of it.

Because of statements attributed to members of the Toronto Police that Rochdale College should be closed, I feel that the federal government's responsibility in this case must be clarified. Our involvement, as you are aware, is through Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation who hold a first mortgage dated February 15, 1967, which said mortgage was made for the purpose of financing what appeared to be a legitimate student co-operative residence. The loan was made following consultations with representatives of the University of Toronto and the government of Ontario. This residence was subsequently sold to Rochdale College and the mortgage went on repayment March 1st, 1969.

With the build-up of mortgage arrears, CMHC issued a writ of foreclosure on August 17, 1971, claiming foreclosure, suit on the convenant and possession. Due to the fact that the action for foreclosure and possession was opposed by Revenue Properties Central Developments Ltd., a secondary encumbrancer, and by Rochdale College, the owners, the main foreclosure action has not yet come to trial, and CMHC was barred from possession of the building. However, pleadings have been noted closed and appointments are being made to examine witnesses as the result of issues that have been raised by the said pleadings. It is most difficult at the present time to give you any firm indication as to when this action will be finalized and possession and management obtained by CMHC but the solicitors have been instructed by CMHC and personally by me to proceed as expeditiously as possible with this action.

You are aware that CMHC's solicitor, having been denied possession by the court, made an application to the Supreme Court of Ontario for the appointment of an interim receiver to act on behalf of all creditors and obtained an order on September 14, 1972, appointing Clarkson and Company as the interim receiver and manager. It is to be noted that this court order was for the benefit of all creditors and specifically excluded CMHC from taking over possession and management of the residence. The administration of this institution would now seem to be accountable to the Supreme Court of Ontario.

I would like to assure you of all possible co-operation in resolving this very unsatisfactory situation but I must emphasize that the onus of law enforcement at Rochdale College is clearly the responsibility of the police and not that of the Minister of State for Urban Affairs or CMHC.

I have read with interest that the Attorney General of the Province of Ontario has asked for a report on Rochdale College following a recent coroner's jury recommendation which stated, "If there are any existing legal reasons why Rochdale College cannot be closed down, that the provincial Attorney General facilitate legislation to close Rochdale as it now exists, at the earliest possible time." In view of this I am taking the liberty of sending a copy of this letter to the provincial Attorney General.

In response to your last point I wish to assure you that officials of CMHC will welcome the opportunity of discussing the situation at Rochdale if, and when, the court grants possession and title of the building to CMHC, at which time we will look forward to your co-operation to enforce our rights.

Yours sincerely,

Ron Basford.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Thursday, May 24, 1973

The House met at 2 p.m.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Third report of Standing Committee on Transport and Communications—Mr. Horner (Crowfoot).

[*Editor's Note: For text of above report, see today's Votes and Proceedings.*]

* * *

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

TABLING OF CORRESPONDENCE WITH MARC CAYER ON TRANSPORTATION EXPENSES

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, I have the honour to table the text of correspondence between the Department of External Affairs and Mr. Marc Cayer on the subject of the expenses associated with his return to Canada, as well as the text of a departmental memorandum itemizing these expenses. I have also included an English translation of the letters and a French translation of the memorandum.

* * *

VETERANS AFFAIRS

PHASING OUT OF VETERANS LAND ACT—REQUEST FOR UNANIMOUS CONSENT TO MOVE MOTION

Mr. Jack Marshall (Humber-St. George's- St. Barbe): Mr. Speaker, I ask for unanimous consent to move a motion under Standing Order 43. The decision by the government to phase out the Veterans Land Act in March, 1974, will deny a majority of 125,000 veterans now qualified and other servicemen who will retire the opportunity to take advantage of the act because of the lack of flexibility in qualifying due to changing conditions. I therefore move, seconded by the hon. member for Hamilton Mountain (Mr. Beattie):

That a joint study be appointed immediately to look into the problem, and that the matter be referred to the Standing Committee on Veterans Affairs.

Mr. Speaker: Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

Mr. Speaker: There is not unanimity and the motion cannot be put.

* * *

GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION

MANAGEMENT STUDY PROPOSED BY AUDITOR GENERAL—REQUEST FOR UNANIMOUS CONSENT TO MOVE MOTION

Mr. Barry Mather (Surrey-White Rock): Mr. Speaker, I wish to move a motion under Standing Order 43 on a matter of urgent business arising out of the report of the Auditor General tabled yesterday and having to do with his call for a management study of government organization, administration, methods and procedures involving federal expenditures now exceeding $20 billion per year. I therefore move, seconded by the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre (Mr. Knowles):

That this House urges the government to take immediate steps to supply the Public Accounts Committee of parliament with expanded resources, including research, legal and other staff necessary to conduct a thoroughgoing, in-depth and in-breadth examination of our immense and complex expenditures to enable the most effective and economical use of such outlays in the public interest.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. Perhaps the hon. member for Shefford might allow the Chair to make one comment about the proposed motion of the hon. member for Surrey-White Rock. I have serious doubts whether this motion is in order. The hon. member is referring to a report which is before a committee at the present time. I have stated before and I should like to restate now that hon. members should not take it for granted or assume that any motion proposed under Standing Order 43 is in order and that the Speaker is under an obligation to put it to the House to determine whether there is unanimous consent. The motion has to be in order before it can be put. However, I am prepared to give the hon. member the benefit of the doubt and ask whether there is unanimous consent.

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

Mr. Speaker: There is not unanimous consent and the motion cannot be put.

Government Administration

[*Translation*]

FINANCE

MEASURES TO IMPROVE PROVINCIAL ADMINISTRATION—REQUEST FOR UNANIMOUS CONSENT TO MOVE MOTION

Mr. Gilbert Rondeau (Shefford): Mr. Speaker, pursuant to Standing Order 43, I solicit unanimous consent of the House to bring forward a motion related to a matter of specific and urgent necessity.

In view of the fact that federal-provincial conferences almost always end up in a deadlock and bickering over fiscal matters, and in view of the serious danger to the unity of the country such fiscal bickering represents, I move, seconded by the hon. member for Richmond (Mr. Beaudoin):

That this House consider the monetary possibilities proposed by the Social Credit Party of Canada in order to arrive at a solution which would release the federal government from its deadlock and allow provinces to administer according to the spirit of Confederation.

Mr. Speaker: The House has heard the hon. member's motion. Under Standing Order 43, this motion requires unanimous consent of the House. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Yes.

Some hon. Members: No.

Mr. Speaker: It appears that there is unanimity among members of the hon. member for Shefford's party, but no unanimity in the House. The motion therefore cannot be put.

MEASURES TO PERMIT BANK OF CANADA TO GRANT LOANS TO PROVINCES—REQUEST FOR UNANIMOUS CONSENT TO MOVE MOTION

Mr. Léonel Beaudoin (Richmond): Mr. Speaker, I rise to seek the unanimous consent of the House to move a motion, pursuant to Standing Order 43, to allow the discussion of an extremely important matter, particularly during the current federal-provincial conference of first ministers.

As the provinces have executive powers, under the British North America Act, and the central government has the appropriate financial means to help those provinces fulfil their obligations, I move, seconded by the hon. member for Shefford (Mr. Rondeau):

That this House study without delay the means to enable the Bank of Canada to make available to the provinces the financial resources required to meet their constitutional obligations.

Mr. Speaker: The House has heard the motion of the hon. member. Under Standing Order 43, it requires unanimous consent of the House. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

[Mr. Speaker.]

Mr. Speaker: As consent is not unanimous, I regret to advise the hon. member for Richmond that his motion cannot be put to the House.

* * *

[*English*]

INDIAN AFFAIRS

ENTITLEMENT TO PRESCRIPTION DRUGS—REQUEST FOR UNANIMOUS CONSENT TO MOVE MOTION

Mr. Elias Nesdoly (Meadow Lake): Mr. Speaker, I rise on a matter of utmost urgency under Standing Order 43 arising from a joint communiqué by officials of the Department of National Health and Welfare and the Department of Indian Affairs dated April 3, 1973, affecting medical entitlement of treaty Indians and particularly entitlement to prescription drugs. In view of a letter issued on May 8, 1973, to the Saskatchewan Pharmaceutical Association advising them that Indian health services will no longer be responsible for provision of drugs to treaty Indian people falling into certain groupings as of June 1, 1973, and since this appears to be an abrogation of the "Medicine Chest Clause" in Treaty No. 6, I therefore move—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member should not make a speech in support of the motion he is presenting under Standing Order 43. I appreciate he is at the point of proposing the motion. For the advantage of the hon. member for Meadow Lake and other hon. members I point out that the case in support of a motion under Standing Order 43 should not be made but that the motion should be put to the House for the consideration of the Chair under the terms of Standing Order 43.

Mr. Nesdoly: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Therefore I move, seconded by the hon. member for Yorkton-Melville (Mr. Nystrom):

That the question of health and pharmaceutical services to the Indian people be referred immediately for study and report to the Standing Committees on Health and Welfare and Indian Affairs.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member's motion requires unanimous consent. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

Mr. Speaker: There is not unanimity and the motion cannot be put.

* * *

HOLIDAYS ACT

AMENDMENT TO DESIGNATE JULY 1 AS CANADA DAY

Mr. John Reynolds (Burnaby-Richmond-Delta) moved for leave to introduce Bill C-184, to amend the Holidays Act.

Some hon. Members: Explain.

Mr. Reynolds: Mr. Speaker, the purpose of this bill is to make the national holiday celebrated in Canada to commemorate the confederation of Canada as a country a celebration that is more relevant and meaningful to Canadians of all races and nationalities. The bill proposes that the holiday on July 1 be known as Canada Day.

Motion agreed to, bill read the first time and ordered to be printed.

Mr. Speaker: When shall the said bill be read a second time?

Some hon. Members: Now.

Mr. Speaker: The Chair is prepared to put the second reading motion now.

Mr. MacLean: There is not unanimous consent, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: There is not unanimous consent. At the next sitting of the House.

* * *

CANADA ELECTIONS ACT

PROVISION OF LEAVE OF ABSENCE FOR EMPLOYEES COMING UNDER CANADA LABOUR CODE WHO ARE CANDIDATES OR MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT

Mr. Reg Stackhouse (Scarborough East) moved for leave to introduce Bill C-185, to amend the Canada Elections Act (leave of absence).

Some hon. Members: Explain.

Mr. Stackhouse: Mr. Speaker, the purpose of this bill is to open membership in parliament to many who cannot seek it now because they would jeopardize their employment if they were candidates. It would give all employees under the jurisdiction of the Canada Labour Code the right to a leave of absence with or without pay during an election campaign in which they are candidates and give them the right to a leave of absence of up to five years without pay if they are elected to serve in this House.

Motion agreed to, bill read the first time and ordered to be printed.

* * *

ELECTORAL BOUNDARIES READJUSTMENT ACT

OBJECTION TO REPORT OF COMMISSION FOR PROVINCE OF NEW BRUNSWICK

Mr. Speaker: It is my duty to inform the House that an objection signed by the hon. members for Sherbrooke, Gloucester, Madawaska-Victoria, Bonaventure-Îles de la Madeleine, Lapointe, York-Sunbury, Westmorland-Kent, Carleton-Charlotte, Glengarry-Prescott-Russell and Sarnia-Lambton has been filed with me pursuant to section 20 of the Electoral Boundaries Readjustment Act, Chapter E-2, R.S.C., 1970 to the report of the Electoral

Boundaries Commission for the province of New Brunswick.

[*Translation*]

If the House is agreeable, I would propose that the text of the objections be printed as an appendix to today's *Votes and Proceedings*. Does the House agree?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

[*Editor's Note: For text referred to above, see Appendix to today's Votes and Proceedings.*]

ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

[*English*]

ENERGY

GOVERNMENT POLICY IN LIGHT OF RECOMMENDATIONS IN REPORT, "CANADA'S COMMERCIAL POLICY AND ENERGY"—REQUEST FOR TABLING

Hon. Robert L. Stanfield (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources. It relates to a study entitled "Canada's Commercial Policy and Energy" prepared by the Department of Industry, Trade and Commerce and alleged to have been sent to the National Energy Board in November, 1971. I assume it was also sent to the minister's department. Were the recommendations in this report approved in principle or simply rejected or ignored? I ask this in light of the finding in the report that Canada's oil and gas were being sold abroad too cheaply and unless the government of Canada took action this would continue and the Canadian economy would be badly damaged.

Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): Mr. Speaker, with regard to one of the questions involved, namely, possible negotiation for further access of Canadian petroleum products to the United States, I think it is obvious that the conclusions have now been followed and have been overtaken by events. In fact, there are no negotiations on this question with the United States. Indeed, since I have assumed this portfolio we have taken steps to put an over-all ceiling on our shipments to that country.

● (1420)

With regard to the question of prices, particularly the effect on the Canadian market of the increasing price in the international market, I responded earlier last week to a question along these lines from the hon. member for Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands by pointing out that the question of a two-price system, and trying particularly to insulate the Canadian market against the impact of international prices, has been receiving detailed study. The issues involved in this *Star* story are much more fully argued out in the energy policy studies we hope to make available to the House in the very near future.

An hon. Member: You have been saying that for months.

Mr. Stanfield: Granted the minister made some comment about a two-price system in the House last week, can he give any reason why this report dated in November, 1971, has not been acted upon, and why, since this report has been in the hands of the government all this time, he is only now getting around to making some preliminary comments with regard to energy policy? Has the minister any excuse for this?

Mr. Macdonald (Rosedale): I would point out to the hon. gentleman, as I did at the beginning of my last response, that it is apparent that the argument in the report has been acted upon, that there has been no initiative taken by the government of Canada to seek increased access to the United States market. I would say now, as I have said many times in public since I have been minister, that as the report indicates we have a distinct advantage here. It is not necessarily in our interests that we should be prepared to make an over-all pact with the United States with regard to energy commodities, and through the actions of the National Energy Board under regulation 11A and in other ways we have been seeking to get improved payments to Canada for our resources. Indeed, the further processing provisions of the mineral policy objectives which I set before the House just a week ago are a further indication of our efforts in this regard.

Mr. Stanfield: With all due respect to the minister, they do not indicate that any action was taken until Alberta moved.

Mr. Macdonald (Rosedale): That is not so.

Mr. Stanfield: I should like to ask the minister whether he is prepared to table promptly in the House this study entitled "Canada's Commercial Policy and Energy" and similar background papers so that we can be fully apprised of the stakes involved in formulating a new policy? Will he do this immediately rather than wait until he is ready to table some papers of his own?

Mr. Macdonald (Rosedale): It seems to me that the energy policy studies are a much fuller treatment of the all the interprovincial, national and international issues involved and that they would provide a far better presentation of these important issues.

Mr. Hees: So it seems to you.

REQUEST FOR TWO-PRICE SYSTEM FOR OIL AND SUPPLYING OF WESTERN CANADA PRODUCT TO EAST

Mr. T. C. Douglas (Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands): In view of the fact that this report was prepared by the Department of Industry, Trade and Commerce 18 months ago recommending a two-price system for oil in Canada, may I ask the minister whether he is prepared now, after a year and a half of study, to announce a two-price system for oil in view of the fact that prices of oil and gasoline in Canada are going up at a totally unjustified rate?

An hon. Member: Totally justified.

[Mr. Macdonald (Rosedale).]

Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): I would remind the hon. member again that part of the Canadian market, with regard to oil in particular, is dependent on foreign supplies and as the cost of offshore oil goes up so inevitably will prices in Canada. It is because of the complexities of our market, the division between east and west and also the conflicting interests between western Canada and the eastern Canada market that we think there is an important question to be decided not only internally by this government but also by the provincial governments. No, I am not prepared to announce a two-price system today. I believe this is one of the national issues which should be debated fully after the studies have been made available.

Mr. Douglas: If the minister has studied this document entitled "Canada's Commercial Policy and Energy" he will have noticed that the writer says the present oil policy with its Ottawa Valley line is no longer in the public interest. May I ask the minister whether he is prepared to allow western crude oil into the eastern market and fix the price of that oil so that the people of eastern Canada will have western oil that will compete against offshore oil for which they pay a higher price at the present time?

Mr. Macdonald (Rosedale): Mr. Speaker, I would remind the hon. gentleman, as he knows, that western Canada oil, even with the increase in the international price, still costs more in the Montreal market than the international product. On this basis, what the hon. gentleman is proposing is an increase in the cost of oil for the Canadian market east of the Ottawa Valley line. This is just one indication of the complexities that may result from a rather simplified approach to this proposal.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. Obviously a number of hon. members want to ask supplementaries on this question. The Chair will recognize the hon. member for Témiscamingue and will then return to the hon. members for Trinity, Qu'Appelle-Moose Mountain, Yorkton-Melville and others who appear to want to debate this matter.

* * *

[*Translation*]

THE CANADIAN ECONOMY

INCREASE IN PRICE OF GOLD—POSSIBLE EXPANSION OF GOLD MINES

Mr. Réal Caouette (Témiscamingue): Mr. Speaker, I would like to put a question to the Prime Minister, but in his absence I shall direct it to the Secretary of State for External Affairs.

Since the free market for gold is increasingly prosperous abroad, did this government conceive any projects aiming at inciting companies to undertake works in eastern Ontario and western Quebec in order to encourage the opening or re-opening of gold mines in these areas?

[*English*]

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, the high price of gold is, of course, a very great encouragement and I would not be surprised if

there were a revival of gold mining activity in Canada as a result.

* * *

ENERGY

AWARENESS OF MINISTER WHEN HE ASSUMED PORTFOLIO OF REPORT, "CANADA'S COMMERCIAL POLICY AND ENERGY"

Hon. Alvin Hamilton (Qu'Appelle-Moose Mountain): Mr. Speaker, I should like to return to the question that was directed to the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources. What intrigues me about the answer the minister gave is that he prefaced his answer to the Leader of the Opposition by saying, "since I have been minister".

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. May I interrupt the hon. member. The hon. member prefaces his own question by referring to what intrigues him about the minister's response to a previous question. I would hope the hon. member would ask a question rather than refer by way of preface to the statement made earlier this afternoon by the minister. I am making this suggestion in the hope we will be able to proceed a little more quickly.

Mr. Hamilton (Qu'Appelle-Moose Mountain): Mr. Speaker, my question is based on the preamble to my question. When the minister became Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources 14 months ago, did he see this report from the Department of Industry, Trade and Commerce that is now reported in the Toronto *Star*?

Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): Mr. Speaker, when I became minister I saw a great many documents, but I am certainly familiar with all the arguments that are made in this particular document—

Mr. Hees: Answer the question.

Mr. Macdonald (Rosedale): —which are among some of the central policy issues to be resolved in Canada.

Mr. Hamilton (Qu'Appelle-Moose Mountain): Does this evasion on the part of the minister explain why the chairman of the National Energy Board was reluctant to answer questioning in the standing committee in regard to whether he had—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. This kind of questioning, to my way of thinking, is entirely out of order. The hon. member for Trinity on a supplementary.

ALLEGATION THAT INTERNATIONAL COMPANIES HAVE SUPPLIED FOREIGN OIL TO EASTERN CANADA AT ARTIFICIALLY HIGH PRICES TO REDUCE TAXES

Hon. Paul Hellyer (Trinity): Mr. Speaker, may I direct my supplementary to the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources. Has the government investigated the allegation that the big international oil companies have supplied foreign crude to eastern Canada at artificially high transfer prices in order to reduce taxes paid in Canada and to move taxable income into tax havens? If so, what are the results of the investigation?

Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): Mr. Speaker, the National Energy Board has had international prices under close scrutiny. Whether a specific investigation of this kind has been made by the board I am not sure, but I can certainly find out.

Mr. Hellyer: Would the minister find out, and if an investigation has been made would he present to the House the report of the Energy Board?

Mr. Macdonald (Rosedale): Mr. Speaker, I would be glad to consult the board and report my findings to the House.

* * *

● (1430)

TAXATION

ACTION TO PREVENT MANIPULATIONS BY CORPORATIONS DESIGNED TO AVOID PAYMENT OF INCOME TAX

Mr. Edward Broadbent (Oshawa-Whitby): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of National Revenue. Following my questioning of the minister on Tuesday in the committee concerning alleged tax evasion by the Chrysler Corporation, and in view of the related criticism by the Auditor General in his report just released, I should like to ask the minister whether he is now prepared to take immediate steps to enforce the Income Tax Act in order to prevent corporate manipulations designed to avoid payment of corporate income taxes. If he does plan to take such action, will he inform the House of what it will consist?

Hon. Robert Stanbury (Minister of National Revenue): Mr. Speaker, without referring to any particular taxpayer, the kind of action the hon. member recommends is being taken by my department.

REASONS FOR REMISSION OF DUTY AND SALES TAX ON CERTAIN IMPORTED CARS AND PARTS

Mr. Edward Broadbent (Oshawa-Whitby): Following that very informative answer, Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask the minister whether he will inform the House of the reasons that led to the order in council dated February 10, 1972, which enabled a car manufacturer to obtain retroactively duty and sales tax remissions on imported cars and parts in the amount of $6 million as indicated by the Auditor General in his recent report?

Hon. Robert Stanbury (Minister of National Revenue): That was before my time, Mr. Speaker, but I will be glad to find out and advise the hon. member.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Oral Questions

ALLEGED FAILURE TO REPORT TO HOUSE REMISSIONS OF MACHINERY DUTIES IN EXCESS OF $1,000 GRANTED TO CORPORATIONS

Mr. Edward Broadbent (Oshawa-Whitby): Mr. Speaker, I should like to address my final supplementary question to the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce but since he is not here I will put it to his parliamentary secretary. In view of the finding of the Auditor General that remissions of duties on machinery in excess of $1,000 granted to corporations are not being reported to the House of Commons as required by law, and in view of the fact that these remissions for the past year amounted to approximately $78 million, will the minister take steps to ensure that this illegal practice is stopped immediately, and will he further ensure that the names of the corporations and the amounts remitted to them will be reported forthwith to the Public Accounts Committee in conformity with the law?

Mr. Herb Breau (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): Mr. Speaker, without necessarily agreeing with the member's statement, I will bring the matter to the minister's attention who, with his usual attention, will look after it.

* * *

GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION

MANAGEMENT STUDY PROPOSED BY AUDITOR GENERAL—PARLIAMENTARY CONTROL OF EXPENDITURES

Mr. G. W. Baldwin (Peace River): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the President of the Treasury Board. In light of the additional well documented revelations of administrative incompetence and spending misappropriations, is the government now considering the proposal or suggestion of the former Auditor General that the government commission a management study of government organization which would take the form of an audit of all organization and management procedures?

Hon. C. M. Drury (President of the Treasury Board): Mr. Speaker, I think before reaching a conclusion on this point I would welcome the views of the newly appointed Auditor General.

Mr. Baldwin: Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question for the Acting Prime Minister. I take it that the minister's answer means the government intends to do nothing. Having in mind the repeated warnings about the loss of parliamentary control of current high levels of government spending, will the government in collaboration with the House consider finding ways and means of rectifying this very serious situation and restoring to parliament the right of control over spending that it should have?

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Acting Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I do not accept the proposition, and I am sure my hon. friend would not want to accept the proposition that parliament does not control the expenditure of public funds.

An hon. Member: It is true.

Mr. Sharp: It obviously does. The committees established for this purpose probably represent the best system that has been in effect during my time in Ottawa. It is certainly an enormous improvement over the situation when estimates of the departments had to be considered in Committee of the Whole. The committee system is an enormous improvement, and I hope the hon. gentleman will learn to use that committee system.

* * *

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

KILLING OF TWO CANADIAN GIRLS WHILE VISITING VICTORIA FALLS, RHODESIA—PUBLIC APOLOGY BY ZAMBIA

Mr. A. D. Hales (Wellington): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Secretary of State for External Affairs. Has he received a public apology from Zambia in connection with the coldblooded murder of two Canadian girls? If such an apology has not been received or if it is not received shortly, does the government intend to reappraise Canada's aid to Zambia?

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, I should like first of all to associate myself with the hon. gentleman's concern about the way in which this matter has been dealt with by the Zambian authorities. We have received the report of our first secretary who was sent to Rhodesia to investigate the circumstances of this tragedy. We have instructed our High Commissioner in Lusaka once again to contact the Zambian authorities at a very high level and to make clear to them that we are treating this matter very seriously indeed and wish the fullest possible investigation to be continued. We are not satisfied with the public statement that has been made, and we have received no direct communication from the Zambian government.

Mr. Hales: Mr. Speaker, in view of the conflicting reports that appear to be emanating from that area, will the minister give consideration to referring this very serious matter to the United Nations for a report?

Mr. Sharp: Mr. Speaker, before taking any further action I would prefer to see what is the result of the representations we are now making to the Zambian government.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The Chair will recognize the hon. member for Surrey-White Rock on a supplementary to the previous question and then the hon. member for Shefford.

GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION

EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS—IMPLEMENTATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS OF AUDITOR GENERAL AND PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE CONCERNING ECONOMIES

Mr. Barry Mather (Surrey-White Rock): Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question in respect of the subject of the Auditor General's report which I should like to direct to the attention of the President of the Treasury Board. Having in mind the many recommendations over the years by the Auditor General and the Public Accounts Committee in respect of economies that might be made in the expenditure of public funds by various departments, I should like to ask whether the minister will, in light of the report of the Auditor General tabled yesterday, give early attention to the implementation of those recommendations?

Hon. C. M. Drury (President of the Treasury Board): Mr. Speaker, the hon. gentleman is asking that we give early attention to the implementation of recommendations. I might point out that a number of them have in fact been dealt with not only by the committee but by the House, even though they continue to be referred to in the report. I think that probably the most useful approach would be for the Public Accounts Committee to receive a report on the status of each of these so-called recommendations at an early sitting. I would be glad to have that prepared.

Mr. Baldwin: Some go back to 1963.

Mr. Drury: We have had two major debates on postal rates and you have not said a word.

Mr. Baldwin: Those horses are dead now.

[*Translation*]

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

KILLING OF TWO CANADIAN GIRLS WHILE VISITING VICTORIA FALLS—REQUEST FOR REPORT BY RHODESIA

Mr. Gilbert Rondeau (Shefford): Mr. Speaker, I should like to put a question to the Secretary of State for External Affairs.

Since the minister has just stated that he has not yet obtained news about the murder of two Canadian women in Rhodesia by Zambian troops and that he has not heard from the government of Zambia, does the Canadian government, through the Department of External Affairs, intend to ask the Rhodesian government for a report giving us its own account of those two murders?

[*English*]

Hon. Michell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, the hon. gentleman may not have heard the answer I gave to the previous question. I have asked the Zambian authorities to give us a full report. We are not satisfied with the public statement they made and we are pursuing this matter most vigorously.

NATIONAL HARBOURS BOARD

POSSIBLE APPOINTMENT OF COMPTROLLER AS RECOMMENDED BY AUDITOR GENERAL

Mr. Don Mazankowski (Vegreville): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the President of the Treasury Board arising from the report of the Auditor General which points out, among other things, that the accounts of the National Harbours Board were so inadequate as to prevent the Auditor General from expressing an opinion on the validity and accuracy of the 1971 accounts. Will the minister advise the House whether the government is seriously considering the Auditor General's recommendation calling for the appointment of an experienced comptroller with full authority to co-ordinate the administrative and accounting procedures of the National Harbours Board?

Hon. C. M. Drury (President of the Treasury Board): Mr. Speaker, the hon. member will realize that the National Harbours Board is a semi-autonomous body which reports to parliament through the Minister of Transport. I would prefer that he would answer as to what action has been taken to restructure and reform both the practices and the organization of the National Harbours Board.

• (1440)

Mr. Mazankowski: I appreciate the minister's reply but in view of the fact that this appears to be in violation of section 77 of the Financial Administration Act, under which I believe the minister and the Treasury Board have full authority to govern, would the minister not reconsider his position in this matter with a view to recommending to the Minister of Transport that this recommendation be implemented?

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member's supplementary question is in the form of a representation.

* * *

AIRPORTS

MOUNT HOPE—DATE AND TYPE OF MEETING BETWEEN MINISTER AND CITIZENS OPPOSED TO EXPANSION

Mr. Sean O'Sullivan (Hamilton-Wentworth): Mr. Speaker, in the absence of the Minister of Transport may I direct this question to his parliamentary secretary. In view of the commitment made on behalf of the Minister of Transport by the Minister of Labour, can the parliamentary secretary advise the House as to the date of the meeting in the Hamilton area between the minister and citizens' groups opposed to the expansion of Mount Hope airport and whether these meetings will be open to the news media and the general public?

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for St. Catharines.

Oral Questions

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

VIET NAM—INQUIRY AS TO ANNOUNCEMENT CONCERNING CONTINUANCE OF CANADIAN PARTICIPATION IN CONTROL COMMISSION

Mr. Trevor Morgan (St. Catharines): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Secretary of State for External Affairs. In view of the stalemate which is obviously present in the International Commission of Control and Supervision, I wonder when we can expect an announcement or pronouncement concerning the indecision of the government as to what is going to happen in respect of our troops in Viet Nam?

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, I promised the House that before the end of this month a decision would be made. That is still our intention, and I expect that one day next week I will announce the government's decision.

* * *

NATIONAL DEFENCE

REASONS FOR SALE OF CF-5 AIRCRAFT TO VENEZUELA AND ALLEGED INCREASE IN COST OF CERTAIN DESTROYERS

Hon. George Hees (Prince Edward-Hastings): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of National Defence. Would the minister take the first opportunity on motions to explain to the House why the government recently sold 18 CF-5 aircraft to Venezuela and still has 43 of these aircraft in storage in view of the fact the minister's predecessor, the present Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources, advised the House only a few months ago that these aircraft were completely satisfactory for the needs of our armed forces and necessary for the operation of those forces?

Hon. James Richardson (Minister of National Defence): Mr. Speaker, this subject has been discussed quite fully in committee and in the House, but if I do consider it will be helpful to make a further statement I will do so.

Mr. Hees: I have attended all the meetings that have been held and it has not been discussed since last fall, as the minister very well knows. Has the minister started departmental inquiries into the reasons the four DDH280 destroyers, which were originally estimated to cost $150 million, have now cost more than double that amount and, in addition, the costs are still increasing and the destroyers are reported to still be in unsatisfactory condition?

Mr. Richardson: Mr. Speaker, the DDH destroyer program is within budget. It is within the figure approved by Treasury Board.

Mr. Hees: Would the minister not agree that the cost is more than double the original estimate?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. This is, of course, argument.

[Mr. Speaker.]

TRANSPORT

SUBSIDY TO FOREIGN REGISTERED VESSEL, MV "TRAVETAL"—SUGGESTED REQUIREMENT OF CANADIAN REGISTRY

Mr. Harry Olaussen (Coast Chilcotin): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct this question to the Minister of Transport but since he is not here today perhaps the acting minister or the parliamentary secretary would reply. In view of the fact the federal subsidy to the Singapore registered ship, MV *Travetal* in the past fiscal year amounted to $368,000, can the minister tell the House if federal government financial assistance to this foreign-registered and foreign-manned vessel will continue as part of the financial assistance by it for the purpose of enabling this ship to carry automobiles between Halifax, Nova Scotia, and St. John's, Newfoundland?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I fail to see the urgency of the question, although I have been wrong when it comes to judging urgency. In asking questions hon. members always suggest that they should be answered the very day they are asked, but it seems to me this question could very well be placed on the order paper or perhaps asked and answered at the time of adjournment. Is the hon. member rising on a point of order?

Mr. Olaussen: Yes. Mr. Speaker, I would like to rephrase the question.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. That is hardly a point of order, but if the hon. member can ask the question in such a way that it will appear to be urgent certainly it will be accepted.

Mr. Olaussen: Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct the question to the Minister of Transport in the hope that I may receive an appropriate answer. In view of the fact that this ship, the MV *Travetal* of Singapore registry, has been picketed since yesterday, does the minister intend to require the *Travetal* to assume Canadian registry and employ some of the vast army of Canadian unemployed?

Mr. Speaker: The rephrased question seems to be a little more urgent. Perhaps the mister might be allowed to reply.

Mr. Joseph-Philippe Guay (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, I would be pleased to bring the matter to the attention of the minister.

* * *

FINANCE

PROVISION OF LARGER SHARE OF REVENUES TO PROVINCES IN LIGHT OF LEVEL OF URBAN PROPERTY TAXES

Mr. Eldon M. Woolliams (Calgary North): Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask the Acting Prime Minister whether there has been any agreement with the provinces to get a better and greater share of the revenues in light of the fact that property taxes now in urban centres have made it

almost impossible for the average Canadian to meet the instalment payments on his home?

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Acting Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, discussions are now proceeding in another place as to the division of revenues and so far as I know there has not yet been complete agreement.

Mr. Woolliams: I do not know whether or not this is a leak, but in light of the fact that the national press of Canada says there has been a breakdown in the discussions that have taken place on this important subject, would the minister undertake that later when the Prime Minister returns he will make a full statement on this matter which is so important to the provinces and particularly to the urban centres of Canada?

Mr. Sharp: Mr. Speaker, I think I can give an undertaking on behalf of the Prime Minister that first thing he would do after his return would be to give a report on the negotiations now proceeding.

* * *

NORTHERN AFFAIRS

LAND FREEZE IN MACKENZIE RIVER BASIN—EFFECT ON OIL EXPLORATION AND TRANSACTIONS BETWEEN COMPANIES

Mr. Peter C. Bawden (Calgary South): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development. As a result of a court hearing in Yellowknife last week an article appeared in the press which stated that the land freeze prevents transfer of ownership or the granting of any further use of any portion of the 400,000 square miles in dispute and effectively covers the entire Mackenzie River basin. Does this mean that oil exploration activity in the north and normal land transactions between companies must cease until the claim is resolved, or that permits and leases granted to oil companies are in jeopardy?

[*Translation*]

Hon. Jean Chrétien (Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development): Mr. Speaker, this action lodged before the courts has in no way affected the activities of the people doing oil exploration work in the delta of the Mackenzie and the Arctic islands.

[*English*]

Mr. Speaker: Perhaps the hon. member for Calgary South might be allowed to ask a supplementary, after which I will recognize the hon. member for Yorkton-Melville.

Mr. Bawden: Mr. Speaker, in view of the extreme concern expressed by residents of northern communities, will the minister issue a statement on this subject to reassure them as well as those who are planning substantial Mackenzie River shipments this summer to carry out oil exploration next winter?

[*Translation*]

Mr. Chrétien: Mr. Speaker, according to my information the companies are carrying on their development program just as they started it. The court ordered a land freeze but did not forbid the Crown to issue permits under normal conditions.

* * *

[*English*]

ENERGY

POSSIBILITY OF BRINGING OIL AND GAS INDUSTRIES UNDER PUBLIC OWNERSHIP

Mr. Lorne Nystrom (Yorkton-Melville): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources and is supplementary to questions asked earlier. In view of the recent Gallup poll indicating that the Canadian people now wish energy resources to be under public ownership, can the minister say—

● (1450)

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Nystrom: Some of the reactionaries may not agree, Mr. Speaker, but I would still like to ask this question. In view of the fact the Canadian people now want consideration to this matter, is the minister considering bringing the gas and oil industries that fall within federal jurisdiction under public ownership?

Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): No, Sir.

* * *

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

ELIGIBILITY OF CERTAIN NORTHERN ELECTRIC EMPLOYEES FOR BENEFITS

Mr. Rod Blaker (Lachine): Mr. Speaker, can the Minister of Manpower and Immigration, or his parliamentary secretary, advise on the situation of some 2,000 staff employees of Northern Electric Company who have been suspended without pay by the company and, specifically, will those people qualify under the terms of the Unemployment Insurance Act regulations?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, although these employees are losing employment because of a labour dispute it would appear that they are not participating and are not directly interested in the dispute. Provided they are not members of the same grade or class of employees, they would be eligible for unemployment insurance benefits. Some 160 claims have already been filed in the Montreal West office.

Oral Questions

CANADIAN BROADCASTING CORPORATION

REASONS FOR WITHDRAWAL OF SHOWING OF FILM "CHISSIBI" CONCERNING NATIVE PEOPLE OF JAMES BAY AREA

Mr. Joe Clark (Rocky Mountain): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Parliamentary Secretary to the Secretary of State. Would he have his minister bring a full report before the House on the events leading to the postponement or withdrawal of the showing on the French language CBC network of the Joyce Richardson film "Chissibi" concerning the native people of the James Bay area, including a full disclosure of any involvement in that withdrawal by the James Bay Development Corporation, Quebec Hydro or the Canadian or Quebec governments?

[*Translation*]

Mr. Gilles Marceau (Parliamentary Secretary to Secretary of State): Mr. Speaker, I am personally interested in these important matters and I shall be pleased to convey my hon. friend's request to the minister who is now attending the first ministers' conference where he will discuss questions falling under his jurisdiction.

[*English*]

Mr. Clark (Rocky Mountain): Would the minister advise whether it is the position of the CBC that this film is sub judice and, if so, whether that has been the consistent advice of lawyers consulted on this question by the CBC and, if not, when will the film be shown?

* * *

[*Translation*]

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

INQUIRY RESPECTING PROVISION OF ARMS TO PORTUGAL

Mr. Gilbert Rondeau (Shefford): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the hon. Secretary of State for External Affairs.

Since Canada has stopped sending Canadian arms to Portugal for fear that the Portuguese might use them to repress independence movements in Angola, has the hon. minister also asked Canadian companies such as General Foods Limited, Nestlé (Canada) Limited and Standard Brands Limited to stop importing Angolan coffee, since this might encourage and maintain the situation in which Angolans are kept in slavery in forced labour camps—

Mr. Speaker: Order. I have the impression that this question has already been asked but the hon. minister might perhaps answer it anyway.

[*English*]

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, if the hon. gentleman has any evidence that Canadian arms are being used by the Portuguese in Africa I would be very happy to have it because that would change our attitude toward the provision of arms to Portugal, which we do now as a member of the NATO alliance and purely for the purposes of the alliance.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Rondeau: I have a supplementary, Mr. Speaker.

[Mr. MacGuigan.]

As the hon. Secretary of State for External Affairs has just thrown some light on Angola's forced labour policy, which is contrary to United Nations Resolution No. 2918 for which Canada voted in November 1972, does the hon. minister intend to ask these companies to put an end to these imports?

[*English*]

Mr. Sharp: Mr. Speaker, in supporting the resolution to which the hon. gentleman has referred, Canada specifically reserved its position on the question of economic sanctions against the Portuguese territories. We do not intend to apply sanctions against those territories.

* * *

INDIAN AFFAIRS

JAMES BAY HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT—REQUEST THAT MINISTER APPEAR BEFORE HEARINGS ON INJUNCTION SOUGHT BY NATIVES

Miss Flora MacDonald (Kingston and the Islands): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development. In view of the fact that Mr. Justice Malony has said that he wants the testimony at the James Bay injunction hearings completed by the end of May, would the minister give very serious consideration to taking this final opportunity to appear before the hearings to indicate the federal government's constitutional support for the injunction applied for by the native people of the James Bay area?

[*Translation*]

Hon. Jean Chrétien (Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development): Mr. Speaker, I have stated several times that the Quebec Indians are actively pleading their case; as regards the government's constitutional position, the lawyers for the Indians are quite familiar with the 1912 and 1898 transfer acts and with the Royal Proclamation of 1763, and I am sure that they have brought these to the judge's attention more effectively than I could myself.

* * *

[*English*]

FISHERIES

SALMON FISHING BAN IN ATLANTIC PROVINCES—SETTLEMENT OF FISHERMEN'S CLAIMS

Mr. Thomas M. Bell (Saint John-Lancaster): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Minister of Fisheries. Can he tell the House how he is making out in his efforts to settle finally the claims of fishermen in the Atlantic region arising from the ban on salmon fishing?

Hon. Jack Davis (Minister of the Environment): Mr. Speaker, the officials have settled all but a dozen of the approximately 1,000 claims for adjustment assistance which we received from the commercial fishermen taking Atlantic salmon. Unfortunately the official who has been carrying out these negotiations has suffered a heart attack. We are completing the remaining dozen negotiations as quickly as we can using other officials.

BAN ON WHALING—COMPENSATION TO THOSE AFFECTED—PROGRESS OF NEGOTIATIONS

Mr. Lloyd R. Crouse (South Shore): Mr. Speaker, I wish to ask a supplementary relating to the benefits paid to fishermen. Would the minister inform the House what progress he is making in negotiations with the fishermen who were operating in the whaling industry at Blandford, Nova Scotia, and were put out of business when he closed down the whaling industry in Atlantic Canada?

Hon. Jack Davis (Minister of the Environment): Mr. Speaker, the task force which has been working on this subject has held discussions with the companies and the fishermen affected by the whaling closure. I will shortly be making a recommendation to cabinet as to the nature and extent of the adjustment assistance that we will be paying to the affected parties.

REPRESENTATIONS TO UNITED KINGDOM AND WEST GERMANY ARISING OUT OF COD WAR OFF ICELAND

Mr. John Lundrigan (Gander-Twillingate): Mr. Speaker, while we are on fisheries may I ask the Secretary of State for External Affairs whether he can respond to the question which was raised on Tuesday and say if Canada, as a member of NATO, has expressed its concern to the United Kingdom and to West Germany in regard to the cod war off Iceland?

Mr. Speaker: Order. I am not sure that this question is supplementary. The minister will be allowed to reply, but I have the impression that when a question is asked about salmon members think they can also ask about whaling in Labrador, or perch in Cornwall. Again I suggest that this is not entirely a supplementary question, but the minister will be allowed to reply.

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, of course we are concerned about any dispute such as this between two members of the NATO alliance and in that sense we have expressed views. But there have been no direct communications of the kind the hon. gentleman asked me about in his previous question, and I can confirm my answer now.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Kootenay West.

Mr. Lundrigan: A supplementary—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. Perhaps we will return to the hon. member later, but the Chair has been anxious to recognize the hon. member for Kootenay West.

* * *

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

PROPOSED NUCLEAR TESTS BY FRANCE—CANADIAN REPRESENTATION—FURTHER STEPS TO PREVENT

Mr. Randolph Harding (Kootenay West): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Secretary of State for External Affairs. In view of the proposed nuclear tests by the French government in the South Pacific, has the minister conveyed to the government of France the unanimous opposition of the Canadian House of Commons to these nuclear tests?

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs): The answer is yes, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Harding: Is the government taking further steps to try to stop these tests, and, specifically, has action been taken at the United Nations level, or in support of Australia and New Zealand in their action before the International Court of Justice to try to obtain an interim injunction pending final judgment of the court regarding the tests?

Mr. Sharp: Mr. Speaker, Australia and New Zealand have taken action before the International Court of Justice on the grounds that these nuclear tests are in an area of special importance to them. That is the basis on which they have taken this action. It is not generally against nuclear tests; it is against tests in their part of the Pacific. Similarly, when we protested very vigorously with respect to the United States nuclear tests in the North Pacific, Australia and New Zealand did not associate themselves with us.

• (1500)

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The Chair will recognize the hon. member for Gander-Twillingate who may have a supplementary about another species of fish, after which I will recognize the hon. member for Lisgar.

* * *

FISHERIES

REPRESENTATIONS TO UNITED KINGDOM AND WEST GERMANY ARISING OUT OF COD WAR OFF ICELAND

Mr. John Lundrigan (Gander-Twillingate): Mr. Speaker, this is a very important matter to Canada even though it is directly an Icelandic problem. In view of the fact that Iceland depends on its fisheries resources for 84 per cent of its exports, will Canada, through the Department of External Affairs, ask the British government and the West German government to respect the territorial claims of Iceland? Will the government also ask these countries of 50 million and 60 million people to withdraw from the territory of that small country with only 200,000 people and recognize the claim of coastal states for jurisdiction over the continental shelf?

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, I understand that this question is sub judice as it has gone before the International Court of Justice. I am quite sure the hon. member would not want me to intervene at such a point.

Mr. Lundrigan: That is a lot of nonsense, absolute nonsense. It is not before The Hague Court. You have not got the courage to stand up—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

Oral Questions

HOUSE OF COMMONS

REQUEST FOR POSTPONEMENT OF DATE FOR COMPLETION OF COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION OF ESTIMATES—GOVERNMENT POSITION

Hon. Robert L. Stanfield (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the government House leader with respect to the requirement under Standing Order 58(14) that committee reports pertaining to estimates have to be in by the end of this month. In view of the difficulty that members of the committee are having in completing their work, particularly the committee dealing with DREE but also others, the difficulty in part being due to the problems my hon. friend's colleagues have in manning the committees and also the difficulties in getting information, would the minister be prepared to consider any means of postponing this requirement in order to enable committees to complete their work properly?

Hon. Allan J. MacEachen (President of the Privy Council): Mr. Speaker, I would be happy to consider any reasonable request but I am certainly not prepared at the moment to say that a change would be made. However, I will consider it.

* * *

AGRICULTURE

SEIZURE OF MANITOBA EGGS IN BRITISH COLUMBIA—EFFECT ON INTERPROVINCIAL TRADE

Mr. Jack Murta (Lisgar): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Agriculture. Since on Tuesday, May 22, British Columbia tried once again to seize a shipment of Manitoba eggs, and in view of the fact that a serious problem is developing in the area of interprovincial trade in Canada, can the minister inform the House what progress has been made primarily under the National Farm Products Marketing Act in solving this?

Hon. E. F. Whelan (Minister of Agriculture): Mr. Speaker, I think the dispute is between the British Columbia Egg Marketing Board and the egg broker, for whom I do not have much sympathy nor, I think, does the egg producer and egg consumer have any sympathy for him. He is trying to make a buck. I met with the national egg group this morning and I am sure they will have a proper working body, hopefully by the end of June.

Mr. Murta: Since the National Farm Marketing Council was formed, in part at least, to correct marketing disputes such as we have seen, can the minister inform the House exactly what success, if any, the council has had in solving what could become a very serious problem for interprovincial trade in Canada?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I doubt whether this question is in order. The hon. member is asking for an interpretation of the legal authority of a government or departmental agency. I think a question in those terms is not in order.

[Mr. Speaker.]

HARBOURS

CHURCHILL—REQUEST FOR REFERENCE OF STUDY ON FUTURE DEVELOPMENT TO TRANSPORT COMMITTEE

Mr. J. R. Ellis (Hastings): Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary to a previous question with regard to the National Harbours Board. In the absence of the Minister of Transport, I should like to ask the parliamentary secretary if he has had a chance to consult with the minister to see if we can have the study on the future development of the port of Churchill referred to the Transport Committee for action?

Mr. Joseph-Philippe Guay (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Transport): Yes, Mr. Speaker. In view of the activities of the members of the committee, who are doing an extremely good job, I will be most pleased to request the minister to do just that. I hope it will be the case.

* * *

MANPOWER

LOCAL INITIATIVES PROGRAM—POSSIBLE ERROR IN UNEMPLOYMENT STATISTICS USED AS BASIS FOR EXTENSION OF PROJECTS

Mr. Cyril Symes (Sault Ste. Marie): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Manpower and Immigration, but in his absence I will address it to his parliamentary secretary. I hope I get more than the standard reply that he will take it as notice. In view of the minister's announcement that local initiatives projects in areas where unemployment is above 6.8 per cent will be eligible for extension up to November 30, and in view of the fact that Statistics Canada does not provide unemployment figures on such local areas and that Manpower's calculations of area unemployment have a statistical error rate varying from 15 to 30 per cent, does the minister intend to review this policy so that worth-while LIP projects seeking extension will not be disadvantaged by the lack of accurate figures?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, if the hon. member were aware of the fact that the minister last week announced a further extension of LIP projects I do not think this question would arise.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. We are coming to or have reached the end of the question period, but perhaps the Chair might be allowed to recognize one or two members, the hon. member for Yukon, the hon. member for Burnaby-Richmond-Delta and perhaps another member in the back row.

PENITENTIARIES

BRITISH COLUMBIA—ALLEGED SUPPRESSION OF NEWS OF SIT-DOWN STRIKE

Mr. Erik Nielsen (Yukon): Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask the Solicitor General if there is any good reason for suppressing the news of a recent sit-down strike in the British Columbia penitentiary, and can he explain to the House the reasons for that sit-down strike by the inmates?

Hon. Warren Allmand (Solicitor General): Mr. Speaker, I, personally, have no news of the strike in the B.C. penitentiary and there has been no attempt to suppress any news.

BRITISH COLUMBIA—LENGTH OF SUSPENSION OF THREE GUARDS—STABBING OF PRISONER—REQUEST FOR REPORT

Mr. John Reynolds (Burnaby-Richmond-Delta): Mr. Speaker, my question is supplementary to the one asked by the hon. member for Yukon. Can the minister explain how long the suspension of the three guards in connection with last week's escape will last, and has he any information on the stabbing that took place in the prison which has still not been reported?

Hon. Warren Allmand (Solicitor General): Mr. Speaker, I will have to check into the suspension of the three guards. I do not have that information at the moment. I did look into the question of the stabbing. It seems that a protected prisoner was being brought into the penitentiary and on his first day there was stabbed. An investigation took place but they were unable to determine who did the stabbing. I have a longer report and I would be prepared to give it to the hon. member.

Mr. Speaker: Orders of the day. The hon. member for Gander-Twillingate rises on a question of privilege or a point of order.

Mr. Lundrigan: Mr. Speaker, I think it is a question of privilege. In responding to a question on the cod war today the Secretary of State for External Affairs indicated that he could not reply to the question because it was sub judice. I am not a lawyer but it seems to me that means it is before the courts. First of all, it is my understanding that the issue was before the Hague Court and has now passed through that stage so it is no longer before the courts; second, I believe it is not in order for a member of the Privy Council of Canada to take refuge behind something that might be before an international court. I have talked to hon. members who have been here for a number of years about this, and the answer, "sub judice" pertains only to Canada. I suggest that the minister has every right not to answer a question but does not have the right to proclaim the position he has taken today. If he is really going to talk about matters being sub judice he might like to look at No. 34 on the order paper under government business. Perhaps he could take a stand on that one as well when he is explaining his position.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Sharp: Mr. Speaker, I should like to amend my answer. Perhaps it would meet the hon. member's point of view, to say that I think it would be inappropriate for us to comment on a question that is now before the International Court of Justice. I believe our position in such a dispute should be one of impartiality as between the parties.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

An hon. Member: What a wriggler!

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. There should not be a debate. The hon. member raises this issue as a question of privilege, but I do not really believe there is a question of privilege. I have said often that many members could rise in the House on suggested or alleged questions of privilege when they are not satisfied with an answer given by a minister. It is well recognized by long practice that this cannot be the subject of a question of privilege. If there is a dispute between the minister and the hon. member in regard to the answer given by the minister, I would respectfully suggest to both that there is no point, either by way of point of order or question of privilege, in pursuing the matter further.

● (1510)

Mr. Lundrigan: On a further point of order, Sir, may I indicate that a precedent is being set in the House today. If the minister, first of all, is permitted to make a claim which is not correct, since the issue is not before the International Court, it having already passed through that particular body, and if he is also permitted to make a claim, and make it stick in the House today, that the government is not obliged to respond to questions that are before international tribunals or courts, we will be setting a precedent and giving the Privy Council further protection which it does not deserve to have. I contend that the minister has every right in the world to say that Canada does not have the gumption to take a stand on the issue, or that he refuses to answer, but he has no right to say what he has said—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I do not propose to go into the matter further. Any minister can simply say that he refuses to answer a question.

Mr. Lundrigan: I agree with that.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. Hon. members may argue with the minister, but they are not going to argue with me. Orders of the day.

* * *

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

WEEKLY STATEMENT

Mr. Baldwin: Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask the government House leader the usual question as to the business of the House for the rest of this week and for next week.

Mr. MacEachen: Mr. Speaker, today we will continue with the debate on capital punishment. Tomorrow and Monday will be opposition days and on Tuesday, if need be, we will continue also with the capital punishment debate. The other government business that I should like to call after Bill C-2, would be the Judges Act, the National Housing Act amendment, the residential mortgages bill and the languages resolution. It may be that we will want to consider early next week whether we want to deal with the languages resolution on Wednesday. We may begin it on Wednesday or Thursday. If we decide to begin it on Thursday, we will call an opposition day on Wednesday.

Mr. Baldwin: Mr. Speaker, if I may speak on the issue of opposition days, I wonder if I might be allowed to ask the minister if he would try to restrain the natural and understandable ardour of his colleagues for making long and controversial statements on opposition days. If they need to make them, would they make them on Monday rather than tomorrow.

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, with respect to the coming business of the House, can the minister indicate whether high priority will be given to the bill to amend the Family Allowances Act and to the measure to provide increases in war disability pensions?

Mr. MacEachen: Yes, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Does that affirmative answer mean that we will be dealing with these matters before the end of June?

Mr. MacEachen: Mr. Speaker, I cannot give that assurance until I see what progress is made with other measures that are now before the House. It would be my wish to have those items cleared before the summer adjournment, whenever that takes place.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Gérard Laprise (Abitibi): Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the President of the Privy Council (Mr. MacEachen) what fate he has in mind for the amendment to the Unemployment Insurance Act.

[*English*]

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I have some serious doubts and reservations about questions that are being asked as points of order as to what priority the government is giving to a certain piece of legislation or what the government intends to do about one particular bill or the other. It seems to me that these are questions which ought ordinarily to be asked during the question period. I mention this only by way of caution because, certainly, it seems to me hon. members would not want to ask about many proposed bills that are before the House, or about much proposed legislation.

Having said this only by way of caution—

[*Translation*]

This being said, I certainly have no objection to the minister answering the question of the hon. member for Abitibi.

[*English*]

I will of course recognize the hon. member for Calgary North and the hon. member for Greenwood, who may have similar questions to ask.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Laprise: Mr. Speaker, this bill was introduced on January 5 last and every day we are in touch with people who are claiming unemployment insurance benefits. This bill contains a number of amendments which would favour unemployment insurance recipients and I feel that we should give consideration to this legislation as quickly as possible.

[*English*]

Mr. Woolliams: Mr. Speaker, in view of your statement, and as I do not want to break the rules, may I ask the leader of the House one question. When he mentioned the list of legislation that has priority, the Housing Act was omitted. I raise this question merely to ask if he will bring that bill in as a matter of high priority. I should like to know what kind of priority the government attaches to that bill, if I might go that far.

Mr. MacEachen: Mr. Speaker, I thought I had mentioned the housing legislation. If I did not, I intended to. It will be called very early as part of the government's legislation. For example, if we complete the capital punishment debate today or early on Tuesday, I would certainly call the National Housing Act amendment following the Judges Act, which I expect will require a very short time to complete. If I may reply to the question of the hon. member for Abitibi, it is my intention to call the unemployment insurance debate at the first appropriate opportunity.

Mr. Hees: Some time next fall.

Mr. Brewin: Mr. Speaker, may I ask the leader of the House whether he is aware that his colleague, the Minister of Manpower and Immigration, pointed out to the committee the very urgent need for dealing with the Immigration Appeal Board legislation. Has that legislation high priority?

Mr. MacEachen: Mr. Speaker, my colleagues are almost as troublesome as hon. members opposite in urging the priority of their legislation. The Minister of Manpower and Immigration is pressing to have his item of legislation dealt with quickly, but there are other items that have to be dealt with first. I have indicated to the House that I want to deal with capital punishment, the languages bill and the corporate tax changes as major items which must be dealt with. The others will be given their place in almost the same rank of priority, and they will be dealt with.

Mr. Alexander: Mr. Speaker, if I may raise another point of order similar to that raised by the hon. member for Greenwood, is the minister aware that there are something like 16,000 persons waiting to have their appeals heard and that these appeals are being filed monthly in huge numbers? Does he not think, surely, that he ought to reassess his priorities, in order to bring that much needed bill before the House, so that we can expedite this matter?

Mr. Speaker: After these points of order and questions, perhaps we might call orders of the day.

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

CRIMINAL CODE

REINSTATEMENT OF LAW RELATING TO CAPITAL PUNISHMENT THAT EXISTED PRIOR TO DECEMBER 30, 1972

The House resumed, from Wednesday, May 23, consideration of the motion of Mr. Allmand that Bill C-2, to amend the Criminal Code, be read the second time and referred to the Standing Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs.

Mr. Peters: Let us have the question on the motion.

Mr. Speaker: I believe the hon. member for Scarborough West (Mr. Harney) had the floor when we adjourned yesterday.

Mr. Harney: Mr. Speaker, I was just leaving my seat to leave the House.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Réal Caouette (Témiscamingue): Mr. Speaker, the issue currently before this House, namely that of capital punishment, is most sensitive and very controversial throughout Canada.

It is not the first time that the retention or complete abolition of this punishment is discussed. It has been discussed since 1914 and each year since then it has been debated in this House and particularly in 1917, 1948 and 1950.

I have myself received letters from everywhere throughout Canada. Some of them were urging me to vote against capital punishment while most of them asked me to vote for retention.

I would like to express the basis on which we are advocating the re-establishment of capital punishment and summarize the principle of the Thomist philosophy on capital punishment. Generally speaking it is as follows: Anyone must protect his own life and also respect the life of others. It is in that sense that homicide or murder is prohibited by moral law as well as by civil law which should reflect natural law.

It is incumbent upon the civil authorities to protect the individuals through laws and it is their right to adopt and enforce the legislation required by the common good and the protection of the citizens' life and property.

Since civil authorities are responsible for maintaining order in society they are also entitled to inflict punishment and demand reparation from those who break law and order. This is the punishment which come as a complement to law. But can civil authorities go as far as inflicting the death penalty?

This is the question asked by most of those who are advocating total abolition. St. Thomas' thesis is as follows: Political authorities have the right to inflict capital punishment on those who are guilty of homicide. Civil authorities have the right to do everything necessary to serve justice and insure the security of the citizens. Now, capital punishment is required to ensure justice and the security of society; therefore, the civilian authority is entitled to impose this penalty.

● (1520)

The proof of the first part of this thesis is that punitive justice requires that there be equality, if possible, between the crime committed and the sentence for it. Yet, against specific crimes like homicide, murder, there is no retribution other than capital punishment to make the sentence fit the crime.

And let us note, Mr. Speaker, that it is not in a vengeful mood, as some people try to suggest, that I advocate retention of capital punishment. It is not a policy of an eye for an eye, a tooth for a tooth, an arm for an arm, a leg for a leg, but a policy of justice. The would-be murderer knows beforehand the consequences of his act should he commit murder. Then, if he knows he is aware of it and that punishment is nothing more than fair penalty. No sentence other than capital punishment can restore equality between the sentence and the crime. Therefore, in order to serve justice, capital punishment is sometimes necessary.

As to the proof of the second part of this Thomist thesis, it is almost impossible to ensure the safety of citizens against some people's acts without applying the most powerful restriction against these criminals. And the most powerful restriction is capital punishment. Life imprisonment, that some people suggest as a punishment, is not powerful enough to deter potential murderers. Indeed some murderers may escape and not serve their sentence. On the other hand, the frightful crime of taking someone's life is not enough punished, and a deterrent measure like a life sentence is not enough. Capital punishment constitutes a more efficient deterrent. Death represents the deprivation of life, the greatest property, therefore capital punishment must be imposed to those who take this property from others.

It is said that life imprisonment ensures security. To this argument it must be answered that life imprisonment ensures the security to a certain extent, but is it enough and efficient? It may be but not in all cases.

Is the death penalty homicide? Homicide is forbidden by natural law. Now, according to some, the death penalty is homicide. The imposition of capital punishment must therefore be forbidden. So speak those who advocate the death penalty.

A solution must be found to the problem posed by the word "homicide". In fact, natural law does not forbid every kind of homicide. It does not object to the unjust homicide, that is when life is taken unfairly. That capital punishment constitutes unjust homicide must therefore be denied.

Some claim that an innocent man can be inflicted capital punishment and that, then, it is too late to make up for the judicial error. It is true that the death penalty can accidently be applied to the innocent, but the construction of automobiles or aircraft cannot be brought to a stop just because there are accidents. By the same token, because

judicial errors are made—that is a fact—though seldom, it does not mean that we should depart from the basic principle.

However, to those who uphold the absolute right to life, it must be replied that murderers do not respect that right of others. If that right is absolute, the soldier who kills an enemy would be a criminal. The right to life is not absolute; it can be denied to those who do not respect it. The murderer who takes the life of another cannot claim absolute right to life to escape the death penalty.

Mr. Speaker, many people, in the past, have made representations to the government and I myself—and some of my colleagues as well—have suggested a referendum throughout Canada to ascertain public opinion and in order not to impose in an autocratic or dictatorial manner a measure which the people reject, which the people do not accept.

Let us go back to the years 1960, 1961, 1962, and examine statements made by the hon. member for Saint-Hyacinthe (Mr. Wagner), for instance, who was then Minister of Justice of Quebec. You could read in the papers: "Fantastic increase in murders in Quebec since 1961, (Mr. Claude Wagner)". And the hon. member for Saint-Hyacinthe invited the public to write the federal government that the death penalty should not be abolished.

Mr. Speaker, those were lawyers.

Another, a former federal Member of Parliament, Mr. Rémi Paul, a former Minister of Justice of Quebec, stated: "The death penalty is necessary for the protection of society". Not for purposes of revenge, but for purposes of justice, and in order not to encourage criminals at large, or potential criminals who, because the death penalty has been eliminated, have no respect for the life of others and, when they are caught, feel they must solicit clemency on the basis of their right to live.

Mr. Speaker, hon. members in this House assume quite peculiar positions concerning the death penalty. I actually heard members of this Parliament make a stand against those fighting abortion, openly advocating abortion. I have in mind members of the New Democratic Party, Progressive Conservatives, Liberals who accept abortion as a good thing and say that the solution or decision must rest with the mother or the woman and her doctor.

Mr. Speaker, abortion is a crime amounting to killing a child who never did anybody any harm. Some want to legalize it by way of legislation in this House of Commons and they have had a certain degree of success. However, the criminal, the killer, the thug, the assassin who takes life away after planning his crime, in the name of humanity, in the name of society, in the name of the right to live must be handled gently, spared the rope because he is a human being and we must not exercise vengeance against a human being.

Mr. Speaker, how can those people reconcile their stupid reasoning by saying you can kill a child before he is born but you have no right to kill him if he becomes a criminal later on.

Mr. Speaker, several studies have been made across Canada. I received letters from all parts of this country, as I said earlier, urging me to ask for the restoration of capital punishment. Some of my colleagues also received similar letters from their electors. I received one in January 1973—so it is not too long ago—from the Sept-Iles Chamber of Commerce, which is not located in my riding. That letter was addressed to the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau), and read as follows:

[Mr. Caouette (Témiscamingue).]

Find enclosed a sworn compilation indicating the results of an official poll taken by the Sept-Iles Chamber of Commerce last December in the suburb area of the Manicouagan-Duplessis county on the subject of capital punishment.

The results of this poll lead us to think twice about—

I tell you quite honestly that if we conducted the same poll we would get similar results. And now this government wants to impose that legislation on us under the cover of freedom of vote, while saying: Vote with us!

I go on with the quotation:

The results of this poll lead us to think twice about the advisability of your government holding a national referendum to have the population express its opinion on the abolition or retention of capital punishment.

● (1530)

Now, if the referendum said: Yes, abolish capital punishment, then I would vote for that. I am all in favour of an innocent man not being condemned to the gallows, as soon as there is the least doubt concerning the culpability of a murderer, because he must be given the benefit of the doubt. But, when it has been proved that the murder was premeditated, that the criminal cannot possibly be rehabilitated, even if he were to be freed after 20 years, he must pay with his own life for having taken the life of another. And that is why we are in favour of polls being held across the country.

To quote again Mr. Jean L. Mailloux, the director of the Chamber of Commerce:

Many citizens are worried about your government's indecisive position on capital punishment for it is one of the most fundamental questions in a democratic country such as ours. We believe that, before taking a final decision, your government should consult the people of Canada.

Yours faithfully, etc.

And here are the main results of the poll in the Sept-Îles area:

1. In favour of abolishing the death penalty. Comments: Yes 35; No 210.

2. In favour of retaining the death penalty as enforced formerly. Comments: Yes 206; No 25.

3. Do you think that murders have increased in Canada over the last five years? Comments: Yes 220; No 17.

This is corroborated by the former Quebec Minister of Justice, who said in 1967 that murders had increased more than threefold in the province of Quebec alone.

I continue to quote:

4. Are you in favour of parole . . .

This is something rather different, but 63 were for it and 80 were against.

To continue:

5. Have you ever been a direct or indirect victim of the activities of a murderer? Comments: Yes 30; No 208.

This means that 208 Canadians have never been bothered by a murderer, but they nevertheless use their intelligence to judge the government's actions in this field.

Mr. Speaker, I have here other evidence. I have referred to Sept-Îles, but let us now turn to my own constituency, Témiscamingue, where I asked the question: Are you or are you not in favour of the death penalty? That is clear enough. The response was: 390 in favour, 92 against. There you have the opinion of people at the other end of Quebec province. Let us ask questions in other areas, in the English provinces.

Mr. La Salle: Don't forget my constituency.

Mr. Caouette (Témiscamingue): Which constituency?

Mr. La Salle (Joliette): Joliette.

Mr. Caouette (Témiscamingue): It is my friend from the constituency of Joliette, I think.

Mr. Speaker, we see the same everywhere. I have in my hand a letter from a priest in Lévis who wrote to ask me to urge the government to re-establish capital punishment, not out of revenge, but for justice's sake.

When we consider what happened in Quebec in 1970 and when we see now the results and the consequences, we cannot but be puzzled. Here are individuals directly involved with the foul murder of a public man. One is released after two years and a half or three years.

An hon. Member: Just for fun.

Mr. Caouette (Témiscamingue): Sure, it is just for fun that those three guys hid under a house, in a hole for rats. You will not make me believe that they hid in such a place just for the fun of it. It is because they had done something wrong which compelled them to go into hiding. People keep forgeting that and, in Quebec, they may come up with some legal gimmick which will make us believe that Pierre Laporte is still alive, that he has not been murdered.

Mr. Speaker, when faced with such a parody of justice, I am not the least surprised that Canadians have lost all confidence in the judiciary and the administration.

A few years ago, there was this gangster disguised as Santa Claus, in Ville Laval or Duvernay, I think it was—

An hon. Member: In Ville Saint-Laurent.

Mr. Caouette (Témiscamingue): —yes, in Ville Saint-Laurent. He was disguised as Santa Claus as though to distribute gifts to small children at the shopping centre. He was there to take part in a hold-up. Not satisfied with having shot two policemen down, he put five slugs in their heads. I wonder if the killer is still in jail; perhaps he is out on parole; perhaps he is at large. There have been all sorts of escapes. An inmate escaped while supposedly watering the skating rink in Bordeaux, another escaped from Cowansville, another from Saint-Vincent-de-Paul—

An hon. Member: During a hockey game at the Forum—

Mr. Caouette (Témiscamingue): —during a hockey game at the Forum, and without a hose either.

Capital Punishment

Mr. Speaker, some odious crimes have been committed in the Shawinigan area. Two young girls, 15 or 16 years old, were picked up by two young bums, taken into the woods, raped and killed in cold blood. In the name of humanity, let us save those bums! One of them committed suicide in Saint-Vincent-de-Paul—

Mr. La Salle: He was quicker than the administration!

Mr. Caouette (Témiscamingue): Yes, quicker, the hon. member for Joliette is right. As another hon. member was saying the other day, it is easier to get out of jail than to get in.

Gangsters and bums are no sooner behind bars than they quickly get bailed out and find themselves free to roam the streets after two hours. That is how society is protected. Let us stop fooling the people. We are not against humanity, but in favour of it. But any man who has, not the courage but the nerve to go and kill his neighbour ought to realize, in the name of the most elementary justice, that he is putting his own life at stake. If he makes an attempt against his neighbour's life, all right; his own will be attacked. That is it. That is justice; not vengeance, but justice. No revenge would be exercised if this man acted like a human being. Why does he not do so? There are homicides, of course, involuntary homicides or manslaughters. But as regards sordid crime, we are for the restoration of capital punishment in order to punish it.

I have here another letter from Chandler. That community is not in my riding, but it is in favour of capital punishment. According to Mr. Armand Langlois, from Chandler in the riding of Gaspé South, we should act as quickly as possible.

Mr. Speaker, we have a lot of evidence. I have here a letter from Malton, Ontario, addressed to the Solicitor General (Mr. Allmand).

● (1540)

[*English*]

It is addressed the Hon. Warren Allmand, Solicitor General for Canada, Ottawa, Ontario and reads, in part:

> I urge, therefore, that you consider very carefully before you decide how to deal with this matter in any decisive way.
>
> My hope is you are inclined to listen to those we have in positions of authority, such as the chiefs of police, and the attorneys-general of the provinces, and guide yourself, according to their ideas.

[*Translation*]

For the reinstatement of capital punishment, let us again take the evidence of police chiefs at their convention. What did they advocate? The reinstatement of capital punishment because under the present act, if a criminal kills a policeman he should be sentenced to death. This act was never implemented those past five years. Policemen were murdered in cold blood. The murderers were convicted to life imprisonment. Capital punishment was not deemed fit for those people!

Mr. Speaker, while my opinion is that we should protect policemen and their families, I also think that the life of my children, my wife and wives of hon. members is as important as that of a prison guard or a policeman. They are human beings and gangsters do not have more right to

assault a mother than a policeman. Then, capital punishment must be reinstated when there is deliberate, well proven murder. If it is not, let us give the accused the benefit of the doubt, as I said earlier.

I could quote a letter from Sudbury, Ontario. It even has references to articles from the *Globe and Mail* and to the Bible itself in support of the re-establishment of capital punishment. I have another letter dealing more harshly with our work in the House. It states the following:

[*English*]

It is so simple. Yet our idiot parliamentarians—

[*Translation*]

That's us!

[*English*]

—are unwilling or totally incapable of following the police chiefs of Canada and their wise advice. The citizens of Canada want restorations of severe penalties if we are to combat—

all the ills in our society and those people who are trying—

—to undermine our youth with drugs and crime.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Speaker, I could have brought in a complete file of documents to prove how strongly Canadians favour the re-establishment of capital punishment. I shall now quote a letter from Victoria, British Columbia:

[*English*]

As a citizen of Canada, I am writing in regard to the matter of capital punishment, shortly to come up for review in parliament.

[*Translation*]

This is what we are reviewing right now.

[*English*]

I am a believer of the Lord Jesus Christ; we thank God for the favourable government in this country, and pray constantly that those in authority may be helped to do what is right.

I feel strongly that capital punishment should be reinstated fully in Canada—because it is a morally right principle, set up by God and supported in the scriptures, which are the inspired word of God. In Romans chapter 13, it says: "Rulers are not a terror to a good work, but to an evil one . . . if thou practisest evil, fear; for it bears not the sword in vain; for it is God's minister, an avenger for wrath to him that does evil". Genesis, chapter 9, verse 6, says: "Whoso sheds Man's blood, by Man shall his blood be shed, for in the image of God, He hath made him".

I trust that you will find these few sentences helpful in arriving at a right judgment as to this important matter.

Yours sincerely

Sam Burrowes

[*Translation*]

B-U-R-R-O-W-E-S, from Victoria, B.C.

I have here another letter from Winnipeg, another from Niagara, one from Toronto, asking for the reinstatement of capital punishment.

Mr. Speaker, we have countless examples such as those and I say that if there were a referendum in Canada, 85 or 90 per cent of the electors would say: Reinstate capital punishment but as it was before. I say so to present miscarriages of justice, but capital punishment must be reinstated in order to prevent more and more filthy crimes from being committed in the future.

[Mr. Caouette (Témiscamingue).]

I gave a while ago examples of a falsified justice, under which the gangster is almost more important than society, and I am always asking myself the following question: Should we pass laws to protect society against gangsters or gangsters against society? That is what we should ask ourselves. If we wish to protect gangsters, let us follow the course we have already taken. But if we wish to protect the life of our children, of our society, of our social classes, of our workers, of our farmers, of our aged people who are being bound hand and foot at every turn in the Montreal-Trois-Rivières area by scoundrels who steal $200 or $300 from them, we must take the necessary measures. Once gangsters are denounced, they are prosecuted; but we do not have sufficient evidence. Let them commit another crime tomorrow night, as they have thrown off the mask. When they are finally recaptured, we tell them: We let you out on bail! Get back on the street. If you did not get enough last night, try to mug two more persons tonight. Gangsters knock out or kill car or taxi drivers, for instance, to steal $30 or $40 from them. If those people have a heart I really wonder where our supposedly well organized society is leading us. I realize that capital punishment will not eliminate all criminals, and everybody knows it. But if there were at least that sword of Damocles to deter those who could be tempted to commit murder I believe that justice across Canada would be significantly improved.

In any event, the evidence that we receive as well as my attitude and that of my colleagues are not likely to hinder the overall administration of justice in Canada far from it. We want a more reasonable justice, a justice that respects and protects society. I think that the reinstatement of capital punishment would tend to reduce the number of crimes across Canada. I think we have had enough of the abuses observed since the abolition of capital punishment five years ago. It is time to reinstate it, not only to punish or seek revenge against criminals but also for the ultimate purpose of protecting society.

● (1550)

[*English*]

Mr. Paul Yewchuk (Athabasca): Mr. Speaker, the current debate on capital punishment has been before parliament and the country for several months. From that, it is obvious the issue is not clearcut and that the decision as to whether it should be retained is not an easy one to reach. This bill does not really ask us to make a decision on that point. The bill neither retains capital punishment nor abolishes it, or, conversely, it both retains and abolishes it. It is a bill which negates the arguments in favour of capital punishment as well as those against it, and leaves everyone frustrated with a non-decision. I suppose one might say the situation is rather typical of the present government and its method of carrying out the mandate given by the people of Canada. It is obvious that the present government is not willing to make decisions on important matters such as this, and it is obvious that it is not willing to live up to the responsibility of enforcing the law as it now stands and has stood over the past five years.

I have very grave doubts as to whether there is any intention on the part of the government to enforce the law which will follow should this bill pass. Combining the

performance in the application of the law dealing with capital punishment as well as in the administration of penitentiaries and rehabilitation programs, one might easily conclude that the trend under the present administration is to accept as normal ever increasing amounts of crime as well as ever increasing numbers of murders.

There have been many speeches made by representatives of the government, including several ministers. I did not hear all of them, but it is my impression that none of them indicated any willingness to live up to the law as it has stood over the past five years in relation to carrying out executions of murderers of police and prison guards, and no minister to my knowledge has indicated there is any willingness to carry out this particular aspect of the law over the period of the next five years should this bill pass.

It strikes me as rather hypocritical that the government is not willing to take a position. If it is the intention of the government to abolish capital punishment, which was the tenor of the speech of the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) and the Solicitor General (Mr. Allmand) as well as others, then why not do it? The Solicitor General has indicated that capital punishment for murder of a prison guard or policeman will be retained only as a concession to policemen and prison guards. He might have created the impression in the next breath that they do not intend to carry out that part of this law. This is an example of the lack of courage on the part of the government to carry out its own laws.

If the Solicitor General is truly convinced that capital punishment is not a deterrent, then why leave it in the bill? On the other hand, if he is of the opinion that capital punishment is useful as a deterrent in cases of murder of policemen and prison guards, people who are exposed to unusual amounts of danger, then surely he has to admit it is also a deterrent in cases of murders of any other type of individual.

However, let us take a look at some of the statistics. Prior to the trial period commencing in 1967 an average of 222 persons other than policemen or prison guards were murdered in each of the preceding seven years. That is a period when the death penalty was in effect for all capital murders. For the following four years when the death penalty was abolished for murders of individuals other than policemen and prison guards the average number of murders rose to 376. The figure for 1971 was 422, nearly double the average in the years preceding abolition. It seems to me that no argument is better than the actual figures. These figures indicate to me a very significant increase in the number of murders since abolition occurred. While the abolitionists put forward various arguments that other crimes have also increased, in my view they are irrelevant as far as the present debate is concerned. The fact is that the number of murders has nearly doubled with abolition, and that is a fact we must not forget.

If we look at the comparable figures for the same 11 year period in respect of the murder of policemen and prison guards, for which capital punishment has been retained, we find the increase was from 3.6 murders annually prior to the suspension to 4 per year following the suspension. If we put this into a similar range of figures for comparison purposes, as I have given for other types, it would increase from 360 to 400, a much less significant increase in the murder rate of individuals for whom capital punishment was retained, even though the deterrent effect of this was significiantly diluted by commutation. This comparison has to be looked at as a very significant and major factor in this decision making process.

I previously said this bill does not really do anything for anyone. Those who are abolitionists can vote for the bill because it partially abolishes capital punishment, but they can also vote against it because it partially retains capital punishment. So, the abolitionists can, with a nearly clear conscience, vote either for or against it. Those who are retentionists can also vote for the bill because it retains capital punishment in some cases, and they can also vote against it because it abolishes capital punishment in certain cases. So, those who are retentionists can also vote for or against the bill with a nearly clear conscience.

The whole point is that the government has failed to make a decision or, if it has made a decision, it did not have the courage to put it into the form of legislation. As a matter of fact, the debate on this issue, for the reasons I have just stated, does not call on anyone to indicate whether he is for or against the abolition or retention of capital punishment because no matter where you stand you can vote for or against this particular bill. My firm belief is that the bill does not really change anything. If it passes, we will continue the same manner of law enforcement and the same treatment for convicted murderers because of the right the cabinet has to commute sentences.

Experience since 1962 shows that all convicted murderers have received commutations. From the remarks by the ministers and the Prime Minister, we have no reason to believe the situation in the next five years will be any different. If this bill is defeated, then the pre-1967 law will be in effect and the cabinet will still have the right to commute death sentences. Therefore, if the bill is defeated we have no reason to believe the cabinet will not continue to commute death sentences, just as it has done in the past. When we examine these facts we begin to wonder what the purpose of this bill is, and what the purpose is of putting forward a bill of this nature when the end result in the handling of murderers will be the same. As a matter of fact, it would have been the same had this bill not been before parliament and had this debate not taken place at all. In short, the debate on capital punishment is an exercise in futility because it is very doubtful that there will be any changes as a result of it in the application of the law or indeed in the treatment administered to convicted murderers.

● (1600)

The Association of Police Chiefs refutes the effectiveness of rehabilitation, and we all know that rehabilitation does not always work. We all know also that murderers who are imprisoned for the precribed period of time and then released on parole have, on occasion, murdered again. The main argument against capital punishment which I can accept, and which really makes good sense to me, is the possibility that an innocent person could be executed. That argument in itself is almost enough to convince me that capital punishment should be abolished. But if we look on the other side of the coin, we find that murderers

who have been imprisoned and released have murdered again, executing an innocent individual without trial, without charge and without judge and jury. While I do not have firm statistics on this, it would appear that the possibility of a murderer murdering again is much higher than the possibility of the Crown hanging an innocent person. So, we must decide where our obligation to society really lies.

I want to point out that I do not feel emotional about this issue. I am looking at it as objectively as I can. While I have dedicated a portion of my life to the saving of people's lives through the work I have done in the past as a physician, the arguments in favour of retention of capital punishment seem to be much stronger than those in favour of abolition of it. I know from information obtained that there are some types of personalities that are not capable of rehabilitation. I know also there is no way to determine whether a murderer will murder again until he actually does it. There has been a significant amount of discussion as to whether criminals should be treated by means of a rehabilitation program only or whether punishment should be part of the treatment as well. I am of the impression that discipline is a good thing and that it can be better achieved through the use of selective punishment. But I agree also with those who say that discipline should not be carried out as a form of revenge, but rather as a rehabilitation measure in itself.

From the statistics I have previously read, I am convinced that capital punishment does have a deterrent effect, in spite of the emotional arguments put forward by the abolitionists. Quotations have been used which suggest that convicted murderers have indicated they did not think of capital punishment at the time they committed murders. There have also been quotations of statements made by individuals who had committed a crime indicating that they would have committed murder had they not been afraid of capital punishment. So, arguments incorporating this approach cancel each other out. I think we must look at this question from the point of view of protection of society, particularly in respect of repetition of murder by the same individual. This of course could be done by a mandatory life sentence without the possibility of parole, but that so far as I am concerned does not carry the same degreee of deterrent effect.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, we must consider the views of the population of Canada. It has been clearly indicated in many studies and constituency surveys by various members, including myself, that the majority of Canadians are in favour of retention of capital punishment because of its deterrent value. The practice of commutation in respect of all capital punishment sentences in the past few years is of some concern to me because it undermines the authority of the law and of parliament. If parliament passes a law which suggests capital punishment for certain crimes, then the government is obligated to live by this law. The cabinet has not been doing so, creating the impression that the cabinet itself disregards the law as it exists. The average Canadian might well say if the cabinet does not live by the laws it passes, why should I? Therefore, this practice of commutation of the sentence of all murderers is not acceptable. If commutation is the course the government desires to follow, then it should bring in a bill which would abolish capital punishment completely. This would give members in this House a clear-cut bill on which to express an opinion. Once that is done, the government should be prepared to live with that decision.

[Mr. Yewchuk.]

Mr. R. Gordon L. Fairweather (Fundy-Royal): Mr. Speaker, because the whips are not here we can disagree with our colleagues. It is rather interesting for me to follow my hon. friend who, as he mentioned, is a physician. However, the figures he quoted, obviously in an effort to support his case, concerning the repetition of murders by the same murderer conveniently overlook an important point. It is my information that only one such murder has occurred in the last 20 years. I am open to correction on this. The other point on which I must disagree with him is the matter of commutation. Commutation, the royal prerogative of mercy, has not changed. It was not changed by the law of 1967 and it will not be changed by this law. I very much hope the cabinet would continue the practice of commuting sentences. However, I do not see how that aspect of the debate adds very much to the issue.

In any event, I am an abolitionist and have been a convinced one for many years. I think there have been many eloquent speeches in support of this bill, but sadly the discussion is really a continuation of other debates on the subject which have grown in intensity during the past 10 or 15 years. It is a pity—and here is where I indict the government—that the government and parliament seem unable to face the issue squarely and abolish capital punishment once and for all, because this debate will have to be repeated in another five years. I think in a sense we are postponing the inevitable. I believe it is a pity we did not face this issue in 1967. We are faced with it again now, and we will have to face it again in a period of five years.

I wonder whether in all the words which have been spoken—and I certainly include the words I will say—in this and in other debates on the subject, the case for abolition has been put more shortly, more convincingly and with more personal feeling than did Mrs. Pauline Maitland, a brave widow of a brave Toronto policeman brutally murdered in February, 1973 while on duty. This young woman, facing not the strident and blood-curdling outcries of constituents which make many of us cringe, but the terrible tragedy of her husband's death said, "I don't believe in capital punishment. Taking another life would not bring my husband back." I think really that that says it all. I can think of no more poignant statement, and I rather apologize for taking another few minutes, Mr. Speaker, because Pauline Maitland has said all that parliament needs to say on this issue of capital punishment.

● (1610)

I happen to be a convinced abolitionist and will vote for this bill as the second best alternative to outright ending of the death penalty. The death penalty, of all forms of punishments, is the one most rarely carried out. The last hanging in this country took place in 1962, but as members of parliament we do not seem able to take the final legislative step which would end state killing forever.

This is a curious dabate because very few of us will be moved by what others, who are opposed to our views, say on the issue. It is a debate in the sense that people are making their speeches for the record. Some of us, of

course, will resort to techniques and excuses for delaying a decision which is inevitable.

I have heard of some colleagues who are frantically polling their constituents by means of thousands of questionnaires. Well, here speaks a rather old fashioned parliamentarian. I had understood that my role as a member of parliament, in our system of responsible and representative government, was not to be beholden to opinion polls, in which ofttimes the questions are over simplified. I really wonder if we should take refuge behind somewhat simplistic questionnaires. Rather, should we not tell people where we stand and, if they do not approve, they have many opportunities to tell us that they do not approve. I have taken part in five general elections since 1962. Surely, the people of the constituency I have the privilege of representing have had many opportunities to indicate to me whether they approve or do not approve of my being an abolitionist. I have never hidden it. I have discussed it at election time, but I have not sent out a questionnaire on the subject, and I have no intention of doing so.

I am an abolitionist because I can find no evidence that convinces me that the death penalty is a deterrent. Quite the contrary, I feel that the certain knowledge that nothing lies ahead but the death penalty may well mean that hijackers, or perpetrators of other crimes punishable by death, may take a much more fatalistic and devil-may-care attitude. They have nothing to lose. The death penalty exercises a baneful effect on the administration of justice, arousing mistaken sympathy for the defendant even when guilty. The cabinet surely must understand that statement. Capital punishment cases make bad law. In many jurisdictions increasing difficulty has been found in getting juries to find defendants guilty because of the cruel finality of the punishment involved. Hanging brutalizes us. Hanging is a defeat of society. Hanging substitutes the violence of the state for the violence of a criminal. I assert that there is no proof that the death penalty has special deterrent power against crime, and up to now I have heard no evidence during the speeches of the retentionists which proves otherwise. For the state to take life as an act of retribution demeans the state and makes hangmen of us all.

Throughout my public life I have been trying to find the key to a mystery. I suppose the answer is understood by sociologists. It is this: why should there be such an emotional fervour surrounding debate on this issue? As Dr. Thorsten Selling put it:

> Attitudes toward it are rooted deep in the sentiments of people and arouse powerful emotions whenever its justification is questioned. Antagonists bombard each others with "facts" (which are rarely facts at all). Beliefs and opinions are offered, often without substantiation, in support of one or the other viewpoint, and the Holy Writ is liberally quoted by both sides.

I am grateful for the eloquent and timely statement on capital punishment, on the very matter of quoting the Bible to support a point of view, which was given recently by the Conference of Catholic Bishops, who now join many other religious denominations in Canada in their opposition to capital punishment. The Catholic bishops spoke of the scandal that is inherent in utilizing selective parts of scripture in support of a fundamentalist point of view. I think it is a sad commentary that we have to resort to these techniques. I happen to believe that one's religion or lack of it is a private matter, and people who parade their piety make me nervous as well as suspicious. Nevertheless, it is comforting to have the major churches in our country speak clearly and without equivocation about this issue.

Some parade what to me—and it is a plural society, we all admit that—are narrow biblical quotations, forgetting or deliberately ignoring what I suggest is an enlarged and uplifting addition to the Bible, namely what we find in the New Testament. Fortunately, we are not engaged in a theological exercise. I certainly would not presume to be an expert in this area. What I can do is to add to the sum of what I think is social policy, to add an opinion, supported eventually I hope by a vote for abolition. I am helped in this by scientific inquiry, but scientific inquiry is not an end in itself. It provides only the data upon which politicians must take decisions.

As a New Brunswicker, the most convincing fact to me is that the State of Maine, which shares a common border with us, abolished capital punishment in the year 1886, almost 90 years ago. Actually, Maine had abolished it before that, and returned capital punishment for about three years until the final abolition took place in 1886. Maine people and New Brunswick people come from the same socio-economic background. Their geography in relation to their respective countries, the United States and Canada, is similar. I have checked the figures, and I am afraid I am repeating myself because I used this in the debate in 1967. However, I was glad to see that the Solicitor General (Mr. Allmand) picked up this example of Maine and New Brunswick.

As I say, I have checked the figures from 1886 to 1971. For those who are made uncomfortable by concepts in world or macro terms, I thought this backyard or micro-analysis should prove relevant and helpful. I find that the murder rate in the state of Maine is not revelantly different from the rate in the province of New Brunswick, one with capital punishment and the other where capital punishment has been abolished for 90 years. During the years that capital punishment has been a major and important issue I have had a chance to read statements on this subject, statements which to me go the complete range from the sublime to the shrill. I will not take up the time of the House to list those writers who have impressed me most, although I must say that Albert Camus' "Reflections on the Guillotine" and Arthur Koestler's "Reflections on Hanging" are eloquent books which require no embellishment from me.

A more up-to-date statement, if members are made nervous by books written a few years ago, appeared in The New Republic of February 3, 1973, and a couple of paragraphs are relevant to this debate. The editorial was discussing the decision of the Supreme Court of the United States of last spring that the death penalty as now administered in the United States is unconstitutional. The editorial reads:

> The argument for the death penalty—the only civilized argument, since all that's left otherwise is vengeance—is that it may deter. It obviously does not deter numerous crimes, but it may—no one can be sure one way or the other—deter some premeditated crimes, like hijacking, whose commission is contemplated by a sane, cold-blooded, smart, well-informed, calculating person. Ever

then, the death penalty will deter only if the threat of it is credible, which is to say, if law enforcement and the administration of justice work speedily and effectively. If they do, as they now generally do not, although with respect to hijacking there has been improvement, then penalties other than the capital one will probably deter no less than capital punishment.

The decisive argument, therefore, is the humane argument. Society ought not to kill. There is enough killing, in just wars, in self-defence, to protect the innocent in an emergency, which cannot be helped, and enough killing in error. But society ought not to kill by deliberate choice. It brutalizes us, not to speak of what it does to the agent we employ to do our killing.

Mr. Speaker, I have been indulging in a bit of self-analysis. By this I have hoped to avoid traces of arrogance in my certainty that by voting for abolition I am taking the correct stand. Colleagues whom I respect tell us of the agony of their decision; phrases such as "loneliness" and "soul wrestling" make me wonder if my assurance on this issue and, if I can put it in these terms, my serenity about the stand that I take might have overtones of blindness. Yet, what more can a person do than study the issues, analyse the data, read the evidence, examine the world-wide trend toward ending capital punishment and then reach the decision and vote and "let the devil take the hindmost" as the expression goes. I am aware that man's long struggle toward civilization has had periods of dynamism and periods of stagnation. By passing this bill, the parliament of Canada would add an important forward step in man's eternal search for civility.

May I end as I began, by quoting the poignant words of Pauline Maitland, a policeman's widow: "I don't believe in capital punishment. Taking another life would not bring my husband back." Should not this House of Commons say "amen" to that?

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Terry Grier (Toronto-Lakeshore): Mr. Speaker, as the member for Fundy-Royal (Mr. Fairweather) has noted, there have been many speeches on this subject in recent weeks. I confess that I do not expect to be able to add much if anything new but I do feel, not for the record but in order to try to impress upon all of us my perspective on this issue, that I should like to say a few words.

Perhaps I am in the minority: I, for one, did not come to this debate with any fixed opinion. Not having been a member in the parliament of 1967, I did not have to take a public position on the matter: I suppose, as I look back, I was mildly abolitionist at that time. But as I approached this debate, I really did so with an open mind—that is with as much of an open mind as I could muster, and I have tried to evaluate the expressions of opinion which have been repeatedly made to me by my constituents as well as my colleagues. I am bound to say, however, that without for a moment denigrating the importance of the vote on this bill I feel that capital punishment per se is not the issue of greatest concern to the public at the present time. It has perhaps become a symbol of a wider worry but I do not believe in itself it is the crucial area of concern.

I think there is a wider worry which goes well beyond whether a person should be hanged for committing the crime of murder. It is a worry which is easily recognizable to governments, and I am sure it is recognizable to this government, a worry sometimes expressed in the loose terminology of law and order but a worry which is

[Mr. Fairweather.]

focussed on an awareness of what appears to be increasing crimes of violence, a worry about public safety and security. One does not have to be particularly sensitive to appreciate how much less casual air travel is these days than ten years ago; one does not have to be particularly sensitive to appreciate that slowly there appears to be growing in our urban areas problems generically similar to those being experienced in other large cities on this continent. I think that public concern, that wider worry about public safety and security, is a legitimate concern and one to which this parliament must respond.

I shall support this bill because I do not believe the retention or extension or capital punishment is in any sense a response to this wider worry. Although to many, many people it is something of a symbol, to me it is not in any useful way an answer. I suggest that this debate, which may well have gone on long enough, has been useful in that it has enabled parliament to focus on this wider problem of public security, on such matters as the administration of bail, procedures of sentencing, and provisions for parole.

I am not a lawyer and I am not an expert in this area. I, myself, am given to at least some of the same kind of anxieties as I am sure my constituents are, perhaps in my ignorance but none the less I feel these anxieties. I would like to be fully assured, first of all, that this parliament—and I am using the term "parliament" rather than "government", Mr. Speaker, because this is in a sense a nonpartisan vote—is sufficiently sensitive to this wider concern that, having dealt with this bill, it will not simply say "That's that" for five years.

The Solicitor General (Mr. Allmand) and other members of the government including the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) have given assurances that they will be receptive in committee to suggestions for amendments dealing with such matters as parole. The other day the Prime Minister appeared to give the assurance that he was aware of this mounting public concern. I shall support this bill on second reading and hope that those assurances take concrete form in committee stage.

I want to re-emphasize, Mr. Speaker, that I think it would be a very, very serious mistake for parliament to conclude that passage of this bill, satisfies in any meaningful way, the wider worries to which I have alluded. I, therefore, would urge upon government and upon the appropriate authorities, some of whom may in fact be provincial as well as federal, that we not let the matter drop there. The public, in my judgment, has a profound right to express its viewpoint on this wide range of anxieties. It has the right to be heard and the right to influence the course of legislation and other decisions which will follow.

● (1630)

I confess that, on this particular matter, I do not believe this present House of Commons has been a particularly accurate channel for the reflection of that public anxiety. Each one of us will explain his vote according to his own lights. Some members have quoted Edmund Burke, who was by no means a democrat, I might add, in defence of their right to make up their own minds. I am not questioning the right of members of parliament to make up their

own minds. I am not altogether sure, however, once we have done so in the fairly certain knowledge that we are not representing the general will of our constituents, that we should necessarily be awarded a bouquet. I think some of us are too anxious to take credit for the fact that, on this issue, we are not being representative. However, whether we are being representative or not, whether or not our votes will sufficiently represent the public anxiety, I do not think the matter should be allowed to be dropped at that point.

I should like to see ordinary members of the public given a much greater opportunity to express themselves in front of some body or group which represents those who will in the end be making decisions on the wider issues of public safety and security. I do not care whether that is a royal commission, a task force or a joint federal-provincial group. When we run into difficulties on matters such as airports, we are quite ready to set up inquiries that go on for one year or two in order to establish that the public shall have every right to express its view. We hear much talk about the value of participatory democracy. Yet on this issue concerning public safety and security, I sense a tendency to reserve the solution of this particular problem for the experts, the parliamentarians, the lawyers and those who have made a study of this matter. Perhaps, unconsciously, we have brought to bear on this subject a somewhat elitist, somewhat narrowly restricted focus.

I should like to see the public given a far greater opportunity to express itself, not through the medium of any member of parliament, but on its own behalf. Let the members of the public have a chance to confront, to ask questions, and to be answered by those who have responsibility for administering and deciding in the whole area of public safety. I think that would be useful in two ways. First, it would give those in positions of responsibility, perhaps, a first hand impression of the nature and intensity of public opinion. At the same time it would provide a channel in the other direction, by which the public itself might become aware to a greater extent than at present of the parameters of this problem. I think we should make a far greater effort than we have made before to invite public participation on a first hand basis in our discussions on the whole question of public safety and security. Let us not leave this matter merely to lawyers and parliamentarians. In considering this problem, let us give as much opportunity for public input as if we were considering an airport or other matter of public policy.

I do not believe that voting one way or the other on this bill is going to do much about the wider worries I have expressed. I believe it is our duty to do something about those wider worries and to seek ways to deal with them. I hope that as this bill proceeds to the committee stage and becomes law, as I hope it will, that this parliament and the government will not let that wider concern drop but will immediately make a visible effort to engage the public in a substantial dialogue or exchange of opinion on this whole subject. If we do not do that then I suggest that five years hence the public's concern over the substantial problems of public security will be even more out of symmetry with the purposes of this bill or its successor than it is at present.

I do not think we, as legislators, can permit ourselves the luxury of merely voting on a bill of this kind and saying that the matter is settled, at least for five years. It will not be settled. I think we have a profound responsibility to look beyond the issue of capital punishment, to the larger problem of public security. I trust, Mr. Speaker, that that will be a matter of high priority on the agenda of this parliament and, I would hope, on the agendas of the legislatures of the provinces.

[*Translation*]

Hon. Marcel Lambert (Edmonton West): Mr. Speaker, it has become more and more apparent to me during this afternoon's debate that not only the press, television and radio but even members of Parliament are completely mistaken as to the precise meaning of the bill before us.

I have heard some hon. members, and even one of my most highly respected colleagues, arguing for total abolition of capital punishment. That is beside the point, because the 1961 act is in force today. What has in fact happened is that the moratorium expired on December 31 last.

And the government is now returning to the attack and asking us to renew the same five-year moratorium retroactively from January 1. This has nothing at all to do with abolishing capital punishment!

Why therefore do we hear and read in the papers about—

[*English*]

Why are we hearing about a hanging bill, about a retention of capital punishment? What is all this discussion about the abolition of capital punishment? It is totally out of order in this debate. The question before us is, should there be or should there not be an extension of the five-year moratorium, that is, of the law presently embodied in the Criminal Code. There is a redefinition in the law that applied during the moratorium of what is capital murder. In the present bill that same definition is preserved. It is confined to the murder of a policeman on duty, of a peace officer, of a security guard, and of a prison guard on duty, and that is all. There are limitations also in minimum sentences that a convicted murderer must serve. The convicted murderer sentenced to life must serve a minimum of ten years. There are othe restrictions, as well.

What actual difference has the limitation of categories liable to capital punishment made? I say, Mr. Speaker, it has not made one bit of difference because, since 1962, notwithstanding what the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) said the other day, and the proof of the pudding is in the eating, there has been an automatic and consistent use of the royal prerogative, something that should be rare and should be used only in the appropriate cases. However, there has been what I call an abuse of the royal prerogative.

● (1640)

[*Translation*]

I wonder, Mr. Speaker, if, in the excitement of the end of 1970 and the beginning of 1971, during the unfortunate crisis in the province of Quebec, the phrase "police or security officer" applied, under the act, to a soldier in a peace-keeping rôle. If a member of the FLQ, or anyone

else, had murdered a soldier, from one end of the country to the other there would have been cries of: "To the gallows, post-haste". And the cabinet would have agreed.

[*English*]

Those were cases where the cabinet could have utilized that sense of authority that was assumed by the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) and some of his ministers at that time. One remembers their television appearances at the time of the crisis calling for the apprehension and punishment of people committing the dastardly crimes of the day. Is there any difference between those men or any man, woman or child whose life is wrongfully taken as described under the terms of the law as it exists? What is the differentiation between those people and a policeman or prison guard?

Last night over television, a man described capital punishment as murder. How does he describe the killing of the man in Toronto who killed two policemen and was then shot by a third policeman? What about men killed by police when fleeing from the scene of an armed robbery and there is an exchange of gunfire? Is that also legalized murder? I suggest it is sophistry. People are entitled to hold those views, but I disagree with them most violently because capital punishment exacted by the state is for the security of its citizens and is in no way legalized murder.

I insist that the individual citizen has the right to the protection of his life. The state has to assume that. If the state abdicates that right, we will have gun law and an individual will have the right to carry a gun or another weapon to defend his life. That is the alternative. I find it somewhat strange that society is castigated as being a collective murderer for punishing an individual who has wrongfully and maliciously taken the life of an innocent fellow citizen, whether it is a two year old child or an 85 year old woman.

There are great cries about the fact that there is no proof that capital punishment is a deterrent. Has anyone ever canvassed the nation to ask how many men or women did not kill because they were afraid of capital punishment? After all, they did not kill anyone and so how could they be found. It could also be said that 15 years hard labour is no deterrent to armed robbery because there are still many armed robberies. However, how many people have contemplated armed robbery but were not prepared to face the potential penalty? People will not come forward and say, "I was one of those who was deterred by the penalty".

It is an exercise in sophistry to say that capital punishment is no proven deterrent to committing murder. The burden is not on those who say that the law of 1961 is the correct law to prove the value of capital punishment. The legalistic burden is upon those who seek to change the law. No amount of self-righteous wrapping of cloths of so-called intellectual or civilized superiority over a fellow citizen will add one cubit of additional value to their arguments. It has been reported in various newspapers and said in this House that abolitionists are more civilized than others, and that we will progress to a higher civilization by the abolition of capital punishment. That is a sort of self-proclaimed aura of moral superiority which only has validity by reason of the fact that it is being stated.

I find it strange when I read in the press and hear in this House statements, such as the one made this afternoon by the hon. member for Toronto-Lakeshore (Mr. Grier), that this debate has gone on long enough and parliament should turn to other matters. Those who say that have made up their minds. They have had an opportunity to speak. However, we are not debating a matter of government policy upon which party stands have been taken. Some parties have indicated they have a party stand on this issue. At least one party has done so. The Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) indicated the other day that there was to be a free vote. I do not know what has happened to government supporters in the last couple of days, though; they will not be heard through the press, because at the present time there is not one person in the press gallery.

● (1650)

An hon. Member: Yes, there is.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): There is. I beg his pardon. But the press are not going to interpret what members say to their constituents. Only in one or two newspapers does one see reports of the debate which has been going on here for a number of days. Yet during the election campaign this was a major issue, one which candidates debated at their forums in many parts of the country. In some constituencies this may not have been the case but as far as my constituency is concerned it was an issue which was raised at almost every meeting. I must justify my stand before the electors if this bill is to be subject to a free vote. I cannot simply say I voted with my party, because it is obvious there are many differences of opinion within my own party on this issue, just as, hopefully, there will be within the government party, provided the vote is really a free vote and there is not a "transparent whip". I know that other parties will treat it as a free vote. The hon. member for Joliette (Mr. La Salle) can have both a party vote and an independent vote, but that is all right.

In any case, since the government has announced that there is to be a free vote, there is no urgency attached to the matter. So far in 1973 some eleven people have been charged under the law of 1961, people whose cases have not been disposed of. The procedure for appeals and so forth is open to them, and at the end of the road there is still the royal prerogative. So, no one will wrongly pay the penalty should the decision of the House ultimately be to grant the moratorium. No priority is attached to this legislation, none whatsoever. Yet it has been brought forward, and since this has been done on the basis of a free vote, members must declare themselves. We have to speak while the debate is on.

Members have the right to speak, and I find it particularly offensive to hear journalists and others say the debate has gone on too long. They have had the luxury of making up their minds and they want to turn to something else regardless of the fact that parliament, which is a national forum, continues to discuss the matter. I also find it odd that under the criminal law of Canada, which is in force from Newfoundland to Vancouver, there should be a declaration by an attorney general of one province that he would determine what charges should be laid. Are the people of Saskatchewan, in the matter of the criminal law, to be treated differently from those in any other province?

I say this is an abuse of the prerogatives of a provincial attorney general.

I objected to the law being changed in 1967 because it seemed to me at that time that a double-cross had been played on parliament. A year earlier, on a private member's resolution concerning the question of abolition or retention, the House had divided strongly in favour of the retention of capital punishment. Yet less than a year later the government came back with a bill, on which there was no free vote allowed for government members, introducing the present moratorium. Oh, they threw in a sop about prison guards and policemen, a sop which abused every argument used by government speakers in support of abolition, that is, the assertion that it is morally wrong to take the life of a convicted murderer. All of the arguments, esoteric and otherwise, in favour of the abolition of capital punishment were swept aside by the government when it introduced the equivalent of Bill C-2 in 1967.

I find the consequences extremely difficult to explain to any citizen of Canada. A few cases immediately occur to me. What about an old age pensioner who is mortally wounded in an exchange of fire during a robbery at a bank or a credit union? What about a bank employee, male or female, who is killed during a bank robbery? What about the grocer at the little corner store who is attacked by a couple of hoodlums and knifed or bludgeoned to death? What about the case in Toronto the other day when a 75-year-old woman was assaulted by two or three men and kicked repeatedly in the head, over a matter of a few dollars? She was grievously injured. If she dies, is there any reason the treatment of those cowards who attacked her should be any different from the treatment meted out to one who shoots a policeman or kills a prison guard? I just cannot see the reason for any difference. Whose life is the more sacrosanct—that of a peace officer or that of an ordinary citizen?

PROCEEDINGS ON ADJOURNMENT MOTION

[*Translation*]

SUBJECT MATTER OF QUESTIONS TO BE DEBATED

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Laniel): Order. I regret to interrupt the hon. member. Pursuant to Standing Order 40, it is my duty to inform the House that the questions to be raised tonight at the time of adjournment are as follows: the hon. member for Wellington (Mr. Hales)—Canadian Broadcasting Corporation—Recovery of income tax from employees stationed in United States—Refusal by corporation—Position of minister; the hon. member for Yorkton-Melville (Mr. Nystrom)—Agriculture—Farm machinery—Implementation of recommendations of Barber Commission—Action to increase imports; the hon. member for Edmonton-Strathcona (Mr. Roche)—Transport—Alleged deterioration in western Canada railway passenger service—Request for investigation.

Disclosure of Documents

It being five o'clock, the House will now proceed to the consideration of private members' business as listed on today's order paper, namely public bills, private bills and notices of motions (papers).

[*English*]

Since there are no private members' bills for discussion, the House will proceed to consider notices of motion for the production of papers. I will call upon the hon. member for Bellechasse.

Mr. Reid: Mr. Speaker, there might be agreement to consider motion No. 87 on the order paper.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Laniel): Is this agreed?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

● (1700)

PRIVATE MEMBERS' MOTIONS FOR PAPERS

INDUSTRY, TRADE AND COMMERCE

REQUEST FOR COPY OF PROGRAMS FORECAST OF DEPARTMENT, INCLUDING BUDGETS A, B, X

Mr. Terry Grier (Toronto-Lakeshore) moved:

That an order of the House do issue for a complete copy (including budgets A, B, X) of the Program Forecast (Program Review) by the Department of Industry, Trade and Commerce for the latest year for which parliament approved departmental expenditures.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Laniel): The hon. member for Toronto-Lakeshore.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Rondeau: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Laniel): Order, please. The hon. member for Shefford (Mr. Rondeau) on a point of order.

Mr. Rondeau: Mr. Speaker, I should like to point out to you that, since we did not have time to consult the hon. member for Bellechasse (Mr. Lambert), who had a motion on the order paper, I should be glad if we might agree to pass on to Notice of Motion No. 87 for the production of papers, with the provision that we will return as soon as possible to Notice of Motion No. 78 in the name of the hon. member for Bellechasse.

[*English*]

Mr. Reid: Mr. Speaker, there have been consultations in the usual manner as to what motions would be called, and I can assure the hon. member for Shefford that the motion standing in the name of the hon. member for Bellechasse will stand and retain its position.

[*Translation*]

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Laniel): Order. I must point out however to the hon. member that as a result of an

agreement among hon. members, the motion of the hon. member for Bellechasse keeps its rank. I do not believe there is any problem in this regard. In any event, the hon. member being absent from the House, it might perhaps be difficult to proceed with his motion for papers.

[*English*]

Mr. Grier: Mr. Speaker, this order, along with a number of others of a similar nature, was proposed by me for one very fundamental reason. As a member of parliament it is my responsibility, along with my colleagues, to vote my approval or otherwise of some $18.5 billion worth of expenditures by the federal government on the basis of information that is all too scanty and all too difficult to obtain, and to arrive at a judgment counselled by some educated information as to the nature of government programs and their value.

At the moment members of parliament basically have available to them information contained in the blue book of estimates, which is a veritable sea of figures. Perhaps a member who has been here for a generation or longer may be able to find his way through them, but most of us have not been here for that long. I feel sure that most of us encounter difficulty and frustration in trying to find information on the basis of which we can come to some kind of sensible judgment as to the wisdom of various programs and as to whether or not funds are being spent in the wisest possible way.

It is true that in recent years the presentation of the estimates has been altered somewhat, and there are now contained in that blue book program descriptions and outlines of objectives which, frankly, shed no light on the expenditure programs detailed in its pages, pages that probably were written several years ago and which are hardly changed from year to year. I had occasion yesterday in a committee meeting to be referred to one of these descriptions by the President of the Treasury Board (Mr. Drury), and I think it was evident, as he read it out to me, how useless it would have been in answering the question I had asked; and I suspect that the President of the Treasury Board was himself privately embarrassed. The order of the House for the provision of a complete copy of the Program Forecast of this ministry, and indeed of others for which I have asked, is for the purpose of establishing some logical basis for judging the value of government programs.

Reference is made in the motion to budgets A, B and X. Not all hon. members may be aware of the meaning of these interesting designations. Budget A is the forecast expenditures of the department, taking into account those activities of an on-going nature. That is to say, if one took the activities of the previous year and attached current year costs to them, that would be budget A. Budget B contains an estimate of the costs attached to new programs and activities that the department wishes to undertake. Budget X, which perhaps would be the most revealing of all, indicates those programs which, in the judgment of the department, are of the lowest priority and might well be cut out if it were necessary to provide funds for the items referred to in budget B.

It seems to me a matter of common sense that the kind of information contained in these Program Forecasts be made available to Members of Parliament who, in the end, must give their approval or otherwise of multibillion dollar federal expenditures. If this information is good enough for the Treasury Board, I suggest it is good enough for parliament. These Program Forecasts are made available in great detail to the Treasury Board and its officials as they attempt to determine the spending priorities of the government for the coming years. Yet they are withheld from Members of Parliament.

Putting the best light upon it, one can only assume that the government feels that if such figures were made available to members of parliament we would abuse them, use them to narrow political advantage, misunderstand them, and that they would be beyond our competence to assess and therefore we had better not have them. Putting it in its worst light, this seems to me to be a deliberate attempt to withhold from parliament, which historically and traditionally is sovereign in the granting of supply, the very evidence upon which some sensible judgment could be made.

In the Program Forecasts that are made available to Treasury Board by each department, every single item of expenditure is defined in detail, justified in detail, described in detail that could turn the forest of figures in the estimates blue book into useful information. This program forecasting approach to budgeting has been established by the Treasury Board for government departments in recent years. Manuals issued by Treasury Board indicate in very specific detail how each department is to go about setting its program forecasts, thus establishing the kind of information that Treasury Board will require in order to make an assessment. It seems to me, as I said earlier, that if that kind of information is needed by Treasury Board to establish government spending priorities, then surely it is needed by, and should be made available to, members of parliament.

There has been criticism over the years of the growing difficulty that this body encounters in trying to get to the bottom of government expenditure programs. For that reason the committee system to deal with estimates has been set up, but to one who, as a new member, has had some brief experience with committee procedures the difficulty is not immeasurably reduced by the opportunity to ask questions for ten or fifteen minutes of a minister who is almost by definition doing his best to provide as little information as he possibly can.

● (1710)

Members of this party during this session have asked that evaluations of the effectiveness and efficiency of certain programs of this ministry of industry, trade and commerce be provided to the House. We were told these evaluations were going on but they have not been made available. On March 14, the President of the Treasury Board indicated in the House that virtually every department of government now has the resources to carry out evaluations of the efficiency of its operations and the cost effectiveness of its programs.

I asked the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce (Mr. Gillespie) whether that statement applied to his department. He said, in part, he was not sure whether he had any budget to enable his department to do evaluations and did not think his estimates provided for that. So,

while we are told by the department that evaluations are going on, and by the President of the Treasury Board that within each department there are now resources to carry on evaluations, the minister is not sure whether such evaluations are going on or whether the resources are available to his department. In fact, there is no branch of the ministry of industry, trade and commerce set up for the specific purpose of conducting evaluations.

Such evaluations as may be made are conducted within the branches and divisions which themselves are responsible for administering the programs, and one might be excused for suspecting that such evaluations might not be utterly objective. The absence of that information and the unwillingness of the government to provide us with this kind of evaluation and study, is all the more reason the Program Forecast, including budgets A, B and X, should be made available to members of parliament.

These are not secret documents, but there is a tendency on the part of governments in Canada to regard all pieces of paper written on in the offices of the ministries as confidential or secret whether or not they are worth anything. So, those Program Forecasts are regarded as confidential and withheld from members of parliament. However, it is possible without a great deal of ingenuity to acquire copies of those Program Forecasts, at least for some departments. When one opens them to get some clear description of the programs which are identified in the estimates merely by figures, one appreciates how clearly are set out the objectives and descriptions of these programs. They are readily identified and the changes in government programs are visible. It is easy, as indeed it should be, for members to establish which programs are being adjusted or changed, and thus to ask on behalf of the people of Canada why they are being changed. It is also possible under budget X to identify which projects in the judgment of the departments involved are of least importance and which can most readily be dropped without serious damage to Canada. That kind of information seems to be incredibly important.

Let me refer briefly to such a Program Forecast dealing with one department. The description of a new wing being established to undertake policy planning and research is set out in a way which would permit members of parliament serving on a committee to get straight to the heart of the changes in policy and to ask sensible questions on behalf of the Canadian people instead of milling around day after day with the very limited resources placed at the disposal of parliament by the ministry to get at what in fact is actually going on.

In the ministry of industry, trade and commerce in the last few years the sum of $1.3 billion has been expended on programs for the purpose of aiding Canadian industry to develop Canadian technology and exports. These are laudable objectives, but $1.3 billion is a lot of money. We have only the department's word for it that the money is being effectively and efficiently used. Forgive me, Mr. Speaker, if I regard the department as a prejudiced witness in this case: it has a vested interest in maintaining and augmenting the funds at its disposal. It seems to me quite within the framework of the parliamentary democracy of the 1970's that members of parliament should be provided with the kind of information which can test the competence of the department as it asserts that, in fact, its programs are being carried out effectively. That kind of information, I put it to members of the House through you, Mr. Speaker, is to a large extent available in these Program Forecasts.

I may say in passing that the absence of evaluations of programs of the kind I have mentioned, this $1.3 billion alphabet soup program which our party has criticized at some length in recent months, leads me to wonder whether in fact even the Treasury Board is being given any reason for the continuation of these programs. On what basis, I wonder, does the Treasury Board decide to allocate $151 million in this fiscal year for these programs if in fact the evaluations are not being done or not being made available? If they are available to the Treasury Board and to the minister I think they should be available to members of parliament.

We are dealing here with a fundamental principle which has two aspects. One is the sovereign right of parliament to get at the facts of the case before granting supply. The other is the newer idea that government, to the greatest extent possible, must be carried on with a minimum of information being made available to the public. There is a tendency to regard all documentation as privileged or confidential. I think that is a dangerous tendency because, regardless of whether it puts one government at a political disadvantage by providing its opposition with that information, looking at the totality of the government process what happens is that departments grow. We see evidence of tremendous increases in staff at upper levels right now. These departments grow, programs are undertaken and money is being spent at increasing rates each year, yet less and less information is available to those ordinary members of parliament who in the end accept the responsibility for deciding whether the programs make sense. I put it to you that the kind of request we have made makes sense and is in keeping with the concept of modern government, and the role of members of parliament in a modern government. If we are not to give members of parliament that kind of information, we might as well concede that we are being run by a rapidly growing bureaucracy, building upon itself and concealing from those to whom it is responsible all the information it can.

I think that is a regrettable and dangerous tendency, and I would urge this House to order that these documents be made available in order that we may in the future deal more intelligently with the multibillion dollar expenditure programs.

Mr. Jim Fleming (York West): Mr. Speaker, in rising to speak on the motion presented to this House by the hon. member for Lakeshore (Mr. Grier), I find myself in a very difficult position. I think the principle the hon. member has put forward, the ideal that the public and certainly members of parliament should have access to as much information as possible, surely is supported by members on both sides of this House. However, it is a matter of getting down to the practicality of whether the government can supply all the information to which it has access in making judgment decisions and still be sure that when it makes decisions, subject to opposition reaction and comment, it can act in the best interests of the people of

Canada. Frankly, my reaction is that if any of us sit back and think about it sensibly, we will understand it.

● (1720)

When you talk about the planning, programming and budgeting structures used by Treasury Board you are referring to a concept that was adopted by the government a few years ago to do its very best to bring together the complexities of governing a country such as Canada and indeed to decide on priorities for the use of the limited tax revenues available and giving the political leaders the best advice available from all the various sources of the Public Service. To say now that the government should present, on demand of the members of the House, all such papers and advice surely is to negate the whole system of parliament as we know it. If this suggestion were carried to the extreme, the decision-making would no longer be the responsibility of the political leaders but would fall back one step and would be given to the people who create policies. So, while the principle is good, I think there is great danger in applying it across the board.

In order to promote the effective management of financial resources through improved accounting systems, the government employs a system commonly known as planning, programming and budgeting. The concepts common to all planning-programming-budgeting systems are these, if I may outline them for the House. First, the setting up of specific objectives; second, the systematic analysis to clarify objectives and to assess alternative ways of meeting them; third, the framing of budgetary proposals in terms of programs directed toward the achievement of objectives; next, the projection of the costs of these programs a number of years in the future. In addition, there is the formulation of plans of achievement year by year for each program and, finally, an information system for each program to supply data for the monitoring of achievement of program goals and to supply data for the reassessment of the program objectives and the appropriateness of the program itself.

In other words, there is planning ahead to find priorities and make readjustments as situations change from year to year, and to make sure that there is communication back and forth among all the various departments. So, indeed this planning program and budgeting system is responsive to, and always alert to, changes. The elements of the Canadian government PPB system have been developed in harmony with the aforementioned general concepts and within the context of total resource allocation. By the latter phrase is meant that there is an explicit recognition that the total resources are limited in terms of the individual and collective demands of departments, and that there has to be a setting of priorities by the government itself in light of which departments can plan and budget.

Intensive study is made of feasible alternative ways of attaining defined objectives with a view to determining the approach which is most likely to achieve the greatest benefit for a given cost or, conversely, the approach by which a given objective will be achieved at minimum cost. The government, of course, has a grave responsibility in trying to reach that objective. A number of techniques have been found useful in such studies and the application of these techniques has been found useful in such studies.

[Mr. Fleming.]

The application of these techniques is properly the work of analysts trained in their use. I very much question whether those analysts will confidently go about their duties in this regard if their decisions and recommendations are subject to political question before they can be given to the government which must exercise its responsibility in respect of decision-making.

The adoption of an analytic approach to government decision-making of the kind that underlies planning-programming-budgeting is probably inevitable in a complex society such as we have in Canada today. The minimum needs of shelter, sustenance, internal order and the like having been met, there are innumerable possible ways of improving the quality of life and not all the ways can be pursued at one time because of the limited resources the government has. Choices have to be made as to what should be done, in the full realization that the choosing to do some things means that resources will be unavailable to do other things. The complexity of the considerations having a bearing on these choices invites the application of all that modern techniques of analysis and of gathering and processing information have to offer. Departmental program forecast submissions, which are an integral part of this process, are therefore voluminous documents which would be very costly to reproduce for purposes of tabling. In addition, they sometimes, of necessity, refer explicitly to cabinet decisions. As a matter of policy, documents of this character are not tabled and surely should not be if this is against the public interest.

As I have indicated, program forecasting is an important element in the budgetary system of the government. One of its main purposes is to provide the Treasury Board with information which forms the basis of an optimum allocation of resources among the competing requirements for all programs in the coming fiscal year. This information is also important for improved over-all government planning in subsequent years beyond the coming fiscal year. In addition, the Program Forecast is a useful vehicle for departmental management in focusing attention on the pattern of current and future expenditures, and in decision-making in respect of the priorities which will be attached to the various programs, activities and projects for which the department is responsible.

The activities of the Department of Industry, Trade and Commerce, involving as they do industrial development and trade promotion ventures, obviously reflect directly on the plans and initiatives of individual companies and business organizations. In explaining the advantages of the proposals contained in program forecasts to the Treasury Board it is often desirable, indeed necessary, to employ specific examples which expose the interests of those individual companies. For example, most firms regard their research and development work as being highly confidential. They are normally attempting to develop a new or better product before their competitors do so. If it is successful, the firm is likely to have an advantage in both the domestic market and in export markets. This is where Industry, Trade and Commerce steps in.

In some instances the Canadian firm is competing against other domestically-based companies, although in many cases it is competing on an international basis with

a wide variety of enterprises in other countries, some with much greater resources at their disposal. Because of the costs of developing new products and the need to protect their interests, most firms will only participate in departmental programs if they have assurance that their affairs will be kept strictly confidential; indeed, there is a confidentiality clause contained in some of the contracts signed between the department and the participating companies.

In respect of dealing with the matter of revealing papers and the adoption of some system for this by the Department of Industry, Trade and Commerce, I am pointing out some of the shortcomings. As I tried to make clear in my opening comments, it is the responsibility of the political leaders to exercise their responsibility in making decisions and to answer the hon. member or any other member of this House in respect of matters of policy being presented for action. However, if the documents in respect of the planning were circulated among members before the government exercised its responsibility in dealing with our democratic system this surely would undermine the system itself.

● (1730)

I understand that in committee—and it is on record in recent months—the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce (Mr. Gillespie) has made a very real effort, on several occasions, to bring forward and present every bit of planning and programming material that he felt he could safely make available without jeopardizing long-range planning where there has been a political decision and where private interests, private industry, would not be jeopardized internationally in competing against firms in foreign countries.

Surely, Mr. Speaker, the power to govern must rest with the government. If we come to the point where we roll back the cabinet decision-making process to this House, where this House sits as a cabinet, instead of the government, then it will be a denial of the basis of our democratic system where government must accept responsibility for the decisions it makes.

If we begin to judge before the programs of the civil servants have been brought to a political head and decided upon, then surely we undermine the decisions to be made and we weaken the ability of the opposition to focus its attack on government. If we can talk about or judge, before the fact of a political decision by cabinet, the priorities and directions of a particular program then it may well be that when the cabinet makes its decision it can say, "You cannot blame us entirely; two or three other parties have been involved in this." Moreover, it would place in great jeopardy the morale, and indeed the competence of the civil service if the decisions of civil servants suddenly become the area of criticism rather than the government's choice as to the proper decision being rightfully the area of criticism.

The hon. member for Toronto-Lakeshore (Mr. Grier) said in his concluding comments, as I recall them, that less and less information is available, that more and more there is bureaucracy, and that less and less the members of this House have available to them the information they need to carry on and cope with the kind of modern government that we have in the 1970s. I believe that the opposite

is true. If I may, Mr. Speaker, I would like to make brief reference to a committee of this House which this morning held an in camera meeting. It was the justice committee. The meeting involved the RCMP and a discussion in great detail of several matters of much public concern. The government felt that the members of the committee had the right to know, without revealing matters of security which might place the public in jeopardy. But, Mr. Speaker, what we are discussing now is a different matter, which might jeopardize long-range planning before political decisions are made on programs drawn up by civil servants.

I end as I began, by saying that I cannot deny the principle of freedom of availability of as much information as possible on government activities and planning. But to intrude on long-range forecasts, bring the civil servants into the forefront and deny political responsibility being placed where it should be, would place our system in great jeopardy.

Mr. H. T. Herbert (Vaudreuil): Mr. Speaker, it is axiomatic that if next year's resources are to be higher by a certain amount than this year's, expenditures for all purposes taken together can rise by no more than the same amount. It is intuitively obvious that it would be more beneficial for the increase to be distributed unevenly among functions according to the exigencies of the period under review. In other words, expenditures should increase at a faster rate than average for some functional programs, should remain stable in others and should actually be reduced in still others to free funds for higher priority purposes. Consequently, not only should departmental programs be viewed as competing with one another for share of the total resources but each program should be viewed as competing with all other programs belonging to the same or other departments.

A major element of the PPB system, therefore, involves seeking the government's guidance as to priorities to be served in allocating resources. This guidance will be sought in the light of forecasts by the Department of Finance as to the magnitude of the funds likely to be available for the next few years according to specific assumptions as to the rate of growth in the economy, tax rates and the appropriate level of borrowing for budgetary and non-budgetary expenditures, subject of course to any overriding considerations as to the fiscal stance necessary to correct any imbalance in the economy.

The recommendations as to priorities are based on analyses made of information drawn from various sources and, in particular, from departmental program review submissions. It will be obvious that the determination of spending priorities and government policy is closely linked. Consequently, these program forecasts necessarily contain information confidential to government as well as to those private institutions or persons who may be involved in the programs financed by the estimates when these are ultimately presented.

The Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce (Mr. Gillespie) has appeared before a committee of this House on several occasions this month during examination of the department's estimates. He has endeavoured to answer fully the questions of committee members in relation to the department's programs and related spending. I believe

that much of the information which hon. members might expect to find in the program forecast working documents has already been provided, while preserving the confidentiality of those matters not in the public domain. The proceedings of these committee hearings are available to hon. members who may be interested.

I want to speak of the types of control which management has. There are two kinds of control, one output oriented and the other input oriented; that is, one emphasizing steps taken to promote the achievement of chosen objectives of a program, and the other emphasizing expenditure limits that are not to be exceeded, or statutes or regulations that are not to be violated.

One is achievement control and the other is resource control. Resource control as defined here is well known to government managers. Whatever specific form this type of control may take it is required because, (a) the control by parliament over votes and over cash appropriated is paramount in our political system; (b) some initial or primary segmentation of votes by major levels of responsibility or by activity or the like will be made, and some control over the financial and personal resources allotted to these segments will have to be maintained; and (c) where a contract or some other form of covenant is made that requires payment in the future, some record of the commitment is likely to be necessary to avoid overcommitment.

These guidelines which are laid down for management control will obviously only be operative if management realizes that some of its basic considerations are to remain confidential in nature, as in executive consideration in any organization. When this confidentiality no longer exists, then these considerations must be of such a guarded nature as to detract from their value to the persons receiving them. I think that any freer release or any lessening in our controls over the confidentiality of documents is going to detract from the value of the reports that are submitted to our ministers and the heads of departments. For that reason, Mr. Speaker, I must support fully the retention of confidentiality in this type of document, while still believing that through committee discussions all essential information that members must have in order to continue their job as watchdog of the public purse is available in these committee discussions and is freely given.

● (1740)

Mr. Deputy Speaker: The hon. member for Gloucester (Mr. Breau).

Mr. Herb Breau (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): Mr. Speaker, I wish to—

Mr. Deputy Speaker: I mean the hon. Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce.

Mr. Breau: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. If I had a preference I would be called the hon. member for Gloucester, because Gloucester, New Brunswick, is a very fine place and I am pleased to be part of it.

In relation to the speech of the hon. member for Toronto-Lakeshore (Mr. Grier), the most inportant part of it concerned matters other than the need for disclosure of program forecasts. The hon. member has pursued that point before, but I think he is confusing the need for program forecasts with the need for evaluation and the need for control over government expenditures. I have very great difficulty in relating these to the need for program forecasts.

The hon. member spoke about forecasts and about the need for parliamentary control, but they are not necessary interdependent. It is not necessary, for example, to have a forecast for a party which hopes to be the executive. It is not necessary for opposition parties to have in their hands the results of program forecasting, because really that is what they are, in order for them to make a judgment. I have never asked for, and I do not think I need, copies of their minutes—if they exist, and I do not think they do. I do not need to listen in to caucus meetings of the New Democratic Party to make up my mind on their policies.

I cannot understand why the hon. member for Toronto-Lakeshore would need forecast submissions by various ministers, various departments, that come to Treasury Board and cabinet in order to make up his mind on the value of these programs. Secondly, I do not understand why he should have trouble arriving at a political judgment as to which programs should be voted for. It seems to me it could happen that they would be interdependent, but not necessarily.

On the question of forecasts, I believe the hon. member for York West (Mr. Fleming) and the hon. member for Vaudreuil-Soulanges have explained the point very well. We are in a parliamentary form of government.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member for Vaudreuil (Mr. Herbert) rises on a point of order.

Mr. Herbert: Mr. Speaker, I hate to interrupt the hon. parliamentary secretary, but it is five years—1968—since the county of Vaudreuil-Soulanges was enlarged to become the county of Vaudreuil.

Mr. Breau: I am very happy that the hon. member has brought about a correction, Mr. Speaker. My error was unintentional. We cannot forget the riding of York West because we have had very prominent members from that riding. I was saying that these two members have explained the difficulties the government is faced with in this request.

Program forecasting was initiated out of a planning budget system with which I am sure the hon. member is in agreement. For that system to work, the President of the Treasury Board requires that every department plans its programs and submits them. These are programs of individual departments and individual ministers. In fact, when a minister goes to cabinet or to Treasury Board with a submission, he is committed to that submission and puts his name to it. He says, "I want this program". The Minister of National Health and Welfare for example, is not responsible for the financing of this country; he is not responsible for fiscal policies nor in deciding how much money should be put into the economy. His job is to look after the health and welfare programs of the country and to have with the provincial governments programs which meet that part of federal government responsibilities. Are

we in the kind of parliamentary system that does not protect the minister? A minister may come to cabinet and ask for something for his department, but the government may feel that because of other priorities or lack of revenue, or because it is time fiscal policies were geared to putting less into the economy, government spending should be reduced.

I believe our parliamentary system of government could not work if a minister had to make public his submissions to cabinet, and this is what the hon. member is asking for. He is asking for the forecast of a minister, a forecast the minister may have arrived at over three, four or five years before going to cabinet or the Treasury Board and fighting his point. Because there is only a certain amount of money available from taxes and other sources of revenue, and because the Treasury Board, the Minister of Finance and other ministers responsible in this area so recommend, the cabinet may decide on priorities which apply not only to that particular department but to all departments. The hon. member may want a system of government that would make available what he asks for, but I do not know of any system which works that way.

A program forecast is a study by a certain department and a forecast of its expenditures for existing or future programs. It seems to me that is the reason we have a cabinet and the reason our type of parliamentary government has an executive. As the hon. member for York West explained, the executive is responsible for presenting programs to parliament, and if they do not work the executive is also responsible. I do not see how a government could function if this type of motion were accepted and forecasts were tabled in the way the hon. member for Toronto-Lakeshore (Mr. Grier) suggests. The hon. member for York West also explained this point in regard to the Department of Industry, Trade and Commerce.

That brings me to the famous evaluation reports. In committee the minister explained that there was no conflict between what the Treasury Board had said in an answer on March 14 and what he had said. The type of evaluation that the President of the Treasury Board (Mr. Drury) was talking about is being made by the department. Like other departments, the Department of Industry, Trade and Commerce does not spend money without questioning how it is spent. Every year when the minister goes to Treasury Board with his estimates, he is responsible for them to cabinet, to Treasury Board and ultimately to this House.

Evaluations are being made, but there are different sorts of evaluation. What the members of the New Democratic Party seem to want is independent evaluation. The hon. member for Oshawa-Whitby (Mr. Broadbent) explained that to me in a committee not long ago when he said he would like to see independent evaluations made. Maybe this is possible, but if any evaluation reports are to be made public they will have to be from an independent body. If you ask a government official who is hired under contract or employed by the public service in a government department to make an analysis of a program or to evaluate it, he will probably take a critical stand. Perhaps he will take such a stand because he wants to improve the program. Are we to put that official on the block and say the evaluation report is to be made public? I do not know any government which functions that way. I wonder if the NDP governments in the provinces of Manitoba, Saskatchewan and British Columbia do that.

• (1750)

Mr. Stevens: Let us deal with Ottawa.

Mr. Breau: Mr. Speaker, members of the opposition want to deal with Ottawa because they are ashamed of what their provincial supporters do. They suggest that Ottawa should do something else. The fact is that Ottawa has the same problems as any province. I say this to illustrate that it is not possible to do some of the things the notice of motion suggests. It would not be possible to do them if this matter had been raised in the Ontario legislature or any other legislature that operates under our system. I do not know of any parliamentary system in the world in which any member of the executive, while preparing forecasts and submissions for the cabinet, would make them public.

Mr. Stevens: Surely no government is as secretive as the one the hon. member supports.

Mr. Breau: I wonder what kind of student of parliamentary affairs the hon. member for York-Simcoe (Mr. Stevens) has been. That cabinet proceedings are secret is well established; I think this applies to any form of government.

Mr. Stevens: Tell us about this government's tinkering.

Mr. Breau: Mr. Speaker, the hon. member could have made a speech had he wanted to do so. I do not know of any government in Canada that operates that way. I should like hon. members to tell me whether there is any parliamentary government which makes public submissions of ministers to cabinet. That system just could not work. This is also true in business. If the board of directors asks somebody in the company for an analysis or an evaluation, that analysis is not made public. The evaluation is for the board of directors to consider and it is confidential. I do not know how any government could function if such evaluations were made public. They are made for the purposes of the department, to enable it to evaluate programs. I do not see how we could make such evaluation reports public and maintain the type of government that we have in Canada.

The hon. member also spoke about parliamentary controls. I do not think program forecasts or evaluation reports have anything to do with parliamentary control. I admit that the hon. member for Toronto-Lakeshore supports a party that does its homework, as is evident when members of that party come to committee and examine officials and ministers. All opposition parties are not like that. I have seen many instances which illustrate this. Indeed, I remember when the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce (Mr. Gillespie) appeared before a committee to present his supplementary estimates and members of the Conservative party were not interested in questioning him on the programs being submitted; they were concerned about procedural questions and making headlines. That is their privilege.

Mr. Stevens: Stick to the facts.

Disclosure of Documents

Mr. Breau: It is the privilege of members to deal in any way they want to with these matters, but they cannot have it both ways. They cannot say, on the one hand, that the committee system does not provide enough opportunity for scrutiny of government spending and, on the other hand, act as if committees exist only to enable them to make political points. Certainly they can make political arguments; they can try to catch the headlines. That is fine. However, they cannot come here and say that the present system does not provide for parliamentary scrutiny of government spending. I submit that it does.

There are many examples to show that since estimates have been studied in committee, there has been better scrutiny. Some hon. members take time to do their homework before questioning officials. I think that is better for them, better for the minister concerned, better for parliament and better for the public. I do not think it is necessary for members of the opposition to have the forecasts of various department or to have the evaluation reports in front of them to scrutinize government spending.

The previous parliament provided opposition parties with funds for research. Some of them used this money for better scrutiny while others used it for different purposes. That is their business; they can do what they want. But they cannot say this government has not been sensitive to that problem, that it did not want better scrutiny and more intelligent discussion of government spending and legislation.

Mr. Hueglin: What about the Auditor General's report?

Mr. Breau: The hon. member refers to the Auditor General's report. There are Auditor General's reports relating to Conservative governments in Canada, and they are no better than the reports we have seen in recent years.

Mr. Hueglin: Stick to Ottawa.

Mr. Breau: It is the job of the Auditor General to be critical, to look for waste and to suggest ways in which accounting procedures can be improved. That is his job. In any big organization, certainly in any government organization, there is room for critical comments by an auditor. If we consider the provinces of New Brunswick and Ontario which have Conservative governments, and examine the reports of their provincial auditors general, we will find that the tone is about the same as that of the report tabled yesterday. In some instances they are worse.

Mr. Stevens: They could not be worse.

Mr. Breau: An hon. member on the other side was scandalized because some tenders were opened in private. Let me tell him that his supporters run provincial governments in this country which do not even call for tenders.

An hon. Member: Shame.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, please. I think the debate is getting somewhat off the course on which it is supposed to stay.

Mr. Breau: Mr. Speaker, my remarks have to do with parliamentary control. That is what this notice of motion is about. I will stick to the motion.

[Mr. Stevens.]

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Question.

Mr. Breau: I cannot support the motion, for the reasons I have stated. Like the hon. member for York West and the hon. member for Vaudreuil (Mr. Herbert), I cannot support the motion. You cannot ask a minister to come to cabinet and make a good case for something if he must make public the reasons for his stand. That is what this motion seeks. The hon. member asks for certain forecasts to be made public. Surely that is not acceptable.

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Let us take the vote and find out.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, please. It being six o'clock, the time appointed for the consideration of private members' business has expired and I do now leave the chair. The House will resume at eight o'clock.

At six o'clock the House took recess.

AFTER RECESS

The House resumed at 8 p.m.

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

CRIMINAL CODE

REINSTATEMENT OF LAW RELATING TO CAPITAL PUNISHMENT THAT EXISTED PRIOR TO DECEMBER 30, 1972

The House resumed consideration of the motion of Mr. Allmand that Bill C-2, to amend the Criminal Code, be read the second time and referred to the Standing Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): Mr. Speaker, at five o'clock I was indicating to the House that on the basis of my personal persuasions—and they represent the views of the majority of the people I have consulted in the city of Edmonton and the surrounding area—I do not favour the passage of this bill. The people whom I consulted preferred the law of 1961.

The Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) discussed one aspect of this matter the other day on which the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Stanfield) expressed great reserve. That was the question of the royal prerogative. The royal prerogative has been used in countless cases. In fact, it has been used in all cases since the last execution in 1962, sometimes literally one minute before midnight, even after the government had announced it would not interfere with the sentence. I recall in particular a case in Montreal generally known as the Santa Claus murders.

This question of the royal prerogative bothers me. It exists in law. We are not attacking the authority of the constitutional monarch in these matters, but the consideration and advice given to the monarch, or the monarch's representative, which must be followed is that of the treasury benches. Knowing something about the composi-

tion and the actions of individuals on the treasury benches, if the Prime Minister or other senior ministers have the personal persuasion that total abolition is right, no cabinet minister is going to make an issue of a matter which, if his views were to prevail, would mean the death of an individual. There are far better grounds for dissent than that.

I do not think there is any member of this House or many people in this country who, as a matter of principle and after consideration, would go to a showdown vote in order to execute a man if there should be a change in the law. One reason for using the royal prerogative is the view of the Prime Minister, whoever he may be at the time, and we have had a succession of abolitionists at all times. I find it uncomfortable that odd kinds of pressure of a political nature can be brought to bear in any case. There is a political aura or atmosphere that applies in the final determination of the exercise of the royal prerogative. This makes me uncomfortable, because whether a man shall die or not usually depends upon the political situation.

Earlier this afternoon I said that I very much doubted that with the cabinet we had in October, November and December of 1970 at the time of the Quebec unrest, when a brave stand was taken by this government in invoking the War Measures Act, anyone involved in a killing during that crisis would have benefited from the royal prerogative. The situation has now changed. There have been appeals, and so on, and we do not know how these cases are going to turn out. I will not comment on them because they are still subject to appeal. However, that is the wrong type of influence that can apply in the exercise of the royal prerogative.

● (2010)

I do not know what the ultimate answer might be. Perhaps we should return to the days when the royal prerogative was used sparingly and in appropriate cases; it then had much greater value. To my mind, the royal prerogative has been abused and as a result it has become somewhat meaningless. One could say it has been used as a device to bring in the abolition of capital punishment by the back door. If there is to be abolition it ought to be as a result of a decision of Parliament.

Let us approach the issue in a straightforward manner. Then, I am sure, if the majority is in favour of abolition everyone will accept the decision. I am not in favour of abolition, but if that is the will of parliament I will certainly accept it as I have accepted other legislation passed by the House over the last 16 years which I have not greeted with much enthusiasm. However, since it was passed by majority decision in a democratic country, one accepts these things and loyally tries to fulfil the law.

I know that many of my hon. friends wish to speak on this subject. I will say, in resumé, that I do not believe a case has been made out for an extension of the moratorium. Certainly there is much need for us to spend our time on other and more important business. Again, I do not favour what one might describe as the spurious nod or bow toward abolition which is embodied in the present bill. Either the government should have the courage of its convictions in applying the moral and logical principle of abolition, or it should abandon many of its present arguments. I do not agree with those arguments, but I certainly support the right of others to hold those views—and they hold them strongly. But let us bring them out in clearcut fashion, not in a crablike, sideways fashion. What I did five years ago with regard to the bill then presented, I propose to do with the bill before us now. I do not think it should go any further.

Mr. Sinclair Stevens (York-Simcoe): Mr. Speaker, if I were an abolitionist I could not support the bill before us as it would retain the death penalty for certain crimes. Those who in conscience are against any form of capital punishment should reread the bill before voting on it this coming Tuesday. Indeed, I would urge them to read it and then ask themselves whether in all conscience they, as abolitionists, can support it.

As a retentionist, I cannot support the bill on second reading, which is agreement in principle. In my view the bill is too limited in its definition of murders punishable by death. Should the bill carry, however, I hope to be able to propose certain amendments which, if adopted, would widen the number of cases in which murder would be punishable by the loss of the offender's life. Later I intend to outline in more detail the nature of my suggested amendments in that respect.

First, let me summarize my position on this measure, one which causes a great deal of concern to many people including myself. I am pleased that 89 speakers have already taken part in the debate, including the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Stanfield) and the Solicitor General (Mr. Allmand) who is sponsoring the bill. These speeches have given me the opportunity to review the thrust of the arguments put forward by those who support this legislation and those who oppose it.

One might ask whether, as the ninetieth speaker on the subject, there is anything left for me to say. I am sure there is a great deal to be said. The sponsor of this bill, the Solicitor General, and his leader, the Prime Minister, are abolitionists. Their speeches are quite clear on this point. Yet they wish parliament to accept a bill which is retentionist to at least a limited extent. Read the speech of the Prime Minister and then try to justify his support for the bill as an abolitionist.

The fact is this: what is taking place is a sham. Let us judge the government on its record. No one has been executed in this country since 1962, yet many have been convicted of murder and sentenced to be hanged. All sentences have been commuted by this government or its predecessor. In fact, on one day in 1968, January 4, they commuted 18 death sentences. Is it just coincidence that the amendments to the Criminal Code which provided for the death penalty in circumstances similar to those outlined in the bill now before us came into force on December 29, 1967? This was six days prior to the 18 commutations.

Is it not fair to suggest that those in the government at that time who supported the bill in the House in November and December, 1967, deliberately delayed commuting the sentences so that their action would not influence the passage of that bill through the House? I am suggesting

that here we find a clear example of the actions of those who formed the government being in sharp contrast with the legislation they recommended that parliament pass in 1967 and which they again recommend in 1973.

Having said this, I believe it is important we review the situation as outlined by the Prime Minister when he spoke in this debate. Early in his address he said:

> If Canada is a civilized place, it is that way because of the concern Canadians have for one another.

I hope there is no question in this chamber that Canada is in fact a civilized place. The Prime Minister then touched on another matter. He said he believed we should take our place with other countries in the world, by, in effect, voting for abolition. I think it is wise for this House to remember that there are only nine countries in the world that in fact have abolished capital punishment. Is the Prime Minister suggesting that if we do not become an abolitionist country, somehow or other we are not as civilized as countries that have? The countries which, according to the United Nations, have abolition at the present time are as follows: Austria, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Finland, Iceland, Uruguay and Venezuela. Those are the only member countries of the United Nations that have not retained capital punishment in their judicial systems.

● (2020)

In considering the bill before the House it is wise that we not be caught up in the general impression that somehow we are catching up to the rest of the world which to a great degree is abolitionist, because the fact is that the rest of the world to a great degree is retentionist. If we are to follow the world, then we should be retentionist. On this point I have before me a publication produced by the United Nations, dated February 23, 1972, which is very revealing. This report reads:

> Whilst the imposition of the death penalty for reasons of vengeance or revenge finds few if any advocates and the notion of a premeditated judicial killing is generally abhorred, retributive justice and necessity in the public interest are still considerations which hold considerable sway as new forms of terror and violence evolve in society; the tendency to revert to the death penalty as the main deterrent is conspiciously increased.

This, I remind hon. members, is a United Nations' report. It continues:

> There are large bodies of people and a wide range of authority who believe capital punishment is necessary either as a deterrent or at least as a matter of basic justice.
>
> For every state member of the United Nations devoted to the abolition of capital punishment in law or fact, there would appear to be three others legally committed to the sanction and use—at least as a very last resort. Moreover, there are examples of some states abolishing the death penalty but then returning to it, either in law or practice, either because they saw no adequate way of dealing with certain offences or because they feel the need for some final and extreme public denouncement of the particular behaviour for which the sentence is awarded.

The publication then goes on to state:

> An important consideration in any truly international appraisal is that most published studies have taken their data and orientations from the developed world and largely from the western world. The result has been a rather misleading picture which has frequently given unwarranted universality to values, theories and practices prevalent in the west in academic circles.

I emphasize the words "academic circles".

[Mr. Stevens.]

> It has sometimes become unfashionable to support capital punishment. Civilization is tolerance, and severity in punishment is a sign of backwardness and regression and so liberal thinking and the abolition of the death penalty are expected to coincide. Therefore writings available on the death penalty leave the impression that there is a certain inevitability about the movement to more "civilized standards" and fewer executions. A reader could be excused for concluding that throughout the world there is in fact an irresistible and ineluctable trend to abolish capital punishment, or that even where the death penalty is still a last legal resort, the penal codes have fewer offences leading to capital punishment, or methods of execution are becoming more humane, or that the person liable to the extreme penalty will usually have the benefit of the best legal safeguards.

This is the conclusion to the United Nations' report:

> In fact, the world picture provides no such assurances. It is extremely doubtful whether there is any uniform progression towards the restriction of the use of the death penalty.

Surely it is important, when we consider the bill before us, to bear in mind that we are the ones who will be out of step with the world if we accept a judicial system that does not include the death penalty among its provisions. On this point it has been suggested by some that we should vote for the bill, allow it to go to committee and there amend it to overcome one of the objections that people sometimes raise, which is that while they feel the death penalty is wrong, there should be a mandatory 25-year sentence of imprisonment or a life sentence.

I believe that a life sentence would impose an impossible burden on prison officers who would look after men who had nothing to lose, in effect. Just think, Mr. Speaker, of the ramifications of the suggestion of a mandatory life sentence. You would be suggesting that men would be confined to prison for life. Should they, either as a result of an escape or even within the prison walls, murder someone, they have nothing to fear. They would not fear any greater judgment. I suggest that those who advocate passage of the bill with a view to its being amended to include a provision relating to a life sentence are being unrealistic in their attitude.

I also believe that it is important that the government and Members of Parliament bear in mind that there is a great danger of the law getting out of line with the moral feelings of the majority of the people in the country. This is a point that I know many like to skip over. In this regard, I found it very odd that in speaking on this subject the Solicitor General used figures in, I felt, an extremely unfair way. Let me quote what he said on January 26, when he referred, at page 689 of *Hansard*, to what he called a profile of public attitudes in respect of the death penalty. He stated that the profile showed that those in favour of capital punishment in all instances, and those opposed to capital punishment in all instances balanced each other off with 19.1 per cent and 20.9 per cent respectively; and 59 per cent favoured retention of capital punishment in limited cases.

● (2030)

What an interesting twist to put on figures! Any member of this House might have taken the same profile and pointed out, with the same weight, that in fact 79.9 per cent of the people in that profile said they wanted some form of capital punishment. However, the impression left by our Solicitor General was that somehow those for

retention offset those who were against, and there was a great middle area in favour of some form of capital punishment in at least a limited number of cases. I feel this is not being frank with the people of Canada.

If the Prime Minister, the Solicitor General and other members of this cabinet are abolitionists in fact, I suggest they should accept the defeat of this bill and introduce an abolitionist bill which they feel is in line, presumably, with their conscience and actions. I think it is unfair to talk abolition yet introduce a bill which appears to be retentionist. This is particularly true in view of the record since 1962, which shows a lack of serious intention to allow the preceding bill to be effective in the sense that there were executions.

In respect of the question of what people want, I think we should take note of the Gallup poll held fairly recently in Canada; that was in February of 1972. It showed that 63 per cent supported the restoration of the death penalty in Canada. This was broken down to indicate that in English-speaking Canada 58 per cent were of that feeling, while in French-speaking Canada 74 per cent were in favour. It is interesting to note that going back to 1968 the figures show that those in favour of retention of the death penalty amounted to only 53 per cent. There is obviously a growing tendency among people in Canada to favour the death penalty.

I suggest the Prime Minister and the Solicitor General, instead of taking an academic approach and catering to those who favour abolition, should trust the people. In many ways, the present government since the election of October 30 has shown mystification as to why it did not receive a bigger mandate. I suggest one reason is that it has forgotten to listen to and trust the people of this country.

Many hon. members have canvassed their constituencies to determine local feelings on the subject of the death penalty. In my riding, of the 5,203 who responded to the questionnaire, 89.4 per cent indicated they wanted the death penalty retained in some cases, while 10.6 per cent were in favour of abolition. This is not unique. The hon. member for Esquimalt-Saanich (Mr. Munro) carried out a similar poll in which it was asked whether the death penalty should be restored to the statute books. He found that 87.2 per cent of the families responding were in favour. The hon. member for Dartmouth-Halifax East (Mr. Forrestall) carried out another survey and found an overwhelming majority in favour of the restoration of capital punishment.

That hon. member's questionnaire asked whether capital punishment should be abolished. Forty-four per cent of those who responded strongly disagreed, 26 per cent indicated some disagreement and only 11 per cent agreed strongly it should be abolished. Surely these statistics mean something, and if we in this House ignore them I feel we are not giving proper representation to the constituents who elected us. Having regard to the world situation, contrary to the impression perhaps left by certain government spokesmen, the fact is that the death penalty is universally favoured throughout the world. This is borne out by the United Nations' report of February, 1973, to which I have referred.

The Prime Minister did touch on whether capital punishment is in fact a deterrent, although he did so very quickly: he said all of us have the figures, and he is satisfied it is not a deterrent to murder. I hope all members of the House take the opportunity to look at the statistics. I am surprised that the right hon. Prime Minister was able to satisfy himself, after looking at the figures, that capital punishment is not a deterrent. If those statistics prove anything at all, I suggest they prove exactly the reverse.

On page 6 of a Statistics Canada publication entitled "Murder Statistics, 1971" we find listed the number of murders reported to Statistics Canada for each of the years 1954 to 1971. It also gives the rate per 100,000 of population. In 1954 there were 125 murders reported, and in 1962 there were 217 reported. Between those years there was a relatively insignificant increase as far as rate is concerned. In 1954, Statistics Canada shows exactly one per 100,000, and in 1962 there was 1.4. In 1971 there were 425 murders, which was a rate of 2.2 per 100,000. Rather than showing this as an insignificant increase, I think it is fair to point out to the House and to the people of Canada that it is an increase of more than 100 percent. It is an increase from one per 100,000 to 2.2 per 100,000.

Surely the suggestion that if it could be shown that capital punishment is a deterrent, some of those who are not satisfied would be in favour of capital punishment, is not relevant. The point is that statistics only show the number of crimes and the failure of capital punishment as a deterrent. Those statistics can never show how often capital punishment has deterred a potential murderer from committing a crime, or how often it has encouraged one to leave his gun behind. I suggest that is an important point to be borne in mind when considering the bill before us. I suggest that the question of whether capital punishment is or is not a deterrent is secondary to the main question.

● (2040)

Are we in this House prepared to accept that there is no crime, no evil so heinous that capital punishment need not be inflicted upon the person who commits it? To me that is the basic question before us. If you say yes, but only yes, then you are an abolitionist. Surely if you say no, then you are a retentionist and it is only the degree that has to be determined. If we suggest it is possibly not a deterrent to have the death penalty, that is an extremely weak argument because taken to extreme it would mean that we should drop all penalties. Should we drop penalties in respect of all crimes? I think the statistics offered by the academics would also show that in respect of crime generally there has been a substantial increase. If one accepts the argument that has been suggested in this House concerning capital punishment, that capital punishment is not a deterrent to crime, perhaps we should give up on all forms of punishment.

Let me come to a specific matter which I find quite hard to reconcile. In his speech, the Prime Minister began with two premises. The first is his belief that wanton or unnecessary killing is evil. The second is the requirement for self-protection, be it individual or collective in the form of a society. He then stated that it is justifiable for society to use capital punishment as a means of self-

defence. Is the Prime Minister suggesting it is all right to take another person's life in self-defence, and that somehow it is wrong if a police officer apprehends that person, brings him to justice and he is finally convicted and executed? Is he inviting people literally to take the law into their own hands, or to arm themselves, in the sense that if they are to be attacked they can do no wrong so long as it is simply in self-defence? This philosophy frightens me.

I believe public opinion in this country indicates that the public wishes the retention of capital punishment at least for certain crimes. Canadians do not want to see a sort of self-justice encouraged in the country. I believe it is an integral part of the judicial system that there be a penalty for the most heinous or evil crimes which may be committed. It is very easy for members to sit in this House in their comfortable chairs and speak on this subject in academic terms. However, I can assure members that if they had been at the scene of a crime, as I have, and if they had seen the victim of a murderer lying on the street bleeding to death, and had seen the risks the police officers took in bringing the person who committed the crime to justice, very few of them would stand up in this House and suggest there should be complete abolition as has been suggested here.

To those who have played a part in commuting death sentences, may I say it would be wise for them to read their own publications in which cases are cited number by number indicating actually what has transpired in respect of the crimes in which the death sentence has been commuted. Let me read some of those cases in which the death sentence has been commuted. For example, there is case No. 27, of July 18, 1969. It reads:

> The killing took place in St. Boniface, Manitoba, and the victim was a police constable who was responding to a burglar alarm at a local store. When he stepped out of the cruiser car he was shot by one of the hold-up men. Four men were charged with capital murder. Three men were convicted of non-capital murder and sentenced to life imprisonment. The fourth man was convicted of capital murder but his sentence was commuted to life imprisonment.

Then we have case No. 28, of August 23, 1969, which reads:

> This killing took place in the town of Sandwich West, Ontario. The victim, a police constable, Sandwich West police department, was responding to a call concerning domestic complaint. As he approached the residence of the accused, he was shot and killed. There were three shots fired into the victim. Two other Sandwich West police constables who went to assistance were also shot by the accused and wounded. One member lost sight of one eye and the second suffered the loss of a lung. The accused, age 24, was arrested and charged with capital murder. He was found guilty and sentenced to hang. Sentence was commuted to life imprisonment.

I could continue reading the various cases in which commutation has been allowed. I feel it is a very sobering thing for a moment to start thinking about the victims who were involved in the various crimes. Basically, however, I want to put on the record, as I indicated, that I believe there is a place in our criminal process for the death penalty.

I do not believe the government is being fair with the people of Canada. The government has introduced a bill which it thinks perhaps caters to both sides. It looks as if it is retentionist, yet the government does not seem to have an honest desire to bring in retentionist legislation. To that end I feel this bill, if it should receive second reading—and I sincerely hope it will not—should be amended at the committee stage so that crimes which are punishable by death include others in addition to those suggested in this bill. My hon. friend in the NDP indicated that he thought it should include pickpocketing. I would point out to him that certain communist countries have included that offence under capital punishment as well as various other economic matters.

Let me summarize my proposed amendments. I would point out that in my opinion it is necessary that the law with regard to the death penalty should apply where a person causes the death of a human being while committing or attempting to commit rape. This was included in our law until a few years ago. I believe there should also be provision for the death penalty where a person causes the death of another while committing or attempting to commit an offence under section 24 of the Criminal Code, which is the kidnapping section. I believe it should apply where a person causes the death of a human being while committing or attempting to commit a crime under section 76.1 of the Criminal Code, which is the section on skyjacking.

● (2050)

I also believe it should be applied in respect of any person who counsels, procures or incites another person to commit murder, whether or not the murder itself is punishable by death. I do not propose those amendments, Mr. Speaker, because I understand it is virtually impossible for me to propose them at the present time, but should the bill be passed into committee I hope at that stage to be able to raise them.

In short, as I mentioned at the beginning, I am the ninetieth speaker on this subject. I feel that it is to the credit of my party that I am its forty-third speaker so far. I also wish to point out that speakers from the Social Credit party have been 11 in number, from the NDP 15, and from the government party 21. In short, I believe that this bill should be voted down, be you an abolitionist or a retentionist.

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, I wonder if the hon. member for York-Simcoe (Mr. Stevens) would mind accepting one question. When he gave a list of countries which he said were all the countries in the world that were abolitionist, how come he missed the United Kingdom?

Mr. Stevens: I spoke today to the person who prepared the report for the United Nations in New York. I asked him to give me the up to date list as to which countries they tabulate as being those that did not have capital punishment in their system at the present time. He gave me that list. I specifically asked him about the United Kingdom and he said it still had capital punishment for certain crimes, I believe one of them being treason and other crimes of that nature.

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Has the hon. member checked with the authorities in the United King-

dom to find out what is the nature of the legislation passed there?

An hon. Member: You don't believe in the United Nations?

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): I don't believe in the hon. member's statistics.

Mr. Stevens: If our government telephone privileges allowed me to make a long-distance call to London, England, I might well have done that. But I can tell you, Mr. Speaker, that if the hon. member does not believe my statistics, perhaps he believes the statistics of the New York *Times* in which the report was originally published.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Gilbert Rondeau (Shefford): Mr. Speaker, the bill before the House, concerning the abolition of the death penalty, being of the highest importance, reflection and soul-searching should be the keynote of the debate for all of us. All my colleagues who with me will have to reach that important decision, know that it weigh heavy with responsibility. As for me, I do not feel that anyone can avoid his responsibilities by basing himself on a so-called public opinion which has been, and will be, shaped by well orchestrated propaganda bent on exciting the masses, moving them to cheap emotions and sentimentalism.

One thing has always struck me, Mr. Speaker, on hearing speeches on the abolition of capital punishment: individuals are so human, when capital punishment is being discussed, that they want to "humanize" dangerous criminals, rehabilitate them and spare them the death penalty.

On the other hand, it is these same people who cry out loudly for abortion, to kill innocent human beings and satisfy the whims of the weak and the depraved. They want to be humane to criminals who endanger the lives of innocent people, and they think it a crime to bring innocent people into the world. And so to my mind these people bear the sign of the beast in a century in which truth has become falsehood, and falsehood truth.

The Hon. Pierre Laporte was a victim of too much leniency in the enforcement of the death penalty. Not for a moment did his killers fear the death penalty, because it did not exist. Nor did Kennedy's murderer fear the death penalty for an instant, for the same reason. Assassins of all kinds and revolutionaries do not want the death penalty. Nor do anarchists, who advocate and organize violence, want the death penalty. You have to be pretty simple to think that murderers can still be made "humane".

The 24 Nazi war criminals at the Nuremberg trials in October 1946 would also have been glad if the death penalty had not existed to make them pay for their crimes. The death penalty was all right for the nazi murderers, but some think that the death penalty should not exist for murderers who are not nazis. There cannot be a double standard. There must be a death penalty for all murderers, as for the Nazi murderers.

[*English*]

In 1935, just before J. Edgar Hoover said, at the end of three years of repeal of the Eighteenth Amendment, that they were three years of "the most terrible period of criminal history in the history of America," Dick Borden wrote:

> Death for dealers of death is a policy that works.
>
> At the close of the seventeenth century the English faced a crime wave far worse than ours. A trip from one English city to another, in those days, was a hazardous adventure. Some roads were so unsafe as to be literally impassable. Endless murders and robberies took place on the streets of London.
>
> How did the English end this crime wave?
>
> Not by calling in psychiatrists or theorists of moral uplift.
>
> The English ended their crime wave by calling in Jack Ketch.
>
> When a murderer was caught, they turned him over to the hangman. Brutal? Yes—but it worked.
>
> By the end of the century such criminal strains in England were largely stamped out and the country has been notably free from crimes of violence ever since.
>
> Death for dealers of death is a policy that works.

In spite of the repeated statement that hanging is not a deterrent to murder, American gangsters long complained that it was. Nor have statistics belied their complaint—far from it. Life imprisonment is not only more cruel, but is a most unfair and a much greater burden on good citizens. Let us not give up one unpleasant measure only to adopt a more unpleasant and much less successful one.

Melvin Mann in *Life Line*, Dallas, Texas, reprinted in *The Sword of the Lord* and reported in *Evangelical Baptist* of February, 1973, wrote:

> Americans for Effective Law Enforcement believes that if the threat of capital punishment were real, rather than imagined, murders would in many cases, in fact, be deterred. Evidence to support this contention was found in the study made in 1970 and 1971 by the Los Angeles police department. This study included the compilation of statements taken from persons who had been arrested for crimes of violence. Those from whom statements were taken either had been unarmed during the committing of their crimes or had not used arms which they carried.

● (2100)

> Here are excerpts from the report on that study:
>
> Margaret Elizabeth Daly, of San Pedro, was arrested August 28, 1961, for assaulting Pete Gibbons with a knife. She stated to investigating officers: "Yeh, I cut him and I should have done a better job. I would have killed him but I didn't want to go to the gas chamber."
>
> Orelius Matthew Stewart, an ex-convict with a long felony record, was arrested March 3, 1960, for attempted bank robbery. He was subsequently convicted and sentenced to the state prison. While discussing the matter with his probation officer he stated: "The officer who arrested me was by himself, and if I had wanted, I could have blasted him. I thought about it at the time, but I changed my mind when I thought of the gas chamber."
>
> Salvador A. Estrada, a 19-year old youth with a four-year criminal record, was arrested February 8, 1960, just after he had stolen an automobile from a parking lot by wiring around the ignition switch. As he was being booked at the station, he stated to the arresting officers: "I want to ask you one question. Do you think they will repeal the capital punishment law? If they do, we can kill all you cops and judges without worrying about it."
>
> Ramon Jesse Velarde was arrested September 26, 1960, while attempting to rob a supermarket. At that time, armed with a loaded .38 caliber revolver, he was holding several employees of the supermarket as hostages. He subsequently escaped from jail and was apprehended at the Mexican border. While being returned to Los Angeles for prosecution, he made the following statement to the transporting officers: "I think I might have escaped at the market if I had shot one or more of them. I probably would have done it if it wasn't for the gas chamber. I'll

only do seven or ten years for this. I don't want to die. No matter what happens, you want to live another day.

[*Translation*]

I could supply a long list of confessions by criminals with files in various police departments, who have said time and time again that the death penalty was a deterrent against more serious crimes.

And the article ends as follows:

[*English*]

That society which coddles criminals and does not consider the victims of crime needs to rethink its system of justice.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Speaker, in the *Christian Crusade Newsletter* of April 1, 1973, one could also read a very interesting article on the deterrent effect of capital punishment on murder. It said:

[*English*]

Most sensible people remain convinced that fear of the penalty of death will deter some people who may be considering committing homicide. Most of us know that the possibility of the death penalty would deter us if we were tempted to such a horrendous act.

The abolition of the death penalty has created an incentive to kill. Consider a criminal engaged in a major crime such as kidnapping or armed robbery. He is anxious to escape capture and punishment. If he is caught and convicted, the penalty is substantially the same whether he has killed or not. His security is enhanced if no witnesses survive who can identify him for the police and give evidence against him in court. The abolition of the death penalty has placed the lives of many innocent people in jeopardy. It illustrates the paradox that characterizes this epoch: intense concern for the rights and well-being of the criminal; little concern for the rights and well-being of the victim.

A shock of horror swept this nation when in Khartoum, the capital city of the Sudan, the Black September group of Palestinian guerrillas cold-bloodedly and brutally murdered the U.S. Ambassador to the Sudan, Cleo A. Noel, Jr., and the Chargé d'Affaires, George C. Moore. Those who have succeeded in abolishing the death penalty in the U.S. share some of the responsibility for these deaths.

The guerrillas claim they killed because their demands were rejected. One of these demands was that Sirhan Sirhan, Arab assassin of Senator Kennedy, be freed. This demand was possible because Sirhan Sirhan is alive. After the death of Senator Kennedy, he was arrested, tried, convicted and sentenced to death. This sentence was commuted to life imprisonment when the death penalty was abolished. His presence in prison provided an incentive for the crime.

Most violent criminals have colleagues and friends who are also violent. Doubtless many ruthless men are presently considering their choice of victims to kidnap in order to force the release of some imprisoned murderer. One successful venture would trigger an epidemic.

Many thinking people throughout the world must have been startled when the U.S. Secretary of State, William P. Rogers, urged the Sudanese authorities to execute the murderers of Cleo A. Noel and George C. Moore. They knew that the American authorities could not have executed the assassins if the crime had been committed on American soil. To them this must have seemed imperialist hypocrisy, flavoured with colonialism and racism—one law for the rich, the U.S.A.—another for the poor, the Sudan.

Whatever their motives, those who have succeeded in abolishing the death penalty in this country, have merely substituted the deaths of the innocent for the guilty.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Speaker, any criminal who intends to commit any criminal act thinks about the consequences he might suffer. If the law is very liberal, as some people want to keep it in Canada, and his act or acts cannot passibly put him in a serious predicament he will make little of the consequences resulting from the act he intends to commit. In any case, a law that is too liberal, too permissive is the main cause of murder.

Mr. Speaker, it is strange to see how some members like to quote excerpts from statements by individuals who never had anything to do with criminals. For example, most judges in Canada have asked for retention of the death penalty on several occasions; a brief submitted to Parliament in January by the Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police included recommendations on capital punishment. I am very surprised to see that up to now this government has disregarded the recommendations made by those with the most experience with criminals, those who have to chase them. Policemen in Canada highly recommend capital punishment for criminals, not only for murderers of policemen but for any individual, any Canadian. They consider that if the law is to protect policemen it should also protect all members of society without any form of discrimination.

On page 15 of the brief submitted to the House of Commons early in January 1973, one could read, and I quote:

● (2100)

[*English*]

The Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police go on record at this time as stating publicly that unless the voice of the people is heard and that the comments made by this association, as a result of practical experience, are seriously considered and acted upon accordingly, society might well tend to take the law into its own hands and create more problems than the abolitionists' suggestions would propose to solve.

It is sad that in this day and age people are starting to think that they will have to take whatever means necessary to defend themselves rather than rely on the law and the courts.

Acceptability of the death penalty is also maintained by the overwhelming majority of judges who surely must be recognized for their sense of justice, impartiality and fair play.

[*Translation*]

And, on page 3 of that same brief, the Chiefs of Police of Canada had this to say:

[*English*]

Is society justified in taking away a life? This question can be answered by another question, is society justified in making war? There is a fundamental answer which even from the philosophical point of view cannot be refuted and this applies in all cases! Society does have the right to protect itself by whatever means are necessary.

In supporting the retention of the death penalty, the strongest argument probably lies in the fact that the objections submitted by abolitionists are based on argument and debate. On the other hand, the retentionists rely on simple facts... our system of government is based on the will of society. Independently of what the legislators think or feel and independently of what academics may advance, if we accept the principle of democracy we must accept the will of the people. It would appear that the eloquent description of Lincoln of a democratic government referred to in the introduction of this brief has not been given full value of late. We do have a government "for the people" and "of the people" but certainly not "by the people", since their wish, as so openly expressed, for the retention of the death penalty as well as the imposition of that death penalty for which legislation presently exists has constantly been ignored.

For example, in support of the police approach to the deterrent value of any punishment, Dr. C. H. S. Jayewardene, professor of criminology at the University of Ottawa states that "if a threat is an empty one that cannot or will not ever be actualized, it will not influence conscious or unconscious deliberations of the individual". It is therefore not a question as to whether society imposes capital punishment or life imprisonment for murder, it is whether those sentences are actually carried out. It is only if the sentences in either cases are actually carried out, will the punishment serve as effective deterrent. As stated in an article of the Ottawa *Journal* of Saturday, November 11, 1972, it is not the severity of the punishment but the certainty that appears to be related to crime rates. Therefore the certainty of the death penalty for the crime of murder amongst others would certainly qualify as the maximum deterrent.

In the joint committee of the Senate and House of Commons report of June 27, 1956, it is stated in part that "capital punishment is not an effective deterrent; it has no unique deterrent effect which would not be accomplished by imprisonment." We respectfully submit that the so-called life imprisonment of 20 years for the most callous murder simply means that at some time in the seventh year of the sentence, the murderer is eligible for parole.

The Royal Commission on Capital Punishment in its 1949-1953 report, speaking against capital punishment suggests that the death penalty, because so many sentences have been set aside, tends to degrade the administration of justice.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Speaker, irrespective of the sentences which could be passed by the judges and the convictions which could be executed, it must be recognized that if those sentences are not effectively served and that the state reverses the decisions of judges and jurys—because the cabinet can always reverse legal decisions—the effects of the death penalty under any circumstance will be absolutely destroyed even if stricter legislation is passed.

Mr. Speaker, it is unfortunate to note that the Canadian government has given up its responsibility as far as the protection of the individual is concerned. We all have humanitarian feelings for criminals, but when we discuss the protection of the individual in this House, we would appear to be out of step with what the government would like to see as established policy for the Criminal Code.

Mr. Speaker, we should also consider that a number of homicides could be prevented by having the death penalty in our statutes. It will be said that the number cannot be known. Evidently it cannot be known, there can be no computation of homicides unknown and which have not taken place. However, it is clear that such legislation is like a sword of Damocles held over the heads of would-be criminals, a sword which can fall at any time once justice has rendered its verdict. If the death penalty does not have a dissuasive effect on the murderers of Canada, why would all sentences meted out by all judges of Canada have a dissuasive effect on crime in Canada?

If the death penalty does not prevent a murderer from committing a murder, why would a two- or three-year prison sentence for burglary lessen in criminals the will to repeat such a crime? Such an argument makes one question the rationale of justice in Canada. If the death penalty has no value as a deterrent for criminals, why would the sentences given by all judges have any value in reducing infractions against Canadian laws?

Mr. Speaker, we have made a try since 1967, when the death penalty was abolished. Now, since that time, all sentences were commuted by the cabinet, and that is one reason why we realize today that murderers are not afraid of justice, are not afraid of being convicted and are laughing at the judges. Why? Because they know very well that at the right time, the cabinet—and especially the right hon. Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) who declared that as long as he would be Prime Minister there would be no hanging in Canada—will commute the sentence.

Mr. Breau: He did not say that.

Mr. Rondeau: Mr. Speaker, as a result of such a policy of liberality in the face of the law, we will unfortunately witness more and more difficult situations where the individual will be less and less protected, because the criminal feels more and more protected by the law.

[*English*]

Mr. W. C. Scott (Victoria-Haliburton): Mr. Speaker, in rising to add my remarks to the debate on Bill C-2 I would like to lend my support to those speakers who have pointed out to this House that we are not debating the issue of capital punishment. We are, in fact, debating the question of whether or not we should put the question in mothballs and debate it again five years from now.

● (2120)

I do not agree with this method of dealing with such a serious matter, Mr. Speaker. When we debated this same bill in the very same manner more than five years ago, it was the understanding of those who took part in that debate that the House would deal with the issue of capital punishment at the end of a five-year trial period. It was very clear to all of us that for five years there would be a ban on capital punishment except for murderers of policemen and prison guards.

The five years are up, Mr. Speaker, and we are saying today the same things that we said back in 1967 about the pros and cons of capital punishment. We do not have any new material and we certainly do not have any new statistics. We do not have any new material to discuss for the simple reason the federal cabinet did not carry out the wishes of parliament. The federal cabinet has commuted every death sentence handed down by the courts since that day in 1967 when parliament decreed that there would be two types of murder, capital and non-capital, and that those persons convicted of capital murder would suffer the death penalty. The guidelines laid down by parliament were clearcut and it is obvious that the federal cabinet has been following a policy of flouting the law and the will of parliament.

Webster's dictionary describes the word "flout" as "to treat with contemptuous disregard." That definition is the best we could find to describe what has happened over the past five years. We in parliament had good reason to think that in those five years we would learn a great deal about the deterrent effect of the new approach that we worked out in 1967. However, as it has turned out we might just as well have said that murderers of policemen and prison guards would be treated no differently than other criminals.

What has happened is that parliament has been ignored and the federal cabinet has placed itself above the will of

this House. We have been treated with contempt, and now we are being asked to go along with this very same policy for another five years. Mr. Speaker, if the federal government is determined to abolish the death penalty for all crimes, then why should we not debate that issue instead of taking part in what all of us know now to be a sham? We know and the government knows, that we are in effect avoiding the issue of abolition or retention of capital punishment. In a few days we are going to vote on a bill that says one thing and yet we know the government intends to do quite another, if we can go on the government's past performance. I think we can judge the government on its past performance in this area, Mr. Speaker, and I find it very disturbing.

I would have preferred the government to table a bill that sets out what the federal cabinet really wants, instead of asking this House to vote for or against something that does not even apply. If we say again to this government that we want murderers of policemen and prison guards executed upon conviction, can we be sure that our wishes will be carried out? I do not think so, Mr. Speaker. If we say by majority vote that we insist on the death penalty being applied for capital murder, can those who follow careers in our police departments and the penitentiary service be assured that they have our support in carrying out their duties? I do not think so, Mr. Speaker. How can they have any faith in our resolve to exact heavy punishment on capital murderers when the cabinet has allowed so many of them to escape the penalty?

We have a strange situation here, Mr. Speaker. Those who favour abolition of capital punishment will vote for this bill because it is the closest thing to abolition. Yet if they vote for this bill, and if the government discharges its responsibility under the terms of the bill, the abolitionists will be voting for capital punishment. On the other hand, if the federal cabinet follows its practice of commuting all death sentences for capital murder, the retentionists will in effect be voting for abolition. When viewed in that light I think we have the right to ask why the government did not table a bill that draws sharper lines of distinction.

It has been pointed out that in granting stays of execution the cabinet has not distinguished between those convicted of deliberate and brutal crimes and those who really had no intention of committing any crime as serious as murder. We all know that even in crimes of murder a case can sometimes be made for temporary insanity and for other circumstances that might influence juries in the favour of the accused. We also know that the ability of an accused to obtain the services of an experienced and talented criminal lawyer can weigh the scales in his favour.

It would follow that the government's policy of commuting all death sentences has the effect of providing those legal services to convicted murderers of policemen after the fact. The way it is now, a cop killer who is not successful in having his charge reduced to manslaughter would only have to bide his time. He would know that if he received the death penalty, he would in fact get a life sentence. I repeat, Mr. Speaker, this is mockery. If we do not say now that we really want abolition or retention of the death penalty, then we are all party to mockery. I say the government should have tabled a different type of bill

altogether, instead of asking us to debate an issue that has been proved to be neither fish nor fowl.

I do not intend to repeat the passages from the Bible that are used by both the abolitionists and the retentionists in support of their views. It would only indicate that one man's interpretation of the passages would be as good as the next man's. However, I would like to say that it could hardly be considered Christian to put legislation before this parliament that in effect places the life of a murderer on a higher plane than that of his victim.

That is what we are really saying when we vote on a bill that will not have the effect of deterring people from cold-blooded, calculated murder. The victim of a murder is quickly forgotten by the general public, while the murderer gains public attention for months on end while his guilt is decided. If he is found guilty and sentenced to die, he is again made the subject of groups and individuals determined to see that justice is not done. The life of the convicted criminal becomes sacred, Mr. Speaker, while the victim is out of sight and out of mind. It is almost as if he did not even matter. The forgotten victim means a great deal to me, I cannot stand by silently while the natural order of things gets turned upside down by a government that tries to take the easy way out.

There might be some hope of salvaging something from the motion and the debate, Mr. Speaker, after the bill passes second reading and goes to the Standing Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs. Perhaps when we are able to have dialogue, in place of prepared statements, we will be able to put some safeguards into this bill for policemen and prison guards. Perhaps we will be able to put as many safeguards into the bill for the lives of potential victims of the murderers as we have placed in it for the lives of murderers.

The sanctity of human life is certainly a valid and acceptable argument for those who favour abolition of the death penalty, but it should not be used as a crutch by those who are only trying to avoid facing up to an unpleasant problem. I do not want to see it used as an excuse to avoid coming to grips with this serious problem and making a decision as to who we should be protecting.

As I said before, Mr. Speaker, my sympathies are reserved first for the victims of crime. When I have exhausted my sympathy for the innocent victims of brutal, senseless crime, I will direct some to the criminals. However, I cannot accept the position that our responsibility today is to ensure that no person shall suffer the death penalty for deliberate, premeditated murder. My own responsibility is very clear; that is, to erect some sort of safeguards for law-abiding Canadian citizens against violence or loss of their lives and property. That is the issue I want to debate, Mr. Speaker, and I call on the government to table legislation that comes a lot closer to what we really want and what we should be trying to do.

● (2130)

Mr. Jake Epp (Provencher): Mr. Speaker, as I rise to take part in this debate on Bill C-2, I follow many members of this House who, I am sure, have done a lot of soul-searching and agonizing over their position in their concern to give leadership to the country and to represent

adequately not only their own thinking and their own consciences but the thinking of their constituents.

As we look around society today we see members of that society who are reacting to the permissiveness which they find around them. They are reacting to the looseness which they see in our prison system and in its administration. They also look with concern at the increase in the homicide rate in 1972. Since 1968 we have been in a five-year trial period of the ban on capital punishment.

The arguments of those who favour the abolition of capital punishment are well known. They see capital punishment as barbaric, a carryover from the past which is inhumane and has no place in a modern, moral society. It is, they say, an act of revenge and we should concentrate on rehabilitation instead. Possibly as a result of my background I take a different view of capital punishment, for reasons I shall outline. I feel that the abolitionist view has one weakness: there is a disregard of the moral laws upon which our country is established, laws which are part and parcel of the Judaic-Christian philosophy which many of us have inherited.

Man is not in a position, I submit, to establish his own moral code. It is not within his ability to do so. Today we see and hear much about man's ability to structure society as he sees fit. The position is taken that he is responsible to no one but himself. I submit this is wrong. I believe punishment and justice are part of our moral standards and that the establishment of these standards is not a human prerogative but a prerogative of the Creator of life. One of the precepts taught by the whole of the scriptures emphasizes the sanctity of life. Life is sacred and we have no right to destroy it. But along with this maxim is clearly set forth the concept of divine justice; the state has the responsibility to maintain security and individual freedom can only be maintained in a state whose leaders take upon themselves the responsibility of maintaining justice for all.

I see an anomaly in our society. Many people today who are abolitionists are also people who are sponsors of liberalized abortion. They feel no concern about the increased number of abortions which approached 40,000 in 1972 in Canada. Yet I submit that this involves the removal of the life of the unborn who has the same right to live as you and me, Mr. Speaker. The sanctity of life is underscored by many writers both in holy scripture and in secular philosophy. The breaking of an immutable law such as "Thou shalt not kill" carries with it a penalty, and the penalty which is exacted by divine justice is that a person who takes the life of another in premeditated fashion must lose his own life. Freedom can only exist in the light of the complete and free functioning of justice.

There are two types of murder, as I see it, as has been stated by many speakers. One is unpremeditated murder. If we check back, we find that even in biblical times, when we hear so much about "an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth", there were certain cities designated as cities of refuge to which one who had unfortunately killed his brother could escape and in which he would be considered safe from retribution. The second type of murder is premeditated, or cold-blooded murder as it has been called. Despite the emphasis on rehabilitation, justice demands and exacts the death penalty for murder which has been thought-out beforehand, murder which takes away the life and the opportunities of someone else.

A few moments ago I made reference to the maxim "an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth." I believe this is not vengeful. I suggest that on close examination, Mr. Speaker, you would find that its effect is to deter men from the exaction of a greater penalty than is called for by the crime committed—that retribution should not give way to revenge or to a penalty far exceeding the gravity of the crime in question. The death sentence as a penalty for those who deliberately take away someone else's most prized possession, life itself, is not a matter of revenge but a matter of justice.

It might be argued, Mr. Speaker, that in my own philosophy, in my own thinking there is a conflict on the issue of rehabilitation, and I readily admit this is so. I recognize that rehabilitation, either from a spiritual or secular point of view, should be the goal of all hon. members and should be open to all in our society who are unfortunate. Once a person's life has been removed, rehabilitation is obviously not possible.

There are many instances throughout history where mercy has been shown and where rehabilitation was the overriding consideration. So the prerogative of mercy must remain part and parcel of our judicial system. But the prerogative of mercy cannot be given such emphasis that in cases where immutable moral laws are broken, where the penalty is inescapable, where premeditation is clearly proven, rehabilitation can supersede the supreme penalty which must be accepted for crimes of that type.

● (2140)

Therefore, I favour a set minimum period of incarceration for those convicted of non-capital murder or non-premeditated murder. Emphasis should be on rehabilitation. Secondly, the reinstatement of the death penalty for those convicted of premeditated homicide must be based, not on revenge or on the adage "an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth" that is traditionally referred to, but rather on the basis that only when we exact the supreme penalty from a person who has chosen to take the life of another can we have justice and freedom. Therefore, I cannot vote in favour of Bill C-2 since no attempt has been made to differentiate between these two types of murder, with the sole exception of the murder of police officers and prison guards.

I feel there is another anomaly in this bill in that its originators, by drawing it up in the way they have, seem to indicate that they feel that capital punishment is a deterrent since they retained its imposition for the murder of police officers and prison guards. I believe that if capital punishment for premeditated murder as opposed to non-premeditated murder is extended right across the board, across the wide spectrum that we are looking at in Bill C-2, we can then return to an era in which not only society will be protected but in which our laws will be just and humane. We will also exact from each one of us the penalty appropriate to the various actions we take. I believe if these criteria were extended to those convicted of wilfully taking their brothers' lives, society would be the better for it. This would not be a revengeful act but an

act of justice, based on the supreme laws that exact justice from all. For only by having justice can we have freedom.

Mr. William C. Frank (Middlesex): Mr. Speaker, I rise as one more member in this House to speak on Bill C-2 relating to capital punishment, a responsibility I feel first of all to my own conscience, and secondly to the views of the majority of the constituents in my riding.

We have all heard many times the comment that we as members should vote as our conscience tells us. This statement comes almost 100 per cent from those who are abolitionists. I feel that in some cases there is an insincerity in this remark—what percentage, we will never know—since these particular abolitionists present this argument to known retentionist members knowing that they have only to change one mind, that of the member.

I am also satisfied that a certain percentage—and here again we will never know how many—are just as insincere in trying to convince the pro-abolitionist member that he should not vote as his conscience dictates but in accordance with the wishes of his constituents, because they well realize that the majority of the people of Canada support the retention of capital punishment. These people know that by trying to convince the pro-abolitionist member to vote as the majority dictated, they would have a better chance of their opinion winning, because it would mean that many thousands of people would have to reverse their decision before they would lose their case. But, Mr. Speaker, this is one problem that I am not faced with; I will be voting as my conscience dictates and as I sincerely feel the majority of my constituents would want me to vote, namely, against a meaningless type of bill for another five years.

We have heard many hon. members quoting statistics, members on both sides of the debate. The abolitionist says that execution is not a deterrent; the retentionist, just as sincerely, quotes figures showing that it is a deterrent. We hear the abolitionist referring to statistics which show that policeman and prison guard murders are no higher in number than they were previously. On the other side, the retentionists contend that murders in 1961 were at the rate of 230 per year, whereas in 1971 they rose to 430, practically double the former rate.

These are all credible arguments in what will probably be considered one of the most emotional and sincere debates that we will witness in this twenty-ninth Parliament. However, as I said before, I do not necessarily feel that statistics prove the point either way. But there is one argument proving that capital punishment is a deterrent—and I challenge any member of this House to contradict me—and that is the pure and simple statement that it deters the one-time murderer from committing a second murder.

I think this is the issue that we are all faced with in this debate. We have conscientiously to ask ourselves which is more important—the ultimate protection of society, or the protection of hardened criminals? As I said before, we have all heard many arguments that capital punishment is no deterrent. If it were, why did not it deter the murders that have been committed in this recent trial period, of policemen and prison guards?

[Mr. Epp.]

With all due respect to the right hon. Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) and his middle-of-the-road approach to this very serious and emotional debate, it is pretty hard to convince Canadians in general that each and every one of the potential subjects for execution in the last several years was worthy of commutation. That, Mr. Speaker, is no meaningful deterrent as far as I am concerned. The so-called trial period that we have had for the past five years, and which this government is asking us to reinstate once again, is nothing short of being a complete farce in view of the way we have seen it administered by this Prime Minister's government and that of his immediate predecessor.

At the very first all-candidate meeting that was held at the beginning of the election I made the public statement that I was in favour of retaining capital punishment, or at least to keep it within the Criminal Code for the protection of our law enforcement officers and prison guards. I felt very strongly about this being at least moral protection for our law enforcement officers. If we could not at least do this to support them, eventually we would see a gradual exodus of our law enforcement officers until all we would have left would be a so-called sadistic, power-hungry, gangster-type individual who would not be afraid to protect our society on the theory that he would shoot first and ask questions later.

I am sure if I wanted to take the time to cite the experience of individual states of our neighbour to the south, and also in one of the larger cities in our own country, I could find policemen in those particular areas who would fit the category of the individual that I have just described. I know Canadians would not want to see this kind of deterioration within the ranks of our law enforcement officers. Canadians can be proud of these members of our society who are dedicated to keeping law and order; and there can be no better example than in the fine young men we see every day around this great institution that we call Parliament Hill.

As I said before, that was my opinion at the beginning of the campaign last September. Having very seriously considered and reconsidered the many aspects revolving around this decision we have to make, I have conscientiously to say that not only do I still have that same opinion but I have had it strengthened to the point that I think capital punishment in some form should be meted out to all criminals who have been found guilty of capital murder.

It has been said many times in the past there is the chance of executing an innocent man. With the opportunities open to our courts today, if there is just the slightest degree of doubt as to a man's guilt, the court can change the charge from capital to non-capital murder. This to my mind takes away any possibility of the execution of an innocent victim. The government still has the sincere and conscientious right to commute that sentence should there be any further doubt.

I cannot help but ask which is the greater crime, the state carrying out an execution of a criminal or the state being directly responsible for the death of numerous citizens, the victims of these committed criminals if and when they should make their escape? Judging from the recent pattern, it is not a case of "if"; it is just a case of when will

they be back out, either by impulse or on parole. After all, when you finally analyse the thinking of dangerous criminals in relation to the system of automatic commutation that this government has obviously practised in the last several years, why would they not try to escape? What is the deterrent? What is the penalty when recaptured and returned from whence they escaped? What have they lost?

● (2150)

When I say I favour capital punishment, I do not necessarily mean in the form that has been followed in the past. I am sure a more humane and painless method could be devised to accomplish the same end. On the other hand, some people would then say a criminal would be afforded too easy a way out, and before you know it a whole new debate would be opened up.

In conscientiously trying to assess the feelings of my pro-retentionist constituents on this subject, I felt a great percentage could be persuaded to change their minds from pro-capital punishment to abolition if the record of imprisonment in past years, particularly in the last 12 months, had proven successful. I think our correctional record has been an utter disgrace and has deteriorated to the point where it has become a source of jokes and cartoons. Regardless of who or what is the cause of this deplorable situation, the result of these escapes is certainly not a joking matter, particularly when th public is automatically subjected to further threats to their safety with these criminals at large, perhaps even in their own communities.

"Uncivilized" and "barbaric" are two of the favourite terms used by abolitionists to describe the taking of a life by the state through execution. I wonder how many innocent children and adults in our communities will have to die before Canada's "uncivilized" and "barbaric" parole and bail regulations are revised. As I said before, Mr. Speaker, many of my constituents could rightly accuse the state of allowing their relatives and friends to be murdered, just as surely as if the state had executed them. Since when is it civilized to trade innocent lives for criminal lives for the sake of rehabilitation programs, valid in theory, perhaps, but discredited by the fact that they have been carried to such irresponsible and tragic extremes? Please do not interpret my remarks, Mr. Speaker, as an indication of my being against rehabilitation programs which, if properly administered, are the ultimate approach to penology, but surely the law should attach some value to the lives of murder victims as well as murderers.

In conclusion, I would like to touch on the preconceived opinion of many adults that our young people, particularly at the secondary school level, are basically abolitionists. This is not necessarily so. During the Easter recess I visited the pupils of several of the secondary schools in my riding, and the pupils of others visited me here in Ottawa. During these visits capital punishment was discussed to at least some degree. Our future citizens are also concerned about what has happened to our law enforcement structure, and because of this past and perhaps future concern an average of more than 50 per cent are in favour of capital punishment. Here, again, I expect their opinion could be altered if and when our penal system proves credible.

I have taken longer than I anticipated in this debate, but I trust that the degree of genuine concern and sincerity that I feel personally and is felt by my constituents has been projected in a way that all members of this House appreciate these feelings. It would benefit all of us as members in this House not to forget that we have an obligation and a privilege to exercise our free vote on this bill in such a way as not to leave anyone with a troubled conscience.

Mr. Ellwood Madill (Peel-Dufferin-Simcoe): Mr. Speaker, in rising to take part in the debate on Bill C-2 I wish to make some observations about the feelings of my constituents. The constituents of the riding of Peel-Dufferin-Simcoe feel very strongly about the upcoming free vote on capital punishment. The number of letters I have received both for and against retention of the death penalty is indicative of the intense emotional and indeed spiritual conflict which has stirred the people on this issue. The vast majority of correspondents, 95 per cent to be exact, have strongly urged retention of capital punishment for all persons convicted of premeditated murder.

It should be noted that the arguments are not based solely on a desire for revenge. Indeed, most persons are concerned about the ease with which chronic killers are returned to society. In addition, despite certain statistics which imply that the death penalty is not a deterrent, the majority of people are of the opinion that if the laws were enforced this would in fact be a deterrent to some potential killers.

You will note the importance of the phrase "if the laws were enforced". More than 50 per cent of the correspondents in favour of capital punishment strongly urge Members of Parliament to insist that the government carry out our laws to the letter. While there will always be need for a certain amount of leeway, there is little doubt in the minds of many people that there has been too much leeway and clemency; therefore, the government must be prepared to enforce the laws to protect Canadian citizens. Those persons and associations in favour of abolition should not be regarded as bleeding-hearts, because their ultimate goal is the same as that of retentionists, that is, to improve Canadian society. In addition, they have come to this decision after some thought and soul-searching.

One suggestion which appears to be the strongest and the weakest argument for abolition is that a man should not take another man's life in our civilization. The weakness in this statement is that man has not progressed much, if at all, since leaving the Neanderthal age.

We must look far and wide to safeguard humanity. Perhaps a letter I have just received from one of my constituents sums this up. It states that no matter how we may shrink from it, we must have the death penalty to deter cold-blooded, calculating murderers. Such killers are the type who fear for their own skins. The children who may be these killers' victims need our sympathy far more than the homicidal types. The letter I have referred to is from a woman.

The numerous reports and presentations regarding studies on the impact of capital murder on the number of murders leads to one conclusion, that temporary abolition of the death penalty in this and other countries has not led

to a dramatic increase in the rate of murders. I have a table here I should like—

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, please. Perhaps it would be convenient for the hon. member to interrupt his speech at this time and present the table to us on Tuesday when the debate is resumed.

PROCEEDING ON ADJOURNMENT MOTION

A motion to adjourn the House under Standing Order 40 deemed to have been moved.

CANADIAN BROADCASTING CORPORATION—RECOVERY OF INCOME TAX FROM EMPLOYEES STATIONED IN UNITED STATES—REFUSAL BY CORPORATION—POSITION OF MINISTER

Mr. A. D. Hales (Wellington): Mr. Speaker, this debate at this time is the result of the failure of the Secretary of State (Mr. Faulkner) to provide satisfactory answers to the questions I asked on January 10 and January 23. Those questions related to the recovery of income tax by the CBC from employees stationed in the United States. Some very basic and fundamental principles are at stake in this issue, and I trust my efforts in this regard will not be considered perfunctory.

This issue arose when the Auditor General reported to Parliament in 1969 that a Crown corporation for which he was the auditor, namely the CBC, failed to remit income tax and social security to the United States government for 17 of its employees while stationed in the United States. I realize there was a period during which the CBC was not sure whether the employees fell under Canadian income tax laws or United States income tax laws. During the period in which the CBC was trying to settle this dispute it continued to make deductions from its United States-based employees at the same rates as Canadian income tax, and kept this money in trust; then for some reason or other it was later returned in the same year, 1965.

● (2200)

The total amount of income tax owing by these 17 people was $134,573.99. One of the employees in the group had an indebtedness of $15,000, which is included in the figure I have just mentioned. Realizing the complexity and seriousness of this whole problem, the public accounts committee appointed a subcommittee chaired by the very capable and distinguished Liberal member for Ontario (Mr. Cafik). It held six meetings, and the public accounts committee held 15 meetings to discuss this whole matter.

Witnesses from the CBC and from the Department of National Revenue were heard as well as many others, including Mr. J. A. Coates, legal counsel from an outstanding international taxation firm in Toronto, who gave evidence for the guidance of the committee. The committee reported its findings and made a 13-point report to the House. I wish time permitted me to place the whole report

on the record. However, I shall mention only two recommendations. First, recommendation No. 7 reads:

> That the corporation's action in 1965 was seriously inadequate in terms of taking steps to avoid exposing itself to a corporate liability without having made provision to recover the funds from its employees.

The last, and most important, recommendation made by the committee was that the CBC should immediately take steps to attempt to recover the $134,573.99 from the 17 employees involved. This matter now rests at that point. I should simply like to ask the minister the following questions, and I am sorry he is not here. First, was it not a reasonable assumption for the 17 employees of the CBC to assume that they should pay income tax in one country or the other? No one in their income bracket should be exempt. Second, I should like to ask the minister whether he feels that the hard-earned dollars of John Q. Public should be used to pay the income tax of the employees of the CBC, especially the one who had a tax liability of $15,000.

Further, I should like to ask, on what basis can a Crown corporation to whom parliament grants estimates to the tune of $200 million defy or disregard a recommendation tabled by an all-party committee of this House? Next, I should like to ask why the registered letter of March 29, 1973, was sent by the CBC to the 17 employees when it did not demand payment by the recipients. Finally, I should like to ask the minister this important question: Does he intend to instruct the CBC to collect this income tax, as recommended by an all-party committee of parliament, or does he intend to accept the refusal of the president to collect the income tax? That is the issue. It is a very important issue and one which must be settled.

I cannot understand how the president of the CBC can be taking a stand which defies a recommendation made by an all-party committee of this House. That is the issue. I hope the minister will answer these questions. I am sorry he did not feel that this was an important enough subject for thim to be here tonight to answer these questions.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Gilles Marceau (Parliamentary Secretary to Secretary of State): I will not return the compliment to my hon. friend by telling him that he is not important, even though he is not a parliamentary secretary, because he knows that it has always been a custom for a parliamentary secretary to answer questions and I will try to do my best.

After the discussion which took place during the meeting of the Standing Committee on Broadcasting, Films and Assistance to the Arts, before which CBC appeared on April 5, last, I can only reiterate, in the name of the Secretary of State (M. Faulkner), the statement made by the President of the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, Mr. Picard.

As the hon. member for Wellington (Mr. Hales), already knows, the attitude of the CBC as regards the recommendations of the Committee on Public Accounts in its report of June 30, 1972 was adopted following the advice from the CBC leagal advisers. The hon. member will also understand that those legal advisers were assigned under a law enacted by Parliament.

Therefore I am not expressing an opinion in my name or in the name of the Secretary of State since it is a legal matter. The CBC inquired from its legal advisers what right it had, on the basis of the recommendations by the Public Accounts Committee, to claim this money from its employees, and the legal advice was the following:

If the corporation should lodge such claims against its employees before a Canadian court, it would probably have no chance of succeeding.

As parliamentary secretary to the spokeman for the CBC in this House, I wish to assure the hon. member that the Secretary of State had lengthy discussions about this problem with CBC officials. Following the oral question directed January last by the hon. member to the Secretary of State, the president of the corporation wrote to the hon. member to assure him of his full co-operation towards a solution. The Standing Committee on Broadcasting, Films and Assistance to the Arts, which I personally attended, reviewed the question before approving the corporation's budget. The president of the corporation then answered the recommendations of the Public Accounts Committee, before which he had not appeared since the previous administration. He replied quite clearly, basing himself on documents in support of the legal aspect of his position. I therefore wish to assure the hon. member, and all other hon. members, of the interest taken in this matter by the CBC, the Secretary of State and myself, as a parliamentary secretary.

One thing, however, is certain: the Secretary of State cannot be asked to exceed his jurisdiction, but we will try to take action within our powers, and to find a solution if there is one.

[*English*]

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, please. The Chair recognizes the hon. member for Wellington (Mr. Hales) for the purpose only of providing the date for the speech he made previously.

Mr. Hales: June 27, 1972, Mr. Speaker.

AGRICULTURE—FARM MACHINERY—IMPLEMENTATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS OF BARBER COMMISSION—ACTION TO INCREASE IMPORTS

Mr. Lorne Nystrom (Yorkton-Melville): Mr. Speaker, on February 5 I asked the Minister of Agriculture (Mr. Whelan) a question regarding the Barber commission which studied the cost of farm machinery. I asked him what recommendations of that commission he was planning to implement, in view of increasing farm machinery costs. His answer was, "None at the present time." Because of that inadequate answer I want to pursue the question for a few minutes this evening. I also asked about a commitment made by his predecessor regarding imports of farm machinery into Canada. Again his answer was very vague; he said that he had met two ambassadors. As a result, I want to pursue that question also this evening.

The three prairie ministers of agriculture said, after a meeting last week, that one of the issues they are really concerned about is the increase in the cost of farm machinery, farm machinery parts, and repairs. These costs have been going up very rapidly in the past year. As a matter of fact, when I go around my constituency, as all of us from the rural areas do, one of the biggest complaints I receive is about the rapid increase in the price of farm machinery and of parts and repairs. These prices have been increasing much too rapidly in the last few years and this must stop.

● (2210)

In this House we hear a lot about the problem of increasing food prices. If production costs could be brought down, this would affect the price of food or would at least slow down the increase. If the input of the farmer could be controlled as to price, in the production of a bushel of wheat or a hog or beef it would be reflected at the retail level. The same thing is true, of course, of the input of such things as fertilizers, gas and oil that a farmer uses.

As we all know, the farmer is being squeezed off the land. This is mainly due to the drop in farm income. In my province, between 1968 and 1970 farm income was cut in half, but in the last few years it has gone up. The rural areas are being depopulated and one of the reasons is the increase in production costs to the farmer. The government will have take action in this area very quickly if it is to help the small and marginal farmers in this country.

Sad to say, the government has the solution at its fingertips in the Barber commission report, but that has been put away and is gathering dust. This report should be brought forward and its recommendations put into effect along with the recommendations of the governments of Saskatchewan, Manitoba and Alberta. The report says that farmers are the victims of the farm marchinery companies, that they are paying too much for machinery and repairs. I suggest that the government should act on the recommendations listed in the report.

Apart from implementing this report, the government should establish a prices review board for all products. Then it could investigate the increase in the price of farm machinery and the cost of parts and repairs. If these increases were not justified, the government would have the statutory power to control or roll back prices. I think the government will have to take this step to ensure that the price of farm machinery is maintained at a level which will enable the farmer to survive.

There should also be more standardization of farm machinery parts. Perhaps machinery could be imported from countries such as Roumania at more favourable prices. There should also be more public involvement in public-private enterprise to produce more machinery, and perhaps aid and assistance could be given to the co-operative implements' plants in this country. These are some of the suggestions contained in the Barber commission report or advanced by the provincial governments.

I take this opportunity tonight to urge the government to act on the report as it refers to farm machinery and parts. If world depopulation continues, rural communities will be eroded and before long most of the people will live in a few large metropolitan areas that are unplanned, polluted and depersonalized. The only institution that can prevent this is the federal government. It has the power and the jurisdiction, and it is about time it shifted gears, got into action and implemented some of the recommendations of the Barber commission report.

Adjournment Debate

[*Translation*]

Mr. Léopold Corriveau (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Agriculture): Mr. Speaker, the hon. member said, and I quote:

> ... the undertaking by the former minister of agriculture that Canada would import more farm machinery from other countries ...

I should like to say at the start, Mr. Speaker, that although I have not been able to find texts in which the former minister gave such an assurance, I know that he tried to limit the prices of farm machinery by encouraging more competition. This was in line with a recommendation by the Barber Commission, which promoted negotiations and discussions aimed at making tractors from unaccustomed sources available to Canadian farmers.

For that purpose he will be meeting with delegations, officials and other representatives from such countries as Czechoslovakia, Rumania and Japan as well as officials from other countries including the USSR.

Since his appointment the present Minister of Agriculture (Mr. Whelan) also had discussions on the subject and undoubtedly there will be other initiatives in that field.

Tractors and other farm machinery from those countries are now available in Canada. I am convinced that all hon. members will agree with me that the government should intervene in purchases of farm machinery for farmers only to reduce import problems to a minimum. I would like to remind hon. members that equipment such as tractors enter Canada duty-free.

As several members know, the building of new lines of farm machinery in a foreign country results in various problems, the main one being undoubtedly the knowledge of our marketing methods to guarantee an adequate supply of machines and spare parts as well as adequate service. Solving those problems required more time than anticipated; however, there is a renewed interest in some countries for exporting farm machinery in Canada and it is hoped that the plans and ambitions of the department will meet some degree of success.

[*English*]

TRANSPORT—ALLEGED DETERIORATION IN WESTERN CANADA RAILWAY PASSENGER SERVICE—REQUEST FOR INVESTIGATION

Mr. Douglas Roche (Edmonton-Strathcona): Mr. Speaker, on March 8 I asked the Minister of Transport (Mr. Marchand) to find ways to improve rail service between Edmonton and Calgary and I specifically cited instances where passengers had to stand in the baggage car for want of seating accommodation. I gave the minister the names of individuals who had been so affected, and I am sure that proper apologies have been proffered. But that does not alter the central question I raised. What are the government's plans to save the railways as a vital means of passenger transportation in an age dominated by jets and big airports?

Transportation is the lifeline of western Canada and improved transportation is essential for its continued development. Unfortunately, rail transportation has become an unwanted stepchild and it is time for the Minister of Transport and the railway companies to listen

[Mr. Nystrom.]

to the protests of western Canadians who want, and need, the kind of service the railways were subsidized by government to provide. As an example, a fast and efficient passenger train between Edmonton and Calgary is not a luxury but a necessity. The return air fare between the two cities is beyond the reach of the ordinary traveller or businessman. As Art Evans, a columnist for the Edmonton *Journal*, put it in a recent article:

> The air fare between Alberta's two major cities is now $18 one way. On a round trip, taking one taxi fare at each end, you're now looking at $40, a fair bite and one that only an expense account can handle regularly without wincing.

Mr. Evans feels, as I do, that one fast train making daily runs between Edmonton and Calgary would have no truble attracting passengers, especially if the round trip fare were lowered to $10. It is not just lack of seating on the Edmonton-Calgary line that is involved; it is the generally haphazard way the Dayliner is operated. For example, no businessman is going to take the train to Calgary if it makes four stops. Why could we not have a daily fast train, non-stop or with only one stop at Red Deer? This would bring travellers to downtown Calgary from the heart of Edmonton in two or two and a half hours. Increased efforts should also be made to provide clean cars and food.

The railway committee of the Canadian Transport Committee has asked for a study of passenger service throughout the country. Well, let the voice of Albertans who have been deprived of efficient and economical rail transportation be heard. Let the voice of Edmontonians who are fed up with the lack of action in getting rid of the level crossing on Whyte Avenue, the main street of south Edmonton, be heard.

● (2220)

Obviously, a piecemeal approach is not the solution. What is needed is a comprehensive program to improve service, serve passengers and lower freight rates. Why has the minister refused to set out a transportation policy which would serve the total transportation needs of western Canada? We know now that only such an all-embracing policy will broaden the industrial base of Alberta.

The facts are clear. The railways have discontinued rail passenger service at a number of Alberta communities. This adversely affects their social and economic development as well as the development of the province as a whole. Such communities are crippled in trying to attract industry. In other words, lack of federal concern about the needs of Alberta's communities hampers the economic and social wellbeing of the province. The cost to the public is one of those hidden expenses that is smothered by the excessive layers of bureaucracy in Canada. I believe that where rail service is discontinued for perhaps valid reasons, the federal government should give a commitment to provide passenger service by alternate means. The Western Conference on Economic Opportunities is fast approaching. Albertans want action on transportation. The passengers who had to stand on the Edmonton-Calgary Dayliner are just the tip of a very large iceberg of protest.

I understand the Minister of Transport is out of the country attending a conference. I hope the absence of his parliamentary secretary, who is a western Canadian, is

not to be construed as further evidence of lack or real concern on the part of this government in solving the transportation problems of western Canada.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Gilles Marceau (Parliamentary Secretary to Secretary of State): The hon. member for Edmonton-Strathcona (Mr. Roche) has referred to the first question he had asked and he forgot, probably by mistake, to indicate that the minister had personally answered him in a letter dated March 16, providing him with all the explanations he had obtained about matters that the hon. member had raised.

To the second part of the hon. member's question, I will answer in six points. First of all, many passenger train services are now being subsidized through the Canadian Transport Commission. In its 1972 annual report, the CTC indicates that $56,636,787 was paid on claims for passenger train services in 1971. The claims for 1971 exceeded $87 million.

Second, the government is subsidizing the development of so-called light rapid comfort or LRC trains. These would operate on existing tracks but at higher speeds due to improved suspension systems. A three-company consortium has been working on the development of these trains, and so far has been subsidized through the PAIT program, that is the Program for the Advancement of Industrial Technology of the Department of Industry, Trade and Commerce. The consortium is preparing to test the cars and engines and further financial support is possible.

Third, the turbo train developed by the Canadian National and United Aircraft of Canada Limited will be retested this summer.

Fourth, the CTC has been funding various studies designed to improve railway passenger service, especially for high density areas.

Fifth, the Canadian Institute for Guided Ground Transport at Queen's University is doing studies for the government on magnetic levitation systems. They have received $380,000 from the Transportation Development Agency and $133,000 from the National Research Council, these sums totalling over half a million dollars. They are to build a test facility.

Sixth, the University of Toronto Institute for Aerospace Studies has been granted $20,000 by the Transportation Development Agency to study dynamic tracked air-cushion suspension systems.

I note the suggestions of the hon. member. I shall convey them to the minister who is now abroad; I shall try to find out whether he will make a statement on motions should he feel one is warranted.

[*English*]

Motion agreed to and the House adjourned at 10.28 p.m.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Friday, May 25, 1973

The House met at 11 a.m.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

BROADCASTING

SALE OF RADIO STATION, CKSB, WINNIPEG, TO CBC—REQUEST FOR UNANIMOUS CONSENT TO MOVE MOTION

Mr. Paul Yewchuk (Athabasca): Mr. Speaker, I rise under the provisions of Standing Order 43 on a matter of urgent and pressing necessity, namely, the decision by the Canadian Radio-Television Commission to approve the sale of radio station CKSB, Winnipeg, to the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation. Because this decision has created hardship for many ethnic groups and because of CBC broadcasting policy, I would move, seconded by the hon. member for Provencher (Mr. Epp):

That the matter be referred to the Standing Committee on Broadcasting, Films and Assistance to the Arts for study and report to the House.

Mr. Speaker: The motion proposed by the hon. member requires the unanimous consent of the House. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

Mr. Speaker: There is not unanimity and the hon. member's motion cannot be put at this time.

* * *

INCOME TAX

CORPORATE MANIPULATIONS DESIGNED TO AVOID PAYMENT—REQUEST FOR UNANIMOUS CONSENT TO MOVE MOTION

Mr. Edward Broadbent (Oshawa-Whitby): Mr. Speaker, I rise to move a motion under Standing Order 43 on a matter of urgent and pressing necessity arising from public concern about the amount of taxes paid by the Chrysler Corporation in recent years and from the Auditor General's recommendation for more stringent control to prevent corporate manipulations designed to avoid the payment of income tax. I would move, seconded by the hon. member for Assiniboia (Mr. Knight):

That this House do recommend an amendment to Section 247(2) of the Income Tax Act which would remove the discretionary power of the minister where two or more corporations are separated solely for the purpose of saving taxes and not for operational efficiency, and make it mandatory that such separation be not permitted for tax purposes.

Mr. Speaker: This motion, also proposed under the terms of Standing Order 43, requires unanimous consent. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

Mr. Speaker: There is not unanimous consent and the motion cannot be put at this time.

* * *

ARCTIC WATERS POLLUTION PREVENTION ACT

EXTENSION OF JURISDICTION TO ATLANTIC AND PACIFIC COASTAL WATERS

Mr. Frank Howard (Skeena) moved for leave to introduce Bill C-186, to amend the Arctic Waters Pollution Prevention Act.

Some hon. Members: Explain.

● (1110)

Mr. Howard: Mr. Speaker, it seems apparent that the United States government is going to move its Prudhoe Bay oil across Alaska and down the west coast by tanker while this government sits idly by and wants to see it happen. The purpose of this bill is to extend what the government has described as the finest piece of pollution control legislation in the world, the Arctic Waters Pollution Prevention Act, to the Atlantic and Pacific coasts in order to protect our land from potential injury by what can only be described as an inconsiderate and irresponsible course of action by both the American and Canadian governments.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The Chair will take exception with the terms of the explanation given by the hon. member. It is not an explanation but a speech in support of the motion proposed by the hon. member and that is not in order.

Motion agreed to, bill read the first time and ordered to be printed.

Oral Questions

ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

LABOUR RELATIONS

DISPUTE BETWEEN AIR CANADA AND MACHINISTS—GOVERNMENT ACTION TO ACHIEVE SETTLEMENT AND AVOID STRIKE

Hon. Robert L. Stanfield (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, in the absence of the Minister of Labour I wish to direct a question to the Acting Prime Minister with regard to the differences existing between Air Canada and the International Association of Machinists. In view of the fact the commissioner appointed by the government has been unable to recommend solutions for the four critical issues relating to matters other than money, what initiatives is the government taking toward the settlement of the dispute and the avoidance of a tie-up of Air Canada?

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Acting Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I would like to have an opportunity to discuss this dispute with the Minister of Labour before giving an answer.

RAILWAY AND GRAIN HANDLERS DISPUTES—GOVERNMENT INITIATIVES TO SETTLE

Hon. Robert L. Stanfield (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question on a related matter. Does the Acting Prime Minister have any information about the railway and grainhandlers disputes and can he indicate to the House what initiatives, if any, the government is taking with regard to the settlement of these disputes?

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Acting Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I would give the same answer as I gave in the other case.

Mr. Stanfield: May I express the hope to the Acting Prime Minister that the government will really consider these disputes as serious matters and seriously involve itself in methods of—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

CONSIDERATION OF ESTABLISHMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES COMMISSION

Mr. James A. McGrath (St. John's East): Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question for the Acting Prime Minister. Is the government giving consideration to setting up an industrial disputes commission, as recommended by the Woods task force report of 1968 and by this party, in order to define areas in the public interest and to provide a mechanism whereby industrial disputes that threaten to tie up the national economy can be averted?

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Acting Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, that general subject is very much before the government. It is one of the reasons the Woods commission was appointed. However, the government has not found it easy to deal with this question in a satisfactory manner. In response to the Leader of the Opposition, may I add that the government is taking these disputes very seriously indeed. The Minister of Labour reports to the cabinet from time to time on his progress. To date, I think he has a fair measure of success in these matters.

Mr. McGrath: Mr. Speaker, I can appreciate the Acting Prime Minister assuring the House that the Minister of Labour reports to the cabinet from time to time. However, as these three disputes threaten to tie up the economy of this nation at a very critical time, can the Acting Prime Minister assure the House that the Minister of Labour will give the same kind of information to the House he has given to the cabinet?

Mr. Sharp: That is a matter of judgment. I would think the main purpose of all these negotiations is to achieve a satisfactory settlement and if the Minister of Labour finds it necessary to maintain the confidence of the various parties from time to time I would support his judgment.

STRIKE BY AIRLINE EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION MEMBERS AGAINST AIR CANADA AT WINNIPEG—GOVERNMENT ACTION

Mr. David Orlikow (Winnipeg North): Would the Acting Prime Minister discuss with the Minister of Labour and the Minister of Transport the strike by members of the Canadian Airline Employees Association against Air Canada which began this week in Winnipeg, a strike brought about by the refusal of Air Canada to accept the unanimous report of the conciliation board? That strike will have an effect in the very near future on the whole operation of Air Canada.

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Acting Prime Minister): My answer to the first part of the question is, yes, Mr. Speaker, and I thank the hon. member for his contribution.

Mr. Lincoln M. Alexander (Hamilton West): In view of the serious nature of the impending strike, would the Acting Prime Minister involve himself with the Minister of Labour in order to ascertain whether he should intervene directly in order to arrive at a peaceful settlement?

Mr. Sharp: I think this question illustrates the confidence of members of the opposition in the effective work being done by the Minister of Labour, and I am sure he will intervene if he thinks it will be useful to do so.

* * *

ENERGY

GASOLINE—POSSIBILITY OF SHORTAGE—REQUEST FOR CONTROL OF EXPORTS

Mr. T. C. Douglas (Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources. On May 17, in answer to a question of mine regarding the danger of a possible gasoline shortage in Canada, the minister said that the National Energy Board was following the export of refined products very closely. Has the Energy Board drawn to his attention the fact that exports of gasoline for the months

of January and February combined amounted to only 11,500 gallons and that in March exports had climbed to 5,332,000 gallons compared with 72,000 for the same month in 1972? In view of the fact that gasoline is being drained out of this country to meet the shortage in the United States, is the minister now prepared to extend the export controls which he imposed last February to cover gasoline and other refined products?

Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): It seems to me the critical question is whether there is short supply in Canada. My information from the board is that at the moment there is not, although these contracts which are made from day to day obviously have to be watched very closely. I can assure the hon. gentleman that if there is any evidence of short supply export control will be extended, but at the moment my advice from the board is that there is not.

Mr. Douglas: I am not sure from where the minister is getting his information. Is he aware of the fact that some of the independent dealers have already closed their doors and that others have been informed they cannot be guaranteed supplies of gasoline beyond the end of this month? In view of these facts I ask the minister whether, over the weekend, he will get in touch with the National Energy Board and then make a statement to the House on Monday as to what he proposes to do to meet this very serious situation as it affects not only the independent dealers but also the customers who deal with them?

Mr. Macdonald (Rosedale): I shall be glad to check and determine whether the hon. gentleman's assertions are facts.

Mr. Douglas: May I ask the minister, if he is going to make a statement on Monday, whether he will secure from the National Energy Board the figure for exports of gasoline in April and an estimate of what they will be for May? All the information available seems to indicate that the astounding increase for the month of March has been escalated even further during the months of April and May.

Mr. Macdonald (Rosedale): I shall be glad to see what the facts are.

* * *

[*Translation*]

INDIAN AFFAIRS

POSSIBLE CLOSING OF SAINT-MARC SCHOOL—DISCUSSION WITH BAND COUNCILS—REPRESENTATIONS TO MINISTER

Mr. Gérard Laprise (Abitibi): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the hon. Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development.

There have been reports in Abitibi of closing down the Indian School at Saint-Marc. Can the minister tell us whether the Indian band councils served by that school were consulted before this decision was taken or whether they will be consulted if no final decision has as yet been taken as to the closing of the institution?

Hon. Jean Chrétien (Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development): Mr. Speaker, I am not aware of the facts in this case but I shall make inquiries. However, I can assure the hon. member that before closing down that school or of any institution coming under the jurisdiction of my department, sometimes motivated by lack of pupils, we invariably inform the communities involved, and this will be done in the present case.

● (1120)

Mr. Laprise: Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary.

Can the minister tell us whether he has received briefs or other communications calling for continuing the institution?

Mr. Chrétien: Mr. Speaker, I shall inquire and report to the hon. member.

* * *

[*English*]

FINANCE

POSSIBILITY OF FURTHER INCREASE IN PRIME BANK INTEREST RATE—CONSIDERATION OF INTEREST EQUALIZATION TAX

Mr. James Gillies (Don Valley): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Acting Prime Minister in the absence of the Minister of Finance. Given the fact that American banks have announced another increase in their prime interest rate, and given the fact that the explanation for the rise in interest rates in Canada has been the differential between the rates of the two countries, is it reasonable to expect that the prime bank rate in Canada will be raised again in the near future?

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Acting Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, it is contrary to my custom to engage in speculation of this kind.

Mr. Gillies: Is the government giving any thought to an alternative way of dealing with this problem rather than constantly raising domestic interest rates in a period when there is some question whether this is an effective way to handle the domestic economy?

Mr. Sharp: Mr. Speaker, the hon. gentleman is asking me to engage in a debate on the relation between interest rates in Canada and the United States, and I really do not intend to do so.

Mr. Gillies: May I ask very specifically whether the government is giving any thought whatever to introducing a domestic interest equalization tax so we can slow down the outflow of funds from Canada because of the differential in interest rates on the short end of the market without following a policy that is causing all Canadians to pay more for mortgages, consumer credit and things of that sort?

Mr. Sharp: The answer is no, Mr. Speaker. An interest equalization tax was once imposed by the United States. My recollection is that it did not prove to be very effective and eventually came under very strong attack.

Oral Questions

PENITENTIARIES

DECISION ON NEW TRIAL FOR YVES GEOFFROY—REASONS FOR TEMPORARY RELEASE

Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Prince Albert): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Solicitor General. Has any decision been made by the government with respect to the new trial asked for by Mr. Yves Geoffroy?

Hon. Warren Allmand (Solicitor General): Mr. Speaker, that is a question for the Minister of Justice who is absent today, but to my knowledge no decision has been made.

Mr. Diefenbaker: Mr. Speaker, I would ask the minister, who is in charge of penitentiaries, how it is that a photograph of this vile murderer, Yves Geoffroy, who killed his wife and whose appeals have been denied right to the Supreme Court of Canada, appears in an article in the Montreal *Star*, along with the woman for whom he committed the murder, sartorially perfect with hair cut and mustache trimmed in a manner that would do honour to anyone in that profession? How does this man happen to be out of prison? When prisoners are taken from penitentiaries, are they allowed to dress themselves up in perfect civilian attire? Why was the preliminary hearing not held in the prison in so far as the evidence was concerned, having regard to the fact that this man disappeared for three months at the time he was given freedom to get married?

Mr. Allmand: Mr. Speaker, I will look into that. I do not know whether that picture is one that was taken when he was out recently, but I will be pleased to look into the matter and report to the House.

An hon. Member: He had that picture taken in Spain.

Mr. Diefenbaker: Mr. Speaker, was the minister not asked to give permission for this man to get out to go to Joliette along with this woman to whom he is now married? With murderers disappearing from penitentiaries today, surely this pampered pet should not be placed in the favoured position in which he is.

* * *

HEALTH

ACTION TO PREVENT USE OF CHEMICAL FENITROTHON FOR SPRAYING

Mr. Bill Clarke (Vancouver Quadra): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Minister of National Health and Welfare. In view of the near disaster at Port Alice, British Columbia, this week, which was only prevented by the action of a local doctor who advised that the chemical fenitrothon, which was to be sprayed on trees in the area, contained enough nerve gas to kill 200,000 people, will the minister assure the House that he will review the regulations and legislation which allowed this situation to occur in order that recurrences will be prevented?

[Mr. Sharp.]

[*Translation*]

Hon. Marc Lalonde (Minister of National Health and Welfare): Mr. Speaker, I will be pleased to investigate the incident mentioned by the hon. member and ask my officials to make a report on the present situation. I can assure the hon. member that if supplementary action is needed, we will not hesitate to take it.

[*English*]

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Cape Breton-East Richmond.

Mr. Donald MacInnis (Cape Breton-East Richmond): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources who was here in the House but has now departed. Perhaps I should wait until later in the question period to see if he returns. If he does not I will put the question to the Acting Prime Minister.

* * *

NATIONAL REVENUE

REQUEST THAT GOVERNMENT NOT SEEK RETURN OF OVERPAYMENTS TO FARMERS UNDER WHEAT INVENTORY REDUCTION PROGRAM

Mr. Bill Knight (Assiniboia): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of National Revenue. In view of the fact that the Auditor General's report points out that the government has written off $6 million in taxes owed by a large United States automobile company and at the same time is trying to collect $228,000 in overpayments under the Lift program, which were mainly the result of government mistakes, can the minister indicate whether the government is giving consideration to forgiving these overpayments to farmers?

Hon. Robert Stanbury (Minister of National Revenue): Mr. Speaker, I think the hon. member's facts are a little twisted.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Diefenbaker: Your answer certainly is.

Mr. Stanbury: Mr. Speaker, I will study the implications of the hon. member's question and try to give him an answer, but he is certainly not interpreting the Auditor General's report as I read it.

Mr. Fairweather: You are twisting it.

Mr. Knight: Mr. Speaker, in view of the indication in two reports of the Auditor General that the government has in fact spent a considerable amount of money attempting to collect overpayment under Lift, while at the same time we see no evidence in the reports of any attempt to collect the $6 million owed by a large U.S. automobile company, will the minister give serious consideration to writing off the $228,000, which I suggest would be cheaper than trying to collect it?

Mr. Stanbury: Mr. Speaker, in respect of the question of recovering overpayments under Lift, I do not think this would be a matter for the Department of National Reve-

nue. In so far as the $6 million is concerned to which the hon. member has made reference, there is no suggestion in the Auditor General's report that this is money owing to the government.

* * *

BROADCASTING

SALE OF RADIO STATION, CKSB, WINNIPEG, TO CBC—REQUEST THAT DECISION BE SET ASIDE AND REHEARING HELD IN WINNIPEG

Mr. Paul Yewchuk (Athabasca): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Secretary of State. Is he aware of a petition to the Governor in Council, which has been presented to the government, asking that approval by the Canadian Radio-Television Commission of the CBC takeover of radio station CKSB, Winnipeg, be set aside and that the matter be referred back to the commission for a rehearing to be held in Winnipeg where all interested groups could be heard? If so, what decision has been made on this matter?

Hon. James Hugh Faulkner (Secretary of State): Mr. Speaker, I am not aware of such a petition but I will check with my office. It may be that the petition has been sent to the Minister of Communications.

Mr. Yewchuk: Would the minister give the House his assurance at this time that section 38 of the Official Languages Act will be enforced in respect of this takeover and that the established and customary rights of ethnic groups will not be violated, not only during the next 12 months but thereafter?

Mr. Faulkner: Mr. Speaker, I do not think I can comment on that question at this time. I am prepared to discuss it with the hon. member. I do want to tell him that I have now received the petition. Several copies have just been placed on my desk.

* * *

● (1130)

[*Translation*]

COMMUNICATIONS

DISPUTE RESPECTING JURISDICTION—DISCUSSION WITH QUEBEC MINISTER AND PREMIER BOURASSA

Mr. Roch La Salle (Joliette): Mr. Speaker, I should like to put a question to the Minister of Communications.

In view of the serious difficulties between the Quebec and the federal governments with regard to telecommunications, and as the federal minister stated that he is quite willing to let the dispute go before the courts for a settlement if need be, can he tell us whether, in the interest of both parties, he will try to meet again his opposite number for Quebec before the matter has to be solved before the courts?

Hon. Gérard Pelletier (Minister of Communications): Yes, Mr. Speaker. My statement on motions last week did contain an indication to that effect.

Mr. La Salle: Mr. Speaker, a supplementary.

The Quebec premier having spent the last two or three days in Ottawa, did the minister take advantage of the situation to discuss this matter with him?

Mr. Pelletier (Hochelaga): No, Mr. Speaker. The Quebec premier, like all other provincial premiers who were here, looked very busy. Anyway, I had learned that the Quebec Minister of Communications was abroad when I made my statement. He will be returning to Canada very soon.

* * *

[*English*]

AGRICULTURE

INCREASE IN FARM MACHINERY PRICES—POSSIBLE INVESTIGATION BY FOOD PRICES REVIEW BOARD—MEASURES TO CONTROL

Mr. Jim Balfour (Regina East): Mr. Speaker, in the absence of the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs my question is for the Acting Prime Minister. In light of the position of the three prairie ministers that recent price increases on farm machinery are not justified, does the government intend to instruct the Food Prices Review Board to investigate farm input costs and, as a high priority, present farm machinery prices?

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Acting Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, it is my understanding that the terms of reference of the proposed board do not encompass that question. If it were to be extended in that direction it would, of course, lose its character which is to deal with the food prices.

Mr. Balfour: Would the minister tell the House whether the government is prepared to establish price guidelines for farm machinery and is it prepared to act with the provinces to control farm machinery prices if necessary?

Mr. Sharp: Mr. Speaker, we will take that suggestion under consideration.

* * *

INDIAN AFFAIRS

KAMLOOPS RESERVE—LEGALITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA GOVERNMENT ACTION TO INCORPORATE PORTION WITHIN CITY LIMITS

Mr. F. Oberle (Prince George-Peace River): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development. In view of the fact the government of British Columbia has by order in council and against vigourous protests by the people involved moved to incorporate part of the Indian reservation in Kamloops within the city limits of Kamloops, has the minister consulted with the Minister of Justice concerning the legality of such a move?

[*Translation*]

Hon. Jean Chrétien (Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development): Mr. Speaker, I sent a telegram to the government of British Columbia indicating that I did not agree with that decision. However, the province of British Columbia can pass any legislation it wants, but I can assure the hon. member that, as far as I am concerned, the status of Indian reservations will not be changed for all that, and I do not believe that the move initiated by the province of British Columbia is appropriate at this stage because there has been no previous consultation whatsoever with the Indians. I have already discussed the general problem of the relations between the government of British Columbia and the Indians of that province with the Attorney General, and I wrote to him, but, to this day, we have not been able to solve all the difficulties.

[*English*]

KAMLOOPS RESERVE—NULLIFYING OF ELECTION OF CHIEF—REQUEST FOR TABLING OF TRANSCRIPT OF HEARINGS

Mr. F. Oberle (Prince George-Peace River): Mr. Speaker, my supplementary is also related to the question of the Indians at Kamloops. Having regard to the fact that the department found it necessary to nullify the election of the chief there, is the minister prepared to table in the House the transcript of the hearings which were held in connection with that dilemma?

[*Translation*]

Hon. Jean Chrétien (Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development): Mr. Speaker, I wonder whether the rules allow me to do so, but I will inquire and if we can get consent of the persons concerned, I will gladly table it.

* * *

[*English*]

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

UNITED NATIONS' DESIGNATION OF 1974 AS WORLD POPULATION YEAR—INQUIRY AS TO STATEMENT ON PREPARATIONS BY CANADA FOR CONFERENCE

Mrs. Grace MacInnis (Vancouver-Kingsway): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Acting Prime Minister in his capacity as Secretary of State for External Affairs. In view of the fact the United Nations has designated 1974 as world population year, with a big conference scheduled similar to the Stockholm conference on pollution, will the minister be making a statement as to Canada's preparations for input into that conference and, if so, when may we expect a statement?

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, in view of the widespread interest in this question I would respond to the hon. lady that we would want to give great support and if it would be useful for me to make a statement on our participation I would do so. I cannot say at the present time when would be the most suitable time. I would think it would be closer to 1974.

[Mr. Oberle.]

Mrs. MacInnis (Vancouver-Kingsway): The reason I raise the matter now is that I believe it is of the highest importance that the minister should be thinking of plans to involve the Canadian people in seminars and discussions ahead of time. Otherwise the whole thing will just die—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. That, of course, is a representation, and the member will have to assume that the minister has heard and noted it.

* * *

NATIONAL DEFENCE

PAY OF CANADIAN ARMED FORCES PERSONNEL ON VIET NAM SUPERVISORY COMMISSION

Hon. George Hees (Prince Edward-Hastings): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of National Defence. Some time ago I drew the minister's attention to the fact that the foreign service allowances being paid members of the armed forces serving on the International Commission of Control and Supervision in Viet Nam were considerably less than those paid personnel from the Department of External Affairs. I asked him to see what could be done to correct this anomaly. Can he report to the House on the success or otherwise he has had in this regard?

Hon. James Richardson (Minister of National Defence): Mr. Speaker, hon. members will recall from earlier statements that in addition to regular pay and allowances we pay a foreign service allowance of $150 for a single person and $180 a month for married men. As this allowance was some $70 below the allowance paid to Canadian civilian personnel serving on the International Control Commission I have recommended, and the Treasury Board has now approved, a new special foreign service allowance of $70 a month for all personnel in our armed forces serving on the International Control Commission. I might add that this special allowance will be tax free and will be retroactive to January 29 for those personnel who left Canada on that date and to later dates for personnel who left later. I am certain the House will agree that this additional foreign service allowance is deserved by our personnel serving in Viet Nam.

Mr. Hees: Mr. Speaker, I congratulate the minister on his constructive action and wish to say that if other departments would come through with such action this government would not be in the spot it is in today.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member for Cape Breton-East Richmond.

* * *

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

REQUEST THAT GERALD BLACKMORE BE REMOVED FROM DELEGATION ABOUT TO VISIT POLAND

Mr. Donald MacInnis (Cape Breton-East Richmond): Mr. Speaker, the information for this question has come to

me on very short notice, but the matter is urgent and very real in its aspects. I have spoken to two ministers about it. I should like to ask the Acting Prime Minister to take steps to eliminate Gerald Blackmore from a mining delegation about to visit Poland.

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Acting Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, this is the first time I have heard the gentleman's name, but I will take that representation into account.

Mr. MacInnis (Cape Breton-East Richmond): Mr. Speaker, I cannot understand why the minister has not heard the name because I have been kicking it around in the House for six years. I would ask the Acting Prime Minister whether he is aware that Gerald Blackmore was, in Tom Kent's words, recently separated—that is the sophisticated way of saying he was fired—from a position with the Cape Breton Development Corporation, a Crown company?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member for Parry Sound-Muskoka.

Mr. MacInnis (Cape Breton-East Richmond): Mr. Speaker, I must insist on this because this is very urgent. I think the least the Acting Prime Minister can do is take notice of these questions and the importance of not having this man, who has been the architect of ruin in Cape Breton, on an international delegation. The minister from Cape Breton is well aware of this and will substantiate the statement that this man was dismissed from a Crown corporation.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member has made his representation.

Mr. MacInnis (Cape Breton-East Richmond): Give him a one-way ticket.

* * *

THE CANADIAN ECONOMY

INFLATION—REQUEST FOR STATEMENT—INTENTION RESPECTING PROPOSAL TO PROVINCIAL PREMIERS TO CONTROL

Mr. Stan Darling (Parry Sound-Muskoka): Mr. Speaker, in the absence of the Minister of Finance I direct this question to his parliamentary secretary. Does the government intend to make a statement on the economy, particularly on inflation, and as well does the government intend to present a proposal to the provincial premiers on the subject of inflation involving a co-operative attack on this problem?

[*Translation*]

Mr. J.-Roland Comtois (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Finance): Mr. Speaker, I am taking note of the question and I am sure that when the Minister of Finance returns from the conference, he will be able to give the answer to the hon. member.

● (1140)

[*English*]

HEALTH

SUGGESTED PROCLAMATION OF NON-SMOKING DAY

Mr. Barry Mather (Surrey-White Rock): Mr. Speaker, I have a question I should like to direct to the attention of the Minister of National Health and Welfare, but first I should like to say that I am glad to see him safely back in the House today. In view of the continued heavy incidence of death and disease associated with such diseases as lung cancer, emphysema and thrombosis, associated with cigarette consumption, will the minister give favourable consideration to the proclamation issued by the government of British Columbia setting aside May 31 as non-smoking day in that province?

Hon. Marc Lalonde (Minister of National Health and Welfare): Mr. Speaker, first of all I wish to thank the hon. member for having given me notice of this question a few days ago. I will certainly give consideration to his suggestion. I would like to have some assurance, however, that smokers will not take double rations on June 1.

* * *

AGRICULTURE

FERTILIZER—ACTION TO ENSURE SUPPLY

Mr. Gordon Towers (Red Deer): Mr. Speaker, I should like to put a question to the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce. In view of the fact that fertilizer ordered last February by farmers in central Alberta is not available now, and in view of the assurance of the Minister of Agriculture to the House that there would be an adequate supply, would the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce state now what action the government plans to take to meet this national emergency?

Hon. Alastair Gillespie (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): Mr. Speaker, without accepting the premise that it is a national emergency, I will be pleased to look into the matter and report back.

Mr. Towers: If the minister finds this statement to be correct, which I am sure he will if he checks with central Alberta, will he be prepared to stop immediately all export of fertilizer until domestic requirements are supplied?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. In spite of the hon. member's assurance, which the Chair does not doubt, I will have to rule that the question is hypothetical. The hon. member has made a representation and he has to assume that the minister has noted it.

Oral Questions

BROADCASTING

SALE OF RADIO STATION, CKSB, WINNIPEG, TO CBC—CBC POLICY ON MULTICULTURAL PROGRAMS

Mr. Jake Epp (Provencher): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Secretary of State regarding the sale of radio station CKSB. In view of the petition that has been received by the minister and his cabinet colleagues with regard to the sale of CKSB, and in view of the recent multiculturalism program outlined by the minister in charge of that department in Edmonton recently, could the minister indicate to the House what changes the CBC is considering in its policy regarding the use of CBC facilities relative to multicultural broadcasting?

Hon. James Hugh Faulkner (Secretary of State): Mr. Speaker, as I have suggested before on this matter if members of the House, particularly members of the Broadcasting Committee, want to pursue this matter with the CBC they should do so while the estimates of the corporation are before the committee. It seems to me that this is the most intelligent way to get at the problem in depth.

SALE OF RADIO STATION CKSB, WINNIPEG, TO CBC—ACTION TO SET ASIDE CANADIAN RADIO-TELEVISION COMMISSION DECISION

Mr. Paul Yewchuk (Athabasca): Mr. Speaker, now that the minister has had a chance to review the petition and because there is a good deal of urgency in setting aside the CRTC decision, the deadline being Monday next, can the minister indicate whether he plans to take any action prior to the expiry of the period during which he can launch an objection to the decision?

Hon. James Hugh Faulkner (Secretary of State): I have not taken a speed reading course and I have not finished reading the petition yet. I will reserve judgment until I have, but I doubt very much that any action will be taken between now and Monday.

* * *

INDIAN AFFAIRS

ENTITLEMENT TO DRUGS—DIRECTIVE LIMITING PROVISION

Mr. S. J. Korchinski (Mackenzie): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of National Health and Welfare. I should like to ask him whether a directive has been issued by his department indicating that the department will no longer assume responsibility for the cost of drugs taken by treaty Indians after June 1 other than by those who are resident on reserves or indigents? Why was this change in policy necessary, and what provisions have been made to identify those Indians who qualify so as to avoid any hardships?

Hon. Marc Lalonde (Minister of National Health and Welfare): Mr. Speaker, I believe the hon. member is referring to a situation in Saskatchewan. I heard about this situation only yesterday afternoon and I have asked for a full report. I will be glad to inform the hon. member later, some time next week.

[Mr. Speaker.]

SUGGESTED TRANSFER OF MEDICAL SERVICES FROM HEALTH AND WELFARE TO INDIAN AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT

Mr. S. J. Korchinski (Mackenzie): I have a supplementary question for the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development. Has he received any representations to have the medical services section transferred back to the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development so that he can assume the responsibility for health services as provided for Indians under existing treaties?

[*Translation*]

Hon. Jean Chrétien (Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development): Mr. Speaker, I am aware of this problem, but with regard to the hon. member's suggestion, I believe that the area of the Indians' health is very well administered by my colleague, the Minister of National Health and Welfare.

[*English*]

Mr. Korchinski: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. How can the minister make that statement when the minister is abdicating his responsibility?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member for Meadow Lake.

Mr. Elias Nesdoly (Meadow Lake): Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question to the question asked by the hon. member for Mackenzie. Is the Minister of National Health and Welfare aware of the medicine chest clause in treaty No. 6 and the several court rulings in this regard?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I doubt that a question asked in those terms is in order. The hon. member might like to rephrase the question.

* * *

INCOME TAX

LIVESTOCK INVENTORY PROVISIONS IN LAST BUDGET—RETROACTIVITY TO JANUARY 1, 1972, IN LIGHT OF TERMINATION OF BASIC HERD PROVISIONS IN 1971

Mr. Bill Jarvis (Perth-Wilmot): Mr. Speaker, in the absence of the Minister of Agriculture and the Minister of Finance may I direct my question to the Minister of National Revenue. Will the livestock inventory provisions in the last budget be made retroactive to January 1, 1972 and, if not, what steps will the minister or the cabinet take to cure the one-year tax hiatus between the termination of the basic herd provisions in 1971 and the commencement of the inventory provisions in the recent budget?

Hon. Robert Stanbury (Minister of National Revenue): Mr. Speaker, I will be glad to consult the Minister of Finance on that and advise the hon. member.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

INQUIRY AS TO INTRODUCTION OF COMPETITION BILL

Mr. Ron Atkey (St. Paul's): Mr. Speaker, in the absence of the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs I wish to put my question to the government House leader. Can he tell the House whether the government plans before the summer recess to introduce the reworked version of the competition bill to which the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs has referred on several occasions in the House?

Hon. Allan J. MacEachen (President of the Privy Council): Mr. Speaker, that is a rather distant ideal at the moment.

* * *

INDIAN AFFAIRS

ENTITLEMENT TO DRUGS—DIRECTIVE LIMITING PROVISION—PRIOR CONSULTATION WITH MINISTER

Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Prince Albert): Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question to the one asked by the hon. member for Mackenzie. I wish to ask the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development whether he was consulted in connection with this matter before the Department of National Health and Welfare took action which is in direct contradiction and contravention of the treaty rights of these Indians?

[*Translation*]

Hon. Jean Chrétien (Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development): Mr. Speaker, I must say that I have not been informed of it, but I had the opportunity to discuss this problem this week with the Indian Association of Saskatchewan. I already made representations to the Minister of National Health and Welfare on this matter and he assured me that he was considering the problem and that he would be in a position to report to both the House and myself early next week.

[*English*]

Mr. Diefenbaker: As the minister is the custodian of the rights of the Indians under the treaties, did he point out that what was done was in direct violation of the rights of the Indians and that it should be immediately set aside and countermanded, and if he did have a chat with the Minister of National Health and Welfare as he has just stated, when was it that he gave his views?

[*Translation*]

Mr. Chrétien: Mr. Speaker, I was informed of this problem long before the right hon. member raised the question in this House and as soon as I had a chance to do so, I met with the Minister of National Health and Welfare. Yesterday I discussed the matter with him and he is now considering the issue. I think that everything to be done will be done in due course.

[*English*]

Mr. Diefenbaker: Mr. Speaker, the minister cannot brush aside the rights of the Indians in that cavalier manner.

Some hon. Members: Question!

Mr. Diefenbaker: I ask the minister: did he protest against the wrong that is being done to these Indians by this bureaucratic order that is totally unjust?

[*Translation*]

Mr. Chrétien: Mr. Speaker, unlike the right hon. member, I examine all the facts before protesting and as soon as the Saskatchewan Indians asked to meet with me, I was pleased to receive them. I made representations to the Minister of National Health and Welfare before the right hon. member himself became aware of the situation.

● (1150)

[*English*]

Mr. A. P. Gleave (Saskatoon-Biggar): Mr. Speaker, in view of the fact that a short time ago in the House the Minister of National Health and Welfare presented a program of increased family allowances and social services to the people of Canada, may I ask if this new ruling in respect of the native people of Saskatchewan indicates a reversal of that policy on the part of the government?

[*Translation*]

Hon. Marc Lalonde (Minister of National Health and Welfare): No, Mr. Speaker.

* * *

[*English*]

ENERGY

PROPOSED JAMES BAY HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT—CABINET COMMITTEE ASSESSMENT OF ANALYSIS—COMMUNICATION OF POSITION TO QUEBEC

Miss Flora MacDonald (Kingston and the Islands): Mr. Speaker, I wished to direct my question to the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources in his capacity as chairman of the cabinet committee co-ordinating federal activities relating to the James Bay project but in his absence I would direct it to the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development who I presume is still a member of that committee. Can the minister tell the House whether the committee has examined the recently presented analysis which shows, first, an over-exaggeration by the James Bay Corporation of Quebec's power needs and, second, the advantages of nuclear rather than hydraulic power, and has the federal committee's assessment been conveyed to the province of Quebec?

[*Translation*]

Hon. Jean Chrétien (Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development): Mr. Speaker, this question of resource development in the James Bay area is still under consideration by the government; all the elements of the case are being continuously considered. This is one of the elements of the case now under consideration and consultations take place quite regularly with the Quebec government. As regards the number of kilowatts and the cost, etc., this comes under the jurisdiction of my colleague, the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources, and I shall bring to his attention the question asked by the hon. member.

[*English*]

YOUTH

OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUTH PROGRAM—CRITERIA FOR POSSIBLE ADDITIONAL PROJECTS

Mr. Mark Rose (Fraser Valley West): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct my question to the Secretary of State. Since the minister has now advised Members of Parliament that there is going to be an increase in the number of opportunities for youth projects funded this year, may I ask whether a different set of criteria has been used in the selection of the additional projects compared with the first batch?

Hon. James Hugh Faulkner (Secretary of State): Mr. Speaker, I am not quite sure that I understand the hon. member's question. No additional funds have been provided for the program. What might take place is that, with the extension of certain LIP projects, projects that we might have been involved in through the opportunities for youth program will be funded that way. If this happens, then these additional funds will be applied to projects that were turned down but against the same criteria that applied to the first batch. There will be no change in the criteria.

Mr. Rose: Mr. Speaker, a letter from the minister's office advised my office that there were four additional projects to be funded in my riding. I do not know what has happened in other ridings, but 50 per cent of those additional projects funded are not from the rated list at all. I asked the question to find out whether new projects have been selected on a different set of criteria from the former ones?

Mr. Faulkner: No, Mr. Speaker, but I should like to look into that particular case because that is not my understanding.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The Chair will recognize the hon. member for Yukon on a supplementary, then the hon. member for Grey-Simcoe, and then call orders of the day.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUTH PROGRAM—ALLEGED NOTIFICATIONS THAT PROJECTS REJECTED AS A RESULT OF CONSULTATION WITH MEMBER FOR AREA

Mr. Erik Nielsen (Yukon): Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question for the same minister. Is it the practice in his department when notifying applicants whose applications for OFY projects have been rejected to state that the rejection has been arrived at as a result of consultation with the Member of Parliament of the area? If so, will the minister cease and desist from the continuation of this rather reprehensible practice unless it is in fact the case?

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Hon. James Hugh Faulkner (Secretary of State): Mr. Speaker, I have had some strong representations on the phrasing of the letter of rejection, particularly from my colleagues on this side. In my judgment, and I know this view is not shared by many of my colleagues, if one views the letter objectively and dispassionately the opportunity for consultation was open to Members of Parliament. Where the confusion seems to arise is on what consultation means.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Faulkner: If I may continue, Mr. Speaker, I think I have made it abundantly clear to hon. members and to the public that consultation does not mean that the member of parliament has the final say. It simply means that, as an individual who in my judgment knows his constituency well, he should be approached for advice on projects, but the final decision—I repeat this for the fourth or fifth time—lies with me. Responsibility for rejection does not lie with Members of Parliament; it lies clearly with me and I am prepared to take that responsibility.

Mr. Nielsen: Mr. Speaker, I rise now because this matter affects the privileges of all members of the House. There are some members who have chosen not to reply to the letters that have been sent by the minister and have not offered any advice to the minister one way or another. It is an offensive practice and contrary to the privileges of members for the minister to leave any inference, directly or indirectly or in any manner, that such grants have been rejected after consultation with the Member of Parliament. The question of privilege centers upon the abuse of ministerial prerogatives to that extent. The minister is not entitled to do it and it is an offensive practice.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member for Fraser Valley West and also the Leader of the Opposition are seeking the floor. In view of the fact that we have reached the end of the question period I suggest we should try to get on. I was hoping to recognize the hon. member for Grey-Simcoe, but the hon. member for Fraser Valley West rises on a question of privilege after which I will recognize the Leader of the Opposition and then, hopefully, the hon. member of Grey-Simcoe.

Mr. Rose: On the same question of privilege, Mr. Speaker, that was raised by the hon. member for Yukon, I would ask the Secretary of State whether he is aware that a prominent former member of the government, former employee of the government and former member for Burnaby-Seymour has been quoted in print as implying that Members of Parliament in their constituencies have the power to approve or veto any project.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. That is a question. Again, in the hope that we can make some progress the Chair will recognize the minister for the purpose of replying and then recognize the Leader of the Opposition.

Mr. Faulkner: No, Mr. Speaker, I am not aware of that statement, but I will certainly make it clear to my colleagues, if there is a continuation of OFY in the future, that there is no support for consultation among members of this House. It seems to me that is a regrettable retreat.

Mr. Nielsen: It is not.

Mr. Faulkner: Of course it is.

Mr. Nielsen: It is not.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. We are obviously getting into debate. The hon. Leader of the Opposition.

Mr. Hees: Consultation consists of you saying no; that is what it is.

Hon. Robert L. Stanfield (Leader of the Opposition): Would the minister not agree, as the fair-minded man I always thought he was—

Mr. Hees: Until now.

Mr. Stanfield: —that a letter going out over his signature indicating that a grant had been rejected after consultation with the Member of Parliament indicates to the recipient that the Member of Parliament has objected to the grant?

Mr. Hees: That is straight dishonesty.

Mr. Faulkner: Mr. Speaker, in fairness I think the hon. Leader of the Opposition should note that the letter of acceptance contains exactly the same words.

Mr. Hees: There are a lot more rejections.

Mr. Faulkner: All we attempted to do through that rather longer letter—

Mr. Hees: —is pass the buck!

Mr. Faulkner: Just relax, George—was to explain to those whose projects were refused, as well as to those that were accepted, the process. It is perfectly true—the hon. member for Yukon makes this point and it is a valid point which I will probably have to consider—that those members who systematically stayed out of any consultations and did not want to see the list of projects are left in an ambiguous position. I think probably we should try to clear that, but the fact remains that all Members of Parliament had the opportunity to look at the complete list of projects and the preferred list—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. Perhaps there will be an opportunity to look into the matter a little more deeply later, but for the moment we have to make some headway. I am still hoping to recognize the hon. member for Grey-Simcoe.

* * *

● (1200)

NATIONAL DEFENCE

MEAFORD TANK RANGE—INQUIRY AS TO FUTURE USE

Mr. Gus Mitges (Grey-Simcoe): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of National Defence. In view of the fact that Camp Meaford, better known as the Meaford tank range, has to some extent again been reactivated as an armoured training area for the army, can the minister inform us whether this is a temporary measure or one of a more permanent nature because of the concern of the

people in the area whose basic desire is to use this range as a national park some time in the foreseeable future?

Hon. James Richardson (Minister of National Defence): Mr. Speaker, we have advised those concerned that the Meaford range will be required for training purposes long into the future. It is not a short-term program.

Mr. Speaker: Orders of the day.

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

BUSINESS OF SUPPLY

ALLOTTED DAY S.O. 58—ALLEGED LACK OF PARLIAMENTARY CONTROL OF PUBLIC FUNDS

Mr. G. W. Baldwin (Peace River) moved:

That this House, protesting the Government's continuing takeover of Parliamentary control of public money and the Government's mismanagement in spending escalating public revenues, warns that immediate and decisive action must be taken to restore control of public funds to Parliament.

He said: Mr. Speaker, on a point of order, before I begin my comments may I say that there has been general understanding that after the first four speakers have taken the time allotted to them under the pertinent rule, all other speakers shall speak for 15 minutes. There has been great interest in this subject and that time limitation will give more members an opportunity to make comments and intervene in the debate.

Mr. Knight: Mr. Speaker, I heard the hon. member suggest that after the first round of speakers have completed their remarks, each speaker is to be limited to 15 minutes. We are in agreement with that.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Speaker: Is the House in agreement?

Mr. Laprise: Yes, Mr. Speaker.

[*English*]

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Mr. Baldwin: Mr. Speaker, one wonders why this subject is being brought before the House again today. This is the fourth time in three years that Her Majesty's Loyal Opposition has considered it essential to bring this matter to the attention of the House, of the government and of the country. A good many other subjects could provide a topic for discussion today. Nevertheless, we take such a serious view of the situation regarding government expenditures that we feel, as the government has done nothing at all as a consequence of the three debates held in the last three years since 1970, that it is our duty as well as prerogative to make sure that the facts are ventilated so that, hopefully, at some time in the future this government will be aware of its delinquency in the area of government spending.

The government has a duty to perform in three areas, as has parliament. First, we must enact legislation; second,

challenge and scrutinize the accounts of the government generally, on a day-to-day basis; and, finally, deal with government expenditures and approve government expenditures when they are brought forward in the proper form. In my opinion, the last of these areas is the most important for us to consider.

I said that there were lots of other topics which we might have discussed today. I do not know how much attention will be paid to the present debate. I know there are stirrings across the border in Washington, in connection with certain events going on there. In the United Kingdom, the senior chamber of the United Kingdom parliament apparently is showing more activity in certain respects than is our senior chamber and is securing a great deal of attention from the press. A conference is going on in Ottawa, about which I will say something later. All the same, I suggest that we can spend our time in no better way than in discussing, for the balance of this morning and this afternoon, the tremendously important question suggested by the motion.

The other day I was at the National Arts Centre. Anyone who has been there lately will have seen the reconstructed skeleton of the dinosaur. It certainly reminded me of this government. When it was alive it must have been heavy, covered with scales, and fierce looking. It had a big mouth. It was carniverous and had a great appetite. If we had seen it in action, no doubt we should have found it adept at concealment and deception.

An hon. Member: Like the President of the Treasury Board.

Mr. Nielsen: And it probably changed colour when the occasion was right.

Mr. Baldwin: Despite the other attractions I have mentioned it is evident, from my reading of news stories and editorials printed in various newspapers across this land, that the statements made in the last report of the Auditor General have revived the interest of the people, particularly of the poor, harassed taxpayer of this country, in what this government is doing. This fact has reinforced our determination to continue to bring this matter to the attention of the government so that, at least when this government has gone and we have replaced it, we shall have our own words to contend with and there will be a new deal for the taxpayers of Canada.

Mr. Nowlan: For the forgotten majority.

Mr. Baldwin: My colleagues will be dealing with particular items of waste, extravagance, stupidity and misspending. I am particularly anxious to direct the attention of the House to what I believe to be one of the most serious issues we must face, namely, the loss or weakening of parliamentary control over government spending.

I asked the Secretary of State for External Affairs (Mr. Sharp) about this yesterday, and in his reply he brushed the suggestion off, saying, "Why, parliament has even more control over spending than it had before." That, I say, is nonsense.

Mr. Nielsen: Sheer rubbish.

[Mr. Baldwin.]

Mr. Baldwin: The President of the Treasury Board (Mr. Drury) who has replied on behalf of the government in a number of similar debates no doubt will be trotting out the 1973 version of the rather juvenile and attenuated remarks which he has brought forward in debates of this kind. In addition, he will probably say, "You have more powers than you ever had; you have more weapons at your disposal and more means of dealing with estimates." That, I say, is wrong. I know it is wrong; my colleagues know it is wrong; parliament knows that is wrong and it is not in accordance with the facts. Something will have to be done about it.

I suggest that the minister and the Secretary of State for External Affairs are entitled to the degree, "master of obfuscation". When I thought of that word I looked it up in the dictionary and saw I was right in using it. Obfuscation means to darken, to obscure, to confuse and to stupefy. That is what the minister and his colleagues are doing with respect to this particular issue.

There are two aspects of the issues at which we should look, namely, what I call the aspects of pre-spending and of post-spending. Let us look at the issue of pre-spending and what we can do about it. The minister may say, "You may use the committees to examine estimates". The President of the Treasury Board knows as well as every member of this House that all the members of my party and, I believe, all my friends to my left have participated in parliamentary committee proceedings have done so diligently and earnestly, but in spite of this many here will agree with me when I say that, so far as being a vehicle for a reasonable examination of estimates of departments and Crown corporations before the money is spent, those proceedings are an absolute flop. They have failed.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Baldwin: True, they have provided opportunity for the cross-examination of witnesses and the basis on which facts can be gleaned. Those facts can be used at a later date, possibly in debates in this House. However, as a method of conducting a rational and sensible examination of estimates before the money is spent, those proceedings are not satisfactory. One of the things my electors in Peace River said when they sent me here was, "Go down there and do something about the government's extravagance in spending." Hon. members opposite look honest to me. They try to be honest. Sometimes they do not completely succeed, that is in a parliamentary sense. They will agree that if they talk to their constituents, they will be told to do something about this government's escalation of expenditures. This government is poised like a space satellite; all system set to go right up to the stratosphere.

• (1210)

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Baldwin: A better method must be adopted. If time permits, in spite of the discussions on the other side, I intend to do just that.

This debate is not just for the purpose of criticizing, but, in a spirit of friendly co-operation, to try to show the government what can be done. This is the last opportunity

for the government to do these things. If they do not, we will be doing them before too long.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Baldwin: I hope my friends to my left will join with us in our attempt to achieve our objection through this debate. Both the New Democratic Party and the Creditistes have supported us in other motions we have presented. I hope they will continue to do so. That is the reason we did not put this motion in the form of a confidence motion, as we might have. At this stage, this situation is too serious and we want their support. I know the NDP have been having a few problems recently. They have been so busy concealing their doctrines with one hand and covering their dogma with the other that they stand almost indecently exposed.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Baldwin: But, I hope they will join with us in meeting one of the most serious situations in this country. When the estimates are included in an appropriation bill on the final opposition day, it will be our intention to challenge and vote on certain items. I hope the government will make public its position before that item. Will it regard the loss of an important supplementary item such as Information Canada as a question of confidence? What will be the position of the government on this? What will be the position of my friends to the left? We intend to treat our responsibility seriously in this matter and make a valiant, reasonable and diligent effort to bring this monster of government under some kind of control.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Baldwin: The former Auditor General has had a lot to say in his report. We must bear in mind that the Auditor General's report is prepared by more than one man. The Auditor General holds that office together with members of his staff. They are competent, diligent, hard-working, independent people who do a very tough job under circumstances which have not been made easy by the efforts of this government. The Auditor General's report has stated that expenditures are now $20 billion. By the time we take into account certain loans, advances and future payments which will be presented in the form of supplementary estimates before we finish with this fiscal year, the figure will be well over $20 billion. The Auditor General has made reference to this fact and has pointed out the dangers.

I suggest that hon. members read carefully the Auditor General's report. I hope they do. It should be done in the proper way. It is like drinking brandy. You put it in a snifter, sniff it quite often and drink it drop by drop. Only in this way can you get the full flavour of the report. It cannot be done hastily. It must be done with competence, diligence and patience. You have to be a good reader to understand what it is all about. If hon. members opposite do that, they may have a completely different approach to this particular issue.

What is to be seen behind the dry language of the accountant and the lawyer is the unfolding of the details of a fiscal assault of massive proportions against the taxpayer, with completely inadequate weapons given to those representing the people to repel the assault or even to uncover the details. The federal government first woos the voters with deceptive and seductive calls for the implementation of great new social and welfare proposals, always concealing the true escalation of costs. Then, there is established a huge bureaucratic machine with a new minister or ministers and their accompanying menageries, and ultimately parallel provincial counterparts.

The inevitable result is a spending program of enormous stupidity and duplication, waste and extravagance. The unfortunate taxpayer is then sternly told he will have to pay for the great benefits which a kindly and benevolent government has conferred upon him. When the Auditor General, in pursuance of his duties, attempts to ferret out and detail what these expenditures are, the government says that he is snooping and is going beyond his authority. Their subtle, and sometimes not so subtle, methods delay and impede any attempt to examine the control of expenditures in the detail required.

To add insult to injury, the federal government, having fixed a habit on the people like drugs for an addict, calmly suggest that they should pull out and leave the resulting mess as well as the massive costs to be dealt with by the provinces. This is what this meeting in Ottawa today is all about. I have some views, as do others, on what is going on in this city today. These eleven people, the sultans, caliphs, emperors and the Caesar from Ottawa are like eleven doctors conducting a premature postmortem and autopsy on a still breathing and struggling taxpayer. This is what it amounts to. Some day I would like to see a federal-provincial conference with one item on the agenda, finding ways and means to reduce the huge duplication of administrative expenditures. I may not live to see the day unless in the near future this Conservative party forms the government.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Baldwin: I suggest to the hon. member for Bruce (Mr. Whicher), who is now making more noise than usual, and sometimes it is a good noise, that he will support what I have to say today. I know this is how he feels. I want him and some of his colleagues to say they feel this way. Let them be honourable members, speak up and say they agree with me. I know that is the way many of them feel. All they need is a little courage to stand up and say so.

My time is limited. I want to refer briefly to some of the comments contained in the Auditor General's report. Although I should like to deal with all of them, time will not permit. I am referring, Mr. Speaker, to the report of the Auditor General for the fiscal year ending March 31, 1972.

● (1220)

It is one of the fundamental principles of our constitutional heritage that the House of Commons control the finances of the country.

Who disagrees with that assertion? Yet it is not the case today. How many hon. members can stand up and honestly say that this situation exists in parliament, in this House of Commons, today?

An hon. Member: No one.

Mr. Baldwin: And on page 10 we read:

> Expenditures of public moneys at the level of $20 million a year are today over three times larger than they were a decade ago. The number of employees on the federal payroll, which in 1961-62 was 330,000, reached 405,000 in 1971-72. This figure could well reach 450,000 in 1973-74 on the basis of the recently tabled estimates for that year.

And this does not take into account all the contractual arrangements which are made, by means of which people can be brought in without being shown on the payroll.

> The changes which have taken place over this period, and the nature and diversity of public spending, including its presentation to parliament, continue to add vast new dimensions to the problem—In my 1968 report to the House I suggested it would be of material assistance were parliament to consider commissioning a management study of government organization at least once every decade.

I support that. My colleagues support that proposal. I asked a question of the President of Treasury Board (Mr. Drury) yesterday. I think he tried to skip over it. I hope I am wrong. I hope that before this debate is over he will stand up and say he accepts that proposition. And, finally, on the same page:

> It is the right, privilege and duty of the House of Commons to control the finances of the country.

Mr. Speaker, this is simply not being done today. Look at some of the ways in which the government evades its responsibilities. Reference to committees I have shown to be useless as far as real control is concerned. Then, there is the method of using dollar items in the estimates. It is quite improper but it is used frequently in spite of admonitions from this House and from the Auditor General.

Take statutory fixed payments. The House passed the relevant bill, of course it did. Hon. members were deceived at the time as to what the ultimate cost would be. Yes, they were deceived. The President of Treasury Board gives me a pained look. If he goes back to those debates and reads what was said, as I did—and I have the relevant copies of *Hansard* here, but I do not have the time to go through them—he will find I am right. The Liberal government from 1963 to 1973 engaged in actual deception through deliberate miscalculation of what the cost of some of these programs would be, and today we are faced, as taxpayers as well as in our capacity as members of the house, with a *fait accompli*.

Take subsidies. Millions of dollars are being disbursed by way of subsidies under programs such as LIP and OFY. We do not have time to debate the issues involved here, but the government knows, and we know, that expenditures of this nature are undertaken, programs are entered into, and only *ex post facto* do we in this House have an opportunity to deal with those expenditures. Hundreds of millions of dollars are committed and all we can do is approve those expenditures, the money having already been spent. That is a fact of life. That is one of the ways in which the government evades its responsibilities.

Then, there is the device of omnibus legislation. I could refer to items in the report—paragraphs 52 to 63. Failure to file annual returns. I could go on. There are 15 or 16 methods itemized by which the government succeeds in evading its responsibilities, preventing the House from carrying out its duties to the taxpayers.

Mr. Speaker, my time has almost expired. I said I would make some suggestions. I shall not simply end my comments on a critical note. I believe it is part of our duty to be critical when we see wrongdoing and my hon. friends and I will exercise our rights without fear or favour. But I believe we should also make some suggestions and I have a few suggestions I should like to put before the House. First, there must be a new Auditor General's Act. The minister says: Wait and see what the new Auditor General has to say about it. That is reasonable. But I submit that the Public Accounts Committee has a responsibility to undertake immediately a study of new legislation and to complete that study before this House adjourns. If not, what will happen is this: the new Auditor General will not take over until July 1. The act will not be studied by the committee until well into the fall of this year. It will not come before this chamber until, probably, the early part of 1974 and there will not be a new act until at least a year has gone by. That is too long to wait, and I, for one, do not intend to see such a length of time elapse if I can prevent it.

The form of the estimates has to be changed. I see the President of the Treasury Board writing busily at this time. He and I know that the estimates conceal rather than reveal, like some of the dresses which were worn a few years ago. I believe the form of the estimates must be studied in committee so as to produce a simplified form which reveals, rather than conceals, information.

Then, as I have said over and over again, there must be brought into the House, into a revived Committee of Supply, at least four or five departments every parliament so that we may have an opportunity in this House to subject to full scrutiny at least one of the important departments once each Parliament. The choice should be that of the opposition. The proceedings in that Committee of Supply should be televised. They should be open to live radio and television. The issue is too important to be concealed from the people of this country, and I suggest this is one debate which should be televised.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Baldwin: My colleagues may agree with me or not, but I think this is important.

A vote should be taken at the end of every opposition day. It is a travesty of parliamentary procedure to conduct debates of this kind in the absence of a division. I recognize that not every vote need be in the nature of a confidence motion, but it is imperative that every opposition motion on an opposition day should be decided by a vote.

Yesterday or the day before I was obliged to drag out of the government, using Standing Order 43, agreement to refer to the Standing Committee on Public Accounts the reports of the Auditor General going back to March 31, 1971. Such a reference should be automatic. What happened was a shocking example of dereliction of duty on the part of the government. There should, therefore, be a change in Standing Orders to provide that automatically at the beginning of each session the Public Accounts for the preceding year and the report of the Auditor General should go to the committee, which would be in business at once. There should be a mandatory date by which the committee should report back. The committee should be

armed with sufficient professional staff and facilities to make it possible to report to the House by a date which would allow time for a mandatory debate. There should also be in the standing orders a provision that the chairman of the committee bring before the House the report of the committee for its consideration; the opposition would then have the right to move an amendment or call attention to any shortcomings which in its opinion showed that the government was failing to carry out its duties properly, or failing to pay attention to the recommendations of the Auditor General and the Public Accounts Committee. This should be mandatory, and these proceedings should be carried out in the full glare of publicity, attended by live television and radio. I might add that the government should have the right to table its response in advance so that we might engage in a debate with the issues clearly defined.

I suggest, finally, that an attempt should be made by the government to eliminate some of the practices to which I referred earlier in my remarks. There is no reason these things should be so esoteric. Consider the extent to which the people of this country are involved in the escalating cost of living. It has been said by the Economic Council of Canada and by a great many others that as far as domestic issues are concerned, the increasing cost of government constitutes the largest element in the present inflationary process. I think this statement is accepted in all circles. It is essential that this House show the people of Canada a determination to grasp this nettle and deal with it. No better way can be found to do that than by this government indicating to this House and the country its recognition of the problems, its defects of the past, and its preparedness to accept some of the proposals I am sure will emanate from this side of the House before the debate is concluded.

● (1230)

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Hon. C. M. Drury (President of the Treasury Board): Mr. Speaker, this is not the first occasion, as the mover of the motion has recalled to us, on which the hon. member for Peace River (Mr. Baldwin) has moved a motion along the lines of the one we are now debating. Almost exactly a year ago he expressed similar concern in almost the same terms, lacking some of the suggestions he included in today's remarks.

I should like to be able to think that the hon. member is showing only a general, highminded and meritorious concern for the principles upon which our parliamentary system is founded, a concern which I am sure is shared by all members. I should like to believe so, but I cannot leave it at that when I study his motion which presents a charge so much at variance with the facts. I could try to excuse him on the grounds that he has not had an opportunity to be informed, but last year and on other occasions it has been my lot to reply to motions on this subject that he or his colleagues have placed before this House.

Mr. Baldwin: I am still uninformed.

Mr. Drury: I have, in the clearest and simplest terms, attempted to allay any real concern he may have felt. Had I not done so, and had no member of this government spoken about the matter, the evidence of what this government had done should have been enough to show him that he was the victim of unfounded fears.

An hon. Member: Let's have a look at the evidence.

Mr. Drury: In the face of this evidence and in spite of what he has been told, he continues on the same theme. I can only conclude that he has some deep-seated paranoia, however vague his apprehension of the cause of it, and the best that can be done is to try again to set him at ease by again reciting the facts. I must reach this charitable conclusion about his inability to see and grasp reality to avoid the contrary conclusion that he is being irresponsible and partisan.

Let me again go through the record as I have on previous occasions. When the present government assumed office in 1968, it had as one of its priorities the up-dating of a financial apparatus very much unsuited to the needs of a contemporary government and a contemporary parliament. We had a system that had originated, in many respects, in times when governments had a very narrow role to play in a society of a much less complex sort. It was a system that had hardly been altered in a fundamental way for more than three decades.

In particular, parliament was annually being presented with the government's expenditure proposals in a style reminiscent of these earlier simpler times. This style of presentation heaped detail upon detail with little apparent structure. Parliament, as is evidenced by the debates of those days, turned away from the actual and factual consideration of the estimates. It used the days on which estimates were scheduled for study much as this day is being used, in treating topics in a very general way.

I want to ask hon. members to recall that period of last January in which we reverted in a substantial measure, because of unusual circumstances, to the procedures of earlier days as we dealt with the first supplementary estimates for 1972-73. There were relatively few items in those estimates.

Mr. Baldwin: But oh, what estimates!

Mr. Drury: All of them were concerned with matters of urgency and, I believe it fair to say, all were quite straightforward.

An hon. Member: Oh, come on.

Mr. Drury: If hon. members were to examine the debate over the many days that this House was occupied with those estimates they would find that the House dealt with the matter and substance of the items in the estimates hardly at all. Instead, hon. members engaged in general discussion of general topics, proving again that the floor of the House of Commons is not a practicable forum for the detailed examination of expenditures.

To revert to the situation as it was assessed in 1968, the government undertook to pursue vigorously the investigations that had been going on under the previous Liberal administration into modern developments in government budgeting systems. Steps were taken to bring these investigations to a head; to effect radical changes and to put into effect new forms of documentation and new proce-

dures designed to give parliament a better opportunity to scrutinize expenditures. The hon. member for Peace River has chosen to present a picture of a government that seeks to slight and ignore parliament in the matter of expenditures. I shall be able to offer sufficient evidence to refute, if not to ridicule this charge.

I should like now to refer to the many profitable discussions which were held with the Public Accounts Committee of this House in 1968 and 1969 about the new form of estimates then under development. I spoke to the committee in November of 1968 at some length about our general thinking in this matter. In particular I said:

> The blue book of estimates constitutes the framework for parliamentary control and the examination of departmental expenditure plans. The primary objective of the proposals that I have presented to you is designed to facilitate your task in carrying out your responsibilities as Members of Parliament.

I spoke about a new system of expenditure coding to replace the existing one that had become outmoded, a new system that permitted the classification and cross classification of expenditures in many different ways. I said that the new form would include much more information about Crown corporations than had been included in the past.

Mr. Nielsen: What a laugh that is.

Mr. Drury: I showed how we proposed to make a clear distinction between grants and contributions; an important distinction obscured by changing circumstances. There were many changes proposed, but most fundamental of all was the proposed system of classifying the expenditures of each department and agency onto one or more programs, each with its own appropriate vote structure. In each program, statements of objectives would be made in the estimates, supported by descriptions of activities to be carried on in pursuit of these objectives as well as by much detail about the manpower to be used, the nature of the expenditures to be undertaken, the related major capital projects and other matters.

This open end frank presentation of our plans to the designated representative of this House in matters relating to financial procedures was followed by several meetings at which the committee questioned officials of the Treasury Board. Of significance is the fact that these meetings resulted in changes in the proposals of the government in response to the suggestions of the members of the committee; changes made because the government recognized the importance of a clear presentation of ample information about expenditures to parliament to facilitate the work of parliament with regard to expenditures.

I may say, and recall to the hon. gentleman, that this committee charged with the responsibility of improving this presentation gave unanimous approval to the new form.

Mr. Nielsen: It was not unanimous, and that fact has been raised as a question of privilege before.

Mr. Drury: The research work undertaken to prepare the remarks, from which the hon. gentleman has read, represented another means of improving the efficacy of the tools available to Members of Parliament. I will not dwell on that, but his remarks rather indicate that the new form of estimates was some form of concoction by the government designed to mislead the House.

Mr. Baldwin: Right.

• (1240)

Mr. Drury: This new form of the estimates, I repeat to the hon. member, represents the unanimous approval of the conclusions of the committee of which a member from his party was chairman and of which, on an off-and-on basis, he himself has been a member. I can only wish that in formulating his criticisms of the present form of the estimates—the present form of the presentation—he had taken a little more time when this matter was under discussion to improve them in the manner he is now suggesting.

Mr. Baldwin: There are three official languages, French, English and bureaucratese.

Mr. Drury: I would interject that there is another official language the hon. gentleman uses which falls under none of those headings. He is, perhaps in his own terms, obfuscatory. The new form was put into effect first with the main estimates for the year 1970-71 and the form of the supplementary estimates was altered subsequently. Since that time, the government has gone on to make changes this year to further improve the quality and increase the quantity of information in the blue book and its supplements.

If any member of the House has further suggestions for improvement other than general ones I—and I can speak on behalf of the government—would be glad to have these and to take them into consideration. To refer again to the situation in 1968, pre-1968 experience indicated that the House had ceased to deal with the estimates in an effective way. There was clearly a crying need for some changes in procedures that would give hon. members a chance to discharge their responsibilities in this regard. With the concurrence of the House, amendments were made to the standing orders calling for early reference of various sections of the main estimates to the Standing Committees according to the subject matter in which each committee specializes. For the last few years, the estimates have then had a much more searching review in these committees than it had been possible to give them in the House for many years. This has been the case, I may say, despite the seeming inability or unwillingness of some members of the official opposition to use the opportunities for inquiry given them.

Mr. Nielsen: What tripe!

Mr. Drury: The mover of the motion said that the work of these committees was "flub". I am not sure what that term means. My dictionary does not contain it. I would suggest that if this is pejorative, then he might examine the performance of some of his henchmen in respect of these committees, if indeed they are not working satisfactorily as a means of making effective inquiries.

In summary of my remarks to this point, let me say that the government has understood, as the hon. member apparently has not, the essentials for parliamentary review and control of expenditures. And having under-

stood them, it has gone on to provide for them. The first essential is information about the proposed expenditures. To this end the government has increased the amount of such information and improved its form of presentation.

Mr. Nielsen: Don't read us fairy tales.

Mr. Drury: Mr. Speaker, if I could respond to these uniformed interjections, I am suggesting, in respect of the method of presentation of information related to expenditures, that this information is two years late. Perhaps the hon. gentleman would just listen to how parliament does its work or should. The Auditor General's report by definition is an audit of the events which have occurred. The estimates purport to be, and in fact are, a representation of plans for future implementation. At the moment, I am talking not about the audit subsequent to the event, but the presentation of plans for the future.

The second essential, which would also seem to have escaped the hon. member, is ample opportunity to question ministers and their officials, to seek yet further details. This opportunity is abundantly provided through the committee system, now incorporated in the Standing Orders through amendments introduced in the early years of the present Liberal administration.

Mr. Baldwin: The other day a minister refused to appear when the committee asked that he appear.

Mr. Drury: It is to be greatly regretted that some of the hon. members colleagues in opposition have chosen to waste the time of the committees in pointless haggling over procedure rather than address themselves to the country's finances, as he professes they are so anxious to do.

The third essential is the report to parliament of the expenditures after they have taken place. The government has acted in this regard as well in restructuring the form of the public accounts to mirror the new form of the estimates, in adding more information, and in advancing by a number of months the date on which these accounts are tabled.

I am led to speculate about what the hon. member means by the phrase "control of expenditures". He may be caught in the grip of some nostalgic vision of a day that never existed or he may have some dream of himself as a departmental financial officer examining individual transactions. The fact of the matter is that in a real sense, parliament does control expenditures fully and in the only way it ever has. That is, not one dollar is spent that has not been authorized by parliament.

Some hon. Members: Oh! oh!

Mr. Nielsen: A fairy tale.

An hon. Member: That is not what the Auditor General says.

Mr. Drury: This authority may be found in continuing statutes such as the one which calls for the payment of family allowances, or it may be found in the Appropriation Acts through which the estimates are given effect. This is the way it has always been and this government has worked only to improve the procedures which Parliament follows in giving these expenditure authorities.

Now, let me spend some minutes on what I suppose might be called the second theme of the hon. member's motion, the so-called "mismanagement in spending escalating revenues". As is so often the case, the meaning of such motions is difficult to grasp from the way they are worded. The hon. member has done little in this case to explain his meaning when he spoke to us today. Nevertheless, I will try to look at the motion and continue to place his concerns in proper perspective.

Perhaps, first, I should say it is good of the hon. member to acknowledge by implication the successful economic policies of this government in reference to increasing revenues.

Mr. Baldwin: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, that is not so. They are lousy.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Boulanger): Order, is the hon. member seriously raising a point of order?

Mr. Baldwin: Mr. Speaker, the minister put words in my mouth by suggesting I indicated I was satisfied with the economic policies of this government. Mr. Speaker, that would cause me to lose my social standing throughout the country if people thought I had said that.

Mr. Drury: Mr. Speaker, I can well understand the hon. member's worry about his social standing. It is sufficiently frail that he should be preoccupied.

In relation to increasing revenues, these are revenues to a government that has cut taxes a number of times. This I would suggest provides convincing evidence of economic policies favourable to economic growth. Where have these increasing revenues gone? The publication "How Your Tax Dollar is Spent", issued in each succeeding year, and in particular the one for the current year 1973-74—which, by the way, is another attempt by the government to inform not only members but the public—shows a growth from expenditures for 1968-69 to the estimates figure for 1973-74 of about 70 per cent. The publication breaks down the expenditures into their functional components to show where the new revenues have gone. This breakdown shows that the emphasis is being placed by the government on areas where it is difficult to believe that even this opposition would not agree it should be placed.

● (1250)

Expenditures on health and welfare have gone up by over 200 per cent, as have those on educational transfers to the provinces and on general government services. Expenditures have also risen more than the average for culture and recreation, and for foreign affairs as a result of aid to developing countries. The smallest relative growth has been shown in internal overhead expenditures and defence expenditures. This is management of increasing revenues in the broadest sense, and the record shows a government with a sense of priorities appropriate to the national situation and the world situation.

Possibly the hon. member is unaware of what the government has done in improving management in the more usual sense. First, let me tell him that the government of

Canada has been among the leaders in the almost worldwide movement to rationalize the procedures by which governments arrive at expenditure decisions. It has adopted the basic principles of planning, programming and budgeting, adapting them in a unique way to Canadian institutions and constraints. As part of this new system it requires each spring long-term, detailed forecast from each department and agency as to the requirements of the existing programs and their proposed new programs. It assesses all these potential demands in terms of available resources and then provides guidance to ministers and their officials as to an optimum allocation of available resources. This guidance is then given effect in detail by the treasury board in its review of departmental expenditure plans and by the departments and agencies as they prepare their estimates.

At a still more direct level of management, the government has in every way advocated and supported the introduction and advancement of modern techniques and methods of management. Through the treasury board it is causing departments to undertake in an organized way studies of the effectiveness of their programs, and these have led to modifications that have enhanced effectiveness.

The board secretariat has also worked with several departments and is to work with others in the application of efficiency measures to as many of the actual operations of departments as possible. These measures will give the government an indication of comparative efficiency as between operations of a like nature in different departments and a means to raise productivity to higher levels for the same or a lesser expenditure of resources.

In addition to the measures that have been taken and are being taken and to which I have referred, the hon. gentleman suggested a new approach to the work of the public accounts committee. The public accounts committee, as I think all hon. members are aware, has addressed itself to a consideration of events that have taken place—an examination of the past rather than the work of examining estimates, which is a look into future plans.

I have suggested that the committee system of detailed review of departmental estimates is a much more effective way than the hitherto employed system of examination of the estimates in the committee of the whole for understanding and learning what the programs are all about and how they can be improved. May I repeat that the experience that we gained, even this year in the current session, from reverting to an examination of estimates of departments in committee of the whole has shown that this method is not productive, is not useful and is not an informative experience.

I think I would have the same kind of reaction to the suggestion made by the hon. member that the rules be changed to provide for time in the House to discuss departmental estimates. I suspect that he intends, though he did not say so in his proposal, that this be in addition to the number of supply or opposition days now provided in the rules. He suggests that we revert to what, in my view, is a non-productive exercise for the committee of the whole, and at this juncture I would find it rather difficult to go along with that suggestion.

[Mr. Drury.]

The hon. member has also suggested that we might bring in a new Auditor General act. I recall to him that an earlier attempt to formulate an act proposed by the public accounts committee and to introduce it into the house was rejected by the hon. member and his party, without even making any suggestion as to what changes would be useful or examining the document itself.

Mr. Baldwin: Nonsense.

Mr. Drury: I hope that the approach of the hon. gentleman and his party to the new act which is being prepared under the auspices of the same body, the public accounts committee, will receive a rather more reasonable or rational reception when it is proposed to the House than his party accorded the last one.

Mr. Baldwin: It is being prepared by a committee outside of the public accounts.

Mr. Drury: That interjection, Mr. Speaker, was "It is being prepared". I suggest that the bill is being prepared by, and will be the product of, the public accounts committee and cannot be described as the product of some body outside of the public accounts committee.

Mr. Baldwin: Oh, come on!

Mr. Drury: The hon. gentleman cannot have it both ways. If his scriptwriter talks about overburgeoning bureaucracy, he cannot now try and throw back on to this bureaucracy any claims regarding what he says it should be doing.

Mr. Baldwin: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. I did not suggest anything of the kind in my interjection. I simply said that there is a committee established by the public accounts committee which is engaged in preparing the bill and will bring it to the public accounts committee. I know as well as the minister knows that that is right, so why doesn't he say so?

Mr. Drury: Mr. Speaker, we have had some remarks about use of time in standing committees being non-productive and perhaps we are having some examples of the non-productive use of time at this moment.

Mr. Baldwin: We have for the last 25 minutes.

Mr. Drury: The hon. gentleman suggested that the form of the estimates must be changed and he said that his new government would do this. I said earlier, and I repeat, that we would welcome any suggestions for improvement in the form of presentation of the estimates; and if, to use his words, they are now designed to conceal rather than reveal—

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Boulanger): Order.

Mr. Drury: —they are, in effect, the product of the committee of which his party is chairman.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Boulanger): Order. It being one o'clock the House will now adjourn until two p.m.

At one o'clock the House took recess.

AFTER RECESS

The House resumed at 2 p.m.

Mr. Drury: Mr. Speaker, I had limited time left and very few remarks left to make, but I would like to close by saying, in respect of items mentioned by the mover of the motion and threatened for further advancement by members of his party, that I expect that supporters of the government on this side of the House will respond in detail to these allegations.

However, I should like to say a word in respect of the suggestion made by the Auditor General for a periodic management review of the government service every ten years or so, and also advocated by the mover of the motion. As I indicated in my remarks, since 1968 there have been substantial changes both in the management structure and in management responsibilities within the public service. We have been endeavouring, and indeed are still in the process, of reforming the old and introducing new management techniques designed to make the various operations of the government both more efficient and more effective.

This, in terms of a very large organization, being relatively new, I think that perhaps the time is a little premature to call in a large formal organization to review what is only the beginning of a reformed process. Perhaps at some later date when we have had more experience with these new measures such a review could be undertaken. I have said that before reaching a final conclusion on this I would like to secure the advice of the new Auditor General when he formally assumes his duties and has a chance to look at the government apparatus. He has had considerable experience in his professional career with both the management operations and with making observations and recommendations on them. I would regard his unofficial advice as being of considerable value before reaching a final conclusion.

● (1410)

In summary, Mr. Speaker, I would say that the mover of the motion has failed utterly to demonstrate either his understanding of the way control of expenditures is achieved or, if not a lack of understanding, then perhaps a wilful blindness to the facts of the situation. As a consequence, I do not think that we, on this side of the House at any rate, can either in spirit or in fact support the motion.

In respect of his other suggestion, a reform of the practices of the House to provide a different framework within which the public accounts can be examined, I am not at all convinced by his notion of a television spectacular in the House as being an effective way of learning what is going on.

He has suggested that every opposition motion should be the subject of a vote but when given this option, as he was today, he declined for what I suppose to be partisan or other reasons. I find that rather convincing; while he does not want to see it happen, he is nevertheless inclined to force on everybody else the necessity of voting on every motion. When given the chance to put into operation this useful device of his choice, he chooses not to do so.

Mr. Baldwin: We will remind you of that at the time you bring up one and are defeated on it.

Mr. Drury: As for the suggestion with regard to the Public Accounts Committee itself, I do not think it would be appropriate for me to comment on this. We have a Standing Committee charged with the responsibility for organizing the procedures of the House, and perhaps he should make his suggestion to that committee rather than me with respect to how the Public Accounts Committee might be improved.

I would repeat, Sir, not only to the mover of the motion but to all members of his party that if they have ideas on how the form of presentation of the estimates could be improved to make them more effective and useful, I personally would welcome them and would give them—it would be cynical to say the consideration which they deserve but I would go further than that and say every consideration.

Mr. Nielsen: In due course.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Barry Mather (Surrey-White Rock): Mr. Speaker, I am sure that the official opposition's motion which is before us today protesting the government's takeover of parliament's control over the spending of public money and which criticizes their mismanagement is very closely related to, and perhaps has its reason for existence in, the report of the Auditor General recently tabled in this House.

If that is so, I would think that a great deal of what either the government or the opposition contends about this motion would have to do with the credibility of the Auditor General. I do not think there is any doubt, Mr. Speaker, that auditors general everywhere are more likely to be popular with the opposition than with the administration. The nature of their work is to find the waste of public moneys by the government and its agencies and to try to correct that. This is a very useful and helpful function. I mention this at the start because much of what I have to say will also be related to the report of the Auditor General.

As a member of the Public Accounts Committee of the House, and thus with knowledge of his work, I have found him to be a conscientious public servant.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Mather: His work and proposals have saved a good deal of the taxpayers' money or put it to better use. In his report the Auditor General leaves no doubt that there have been, on the one hand, deterioration of parliamentary control over the use of public funds and, on the other, an immense increase in the level of the amounts of funds so expended. He states that in the last ten years the federal spending of public money has tripled. We are now in the spending area of $20 billion every 12 months and he says:

> . . . it is the right, privilege and duty of the House of Commons to control the finances of the country. It is the responsibility of the government to assist the House by submitting the proposed spending to the members in as simple and straightforward a manner as it can devise.

He says that, while he believes the Treasury Board seeks to discharge its responsibility conscientiously, he thinks, and I quote:

> I question and deem it my duty to draw to the attention of the House increasing tendencies displayed by the Treasury Board and its staff to devote their energies and resources toward circumventing parliamentary control rather than toward improving the efficiency of departments and agency regulations and remedying situations which for years have demanded attention.

Those are pretty tough words from a man in an extremely responsible position, Mr. Speaker. The Auditor General goes on to point out that his annual report over the years, and also many recommendations of the Public Accounts Committee based upon his findings of waste in government, could have achieved a more efficient use of men and money and have guided departments to avoid the continued repetition of mistakes.

In his current report, which we received just the other day, there are 130 cases that need to be dealt with. In many instances—the Auditor General estimates 65 per cent—these cases could be disposed of by the Treasury Board. Yet he says that never has a President of the Treasury Board responded to the criticism of such mistakes by replying and detailing steps which should be taken or have been taken to assist the departments and agencies in improving their financial performances.

He calls for the issue of treasury minutes—that is minutes from the Treasury Board—in response to and in respect of each of the Auditor General's detailed comments on public spending in the various departments and agencies. He says, and I agree as I think others on our committee would, Mr. Speaker, that these would be helpful to all concerned—the department, the Public Accounts Committee, the House of Commons and the taxpayers of the country. He laments, as well he may, the lack of such constructive action by the Treasury Board.

On page 12 of his report he gives details of the accounts he has been unable to certify involving large sums of money. He mentions some cases where the agencies or the departments criticized in his report or in the report of the Public Accounts Committee, have taken the advice themselves and have benefitted the public thereby, but he says he has never understood why the Treasury Board would not participate in promoting efficiency in cases as serious as those he has listed.

Mr. Speaker, this is one area where there is a growing lack of parliamentary control over public money; another is the use by the government of non-lapsing balances of votes available for spending in subsequent years. There is a government contingency program with reserves of money, millions of dollars, the need for which the Auditor General states the Treasury Board has been unable to demonstrate. There is a supplementing of parliamentary appropriations and there are loans and advances representing grants. Mr. Speaker, time does not permit the cataloguing of all the Auditor General's complaints as to the handling of government funds. There is in his report—

Mr. Drury: Mr. Speaker, a point of order.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Laniel): Order, please. The hon. President of the Treasury Board on a point of order.

[Mr. Mather.]

• (1420)

Mr. Drury: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, I do not think the hon. gentleman would like to mislead anyone. I am sure of that. Unfortunately, in quoting from what the Auditor General has said he has been using the present tense. At that point the Auditor General was talking about a period prior to one year ago and was not talking about the way things are, even though the present tense is used. He was talking about the way things were. The hon. gentleman is, I know aware that these non-lapsing accounts to which moneys have been granted have ceased. Not only are funds not being granted to these no longer existing accounts, but authorization for granting has also ceased.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Laniel): Order, please. Although the minister may be allowed to raise a point of order if he wants to clarify something, I do not think he should be allowed to go as far as he has gone. Other hon. members on his side of the House who take part in the debate may make the argument he seeks to make at this time.

Mr. Baldwin: The minister knows that the situation is much worse now than it was then.

Mr. Mather: Mr. Speaker, I am indebted to the minister for his interjection; it means that some reform has been made in recent times. It is a step forward. Nevertheless, I am going by what is contained in the Auditor General's report. I think it is substantially on the mark.

As I said, a book has been published containing many paragraphs outlining in a detailed way what the Auditor General of Canada considers as improper, wasteful or non-productive expenditures on the part of the government and government departments. Many of these items have been reported in the newspapers recently and no doubt many more will appear in the days ahead. There is no point in taking up the time of hon. members by going over these items in detail. I commend the Auditor General's report to hon. members. It ought to be one of the best sellers in this country today. Canadians in recent days have been reading about the Watergate affair in Washington. We also read that another kind of human interest story is unfolding before the House of Lords in London. In this parliament we have not been able to arouse much interest in that kind of thing since that affair which some of my friends on my right were interested in about eight or nine years ago. I think the Auditor General's report contains certain items which would be interesting to all Canadian readers, especially if they are interested in retaining Canadian content in our publications.

As a member of the Public Accounts Committee, and as one who believes in public enterprise as well as private enterprise, I support the Auditor General's report and join him and the official opposition in the concern over the lessening of parliamentary control in the expenditure of public funds. This concern is all the more valid at the very time when those expenditures are escalating. I think they have tripled in the last decade.

It is no friendship to the cause of public enterprise to close our eyes to mismanagement or to poor and wasteful management of the public business. The reverse is true,

and I speak as a social democrat. We live in a society in which the public sector is necessarily becoming more and more important. It behooves us to make public enterprise, as represented by the departments and agencies of government, work in a businesslike manner.

While we, on the Public Accounts Committee, examine the Auditor General's report, interview representatives of departments he criticizes, and do our best to rectify or at least recommend reforms to reduce non-productive expenditures, we are but dealing with the tip of the iceberg. That iceberg at the federal level has now reached proportions of almost $20 billion in spending per year. It is one thing to demand, as does the motion of the official opposition, action to restore control of public funds to Parliament. We support that, Mr. Speaker, but, even with improved accounting by Treasury Board to parliament and even with an improved system of examination of estimates, there is more to it than that. We need to deal with the continuing cause and not just with the annual result of waste in public spending.

The Auditor General in his report points out that it is more than ten years since there was a management study of government organization, its administration, and methods and procedures by a qualified team, for the benefit of parliament and taxpayers. He specifically asked the House to consider this. In the House yesterday, on behalf of the New Democratic Party I sought to move the following motion:

> That this House urges the government to take immediate steps to supply the Public Accounts Committee of Parliament with expanded resources, including research, legal and other staff necessary to conduct a thoroughgoing, in-depth and in-breadth examination of our immense and complex expenditures to enable the most effective and economical use of such outlays in the public interest.

That motion was not accepted yesterday. I commend the proposition which it contains to the attention of the government and to all other hon. members. If we are to get proper parliamentary control over government spending and not merely over the examination of accounts, essential as that is, we need to know the roots of waste as well as the branches.

Mr. Baldwin: A new government would help.

Mr. Mather: Provincial governments as well as the federal government, for the most part, are spending more and more. They are responsible for more and are taking over more and more from the private sector. To my mind, this is inevitable and good. We are passing from a once essential but now outmoded social order. Science has pushed us on to deal collectively, through government, with common problems.

As I deplore the waste of private enterprise, as evidenced by the 230 different labels or companies producing and duplicating, at consumer cost, essentially the same products, by the blocks of duplicating supermarkets and by the expensive advertising of these things, I deplore all the kinds of waste that have developed, including the waste in public enterprise. We, of the New Democratic Party, consider the motion before us today as an important and timely one. We seek reforms in this important area. We are glad to see that the Auditor General referred favourably to draft legislation involving a new auditor general's act. He recommends it. The objectives of the Public Accounts Committee, in so far as it was involved in producing this new draft legislation, was to combine to the fullest degree possible independence for the Auditor General in his war on waste, and security for the members of his staff. We hope that a new auditor general's act will provide for both these essential points.

As I have already noted, Mr. Speaker, we are calling for an expanded and greatly strengthened public accounts committee. If we are to do our jobs properly as members of that committee and save the public's time, our time, and public money, we must have researchers, legal help, permanent secretaries, and so on. In addition, I would urge that the committee be enabled to meet even during recesses, in order to get on with the job of dealing with how the public's money is being spent. To my way of thinking the average Canadian thinks few things are more important than knowing how the money that he or she has contributed through taxes is being spent. Taxpayers want to know if that money is being spent properly. If there is doubt in the public mind as to the efficiency and effectiveness of money spent on public business then, surely, that would undermine public confidence in Parliament. So, from every point of view, financial, social and democratic, I think the Public Accounts Committee, the instrument available to us in Parliament, ought to be strengthened, expanded and given more power. So far as the official opposition motion coincides with the criticisms which we have levelled with the proposals we have put forward, we support it.

● (1430)

[*Translation*]

Mr. C.-A. Gauthier (Roberval): Mr. Speaker, the motion presented before the House today challenges the post of the Auditor General of Canada with the powers required for the carrying out of his function of an honest and impartial supervisor of government administration.

Indeed, in December 1972 the same mover appealed to the Auditor General, Mr. Henderson, to proceed to a scrutiny of the Unemployment Insurance Commission's books, and here is what could be read in the Quebec newspaper, *Le Soleil*:

> Mr. Baldwin stipulated that a report of Auditor General Maxwell Henderson should be brought forward before Parliament immediately upon resumption of its sittings in January.
>
> "Government comments on the colossal amounts handled by the Unemployment Insurance Commission were not successful in inspiring credibility", Mr. Baldwin stated in a press release.
>
> "From the start, a mixture of deceit and ignorance was apparent, and the true facts are still unrevealed even today. It is time to call for the intervention of the watch-dog and to be apprised of the results of an autonomous and thorough examination of the books", he added.

The hon. member for Peace River (Mr. Baldwin) was well aware of the fact that the Auditor General's report would be tabled on March 31, 1973.

After reading the report and noting the most serious discrepancies denounced by Mr. Henderson, we are astounded to see that the Auditor General presents this report each year, without succeeding in changing the administration by one jot.

And I would even add this: when the Auditor General expressed himself rather severely over the last few years, he was threatened with dismissal because he was too cumbersome for the government.

Surely you have noticed that this year again the size of the report is bigger, that the remarks are ever more numerous and the warnings ever more to the point. But nothing changes except the thickness of the report. Besides, this explains why the Auditor General resigned from his most important position which is, in my opinion, the most important of our administration system. Mr. Henderson is simply fed up of talking to walls. Today, the official opposition is protesting against government actions by introducing a motion worded as follows:

That this House, protesting the Government's continuing take-over of Parliamentary control of public money and the Government's mismanagement in spending escalating public revenues, warns that immediate and decisive action must be taken to restore control of public funds to Parliament.

When you speak about Parliament control of public funds you wonder who surrenders this control to the government. I would immediately reply that it gets this control from the laws themselves. I have always noticed that after passing a law which has been studied for one or two months, you find on the last page a small subsection stating that under any circumstances the minister may act on his own. Therefore let us not wonder why laws are broken. After lengthy discussions a law is passed and, in the end, the minister is the master of the situation.

I could give dozens of examples. Let us take the Regional Development Incentives Act, let us consider the distribution of funds by the Regional Economic Expansion Department; this was again noted during the last election campaign: $500 million were distributed left and right provided it replenished the election coffers and collected voters. Why did the minister do it? Because it was authorized by law.

In my opinion, as as long as the matter is not seriously considered and the legislation is not given sufficient authority, we will continue to hear those criticisms against the government, this one or another. During past years, criticisms were not directed more against this government than the previous one. But I suggest that our legislation has too many loose ends and that we leave too much scope to politicians who use it to play politics.

What about bad administration? Again, the reason why the administration is often deficient is purely political. The aim of the administration is not common good but the next elections. Any project must be electorally profitable. Once again this applies to our successive governments. It is unfortunate, but as long as we are governed by the electoral fund, we will have bad administration.

● (1440)

We have revenues as well as expenditures and we notice on page 23 of the report from the Auditor General the statement of our revenues, and we see that they increase from year to year. In 1970-71 they were $12,803,051,000, and $14,226,558,000 in 1971-72. Compared with those revenues we have expenditures of $13,182,143,000 in 1970-71 and $14,840,865,000 in 1971-72.

[Mr. Gauthier (Roberval).]

I think, Mr. Speaker, that when you look at those figures you come to the conclusion that a serious government should first consider spending according to its revenues. And we see, particularly in recent years, that the increase in expenditures occurred mainly in the field of services, that is to say the public service. The expenditures for the public service nearly doubled in the last two or three years and we are getting fewer services than ever.

I think that those areas should be looked at to see if we could not find a way to reduce expenditures in order to balance the budgets and avoid regular deficits and hiding or transferring funds so the people will not come down on us.

I have here, for example, the figures for the amounts allocated to the commissions which were established. I have always said that often a royal commission was a smoke-screen to hide government scandals or to prevent a problem from being considered. In fact, it is the only raison d'être of those commissions and $36,738,000 were spent in 1972 in that respect.

I think that when the Auditor General draws the attention of this House on certain things a serious government should at least listen a bit and consider a more concrete reform.

In view of the cautious and up-to-the-point comments of the Auditor General, and there are 178 of them in his last report, it seems to me that if a government is concerned with the well-being of the people, instead of hicking back as it does it should tackle the problem to try and right the monstrosities, if only that.

I wish I had the time to read each one of those remarks, not to convince the minister or present government—it is far too concerned with camouflaging its bad administration—but to inform the people, and tell them where their income tax really goes, and that the government could not care less about their opinion and well-being.

I have already said in this House that if private enterprise were managed the way the government is, it would not last six months. Bad administration poses no problem to the government: all it has to do is increase taxes. The taxpayer will always be the one who pays for administrative blunders. In his report the Auditor General denounces errors, voluntary or otherwise. Here are a few:

Weakening of parliamentary control.

Non-lapsing balances of votes available for spending in subsequent years.

I will skip some and stop at the following:

Faulty computer system planning.

Computer purchased on the instalment plan.

I did ask a question in the House about those computers because I suspected shady maneuvers as there often are with big building contracts. I have always wondered why the government always rents large blocks of offices. They are to be found all over Ottawa and Hull, built by companies that are friends of government and negotiated 20-year leases with the government. These buildings will be paid for in 20 years, and the government will still be paying rent. I wonder if these people have any administrative sense.

Instead of building office blocks that would belong to the government in 20 years, they prefer paying rent for 150 years. Building themselves would not help out their friends. Indeed, the Auditor General mentions this in his report.

To get back to computers, this is a matter that I studied at the unemployment insurance. I was told that these computers were second hand, that they were rented to "try them out", and that the government was paying an exorbitant rent for the use of them. The replies I got from the department were quite true: these second hand computers had been rented, but the government was paying for repairs as well as rent. The owner might at least have undertaken to keep the machines in working order! The government pays exorbitant rent instead of simply buying new computers. But that would not have benefited the in-group. There are a number of such cases involving computers, and I can even quote names. The rented computers did not work properly, and caused a multitude of problems when it came to paying out unemployment insurance allowances. And yet the machines are still being rented.

In another department, computers were bought on the instalment plan. To quote again from the Auditor General's report:

81. Computer purchased on the instalment plan.

Instead of paying for the computer in full, they paid $190,000 in interest on one computer alone. I believe that the government pays this amount of interest now because the large companies are very generous at election time, you have to admit.

To continue my quotation:

Escalation of costs relative to developing and implementing a computer-based management information system.

Grant paid without parliamentary approval

Grants paid without approval remind me of the grants awarded in election campaigns, grants which were distributed to everyone. I repeat:

—without parliamentary approval

Then, there is question of a payment of interest to the Army Benevolent Fund. I quote:

Interest on the public debt improperly charged to departmental programs.

Reimbursement to Bank of Canada for bonds improperly redeemed.

Inadequate accounting for appropriation and Indian band funds.

And there is ever so much. Then comes this one:

Local Initiatives Program

What does the Auditor General say about the Local Initiatives Program? The following:

115. Local Initiatives Program. Manpower and Immigration Vote 10 provided $125 million for payments to municipal and other public bodies and community organizations and private groups with respect to projects undertaken by them for the purposes of providing employment to unemployed workers and contributing to the betterment of the community. This Program, known as the Local Initiatives Program, was announced in the House of Commons on October 27, 1971.

At March 31, 1972, 5,672 projects had been approved, on which $83,716,000 was disbursed during the year.

The principal objective of the Program was the creation of additional jobs between November 1971 and May 1972—persons hired by project sponsors were to be drawn first from the unemployed . . .

Notice these words:

. . . drawn first from the unemployed through Canada Manpower Centres. The objective was to be achieved through innovative and imaginative projects to provide new facilities and services for the benefit of the community as a whole. Participation of municipalities, community groups and unemployed individuals in the development and management of the projects was invited.

Guidelines for the Program included the following:

—projects were to be capable of being put into effect quickly so that the main employment impact occurred within six months after November 1, 1971;

The amount of financial support was related directly to labour and other costs of the project. For labour the contribution was based on the level of prevailing wages and the skills required in each project but was not to exceed an average of $100 per man-week.

And what happened? Fifty per cent of those who worked on these projects were not unemployed. They were all friends of the party, but not unemployed, and that is what the Auditor General denounces in his report.

I see that my time has expired, Mr. Speaker.

● (1450)

[*English*]

Mr. Erik Nielsen (Yukon): Mr. Speaker, the motion that we are discussing is one that is aimed at the insidious, rather lustful and deliberate attempt by the government, the executive, to increase its powers of control. This motion is based also on the Auditor General's report, and the rapidly accelerating encroachments that are being made by the present government to weaken parliamentary control over the expenditure of national revenue. From listening to the President of the Treasury Board (Mr. Drury) this morning, it was very apparent to me that a little time in opposition would do him a good deal of good. As a matter of fact, it does all governments a good deal of good to come over to this side of the House from time to time and experience the feelings and frustrations of the members of the opposition.

I want to discuss this question today in the short time available to me from three points of view. The first has to do with the depths to which the institution of parliament itself has fallen as a result of the policies that have been followed by the government; second, I want to discuss the motion as it relates to the committee system; and lastly, if I still have time, I want to deal selectively with one or two specific examples. I maintain that not only since 1968 but from 1963, when the government changed, a deliberate course has been followed to weaken the institution of parliament. What we have now is not the ultimate result of that kind of undesirable policy but certainly very close to the ultimate result.

I maintain that this place has become a very flabby and ineffective debating forum. All we have to do is to look around at the benches of the House this Friday afternoon to determine the degree of interest in this debate. We were confronted with changes in the rules under the guise of parliamentary reform, under the guise of making more opportunities available to Members of Parliament to perform their functions more effectively, under the guise, as

the minister who spoke just before lunch would have us believe, of providing members of the opposition with more opportunities to get information. The minister who uttered those words knows full well that they are not true. Why is there no interest in debate? I can recall when debates of this nature would have almost filled the benches in this chamber. Why is it that there is this lack of interest now? The reason is that there is no effective debating forum here any longer because of the absolute control that the executive, the government, has garnered unto itself.

From 1963 onwards the government has adopted policies which in turn were embraced by the new head of the government in 1968. These policies have gradually weakened and watered down the effectiveness of the opposition, thus resulting in this rather regrettable lack of interest in this chamber. We are no longer effective in this House. The Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) is aware of the lack of interest and he knows he can implement further encroachments upon, and erosions of, the authority of parliament itself and he is doing exactly that. He and his colleagues in government are guilty of further abuses of the parliamentary process which in the end can only make this institution a rubber stamp for the executive authority.

With regard to the committee system, yesterday the Secretary of State for External Affairs (Mr. Sharp) tried to pass off the committee system and what he called the "reforms" which were implemented in 1968 in the regime of the present Prime Minister as something which have resulted in committees being able to perform their function with a great deal more efficiency than in the past. This, Mr. Speaker, is simply not the truth. I was here before 1963 when estimates were brought into the House and discussed in committee of the whole. I have been here since that time and I have found, even in the minority situation we have this session, that the committee system has been an absolutely useless procedure.

We are told by the President of the Treasury Board that we have more opportunities for access to information. I think he should speak to some of his backbenchers, such as the hon. member for Ottawa Centre (Mr. Poulin) who is one of the central leaders in a constant effort to stonewall members of the opposition and keep them from getting information. These members are constantly throwing up barriers of points of order and points of procedure in order to prevent this kind of information from coming out. I see the hon. member for Ontario (Mr. Cafik) in his seat and he is one of the biggest offenders.

The committee system is set up to provide the opposition with an opportunity to examine government spending estimates when the estimates are referred to committee. But do we get the information that we want? No, Mr. Speaker, we do not, because hon. members like the hon. member for Ottawa Centre, the hon. member for Ontario, the hon. member for York North (Mr. Danson), the hon. member for Gatineau (Mr. Clermont) and the hon. member for Laprairie (Mr. Watson) are constantly throwing up a barrier by raising spurious points of order and points of privilege in order to—

Mr. Cafik: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order.

[Mr. Nielsen.]

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Boulanger): Order. The hon. member is rising on a point of order.

Mr. Cafik: I certainly am, Mr. Speaker. The hon. member for Yukon (Mr. Nielsen) happened to refer to me and said the hon. member for Ontario was constantly raising points of order in committee. I should like to suggest that the hon. member does not sit on any committees on which I normally sit and that he certainly cannot make that kind of unfounded allegation, which is totally untrue.

Mr. Nielsen: Mr. Speaker, what the hon. member who has just risen on a point of order has said simply bears out what I have been saying. He has raised a spurious point of order.

Mr. Cafik: A further point of order, Mr. Speaker.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Boulanger): I am sure hon. members know they must not engage in debate between themselves. I will hear the point of order.

Mr. Cafik: Mr. Speaker, I quite legitimately feel aggrieved by this unfounded allegation and I certainly have the right, as does any other member of this chamber, to defend myself and my reputation and I intend to do so. I think it is unworthy of the hon. member to make a statement that he knows is unfounded.

● (1500)

Mr. Paproski: Why don't you come in tomorrow? We will give you the whole afternoon.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Boulanger): Order, please. Although it is a very serious point of debate I would remind the hon. member that he will probably be the next speaker and can make the point during his speech.

Mr. Nielsen: For the second time the hon. member interrupts on a spurious point of order.

Some hon. Members: Shame!

Mr. Nielsen: I am not going to suggest that the hon. member has no reputation to defend, because obviously he believes he does and I accept his word; but I would have expected him, not only now but during previous debates in this House when similar conduct has occurred, to have shown a little humility, learned from the fact that only four votes separated him from his opponent in the last election. Obviously, he has not learned that humility.

This is the kind of tactic used not only here but in the committee by hon. members on the other side to provide their ministers with the vehicle with which to give members of committees just enough information and no more. They seem to delight in getting away with telling members as little as possible. The President of the Treasury Board (Mr. Drury) speaks about providing Members of Parliament with information. He appeared with his officials before the miscellaneous estimates committee where one after the other delighted in circumventing and circumambulating questions, simply to give us as little information as possible. I have spoken about the President of the Treasury Board, but I speak also about the Minister of

Supply and Services (Mr. Goyer) and the Minister of Justice (Mr. Lang), who are pastmasters in the art of circumambulating. They take about ten times the length of time required to ask a question to answer it, and at the end of that time they have said nothing. The Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources (Mr. Macdonald) rises day after day, week after week and month after month and speaks in great circles, never ending, saying nothing.

The Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs (Mr. Gray) considers the ultimate in the discharge of the responsibilities of his portfolio to be a visit to Rochdale College where he puts his feet on the table, watches television for an hour or two and returns here in an effort to answer questions, but says nothing. The Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development (Mr. Chrétien) is a pastmaster of the technique of evading answers to questions in this House. He not only circumvents every question but in his answers he gets in a little political jab.

Hon. members on the other side and those to my left say, "Let us make this Parliament work. Let us make this House work. Let us not go to the people for an election right away." I suggest they do not want to do that. How do they make this Parliament work? They talk about information, but in answers they provide us with just as little information as possible.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Nielsen: If the hon. member wants to interject, I should like to hear him rather than have him try to smuggle his interjection on to the record of *Hansard* without my being able to hear it.

Mr. Mather: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. The hon. member for Yukon (Mr. Nielsen) is, in my opinion, one of the most valuable members of the committees and the House. We are now discussing an important motion brought forward by a member of his party. I should think that, with his ability and the time at his disposal, he would provide more facts in support of the motion than he has provided so far. I think he could employ his time to better purpose.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Boulanger): Order, please. With regard to the hon. member's point of order, the Chair was about to rise and make a suggestion to the hon. member who has the floor. My English is not 100 per cent perfect, but I can follow speeches quite well. Having reread the motion I had intended to mention to the hon. member that his remarks were slightly off base, as we say in common language.

An hon. Member: Off the rails.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Boulanger): The hon. member is a respected speaker in the House and I am sure he will try to make his remarks a little more relevant to the motion before us.

Mr. Nielsen: Mr. Speaker, I have always had great admiration for your ability to follow debates, and great respect for your rulings. However, in this instance perhaps it is the difficulty Your Honour has in following the refinements and sophistications of my argument that prevents your concluding that I am exactly on point in discussing the subject matter of this motion. What we are speaking about is the weakening of the authority of Parliament over government expenditure. I am advancing several convincing arguments as to why this erosion is occurring. I know that hon. members opposite will suggest they are unconvincing, just as sure as those on this side will feel they are convincing.

I am not going to take issue with the hon. member for Surrey-White Rock (Mr. Mather), a riding in the beautiful province of British Columbia, but I listened very carefully to him and feel he made an extremely useful and meaningful contribution to this debate. I was, however, somewhat taken aback when he said he deplored the duplication or multiplication of products by private enterprise which find their way into the market. I have always wondered whether, should this policy be implemented, I would object to everyone in the country brushing his teeth with Crest, or everyone buying McGavin bread or what-have-you, in order to avoid this kind of duplication. I cannot understand this kind of philosophy.

The President of the Treasury Board has said new procedures were introduced to offer more opportunity to Members of Parliament to scrutinize the estimates. That, Sir, is rubbish, and the minister knows it is rubbish. It has been called by several other names in this House, and if I wanted to be more explicit I could refer to it in worse terms. The minister also said that not one dollar is spent that is not authorized by Parliament. That borders on gross deceit. Of course, he is right in one sense; certainly no money is spent on government programs unless it is authorized by Parliament. What the minister does not say when uttering those half-truths is that he and the government have developed the practice of spending the money first and then coming to Parliament for authorization, perhaps as long as a year after it has been spent.

No better example of this can be cited than the government's conduct since dissolution of the previous Parliament. During the interval between dissolution and the commencement of this Parliament multi-millions of dollars were spent in respect of unemployment insurance claims. Governor General's warrants were obtained by this government to implement plans which had not even been exposed to Parliament but which the executive decided should be implemented. The government spends money today and then comes to Parliament after the event and says, "This is what has been done. This is the money that has been spent, and now it requires approval." What sort of parliamentary approval is that? The minister knows this is the course being followed.

The Auditor General referred in his report to unexpended portions of authorized expenditures. These were moneys left over from departmental programs passed in a previous Parliament. Because of a change in procedures, about which the minister speaks, this is available to the government without parliamentary authority in respect of future programs. Again, after the event the government comes to Parliament and asks for approval. The moneys have been spent: we can criticize, but that is all. The whole purpose of this institution is to have the government bring in its programs, tell us about them, tell us how much money they cost and then ask us to approve, (a) the program and (b) the sums to be expended. That is the

manner in which this institution should operate, but everything is "bassackwards" with this same old bunch over there.

● (1510)

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Boulanger): Order. I should like to remind the hon. member that his time expired three minutes ago. I exercised some generosity in order to give him an extra few minutes because of the points of order which had been raised. The hon. member has already been given an extra three minutes; therefore I regret to inform him that his time has expired.

Mr. Nielsen: You have been most generous, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Norman A. Cafik (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of National Health and Welfare): Mr. Speaker, I do not wish to spend too much of my time dealing with the comments of the hon. member for Yukon (Mr. Nielsen). It is a long time since the hon. member attacked me for something he knew nothing about. The last occasion was before I was elected a Member of Parliament. While I was a candidate he made some rather erroneous charges.

However, I should like to point out in all fairness and honesty that to my knowledge I have never sat on a committee of this House of Commons of which he has been a member. So I find it difficult to understand how he can be so authoritarian about anything that happened in a committee on which I sat but he did not. His contention is that hon. members on this side are really trying to frustrate the operation of committees for members on the other side. I should like to use a specific example which can be well substantiated by the records of the House. If one looks at the record of the 3.30 p.m., Thursday meeting of the Standing Committee on Health, Welfare and Social Affairs, he will find that the estimates of the Department of National Health and Welfare were before the committee and that the members of the committee decided they would like the committee to vote on the estimates. One member of the Conservative party did not want to vote. I agreed that we should not vote because he wished to deal with the matter later.

Some hon. Members: Order.

Mr. Cafik: That certainly is an indication that the charge made is unfounded.

Mr. Baldwin: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. I hesitate to interrupt the hon. member, but he is a very experienced member and knows he cannot discuss committee evidence in the House when that committee has not filed its report. I think he would do us a great favour by dealing with the subject matter of the motion.

Mr. Cafik: Although I have mentioned the committee, I am merely responding to the allegations which have been made. To get down to the motion itself, it is really twofold. First, there is the allegation that the government is continuing to take over parliamentary control of public moneys. I should like to speak about that for a moment because I think it is a serious matter. In my view, Parliament is supreme and any government which would try to spend money without the approval of Parliament certainly would not be doing the right thing either by the letter or by the spirit of the law.

Let us look at what really has happened. First of all, the hon. member for Peace River (Mr. Baldwin) mentioned the form of the estimates. I have no objection to that, but I would remind him and other hon. members that within the last five years the form of the estimates has been studied by the public accounts committee. The committee spent many months trying to make recommendations so that the facts in relation to the estimates would be more clear to Members of Parliament. If there is something still wrong in the form of the estimates and they are confusing to hon. members, then by all means let these members come forward with suggestions to clarify them and to make them more understandable. A great deal has already been done to this end by the parliamentary committee. Recommendations were proposed to and passed by the committee, and adopted by this government.

The second thing I should like to point out is that the time spent on the consideration of estimates seems to be a problem. Members now feel, since we have moved from the procedure of considering estimates in committee of the whole House to one where the matter is largely in the hands of the standing committees, that they are robbed of time to deal with the estimates. First of all, let us deal with the study of the estimates in committee. In my five years' experience as a Member of Parliament, when estimates are before a committee it is very seldom that a member really talks about the estimates which are before the committee. The questions range from policy matters to God knows what else. They do not really zero in on the amount of money allotted for a specific purpose and whether or not the expenditure is justified. Members on the other side who are concerned about this question ought to use their time more wisely and deal with the estimates which are before the committee rather than complaining now that they do not have adequate time to study them.

The last point concerns the House itself when dealing with the estimates. I understand that when the rules of this House were changed to bring about three periods a year with 25 opposition days, six of which could be used for votes, this was done in lieu of not having committee of the whole. Why do not members opposite use that time to zero in on and talk about the estimates of the government? Why do they not exercise their responsibility as Members of Parliament to scrutinize the estimates then, rather than try to make political points? They should fulfill their responsibility in that regard.

We might look at the estimates themselves to determine whether in fact they are worded and prepared in such a way that Parliament's will is frustrated. In my experience as a member of the committee on public accounts, the Auditor General on numerous occasions has brought to the attention of the committee that the will of Parliament has been frustrated. What he considered to be frustration of the will of Parliament was the actual determination of Parliament itself. For instance, I remember a couple of years ago that this allegation was made in respect of Vote L-55 concerning the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, where $25 million was voted by Parliament for the current year and subsequent years. Parliament passed that vote. I

presume Members of Parliament read what they are passing. The Auditor General, however, said that it should not apply to subsequent years. But Parliament said it was to be for subsequent years.

If there is any erosion of power, it is certainly not the erosion of the power of Parliament. It may be a change in direction, but it is something that was done with the approval of Parliament. If Parliament does not want to exercise its responsibility by authorizing expenditures which would occur in subsequent years, then it should not do so. But members should not come back and cry "wolf", saying they as parliamentarians made a mistake and therefore the government is at fault. We cannot expect the government to run a training program for Members of Parliament so they will know what they are doing before they do it. That is their responsibility and I would hope they would exercise it.

An hon. Member: That is arrogance.

Mr. Cafik: I do not see anything arrogant about expecting Members of Parliament to do their homework before they exercise their responsibility. I recall a time in the public accounts committee when members were surprised when they found they had passed a particular vote. I do not think that is something about which a Member of Parliament should be proud.

The last point I want to make concerns the whole question of the mismanagement of public funds. I have been a member of the public accounts committee since 1968. I think all Members of Parliament will agree that the public accounts committee ably carries out its role in trying to make sure there is no waste of public funds. The *Bonaventure* is a good case in point. I personally spent over a year working on a one-man committee to try to expose the problems involved, so I do not need to produce my credentials in that regard.

● (1520)

I think one thing we must understand is that the report of the Auditor General is a report to Parliament through the committee of public accounts. It is not a report that we can prejudge at this moment. For that reason I am not bringing forward statements made in the most recent report because it is a matter for the committee to deliberate upon, decide whether the report is right or wrong and what kind of action should be taken. To prejudge that report is to prejudge Parliament itself. The whole, basic argument is that we want to uphold this institution of Parliament. Surely we can all agree that the report should be dealt with by Parliament in the way in which Parliament decides to deal with it, rather than all of us shooting from the hip and trying to make political mileage out of a subject that has not been adequately discussed.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Cafik: In summary, I conclude by saying, first, if there is not enough scrutiny of public expenditure, it is because the opposition has not used dilingently enough the time that has been given for that very important and essential job. I leave it to the voters to deal with them accordingly. Second, if there is waste of government expenditures, then I for one—and I am sure all members of the House—would want to see it stopped. But let us ascertain the facts before we make judgments. Third, let us look at last year's report of the Auditor General, which we have not yet done, before we start making judgments on this year's report; and let us allow parliament to study it in the institution we set up to do that, namely, the public accounts committee.

Mr. Robert C. Coates (Cumberland-Colchester North): Mr. Speaker, I listened to the hon. member's interjections while the hon. member for Yukon (Mr. Nielsen) was speaking, and I listened to his speech. I must say that his concluding remarks are an example of the reason this motion was moved by the hon. member for Peace River (Mr. Baldwin). Also, it is the reason the Auditor General indicated in his final report to the House of Commons and to the country just why he is so concerned about Parliament and the fact that this government has done everything in its power to prevent the country from knowing the facts regarding the operation of the business of this country. I believe that is why the hon. member for Peace River has spoken so often about the operations of the government, the secrecy of the government and its divisive means of hiding the facts from the public almost continuously since 1968.

I think the hon. member for Peace River is justified in taking the kind of action he has taken over and over again because the people of this country said on October 30, 1972, that this government does not deserve a majority of seats in the House of Commons. Indeed, the people of Canada came very close to saying that it does not deserve to be the government of this country because of the ways and means it has devised to try to hide its actions from the public.

We, as the opposition, were certainly justified by the vote on October 30 in taking the type of action we took prior to that date, and the type of action we have taken since then to try to make Parliament the institution it once was, and no longer is because of the devious methods used by the President of the Treasury Board (Mr. Drury) and the government as a whole to try to hide from the public the facts about the government's wastefulness in spending the taxpayers' money. What this government has been doing is nothing short of a national scandal. They sit like a bunch of satraps, spending the taxpayers' money as if they could not care less. I think one has to conclude that they could not care less about how they spend the taxpayers' money.

They wrap around themselves, apparently to try to keep away the criticism that has been mounting in the nation regarding the way they operate the country, a clique that has become almost alarming, of executive assistants of various sizes, shapes and forms to tell them what they want to hear and not to let the country tell them what the public thinks. We discovered in the last general election campaign that the people of this country were trying to get the message across to the government that they did not like the way they were running this country and they would have little or no opportunity to run the country any longer, especially after the next general election.

I believe one of the things that must be done quickly to eliminate the bureaucratic morass that has been developed by this government is to solve the problem of the tremen-

dous increase in the cost of operating the public service of Canada and the amount of money that has been spent by this government to pay for professional and consultative services since it took office. Everywhere you look today there are people working for cabinet ministers, with friends working for that cabinet minister's department in some way or other. Everybody who is a Grit in Canada is looked after by this government. Never in the history of Canada from 1867 has there been a government that has indulged in patronage to the degree that this government has done and continues to do. The way they throw the taxpayers' money around is nothing short of shocking.

An hon. Member: It is criminal.

Mr. Coates: It is worse than criminal, because what it is doing more than anything else is producing the inflation that we face in this nation. There may be unemployment in Canada, but there is very little of it among the Grits—and are they ever generous! For instance, in my province of Nova Scotia we discovered that one of Pearson's pets, Tom Kent, who was at first a special adviser to Mr. Pearson and then became a deputy minister in the public service of Canada, moved from deputy minister of the Department of Regional Economic Expansion to president of a Crown corporation. You can look at that as a promotion, I suppose; you can look at it in many ways. But it seems to me that Ottawa in one way or another was not happy with what Mr. Kent was doing in the Department of Regional Economic Expansion, so they sent him to Cape Breton Island to try to solve their problems there.

● (1530)

Mr. Nielsen: Aren't you lucky?

Mr. Coates: I do not know whether we are lucky or not. What really upsets me is that a man goes from the position of deputy minister of one of the biggest departments of government, to a Crown corporation in Cape Breton Island with an increase of something like $15,000 in salary just to make the trip. I would have gone for $15,000 more a year; I think anybody would.

What concerns me, Mr. Speaker, is that if you are a Grit and you are in need, then the payday is big if they decide to look after you. The only Liberal I know who has not been looked after by this government is Jim Tucker of Newfoundland. Poor old Jim really feels left out. This practice has been going on steadily since 1968, but it accelerated after October 30, 1972. That is when the people of Canada opened a whole new area in which the government could indulge in patronage. The way they have been looking after their friends is nothing short of a national scandal.

When I came to this House, Mr. Speaker, a minister had to sit over there, with his deputy minister and assistant deputy minister beside him, and he had to tell members of this House everything they wanted to know about the operation of his department. It was not just one or two ministers; it was every minister. Ministers had to appear before this House and before committees to answer questions posed by members about the operations of their departments.

[Mr. Coates.]

For the President of the Treasury Board to stand up with his bare face hanging out, suggesting to us that there is public scrutiny of the estimates today compared with then, is nothing short of ridiculous. He knows it and we know it. Some sense must be put back into the way the government is spending the taxpayers' money and the opportunity that parliamentarians have to scrutinize government spending. If we went back to the old way, Mr. Speaker, there would be much less patronage that the taxpayers of this country would have to pay for in order to look after defeated Grits, or Grits who cannot secure employment any other way. It must have been a happy day for them when the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) said he was going to hang on, even by the skin of his teeth.

Mr. Nielsen: The Minister of Supply and Services (Mr. Goyer) is the greatest grab-bag of the bunch—contracts, without tenders, all over the place!

Mr. Coates: The minister has at his disposal a great many opportunities to make available to friends of Liberals all across the country whatever he feels they should have. He could be the dispenser of the biggest legacy of patronage any government has ever had.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to go back to the point I was making about how damaging this government's policies have been with regard to inflation. I should like to quote from an article written by Lubor J. Zink in the Toronto *Sun* on May 4, 1973. He was talking about the buying power of our dollar, which has dropped since 1961 to 62.3 cents. He wrote:

> Since that framework is shaped primarily by our governments, blaming labour and business for inflation misses the ultimate source of the malaise.
>
> For a comprehensive picture one has to look at government spending. Coming as it does from taxpayers' pockets, it has direct bearing on cost-price levels, for every increase in taxes finds reflection in higher production costs and consumer prices.
>
> In 1952 federal government expenditure on goods and services amounted to $3,620 million. Canada's population at that time was slightly over 14 million and gross national expenditure almost doubled (to $6,608 million) while population increased by 28 per cent and GNP by 74 per cent. By 1972 government expenditure zoomed up over $20.5 billion—more than three times the 1962 figure. Population during the last ten years grew only by 17 per cent (to 21.8 million) and the GNP, while topping $100 billion at market prices increased only by 65 per cent in constant (1961) dollars.
>
> In other words, government expenditure grew much faster, particularly since 1968, than population and the aggregate wealth the country generates. The root of the cost-price inflation that has by now cut the buying power of the 1961 dollar to 62.3 cents can thus be traced to runaway government spending that provided the impetus and "justification" for wage demands far in excess of what economic growth and productivity gains can sustain without currency debasement.

Mr. Speaker, that is what has been happening—and it has been happening because this government does not take seriously the operation of the country and the concern that should be shown for the taxpayers' dollars that are being pulled out of our pockets at a degree unprecedented in Canada's history. To support my contention about the type of pay increases that have been made available to public servants in this country, especially friends of the Trudeau government, I would like to quote from an article by Douglas Fisher which appeared in the Toronto *Sun* on May 14 this year. It reads:

Opposition MPs are sniffing at one of Ottawa's startling stories. This is the literally "fantastic" increase in recent years in the numbers of government personnel drawing what may be called "executive salaries" and, even more startling, the wonderful generosity in the salary increases themselves. The public tends to bitch about MPs "voting increases for themselves." The mandarins make the MPs seem pikers, without the need for any formal vote.

Only the outline of the story can be given here, and that in rather jerky fashion. Perhaps the best way is to personalize it a bit through one man, the Hon. Charles (Bud) Drury, President of the Treasury Board, the watchdog of the federal purse.

Mr. Fisher outlines Mr. Drury's history in this way:

Mr. Drury, of course, is a "silver spoon" type and a former federal deputy minister. His daddy controlled the big Montreal-based manufacturing complex of Canadian Car and Foundry. Private schools; McGill; post-graduate study abroad; a war-time brigadier; a post-war mandarin; then the co-opting in the days of the chief into the Liberal Party; a cabinet minister for ten years; and first minister of the already defunct ministry of industry.

Mr. Drury is cool toward—indeed I think he dislikes—trade unions.

I do not think there is much doubt about that. Mr. Fisher continues:

My conversations with him (usually abrasive) suggest he considers unions, at best, a necessary evil.

Mr. Nielsen: He doesn't like the public service now.

Mr. Coates: He doesn't like anybody except himself and the Grits.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Boulanger): Order, please. I regret to interrupt the hon. member, but his time has expired.

Mr. Maurice Dupras (Labelle): Mr. Speaker, while listening to the recitation of the motion tabled by the hon. member for Peace River (Mr. Baldwin) today I could not help wondering if it was not an updated version of the motion he tabled on May 26, 1972.

Mr. Nielsen: It has got worse since then.

Mr. Dupras: In that debate most hon. members proved how futile and what a waste of time the motion was. Nevertheless, one must realize the great improvement they have made in this motion. Consider the subject of their motion of March 6, 1973. After two months of sitting, the only thing they could find wrong was the wording of the 1973 income tax forms which were to be used in respect of 1972 incomes.

● (1540)

Mr. Nielsen: It is still not legal.

Mr. Dupras: I was somewhat surprised when the mover of the motion began his remarks by saying something like this, "One wonders why this subject is brought up again today." That ought to have been our line, but not his.

An hon. Member: Where is he?

Mr. Dupras: I think he has left the House. Up to now I think the most convincing argument put forward by any opposition member was that of the hon. member for Surrey-White Rock (Mr. Mather). His remarks were well documented. Having sat on the public accounts committee with him for over two years, I know his dedication to that committee. In my judgment, his intervention was the best coming from the opposition side. I say that because the mover of the motion is not an authority on this subject, having sat on the committee only once in the last two years, namely, on March 14, 1972.

Mr. Nielsen: He used to be the chairman.

Mr. Dupras: He is not familiar with everything that goes on in the committee. I do not think he is an authority.

Mr. Nielsen: He used to be the chairman of that committee.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Dupras: And, Mr. Speaker, the mover of the motion went on to say how he deplored the Canadians' apparent lack of interest in the Auditor General's report. It appears that Canadians are being distracted by what is happening to our unfortunate neighbours, the Watergate affair, and also by what is happening in the British cabinet and House of Commons. I believe that the mover of the motion deplores in his remarks that there is not the slightest scandal to exploit here in Canada. For my part, I do not mind in the least if we dig up an old scandal. We could perhaps find one without going back too far; maybe we could find some juicy topics in the last 10 years, and then we too could exploit our little scandal, and make the headlines more easily than the Auditor General's report.

There is perhaps another reason why Canadians are not as interested in the Auditor General's report as the opposition and the Progressive Conservatives would like them to be. And I wonder whether he is not the one responsible for this lack of interest when one considers what he did last September and October, particularly out west in Calgary, if my memory serves me right, when he would have liked to help his friends on the other side by highlighting the shortcomings of the government. He failed, in fact, to convince Canadians that he had a good argument and could really help his friends. And I even wonder whether, in some circles, he has not been prejudicial to his friends of the other side of this House rather than being helpful to them.

At any rate, we have read comments and editorials on the behaviour of the Auditor General who was criticized at that time by serious writers throughout the country who questioned his credibility and popularity.

As we know, he gave again in his last report—which we received only last Wednesday when we should have had it on January 16—the same reasons for this delay in presenting his report. Therefore, if I may, since the mover of the motion has quoted some extracts from the report, I would like also to quote a passage of this report. On page 4, section 8, we can read and I quote:

8. In my Report last year I referred to the downgrading of the 28 senior positions of my Office, . . .

Well, when the committee considered this statement in 1972, it was found that among the 28 persons to whom he referred in his statement, only one had a grade 4 or 5 position which would, in a way, rank high within the organization of his office.

I go on quoting:

. . . I have stated before and do so again that this action by the

Treasury Board Secretariat was unfair and discriminated against the Auditor General.

Once more, those are arguments which have been negated on several occasions, I believe, for five or six years. This is an excuse, I suggest, to hide his lack of ability and perspicacity to recruit his staff and I think that one of the qualities of a good administrator is to be able to recruit personnel, train them and keep them. And if he had to grieve over the fact that a good number of his employees did not stay in the service, I believe he has nobody else to blame but himself.

Let us look at the statistics he is using in his report to tell us and I quote:

The staff situation has not improved materially during the year.

It is wrong to resort to such excuses, especially if we recall that he has sole responsibility for obtaining funds. Each of the seven or eight last years, whenever he presented his estimates for the coming financial year, he always got every dollar he asked for.

And the year 1971-72 was no exception as during that year, the Auditor General wanted an amount of $3,739,000 to pay the salaries of his employees and provide for the recruiting and training of his staff.

Since he mentioned his staff, I will say that within nine months, namely from March 31, 1972 to December 31, 1972, no fewer than 34 persons were hired, which represents a 12 per cent increase, while the strength of the whole public service increased by only 20 per cent in ten years, from 300,000 in 1961-62 to 405,000 in 1971-72.

There we have irrefutable evidence of the totally unfounded allegations of the Auditor General's when he speaks of the ability of the government or of the Treasury Board to provide him with the required staff so that the report, which should be out 15 days after the opening of a session, be produced on time.

● (1550)

The failure and the incompetence of the opposition are evident. The present shortcomings and disputes result from the Progressive Conservative party's dependency on the opinions and the assistance of the Auditor General. They have relied so heavily upon his assistance and co-operation to embarrass the government that they have been weakened. Everyone could see that the mover, the hon. member for Peace River, was making every effort to woo the representatives of the New Democratic Party.

As I mentioned earlier, the best contribution so far by a member of the opposition was made by the hon. member for Surrey-White Rock (Mr. Mather) who has shown much more authority on the subject than the mover.

In his comments, while dealing with the Auditor General's report, the mover recommended not to read it in one sitting. I agree with him on this point because the more one progresses, the more one realizes how this report, full of venom, has gone "sour" on the government. Everything went to achieve its aim which is evidently to embarrass the government. It recalls some measures previously recommended to the government which were taken.

Mr. Speaker, I should like to correct the number of recommendations with which the government did not comply; they are very specific recommendations made to various departments. There were 15 recommendations which were followed on. Eight of them suggesting the appearance of a minister before the Public Accounts Committee were acted on. I could go on to the recommendation urging the government to introduce a new bill on the Auditor General, a measure which was accepted immediately by the committee. A sub-committee was set up to examine and prepare a bill to amend the terms of reference of the Auditor General.

When listening to the speech of my hon. friend from Peace River, Mr. Speaker, we could say that his epistolary style is much the same as we find in the Auditor General's report and I wonder if it is not the same writer. We are often accused to have people drafting our speeches and after listening to that speech, I wonder if it was not the same person who wrote it. A wisecracking member went as far as suggesting that maybe it was Bill Davis who has written the speech.

In concluding, Mr. Speaker, I would like to remind hon. members of what is going on in the various committees and my hon. friend for Ontario (Mr. Cafik) referred to that fact when he said that no fewer than 124 committee meetings took place during the 4th session of the 28th Parliament in order to examine the estimates. And quite often, if we follow carefully what takes place in those committees, we must deplore the total lack of interest of opposition members with regard to specific items involving rather important amounts.

And, as the hon. member for Ontario suggested, we are more interested in making statements like those made Tuesday by the hon. member for Prince Edward-Hastings (Mr. Hees) in the Committee of External Affairs and National Defence, when he deplored and condemned the participation of our country in NATO. He said that, since 1968, we had reduced the Canadian representation in NATO, and how we were judged severely by our NATO partners in Europe. Perhaps it would have been better for him to use this valuable committee time to inquire about specific points that might have interested him and should be of concern to us.

And as I said a while ago, some often complain about the lack of opportunity to study the estimates; yet, the committees held no less than 124 sittings during the fourth session of the 28th parliament. There is no doubt, then, that opposition members who are really interested in looking into the estimates of all departments, have ample opportunity to do so, and they have never been denied that right, I am sure.

[*English*]

Mr. A. P. Gleave (Saskatoon-Biggar): Mr. Speaker, this motion could read that this House protests the government's continuing takeover of parliamentary control in the spending of public money and that we must take action to restore this power and control to the House. I wish to cite one or two examples. The hon. member who just resumed his seat said that someone on this side of the House deplored the fact that there was not a scandal at this time. There is a scandal at this time, Mr. Speaker. Today, the Minister of National Health and Welfare (Mr. Lalonde) was asked why payments for drug care for the native people of Canada, including those in my province,

were being cut off. The government is supposed to be the protector of the people, yet the minister, without introducing any legislation, has decided to deprive one of the weakest and most defenceless groups in this country of benefits which they have had until this time. As far as I am concerned, that is a scandal.

I wish to make one or two comments with regard to agriculture. The feed grain issue is one of the most important. It affects the welfare of the grain producers in western Canada and the farmers in eastern Canada who purchase this grain. On May 16 the hon. member for Richmond (Mr. Beaudoin) asked the Minister of Agriculture (Mr. Whelan) whether he proposed making changes in the pricing of feed grain. The minister answered yes. The minister said, as recorded at page 3836 of *Hansard* for May 16:

> Mr. Speaker, we are preparing a program for a feed grain policy for Canada. I am not prepared to say at this time whether it has to be introduced in the form of a bill. It is my own personal opinion that this can be done without the introduction of a bill in the House. I am sure it will be such a fair policy that it will be accepted no matter whether it is introduced by a bill or otherwise.

The minister stated in this House that he intends to bring in a policy with regard to the sale and movement of feed grain across Canada. He stated that he hopes he does not have to bring before Parliament in the form of a bill the measures which he proposes. The committee discussed the feed grain issue the other day. If my memory is correct, between $20 million and $25 million a year is being spent on this program. I apologize to the House if my figures are not precise, but the amount is not the important factor. The important factor is that a minister of the Crown has decided not to give Parliament an opportunity to debate measures and proposals he intends to introduce. Many people in western Canada are fed up with this cavalier attitude adopted by the Minister of Agriculture.

● (1600)

It was practised in the previous Parliament by the minister in charge of the Wheat Board. In order to get the minister to carry out an act of this Parliament, four farmers in Saskatchewan had to threaten to haul the government into court. Not until the deadline had almost expired did the government decide to conform with the provisions of the Temporary Wheat Reserves Act and pay the money it was required to pay under the terms of that act, money which it had been withholding for almost two years. I am citing a case which has actually occurred. Then there is the course which the minister has told us he proposes to follow in connection with feed grains.

The Prairie Farm Assistance Act is still on the statute books. The minister announced on May 15 that payments would continue in areas where crop insurance is not available this year. For the information of hon. members, the act is supposed to operate except in circumstances in which a farmer himself takes out crop insurance. The minister went on to say the department was in the process of phasing out the provisions and requirement of the act; they would be introducing legislation this year to end PFAA in 1974.

Mr. Speaker, this act continues in effect until such time as another bill is passed either to amend it or to replace it. The money which is supposed to be collected under PFAA is not being collected. Nor do we know whether payment will be made in the coming year to farmers in areas where crop failures may occur. The minister said in his statement that farmers in the Peace River area will be paid. He stated that only in Alberta are there areas without crop insurance where PFAA payments will be available in 1973. Farmers who are not sure whether they will be covered are told to write in only to find out whether they are eligible.

Mr. Speaker, if an act is in force it should be applied. The statement declares that approximately $10 million will be left in the prairie farm emergency fund at the end of July, and that whatever money is left after payments are completed for the 1973 year will be used for the benefit of prairie farmers. In what manner is this $10 million to be distributed? By what right? Under whose warrant? Apparently, just such as is the whim of those who set themselves up as the arbiters of power. It almost takes one back to the famous statement about "nobodies" who are elected to this House.

An hon. member across the way said there was a complete lack of interest shown in committees by opposition members. There is not a total lack of interest in committees but there is darned near a total lack of information. Try to get it. A committee has been considering trends in food prices. With this in mind, I decided in the agricultural committee to try to find out a few of the things which were happening. The Kraft corporation for example, controls around 66 per cent of the total market in Canada, so I started asking the Canadian Dairy Commission some questions in an attempt to find out what was really going on under the present structure. Anybody knows what is happening in the Belleville market in Ontario. It is an auction market and everyone knows the prices that are being paid. However, I asked the Dairy Commission to tell us the prices in the Montreal market.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: I am sorry to interrupt the hon. member, but the time allotted to him has expired. It could be extended by unanimous consent.

An hon. Member: Carry on.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Agreed?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Mr. Gleave: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I shall not take very long. As I was saying, I asked the Canadian Dairy Commission, which is spending aroung $122 million of the money of the people of Canada—in any case, that was the figure last year—to support the price of raw milk, and so on; and we are certainly in favour of that. I asked them to tell us the prices on the Montreal market. You see, I began to wonder how the consumer was faring.

Kraft corporation handles about $80 million out of total sales amounting to $190 million in Canada. There is a very large co-operative in Quebec which sells its total production to Kraft, and I asked the Canadian Dairy Commission for what price they sold it. The commission said it did not know. I quoted figures to show that consumers in Montreal were paying anywhere from six cents to 15 cents a pound more for cheese over a 16-month period, at the wholesale level, than was being paid in Belleville. I asked

the Dairy Commission at what prices this cheese changed hands on the wholesale level in Quebec. The commission said they did not even know whether they had a legal right to find out. I suggest that a corporation which is spending so much public money should make it their business to know whether or not the consuming public is getting a fair shake.

I thank the House for its indulgence. I shall conclude very shortly. I find the only opportunity I have to ask these questions and get answers in the interest of my constituents and of the Canadian public is in committee; but, to use an old phrase, getting information out of some of the witnesses who appear before our committees is like pulling hens' teeth—there just aren't any. If the people on the government side expect us on the opposition side to take committees seriously, they had better instruct their public officials and the heads of various commissions such as the Farm Credit Corporation, the Dairy Commission and the grains commission to give the information that is required. They may then find they will receive co-operation, and hold the interest of opposition members.

● (1610)

Mr. Sinclair Stevens (York-Simcoe): Mr. Speaker, in dealing with the matter before the House I feel it is particularly important that we bear in mind the wording of the motion. I call the attention of hon. members to the fact that we are dealing with the government's mismanagement in spending escalating public revenues, and we warn that immediate and decisive action must be taken to restore control of public funds to Parliament. As a newcomer to this House, I should say that I have indeed been shocked by the lack of co-operation that the government, its officials and others tend to show when we try to get the facts about what is happening in regard to business transactions of the government.

I should like to touch on certain aspects that have become apparent to me. In view of the fact that the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce (Mr. Gillespie), the Minister of Supply and Services (Mr. Goyer) and the President of the Treasury Board (Mr. Drury) are in the House—they are the only three cabinet ministers present—it is perhaps appropriate that I specifically comment on activities that have been taking place within their departments or within Crown corporations for which those ministers are answerable.

Let me first deal with the Department of Supply and Services. This is a department that handles approximately $100 million of contract business letting for the government each and every month. During the last 12 months they have let 11,630 contracts involving over $1 billion. Of that number of contracts, only nine have been publicly let in the sense that the tenders were actually opened in public.

What I find most startling about this kind of activity in the department of the Minister of Supply and Services—who very appropriately is presently talking to the President of the Treasury Board, I hope about secret tendering and when it is going to end—is that the minister has made it clear that he does not believe his department's present practice, to use his own words, is entirely legal. This minister has publicly stated that a process exists which he believes is not entirely legal, yet he has taken no action to date to put a stop to it.

When this minister is questioned in the House or by the press, he is very quick to say that this is a practice that has been going on for years. In fact, he likes to go back to certain years, such as 1957 or 1960, and say that this has been a long-standing custom. But surely the Minister of Supply and Services does not seriously expect us to accept that. Has he forgotten that his department was formed on April Fool's Day, 1969, and that it has only existed since that date? Yet he tries to put up a bit of a smokescreen by saying that what is going on—that what he admits, to use his own words again, is not an entirely legal practice, has been going on for almost an indefinite period.

I intend to get to the facts concerning this practice of secret tendering on the part of the government. I believe the time has come for an inquiry into the tendering practices of the government, particularly the practices in the Department of Supply and Services. Surely the public has a right to know whether this tendering is being handled in an above-board manner, whether the government is getting the best possible prices, why there should be any suggestion of secrecy, or the why the minister has to say, to use his own words, that he intends to look into the matter to see what are the advantages and disadvantages of this practice. I believe the only way that this House can get the facts is by having an inquiry, and in due course I hope to be able to move a motion asking that the House conduct an immediate inquiry into the tendering practices of the government.

While I am dealing with this department let me touch on another aspect. I refer to how the government seems to have no hesitation in concealing facts. There is a Crown corporation answerable to the Minister of Supply and Services; it is called the Canadian Commercial Corporation. In an auditor's certificate bearing date June 4, 1972, the Auditor General of Canada commented on the fact that he felt certain funds retained by that corporation had been improperly held by the corporation and not returned to the consolidated revenue fund. That comment was made, as I say, by the Auditor General of Canada in regard to a transaction of a Crown corporation. I think it is very interesting to trace what happened here. In regard to this matter I have had on the order paper since February 7, question No. 832 which asks specifically whether the situation has been rectified. I have found that not only has it not been rectified but the matter has been further complicated.

Moving over to the other department, which for some odd reason was also created on April Fool's Day of 1969, namely, the Department of Industry, Trade and Commerce, I find that a Crown corporation answerable to that minister, the Export Development Corporation, rushed to the aid of the Canadian Commercial Corporation and extended a $28 million loan, the largest loan it made in that year, to an entity in the Bahamas in order to help finance certain notes that the Canadian Commercial Corporation had taken back regarding the sale of certain aircraft to Venezuela.

When the president of the Export Development Corporation attended before the finance, trade and economic affairs committee I pointed out that the Auditor General

had made some comments concerning this transaction. To show the complete contempt that the president of this Crown corporation has for Parliament and for the Auditor General, he had no hesitation in saying, as reported at page 11:18 of the committee report for Friday, April 13 last:

—I objected strongly to the Auditor General qualifying our certificate because I felt that—

At that point I interrupted him and asked:

Is that not his job if he thinks there is a serious enough breach?

● (1620)

Then Mr. Aitken said:

Yes, but I think he is mistaken. I disagree violently with the attitude he took in criticizing us.

Who else is to criticize a Crown corporation which has done something wrong? If the Auditor General is to be chastised or to have his attitude disagreed with violently, I do not know who we in this Parliament can turn to in an attempt to get the facts concerning these irregular transactions. When the president of the Canadian Commercial Corporation appeared before another standing committee I tried to quiz him about his version of what actually transpired, and I specifically asked whether he was prepared for the type of statement the Auditor General would probably make in his forthcoming report. I got nowhere; I received a very evasive answer. I was told that the Department of Justice had supplied a legal opinion, which they had followed, and based on that legal opinion they felt everything was all right.

In his report to the House of Commons for the fiscal year ending March 31, 1972, the Auditor General takes up three or four pages on this subject, pointing out what he calls the improper retention of public moneys. I suggest that hon. members read those pages which begin at page 53. For example at page 55 the Auditor General said:

Such procedures were clearly devised to circumvent parliamentary control

There the Auditor General was commenting on the intrigue he traced between the activities of the Canadian Commercial Corporation and the Export Development Corporation, and what he believed was quite unlawful. He stated at page 56:

That the law officers of the Crown are of the opinion that the retention from, and investment outside of, the consolidated revenue fund of public money in this way is lawful—

He went on to state:

That is a most serious situation and we recommend to Parliament that it require the law officers of the Crown to draft for Parliament's consideration suitable amendments to the Financial Administration Act that will ensure that the retention of public funds in this way can no longer be considered lawful.

Perhaps in partial answer to the comments of the hon. member for Ontario (Mr. Cafik) I should say that this is a good illustration of the frustration we in the opposition meet when trying to get at the facts concerning these devious and irregular activities which have been developed and certainly expanded by the present government. This is why I believe there should be an inquiry into some of these activities, and in particular into the secret tenderer policies of the Department of Supply and Services.

Control of Public Funds

Touching on another matter, I think we should bear in mind that the government, through various devices such as the airport revolving fund, has been able to obtain moneys without parliamentary sanction, to be subsequently used for whatever purpose the minister deems appropriate at the time. I have in mind a matter that is of importance to my area, namely, the new airport in Toronto to be known as Toronto International Airport No. 2, at Pickering.

Here we find that through the device of getting the government committed and then coming to Parliament for funds, we are put in the position of refusing to allow the government to meet that commitment. It is interesting that in this case the hon. member for Ontario was most adamant. He suggested that if we refused the estimate in respect of the proposed airport at Toronto, the people in his area would not have the funds to carry out certain expropriations involving 18,000 acres of land. We are told that if we attempt to block the funds, the commitment cannot be honoured and the people will not have the funds required for the expropriation. I suggest this is a circumvention of the whole process of approving the expenditure of public funds.

This question is particularly important when we consider the magnitude of the project. It was estimated that the land acquisition in the Toronto area would cost approximately $60 million. After the commitment was made and the expropriation finalized, we learned that it was to cost $90 million. This is a commitment in respect of which we had virtually no say. It amounts to the expenditure of about $90 million, for an average of $5,000 per acre. This has been done by the central ministry of transport, and I emphasize "central" because there has been no reference to—

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, please. I regret to interrupt the hon. member, but his allotted time has expired. He may continue, however, with the unanimous consent of the House. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Mr. Stevens: I thank you, Mr. Speaker, and hon. members for allowing me to continue. I would summarize by saying that in my view the central authority, namely, the ministry of transport, is continuing to develop the airport in the Toronto area notwithstanding the fact that the expenditure will eventually amount to at least $500 million and that this is the only authority in North America at the present time proposing such an airport development.

This is in sharp contrast to the situation in the United States, where the federal authorities do not get involved and where the airport activity in the case of the O'Hare airport in Chicago is five times as great as the activity in the Toronto area. The Chicago authorities do not feel they need a new airport facility, whereas the authority in Toronto, where the activity is only one-fifth, is developing an airport which will eventually cost over $500 million. The Toronto airport is rated as number nine in activity on the continent, Montreal rates as number ten, New York as number one, Chicago as number two, and Los Angeles as number three. In spite of the fact that Montreal and

Toronto are rated number nine and number ten, we in Canada will have two of the largest superairports on the continent, thanks to the irresponsible spending of this government. In short, this is ridiculous and irresponsible.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Gaston Clermont (Gatineau): Mr. Speaker, before dealing with the motion before us, I should like to take up at least two gratuitous statements made by the hon. member for Yukon (Mr. Nielsen) in this House.

He suggested that the reason for the poor attendance in this House this afternoon for the debate on this motion, might be the new procedure for the study of estimates. I think another excuse will have to be found because we know that sometimes on Friday afternoons few members are present in the House.

Moreover, he claimed that some government members, during the study in committee of bills or estimates, kept raising point of orders so as to prevent opposition members from obtaining information. Among other things he indicated that the hon. member for Gatineau was one of those who abused this procedure, and I will not use the excuse given by my colleague, the hon. member for Ontario (Mr. Cafik) this afternoon, when he said that he did not sit with the member for Yukon, because since January 4, I have attended various committees with the member for Yukon and I have no excuse to offer, either to the members of committees I have attended or to the House, with regard the points of order I have raised on a number of occasions, because if I did, it was to draw the committee chairman's attention to the fact that the member who had the floor was dealing with a question that had not been referred to the committee. I am not blaming the members in question for trying to engage in discussions outside the subject.

I will now make a few remarks on the motion, specifically about the following part:

That this House, protesting the Government's continuing takeover of Parliamentary control of public money—

When the hon. member for Peace River (Mr. Baldwin) brought in a similar motion on May 26, 1972, I had the opportunity to make some comments and I referred to the new procedure used by this House since 1968 to examine the estimates. I am one of those, Mr. Speaker, who believe that the present procedure is better than the one that existed since Confederation.

And it is since 1968 that at the beginning of February every year, the President of the Treasury Board tables in the House the estimates for the coming year. That is what the President of the Treasury Board (M. Drury) did last February when he tabled the estimates for the fiscal year ending March 31, 1974.

Before 1968, the estimates were examined by a special committee known as the Committee of Supply of the House, where members could only put questions to the minister responsible for the items under study. But the current procedure which consists in referring the estimates to the 16 standing committees of the House, enables the members to put questions not only to the minister responsible but also to the officials.

Mr. Speaker, committees also are empowered, if they deem it necessary, to call other witnesses from the private

sector. We had from 40 to 60 days to study the estimates, or an average of about 200 hours per fiscal year.

Under the new procedure, taking the year 1972 as an example, almost 500 hours were used by the various committees to study the estimates. Again, I insist that the current procedure is much better than the one in effect from Confederation to 1968.

The President of the Treasury Board repeatedly said, and again this afternoon, that the government is always looking for a new procedure to improve on the current one designed to protect public money.

An hon. Member: Oh! oh! Listen to that!—

Mr. Clermont: The hon. member for Simcoe-North mentioned that the Department of Supplies and Services did not resort to public tendering. He said that the present Minister of Supply and Services (Mr. Goyer) did nothing to change that practice. I must say that I was sitting on the committee on miscellaneous estimates when the hon. member for Simcoe North was asking his questions of the minister.

• (1630)

[*English*]

Mr. Stevens: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, if the hon. member intended to refer to me, I am the member for York-Simcoe.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Clermont: I thank the member for York-Simcoe (Mr. Stevens) for calling my attention to the fact that I referred to him by the wrong riding, but I remember quite clearly, Mr. Speaker, when the hon. member put his questions to the Minister of Supply and Services, the latter had answered: "As soon as I became responsible for the Department of Supply and Services and got acquainted with the procedure, I asked my officials to draw up a report, and when I get that report, I will assume my responsibilities."

I felt duty bound, Mr. Speaker, to say how things happened in the Committee on Miscellaneous Estimates.

Mr. Speaker, some have criticized the $1 items, giving the impression that this procedure has only been in effect since 1963 or 1968. I have in hand, Mr. Speaker, photostats of estimates for 1958, 1959, 1961, 1962 and 1963, and if time allowed me, I could quote various $1 items. I remember that the member for Northumberland-Durham (Mr. Lawrence), former minister in the Robarts and Davis governments, said in the Committee on Miscellaneous Estimates that this procedure was commonly used, and when the President of the Treasury Board submitted his main estimates for 1973-74 to the Committee on Miscellaneous Estimates, he undertook to give explanations on every $1 item.

That procedure already existed for a couple of years in the Senate and the President of the Treasury Board undertook in the future to follow the procedure used when he was asked to appear before the Senate committee which has the responsibility to consider those estimates.

So criticism is passed on a vote that applies not only to the current year but to subsequent years. It is again a practice which existed for many years.

The report of the Auditor General for 1972 also mentions the fact that the government failed to do anything about the 38 recommendations and comments made by the Public Accounts Committee. When I spoke on the motion on May 26, 1972, I mentioned the action taken by the government concerning those 38 recommendations and comments. I said, and I quote:

A tabulation of these 38 recommendations indicates that the government has indeed responded to them, although not necessarily by acting in the fashion proposed. A substantial number of the issues have been subject to hearings before the Public Accounts Committee. I may say that in most cases these have satisfied the committee, because the subsequent reports of the committee have not raised the issues again.

I now refer to tabulations of issues and action taken. Many of these have been subject to lengthy debate. In this regard the committee has played an effective role and the procedure is not as ineffective as indicated. Mr. Speaker, the following is a summary of action taken on recommendations of the Public Accounts Committee: First, recommendations on which there has been specific comment by the minister involved, 14; second, recommendations on which there has been subsequent specific testimony by departments to the Public Accounts Committee without any new or changed recommendation by the committee, eight; third, recommendations on which departments have not been called upon to testify to the Public Accounts Committee but on which they have taken action which has not received publicity, three; fourth, recommendations which call for continued observation by the Auditor General of departmental practices rather than government action, one; fifth, recommendations subject to action re formulation of separate Auditor General Act, one.

And on the subject of a separate act for the Auditor General the Public Accounts Committee during the fourth session of the 28th Parliament, of which I was a member, called upon a committee of experts to draft a bill to be submitted to the Public Accounts Committee. I am sure that the Public Accounts Committee will take its responsibilities and make recommendations to the Parliament of Canada or the government.

On this committee were, I think, Mr. Ball, assistant deputy minister of the Department of Supply and Services, the parliamentary counsel for the House of Commons, the parliamentary counsel for the Senate and a representative of the Auditor General's office. And I go on with the quotation:

Sixth,

I go back to the recommendations and comments made by the Public Accounts Committee in recent years, and I quote:

Sixth, action could not be determined in time available since tabling of Auditor General's report, four.

Seventh, recommendations made too recently for action to be taken, seven.

So, that is what happened to the 38 recommendations, Mr. Speaker.

In conclusion, Mr. Speaker, I want to insist once again that I am one of those who believe that the present procedure is an improvement over the one that existed from 1867 to 1968. Such a procedure enables members of the various parties to put questions either to the minister or to the officials.

I again stress the fact that if a member, under the rules, requires a witness from the private sector for additional information to those given by the minister or an official, he can give notice to the chairman of the committee, and this witness must then appear before the committee.

And I hope, Mr. Speaker, that the House, the Public Accounts Committee as well as other committees will keep on looking for improved procedures so that, as I said earlier, the public moneys will be closely controlled.

● (1640)

[*English*]

Mr. H. W. Danforth (Kent-Essex): Mr. Speaker, I look forward to speaking today on this subject and backing up my colleague who proposed the motion. I do so because I think we are expressing, through this motion, not only the feeling of the official opposition and of the other opposition parties in this House, but the feeling of uneasiness of the people of Canada when they see what is transpiring in their Parliament.

I listened to the speeches today because I am sincerely interested in this matter. I was very impressed by the speakers on this side who brought forward various points demonstrating their concern over Parliament's control of the expenditure of Canadian taxpayers' money which has reached tremendous levels. We appreciate this fact when we talk of the disbursement of $20 billion. No wonder the Canadian people not only are concerned about, but have a right to know how these moneys are disbursed. Those who are disbursing them should be held responsible for their policies and for the manner in which these moneys are distributed.

I was struck again today—I do not say this unkindly; I say it factually—by the arrogance of the speakers from the government party when they tried to demonstrate once again that Canadians have never had it so good, that they have never had a system that has been working so well. In their speeches they have demonstrated their unveiled contempt for the feelings of the people of this nation. That is the prime reason this government is in political trouble. Everyone makes errors. It is only normal that a group of individuals acting together will make errors; and this government makes errors. That is why we bring this matter to the attention of Parliament today.

It is not good enough for this government to assure Parliament that they are infallible in the way they are conducting the business of our nation, and that the Auditor General should not dare to criticize their expenditures—the man whose responsibility and prime objective is to study those expenditures. They do not think he should dare to question any of their disbursements. This indicates the feeling of the government toward Parliament and the people of Canada.

I was both upset and shocked by the speeches of members of the government side. I refer to one in particular, whom I shall not name, who spent his entire time criticizing the Auditor General, the man who in latter years has done more than any other individual, in the exercise of his duty, to safeguard the expenditures made on behalf of Canadian taxpayers. That was his job, and we must give him credit for trying to do it to the best of his ability. We must not criticize him because he dared to suggest that in

the spending of the Canadian taxpayers' money the government was less than wise.

In the time allotted to me I would like to deal with one other subject. It is the subject of parliamentary control of the expenditures of this nation under the changed parliamentary rules which this government introduced; a change, they said, that was going to make Parliament more efficient and would give us a better opportunity to study in detail the expenditures of the government. There is no doubt in my mind that those who studied this question and proposed the rule changes meant well. In theory it looked as if the system could work, but in practice Members of Parliament soon realized that the parliamentary committee system today is not only useless but is absolutely futile in discharging the responsibility with which it is charged. I should like to give some examples, not in a partisan way but in a practical way, of what is actually going on. The hon. member for Gatineau (Mr. Clermont) spoke about the committee system. He is a member with some experience, having been a chairman. Let me say this, Mr. Speaker, that when 16 standing committees have to sit at the same time as Parliament during a session, it is absolutely impossible for any political party including the government, to man them adequately.

● (1650)

Mr. Bell: They are sitting this afternoon.

Mr. Danforth: We have 16 committees sitting this session, and last session there were 23. With the restricted number of members that we have in the House, it is impossible to man them adequately. The first thing that government members tried to do in bringing in this new committee system was to decrease the number of members necessary for a quorum. This so-called committee system is so bad right now that on a committee with 20 members, members of the government have proposed that we should have votes with only one member of the government sitting on the committee.

Mr. McGrath: Shame.

Mr. Danforth: This indicates the degree of confidence the government has in its own committee system. They said that it did not work and they were dissatisfied with it. The only people who have proved to be dissatisfied with the government's committee system of examining government estimates in detail are the members sitting on the government benches. To say that we can study estimates in detail is just a sham. Under the old system, as has been illustrated in debate today, the responsible minister sat in this House and answered questions in full. Under the present system they may or may not attend the committee, as they choose—not as the committee chooses. As a rule, however, out of courtesy the minister usually comes in and makes a prepared statement which takes perhaps an hour, and he usually remains in committee for another hour.

We have had instances, though, where a minister would not even come to committee or, having made an initial appearance, has never returned. This system of dealing with estimates, where we are dealing with thousands of millions of dollars and a member may get 10 or 20 minutes once a week to ask questions in a committee that sits only during two or three months, is ridiculous. It is impossible to deal with more than a fraction of the expenditures of a particular department.

Mr. Speaker, this is the system this government says efficiently deals with the scrutiny of the expenditure of $20 billion of taxpayers' money. If the government sometimes admitted that it made mistakes, it would be a lot more popular with the Canadian people. Why do they not admit this? The Canadian people would accept it, but this Liberal government is not one iota different from the previous Liberal government.

Mr. McGrath: The same old bunch.

Mr. Danforth: When an ill-founded or irresponsible expenditure of millions of dollars has been made, the government feels that the only course of action is to conceal it, not reveal it. The government states that the information is available to the opposition and to the people of Canada. Mr. Speaker, all the people have to do is read *Hansard* and they will see for themselves the lack of responsibility demonstrated by ministers when they are asked questions, and how they constantly seek not only to conceal information but demonstrate a derogatory and contemptuous manner when doing it.

This system is not working, Mr. Speaker, and our debate today will have little effect on the thinking of this government, I am afraid. They feel that they are right, regardless of the fact that every opposition party in the House believes the system is not working. Even though the people of Canada are showing a lack of confidence in the system, the government still feels that it has attained perfection. If things continue as they have in the past, the only change the Canadian people can expect in our parliamentary system in the next few months is one carefully designed by the Liberal government to restrict even further the ability of opposition parties to obtain full information on the expenditure of the tax dollar. Mr. Speaker, they show contempt toward the system we have had since confederation.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Albert Béchard (Bonaventure-Îles de la Madeleine): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the hon. member.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: The hon. member for Bonaventure-Îles de la Madeleine has a question to ask.

Mr. Béchard: Mr. Speaker, the hon. member complains that the present committee system does not allow opposition members to scrutinize the estimates of every department. Could he explain why during hours and hours of session, members of the opposition did not ask any question on the estimates but only on government policy?

[*English*]

Mr. Danforth: Mr. Speaker, the question just demonstrates the arrogance I have been speaking of, because not only do they now want to restrict our questions, but they want to tell us the type of questions we should ask. This is one of the reasons we feel we will not make any progress with the present government.

In conclusion, let me say that I think the people of Canada will appreciate and support any parliamentary rule that is designed for the welfare of the people of Canada. All that has been designed in the last few years by this government is a rule to restrict the power of the people to have knowledge of what is going on.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, please. It being five o'clock, it is my duty to inform the House that pursuant to section 11 of Standing Order 58, the proceedings on the motion have expired.

This House stands adjourned until Monday at 2 p.m., pursuant to Standing Order 2(3).

At 5 p.m. the House adjourned, without question put, pursuant to Standing Order.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Monday, May 28, 1973

The House met at 2 p.m.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[*Translation*]

FEDERAL-PROVINCIAL AFFAIRS

STATEMENT OF PRIME MINISTER ON FIRST MINISTERS' CONFERENCE—TABLING OF COMMUNIQUÉ

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, pursuant to Standing Order 41(2), I have the honour to table the press release issued at the end of the conference of first ministers which took place in Ottawa last week from May 23 to 25.

Upon reading this release, hon. members will see that there has been considerable progress toward harmonization of federal and provincial government goals in several areas of mutual interest. For instance the federal proposal to increase family allowances while assuring the continuation of national standards and the possibility of amendments brought about by the provinces has received significant approval. This will be a major innovation in an area of shared jurisdictions of the two levels of government.

The joint revision of the social security system now has full approval of the premiers. Within the framework of this review there will be a special effort to safeguard and increase work incentives, while social welfare ministers will see what place is to be taken by programs of assistance to housing and manpower training.

There has also been closer harmonization of goals and programs in the field of regional economic expansion. The views of the provinces on policies related to industry and foreign investments have been very useful to the federal government. It was agreed that the next conference of first ministers will give these issues a high priority.

[*English*]

First ministers expressed the wish that matters such as these, where the question is not directly one of fiscal resources but rather of co-ordinating policies and programs in relation to national objectives, should be given increasing attention at future meetings. It was also proposed that the broad question of government responsibilities and fiscal resources should be considered at some other opportunity.

In the health field, there was a discussion in depth of the federal financial proposals which had been revised since the First Ministers' Conference of November, 1971.

I should emphasize that the original agreed purpose of this long exercise was to provide greater provincial flexibility in determining priorities, to provide incentives to rationalize the health care systems and to provide effective services at reasonable cost. During the conference, the federal government offered to leave to the discretion of the provinces the expenditure of the $640 million of thrust funds. These funds form an important part of the over-all federal proposals and are designed to enable the provinces to improve health care systems.

General agreement was again expressed on the broad objectives of the proposals. A difference of view was evident even as between provinces on the basic question of whether the federal government should participate directly in the programs or whether, in such mature programs as hospital insurance and medicare, it should contribute by providing tax room to the provinces on some agreed formula. First ministers indicated a desire to study the proposals more closely over the next few weeks and to report their conclusions to the federal government. It was agreed that our proposals would remain on the table for the time being. I hope, Mr. Speaker, that a consensus will emerge around the proposals which we have put forward.

● (1410)

After discussion of the new federal formula for continued financial support for post-secondary education, it was agreed that the existing plan would remain in force for a three-year period commencing April 1, 1974. Further studies will be carried out on the sort of arrangement that should come into effect at the end of that period.

Mr. Speaker, the communiqué reports the substance of our discussion of the economic situation including the problem of inflation and its control. It also reports our discussion of the important problem of foreign ownership of land in certain parts of Canada, especially as it relates to recreational and agricultural land. We agreed to establish a joint committee to report on the legal, constitutional and land use aspects of the problem. The federal government made it clear it would not support restrictions on landed immigrants, or on Canadian citizens owning land outside their province of residence.

The communiqué also records our agreement to give permanence to the present secretariat serving the Conference of First Ministers and to make its services available, as desired, to other intergovernmental meetings of ministers and officials.

Mr. Speaker, the conference agenda covered a wide range of government responsibilities in areas of shared concern. I believe better mutual understanding of each others' goals and perspectives was achieved and important steps were taken to harmonize approaches to policies and programs in the interest of all Canadians.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

[*Translation*]

Hon. Robert L. Stanfield (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, first of all I would like to thank the right

hon. Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) for sending me a copy of his statement before two o'clock. I received it quite late, but I appreciate the difficulties the Prime Minister must have experienced in preparing a positive statement on the outcome of this conference.

[*English*]

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Stanfield: Perhaps the greatest achievement of the conference was the success of one reporter in breaking security to hear the briefing given by the Minister of Finance on the economic position of the country. I do not know how much the reporter learned but it was at least one achievement that came out of the conference.

The Prime Minister referred to a number of positive achievements such as the agreement on family allowances and the general proposal for some degree of flexibility. I think this was assumed in advance. The Prime Minister also referred to the agreement concerning a joint review of social security programs. I would assume this would be very welcome to provincial first ministers. But we shall see how things turn out and whether, in fact, this government, if it is given continuing responsibility, has the capacity to work out a common approach with the provinces that is generally acceptable in this area.

The Prime Minister also referred to the discussion on regional economic expansion. Here again, there is no indication at all of any more effective program to attack this great problem. Shared programs in the field of health have been discussed for some years now, with the federal government putting forward suggestions to the provinces. These suggestions were not agreed upon. The Prime Minister referred to disagreement among the provinces themselves, and I think this is so. But I believe the provinces were united in their belief that the proposal of the federal government did not provide them with sufficient security against increases in the cost of the continued implementation of these programs should the provinces accept the federal proposal. The proposal has not been accepted.

The Prime Minister recently pointed out that the proposals of the federal government in regard to shared-cost programs are a different thing from any discussion or proposal generally regarding tax sharing arrangements. I accept that is so. These proposals related to specific joint programs. But I do say to the Prime Minister that the question of the allocation of shared costs between fields must be faced. The government cannot assume it can just go along on the basis of the legislation passed last year. It is particularly urgent that the matter be faced in light of the proposal of the Minister of Finance (Mr. Turner) to introduce an indexing concept into personal income tax. While I was very pleased to see him adopt this principle, I have always recognized, as I hope he will recognize, that it has an unfortunate effect on the revenues of the provincial governments and therefore does necessitate a reconsideration of the present tax-sharing agreements.

No agreement was reached in regard to post-secondary education, so the federal government is carrying on.

Apparently there was some discussion of inflation but the federal government put no proposals before the provinces that might involve some kind of joint attack or effort to contain inflation in this country. This is particularly alarming on a day when we find that the wholesale price index has increased by over 16 per cent between April this year and April of 1972.

Basically important questions such as an industrial policy for this country and a policy for foreign investment were simply deferred until the next conference. The Prime Minister has not explained what the implications of this may be as far as any legislation before the House is concerned, or indeed what the implications may be in regard to the federal government taking any initiatives in the area of industrial strategy and policy to further discussions taking place.

There is no need for me to speak at greater length. The conference accomplished very little. I doubt whether any conference between the federal government and the provinces for a good number of years, called for the purpose of discussing general concerns between the two levels of government, has achieved so little in concrete results. Certainly the government, in its relations with the provinces as exhibited at this conference, has not come to grips with some very basic problems such as tax sharing, inflation, foreign investment and industrial policy. I hope that the discussions look as if they were more useful than the results because the results are certainly minimal.

Mr. T. C. Douglas (Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands): Mr. Speaker, the first ministers have just concluded another ho-hum conference. One of the local papers summed it up by saying that the federal-provincial conference of Canada's first ministers that began in disagreement ended undramatically on Friday after three days of talk but little in the way of concrete results. The only thing they seem to have agreed upon unanimously was to have another meeting in the future. I suggest that the reason for this lack of accomplishment is that, instead of the federal government providing the kind of leadership necessary to strengthening federalism and to promote a sense of national purpose and set out national goals, it spent this conference in the main seeking to shift to the provinces the responsibility for very important programs such as post-secondary education and health insurance.

● (1420)

I am glad that the provincial governments did not buy the federal government's idea of giving up a shared-cost program for post-secondary education to be replaced by a per capita grant. As the communiqué indicates, the provinces recognize that these per capita grants would not meet the growing needs of post-secondary education. The same is true of the health insurance programs. The Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau), in the statement he has made today, talked about flexibility in determining priorities and providing incentives to rationalize the health care systems and the provision of effective services at reasonable cost. This is simply rhetoric used to clothe his attempt to load on the provinces the federal share of the costs of health insurance in this country.

Of course the provinces agree about the need for flexibility in determining priorities, but that can be done without removing the federal government's guarantee to meet 50 per cent of the cost of health insurance. Certainly the provinces want to rationalize their health care systems, and the thrust fund could be used for that purpose.

The federal government tosses around the figure of $640 million for the thrust fund. Spread over six years, that is $106 million roughly per year and less than $5 per capita. That will be only a small contribution which the provincial governments will have to more than match in order to provide nursing facilities, community health clinics, home nursing and medical care. What the provinces require and what the federal government has consistently refused, is continued federal involvement in the guarantee that 50 per cent of the cost of present health insurance programs and additional health insurance services that inevitably must be added to the present programs will be shared by the federal government.

The attempts by the federal government to pass this responsibility on to the provinces can mean only one thing. The additional sources of revenue that the federal government is offering to the provinces will enable some of the wealthier provinces to continue to maintain a fairly high level of health services. It will mean for the other provinces lower health services. It will mean that they will have to apply deterrent charges and residence qualifications, and all the talk about uniform standards and portability will inevitably go out the window. You cannot develop national unity by fragmenting Canada's health policies so they vary from province to province, depending upon the financial condition of the particular province.

I notice that according to the communiqué the conference agreed that at one of its next meetings it will discuss industrial policy and foreign investment. Before that conference is held I hope the Prime Minister and his colleagues will present to this parliament what their industrial policy is and what their policy is on foreign investment, because you cannot have an industrial policy unless they also have a national energy policy, and we have been waiting for years for such a policy.

Finally, I notice that in the communiqué there are these words concerning inflation:

> ... there was general but not unanimous support among first ministers for the view of the federal government that it was not of a character which could be dealt with effectively in present circumstances by controls over prices and incomes.

Mr. Speaker, the communiqué tells us what the first ministers, or at least some of the first ministers, agreed should not be done. We have had no statement from the government nor from the conference concerning what should be done to meet the problem of rising prices in this country. We have had no statement from the government, and I doubt whether the government even raised the matter, concerning whether or not the provinces would be prepared to pass enabling legislation giving the proposed Food Prices Review Board concurrent powers to deal with unjustified price increases across the country. Did the federal government ask the provinces if they were prepared to pass such enabling legislation? We were not told. As a matter of fact, the federal government has no policy and is now seeking to pass the buck to the provinces by saying that the provinces agree with it that price controls are not necessary. This conference apparently achieved very little in the way of concrete attainments, largely as the result of the failure of leadership on the part of the federal government to set forth concrete proposals and give the necessary leadership to the provinces and to the nation in these critical times.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Réal Caouette (Témiscamingue): Mr. Speaker, with respect to statements that are empty, devoid of any sense, let us speak of a statement like the one the right hon. Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) has just made. There is no doubt that, when he read the document he was given by one of his writers, he must have laughed up his sleeve because, in fact, he brings us the results of a conference where people agreed, while the provincial premiers in fact were not in agreement at this conference and went back home, without any exception, disappointed with the way the federal authorities had welcomed them in Ottawa.

Mr. Speaker, in the case of the Quebec premier, he admitted that fact to newsmen, saying: I did not get anything tangible; I came back with principles. He went back to Quebec with principles, but without any money! The same goes for the Ontario premier. The other premiers also complained of the way the Prime Minister snubbed them when they came to discuss their fiscal problems with the federal authorities. The premiers did not come here to ask what they should do, but to get federal assistance in the fields of social security and post-secondary education.

Mr. Speaker, each and every premier went back to his province empty-handed. Three days were spent discussing the redistribution of that rarity: money. The provinces said to the right hon. Prime Minister of Canada: We do not have enough money. The right hon. Prime Minister of Canada replied: Be content with what you have. We can do no more now, but the situation may improve after 1974.

Mr. Speaker, to my mind the conference was the right opportunity to discuss the use of the Bank of Canada in the service of the provinces. Instead of allowing the Bank of Canada to lend to the provinces for periods of six months, the government should order it to make loans for periods of 60 years. The provinces would thus be allowed to settle themselves their very urgent and important problems. But no, they preferred to discuss the short supply instead of abundance.

And the right hon. Prime Minister continues on page 3 of his statement as follows:

● (1430)

[*English*]

> After discussion of the new federal formula for continued financial support for post-secondary education, it was agreed that the existing plan would remain in force for a three-year period commencing April 1, 1974.

"It was agreed".

[*Translation*]

Mr. Speaker, that was not accepted. The provinces were asking for something better because they are all facing problems in the field of education, in order to help young Canadians carry on with their studies.

Mr. Speaker, this conference is no exception to what we have experienced during the last 20 years or so. First there is some bright project and then it goes flop. The one that has just ended was like the others that we have known, and so long as we do not come to grips with the heart of the problem, that is finance, so long as we keep beating about the bush, arguing about who must and who must not tax, this Prime Minister like the ones who will

come after him, or the ones who came before him, will parade around making these foolish, worthless, and empty statements that do not settle anything at all, neither at the national nor at the provincial levels. Let us have a policy that will enable the federal government to be useful to the provinces and to the Canadian people in general and the results we shall achieve will be quite different from those we have achieved so far.

* * *

[*English*]

FOOD PRICES REVIEW BOARD

TABLING OF ORDER IN COUNCIL APPOINTING COMMISSIONERS AND SETTING FORTH TERMS OF REFERENCE

Hon. Herb Gray (Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs): Mr. Speaker, I wish to table, pursuant to Standing Order 41(2), a copy in both official languages of the order in council appointing the commissioners of the Food Prices Review Board and giving its terms of reference.

Mr. Baldwin: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. Would the minister assure us that, before the business under motions is completed, he intends to make a statement to try to justify the document he just tabled?

Mr. Gray: The merits of the document speak for themselves and I think are agreed to by the majority of the Canadian population.

* * *

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

JURISDICTION OVER WATERS ABOVE CONTINENTAL SHELF—REQUEST FOR UNANIMOUS CONSENT TO MOVE MOTION

Mr. John Lundrigan (Gander-Twillingate): Mr. Speaker, I want to move a motion under Standing Order 43. I have served notice to the various parties and to the House leader of the party across the aisle who I understand has been in discussion with the Minister of the Environment and Fisheries, the Secretary of State for External Affairs and the Prime Minister.

Because of the public statements of the Minister of the Environment and Fisheries outside the House over the weekend supporting the concept of Canadian control of the marine resources of the continental shelf, and because of the consistent position of this party and the other parties of this House on this issue for some years, and in order to get the House to express its support of such a resolution, I ask for the unanimous consent of the House to move, seconded by the hon. member for Dartmouth-Halifax East (Mr. Forrestall):

That this House supports the concept of the jurisdiction of Canada over the waters superjacent to its continental shelf and that this position form the basis of Canada's presentation at the upcoming Law of the Sea Conference.

Mr. Speaker: The motion proposed by the hon. member for Gander-Twillingate requires the unanimous consent of the House. The Chair will inquire whether there is unanimity. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

Mr. Speaker: There is not unanimity and the hon. member's motion cannot be put at this time.

Mr. Diefenbaker: The government blocked it.

Mr. Lundrigan: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, I am not challenging Your Honour, but I wonder whether you could put the motion again. I am not challenging Your Honour, but the wording of the motion is such that I cannot imagine why the party across the way is objecting to it after the presentation by the minister and the consultation that has taken place.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The Chair is required under the Standing Order to inquire whether there is unanimous consent. I have done this and there was not unanimity. The hon. member referred a moment ago to discussions that have taken place between representatives of the parties. Perhaps these discussions might be resumed later on with a view to bringing this matter before the House in some other way.

Mr. Lundrigan: Mr. Speaker, if no other member wishes to move a motion under Standing Order 43 I would like to move another motion.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Comox-Alberni.

* * *

CANADIAN COASTGUARD

PROPOSED REFERENCE OF PETITION TO COMMITTEE—REQUEST FOR UNANIMOUS CONSENT TO MOVE MOTION

Mr. Thomas S. Barnett (Comox-Alberni): Mr. Speaker, the continued downgrading of Canadian Coastguard services, which was highlighted by recent deaths by drowning at the doorstep of Tofino lifeboat station, necessitates that I rise, pursuant to the provisions of Standing Order 43, to seek consent to move a motion. I wish to move, seconded by the hon. member for Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands (Mr. Douglas):

That the petition signed by almost 400 residents of Tofino, Ucluelet and Bamfield demanding immediate restoration of 24-hour manning of Tofino and Bamfield lifeboat stations, which I have been requested to place before parliament, and a copy of which I now send to the Minister of Transport, be referred to the Standing Committee on Transport and Communications for immediate investigation and report.

Mr. Speaker: This motion also requires the unanimous consent of the House in view of the fact that it is proposed under the terms of Standing Order 43. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

Mr. Speaker: There is not unanimity and the motion therefore cannot be put.

An hon. Member: The government blocked that one too.

* * *

[*Translation*]

MANPOWER

LOCAL INITIATIVES PROGRAM—REFUSAL TO GIVE INFORMATION TO MEMBERS—REQUEST FOR UNANIMOUS CONSENT TO MOVE MOTION

Mr. Adrien Lambert (Bellechasse): Mr. Speaker, I rise under Standing Order 43 to seek the unanimous consent of the House to move a motion on a matter of extremely urgent and pressing necessity.

Indeed, since it is increasingly difficult for the elected representatives of the people to obtain information on the use of public funds and more especially concerning the carrying out of projects under the Local Initiatives Program which is a breach of the supremacy of Parliament, I therefore move, seconded by the member for Lotbinière (Mr. Fortin):

That a special committee of the House be established to consider the reasons which have caused the government to deny to the members of this Parliament valid information concerning the use of public funds as a result of the carrying out of projects under the Local Initiatives Program and that the said committee report to the House with pertinent recommendations before June 30, 1973.

Mr. Speaker: The House has heard the hon. member's motion. Under Standing Order 43, this motion requires the unanimous consent of the House. Is there such consent?

Some hon. Members: Yes.

Some hon. Members: No.

Mr. Speaker: There is not unanimous consent and the motion therefore cannot be put.

* * *

[*English*]

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

CANADIAN POSITION AT FORTHCOMING ICNAF CONFERENCE—REQUEST FOR UNANIMOUS CONSENT TO MOVE MOTION

Mr. John Lundrigan (Gander-Twillingate): Mr. Speaker, because of the fact that Dr. Needler is now leading the very able Canadian delegation to the ICNAF conference in Copenhagen, I should like to move a motion under Standing Order 43. In view of the fact that Canada achieved agreements at the 1972 International Commission for the Northwest Atlantic Fishery that all member countries work within a quota system, and in view of the fact that at the forthcoming ICNAF conference starting in Copenhagen on June 3 the Canadian delegation will present the position that Canada should have the right to harvest whatever marine resources it is capable of taking within this quota, I move, seconded by the hon. member for Humber-St. George's-St. Barbe (Mr. Marshall):

That this House support the position taken by the Canadian delegation at the 1973 ICNAF conference and that this House will further support the use of any reasonable bargaining leverage in the delegation's attempts to achieve its aims.

I gave notice of that motion also.

Mr. Speaker: The motion proposed by the hon. member requires the unanimous consent of the House under the terms of Standing Order 43. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

Mr. Speaker: There is not unanimous consent and the motion cannot be put at this time.

● (1440)

Mr. Lundrigan: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, this is a very urgent matter. I know I am perhaps infringing a bit on the good will of Your Honour, but in view of the fact that this motion, like my first one, was not accepted I wonder whether there is some way in which the minister on motions tomorrow, or even today, can move to express the feeling of the House and give support to the Canadian delegation, which is working on a matter so immediate and so urgent—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

Mr. Lundrigan: —that if Canada's position is not accepted our fishermen—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. Will the hon. member resume his seat please. He is now arguing in support of a motion which has not been accepted by the House.

QUESTIONS ON THE ORDER PAPER

(Questions answered orally are indicated by an asterisk.)

DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AND CORPORATE AFFAIRS—PUBLICITY EXPENDITURES

Question No. 94—**Mr. Nystrom:**

1. What were the amounts of money spent by the Department of Consumer and Corporate Affairs on publicity and/or information in each of the fiscal years 1968-69, 1969-70, 1970-71, 1971-72?

2. What were the names and addresses of firms or individuals who received these contracts, what amounts of money were spent in each case and what was the purpose of each contract?

3. What contracts for publicity and/or information were awarded in the current fiscal year, what are the names and addresses of contractees, what are the amounts of money involved in each case and what is the purpose of each contract?

Hon. Herb Gray (Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs):

Order Paper Questions

1. 1968-69

	1969-70	1970-71	1971-72
Not available for Department	$ 5,311.01	$ 2,688.02	$ 116,987.21

2.

Year	Name of Firm	Amount	Purpose
1968-69 to 1969-70	Details not available	As above	Details not available
1970-71	McLaren Advertising Company	9,716.16	Produce TV clips on Canadian Standard Size program.
	Hopkin Hedlin Ltd.	107,271.05	Assistance regarding Competition Bill.
3. 1972-73	Lawrence Marshall Productions	4,775.68	Production of an audio visual presentation for Departmental use.
	Vickers & Benson Ltd.	54,010.92	To assist the department in preparation and development of information programs.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE COMMISSION ADMINISTRATION

Question No. 439—**Mr. Alexander:**

1. Is it the intention of the government to increase the recently announced amount for UIC and, if so (a) for what reason (b) by how much?

2. What was the actual cost of administration of UIC for the years 1971 and 1972 and the projected cost for administration for 1973, and if the cost is different for the years 1972 and 1973, for what reason?

3. How much money was spent for consultants in every aspect of the Unemployment Insurance Commission Act for the years 1968-1972 inclusive?

4. (a) How many computers are used by UIC (b) where are they situated (c) what was the savings predicted (d) how many breakdowns have occurred (e) what extra funds have been spent on the computers since installation?

Hon. Robert K. Andras (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): It has been recently announced that the Commission has set the employee contribution rate for 1973 at one dollar per $100 of insurable earnings. In addition, it was also announced that the maximum benefit rate would be $107 for 1973. The Commission is constantly monitoring the premium rate requirement and if a change is necessary, it will be announced at the appropriate time.

2.

1971 Actual	1972 Actual	1973 Budget
$86,098,000	$119,587,000*	$145,045,000

*The 1972 figure is not yet finalized as our accounts do not close until the end of February.

The increase in costs between 1972 and 1973 are due to a combination of factors. Escalating costs such as salary increases due to collective bargaining, postal rate increases and accommodation rental costs have affected administrative costs. Increased costs have been incurred in providing improvements in the service to the public through a more personalized approach in dealing with claimants, decentralization of offices, and improvement of the record of employment. Additional costs are also due to increasing the complement of Benefit Control Officers, Insurance Officers and Enquiry Personnel to a level commensurate with the workload.

3. Payments of individual fees totalling $2,000 or over were: 1968-69, $120,792; 1969-70, $41,880; 1970-71, $328,301; 1971-72, $285,495; 1 April-31 December 1972, $68,018.

[Mr. Gray.]

4. (a) and (b) UIC uses six computers under its direct control, one at each UIC Computer Centre, in Ottawa, Moncton, Montreal, Belleville, Winnipeg and Vancouver. There is also a minicomputer in St. John's, Newfoundland, which serves as the terminal of a telecommunications link connecting that city to the main Atlantic processing site at Moncton. Occasional use is made of external computer facilities for overflow and back up in emergencies. In Winnipeg and Vancouver, commercial facilities with similar Burroughs equipment are used in the same way. In Ottawa, several of the local service bureaus have been used, from time to time, for statistical and developmental work, and for the Canadian Government Annuities System; (c) the original proposal to computerize U.I. payments indicated a savings of $2,000,000. A special report prepared after implementation concluded that in 1970/71 the Commission would realize a savings of $1,841,000 based on the 1967/68 manual operation; (d) since January 1, 1971 there have been a total of 75 breakdowns; (e) starting in 1970, increases in workload and major operational changes resulting from the introduction of the new act have caused expansion of the regional facilities. The equipment rentals have increased in the past three years from $43,923 to $65,842. per month. In addition a sixth site, in Ottawa, has been added for central statistical purposes and for program development. It was contracted for in May, 1971, at a rental of $23,325 per month. The present equipment configuration in Ottawa rents at $25,485.

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY, MINES AND RESOURCES—BILINGUALISM POLICY

Question No. 466—**Mr. Beaudoin:**

1. Has the Department of Energy, Mines and Resources adopted a definite policy on bilingualism?

2. What number and total percentage of that department's employees are (a) English unilingual (b) French unilingual (c) bilingual?

3. In 1960, 1962, 1964, 1966, 1968 and 1970, what was the number and total percentage of employees of the same department who were (a) English unilingual (b) French unilingual (c) bilingual?

4. By year since 1960, what was the total budget allocated for the development of bilingualism in that department?

Mr. John M. Reid (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): I am informed by the Treasury Board Secretariat and the Department of Energy, Mines and Resources as follows: 1. Departments' policy on Bilingualism is based on the requirements of the Official Languages Act, the Public Service Employment Act, the

Translation Bureau Act and policy and directives prescribed by the Government.

2. The number of continuing full-time employees who claim language proficiency is as follows:

	Number	Per cent
(a)	2,348	78
(b)	33	1
(c)	634	21

3. No statistics available for the years 1960 to 1966 inclusive. The number of continuing full-time employees who claimed language proficiency is as follows:

	1968		1970	
	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent
(a)	3,264	81.5	3,329	79.0
(b)	20	.5	20	.5
(c)	723	18.0	860	20.5

4. The development of bilingualism has been carried out since 1969 within the total operating appropriations provided by Parliament and has not been segregated from other operating expenses except for the following: In December 1971, the department was given supplementary resources of $64,000.00 to assist in implementing bilingualism for the balance of the fiscal year 1971-72. Similarly, $246,800.00 has been provided for 1972-73.

RESEARCH PROJECTS

Question No. 685—Mr. Muir:

1. How many research projects were contracted out by the Prices and Incomes Commission between 1968 and 1972?

2. What was each project and its total cost?

Hon. Herb Gray (Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs): 1. Eleven.

2. Project	Total Cost
(i) Preliminary investigation into whether there are regional Phillips Curves, particularly in the Maritimes and Quebec	$ 800
(ii) Preparation of a report analysing letters to the Price and Incomes Commission in response to mass mailing	15,000
(iii) Preparation of a report on "Fee Setting by Independent Practitioners"	3,000
(iv) Preparation of a study of inflation in office building construction to determine the degree to which individual components of construction costs have increased during the past five years	2,177
(v) Preparation of a study of inflation in hospital construction to determine the degree to which individual components of construction costs have increased during the past five years	4,250
(vi) Preparation of a report on medical care prices	4,438
(vii) Preparation of studies on partial wage price models and related research, and estimation of reduced form monetary models of the Canadian economy	56,500
(viii) Preparation of a study of the magnitude and timing of economic fluctuations in Canada and government responses to them over the past fifteen years	9,918
(ix) Preliminary work regarding inflation in the health industry	3,625
(x) Price effects of the 1971 federal excise tax reductions on household electronic equipment	2,666
(xi) Study of inflation in non-residential construction	1,000

GUARANTEED INCOME SUPPLEMENT OVERPAYMENTS

Question No. 768—Mr. Coates:

1. How many recipients of the Guaranteed Income Supplement were overpaid during 1972 and of that total number, how many of the overpayments were as the result of changes in the law that made Unemployment Insurance benefits income insofar as the Guaranteed Income Supplement was concerned?

2. Of the total number of overpayments, what was the total amount involved and how many of the overpayments were as a result of actions not being taken by officials of the Department of National Health and Welfare to correct the amount received by recipients of the Guaranteed Income Supplement who were also recipients of Unemployment Insurance benefits?

Hon. Marc Lalonde (Minister of National Health and Welfare): Since the Guaranteed Income Supplement payment year is a fiscal year, the answers given are for 1972-73 and are approximate. 1. (a) 27,400; (b) 4,200.

2. (a) $886,000 represents the amount of overpayments resulting from receipt of Unemployment Insurance benefits; (b) 3,600.

FEDERAL CONTRIBUTION TO FINANCING OF COMPOSITE HIGH SCHOOLS

Question No. 999—Mr. Caouette (Charlevoix):

Does the government contribute to the financing of the construction of composite high schools in Quebec and, if so (a) how is this contribution made (b) how much has it cost in all (c) how many schools have benefited from such contributions (i) in general (ii) in the constituency of Charlevoix?

Mr. John M. Reid (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): No.

GRANT FROM CMHC TO PEOPLE OF BURKEVILLE

Question No. 1,066—Mr. Reynolds:

Is it the intention of the government to approve the grant from CMHC announced during the election for the people of Burkeville to do a study on the future of their community in relation to the rest of Sea Island and, if so, on what date?

Hon. Ron Basford (Minister of State for Urban Affairs): A grant of $40,000 to the Sea Island Community Ratepayers Association was approved on April 17, 1973, under Part V of the National Housing Act, to enable the Association to undertake and present, in co-operation with the township of Richmond Planning Department, the Department of Transport, Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation and/or the Ministry of State for Urban Affairs, a plan of redevelopment of the Burkeville area, to prepare feasibility studies of the redevelopment plan, and

to investigate the organizational measures which would enable the Burkeville residents to participate to the greatest possible degree in the redevelopment.

GRANT FROM CMHC TO PEOPLE OF BURKEVILLE

Question No. 1,211—**Mr. Reynolds:**

Is CMHC going to make available the grant to the people of Burkeville on Sea Island for the study of future use of this area, that was promised as forthcoming during the last election and, if so, on what date?

Hon. Ron Basford (Minister of State for Urban Affairs): See the answer to question number 1,066.

LIP—APPLICATION FOR GRANT RELATING TO PROJECT No. H-1342

Question No. 1,231—**Mr. Beaudoin:**

1. On what date did the government receive an application for a grant under LIP concerning project No. H-1342?

2. On what date was the application either approved or refused?

3. What were the reasons set forth by the government for its refusal or approval of said project?

4. If the project was accepted, what was the amount granted by the government to finance it?

5. How many jobs were created by the implementation of this project?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. October 31, 1972.

2. Approved on December 6, 1972.

3. One of those projects that best combine the dual objectives of job creation and a realistic and identifiable contribution to community betterment.

4. $35,984.

5. Three hundred and twelve man-weeks.

LIP—APPLICATION FOR GRANT RELATING TO PROJECT No. H-1249

Question No. 1,232—**Mr. Beaudoin:**

1. On what date did the government receive an application for a grant under LIP concerning project No. H-1249?

2. On what date was the application either approved or refused?

3. What were the reasons set forth by the government for its refusal or approval of said project?

4. If the project was accepted, what was the amount granted by the government to finance it?

5. How many jobs were created by the implementation of this project?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. October 27, 1972.

2. Approved on February 20, 1973.

3. One of those projects that best combine the dual objectives of job creation and a realistic and identifiable contribution to community betterment.

4. $10,892.

5. Ninety-four man-weeks.

LIP—APPLICATION FOR GRANT RELATING TO PROJECT No. H-4747

Question No. 1,251—**Mr. Beaudoin:**

1. On what date did the government receive an application for a grant under LIP concerning project No. H-4747?

2. On what date was the application either approved or refused?

3. What were the reasons set forth by the government for its refusal or approval of said project?

4. If the project was accepted, what was the amount granted by the government to finance it?

5. How many jobs were created by the implementation of this project?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. December 21, 1972.

2. Approved on February 20, 1973.

3. One of those projects that best combine the dual objectives of job creation and a realistic and identifiable contribution to community betterment.

4. $23,662.

5. Two hundred and six man-weeks of employment.

LIP—APPLICATION FOR GRANT RELATING TO PROJECT No. H-4500

Question No. 1,252—**Mr. Beaudoin:**

1. On what date did the government receive an application for a grant under LIP concerning project No. H-4500?

2. On what date was the application either approved or refused?

3. What were the reasons set forth by the government for its refusal or approval of said project?

4. If the project was accepted, what was the amount granted by the government to finance it?

5. How many jobs were created by the implementation of this project?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. December 15, 1972.

2. Approved on February 1, 1973.

3. One of those projects that best combine the dual objectives of job creation and a realistic and identifiable contribution to community betterment.

4. $12,987.

5. One hundred and eleven man-weeks of employment.

LIP—APPLICATION FOR GRANT RELATING TO PROJECT No. H-4343

Question No. 1,253—**Mr. Beaudoin:**

1. On what date did the government receive an application for a grant under LIP concerning project No. H-4343?

2. On what date was the application either approved or refused?

3. What were the reasons set forth by the government for its refusal or approval of said project?

4. If the project was accepted, what was the amount granted by the government to finance it?

5. How many jobs were created by the implementation of this project?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. December 14, 1972.

2. Rejected on January 16, 1973.

3. The Department received a far greater number of applications than funds were available for. All applications were carefully assessed and many difficult decisions not to approve had to be made.

4. N/A.

5. N/A.

LIP—APPLICATION FOR GRANT RELATING TO PROJECT No. H-4312

Question No. 1,254—**Mr. Beaudoin:**

1. On what date did the government receive an application for a grant under LIP concerning project No. H-4312?

2. On what date was the application either approved or refused?

3. What were the reasons set forth by the government for its refusal or approval of said project?

4. If the project was accepted, what was the amount granted by the government to finance it?

5. How many jobs were created by the implementation of this project?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. December 14, 1972.

2. Approved on January 25, 1973.

3. One of those projects that best combine the dual objectives of job creation and a realistic and identifiable contribution to community betterment.

4. $15,561.00.

5. One hundred and thirty-three man-weeks of employment.

LIP—APPLICATION FOR GRANT RELATING TO PROJECT No. H-4297

Question No. 1,255—**Mr. Beaudoin:**

1. On what date did the government receive an application for a grant under LIP concerning project No. H-4297?

2. On what date was the application either approved or refused?

3. What were the reasons set forth by the government for its refusal or approval of said project?

4. If the project was accepted, what was the amount granted by the government to finance it?

5. How many jobs were created by the implementation of this project?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. December 13, 1972.

2. Rejected on February 22, 1973.

3. The Department received a far greater number of applications than funds were available for. All applications were carefully assessed and many difficult decisions not to approve had to be made.

4. N/A.

5. N/A.

LIP—APPLICATION FOR GRANT RELATING TO PROJECT No. H-4295

Question No. 1,256—**Mr. Beaudoin:**

1. On what date did the government receive an application for a grant under LIP concerning project No. H-4295?

2. On what date was the application either approved or refused?

3. What were the reasons set forth by the government for its refusal or approval of said project?

4. If the project was accepted, what was the amount granted by the government to finance it?

5. How many jobs were created by the implementation of this project?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. December 13, 1972.

2. Approved on January 29, 1973.

3. One of those projects that best combine the dual objectives of job creation and a realistic and identifiable contribution to community betterment.

4. $28,024.

5. Two hundred and seventy-seven man-weeks of employment.

LIP—APPLICATION FOR GRANT RELATING TO PROJECT No. H-4067

Question No. 1,257—**Mr. Beaudoin:**

1. On what date did the government receive an application for a grant under LIP concerning project No. H-4067?

2. On what date was the application either approved or refused?

3. What were the reasons set forth by the government for its refusal or approval of said project?

4. If the project was accepted, what was the amount granted by the government to finance it?

5. How many jobs were created by the implementation of this project?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. December 11, 1972.

2. Rejected on January 12, 1973.

3. The Department received a far greater number of applications than funds were available for. All applications were carefully assessed and many difficult decisions not to approve had to be made.

4. N/A.

5. N/A.

LIP—APPLICATION FOR GRANT RELATING TO PROJECT No. H-3949

Question No. 1,258—**Mr. Beaudoin:**

1. On what date did the government receive an application for a grant under LIP concerning project No. H-3949?

2. On what date was the application either approved or refused?

3. What were the reasons set forth by the government for its refusal or approval of said project?

4. If the project was accepted, what was the amount granted by the government to finance it?

5. How many jobs were created by the implementation of this project?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. December 8, 1972.

2. Rejected on February 20, 1973.

3. The Department received a far greater number of applications than funds were available for. All applications were carefully assessed and many difficult decisions not to approve had to be made.

4. N/A.

5. N/A.

LIP—APPLICATION FOR GRANT RELATING TO PROJECT No. H-3922

Question No. 1,259—**Mr. Beaudoin:**

1. On what date did the government receive an application for a grant under LIP concerning project No. H-3922?

2. On what date was the application either approved or refused?

3. What were the reasons set forth by the government for its refusal or approval of said project?

4. If the project was accepted, what was the amount granted by the government to finance it?

5. How many jobs were created by the implementation of this project?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. December 8, 1972.

2. Rejected on February 22, 1973.

3. The Department received a far greater number of applications than funds were available for. All applications were carefully assessed and many difficult decisions not to approve had to be made.

4. N/A.

5. N/A.

LIP—APPLICATION FOR GRANT RELATING TO PROJECT No. H-3850

Question No. 1,260—**Mr. Beaudoin:**

1. On what date did the government receive an application for a grant under LIP concerning project No. H-3850?

2. On what date was the application either approved or refused?

3. What were the reasons set forth by the government for its refusal or approval of said project?

4. If the project was accepted, what was the amount granted by the government to finance it?

5. How many jobs were created by the implementation of this project?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. December 6, 1972.

2. Rejected on January 5, 1973.

3. The Department received a far greater number of applications than funds were available for. All applications were carefully assessed and many difficult decisions not to approve had to be made.

4. N/A.

5. N/A.

LIP—APPLICATION FOR GRANT RELATING TO PROJECT No. H-3686

Question No. 1,261—**Mr. Beaudoin:**

1. On what date did the government receive an application for a grant under LIP concerning project No. H-3686?

2. On what date was the application either approved or refused?

3. What were the reasons set forth by the government for its refusal or approval of said project?

4. If the project was accepted, what was the amount granted by the government to finance it?

5. How many jobs were created by the implementation of this project?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. December 5, 1972.

2. Rejected on February 26, 1973.

3. The Department received a far greater number of applications than funds were available for. All applications were carefully assessed and many difficult decisions not to approve had to be made.

4. N/A.

5. N/A.

LIP—APPLICATION FOR GRANT RELATING TO PROJECT No. H-3627

Question No. 1,262—**Mr. Beaudoin:**

1. On what date did the government receive an application for a grant under LIP concerning project No. H-3627?

2. On what date was the application either approved or refused?

3. What were the reasons set forth by the government for its refusal or approval of said project?

4. If the project was accepted, what was the amount granted by the government to finance it?

5. How many jobs were created by the implementation of this project?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. November 29, 1972.

2. Rejected on January 11, 1973.

3. The Department received a far greater number of applications than funds were available for. All applications were carefully assessed and many difficult decisions not to approve had to be made.

4. N/A.

5. N/A.

LIP—APPLICATION FOR GRANT RELATING TO PROJECT No. H-3602

Question No. 1,263—**Mr. Beaudoin:**

1. On what date did the government receive an application for a grant under LIP concerning project No. H-3602?

2. On what date was the application either approved or refused?

3. What were the reasons set forth by the government for its refusal or approval of said project?

4. If the project was accepted, what was the amount granted by the government to finance it?

5. How many jobs were created by the implementation of this project?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. December 5, 1972.

2. Rejected on February 2, 1973.

3. The Department received a far greater number of applications than funds were available for. All applications were carefully assessed and many difficult decisions not to approve had to be made.

4. N/A.

5. N/A.

LIP—APPLICATION FOR GRANT RELATING TO PROJECT No. H-3436

Question No. 1,264—**Mr. Beaudoin:**

1. On what date did the government receive an application for a grant under LIP concerning project No. H-3436?

2. On what date was the application either approved or refused?

3. What were the reasons set forth by the government for its refusal or approval of said project?

4. If the project was accepted, what was the amount granted by the government to finance it?

5. How many jobs were created by the implementation of this project?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. December 1, 1972.

2. Rejected on January 5, 1973.

3. The Department received a far greater number of applications than funds were available for. All applications were carefully assessed and many difficult decisions not to approve had to be made.

4. N/A.

5. N/A.

LIP—APPLICATION FOR GRANT RELATING TO PROJECT No. H-3429

Question No. 1,265—**Mr. Beaudoin:**

1. On what date did the government receive an application for a grant under LIP concerning project No. H-3429?

2. On what date was the application either approved or refused?

3. What were the reasons set forth by the government for its refusal or approval of said project?

4. If the project was accepted, what was the amount granted by the government to finance it?

5. How many jobs were created by the implementation of this project?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. December 1, 1972.

2. Approved on February 6, 1973.

3. One of those projects that best combine the dual objectives of job creation and a realistic and identifiable contribution to community betterment.

4. $11,232.

5. Ninety-six man-weeks.

LIP—APPLICATION FOR GRANT RELATING TO PROJECT No. H-3407

Question No. 1,266—**Mr. Beaudoin:**

1. On what date did the government receive an application for a grant under LIP concerning project No. H-3407?

2. On what date was the application either approved or refused?

3. What were the reasons set forth by the government for its refusal or appoval of said project?

4. If the project was accepted, what was the amount granted by the government to finance it?

5. How many jobs were created by the implementation of this project?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. November 30, 1972.

2. Approved on February 6, 1973.

3. One of those projects that best combine the dual objectives of job creation and a realistic and identifiable contribution to community betterment.

4. $40,248.

5. Three hundred and forty-four man-weeks.

LIP—APPLICATION FOR GRANT RELATING TO PROJECT No. H-3369

Question No. 1,267—**Mr. Beaudoin:**

1. On what date did the government receive an application for a grant under LIP concerning project No. H-3369?

2. On what date was the application either approved or refused?

3. What were the reasons set forth by the government for its refusal or approval of said project?

4. If the project was accepted, what was the amount granted by the government to finance it?

5. How many jobs were created by the implementation of this project?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. November 30, 1972.

2. Rejected on February 6, 1973.

3. The Department received a far greater number of applications than funds were available for. All applications were carefully assessed and many difficult decisions not to approve had to be made.

4. N/A.

5. N/A.

LIP—APPLICATION FOR GRANT RELATING TO PROJECT
No. H-3368

Question No. 1,268—**Mr. Beaudoin:**

1. On what date did the government receive an application for a grant under LIP concerning project No. H-3368?

2. On what date was the application either approved or refused?

3. What were the reasons set forth by the government for its refusal or approval of said project?

4. If the project was accepted, what was the amount granted by the government to finance it?

5. How many jobs were created by the implementation of this project?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. November 30, 1972.

2. Rejected on February 6, 1973.

3. The Department received a far greater number of applications than funds were available for. All applications were carefully assessed and many difficult decisions not to approve had to be made.

4. N/A.

5. N/A.

LIP—APPLICATION FOR GRANT RELATING TO PROJECT
No. H-3366

Question No. 1,269—**Mr. Beaudoin:**

1. On what date did the government receive an application for a grant under LIP concerning project No. H-3366?

2. On what date was the application either approved or refused?

3. What were the reasons set forth by the government for its refusal or approval of said project?

4. If the project was accepted, what was the amount granted by the government to finance it?

5. How many jobs were created by the implementation of this project?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. November 30, 1972.

2. Rejected on February 6, 1973.

3. The Department received a far greater number of applications than funds were available for. All applications were carefully assessed and many difficult decisions not to approve had to be made.

4. N/A.

5. N/A.

LIP—APPLICATION FOR GRANT RELATING TO PROJECT
No. H-2505

Question No. 1,297—**Mr. Allard:**

1. On what date did the government receive an application for a grant under LIP concerning project No. H-2505?

2. On what date was the application either approved of refused?

3. What were the reasons set forth by the government for its refusal or approval of said project?

4. If the project was accepted, what was the amount granted by the government to finance it?

5. How many jobs were created by the implementation of this project?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. November 21, 1972.

2. Approved on January 3, 1973.

3. One of those projects that best combine the dual objectives of job creation and a realistic and identifiable contribution to community betterment.

4. $59,636.

5. Five hundred and twenty man-weeks.

LIP—APPLICATION FOR GRANT RELATING TO PROJECT
No. H-6109

Question No. 1,298—**Mr. Allard:**

1. On what date did the government receive an application for a grant under LIP concerning project No. H-6109?

2. On what date was the application either approved or refused?

3. What were the reasons set forth by the government for its refusal or approval of said project?

4. If the project was accepted, what was the amount granted by the government to finance it?

5. How many jobs were created by the implementation of this project?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. December 20, 1972.

2. Rejected on February 22, 1973.

3. The Department received a far greater number of application than funds were available for. All applications were carefully assessed and many difficult decisions not to approve had to be made.

4. N/A.

5. N/A.

LIP—APPLICATION FOR GRANT RELATING TO PROJECT
No. H-4733

Question No. 1,299—**Mr. Allard:**

1. On what date did the government receive an application for a grant under LIP concerning project No. H-4733?

2. On what date was the application either approved or refused?

3. What were the reasons set forth by the government for its refusal or approval of said project?

4. If the project was accepted, what was the amount granted by the government to finance it?

5. How many jobs were created by the implementation of this project?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. December 21, 1972.

2. Approved on February 2, 1973.

3. One of those projects that best combine the dual objectives of job creation and a realistic and identifiable contribution to community betterment.

4. $16,710.

5. One hundred and forty-three man-weeks.

LIP—APPLICATION FOR GRANT RELATING TO PROJECT No. H-4214

Question No. 1,303—**Mr. Allard:**

1. On what date did the government receive an application for a grant under LIP concerning project No. H-2414?

2. On what date was the application either approved or refused?

3. What were the reasons set forth by the government for its refusal or approval of said project?

4. If the project was accepted, what was the amount granted by the government to finance it?

5. How many jobs were created by the implementation of this project?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. December 12, 1972.

2. Rejected on February 7, 1973.

3. The Department received a far greater number of applications than funds were available for. All applications were carefully assessed and many difficult decisions not to approve had to be made.

4. N/A.

5. N/A.

LIP—APPLICATION FOR GRANT RELATING TO PROJECT No. H-4613

Question No. 1,304—**Mr. Allard:**

1. On what date did the government receive an application for a grant under LIP concerning project No. H-4613?

2. On what date was the application either approved or refused?

3. What were the reasons set forth by the government for its refusal or approval of said project?

4. If the project was accepted, what was the amount granted by the government to finance it?

5. How many jobs were created by the implementation of this project?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. December 20, 1972.

2. Rejected on March 8, 1973.

3. The Department received a far greater number of applications than funds were available for. All applications were carefully assessed and many difficult decisions not to approve had to be made.

4. N/A.

5. N/A.

LIP—APPLICATION FOR GRANT RELATING TO PROJECT No. H-4612

Question No. 1,305—**Mr. Allard:**

1. On what date did the government receive an application for a grant under LIP concerning project No. H-4612?

2. On what date was the application either approved or refused?

3. What were the reasons set forth by the government for its refusal or approval of said project?

4. If the project was accepted, what was the amount granted by the government to finance it?

5. How many jobs were created by the implementation of this project?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. December 20, 1972.

2. Rejected on February 7, 1973.

3. The Department received a far greater number of applications than funds were available for. All applications were carefully assessed and many difficult decisions not to approve had to be made.

4. N/A.

5. N/A.

LIP—APPLICATION FOR GRANT RELATING TO PROJECT No. H-4611

Question No. 1,306—**Mr. Allard:**

1. On what date did the government receive an application for a grant under LIP concerning project No. H-4611?

2. On what date was the application either approved or refused?

3. What were the reasons set forth by the government for its refusal or approval of said project?

4. If the project was accepted, what was the amount granted by the government to finance it?

5. How many jobs were created by the implementation of this project?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. December 20, 1972.

2. Rejected on February 7, 1973.

3. The Department received a far greater number of applications than funds were available for. All applications were carefully assessed and many difficult decisions not to approve had to be made.

4. N/A.

5. N/A.

LIP—APPLICATION FOR GRANT RELATING TO PROJECT No. H-4308

Question No. 1,307—**Mr. Allard:**

1. On what date did the government receive an application for a grant under LIP concerning project No. H-4308?

2. On what date was the application either approved or refused?

3. What were the reasons set forth by the government for its refusal or approval of said project?

4. If the project was accepted, what was the amount granted by the government to finance it?

5. How many jobs were created by the implementation of this project?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. December 14, 1972.

2. Rejected on February 7, 1973.

3. The Department received a far greater number of applications than funds were available for. All applications were carefully assessed and many difficult decisions not to approve had to be made.

4. N/A.

5. N/A.

LIP—APPLICATION FOR GRANT RELATING TO PROJECT No. H-6053

Question No. 1,308—**Mr. Allard:**

1. On what date did the government receive an application for a grant under LIP concerning project No. H-6053?

2. On what date was the application either approved or refused?

3. What were the reasons set forth by the government for its refusal or approval of said project?

4. If the project was accepted, what was the amount granted by the government to finance it?

5. How many jobs were created by the implementation of this project?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. January 10, 1973.

2. Rejected on February 19, 1973.

3. The Department received a far greater number of applications than funds were available for. All applications were carefully assessed and many difficult decisions not to approve had to be made.

4. N/A.

5. N/A.

LIP—APPLICATION FOR GRANT RELATING TO PROJECT No. H-6315

Question No. 1,309—**Mr. Allard:**

1. On what date did the government receive an application for a grant under LIP concerning project No. H-6315?

2. On what date was the application either approved or refused?

3. What were the reasons set forth by the government for its refusal or approval of said project?

4. If the project was accepted, what was the amount granted by the government to finance it?

5. How many jobs were created by the implementation of this project?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. January 12, 1973.

2. Rejected on February 19, 1973.

3. The Department received a far greater number of applications than funds were available for. All applications were carefully assessed and many difficult decisions not to approve had to be made.

4. N/A.

5. N/A.

LIP—APPLICATION FOR GRANT RELATING TO PROJECT No. H-6316

Question No. 1,310—**Mr. Allard:**

1. On what date did the government receive an application for a grant under LIP concerning project No. H-6316?

2. On what date was the application either approved or refused?

3. What were the reasons set forth by the government for its refusal or approval of said project?

4. If the project was accepted, what was the amount granted by the government to finance it?

5. How many jobs were created by the implementation of this project?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. January 12, 1973.

2. Withdrawn by sponsor January 30, 1973.

3. N/A.

4. N/A.

5. N/A.

LIP—APPLICATION FOR GRANT RELATING TO PROJECT No. H-6284

Question No. 1,311—**Mr. Allard:**

1. On what date did the government receive an application for a grant under LIP concerning project No. H-6284?

2. On what date was the application either approved or refused?

3. What were the reasons set forth by the government for its refusal or approval of said project?

4. If the project was accepted, what was the amount granted by the government to finance it?

5. How many jobs were created by the implementation of this project?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. January 12, 1973.

2. Approved on February 20, 1973.

3. One of those projects that best combine the dual objectives of job creation and a realistic and identifiable contribution to community betterment.

4. $9,477.

5. Eighty-one man-weeks.

LIP—APPLICATION FOR GRANT RELATING TO PROJECT No. H-6298

Question No. 1,318—**Mr. Allard:**

1. On what date did the government receive an application for a grant under LIP concerning project No. H-6298?

2. On what date was the application either approved or refused?

3. What were the reasons set forth by the government for its refusal or approval of said project?

4. If the project was accepted, what was the amount granted by the government to finance it?

5. How many jobs were created by the implementation of this project?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. January 12, 1973.

2. Approved on February 13, 1973.

3. One of those projects that best combine the dual objectives of job creation and a realistic and identifiable contribution to community betterment.

4. $21,060.

5. One hundred and eighty man-weeks.

LIP—APPLICATION FOR GRANT RELATING TO PROJECT No. H-6274

Question No. 1,321—**Mr. Allard:**

1. On what date did the government receive an application for a grant under LIP concerning project No. H-6274?

2. On what date was the application either approved or refused?

3. What were the reasons set forth by the government for its refusal or approval of said project?

4. If the project was accepted, what was the amount granted by the government to finance it?

5. How many jobs were created by the implementation of this project?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. January 12, 1973.

2. Approved on February 9, 1973.

3. One of those projects that best combine the dual objectives of job creation and a realistic and identifiable contribution to community betterment.

4. $16,029.

5. One hundred and thirty-seven man-weeks.

LIP—APPLICATION FOR GRANT RELATING TO PROJECT No. H-6318

Question No. 1,322—**Mr. Allard:**

1. On what date did the government receive an application for a grant under LIP concerning project No. H-6318?

2. On what date was the application either approved or refused?

3. What were the reasons set forth by the government for its refusal or approval of said project?

4. If the project was accepted, what was the amount granted by the government to finance it?

5. How many jobs were created by the implementation of this project?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. January 12, 1973.

2. Approved on February 21, 1973.

3. One of those projects that best combine the dual objectives of job creation and a realistic and identifiable contribution to community betterment.

4. $12,870.

5. One hundred and ten man-weeks.

LIP—APPLICATION FOR GRANT RELATING TO PROJECT No. H-3964

Question No. 1,324—**Mr. Allard:**

1. On what date did the government receive an application for a grant under LIP concerning project No. H-3964?

2. On what date was the application either approved or refused?

3. What were the reasons set forth by the government for its refusal or approval of said project?

4. If the project was accepted, what was the amount granted by the government to finance it?

5. How many jobs were created by the implementation of this project?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. December 8, 1972.

2. Approved on January 25, 1973.

3. One of those projects that best combine the dual objectives of job creation and a realistic and identifiable contribution to community betterment.

4. $29,219.

5. Two hundred and fifty-two man-weeks.

LIP—APPLICATION FOR GRANT RELATING TO PROJECT No. H-3269

Question No. 1,331—**Mr. Allard:**

1. On what date did the government receive an application for a grant under LIP concerning project No. H-3269?

2. On what date was the application either approved or refused?

3. What were the reasons set forth by the government for its refusal or approval of said project?

4. If the project was accepted, what was the amount granted by the government to finance it?

5. How many jobs were created by the implementation of this project?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. November 29, 1972.

2. Approved on January 29, 1973.

3. One of those projects that best combine the dual objectives of job creation and a realistic and identifiable contribution to community betterment.

4. $103,251.

5. Nine hundred and twenty-four man-weeks.

LIP—APPLICATION FOR GRANT RELATING TO PROJECT No. H-3413

Question No. 1,333—**Mr. Allard:**

1. On what date did the government receive an application for a grant under LIP concerning project No. H-3413?

2. On what date was the application either approved or refused?

3. What were the reasons set forth by the government for its refusal or approval of said project?

4. If the project was accepted, what was the amount granted by the government to finance it?

5. How many jobs were created by the implementation of this project?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. November 27, 1972.

2. Approved on January 5, 1973.

3. One of those projects that best combine the dual objectives of job creation and a realistic and identifiable contribution to community betterment.

4. $29,123.

5. One hundred and thirty-one man-weeks.

LIP—APPLICATION FOR GRANT RELATING TO PROJECT No. H-3156

Question No. 1,335—**Mr. Allard:**

1. On what date did the government receive an application for a grant under LIP concerning project No. H-3156?

2. On what date was the application either approved or refused?

3. What were the reasons set forth by the government for its refusal or approval of said project?

4. If the project was accepted, what was the amount granted by the government to finance it?

5. How many jobs were created by the implementation of this project?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. November 27, 1972.

2. Approved on January 5, 1973.

3. One of those projects that best combine the dual objectives of job creation and a realistic and identifiable contribution to community betterment.

4. $21,530.

5. One hundred and eighty-six man-weeks.

LIP—APPLICATION FOR GRANT RELATING TO PROJECT No. H-3727

Question No. 1,337—**Mr. Allard:**

1. On what date did the government receive an application for a grant under LIP concerning project No. H-3727?

2. On what date was the application either approved or refused?

3. What were the reasons set forth by the government for its refusal or approval of said project?

4. If the project was accepted, what was the amount granted by the government to finance it?

5. How many jobs were created by the implementation of this project?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. November 28, 1972.

2. Approved on January 12, 1973.

3. One of those projects that best combine the dual objectives of job creation and a realistic and identifiable contribution to community betterment.

4. $26,442.

5. Two hundred and twenty-six man-weeks.

LIP—APPLICATION FOR GRANT RELATING TO PROJECT No. H-3966

Question No. 1,340—**Mr. Allard:**

1. On what date did the government receive an application for a grant under LIP concerning project No. H-3966?

2. On what date was the application either approved or refused?

3. What were the reasons set forth by the government for its refusal or approval of said project?

4. If the project was accepted, what was the amount granted by the government to finance it?

5. How many jobs were created by the implementation of this project?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. December 11, 1972.

2. Approved on January 25, 1973.

3. One of the projects that best combine the dual objectives of job creation and a realistic and identifiable contribution to community betterment.

4. $20,249.

5. One hundred and eighty-one man-weeks.

LIP—APPLICATION FOR GRANT RELATING TO PROJECT No. H-3732

Question No. 1,342—**Mr. Allard:**

1. On what date did the government receive an application for a grant under LIP concerning project No. H-3732?

2. On what date was the application either approved or refused?

3. What were the reasons set forth by the government for its refusal or approval of said project?

4. If the project was accepted, what was the amount granted by the government to finance it?

5. How many jobs were created by the implementation of this project?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. December 5, 1972.

2. Approved on February 9, 1973.

3. One of those projects that best combine the dual objectives of job creation and a realistic and identifiable contribution to community betterment.

4. $70,200.

5. Six hundred man-weeks.

LIP—APPLICATION FOR GRANT RELATING TO PROJECT No. H-3414

Question No. 1,343—**Mr. Allard:**

1. On what date did the government receive an application for a grant under LIP concerning project No. H-3414?

2. On what date was the application either approved or refused?

3. What were the reasons set forth by the government for its refusal or approval of said project?

4. If the project was accepted, what was the amount granted by the government to finance it?

5. How many jobs were created by the implementation of this project?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. November 30, 1972.

2. Approved on January 25, 1973.

3. One of those projects that best combine the dual objectives of job creation and a realistic and identifiable contribution to community betterment.

4. $55,123.

5. Five hundred and thirteen man-weeks.

LIP—APPLICATION FOR GRANT RELATING TO PROJECT No. H-1886

Question No. 1,344—**Mr. Allard:**

1. On what date did the government receive an application for a grant under LIP concerning project No. H-1886?

2. On what date was the application either approved or refused?

3. What were the reasons set forth by the government for its refusal or approval of said project?

4. If the project was accepted, what was the amount granted by the government to finance it?

5. How many jobs were created by the implementation of this project?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. November 10, 1972.

2. Approved on December 1, 1972.

3. One of those projects that best combine the dual objectives of job creation and a realistic and identifiable contribution to community betterment.

4. $106,470.

5. Nine hundred and ten man-weeks.

LIP—APPLICATION FOR GRANT RELATING TO PROJECT No. H-2031

Question No. 1,347—**Mr. Allard:**

1. On what date did the government receive an application for a grant under LIP concerning project No. H-2031?

2. On what date was the application either approved or refused?

3. What were the reasons set forth by the government for its refusal or approval of said project?

4. If the project was accepted, what was the amount granted by the government to finance it?

5. How many jobs were created by the implementation of this project?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. November 15, 1972.

2. Approved on December 13, 1972.

3. One of those projects that best combine the dual objectives of job creation and a realistic and identifiable contribution to community betterment.

4. $70,663.

5. Six hundred and four man-weeks.

LIP—APPLICATION FOR GRANT RELATING TO PROJECT No. H-2661

Question No. 1,352—**Mr. Allard:**

1. On what date did the government receive an application for a grant under LIP concerning project No. H-2661?

2. On what date was the application either approved or refused?

3. What were the reasons set forth by the government for its refusal or approval of said project?

4. If the project was accepted, what was the amount granted by the government to finance it?

5. How many jobs were created by the implementation of this project?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. November 22, 1972.

2. Approved on January 17, 1973.

3. One of those projects that best combine the dual objectives of job creation and a realistic and identifiable contribution to community betterment.

4. $199,507.

5. One thousand seven hundred and eighty-six man-weeks.

LIP—APPLICATION FOR GRANT RELATING TO PROJECT No. H-2021

Question No. 1,353—**Mr. Allard:**

1. On what date did the government receive an application for a grant under LIP concerning project No. H-2021?

2. On what date was the application either approved or refused?

3. What were the reasons set forth by the government for its refusal or approval of said project?

4. If the project was accepted, what was the amount granted by the government to finance it?

5. How many jobs were created by the implementation of this project?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. November 15, 1972.

2. Rejected on January 23, 1973.

3. The Department received a far greater number of applications than funds were available for. All applications were carefully assessed and many difficult decisions not to approve had to be made.

4. N/A.

5. N/A.

LIP—APPLICATION FOR GRANT RELATING TO PROJECT No. H-2612

Question No. 1,354—**Mr. Allard:**

1. On what date did the government receive an application for a grant under LIP concerning project No. H-2612?

2. On what date was the application either approved or refused?

3. What were the reasons set forth by the government for its refusal or approval of said project?

4. If the project was accepted, what was the amount granted by the government to finance it?

5. How many jobs were created by the implementation of this project?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. November 21, 1972.

2. Rejected on January 12, 1973.

3. The Department received a far greater number of applications than funds were available for. All applications were carefully assessed and many difficult decisions not to approve had to be made.

4. N/A.

5. N/A.

LIP—APPLICATION FOR GRANT RELATING TO PROJECT No. H-2511

Question No. 1,355—**Mr. Allard:**

1. On what date did the government receive an application for a grant under LIP concerning project No. H-2511?

2. On what date was the application either approved or refused?

3. What were the reasons set forth by the government for its refusal or approval of said project?

4. If the project was accepted, what was the amount granted by the government to finance it?

5. How many jobs were created by the implementation of this project?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. November 21, 1972.

2. Rejected on February 22, 1973.

3. The Department received a far greater number of applications than funds were available for. All applications were carefully assessed and many difficult decisions not to approve had to be made.

4. N/A.

5. N/A.

LIP—APPLICATION FOR GRANT RELATING TO PROJECT No. H-2513

Question No. 1,356—**Mr. Allard:**

1. On what date did the government receive an application for a grant under LIP concerning project No. H-2513?

2. On what date was the application either approved or refused?

3. What were the reasons set forth by the government for its refusal or approval of said project?

4. If the project was accepted, what was the amount granted by the government to finance it?

5. How many jobs were created by the implementation of this project?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. November 21, 1972.

2. Rejected on February 22, 1973.

3. The Department received a far greater number of applications than funds were available for. All applications were carefully assessed and many difficult decisions not to approve had to be made.

4. N/A.

5. N/A.

LIP—APPLICATION FOR GRANT RELATING TO PROJECT No. H-2822

Question No. 1,357—**Mr. Allard:**

1. On what date did the government receive an application for a grant under LIP concerning project No. H-2822?

2. On what date was the application either approved or refused?

3. What were the reasons set forth by the government for its refusal or approval of said project?

4. If the project was accepted, what was the amount granted by the government to finance it?

5. How many jobs were created by the implementation of this project?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. November 23, 1972.

2. Rejected on January 17, 1973.

3. The Department received a far greater number of applications than funds were available for. All applications were carefully assessed and many difficult decisions not to approve had to be made.

4. N/A.

5. N/A.

GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS—INCREASE IN OFFICE SPACE

Question No. 1,388—**Mr. Orlikow:**

1. In the past ten years, how much new office space, by square foot, have government departments (department by department) increased their office space (a) in Ottawa (b) outside Ottawa?

2. Of this space, how much is in (a) buildings owned by the government (b) privately-owned buildings?

3. Of the space in government-owned buildings, what was the cost of building construction per square foot, and what is the actual cost of maintenance per building per square foot?

4. Of the space occupied in rented buildings, what is the actual rental per square foot and what is the cost to the government of maintenance per square foot?

5. For what period is the government committed to remain and to pay rent in the buildings in which they have rented quarters?

6. Does the government assume financial responsibility for structural and decorating costs of rented space?

Hon. Jean-Eudes Dubé (Minister of Public Works): The information is not available to provide an accurate answer to this question. The costs in manpower and time to undertake the very large amount of work which would be required to gather such detailed data as is obtainable for the period covered by the question, would be prohibitive.

GRANTS TO SEA ISLAND RATEPAYERS ASSOCIATION UNDER NATIONAL HOUSING ACT

Question No. 1,702—**Mr. Reynolds:**

Has the Minister of State for Urban Affairs reached a decision yet on last year's request (renewed from 1970), on behalf of the Sea Island Ratepayers Association for financial assistance to carry out studies on the future of Burkeville subdivision?

Hon. Ron Basford (Minister of State for Urban Affairs): See the answer to question number 1,066.

IMMIGRATION APPEAL BOARD HEARINGS

Question No. 1,721—**Mr. Saltsman:**

1. (a) Of the number of cases waiting to be heard by the Immigration Appeal Board, how many of those cases arose as a result of people entering Canada as visitors (b) what countries, by numbers, were these visitors from?

2. What does the government intend to do about the backlog of cases before the Immigration Appeal Board?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. (a) and (b) The records of the Immigration Appeal Board are not maintained in such a manner as to provide the statistics requested. To provide accurate information would involve the physical search of each individual file for over 14,000 cases for which the hiring of additional staff would be necessary.

2. The matter is under consideration and when a decision is made it will be announced in the usual manner.

Order Paper Questions

SALARY PAID TO MR. PETER CONNOLLY, OCTOBER 30, 1972 TO MARCH 31, 1973

Question No. 1,754—**Mr. Cossitt:**

1. How much money has been paid by the government, before any deductions at source, in the nature of salary, honorarium or retainers to Mr. Peter Connolly between October 30, 1972 and up to and including March 31, 1973?

2. Has any money been paid to Mr. Peter Connolly as an expense allowance of any kind whatsoever and, if so (a) what is the total amount of such expenses paid (b) what is the exact description of each expense and the amount involved in each case?

Mr. John M. Reid (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): 1. Mr. Peter Connolly received a salary of $689.98 from the Department of Manpower and Immigration for the period November 6, 1972 to November 17, 1972 and a salary of $4,063.19 from the Department of Consumer and Corporate Affairs for the period December 15, 1972 to March 31, 1973, based on an annual salary scale of $17,500 to $20,000.

2. No, in so far as the Department of Manpower and Immigration is concerned: (a) and (b), not applicable. In so far as the Department of Consumer and Corporate Affairs is concerned: (a) Total expenses, $435.80; (b) Travel expenses, $321.70; hospitality expenses, $114.10.

DEPARTMENT OF SOLICITOR GENERAL—PERSONNEL OF SECURITY PLANNING AND RESEARCH GROUP

Question No. 1,769—**Mr. Cossitt:**

Who were the previous employers during the past five years of those persons listed in the answer to Question No, 1,287 as comprising the personnel of the Police and Security Planning and Analysis Group in the Department of the Solicitor General and what was the nature of their work with such employers?

Hon. Warren Allmand (Solicitor General): Information concerning employers in the private sector is personal information which may be disclosed by the individuals themselves if they so wish. In so far as government employment is concerned, the following is provided:

Name	Dates	Employer	Nature of Work
J. Armit	1968-72	Private Sector	Industrial Security
P. Banning	1968-71	R.C.M.P.	Police Officer
R. Bourne	1968-71	Privy Council Office	Defence and Foreign Affairs
L. Cloutier	1968-72	Department of National Defence	Security Branch
W. Dabros	1968-71	Department of National Defence	Staff Officer
R. Gaudet	1968-69	Private Sector	Sociology
		Statistics Canada	Research Officer
R. Harris	1968-72	Private Sector	Economics/Business
L. Lagace	1968-71	Private Sector	Stenographer
	1971-72	Department of National Health and Welfare	Stenographer
G. McCully	1968-73	R.C.M.P.	Police Officer
E. Tack	1968-73	Department of National Defence	Office Manager
M. Valenti	1968-70	Private Sector	Stenographer
	1970-72	National Museums	Stenographer
N. Villeneuve	1968-71	Canadian Penitentiary Service	Clerk
	1970-72	Department of the Solicitor General Headquarters	Clerk
P. Wallace	1968-72	Private Sector	Book Publishing/History
G. Wilkinson	1968-72	Department of External Affairs	Security Branch

NEW HORIZONS PROGRAM

Question No. 1,791—**Mr. Lambert (Bellechasse):**

1. Since the implementation of the New Horizons Program (a) what was the total amount spent by the Department of National Health and Welfare (b) what amount was spent in each province?

2. What were the estimates for this purpose for the fiscal years 1971-72 and 1972-73?

3. (a) To date, how many projects were received throughout Canada (b) how many projects were received from each province (c) how many projects have been approved to date (d) how many in each province?

Order Paper Questions

Hon. Marc Lalonde (Minister of National Health and Welfare): The following answers are as of March 31, 1973: 1. (a) Since its establishment, the New Horizons Program has awarded $3,387,631 in grants; (b) See statement following.

2. The New Horizons Program, which became operational in mid-September 1972, is a 3-year experimental program. It has been allocated a total of $30,000,000 for both project and administrative expenses; this $30,000,000 is to be spent over the 3-year period:

3. (a) 1,629; (b) See statement following; (c) 493; (d) See statement following.

Provinces	1(b) $ Granted $	3(b) Projects Received	3(d) Projects Approved
Newfoundland	73,589	17	9
P.E.I.	29,946	16	10
Nova Scotia	237,853	57	18
New Brunswick	207,140	62	29
Quebec	848,691	565	126
Ontario	984,217	402	137
Manitoba	206,132	94	31
Saskatchewan	176,544	112	33
Alberta	240,173	105	36
British Columbia	374,210	196	62
Yukon	0	0	0
N.W.T.	9,136	3	2

HOUSING OWNED BY CMHC

Question No. 1,793—**Mr. Godin:**

1. Throughout Canada, how many (a) single family dwellings (b) semi-detached duplexes (c) apartment buildings (d) rental housing are owned by Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation?

2. How many dwelling units are involved in such dwellings or buildings and what is their total value?

3. How many dwellings or buildings of each category had to be repossessed by CMHC over the past five years, owing to contractors' bankruptcies?

4. In each province what is the total value of all dwellings and buildings seized under such circumstances and at what civic address are these houses or buildings located?

Hon. Ron Basford (Minister of State for Urban Affairs): 1. Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation keeps it records on the basis of the number of housing units, all of which are for rental purposes. The number owned by CMHC or administered by it on behalf of various insurance funds, under the National Housing Act as December 31, 1972, are given in the table following:

Number of Housing Units

	Corporation owned	Administered on behalf of Insurance Funds	Total
Single houses	527	988	1,515
Row houses	2,468	270	2,738
Apartments	6,413	2,478	8,891
Total	9,408	3,736	13,144

[Mr. Lambert (Bellechasse).]

2. The number of dwelling units is given in 1 above, and their book value at December 31, 1972, was: (a) Corporation-owned, $48,455,000; (b) administered on behalf of Insurance Funds, $30,182,000.

3. All repossessions arise from financial difficulties of one kind or another on the part of the borrowers, some of which have involved the bankruptcies of contractors. It is not possible, from information available, to identify those cases of repossessions where bankruptcy was the primary cause.

4. Not applicable; see 3 above.

CORA BROWN AND McDONALD SUBDIVISION—OBJECTIONS TO EXPROPRIATION

Question No. 1,847—**Mr. Reynolds:**

1. Is it the intention of the Minister of Public Works to table all the transcripts of objections to the expropriation of the Cora Brown and McDonald Subdivision and, if so, on what date?

2. Did the Minister accept any recommendations and, if not (a) for what reasons (b) were the people involved so informed?

Hon. Jean-Eudes Dubé (Minister of Public Works): 1. No. The Hearing Officer's report was tabled April 2, 1973 and summarizes the objections. Therefore it is not considered necessary to table the transcript, which is quite voluminous and for which translation and tabling procedures would be costly and time-consuming. The transcript is available in the department and may be examined by arrangement.

2. No recommendations were made in the Hearing Officer's report and none is required by the Act, the duties of the Hearing Officer and the nature of his report were explained to the people who were present at the Public Hearing. The two main objections were: (a) That the municipally-owned boat launching site not be expropriated; (b) That extensive environmental studies be carried out before building a new runway. Both of these objections were satisfied. The boat launching site was not expropriated and a complete study of the effects of a new runway is being made.

MR. PAUL MASON

Question No. 1,867—**Mr. Bawden:**

1. Was a Minister's permit issued to enable Mr. Paul Mason to enter Canada?

2. Did Mr. Paul Mason enter Canada under such a permit?

3. If a permit was issued, what were the special circumstances that made it impossible or inconvenient for Mr. Mason to seek admission in the ordinary way?

Hon. Robert K. Andras (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. No. A Minister's Permit was, however, issued to allow Mr. Mason to remain in Canada.

2. No.

3. It is not in the public interest to divulge this information.

CBC AND NFB—PRODUCTION OF THIRD LANGUAGE FILMS

Question No. 1,909—**Mr. Yewchuk:**

1. How many films in non-official languages are presently in the (a) planning stage (b) production stage at the National Film Board?

2. How many are scheduled to be available for distribution in two years time?

3. To date, how many submissions regarding the making of films have been submitted to the National Film Board by ethno-cultural groups in Canada?

4. Has the National Film Board prepared any short films or feature films in languages other than French or English and (a) if not, does it intend to do so this year (b) if so (i) how were the ethnic groups concerned involved in this production (ii) were they consulted?

5. Will such films be shown with sub-titles in English and/or French and, if not, for what reasons?

6. To date, has any consideration been given by CBC to provide films and produce radio programs in languages other than English and French and, if not, for what reasons?

Hon. James Hugh Faulkner (Secretary of State): I am informed by the National Film Board and Canadian Broadcasting Corporation as follows: 1. (a) As part of the Multicultural Program, the National Film Board is producing original films about ethnic populations in both official languages only. English: 1 complete; 3 in production; 5 in planning stage; French: 1 in production; 1 in planning stage; In almost every case, members of the ethnic group involved play a key part in the planning and production. Liaison with Ethnic Associations is direct and also through the Citizens' Cultures Division, Secretary of State Department. (b) Foreign language version program: This is a long-time program at NFB in which films produced originally in the official languages are versioned into non-official languages. The titles are selected after consultation with the Department of External Affairs and intended for distribution abroad. However, under the multicultural program, the National Film Board recently conducted a survey in Canada to determine which ethno-cultural groups wish to have NFB films in their ancestral language and which subject areas were of interest to the various groups. Well over 1,000 ethnic associations and groups were contacted during this survey. As a result, prints of films already available in non-official languages will be put into distribution in Canada. In addition, as new films become available, versions will be made, on a selected basis, for use in Canada. Full scale distribution of this material should be in force in the autumn of 1973.

2. (a) Multicultural Program, English and French, 11, (b) Versions in non-official languages for use abroad and in Canada—approximately 60 plus prints of 100 films already versioned in the Foreign Version Program.

3. Approximately 10 or 12, most of them routed to NFB via the Secretary of State Department. All dealt with films about ethnic groups in both official languages.

4. As part of the on-going version program for distribution abroad, approximately 70 to 100 versions are prepared each year in approximately 20 major languages and 30 other languages. Additional prints will be ordered for use in Canada to meet the needs of the various ethnic groups.

5. As a rule no, because the original films will be available in English and/or French. Exceptions have been on a few films produced on Indians and Eskimos with their collaboration. Such films carry sub-titles in French, English and Indian (Cree) or French, English, Eskimo.

6. No, other than programs produced in other languages by Radio-Canada International for foreign consumption. Domestically, the Corporation's operations have been confined to English and French, plus a modest amount of native language broadcasting for the North. This policy is based on the CBC interpretation of the various Broadcasting Acts over the years. The Corporation believes its language policy is so firmly established and of such major importance that any contemplated change would require a clear indication to this end from Parliament. The current Broadcasting Act provides CBC with specific priorities and Corporate policies, energies and resources are devoted to the attainment of those objectives.

ALBERTA—CREAM SUBSIDY ELIGIBILITY QUOTA

Question No. 1,945—**Mr. Mazankowski:**

Is any action being taken to reinstate the 5,480,000 pounds of cream subsidy eligibility quota which was lost to the Province of Alberta, as requested in a submission to the Hon. E. Whelan by the Hon. Hugh Horner?

Hon. E. F. Whelan (Minister of Agriculture): Subsidy quota was never allocated on a provincial basis. When the subsidy quota was originally allocated, it was allocated to producers on the basis of previous performance. Any reduction from the level originally allotted to producers in a province was brought about by: (a) producers discontinuing production and (b) producers delivering less than their subsidy quota.

* * *

QUESTIONS PASSED AS ORDERS FOR RETURNS

DEPARTMENT OF SOLICITOR GENERAL—RESEARCH EXPENDITURES

Question No. 117—**Mr. Nystrom:**

1. What was the total amount of money spent in each of the fiscal years 1968-69, 1969-70, 1970-71, 1971-72 by the Department of the Solicitor General on contracts to outside persons and organizations for research, development and other consulting services?

2. What are the names and addresses of these outside persons and organizations and what amounts of money were involved in each contract?

3. What was the purpose of each contract and title of each report submitted?

4. What are the names and addresses of outside persons and organizations who were awarded contracts for research, development and other consulting services in the current fiscal year, what are the amounts of money involved in each case and what is the purpose of each contract?

Return tabled.

DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AND CORPORATE AFFAIRS

Question No. 125—**Mr. Nystrom:**

1. What was the total amount of money spent in each of the fiscal years 1968-69, 1969-70, 1970-71, 1971-72 by the Department of Consumer and Corporate Affairs on contracts to outside persons and organizations for research, development and other consulting services?

2. What are the names and addresses of these outside persons and organizations and what amounts of money were involved in each contract?

3. What was the purpose of each contract and title of each report submitted?

4. What are the names and addresses of outside persons and organizations who were awarded contracts for research, development and other consulting services in the current fiscal year, what are the amounts of money involved in each case and what is the purpose of each contract?

Return tabled.

EMPLOYMENT OF DEFEATED CANDIDATES BY FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

Question No. 612—**Mr. Broadbent:**

1. Are Messrs. M. Ervin Pringle, Murray A. McBride, John Roberts, Raymond J. Perrault, Paul St. Pierre, Martin P. O'Connell and Jervis Black employed by the government and, if so (a) what were the effective dates of appointment (b) what are the duties of these positions (c) what are their salary ranges?

2. Are there any other persons who were candidates in the last federal election on the payroll of the federal treasury and, if so, what are (a) their names (b) positions (c) salary ranges?

Return tabled.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE OFFICES

Question No. 864—**Mr. Korchinski:**

1. Where are Unemployment Insurance offices located in Canada?

2. How many claims were there processed in each office since the amendment to the Unemployment Insurance Act of 1971?

3. How many public servants are there employed at each office involved in the decision-making of granting or rejecting claims?

4. How many applicants were there in each office who had made application for unemployment insurance but were rejected?

5. How many appeals were there to each office as a result of decisions handed down from each office?

6. How many decisions were reversed by the Appeal Board and which offices did the original decision come from?

Return tabled.

LIP PROJECTS IN RICHMOND CONSTITUENCY

Question No. 1,215—**Mr. Beaudoin:**

1. What is the list of all LIP projects submitted in 1972 for the constituency of Richmond?

2. For each project (a) who were the co-ordinators (b) what was the amount requested to create how many jobs (c) what projects were accepted and according to what criteria (d) what projects were rejected and for what reason (e) what is the approval or refusal date for each submitted project (f) what was the acknowledgment date of each submitted project?

Return tabled.

INVESTMENT BY CMHC IN ONTARIO AND QUEBEC

Question No. 1,500—**Mr. Godin:**

1. What amount was invested by Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation (a) in Quebec (b) in Ontario for each year 1968, 1969, 1970 and 1971?

2. In relation to private housing construction for the same years, what was the number of housing units built (a) in Quebec (b) in Ontario broken down in terms of (i) single-family unit houses (ii) semi-detached duplexes (iii) apartment buildings (iv) rental housing?

[Mr. Nystrom.]

Return tabled.

FEDERAL ASSISTANCE TO CIRTEX KNITTING INCORPORATED, NEW BRUNSWICK

Question No. 1,527—**Mr. Jarvis:**

1. What is the total amount of grants, subsidies, or any other means of financial assistance, both direct or indirect, to be given by the government to Cirtex Knitting Incorporated, to be located in New Brunswick?

2. What is the total amount of grants, subsidies, or other financial assistance, which the government spent in 1972 on knitting mills owned and operated by Canadian entrepreneurs and companies in each of the ten provinces and two territories?

3. What is the policy of the government regarding the limitation of the amount of textiles imported into Canada from abroad?

Return tabled.

FERRY "PELEE ISLANDER"

Question No. 1,833—**Mr. Grier:**

1. (a) What were the costs of construction of the ferry *Pelee Islander* (b) to whom were the costs paid and by whom (c) what are the terms of the use of this ship by the Pelee Shipping Company Limited?

2. What amounts of subsidy were paid to the Pelee Shipping Company Limited in each year 1960 to 1967 inclusive?

3. What is the status of a legal labour dispute between Pelee Shipping Company Limited, and is the dispute economic and related to the need for implementation of the Canada Labour (Standards) Code?

4. (a) Was the subsidy to Pelee Shipping Company Limited increased in 1968 and, if so, was this increase to provide for the Canada Labour (Standards) Code (b) what amounts of subsidies were paid in each year 1968 to 1972 inclusive and 1973 to date?

5. Is it consistent with government policy to subsidize employers, such as Pelee Shipping Company Limited, while such employers are subject of a legal strike by their working men?

6. What was the operating revenue of the subsidized *Pelee Islander* for the years 1970, 1971 and 1972?

7. Are the rates charged the public by the operator of the *Pelee Islander* approved by the Canadian Transport Commission and, if not, for what reason?

8. (a) Who is the owner of the *Pelee Islander* (b) who was the previous owner (c) is the ship being sold and, if so, by whom, to whom and on what terms?

9. Is the *Pelee Islander* the only source of livelihood of her present operator and, if not, what other sources of income to this person are known to the government?

Return tabled.

Mr. Barnett: Mr. Speaker, the last time written questions were called I inquired of the parliamentary secretary about question No. 1,047. I have looked at the comment he made at that time. I am raising this matter again because I happen to know about the kind of statistics that are available to realize that if I were responsible I could have that question answered in a week. Would he be good enough, before the next time around, to find out why this question has not been answered and to tell me the real facts, whether or not it will be answered?

Mr. Diefenbaker: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a question of privilege. On March 19 I put down question No. 1,661 which is of interest to all CNR employees who are making contributions to their pension fund. It is a very simple question. It asks what is the total amount of loans in each year, 1965 to 1972, made by the CNR Pension Fund to (a) Canadian companies and (b) foreign-controlled companies. It asks what amount has been loaned to Fidinam (Ontario) Limited and at what interest rate, and is Fidinam a Canadian-owned company. Finally, it asks whether railway workers have any voice in pension fund decisions that are made. There can be no reason why that question has not been answered except that the government does not want to give this information. The railway employees have asked over and over again for the information. I now ask the minister responsible for answering this question to provide an answer; otherwise I will have to take such action in this House as parliamentary procedure permits.

ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

THE CANADIAN ECONOMY

WHOLESALE PRICE INDEX INCREASE—ACTION TO CONTROL RETAIL PRICE INCREASES—RATE OF INFLATION IN 1973

Hon. Robert L. Stanfield (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the Minister of Finance a question arising out of the news about the very alarming increase in the wholesale price index in April over March and, in particular, April 1973, compared with April, 1972. In view of the increase of over 16 per cent from year to year, does the minister still regard his anti-inflation program as adequate, or is he now prepared to take more direct action to de-escalate the increase in retail prices in Canada—and of course by "direct action" I do not mean tight money?

Hon. John N. Turner (Minister of Finance): Mr. Speaker, the wholesale price index gives us cause for concern. It represents primarily a rise in agricultural commodity and world commodity prices which would not be susceptible, since it involves a shortage of supply, to the type of action recommended by the Leader of the Opposition. As a matter of fact, when I made this analysis of the situation at last week's federal-provincial conference it was accepted by the provinces, and particularly by the Premier of Ontario.

Mr. Stanfield: In view of the fact that the increase in the wholesale price index is likely to work its way through quite quickly into the retail price index, and as the development of an inflationary psychology is one of the things that menaces us, did the minister in fact predict to that conference that the rate of inflation during 1973 would be 5 per cent? Further has he any reason to believe, or does he believe in fact, that the rate of inflation will level off and slow down?

Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton): Mr. Speaker, the rate of inflation in world commodities, including agricultural commodities, will level off when the supply is increased to meet the rapidly increasing demand. It is true that at the conference I said that our existing forecasts of the price deflator would run in the range of 5 per cent. As for an inflationary psychology, I suggest to the hon. gentleman that he may be contributing to that as much as anybody else.

Mr. Stanfield: Mr. Speaker, this is not the first time the minister has suggested that, and it is not the first time I have suggested that he should do something to head it off.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

INFLATION—SUGGESTED BROADENING OF TERMS OF REFERENCE OF FOOD PRICES REVIEW BOARD

Hon. Robert L. Stanfield (Leader of the Opposition): I would like to ask the Prime Minister a supplementary question since, of course, his is the final responsibility. In light of these alarming figures, will the Prime Minister at least consider broadening the terms of the body established by the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs? It is well recognized that I have no great fondness for that body, but I would like to know how the Prime Minister regards the problem of inflation, whether he believes the problem of inflation in Canada is largely one of food prices, and in light of these figures is he prepared to face up to what really seem to be the facts?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, there are many aspects to that question. Replying to the last part I would say yes, the government is always desirous of facing up to the facts. Indeed, the board to which the Leader of the Opposition refers is one which was set up along the lines recommended by a committee of the House.

* * *

● (1450)

ENERGY

PROPOSED MACKENZIE VALLEY PIPELINE—REQUEST THAT NATIONAL ENERGY BOARD ACT BE AMENDED SO THAT PARLIAMENT MAY MAKE DECISION

Mr. Max Saltsman (Waterloo): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources. It concerns the minister's remarks over the past few weeks. They have raised widespread concern that the decision on the Mackenzie pipeline, a decision of extreme importance to the future of this country, will be made by the cabinet without prior consultation with parliament. When that concern was brought to the minister's attention, he observed that he was not in a position to do anything and he did not want members of parliament counselling him to break the law. We would not want to do that. Since the minister is of the view that the National Energy Board Act restricts him from bringing the matter of the construction of the Mackenzie Valley pipeline to parliament for debate, will he, instead, bring before parliament the National Energy Board Act so that the act can be suitably amended by parliament, to provide that the decision on the pipeline will be made by parliament rather than by the cabinet alone?

Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): Mr. Speaker, I suggest, as an alternative, that it might be advisable to take advantage of the relief that committees will have from responsibility for the estimates in the coming month to have a discussion, perhaps jointly with the Standing Committee on Indian Affairs and Northern Development, on the guidelines that have been put forth up to this point, and also at a later date when additional guidelines, particularly financial, are available.

Mr. Saltsman: I do not feel that the minister has really answered the question I put to him. As the minister seems to be reluctant to answer the question, will he at least give parliament his reasons for not letting parliament make the decision on a pipeline that is of such importance and of such concern to this country?

Mr. Macdonald (Rosedale): Mr. Speaker, I think I have answered the hon. gentleman's question. Parliament passed a statute specifically to deal with pipeline questions. I think it might be more appropriate to find out whether that statute has indeed served the interests of Canadians and whether the preparations for such hearings are adequate. If there is disagreement on that point, I suppose the question of amendments to the act might then be brought forward.

Mr. Baldwin: How would you vote, Max?

* * *

[*Translation*]

FEDERAL-PROVINCIAL AFFAIRS

SUGGESTION THAT BANK OF CANADA MAKE LOANS TO PROVINCES—DATE OF NEXT FIRST MINISTERS' CONFERENCE

Mr. Réal Caouette (Témiscamingue): Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask a question of the right hon. Prime Minister regarding the recent federal-provincial conference.

First, did the conference discuss the possibility of the Bank of Canada making loans to provinces to promote faster economic development? Second, has a date been agreed upon for the next conference on the same topic?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, no to the first part of the question. As for the next conference, mention was made of the end of fall perhaps or of next winter, but not precisely to discuss the matter interesting the leader of the Social Credit Party of Canada. There was mention of industrial development and other similar topics.

Mr. Caouette (Témiscamingue): A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. To foster industrial development, could the Prime Minister suggest that the provinces use the credits of the Bank of Canada?

Mr. Trudeau: Mr. Speaker, it seems that within two years, the people in those two provinces which patiently gave the social credit system a 30-year trial grew disgusted with it and threw it out. This might explain why that system has not been carried on.

[Mr. Saltsman.]

Mr. Caouette (Témiscamingue): Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask a final supplementary.

Is the Prime Minister aware that those two creditist provinces did not re-elect their respective government probably because their laws have been found ultra vires by the government of the right hon. Prime Minister?

[*English*]

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The Chair will return later to supplementaries on this subject, but we should try to move on.

* * *

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

CANADIAN POSITION FOR PRESENTATION TO LAW OF THE SEA CONFERENCE RESPECTING WATERS OVER CONTINENTAL SHELF

Mr. John Lundrigan (Gander-Twillingate): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of the Environment. Can the minister say whether the position he has stated publicly that Canada will go all out, flat, for an exclusive fishing zone that will include the fringes of our continental shelf represents the position of his department or the position—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member knows, I am sure, that a question cannot be asked in those terms. The question should be asked directly of the minister. During the oral question period questions cannot be asked about statements made by ministers outside the House except to inquire whether the statement represents government policy.

Mr. Lundrigan: Mr. Speaker, that is what I am about to do, if Your Honour would have a little patience with me. I am asking the minister, can he indicate whether this has been accepted as the position that will be presented to the Law of the Sea Conference in 1974 by the government, and has the minister received clearance with respect to this position from the Secretary of States for External Affairs?

Hon. Jack Davis (Minister of the Environment): Mr. Speaker the answer, basically, is yes. That has been my position and the position of the Department of Fisheries since 1968.

Mr. Lundrigan: Could the minister answer the second part of my question which is so vital? I understand that certain motions I put forward today were turned down because there was not agreement by the Secretary of State for External Affairs. Can he indicate whether there has been clearance from the Secretary of State for External Affairs that this will be Canada's position at the Law of the Sea Conference?

Mr. Davis: Mr. Speaker, I have had a great deal of support from the Secretary of State for External Affairs.

Mr. Lundrigan: Mr. Speaker, I think the minister passed over my question. I wonder if he would indicate what the basis was for the presentation of the position on page 6 of his speech, which he released on Saturday and

from which I must quote, that the Conservative party is pushing for a 50-mile limit—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I should like the hon. member to remember what I suggested a moment ago. It is a well established practice of the House that questions must be asked directly. The hon. member, I am sure, can ask the question directly without making a direct allusion or reference to statements made outside the House. The hon. member can ask the question on that basis and there will be no difficulty.

Mr. Lundrigan: Your Honour, I am handicapped in asking questions on this matter unless I can refer to the charge, if you can call it that, or allegation or fabrication which was made by the minister on Saturday wherein he indicated that the position of the Conservative party of Canada is to push for a 50-mile limit. Further, maps were included at the end of his presentation. He had a 50-mile limit drawn on the map, which he contends is the position of my party, along with a 200-mile limit. I ask the minister, what was the basis for drawing that conclusion?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I have just indicated to the hon. member that the question cannot be asked in those terms. I appreciate that it may be hard to find a way around the difficulty, but there should be some way for the hon. member to obtain the information he wants. Perhaps the minister will reply briefly to the question asked by the hon. member, assuming that the question has been asked directly without reference to or quotation from the statement made outside the House, after which I will recognize the hon. member for Yorkton-Melville who has a supplementary to the previous question.

Mr. Davis: Mr. Speaker, my response has to be that I listened attentively to the hon. member and other hon. members opposite, and that is my interpretation of their position.

Mr. Lundrigan: On a question of privilege, Your Honour, it is very important that members of the Privy Council, House leaders, and leaders of parties be responsible in the public statements they make. This applies especially to people in these very responsible positions. I contend, Your Honour, that if members of the Privy Council are permitted to go outside the House, or even to do this inside the House, and make presentations that are complete fabrications, they are undermining not only the privileges of all members of the House but also the whole political process of our country. What if the Leader of the Opposition were to say today that the Liberal party supported free abortion or supported termination of diplomatic relations with the United States? I would consider that to be a very serious matter if such statements were not in accordance with the facts. On Saturday the minister proceeded to make a public statement. I suppose it was actually presented but at least it was released on Saturday with the indication that it would be presented in New Brunswick. The presentation indicated that the position of my party was that there would be—

Some hon. Members: Order!

Mr. Lundrigan: I am going to go on, anyway. The minister talks about a 200-mile limit and then goes on to ask, where do our Conservative friends stand now; they are talking about a 50-mile limit. He said that this is Conservative thinking and he went on to reflect on the Conservative party as having a policy relating to a 50-mile limit. At no time has any member of this party ever indicated that Canada should seek a 50-mile limit.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member, I appreciate, has risen on a question of privilege and has referred to a statement made outside the House. The hon. member has the right to rise at this time on a question of privilege, and when he does he has to be heard. When I return to the Chair every Monday, having read the newspapers and seen the many statements made by hon. members referring to the political situation and the political positions taken by members of other parties or spokesmen for other parties, it is my impression that we could spend much of our Mondays and Tuesdays discussing these statements which I am sure in many instances are felt by hon. members on one side or the other not to represent in fact the positions of their parties. The hon. member, again I insist, has the right to rise on a question of privilege, but I hope we will not get involved in a lengthy debate on the matter.

● (1500)

Mr. Lundrigan: Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday last, I rose in the House and moved a motion under Standing Order 43. I wish to read the contents of that motion. The motion reads:

> That Canada express its position to the fishing nations of the world, through the Secretary of State for External Affairs, that the principle of ownership by the coastal state of the waters over the continental shelf be upheld.

I have stated this position about 500 times in the past five years, but the minister had the gumption to go to New Brunswick and present maps prepared by his department indicating a 50-mile limit and a 200-mile limit. This is completely absurd.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Lundrigan: A year ago last December 1,500 delegates from every constituency in Canada assembled at a meeting of the Conservative Association of Canada and presented resolutions.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I suggest to the hon. member that he is now going beyond the assertion of a question of privilege and is debating the issue. I do not think the hon. member would want to do that at this time. There are many possibilities for hon. members to discuss issues, even issues of such importance as the one referred to by the hon. member, but the question period is certainly not the time to initiate a full-fledged debate on a matter of substance. I am sure the hon. member appreciates the position of the Chair in this respect in seeking his co-operation.

Mr. Lundrigan: I will be happy to do that, Mr. Speaker, if the minister will withdraw his remarks which were lies and fabrications, absolute lies and fabrications.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Lundrigan: It was an absolute lie. The minister has no right to leave it on the record.

Mr. Speaker: Order. The hon. member knows he has no right—

Mr. Lundrigan: That is right. I know that.

Mr. Speaker: Order. The hon. member confirms that he knows he has no right to accuse another member of the House, whether he is a member on the other side of the House, a member of the government or on his own side of the House, of lying. I even hesitate to use the word. I would hope that, in accordance with the long tradition of parliament, the hon. member will co-operate with the Chair and not use language that is clearly unparliamentary. For over 100 years this has formed the basis of a rule which is accepted by all hon. members. I think we set a very bad example to other parliamentary institutions in this country at all levels of government if the senior House in Canada does not conform to the long established rules of parliamentary debate.

I am sure the hon. member will allow the Chair to complete his remarks. I am referring to another hon. member, not the hon. member for Gander-Twillingate.

That is one of the difficulties of referring to statements made outside the House. It is also a long established practice that members do not ask questions about statements made outside the House and that no reference is made to them. When such questions are asked they should be asked directly rather than by asking ministers to confirm what they have said and whether it is right or wrong, because at that point we get involved in a debate of the kind that has now been initiated by the hon. member for Gander-Twillingate. If a statement is made outside the House and another member thinks the statement is wrong, it seems to me there should be an opportunity in the House, not during the question period, to try to offer rectification of the facts, or the matter might be pursued by an hon. member outside the House in response to statements made outside this chamber.

Having said all this, I hope the hon. member for Gander-Twillingate will co-operate with the Chair and seek another opportunity or another way to initiate a debate on the issue. I am sure the hon. member will agree that according to long established practice it is not correct or parliamentary to accuse another member of deliberately misleading the House or of lying. I appreciate that this is a difficult situation in that we are now referring to statements made outside the House, but I hope the hon. member for Gander-Twillingate will assist the Chair and allow us to continue.

Mr. Lundrigan: I did not realize the rest of the statement contains as much garbage as it does. I thought there was only the lie that I am concerned about. It is time for us to reassess that rule. If ministers can do that kind of damage to our system, not the Conservative party, by presenting this kind of position internationally it is time that we re-assessed the rule. Something must be done to prevent ministers from presenting this kind of position to the Canadian people. These men have a great responsibility. Your Honour might as well make an example of me right now because I will not withdraw these remarks.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Diefenbaker: Mr. Speaker, the rule certainly is clear that anyone who says of a member in the House that what he has said in the House is a lie would be subject to having to withdraw, but to make that statement respecting a statement by a minister made outside the House is, I submit, not contrary to the rule. I have heard that question argued before. If that were not so, loose, idle, disorderly and untruthful statements could be made outside the House and we would be bound within the House not to cast any doubts on the veracity thereof.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Dick: Mr. Speaker, being a freshman in this chamber I am intrigued by one of the comments by Your Honour, namely, that a member of this House is not entitled to and should not at any time use the words "lie" or "lying". If in fact a minister or any other member did state a lie in the House, would it not be appropriate to call him a liar, and if he in fact did state a lie would he not have to resign and—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I suggest to the hon. member that he might take a closer look at the rules. In any event, the hon. member is asking me a question and the Chair is not and has never been in a position to reply to questions.

What the right hon. member has said perhaps brings forth for the assistance of the hon. member for Gander-Twillingate and the Chair a distinction which is perhaps somewhat theoretical. The Chair still feels it is conducive to disorder in the House for hon. members to rise and say that a lie has been uttered or accuse another member of lying outside the House and, I suppose, saying that he is within the rules because he is saying the lie was uttered outside this chamber.

All that confirms my original statement that it is contrary to the long established practice of this House for members to ask questions during the question period in relation to statements made outside the House. The only result that comes from transgressing the rule is the kind of debate and the kind of difficulty we now have.

I am willing to take the matter under advisement and take into consideration the fact we are dealing with matters that have transpired outside of this chamber. But in spite of what the right hon. member has said I would certainly reaffirm the general statement and principle that it is certainly not according to the long established practice of this House to use these words and make accusations along these lines, even if we are dealing with statements that have been made outside this chamber.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. MacEachen: Mr. Speaker, I must rise to say a few words in support of the observance of the long established rule of this House that one member cannot call another hon. member a liar, nor can he accuse him of lies. To suggest, as has been done by the right hon. gentleman from Prince Albert, that it is quite all right to call another

hon. member a liar on Saturday or Sunday but that it is unparliamentary to do so on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday is quite unacceptable. The rule respecting this situation applies to the utterances of members of the House of Commons both within and outside the House.

● (1510)

Mr. Diefenbaker: No.

Mr. MacEachen: I would draw to the attention of the right hon. gentleman a very important precedent. Some years ago, if my recollection is correct, he himself rose in the House and clarified for the benefit of the Speaker comments which he had made outside the House. If he was not observing that tradition, why did he do it? It is obvious it would fly in the face of reason and human decency to suggest there is one standard of conduct that applies to members of parliament while they are sitting in the chamber, that here we maintain standards of proper debate, and another, lower standard, which applies once they leave the chamber. That is quite unacceptable—quite unacceptable to me.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. MacEachen: Whatever standards apply, apply in all places, including the House of Commons, and the right hon. gentleman cannot make a defence by saying it is all right to call a man a liar if you do it while speaking in New Brunswick but it is bad if you do it in Ottawa.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Diefenbaker: Despite the applause with which that totally unacceptable and illogical statement by the minister has been received, the fact remains that if we on this side of the House were regularly to point out the falsehoods told by members of the government outside the House we would be busy all the time.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Barnett: Since the President of the Privy Council has seen fit to intervene in this matter in his role as government House leader, and since he has made reference to the standards that should apply both within and outside the House, I suggest that if he has not already done so he should examine the statement in question, as I have done, and perhaps indicate to his colleague in parliamentary terms that, to say the least, he has displayed a mystifying lack of knowledge of the facts.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

[*Translation*]

Mr. André Fortin (Lotbinière): Mr. Speaker, since we have lost twelve minutes, he might as well lose another one to say that there is only one truth, and that it should be the same inside and outside this House, and that those politicians who have just spoken for twelve minutes have caused us to waste important minutes allotted to the oral question period.

Mr. Speaker, that problem comes back often and it should be referred immediately to the Committee on Procedure and Organization for further consideration. But it remains nevertheless that we have once again lost our time, and our Progressive Conservative friends have not yet understood the importance of the oral question period if they amuse themselves as they do.

[*English*]

Mr. Baldwin: Mr. Speaker, I understand that Your Honour has agreed to consider this matter and come to a decision. But I must say we have to reject the philosophy of the President of the Privy Council which indicates that there shall be a different standard for members of parliament in the House and outside the House.

Some hon. Members: No.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Baldwin: As I understood him, he suggested it was perfectly competent for a minister of the Crown to follow a lower standard in a statement outside the House than in the House, and that I reject completely.

Mr. Danson: Mr. Speaker, I do not consider myself to be an expert on the rules of the House.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Danson: But having listened to the intervention by the right hon. member for Prince Albert I realize the immense respect we all have for the precedents set by the mother of parliaments. There they are not so much concerned with a lie outside the House but they certainly have been dealing with a lay outside the House.

Some hon. Members: Oh!

An hon. Member: Boo!

Mr. Bell: Same old bunch!

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. Hon. members can see now where this kind of insinuation leads. I would think hon. members should be prepared to accept the rulings of the Chair. I have tried since I have been in the chair to guide hon. members to the best of my ability—

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Speaker: —in the use of what I consider to be parliamentary language. I think that hon. members, by and large, from day to day over the years have been very respectful of the rules and that in general we have set a very good example, as we ought to do—I feel very strongly about this—to other legislatures, to municipal councils and other parliamentary bodies. I believe hon. members should always bear this in mind. They should consider that it is part of their responsibility in this House to set a good example not only to other hon. members and to the general public but also, as I have said, to other parliamentary institutions. In this sense I suggest it is fitting they should adopt the highest possible standards. When we start making distinctions as to whether we can call a member a liar when he makes a statement outside the House but we cannot do it about a statement he makes inside the House we are splitting hairs and we are not acting in conformity with the spirit of the rules. The spirit

of the rules is that we should try to work together as civilized people.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Speaker: I appreciate that members of the House are human and that they can feel very irritated, sometimes rightly so, in connection with statements made outside the House if there is provocation which might lead them to use words stronger than those they would otherwise use. I am sure this is what happened in the case of the hon. member for Gander-Twillingate who feels very strongly in connection about fisheries matters. He feels the statement made by the Minister of the Environment and Fisheries outside the House was not in conformity with the facts. I think it is always possible to tell the House that a statement made outside is not in conformity with the facts, perhaps in the same way as the hon. member for Comox-Alberni did—

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Speaker: —but to use stronger language and, to my way of thinking, unparliamentary language, can only lead to difficulties such as we have experienced this afternoon. I shall continue to give the matter serious consideration, but I insist that I do not intend to allow the standards of parliamentary language to deteriorate. If we were to allow the House to follow the road it appears to wish to embark on this afternoon we would be doing a disservice to parliament.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

* * *

ENERGY

PROPOSED MACKENZIE VALLEY PIPELINE—EFFECT OF LEVEL OF INVESTMENT ON DOLLAR, INTEREST RATES AND EXPORTS

Mr. Lorne Nystrom (Yorkton-Melville): Mr. Speaker, with your permission I should like to change the topic and ask the Minister of Finance a supplementary question on the subject of energy. In view of the evidence that increased exports of gas and oil and the construction of the Mackenzie Valley pipeline will probably exert upward pressure on the Canadian dollar, making our other exports less competitive, as well as contributing to higher interest rates, has the minister established a system to monitor the level of investment in energy in Canada to determine how it might affect the level of the dollar, interest rates and exports?

Hon. John N. Turner (Minister of Finance): It is my view that any energy project of the magnitude referred to by the hon. member could be orchestrated in such a way as not to produce undue pressures either on our interest rates or on exchange rates.

Mr. Nystrom: In view of possible heavy investment in James Bay, the tar sands and pipeline development in the next few years, sums of the order of tens of billions of dollars, can the minister tell us whether he is conducting any studies of the impact of such major developments on the economy and on employment?

● (1520)

Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton): Mr. Speaker, we are reviewing the effect on Canadian capital markets of projects of the type and how they ought to be brought into operation without producing, as I said, undue pressure either on our dollar or on the economy.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Peace River.

Mr. Baldwin: Mr. Speaker, may I ask the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs—

Mr. Speaker: I apologize for having to interrupt the hon. member but the hon. member for Carleton-Charlotte is rising on a question of privilege.

Mr. McCain: Mr. Speaker, I am sorry I misunderstood but I did not understand that the subject was going to change as abruptly as it did. I rise on a point of privilege because I wish this to go on the record. Since the remarks attributed to the Minister of the Environment were made in my constituency, I want it abundantly clear that at no time could he associate me in any way with any remarks relating to this limit. Any remarks made in that regard bear little relationship to the truth or to remarks I have made in my constituency, in this House and in committee.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Peace River.

* * *

FOOD PRICES REVIEW BOARD

ALLEGED INADEQUACY OF TERMS OF REFERENCE—POSSIBLE DISCUSSION IN HOUSE

Mr. G. W. Baldwin (Peace River): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs of which I am now giving him verbal notice. In light of the extraordinary emptiness of the terms of reference of the Board, respecting which he tabled an order today, is the minister prepared to refer this matter to the House so as to improve both the quality and the quantity of those terms of reference?

Hon. Herb Gray (Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs): Mr. Speaker, I do not accept the hon. member's premise. The concept of the board was approved by a strong majority of this House. The important thing is to let the board get down to work in the interests of the Canadian people generally.

Mr. Baldwin: A supplementary question for the Prime Minister, Mr. Speaker. In light of the fact that earlier today the Minister of Finance hinted that the first ministers conference approved the lack of policy of this government in regard to inflation, will the Prime Minister give consideration to assuring that the next extravaganza is televised so the people will know what they are getting for their money?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I will convey the hon. gentleman's feelings to the other provincial premiers.

* * *

[*Translation*]

WELFARE

POLICY RESPECTING DAY CARE CENTRES—DISCUSSION WITH QUEBEC MINISTER SOCIAL AFFAIRS

Mr. Adrien Lambert (Bellechasse): Mr. Speaker, I want to ask a question of the Minister of National Health and Welfare.

Can the minister tell this House whether, following the discussions he had with the Quebec Minister of Social Affairs, changes have been brought to the policy of his department concerning day-care centres?

Hon. Marc Lalonde (Minister of National Health and Welfare): No, Mr. Speaker.

* * *

[*English*]

FINANCE

REQUEST THAT PRIME MINISTER IDENTIFY THE TWO MOST IMPORTANT PROVINCES AGAINST IMPOSITION OF PRICE CONTROLS

Mr. R. Gordon L. Fairweather (Fundy-Royal): Mr. Speaker, I have a question that is supplementary to an earlier series asked various ministers about last week's conference. I address this question to the Prime Minister. In a television account of the proceedings the Prime Minister said, if I may quote him, that "the two most important provinces were against price controls". Will the right hon. gentleman allay my curiosity and identify for the country—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. Would the hon. gentleman kindly ask the question directly. I thought we had spent a little time earlier trying to find a way around the difficulties that result from asking questions about statements made outside the House.

Mr. Fairweather: With great respect, Mr. Speaker, part of the difficulty is that it was a supplementary asked at an earlier stage and therefore I have to lay the ground. I am anxious to know which of the two provinces the Prime Minister identified as the most important, and is this part of the new federal formula? Which are the two most important provinces?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, if the hon. member reads the communiqué he will see that the majority of the provinces expressed their belief that this was not—

An hon. Member: Don't evade the question.

Mr. Fairweather: The television record will show what you said.

Mr. Trudeau: I agree with the hon. member that I said something along those lines.

Mr. Baldwin: Which are the two, then?

Mr. Trudeau: Two of those that said they were opposed to it.

* * *

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

VIET NAM—POSSIBLE WITHDRAWAL OF CANADIAN PERSONNEL FROM COMMISSION OF CONTROL AND SUPERVISION—REQUEST FOR DEBATE

Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Prince Albert): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Secretary of State for External Affairs. In view of the fatuous, if not incongruous, contribution that the Canadian contingent to the ICCS finds itself having to discharge by reason of the activities of other members of the commission, has the government yet come to any conclusion regarding the removal of the Canadian force? If so, the government having made a decision and therefore being responsible for what is being done, would consideration now be given before the withdrawal to letting the House of Commons speak on this matter?

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, the government has made a decision and I intend to convey it to the House tomorrow.

Mr. Diefenbaker: Would the minister say what it was?

Mr. Sharp: No.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Oshawa-Whitby.

Mr. Diefenbaker: He won't say what it is. That means they are getting out.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I apologize to the hon. member for Oshawa-Whitby, but I believe the right hon. gentleman from Prince Albert is rising for the purpose of asking a supplementary question.

Mr. Diefenbaker: Yes, Mr. Speaker. If the government has made a decision, surely parliament is not going to be bypassed by the announcement being made outside the House, which has happened too often in the past. I ask the minister: Will the announcement be made in this House?

Mr. Sharp: That is what I said, Mr. Speaker. I said that I would convey this decision to the House tomorrow.

* * *

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

POSSIBLE INCLUSION IN LEGISLATION OF FUND RAISERS FOR POLITICAL PARTIES—GOVERNMENT POSITION

Mr. Edward Broadbent (Oshawa-Whitby): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Prime Minister. In view of the recent acknowledgement by Mr. J. P. Ostiguy that he is what is commonly known as a "bagman" for the Liberal

party and at the same time sits as a member of the advisory board to the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce, would the Prime Minister indicate to the House whether or not a situation such as this will be covered in the proposed legislation on conflict of interest?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I believe that the information conveyed by the hon. member is incorrect. The gentleman in question is not what he calls a "bagman" for the Liberal party.

Mr. Baldwin: Is he an assistant?

Mr. Speaker: Order. We are running short of time. The hon. member for Oshawa-Whitby will be allowed to ask a supplementary question, and then we will have time for a few more questions before calling orders of the day.

Mr. Broadbent: Mr. Speaker, in view of the fact that, bagman or not, depending on one's choice of terms, this gentleman is involved in fund raising for the Liberal party, or has been—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member is prefacing his question by a statement or an allegation. I think the hon. member sinned against the long established rule in the same way in asking a question last week. I suggest to him that it should be possible for him to ask a question without making a statement or an allegation of fact.

Mr. Broadbent: Mr. Speaker, I have never considered fund raising as such whether for the Liberal party or not to be an allegation of a criminal offence. My question to the Prime Minister is this. Would he assure the House that the legislation that the government is preparing on this subject for introduction to this House will cover the situation where a man, no matter which political party he may be working for in a fund raising capacity, will be excluded from membership on government boards which are involved in decisions that lead to grants being given to corporations?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The Chair recognizes the Prime Minister for the purpose of replying to the question, but obviously the question is wrongly put on a number of counts, despite the correction made by the hon. member. The statement that has been made is based on an allegation. If not, then it is hypothetical. In any event, the Prime Minister will be allowed to reply.

Mr. Trudeau: Mr. Speaker, I repeat that the allegation contained in the earlier part of the question is incorrect. So far as the question of having contributed to a party and sitting on government boards is concerned, I think a lot of people who are affiliated with the NDP sit on government advisory boards. The Economic Council of Canada and other bodies have members who are connected with the labour movement.

Mr. Baldwin: No wonder we are in trouble.

Mr. Trudeau: No wonder we are in trouble, as the hon. member says. This is a matter that I would find difficulty in including in the legislation to which the hon. member refers, but we will listen very carefully to proposals containing any kind of constructive amendments which have already been discussed by the hon. gentleman's party.

[Mr. Broadbent.]

* * *

● (1530)

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

KILLING OF TWO CANADIAN GIRLS WHILE VISITING VICTORIA FALLS, RHODESIA—REQUEST FOR REPORT AND TABLING OF LETTER FROM ZAMBIAN FOREIGN MINISTER

Mr. A. D. Hales (Wellington): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Secretary of State for External Affairs. In view of the statement the minister made last Thursday concerning the murder of two Canadian girls in Rhodesia, in which the minister said he and his government were treating this matter very seriously and were not satisfied with the public statement made by Zambia, I would ask whether he has received a full report from our high commissioner in Lusaka, and has this statement been referred to the Zambian government? Has he or his department received a full report or a statement from that government?

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, the Assistant High Commissioner, as the hon. member knows, went to Rhosedia and made a report to us on his findings and conveyed these to the government of Zambia. I have received a personal letter from the foreign minister of Zambia which conveys deep felt condolences to the government and people of Canada, and particularly to the bereaved families. This is a personal letter and, therefore, I would prefer not to reveal it, but perhaps I could quote one part which says:

—the Party, Government and People of Zambia deeply regret the deaths of these innocent Canadian nationals.

An hon. Member: You have quoted it.

Mr. Sharp: I might add that I am not yet satisfied with the explanations that have been given by Zambia and I am awaiting a further report.

Mr. Hales: Mr. Speaker, in view of the fact the minister has read from this document, perhaps he would be kind enough to table it.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

An hon. Member: You can't break all the rules.

Mr. Hales: Mr. Speaker, I should like to have the minister's assurance that he will table it.

Mr. Sharp: Mr. Speaker, I have no objection to tabling it. I felt it was important to the House to know that I had received a message from the Zambian government which came in the form of a personal letter addressed to me. I am not quite certain what "personal" means in this connection. I quoted only a few words from it to indicate the condolences of the Zambian government. I shall ask the foreign minister whether he has any objections to its being tabled. I knew he would not have any objection to me expressing these general sentiments of the Zambian government.

In addition, I wanted to assure the hon. member that we are not yet satisfied with the explanation and we are pursuing our inquiries. We expect a much fuller result from the inquiries we have made.

Mr. Hales: Mr. Speaker, I think it is a long-standing rule of this House that when a member reads from a document, whether personal or otherwise, it must be tabled. I must, therefore, ask the minister to table it.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member has quoted the rule correctly. I think it would have been open to the hon. Secretary of State for External Affairs to refer in general terms to the letter. When he receives a letter and quotes from it, this does not mean he automatically has to table it. There may be a feeling among hon. members that he should not be required to do so. However, when the matter is raised by way of a point of order a ruling has to be made and the rule is very clear that when a document is quoted by the minister or whoever quotes it, that member is required to table it.

The minister states that this is a personal letter. As is well known to hon. members, the rule refers to official documents. It now becomes a question of determining whether the document in question is an official one or whether it is a personal letter. It would have been much easier had the minister not quoted from it, but I would think, in view of the fact it is a formal communication, that makes it a formal document and under the rules of the House the hon. minister would be required to table it.

Mr. Sharp: Mr. Speaker, if I may speak to the point of order, I really have no objection to tabling the letter.

Mr. Diefenbaker: Well, table it.

Mr. Sharp: It was addressed to me in the form of a personal letter and I felt, therefore, that I should ask the minister whether he has any objection, and I do not think he will.

Mr. Diefenbaker: You should not have quoted from it.

Mr. Baldwin: Let the House judge whether it is official or personal.

Mr. Speaker: In view of the undertaking by the Secretary of State for External Affairs, and perhaps he will have communication with the hon. member for Wellington, it may be easier later on, by consent of the House, to determine whether the letter in question ought to be tabled.

* * *

VETERANS AFFAIRS

INQUIRY AS TO LEGISLATION TO INCREASE BASIC RATE OF DISABILITY PENSION

Mr. Stanley Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Veterans Affairs. In view of the hope the minister expressed on May 17 that he would be able to table before the end of May a bill to amend—don't look at your watch, look at your calendar—that he would be able to introduce a bill to amend the Pension Act so as to increase the basic rate of war disability pensions, can the minister say whether he will meet that commitment within the next three days?

Hon. Daniel J. MacDonald (Minister of Veterans Affairs): Mr. Speaker, first of all I should like to inform the hon. member that there is a calendar on my watch. I cannot give a formal commitment on this today, it being May 28, but when I have it available it will be brought to your attention.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member might be allowed to ask a supplementary, after which I will recognize the hon. member for Hamilton-Wentworth.

POSSIBILITY DELAY IN LEGISLATION CAUSED BY FAILURE OF CABINET TO AGREE ON BASIC RATE OF PENSION

Mr. Jack Marshall (Humber-St. George's-St. Barbe): Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question for the Minister of Veterans Affairs. Will he indicate to the House whether the Cabinet has agreed to the new formula in respect of the basic rate of pension and that legislation is to come forth on that basis? Has the Cabinet agreed or is that the reason the bill has not been presented?

Hon. Daniel J. MacDonald (Minister of Veterans Affairs): Mr. Speaker, as I explained the other day, the item is before Cabinet, but no final or full agreement has been reached as yet.

* * *

PENITENTIARIES

FEDERAL-PROVINCIAL CONFERENCE ON PRISONS—REQUEST FOR STATEMENT OF ITEMS ON AGENDA

Mr. Sean O'Sullivan (Hamilton-Wentworth): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Solicitor General. In view of the announcement today from Collins Bay penitentiary of yet another failure under the temporary absence system, namely the case of David Lawrence who failed to return after being granted temporary leave, will the minister advise whether the temporary absence system is on the agenda for the conference announced by the minister of federal and provincial authorities on the prison system in Canada?

Hon. Warren Allmand (Solicitor General): No, Mr. Speaker, but I will have some announcement to make perhaps later this week in respect of the temporary absence and parole system.

Mr. O'Sullivan: Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question in connection with the announcement later this week. Can the minister advise us whether he will be making a statement on motions outlining the agenda for the proposed conference of federal and provincial governments respecting prisons, and will he table all the corre-

spondence he has had with the provincial ministers in this connection?

Mr. Allmand: Mr. Speaker, as soon as the agenda becomes final I will be pleased to do that. At the present time we are thinking of having discussions on female offenders; the sharing of correctional services; the Hugessen Report recommendations; rehabilitation programs; parole and probation services and so on. When I get a more complete agenda I will table it.

* * *

GRAIN

WHEAT—CONTINUITY OF SUPPLY FOR EASTERN FLOUR MILLS—GOVERNMENT POSITION

Mr. H. W. Danforth (Kent-Essex): Mr. Speaker, I should like to address my question to the minister in charge of the Wheat Board. In view of the fact that eastern flour mills must have a continuity of wheat supplies to enable them to tender on flour orders in the foreign trade, can he state, in light of the present wheat situation, that provision has been made to keep a constant supply of suitable wheat available to mills in the east?

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Justice): Mr. Speaker, over the years the Canadian Wheat Board has been assuring that there would be adequate supplies of grain available in appropriate positions both for the milling industry and for the domestic feed market. If the hon. member has a particular problem to which he is referring I would be glad to hear it.

* * *

INDIAN AFFAIRS

ENTITLEMENT TO DRUGS—DIRECTIVE LIMITING PROVISION—REQUEST FOR STATEMENT

Mr. S. J. Korchinski (Mackenzie): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of National Health and Welfare. On Friday he indicated he would make a statement to the House in respect of the availability of drugs to treaty Indians in Saskatchewan. Is he prepared to make that statement today?

Hon. Marc Lalonde (Minister of National Health and Welfare): Mr. Speaker, I have no statement to make, other than to say that the directive issued by the regional director in Saskatchewan has been rescinded, and that the previous practice is to be maintained. There has been no change in that practice.

* * *

PENITENTIARIES

BRITISH COLUMBIA—ALLEGED LACK OF TRAINING AND RAPID TURNOVER OF GUARDS—GOVERNMENT ACTION

Mr. Stuart Leggatt (New Westminster): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Solicitor General and concerns the recent escape of John McCann from the B.C. Penitentiary. In view of the fact that two of the guards assigned to check his cell were only three months on the job and had received no training, and in view of the fact there is a one-third turnover of personnel in that institution, can the minister indicate what steps he has taken to correct the situation so as to reduce the turnover and see that guards hired are given some training?

[Mr. O'Sullivan.]

Hon. Warren Allmand (Solicitor General): Mr. Speaker, to the best of my knowledge all guards and correctional officers are supposed to receive training before they go on the job. I note that one of the guards in this instance was suspended temporarily pending an investigation into the matter. I will check into the point brought to my attention and report back to the hon. member.

● (1540)

BRITISH COLUMBIA—REQUEST BY LOCAL UNION FOR MEETING WITH MINISTER

Mr. Stuart Leggatt (New Westminster): I have a supplementary, Mr. Speaker. The Solicitor General has received several requests from the local British Columbia union for meetings to pursue this question of security and morale, and I should like to know whether the minister has made any definite arrangement in respect of such a meeting?

Hon. Warren Allmand (Solicitor General): Mr. Speaker, tomorrow morning I am meeting the Public Service Alliance with regard to the Solicitor General's department. I am meeting the national union not the local.

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

BUSINESS OF SUPPLY

ALLOTED DAY S.O. 58—SUGGESTED WITHDRAWAL OF CANADIAN PERSONNEL FROM COMMISSION ON CONTROL AND SUPERVISION IN VIET NAM

On the order:

May 25, 1973—That this House is of the view that notice should be given to the appropriate parties of the withdrawal of the Canadian contribution from the International Commission on Control and Supervision in Viet Nam by the 30th of June, 1973, for the following reasons:

(a) There has, in effect, been no ceasefire to supervise and the Commission has been unable to fulfil the functions for which it was appointed under the Paris Peace Agreement;

(b) Various parties to the Agreement have disregarded its terms, in particular both the United States of America and the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam have continued military activities in Cambodia and Laos and have not totally withdrawn from, or refrained from reintroducing into these two countries troops, military advisers, military personnel, armaments, munitions and war material as provided for by Article 20(b) of the Agreement;

(c) That the spirit, if not the letter, of the Agreement has been violated by the detention of many thousands of civilian political prisoners subject to gross mistreatment; and further,

That this House urges the Government of Canada to do all in its power to arouse world public opinion to call for the ending of the

imprisonment of civilian political prisoners and for the return of such prisoners to their own homes as soon as possible.—*Mr. Brewin.*

Mr. Brewin: Mr. Speaker, I should like to say just a word on this motion which stands in my name.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. Is the hon. member rising on a point of order or with the intention of moving the motion, because there are two motions now before the House and we should not have a debate on both, even if it is one word.

Mr. Brewin: Mr. Speaker, I am rising on a point of order. I want to say that the Secretary of State for External Affairs (Mr. Sharp) informed the House, as indeed he informed me earlier today, that he proposes within a few days to make a statement on the subject matter of the motion. In these circumstances, I do not think it would be appropriate to proceed with the debate on this subject and I am, therefore, asking that the motion be withdrawn, subject to our right to re-introduce the motion later if circumstances warrant.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I should like to suggest to hon. members that we will get ourselves into difficulty if every time there is an opposition day or supply motion, when a number of motions are listed, if hon. members rise on points of order to state reasons for not proceeding with their motion. This would lead to abuses I suggest. This is not applicable in this particular case, but this practice could lead to difficulty. In any event, the hon. member has asked leave to withdraw the motion, and I shall inquire whether this is the wish of the House.

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Mr. Speaker: The motion is withdrawn. We will, therefore, proceed to the motion in the name of the hon. member for Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands (Mr. Douglas) and it will be put to this House.

Motion withdrawn and order discharged.

ALLOTTED S.O. 58—SUGGESTED IMPOSITION OF CONTROLS ON PETROLEUM PRODUCTS

Mr. T. C. Douglas (Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands) moved:

That this House views with concern recent increases in the prices of crude oil, gasoline and other refined products as well as the increasing quantities of gasoline being exported from Canada and therefore calls upon the government to take immediate steps to implement the following measures:

(a) Place export controls on the export of gasoline and other refined petroleum products;

(b) Establish a two-price system for gas and oil with the export price reflecting the price in export markets and the domestic price significantly lower;

(c) Remove the Ottawa Valley line and permit offshore oil and domestic crude to move freely in the interests of price competition.

He said: Mr. Speaker, we hear a great deal these days about the world energy crisis. I think one should recall that there is really a long-term aspect and a short-term aspect to the energy crisis. Time does not permit that we discuss the long-term aspect of this problem, but I do wish to deal very briefly with the problem of the short-term aspect of the energy crisis. I would begin by reminding the House that there is no shortage of oil in Canada for our needs in the immediate future, nor is there any shortage of world supplies for the next few years. What we are facing at the present time is a situation in which the United States is running short of natural gas and crude oil. The result is that the United States is becoming increasingly dependent on supplies from outside its own borders. It cannot get sufficient supplies from Canada or from Venezuela, and consequently is more and more dependent upon securing crude oil from the Middle East.

Two things are happening today that are causing the United States great concern. The first is that the Middle East, very naturally, is very conscious of the situation and is raising its price. Second, of course, there is the political problem in that much of the oil is in the hands of pro-Arab countries and there is some tendency to bring pressure to bear on the pro-Israeli countries through the sale of oil. Consequently, the United States today is frantically trying to buy sufficient quantities of oil to meet its needs. It is paying higher prices and is seeking to obtain oil and gasoline wherever it can. This is having an effect on their balance of payments. It is stoking the fires of inflation in the United States, and is having some very serious effect with regard to our position as an oil-producing country.

The purpose of my motion is to point out that, in my opinion, the government has a two-fold responsibility. The first is to see that the shortage of oil in the United States does not result in Canada having insufficient supplies to meet its own needs. The second responsibility the government has is to see that the higher prices in the United States do not result in Canadians having to pay more for their oil than is justified, particularly when we remember it is oil which belongs to the people of Canada.

In this motion I have, therefore, suggested, first, that the government should extend the present export controls on oil to cover gasoline and other refined products. The minister, both on May 17 and again last Friday, May 25, expressed the opinion that there is no sign of any shortage of gasoline and other refined products. I hope he is right. But I also remember that last January 9, when I raised the danger of a shortage of crude oil in this country, the minister was quite sanguine about the situation. However, by February 15, the minister, through the National Energy Board, found it necessary to apply export restrictions on crude oil because there was no guarantee by any of the big oil companies that they could supply sufficient oil to meet Canadian needs for the months of March, April and beyond. As a matter of fact, since the minister applied these restrictions his action has been fully justified by the fact that the applications for permits to export crude oil for the month of May were for 200,000 barrels per day more than the National Energy Board was prepared to approve and for the month of June they were for 320,000 barrels more than the National Energy Board was prepared to approve.

Further, the justification for imposing export controls on crude oil has been fully vindicated, and I am now suggesting to the House the time has come to apply the same provisions to the export of gasoline. I do that because the figures alarm me. As I put them on *Hansard* Friday, in

January and February of this year, our exports of gasoline to the United States were 11,517 gallons, and they jumped in March of this year to 5,332,000. This compares with only 72,000 for March of 1972. If we take our total exports of gasoline for January and February combined, were 81,265 gallons, but for March our export of gasoline had risen dramatically to 12,367,289 gallons. When you realize that our total exports last year, including our exports to the United States, were only 17 million gallons and that in the month of March alone this year we exported over 12 million gallons, you begin to understand what is happening, namely, that when the oil companies found they were restricted to exporting 1,235,000 barrels per day maximum of crude oil they began to export from Canada gasoline to meet the demand in the United States. It was a method of evading the restrictions on the export of crude oil.

● (1550)

It is significant that the exports of gasoline did not rise spectacularly until the restrictions upon crude oil were put into effect. There will be some question as to whether or not this is affecting many people. It is certainly affecting the independent operators. I have had many telephone calls from independent operators and I will give one example. One company here, the Capital City Gas Bars which operate some 24 stations in the Ottawa-Stittsville-Maniwaki area, has been notified by British Petroleum that they will only be allowed gasoline for two stations after June 1. The result is that they are going to close all 24 stations and this will throw some 200 employees out of work in this district. It seems to me that the time has come for the government to take the logical step, which we argue they should have taken last February, of extending these export controls on oil to cover gasoline and other refined products. This would plug the loophole which the oil companies are using to supplement their oil exports by additional gasoline exports.

In my opinion it is no longer satisfactory to revert to the old formula that certain amounts of oil or gasoline are "surplus to our needs". The fact is that in Canada we must conserve our supplies of cheap gas and oil because when our present supplies run out—and that time is not too far distant—we will be required to turn to much more expensive energy resources, such as oil from the tar sands and natural gas from the Arctic and the Mackenzie delta. It, therefore, seems the very essence of common sense to be conserving our cheaper conventional fission fuels rather than to be exporting large quantities, and then at an early date having to pay much higher prices for the necessary energy to operate our economy.

The second proposal I am making in this motion is that the government should introduce a two price system to protect the consumers west of the Ottawa valley who represent a captive market as a result of the government's oil policy. Ever since 1960 or thereabouts the area west of the Ottawa valley has been reserved for the western oil companies. This gave to that area a security of supply, but the consumers have paid millions of dollars for that security. This is a captive market which was given to the western oil companies without any agreement about a price formula, and with the consumers having no form of redress whatsoever with respect to the price. The oil shortage in the United States, and the demand for oil at almost any price, has resulted in prices going up in the area west of the Ottawa valley. Oil prices have risen anywhere from 55 cents a barrel to 70 cents a barrel, depending on grade and area—an increase of about 20 per cent.

I notice with alarm that some of the United States oil periodicals are predicting that this summer wellhead price for oil in Canada will go up by another 40 cents a barrel. During the last six months the price of gasoline and fuel oil for home heating have all increased, and we are justified in asking whether or not these very substantial increases in the price of oil and petroleum products is warranted. When the president of Imperial Oil was asked why these increases were taking place, he summed it up in one phrase. He said it was "attributable to international supply and price factors". Putting that into simple English, the president of Imperial Oil was saying that his company and the other oil companies were taking advantage of rising prices in the United States to charge Canadians more for the privilege of using their own oil.

Some hon. Members: Shame.

Mr. Douglas: I submit that there is no evidence whatsoever that justifies this 20 per cent increase over the past six months. The oil industry in Canada in 1972 increased its profits by 20.4 per cent over 1971, and in the first quarter of this year it increased its profits by 31.7 per cent over the same quarter for the previous year. Let me take the largest of these companies, namely, Imperial Oil, because when they raise the price all the other oil companies follow suit within a few days. Imperial Oil, which is 70 per cent owned by Standard Oil of New Jersey, in 1972 had profits of $157 million after taxes, which is up 11 per cent from the $136 million they made in 1971, which was a good year for their profits in that year were up 29.5 per cent over 1970. This price increase does not result from a payroll increase. The payroll of Imperial Oil in 1971 went down by 3.5 per cent because in that year they closed the refineries in Winnipeg, Regina and Calgary, and in 1972 their payroll went up by 3.5 per cent. So in that two year period, 1971 and 1972, their payroll was virtually stable, but their profits in that two year period went up by 40 per cent. Imperial Oil's profits over the past ten years, after paying taxes including corporation taxes, went up by over one thousand million dollars. They paid to the governments of Canada, in royalties in that ten year period, some $40 million, representing 4 per cent of what they put in their own pockets.

● (1600)

We have to recognize that 99 per cent of the petroleum refining industry in this country is foreign owned and controlled. Therefore, those corporations have been given a monopoly under the National Energy Board act to fleece the Canadian consumer with the supine connivance of an apathetic and timid government. I am suggesting that the government should seek legislative authority under Part IV of the National Energy Board Act to set prices for all oil produced and sold in Canada.

The minister takes refuge in the fact that he has no power to set the price with respect to imported oil, and I am not suggesting for a moment that he has. But in the same statement the minister points out that off-shore oil

east of the Ottawa valley is still cheaper than domestic oil. Therefore, Canadians are paying a great deal more for their oil than they ought to pay, and the protection which the government ought to give those who live west of the Ottawa valley is absolutely essential. The government has a responsibility to protect Canadian consumers by setting a price for domestic crude oil. We can let the export crude price be set by the international market, and if that price goes too far out of line with domestic prices then the government has power to impose an export tax on all Canadian crude going to foreign markets. In this way the Canadian people, to whom the oil belongs, would enjoy some of the benefits and not be limited to the mere 4 per cent of the profits which Imperial Oil has made over the past ten years.

The third proposal I have made in this motion is to suggest that the time has come to revise the national oil policy. Whatever merit the Ottawa valley line may have had 12 years ago, I maintain that today it represents a prescription for disaster. I notice that in the letter which Mr. J. F. Grundy, the Deputy Minister of the Department of Industry, Trade and Commerce, sent to the Chairman of the National Energy Board on September 22, 1971, he said:

> If the "price" for unlimited access involves a rigid maintenance of the Ottawa valley line and higher costs for Canadian industry generally and the petro-chemical industry in particular, we do not believe this is in the national interest.

Mr. Hamilton (Qu'Appelle-Moose Mountain): On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, may I ask that the rule of the House be applied to the hon. member and that he be required to table the document from which he has just quoted.

Mr. Douglas: I would be very glad to table it, Mr. Speaker, but I believe that the rules preclude a private member from tabling a document. However, if I am not allowed to table it I will be glad to give the hon. member a copy.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Laniel): Order. I wish to remind the hon. member and the former minister that this rule applies to ministers and not necessarily to private members, and in particular it applies to official documents.

Mr. Hamilton (Qu'Appelle-Moose Mountain): Is that right, Stanley?

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): A private member cannot table anything.

Mr. Douglas: Mr. Speaker, I sometimes wonder if ministers ever read the studies which are prepared for them. I have just sent to the minister and to the hon. member for Qu'Appelle-Moose Mountain (Mr. Hamilton) a copy of a report called "Canada's Commercial Policy and Energy," prepared by the Department of Industry, Trade and Commerce. It is an excellent report.

That report predicted the growing shortage of supplies in the United States. It anticipated a drainage of the Canadian market and a drastic rise of price. That report, which the government has had in its possession for a year and a half, advocated a two price system for oil in Canada. Today, after 18 months, with prices soaring and the demand for oil increasing, the government has done nothing to protect the oil consumers in the area west of the Ottawa valley.

In my opinion this national oil policy is now giving to Canadians the worst of both worlds. Those west of the Ottawa valley have the assurance of supply, but are completely at the mercy of a monopolistic industry with respect to price. Those east of the Ottawa valley have the advantage of competitive pricing, but they are going to be increasingly at the mercy of the oil producing nations which can cut off their supply or raise the price at will.

The people of eastern Canada cannot get Canadian crude because there is no pipeline to carry it to them. At the present time, Canada is shipping some 60 per cent of its oil production to the American mid-west. By removing the Ottawa valley line, I believe it would be possible for the government to give the Canadian people the best of both worlds, by having two way pipelines through which oil could move freely, either from western Canada into the eastern regions, or have off-shore oil move freely from eastern Canada and Montreal into the central market. The result would be that if western oil prices were unjustifiably high, then off-shore oil would provide competition. On the other hand, if imported crude supply were threatened or if prices became too high, then the people in the east could use western crude to ensure both security of supply and price competition. I readily admit that this might mean some curtailment in our oil exports to the United States, but I would point out to hon. members of this House that for years and years the United States has imposed quotas against Canadian crude oil by presidential directive, and those orders still stand. Canada has been used as a tap to be turned off and on as it suited the oil companies and as it suited the United States.

The fact is that we have not got a national oil policy. We have an oil policy designed by the oil industry of the United States, by the Americans and for the Americans. On March 19 of this year Mr. John Connally, the former U.S. secretary of the treasury, speaking in Toronto warned Canada not to be hidebound, to use his phrase, by nationalism, in considering our new trade and financial arrangements. But he went on to say, "The United States would understand an oil supply policy which might cut back exports to the United States if necessary to cover Canadian needs." In other words Mr. Connally is saying to Canadians, "For heaven's sake, tell us what your oil policy is with respect to your needs."

I think that we would be justified in placing a curtailment on our exports of oil and gasoline in order to guarantee to the people of Canada security of supply and reasonable prices. In my opinion, the quotas set for oil last February were much too high. They were set after there had been a terrific out-pouring of oil to the United States. We would be fully justified, not in cutting off exports of oil, but in tapering them down to the figure of half a million or three-quarters of a million barrels, the figure the United States itself imposed on us not too long ago. What we do in this immediate oil crisis will largely determine our ability to deal effectively with the long-term oil crisis.

● (1610)

As I said a few moments ago, we are shipping out our conventional crude and natural gas, and the end of those supplies is in sight. We have a life index for oil of probably between 12 and 17 years, and a life index for natural gas of 27 or 28 years. That does not mean that we will not have any energy at the end of those periods. On the other hand it does mean that we will need to turn to more expensive forms of energy, such as oil made from tar sands, gas made from coal, natural gas procured from the Arctic and the Mackenzie Valley. We ought to be conserving this cheap oil, not only to give the Canadian people reasonably priced crude products, as at present, but, as well, because our whole industrial strategy in the world depends on our preserving our competitive advantage by having cheap energy to produce manufactured and processed goods for sale on the world market. This government, in my opinion, has never understood the use of energy as a tool in our struggle to win for Canada a place in the durable goods markets of the world and thereby create more jobs for Canadians.

In conclusion, Mr. Speaker, I want to say that unless the government starts now to deal with the short-term energy crisis, we will have thrown away our trump cards when we come to deal with the long-term energy crisis, for that is the crisis which will determine whether Canada will survive as an important manufacturing nation in the world.

Hon. Alvin Hamilton (Qu'Appelle-Moose Mountain): Mr. Speaker, I do not think there is any significance in there not being an immediate reply by the government to the motion moved by the NDP. I think that all the evidence shows that all political parties at this moment of Canada's history are turning their deepest thoughts to this problem in an effort to find some way of grappling with the question of energy and Canada's future. I do not think it is trite to say that our future as a nation depends on our wise use of minerals and our wise use of energy which, by God's grace, we find in Canada.

I wish to commend the ex-leader of the NDP for his statesmanlike presentation of what he terms as the short-term approach. At first he ignored the long-term approach. Near the end of his remarks he came down, I think, on the right side by suggesting that ultimately we will need to grapple with this long-term question. I share with him his concern that the government for ten years, not four, had avoided grappling with the issue of a national energy policy, a national mineral policy and a national resource policy. If one peruses the records of this House since 1963, one will find frequent questions asked by the hon. member for Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands (Mr. Douglas) and other hon. members of the House, including myself, with regard to our need to move in this area.

I am not going to spend all my time in dealing with generalities. As I say, I wish to commend the hon. member for Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands for his speech today. It shows that real thought is being given to this question. I am glad he changed the attitude which was evident three years ago when, in this House, he commended this government for its efforts in trying to sell more oil in the United States. All I can say is that in 1970 the hon. member said we should sell more oil to the United States and that the government should do everything it could to sell more oil in that market. Today, he has come round to another way of thinking and said that we should not do that.

Mr. Peters: The hon. member has been reading the wrong *Hansard.*

Mr. Hamilton (Qu'Appelle-Moose Mountain): The hon. member says I am reading the wrong *Hansard.* I have a copy of *Hansard* in my hand, and if the hon. member wishes, I will quote for him. I am simply commending the hon. member for his change of attitude. I am not going to go over the political history of the trapeze act that the NDP has carried on for the past 35 years in Canada. It has shifted its position whenever the wind has veered. I am glad to welcome them on board, so to speak, and commend them for their position, which I hope is constant.

An hon. Member: And who is jumping on the band wagon now?

Mr. Hamilton (Qu'Appelle-Moose Mountain): Mr. Speaker, there is an energy crisis today. Its size and scope has been outlined well and ably by the hon. member for Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands. This is not a new crisis, in the opinion of some. In 1952, the Paley report of the United States, which had been asked for by the president in 1944, was published. The purpose in commissioning the report was this: The American government wanted the experts involved to tell the American people about the huge consumption of their strategic resources during the fighting of the war and what the future would be for their industrial complex. That report of 1952 warned that by 1980 the American Republic would be facing serious deficits in strategic resources of minerals, oil and gas.

In 1959, the Netschert report outlined this shortage in a different form and put it even more strongly. In 1963, the Landsberg report of the United States put the question in wider perspective. It warned the United States that it could get off the hook only if it used more expensive renewable resources. So, one cannot say that we have arrived at our present situation without warning.

As I say, today we face a crisis. This crisis has not only to do with a temporary shortage of supplies because, after all, there are plentiful sources of energy in the world. Rather, the crisis has to do with intermediate or short-term supply and price. At present the United States, an industrial nation, and Japan and western Europe, also industrial areas, are desperately short of the traditional fossil fuels, oil, gas and coal. Of all industrial nations, with the exception of Russia, Canada is the only one that can look with assurance at the future in the short term and in the long term. We have proven supplies for 15 years for oil, 30 years for gas and, when you take coal, we cannot even begin to estimate how many years of supply we have. If we add up all our resources, according to conservative estimates our potential reserves of oil, gas and other energy resources will last us about 500 years at present consumption rates. So we, ourselves, are not in a precarious position.

As the hon. member for Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands pointed out, if we take this backlog of resources and use them to correct the American mistake of the past 25 years,

our supplies will become negligible and we will join the deficit area shared by Japan, the United States and western Europe. Therefore, on the question of supply, we must be cautious. We have to move very carefully in the matter involving export permits both for oil and gas. I do not think there is any difference between any party in Canada on this score.

● (1620)

However, on the question of price, there are going to be slight variations. For 50 years, since the twenties, the world price has been set by an international cartel. This international cartel, more powerful than governments, had a policy that worked on the assumption of plentiful supplies at low prices. Therefore, the wholesale price of oil, which is an international commodity, has remained almost static for nearly 50 years. Naturally, price wars broke out and they squelched them, but generally speaking, the price of wholesale oil has remained constant for 50 years throughout the industrial world.

This policy of the cartel, which oddly enough worked to the advantage of consumers all over the industrial world, has come to an end. OPEC, the Organization of Petroleum Export Countries, realizes that this oil in their lands is of great value to the industrial nations and, as the hon. member who preceded me pointed out, gives them political leverage. For these two reasons, oil prices in the world are no longer set by a cartel of seven major international oil companies. They are now set by the 11, 12 or 13 nations which export under the over all umbrella of OPEC. This fact of price is something that no person of responsibility in any party, opposition or government, can ignore. We will be up against a world price fact for the next 10 or 12 years, that is unquestionable. No matter how much manoeuvring we do, we cannot change this. However, I accept at once the first part of the proposal of the New Democratic Party that some consideration must be given to placing controls on the export of gasoline and other refined petroleum products.

In speaking for this party, I have been very careful about being as responsible as I can. It is true I have tried to guide the minister into facing the fact that he has some responsibility to get extra supplies for the eastern part of Canada. The situation in Montreal has concerned me for over four years. Since 1966, it has been sitting on the edge of an abyss. What would happen if there were an outbreak of hostilities in the Middle East? If these nations fulfilled their pledges which they have made over and over again, Montreal and the area would have 45 days supply and then be out entirely. Naturally, the government would move fast and set up a rationing system so that the 45 days supply would last for 60 or 70 days, but there would be a lot of cold people in the area east of the Ottawa valley if that emergency arose.

We hope and pray that oil and gas will be discovered off the east coast to relieve this pressure. However, as a question of policy which is not long term, but short term, the government has to grapple with the decision of what we would do about these people in Montreal. Many of them speak a different language, but they are part of Canada. A great deal of our industrial complex is in this area, yet these people sit quite oblivious to the fact that if there were a cut-off of offshore oil, they would be out of business as an industrial area immediately. As long as the rationing lasted, they would be reasonably warm.

The danger of having to rely on the tender mercies of OPEC, the policy recommendation for the short-run, is referred to in the third clause in the motion moved today by the NDP. The third clause reads:

> Remove the Ottawa Valley line and permit offshore oil and domestic crude to move freely in the interests of price competition.

I would love to believe this could be done. As far as oil and gas are concerned, I would love to get the Ontario and Quebec people off the backs of the westerners. We have been carring them on our backs for nearly 15 years. Certainly, higher prices would be charged for oil, but if the Ontario and Quebec people are to be at the tender mercies of the OPEC nations in preference to the tender mercies of Mr. Lougheed, that is their choice. However, I think that choice should be arrived at by open discussion, free of partisanship, because we cannot resolve these matters by indulging in traditional partisanship. I, and I believe my party, would be prepared to move the Ottawa Valley line west if that were requested by the Ontario government.

Mr. Macdonald (Rosedale): West or east?

Mr. Hamilton (Qu'Appelle-Moose Mountain): Move the Ottawa Valley line west, as suggested in the motion. I would agree with that because then we could move into our natural form of movement of oil south from Saskatchewan, Alberta and British Columbia. However, I am a Canadian. I have to look at the problems of the people who live in Ontario and Quebec as well as those who live in the west.

This matter should be openly and seriously considered. I would move the Ottawa Valley line east and include Montreal, if Quebec asked for it. I know adjustments would have to be made in the refineries. Even though it would not be economic on the basis of costs, the westerner, as a Canadian, would have to be prepared to supply at least half the needs of Montreal. The people of Quebec should be brought into this decision making. We here could arbitrarily say we are going to build a pipeline into Montreal with a capacity of 400,000 barrels a day. This would at least guarantee that heating fuels were available. We could not keep their industry going. However, that is a decision for the province of Quebec to share. They had better come here to talk to us about this or we should go to them. I am speaking here, I hope in a reasonably non-partisan way, to try to bring light to this question.

On the first part of this question, the control clause, we do not have any choice. Look at our pipeline capacity. We had a narrow squeak last winter. One cold winter and Toronto will be in trouble. We do not have the pipeline capacity. Look at the storage capacity in Ontario and the dangerous position of the refinery capacity. Two years ago, Texaco announced it would build a refinery near Lake Erie. Construction was held up for two years. I will not go into all the reasons because they are well known. Last month Texaco announced they would be going ahead with the project. They had better get cracking because regardless of whether they make 15 per cent or 20 per cent profit, people in the industrial area of Ontario want enough oil and gas to keep their industries going and their

bodies warm. That is the essential part of policy. Do not distract us entirely with this issue of how much they are making. They are not doing too badly. I simply point out that the essence of policy making at this time is to see if we can come up with some sort of decision that is clear-cut for the producer and the consumer. The national oil policy of 1961 is not the law of the Medes and Persians. It is a flexible thing and should be looked at in that way.

I condemned the minister by inference for going into this OECD deal and saying he would not make special deals with Venezuela or Nigeria. He now realizes his mistake and will look into the matter. I support him in this. Venezuela is a friend of Canada, but will only deal government to government. Nigeria is a different case. There you can deal with different owners of concessions. At the present time, 100,000 barrels a day of sweet oil is available to Canada from Nigeria, but somebody has to make the move. Ontario has to help us decide whether that Ottawa Valley line should be moved west or east, whether that area is going to stay in the Canadian supply orbit or the world supply orbit. All I can say is that that area has not suffered too badly this last number of years.

● (1630)

In 1961, the national oil policy was based simply on the facts of that time. We wanted our exports from the west to balance our imports on the east. Those balances were kept by private companies. The United States government was actually opposed to the import of Canadian oil into the United States. It tried to stop it in 1959 by imposing mandatory quotas. We laid down unilaterally an oil policy which said that exports should balance imports, and private industry, by trading off quotas, reached that balance. We have provided Ontario with security of markets at a slight premium over the Montreal price. At this moment in time they are negotiating in Vienna for a price increase of 30 to 40 cents a barrel and by the end of this year prices in Montreal of offshore oil will be above western oil prices or Chicago prices. A fair estimate of the price per barrel for offshore oil by 1975 is $5 per barrel. Do you want to wire those Quebec and Ontario people into that price of oil? I would like to hear more about what price will be set for western oil, to be fair.

I want you, Mr. Speaker, to remember, too, that this oil in British Columbia, Alberta and Saskatchewan belongs to the people of those provinces. They will have something to say. They can stop the export of oil from those areas if they wish. I think this Ottawa Valley line should be left open. I would like to talk to the people of Quebec and offer to them, if they wish a policy of building a pipeline right down into Montreal, via the Toronto area, but one which would back up into North Bay and Sudbury, Sault Ste. Marie, even. If we do discover oil offshore in the Atlantic, we could bring it up that line to under-developed parts of Canada. In the meantime, such a pipeline would be a guarantee to the Montreal people that at least half their needs would be provided. Certainly, western oil would be cheaper than offshore oil by the time that line is completed. I would like to leave that decision open, and I think the hon. member for Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands would like to leave it that way, too. At least we want the government to move. That is the main thing we have in common.

[Mr. Hamilton (Qu'Appelle-Moose Mountain).]

On the question of gasoline exports, I would hate to think it is anything more than a regional policy, or a short-term policy at best. Many parts of Canada, I am talking now about Newfoundland, Cape Breton as part of Nova Scotia, and New Brunswick, have waited for years to get more processing and more jobs in Canada. No opportunity has come to Canada until recently. This type of policy suggest by the NDP would cut off exports completely. I think, on that point, that if you want to talk rationally with us about some sort of regional policy on gasoline there would be some sense in temporary controls. I would like to put that forward. I have a series of questions about such a policy in the long range. I believe the policy you are suggesting would destroy all that the government was trying to do, because the government was trying to get more processing in Canada. If we look after our basic needs, we can be very open about that question. I do have questions here about the licensing procedures, but they are purely housekeeping and I will let them go.

The two-price system for gas has been in effect ever since the beginning, by reason of the common carriage principle—I know that gas is not a common carrier but I am using that phrase—

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Laniel): Order, please. I regret I must interrupt the hon. member because the time allotted to him has expired. Unless there is unanimous consent, he cannot continue.

Mr. Macdonald (Rosedale): Continue.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Laniel): Is that agreed?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Mr. Hamilton (Qu'Appelle-Moose Mountain): I shall not abuse the privilege extended to me by the House, Mr. Sepaker. I was just about finished. I was about to say we have had the two-price system for gas by reason of the common carrier principle because they used the zone system of prices, and we certainly had it on the export differential of 5 per cent. I would like to hear some discussion as to whether this export differential which is now governed by regulations of the National Energy Board, should be made 10 per cent or something like that. If you put it too high I am sure you would have a lot of static from the producer, who would feel he was being discriminated against. But that policy principle has been established and I think it should be re-opened for discussion.

Oil has always had only the protection of the common carrier price differential. There has never been any control by government in the United States or Canada on price, and the announcement made by the minister the other day is very significant. But once again this should be approached very cautiously and a lot of questions have to be asked. I would question quite frankly the wisdom of trying to keep us too far out of touch with the world price. But once again I have over-used my time and I will not impose upon the House.

I think I have said enough about the Ottawa Valley line to keep the question open until we find out what Eastern people want. I want to conclude in the same tone as the hon. member for Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands conclud-

ed. Canada has nothing to fear either in the short term or in the long term. We have plenty of resources of the traditional fossil forms and unbelievable resources, as do other countries, in the form of renewables. But we do have a common need to work out industrial strategy, to use these great advantages of our great resources of water, of which we are only using 1 per cent, our great resources of energy, our great resources of minerals, wood and so on, to bring into Canada more processing without too many controls.

Now, with the rising prices of energy offshore, with the rising prices and shortage of minerals around the world, all these things can be turned to advantage. We have waited so patiently for this day to come. The day is now here and our decisions on this question of energy are vital to the achievement of a dream which is now becoming a reality. We pay higher wages to steel workers. We produce better quality steel today in Canada and we do it at a lower price. That is a comparative advantage. Let us exploit things like the petro-chemical industry, the steel industry and all the things made out of steel, by building this proper mix, by making those things in Canada for which we have comparative advantage and letting other nations of the world supply the things in which they have comparative advantage. I think the future we have talked about for a generation or more, or maybe longer, has a chance to be fulfilled in a very short time. I see the movement of the petro-chemical industry in Canada; I know the steel industry can expand, and that the wood industry just has to expand to meet the human problems and the shortage of fibre around the world.

My criticism of the NDP position is that it will force us on a short term basis to face frankly these issues raised by the hon. member. But obviously there has to be a future occasion on which we can discuss the broader long-range problems and solutions for Canada. I know that we in our party are looking forward to bringing in these alternatives. When the government has delivered its papers we shall see what it has to offer. We are prepared to offer our alternatives. Now, these decisions are for Canada. We shall be dealing with electricity. We shall deal with energy in its fossil form and in its renewable form, and I would hope we can put forward a type of long-range proposal, with short-term housekeeping responsibilities met, that could draw the support of every party in this House and most people in Canada.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

● (1640)

[*Translation*]

Mr. Gilles Caouette (Charlevoix): Mr. Speaker, one could speak endlessly on the motion introduced by the hon. member for Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands (Mr. Douglas), especially in view of the present government's lack of policy in this area.

On the one hand, when one ponders over the statistics and the specialists' comments on Canada's oil resources, one realizes that this country is far from being short of this commodity. Even in to-day's newspapers Canadians are given every assurance that, at least in the near future, there will be no shortage of oil or of any other natural resources for that matter.

On the other hand, one must look farther than the tip of one's nose. Although there is no risk of an oil crisis occurring in Canada to-day, it is a fact that we may be faced with such a crisis, because the volume of our exports, maybe not within the next five to ten years, but in the more distant future. Any inconsiderate abuse could certainly foster this problem in Canada.

The motion before the House is divided into three parts, the first of which is as follows:

(a) Place export controls on the export of gasoline and other refined petroleum products;

We all know—as explained a moment ago by the hon. member who introduced the motion—that controls have been provided by the government for the purpose of reducing the export of crude oil (natural resources). And indirectly, these restrictions on exports have had as a result that the United States are asking for a finished product. However, I believe that we may not be in a suitable position to criticize this attitude because in a way, there have been many complaints in recent years, especially in Canada. We complain that we have only raw products, that we have not succeeded in developing our secondary industry and here, in a round about way, we have a sector where we force foreigners to come here to buy refined products. Here is an area where surely we can still improve our production, improve employment possibilities and our industrial sector.

On the other hand, the demand from the United States and other countries is growing stronger and there is an increase in prices. In other words, the United States are ready to pay a higher price because their needs are greater and indirectly the companies, especially Canadian development companies, are asking Canadians the same price that they can get from the United States, thereby pushing up prices in Canada also.

It is fine to want to restrict the export of raw products through controls and today we are wondering how we could help Canadians population avoid higher prices, brought about by a stronger demand.

In the second paragraph of his motion, the hon. member advocates the establishment of price controls or at least, indirectly, a two-price system. First they ask for export controls, then the establishment of price controls.

I believe that through control measures or through an energy commission it would certainly be possible to exercise a certain control. I do not want a dictatorial control but it remains that a government is always elected to protect the rights or meet the needs of the people. Then, it would be logical to have a national commission evaluate the country's oil supply, and consider our short long term requirements. A national agency or organization could make sure that the needs of our population are fulfilled.

Our production surplus, and our reserves—because still one must expect to have reserves—could then be sold at a high price to other countries, according to their needs. Then the situation would not be as it is now, where the Canadian population is made to suffer from whatever increase in prices that may prevail in the United States. That is one way of having prices established.

Then, how are prices set? Prices are determined in the first instance by the cost of production, plus a logical and

reasonable profit. This basic price could easily be met on the Canadian market.

When a variation originating in other countries occurs and leads to a loss for Canadian producers we could, not by setting up a price control system but a compensated discount system, compensate the producer or a given product for a possible loss resulting from a sale on domestic rather than foreign markets. That is a way the government could use and certainly it would not be up to the government to determine prices. Free competition within this country could easily set prices, as is partly the case presently.

Such is not the case, for instance, in the oil sector because the third paragraph of the motion—and I think the hon. member made it quite clear a while ago—specifically refers to an obstacle which adversely affects competition on the Canadian market, that is to say the frontier created by the Ottawa Valley which impedes the distribution or sale of oil between eastern and western Canada. So by doing away with such a frontier we would really create in Canada a possibility for real competition in oil prices.

It is known that western oil producing or manufacturing provinces can sell their oil profitably to the United States. However, we in the province of Quebec or the Maritimes can buy oil cheaper from the Middle East or Venezuela than from Alberta. Why? Simply because the west wanted to set up an imaginary limitation to control and get the highest price while the east has to deal with an international market, which does not do anything for competition in Canada. So by doing away with that frontier of the Ottawa Valley we would give back Canada a chance to establish competitive prices between domestic and foreign products.

And I am not thinking about a possible production in Quebec. It is known that many industries, many experts on oil products undertook drilling operations in the province of Quebec and on the east coast of Canada. But nothing is said or done about it. Those are possibilities which could be developed.

As I said before, according to the studies of a board, we would determine the real potential, the immediate and long-term potential or the reserve needed in Canada.

In this global context, it is important that government take positive action. It would be possible to set up or guarantee a competitive price for oil—since it is the example used today—based on production costs as well as a normal profit within a sound competitive situation in Canada and, as I mentioned before, pay an indemnity to those who might lose money selling surpluses, which I doubt. As demand from the U.S. and other countries increases rapidly, I am sure we could get the best price for it. Then, the sale of those surpluses could even be included in an international market where we could bargain over a product that, for us, has a set price based on our needs, but that could have a much higher value for Americans according to their own needs. Then, trade would be subject not to international price controls as now but to our needs and those of the U.S., for example.

● (1650)

If the United States have huge oil requirements and we, on the other hand, have a strong appetite for oranges we could easily bargain on the market on the market according to the value of products and to our requirements, assess the volume of trade according to our requirements and not only to prices established by international or multinational corporations which ask us, in fact, a price that is not dictated by our requirements but that they establish arbitrarily to make inflated profits in some cases.

The government must change its whole policy, its whole attitude towards foreign trade. First of all, we must take into account our requirements and surplus that we will have produced, then we might bargain with other countries in need and establish prices as we see fit. Thus, we will have much higher profits.

It is important that the government look after Canadians first and, if possible, deal with other countries after.

We should not forget either than even taxes are included in price increases. As I said earlier, prices have gone up not because of stronger demand in Canada but as a result of larger requirements in the United States, which have an indirect impact on Canadian prices.

One realizes that we have a strange way of doing things in Canada. A gallon of oil or gas is sold at a given price in the west and at an other price in the east and, similarly, the tax differs in the east and in the west because it is deducted from retail prices.

Those are situations that might be readjusted in order to reflect not necessarily the requirements of large corporations but those of the people, according to the cost of production and not to arbitrary decisions taken by various corporations.

I have here statistics showing the increase in exports of oil products to the United States. Whereas in 1969-70 our sales of crude oil to the United States amounted to $525,780,000, in 1970 they reached $649,075,000 and in 1972, $1.8 billion.

If there is such a growing need for oil products in the United States as shown over the past years, I feel we are now in a good position to bargain with them and to apply restrictions on exports of crude products while increasing exports of refined products.

In the past, the Americans were importing crude oil from Canada and were having it refined at home, thus creating new jobs and improving their own economy.

Today we are able to put restrictions on production and export of crude oil; it is equally important to maintain those restrictions so as to provide for the development of our secondary industry, namely refineries, and then sell the surplus of those refineries to the United States as well as other countries wishing to have some.

That is what I wanted to say on this motion and I believe the fact of thinking about a general energy policy already represents in the attitude of politicians and Canadians a fresh and, I hope, lasting outlook for all Canadians as compared with the restrictive and arbitrary approach we now favour.

Again, that is what I wished to say and in concluding I would like to point out that prices are based on operating costs and profits and that if there is a need to increase prices or losses because price or consumption are not in

accordance with the demand, there is only one possible way then of readjusting prices, namely the establishment of a compensated discount for the Canadian people and not for other countries.

[*English*]

PROCEEDINGS ON ADJOURNMENT MOTION

SUBJECT MATTER OF QUESTIONS TO BE DEBATED

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Before recognizing the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources (Mr. Macdonald) it is my duty, pursuant to Standing Order 40, to inform the House that the questions to be raised tonight at the time of adjournment are as follows: The hon. member for Victoria (Mr. McKinnon)—National Defence—request for retention of the kilt for Highland units; the hon. member for Assiniboia (Mr. Knight)—National Revenue—request that the government not seek return of over-payment to farmers under Wheat Inventory Reduction Program; the hon. member for Perth-Wilmot (Mr. Jarvis)—Agriculture—taxation of marketing quotas—Possible revision in light of representations by farm groups.

● (1700)

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

BUSINESS OF SUPPLY

ALLOTTED DAY S.O. 58—SUGGEST IMPOSITION OF CONTROLS ON PETROLEUM PRODUCTS

[*Translation*]

Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): Mr. Speaker, first I would like to refer to one of the issues raised by the hon. member for Charlevoix (Mr. Caouette). It was a repetition of the suggestion put forward by the hon. member for Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands (Mr. Douglas) to the effect that one of the reasons for the considerable increase in Canadian gas exports in March was the control over crude oil exports set by the government in February.

I would like to emphasize that there is no relation between those facts. Most of the refined oil exported from Canada in March originated from Quebec and Nova Scotia refineries and not from Alberta where crude oil controls were in effect. So, the crude petroleum imports from overseas are used in Canadian regions. We note that the increase in exports is larger in those areas. So there is no relation between the larger gas exports and the control set on crude oil by the government at the beginning of February.

[*English*]

Mr. Speaker, the motion put by the hon. member for Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands (Mr. Douglas), in essence, has two parts to it. In effect, there is a reference to the short-run and immediate problem of motor gasoline and, secondly, in parts (b) and (c) it has reference to the longer run issue, namely the kind of structure we should create for the Canadian oil market given the somewhat changed circumstances of our petroleum situation in the mid-1970's. I should like to take a little time dealing with the motor gasoline question because of the legitimate special concern on this point, and after that my remarks will refer to the long-run situation.

The hon. member referred in his question on Friday to a number of independent dealers who had been suffering problems concerning the supply of refined motor gasoline. He made particular reference to one firm in respect of this situation. We are familiar with the situation regarding this firm and are hopeful that through the informal assistance of the National Energy Board this problem might be met. I might put to him and to others, both in the House and out, who are familiar with similar situations, that particularly when we talk about the independent distributors of gasoline I wish to be familiar with their situation, to see in what way the government and particularly the board might be of assistance in dealing with the problem.

I think it might be of some assistance if, really in response to the gentleman's question of last Friday, I put some figures on the record which I now have from the National Energy Board with regard to exports during the month of March. I am advised by the board that gasoline exports to all countries during the month of March were 12,367,000 gallons which is at the rate of just under 12,000 barrels a day. Since the very large bulk movement occurred in that month, and as exports were expected to rise sharply in any case, I think the events of April may have more significance. The board estimates that April exports of gasoline were lower than those of March, that is, something under 10,000 barrels a day. It is still a significant figure in comparison with previous years, but bear in mind when we are talking about 12,000 barrels daily, with the daily Canadian production of motor gasoline of around 500,000 barrels, we are talking about 2 per cent of the Canadian production.

In the present volatile situation, of course, it is very difficult to make a prediction with regard to the current market. However, officers of the board have been in constant contact with the refiners and I can assure members that the gasoline situation is receiving day-to-day surveillance. I would, however, like to emphasize to the House, and repeat what has been indicated privately to the major refiners in Canada, that the government has the same expectation with regard to refined products as was expressed earlier in this year with regard to unrefined petroleum, namely, that the needs of the Canadian market would receive priority and that if we find that informal arrangements of the kind that have operated for many years through the agency of the board are not effective in protecting the Canadian market, I will not hesitate to recommend to my colleagues the extension of the export control system to refined as well as unrefined petroleum.

I think it might be useful to mention a number of factors which have contributed to the very substantial increase in petroleum prices internationally since 1970. There has, of course, first, been an increase in taxation by the overseas producing countries brought about primarily

by the efforts of OPEC, the organization of petroleum exporting countries. There have, in the same period, been changes in exchange rates, particularly in so far as they effect North America and, through negotiations again by OPEC, the cost of overseas oil coming to this continent has been increased. There has been an attainment by overseas producers of the right of participation in oil production which was formerly exclusively controlled by private companies and this, too, has contributed to the price increase. There has been a continued pressure of rising demand on available oil supplies which also has effected tanker markets, particularly in recent months, and has therefore affected the cost of transporting overseas the oil imported into this continent.

It is impossible to give a precise indication of the extent of this price increase as it affects the cost of crude oil delivered to our import dependent eastern market because the increase is still working its way through the system. However, estimates tabled by the board and placed before the standing committee earlier this year suggest that between 1970 and February of this year the average cost of imported crude increased by at least 85 cents a barrel or some 30 per cent. Imports of refined oil products in to eastern Canada have decreased in recent years with the coming on the scene of new refinery capacity. But the structure of the eastern Canadian market still has been that substantial refined petroleum products are required by the Canadian market. Indeed, many of the independents who are now so much feeling the pinch of the changed international situation were able to operate in this area where it was possible to buy offshore at cheap prices refined gasoline for resale within the market east of the Ottawa Valley line, the eastern Canadian market.

What has now occurred, of course, is that with the increased pressure on oil prices generally, the substantial increase in the prices of refined oil products and because of the very heavy demand due to the tightness of the supply internationally, the supplies, which formerly were available to the independents particularly but to the eastern Canadian market, have now very substantially dried up and the situation therefore which has been created for the independents is not so much one of shortage resulting from a diversion of refinery capacity in Canada, from which they were formerly drawing, but rather from there not having available to them from overseas the supplies of the refined products which they had before. I think we must expect that with or without export controls, that is to say with or without the control on export of Canadian refined products to the United States market, we will feel an attenuation of the supply of refined products to the Canadian market and for this reason I think we can expect, through this year and so long as these prices remain, not to be importing as much of the refined product as we did previously, with the economic consequences that that has had for certain firms.

More specifically, I am advised by the board that in 1973 almost no motor gasoline has been imported into Canada. I should explain that the import of the refined product is subject to licensing. In the previous year, while 140,000 barrels a day of refined products came into Canada, of which 10,000 barrels a day, was motor gasoline, there has been virtually none of the latter come into Canada since the start of the year. I have already mentioned the fact that in April the board contacted all the refiners who might be selling their product for export. The board has sought and received assurances that the product would not be exported at the expense of the necessary supply to the domestic market. The emphasis again is put on the fact that the March export figures reflect one large shipment and a number of smaller spot sales and, as I already mentioned, the expectation is that the figures will be slightly lower for the month of April.

● (1710)

Mr. Douglas: May I ask the minister a question? I am interested in the figures which he just quoted, and I have them here. Does it not give the minister concern that at the same time that our exports of gasoline have gone up so dramatically, our imports of gasoline have almost dried up? Does it not point to what could be a serious situation requiring gasoline rationing this summer?

Mr. Macdonald (Rosedale): Certainly, there is need for serious consideration. My advice is that there is no serious shortage of supply at this moment, but I would have to agree with the hon. gentleman that without a very tight restriction on further exports from Canadian refiners the position of the Canadian market certainly would be more precarious, particularly if there was a refinery accident or if there were an abnormal increase in the demand during the present period, so that the supplies in eastern Canada in particular would be very much a matter of concern. I would agree with the hon. gentleman that with the phenomenon of the reduction of foreign supply of refined petroleum products we should be very concerned about conserving all the possible domestic refined product for the Canadian market, recognizing that this is apparently going against the policy which we have been fostering of trying to find a market for the refined product. I would say that we are hopeful that the efforts made informally with refiners to achieve this purpose would be successful, but I repeat that if they are not, the government will have to take action similar to the one it took with regard to export of crude.

The second aspect of the hon. member's motion is with regard to a restructuring—and this is my characterization—of the Canadian oil market, given the substantial change in the external facts since the national oil policy was first announced by the government led by the right hon. member for Prince Albert (Mr. Diefenbaker) in 1961. I think it might be useful to reflect for a moment on the nature of the system that was set up at that time, and on the motivations of the government at that time. The Canadian oil industry in those years—and here we are talking about western Canadian producers of oil and natural gas—was in a situation of being basically in a buyers' market, of having difficulty in getting access to the United States for oil and in having great difficulty in getting access to the United States for natural gas at reasonable prices. For that reason, governments in the late 1950's and early 1960's sought to create systems in Canada whereby Canadian needs would be supplied by Canadian sources, as much from the motive of making markets available for the producers as to provide sources for consumers.

Over a period of years, and particularly in the last decade since the situation was changed from an exclusive-

ly buyers' market to more of a sellers' market. The national oil policy system on the whole, I think, has served the country well. It put us in the position, at least in so far as exports from western Canada are concerned, of selling the Canadian product at a high price to the United States and, in so far as the population east of the Ottawa valley line was concerned, of buying the product cheaply on the international market. The consumer, of course, who bore the cost of this was the Ontario consumer, but the argument has been made, particularly by western producers, that in the same period of time the Ontario producer had the advantage of low cost natural gas which somewhat equalized the situation for him.

Whatever may have been the merits of that system, I think we can recognize the fact that this situation has substantially changed. In the first place, as all previous speakers have indicated, the United States has ceased to be a net producer of petroleum and has become a very substantial net importer. At the same time, because of this situation, Canada has not only achieved the objective which was talked about for many years in this House of having full access to the United States market, but we have achieved the objective of being able to sell as much of the oil to the United States market as the existing conventional Canadian systems can produce following good conservation practices.

On this basis, we are now in the situation where we have reached a ceiling on our production from Western Canadian sources, and at the same time the international scene has changed. What started out basically as a system to provide a protected market for the western producer in Ontario through the national oil policy has now become a system which provides for the Ontario consumer security of supply which the consumer in eastern Canada, east of the Ottawa valley line, does not have and which indeed very few consumers have anywhere else in the world

This brings me, therefore, to the two points made by the hon. gentleman, and I put them in the form of questions. First, should we shift from the national oil policy system and the Ottawa valley line which we have had for the last 11 or 12 years and, as the hon. member suggested, open it to the full competitive system; and, second, should we create a system of price control within the market so that, as he said, the price for oil and petroleum products in Canada will be significantly lower than the going international price? These are two difficult questions, and I would agree with the hon. member for Qu'Appelle-Moose Mountain (Mr. Hamilton) that they are the kind of major questions with which we should be involved, not only in debate in this House but in debates between the various regions of Canada which will be affected.

I do not presume to lecture the two gentlemen who are both natives of the prairie region and spokesmen for western Canada, but certainly I think they would recognize the viewpoint of western producers that far from being in the situation of, in effect, selling their product at a lower cost on the Canadian market than it would fetch internationally, they should get the highest price obtainable for oil or gas in any market, domestic or international.

Mr. Douglas: The question is, whose oil is it?

Mr. Macdonald (Rosedale): There was some reference to the premier of Alberta. He thinks definitely that it is his oil. I suppose his arguments are twofold, and he can make them much more eloquently than I. To repeat them, the first is that in the form of economic rent by way of royalties he and the residents of his province will get more from the exploitation of what is, after all, a wasting asset if they get a higher price for their product. The second argument is that because of higher price there will be encouragement for greater exploration for oil within that province and in the vicinity of the province which will have benefits both for the provincial treasury and the economic opportunities which it will offer residents of western Canada.

This is one of the questions we have to consider on a national basis in weighing the regional interests of western Canada and getting the best possible price for this product while recognizing the interest of the consumers in other parts of Canada in getting the product at the lowest possible price. It seems to me that the hon. gentleman's proposal of establishing a two price system would not, at least immediately, find support in western Canada. Obviously, it will have to be a matter of debate.

The second of the points that I would have made, and which was made effectively by the hon. member for Qu'Appelle-Moose Mountain, regards the security of supply. It is with regard to the location of the Ottawa valley line. An eloquent argument can be made—and the hon. gentleman certainly advanced it well—that rather than removing the line altogether serious consideration should be given to moving it, not west or removing it altogether, but moving it east to protect the substantial Montreal refinery markets, thereby ensuring to that market the security of crude feedstock which the Ontario market already enjoys. That too, of course, would be in contradiction of the hon. member's proposal. I would have to say that that too offers obvious problems, both from the point of view of the refiners in the Quebec market and from the standpoint of the western producers who feel they could probably get a better price for their product if they sold it in the more proximate market than in the Montreal market.

● (1720)

These are the kinds of questions we as a country will have to face in dealing with the changed situation that has occurred since we first established the national oil policy back in the early 1960's. These are the kinds of basic questions, along with other questions, that are dealt with in the energy policy studies which have now, as they say, gone to press, and which we hope will be available before the House rises for the summer. These are the kinds of questions with which the House and the country will be involved, the kinds of questions with which the government, in dealing with provincial governments and in dealing with the viewpoints of individual citizens, will be very much involved later this year. These are the kinds of difficult questions that require some kind of national consensus, such as we had a decade or so ago, and the process of establishing that national consensus will start with the analyses we have made and which we hope will assist in arriving at a change in policy.

Petroleum Products Controls

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Before I recognize the hon. member for Waterloo-Cambridge (Mr. Saltsman), I will recognize the hon. member for Qu'Appelle-Moose Mountain on a question, since the minister has much time remaing for his speech.

Mr. Hamilton (Qu'Appelle-Moose Mountain): Do I understand that these reports or papers on energy policy will not be available until near the end of June?

Mr. Macdonald (Rosedale): Mr. Speaker, I cannot really be certain of this because the matter is now beyond my control, in the sense that the translation and the printing of the documents are now in process. I would hope they would be available within the coming month, but I cannot be precise as to time.

Mr. Hamilton (Qu'Appelle-Moose Mountain): I wonder if some of the staff would leak me the documents ahead of time, just as they leaked the one to the hon. member for Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands.

Mr. Macdonald (Rosedale): Mr. Speaker, I would have to insist that if there are to be any leaks that they be in both official languages.

Mr. Douglas: Mr. Speaker, the minister talked about moving the Ottawa Valley line east or west. My suggestion was that, rather than doing that, we should remove the line altogether so that off-shore oil, if it is cheap, could come further west, and western oil if it is cheaper could come east by extending the pipeline to Montreal. Is this aspect being studied by those who are preparing the national energy report?

Mr. Macdonald (Rosedale): In general terms, the question is debated. This is one of th factors I would like to be specific about because the hon. gentleman talked at some length about it. This concerns the security of supply situation so far as opening up the market at some future date to full imports is concerned.

While we have a present tightness in the international supply situation this is not, as several speakers suggested, because there is not a very strong base of supply in the ground or available in the producing countries, but rather is due to shortcomings in the producing system and in the transportation system. It is conceivable that we would move from the present situation of tight supply to one where there would be significantly full supplies. One of the considerations we have to bring to bear would be, if we opened up the full Eastern Canadian market, the Toronto as well as the Montreal market to off-shore imports, the effect this could have in backing out western feed stock from these areas and thereby creating a larger problem of insecurity with respect to supply. This is one of the concerns we would have to take under consideration before following the hon. member's suggestion.

Mr. Max Saltsman (Waterloo-Cambridge): Mr. Speaker, I am just wondering if there is some significance in the fact that all these leaks have been taking place since we established Information Canada.

The matter I should like to raise with the minister is one that I raised earlier this afternoon during the question period about bringing pipelines and national gas and oil policy to parliament. It is becoming quite obvious that this is a political question. I do not think any better statement on its obviousness could be made than that made by the minister this afternoon. It is not a technical question. Every speaker who has talked about the problem of gas and oil in Canada has highlighted the point that some kind of political solution is required if we are to have a new national policy.

I agree with what the minister said when he indicated that the old national policy has served us to some extent up to a point. But the basis on which that policy was created has gone. It was created to take account of the fact that Alberta needed a guaranteed market for its out-put at a time when the United States would not take any oil at all, or was very reluctant to take any. I think it is a credit to the administration in power when the national oil policy was formulated that it was able to get such a deal for the country. In those days it looked as though the problem was going to be one of a surplus. Therefore, the solution was to get rid of supplies. Perhaps the hon. member for Qu'Appelle-Moose Mountain (Mr. Hamilton) may have been somewhat more prescient than others in foreseeing that there was going to be a shortage, but in those days all the talk was about getting the oil out as rapidly as possible.

That day is over. Therefore, we have to take an entirely new look at the situation. As I say, it is a political question. The hon. member for Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands (Mr. Douglas) asked: to whom does the oil belong? He and the rest of us are socialists. Therefore, we say the oil belongs to Canada. We are talking about a national responsibility, a national obligation for sharing. In very sharp contrast, both the statements of the minister and of the hon. member for Qu'Appelle-Moose Mountain show their conservative tendencies. It would not bother me as much if, in fact, Alberta was getting that much benefit from the oil industry. But what often seems to be the case is that Alberta is running interference for the private corporations, and the maximum benefits are not going to the people of Alberta but to the major international oil companies. This is a pretty unhappy situation.

It is facile to say that people in Ontario are now raising this question because oil is in short supply and therefore they are interested in getting cheap oil from western Canada. The hon. member for Qu'Appelle-Moose Mountain summed it up by saying, "Get Ontario off our backs." Did he say that ten or 12 years ago when he brought in a national oil policy which has cost this country, Ontario and all the consumers of Canada, something like half a billion dollars a year for gasoline, or 5 cents for every gallon sold in Canada? It worked two ways. The price of western crude was more expensive than the international price, and the people in Montreal were paying higher than the internationally posted price. The price in Montreal was somewhat lower than that of western crude, but the fact remains that it was not the international price. Every country in the world, France, Germany and England, were paying less for crude oil, less taxes, than Canada. Canada was paying a premium price not only for its own oil but for the crude it imported, because that was the pricing policy of the international companies. They based the price at Montreal on the cost of bringing western crude by

pipeline to Montreal, and that was higher than the posted international price.

The report referred to today by the hon. member for Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands pointed out that in fact we have been paying 30 cents a barrel more for crude than the international price. It is not just the people of Ontario, but the people of all Canada, no matter whether they have used domestic or offshore supplies, who have paid for the national policy. We have been willing to pay for it because we all recognized that the western oil producing provinces of Canada needed consideration at a time when they could not find outlets for their oil.

● (1730)

As an aside, let me say that when we start talking about restricing supplies of oil to the United States and someone gets up and says, "Isn't it terrible; just look at what you are doing to our American neighbours," we should look back 10 or 15 years to the time when we could not sell our crude in that country. They did not want our oil. There was not a greal deal of outcry in Canada. The time may come when we will not be in a position to sell western Canadian oil to the United States because we will have to ensure our own supplies. When that time comes, let us not talk about how bad a neighbour we shall be: if that time ever comes, let us think back to the way we were treated when we thought we desperately needed that market for our crude oil.

I think Ontario, along with the rest of Canada, has been willing to pay higher prices for gasoline and for the chemicals that come from crude petroleum. Higher petroleum prices have had an important bearing on the performance of our petrochemical industry which is an important and growing industry. The performance of that industry in this country depends to a great extent on the price of Canadian crude. So for years not only has the average consumer had to pay more for gasoline, but the entire petrochemical industry has had to pay higher prices for its supplies. Those supplies were maintained at higher prices by a tariff that was imposed on supplies imported into Canada. Consequently, we substantially disadvantaged that industry.

As I say, on balance we probably had to do it. The national oil policy, despite all its faults, probably created the opportunity for the accelerated development of the whole industry. But let there be no talk about Ontario being on Alberta's back; such statements would imply there are short memories in this country. Ontario is not guiltless. Westerners have many grievances against the east and some of them are legitimate; and we recognize that. When the people of Ontario look at the national oil policy they should bear in mind the grievances of westerners. They are willing to accommodate themselves to those policies in the hope that it will help western Canada.

Western grievances involving tariffs and transportation are legitimate and real. Let me repeat the point I am trying to make in my remarks, that there is a need for adequate solutions in this whole area. Obviously, we are not going to find an answer, because the entire policy is breaking down. The people of this country, so rich in raw materials and natural resources, are in danger of facing supply shortages. That is an incredible situation. We are in danger of having to pay enormous prices for those things which are to be found in our own country, because of the arbitrary marketing decisions of international oil companies acting in collusion with a province.

When the hon. member for Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands spoke of the west, he had a right to speak about it. After all, he was for many years premier of a great province. I am sure when he says that the oil belongs to Canadians, he will find a harmonious echo of his remarks in the great province of Saskatchewan. That province has oil. I hope that the attitude in Saskatchewan is somewhat different from the attitude in another province.

This difficulty must be resolved. It will not be resolved simply by saying, "We are going to take over all the oil, and Alberta be damned." I think Alberta can produce good arguments in support of its position, and these must be taken into account. Parliament must take the initiative to deal with these questions, and not the National Energy Board. Although the National Energy Board may be competent in a technical sense to make decisions about pipelines or about export arrangements under our present national oil policy, it is not competent to review or bring in a new kind of oil policy that is required in this country.

What can the federal government do in this field? First, it must say unequivocally that matters of energy and transportation are so vital to this country that they must come under federal control, and that the federal government alone is in the position to establish national priorities. We have done this before. Unless there are assured sources of energy supplies both in terms of quantity and cost, we will not be able to overcome some of the inherent disadvantages this country faces in the provision of jobs for our people. We developed a national transportation system in response to the same kind of dilemma and problem. We now need a national oil, gas and general energy policy as well. We will need to make some trade-offs; we will need to make some arrangements with the provinces which will make this acceptable.

What are some of the things we can do in this area? I find it hard to understand, with all the oil and natural gas we have in the west, with the intelligent population we have and with the funds at our disposal, when we have to bring crude petroleum into Ontario and refine it in Ontario, or why we should be selling crude oil to the United States to be refined there. If there is a disposition on the part of the western provinces to do more processing, then it is highly advisable for that processing to be done there in order to encourage refining as a major industry in the west.

I am talking not only of fuel oil to be turned into gasoline but also of the creation of feedstocks. We need feedstocks for the chemical industry. In the west, plants that would be significant on a world scale ought to be constructed. If we are to do any selling internationally of oil and gas, why should we not sell it in a more processed form instead of simply shipping out so many barrels of crude oil? Why should we do this in a most elementary and simplistic way? I think a policy could be developed that would be satisfactory to the west. Certainly it is something we ought to discuss with them.

There is another aspect of policy that we must examine. Newfoundland obviously wants to get into the refining

business. We must consider the question of Quebec's relationship to the refining industry. There could be allocations of capacity. There ought to be over-all federal control as to where these refineries are to be built. We ought to ensure that refineries are built in such a way that they do not interfere with our balance of payments, with the capital flows in this country, and that they are of optimum size in order that we can produce gasoline and feedstocks at the cheapest possible price.

Some members may ask what we will do with the feedstocks. The United States obviously has adopted a policy of excluding our chemicals from their markets. In earlier days it was their policy to exclude our crude petroleum from their markets. Therefore, I think it is about time we made a firm statement saying that we are not prepared to export our products to that market, and if the United States want our assistance in the field of petrochemicals, they will have to take them in the form of manufactured feedstocks which are at a higher point of processing than crude oil. We ought to enforce that kind of policy or do something along that line.

I think Ontario, as well, will have to recognize some of the grievances of the west in the field of transportation and of tariffs. If we resolve the other difficulty to which I have referred, then it seems to me the question of tariffs and costs can also be resolved. We must also look at the question of freight rates, especially at equalized freight rates, to make sure that the disadvantages, under the present system, in the maritime region are removed.

Mr. Speaker, I come back to what I think is the central point in any discussion of oil and gas. If we are to talk about a two-price system, if we are to talk about how we allocate markets and about our pricing policies, then Parliament must make a political decision, in the best sense of the word. It must take into account the various grievances that exist in this country and find a way of resolving them. For that reason, I hope the government, particularly the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources (Mr. Macdonald), will stop hiding behind the National Energy Board and using it as an excuse for not letting Parliament come to a conclusion and making a decision on this important item.

● (1740)

I congratulate the hon. member for Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands on his most timely motion, because of its urgency to this country.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Sinclair Stevens (York-Simcoe): Mr. Speaker, in rising to speak on this motion, which is probably one of the most important subjects to come before this House, I feel I should begin with a word of caution. It is unfortunate that a subject as important as this has been coloured by a tendency on the part of hon. members to my left to become exercised and extremely negative on the question of the American nation and so-called big business.

I followed with interest the address by the mover of the motion before us today. I was rather startled to note what I feel was an unhappy, anti-American tone in much of his comment. Having said that, I believe the record should be put straight on a few points. In his motion the hon. member states that recent increases in the price of crude oil, gasoline and other refined products are viewed with concern by himself and, hopefully, by this House. We in the Progressive Conservative party also view with concern the rise in price of these products. It is time the hon. member and his colleagues accepted the fact that we should be agreeing that rising prices in this country generally are of concern to all of us. Members of the NDP, who have been exercised for some time about rising food prices, as of today has discovered that the price of gasoline, oil and other refined product is rising, yet to date they have consistently refused to co-operate with this party in suggesting, and in fact demanding that the government bring in wage, price and dividend controls in this country.

[Mr. Saltsman.]

Let us try to solve the over-all problem of inflation in this country, as opposed to the nit-picking that the members to my left seem to like to get into. Let us be specific. The products to which they are referring were, at the end of April—these figures were released at one o'clock today by Statistics Canada—as follows: petroleum refining products had an index of 122.2. That is a little over an increase of one percentage point since January. Various fuel oils have been static so far this year, at 138.8 in the case of No. 1 fuel oil—kerosene stove oil and tractor fuel—and 143.3 in the case of Nos. 1, 2 and 3 light fuel oils.

Surely it behooves this House to accept the fact that the petroleum price increase is not the cardinal reason for our cost of living rising as sensationally as it has but, rather, many other rising prices are involved to which we have been pointing for some time. In April the index for all consumer goods stood at 147.3. We in this party have consistently drawn attention to the high cost of housing and shelter in this country. We believe this is a disaster, certainly in the Toronto area, for many people who have the worth-while and proper objective of wanting to own their own home. The issue of petroleum prices has two beautiful ingredients as far as the NDP are concerned, and that is why we are discussing it today. I suggest they look upon it as a red flag in the sense that it is American and, in their minds, big business.

I wish to deal with a few of the references made by the hon. member in the address on his motion. The hon. member who preceded me made the same type of references. They like to conjure up the image that international petroleum companies are among the worst devils in the capitalistic world. I am not particularly defensive of any of these companies, but I think it is wrong for the members of this House to hear and not object to certain misinformation. Among the 500 largest corporations in the United States, the profit picture with regard to the petroleum refining field was the least attractive in 1972 of any of the companies listed, with the exception of three categories—beverages, tobacco and mining. The petroleum refining industry, contrary to what the hon. member suggested, did not have a good profit increase in 1972.

It is wise to bear in mind that the petroleum refining industry has more assets per employee than any industry listed in the directory of 500 put out by Fortune. In 1972 it had $126,775 invested per employee, compared with the next highest, the mining industry, with $84,291 per employee. I hope the record will be set straight with

regard to the question of these huge corporations when it is suggested that they are making uncalled-for profits.

The next point I wish to deal with is the suggestion raised by the hon. member in paragraph (a) of his resolution which reads:

Place export controls on the export of gasoline and other refined petroleum products—

In this category, the hon. member offered what appeared to be rather alarming figures when he quoted the current amount of gas exports compared with earlier periods. The minister touched on this matter, but I think it deserves to be mentioned again. I believe the hon. member deliberately chose not to make it clear that the main increase in gasoline exports was not of refined Canadian products, but gasoline that had been refined in eastern Canadian refineries mainly from crude that had been imported to eastern Canada from other sources.

● (1750)

Surely it is wrong to conjure up in this House an image that Canadian fuel is being taken from our reserves, refined and exported to the United States in its refined form. The fact is that at the present time 51.8 per cent of the refining capacity of this country lies east of the Ottawa River. It does not have access to the Canadian crude to which the hon. member referred so frequently in his remarks. Is he suggesting that the refining expansion contemplated in eastern Canada should be discontinued? Is he hinting that it is wrong that some of the refineries which have come on stream and which are exporting gasoline products should be restricted in this type of exportation?

I should like to make it aboundantly clear, as did my hon. friend from Qu'Appelle-Moose Mountain (Mr. Hamilton), that we believe there should be export controls, if necessary, provided Canadian crude oil is involved and there is a suggestion that the refining companies are circumventing the regulations by simply taking Canadian crude and refining it with a view to increasing their exports. It should also be made clear that we do not feel the actual increase of refining capacity in eastern Canada, with a view to taking crude from other areas and exporting it in a refined state to the U.S. or elsewhere, is necessarily wrong.

The hon. member referred to a two-price system. What he chose to neglect was the answer to the question: Who pays for it? Is he saying that the producer has to accept a lower price if he sells to a domestic concern in Canada than he would receive if he exported his product? Is he saying that the producer must pay, or is he hinting that the federal government should end up subsidizing sales to domestic consumers in this country?

Let me turn, now, to the most interesting point in the resolution, one which I believe most hon. members would find inconsistent with the terms used at the beginning of the resolution itself. I am referring to item (c) which speaks about moving the Ottawa valley line and permitting offshore oil and domestic crude to move freely in the interests of price competition. There is the suggestion in this motion that somehow we should not allow petroleum companies to take advantage of international markets because, presumably, the price is higher and this in turn would raise domestic prices. Yet at the tail end of this resolution the hon. member places a reverse twist on the proposition, saying that if we removed the Ottawa valley line then somehow that same foreign product would result in reduced prices in Canada. Is this not an inconsistent line of reasoning? I heard the hon. member's remarks on this subject and I must say they undermined greatly my own confidence in his proposal.

I believe there should be no suggestion that we in Ontario be left in a situation in which we might become dependent on foreign sources of oil or related products. At the present time we feel we have our troubles in negotiating prices with the province of Alberta. However, let me assure hon. members that we in Ontario would prefer to deal with the province of Alberta than to deal with foreign concerns with which we have no possible relationship.

I believe the one point which should be emphasized in our debate is that we in Canada are today seeing the results of the absence of any proper national resources policy at the national level. This is where the fundamental problem lies. There would be no need for a debate of the sort we are conducting today had the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources (Mr. Macdonald) already proposed a national energy policy for Canada and had Parliament agreed to it. The type of innuendo the hon. member is attempting to put forward in his resolution would not be possible if there were a firm and all-embracing national energy policy established in this country.

Tied in with such a policy we need an industrial strategy. It is unfortunate that we are looking at the pieces instead of the over-all situation. In devising such a policy, rather than make statements which may not be helpful and which, indeed, in some cases may even be harmful in our trading relationship with the United States, we should accept the fact that the Americans are the best buyers of our products. Rather than being hostile, we should seriously consider what steps we should be taking, if not in the short-term then certainly in the medium- and long-term, to ensure that certain measures now being taken in the United States will not have unfavourable repercussions in this country at a later date. We should consider the possible effects, for example, of statements made by President Nixon to the United States Congress on April 18, 1973. I should like to itemize those points, but I see my time is running out. Perhaps on a later occasion I shall be given that privilege, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: The hon. member places the Chair in a quandary. Obviously, he could continue if he asked for and were given extra time, but such a request is not normally dealt with at six o'clock.

At six o'clock the House took recess.

AFTER RECESS

The House resumed at 8 p.m.

Mr. Stevens: Mr. Speaker, before six o'clock was called I had just concluded my remarks on the motion before the House, moved by the hon. member for Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands (Mr. Douglas). If I could summarize the

four points that I had made to that point in time, first of all I indicated that I felt it was unfortunate that the hon. member had taken certain items and had pointed to the fact that the price of these items had increased, while totally ignoring the fact that in the over-all inflationary spiral of consumer prices in this country the petroleum products that he referred to were of comparatively little significance. For example, in April the consumer price index stood at 147.3, having risen 1.1 per cent in April alone, compared to petroleum products which are in the 120 to 130 price index range and which in many cases have been relatively static in price for several months. In short, we in the Progressive Conservative party foresaw the problem of rising prices and advocated that the government bring in wage and price controls. The government has refused to do so, and the NDP has aided and abetted them in that refusal.

Secondly, the hon. member is suggesting placing controls on the export of gasoline and other refined petroleum products. However, he did not mention to hon. members, when he quoted certain figures showing the rise in the export of gasoline products, that the bulk of the increase came from eastern Canadian refineries which in most instances were established to take in crude oil from foreign countries, refine it and export it to the United States in its refined state. I think it is unfortunate that the hon. member chose to make that point and to suggest that the export of this type of refined product should be controlled. The fact is that 51.8 per cent of the refining capacity of this country is in eastern Canada, and the hon. member is indicating, perhaps unintentionally, that he is proposing to kill the growth of this refining and exporting business.

If I may deal again with the two-price system, the hon. member also ignored the question who is going to pay for this two-price system. Does he intend that the producer shall pay, the federal government, or the provincial governments? I feel this was an unfortunate omission on his part.

Finally, may I deal with paragraph (c) of his motion in which he suggested removing the Ottawa valley line and permitting offshore oil and domestic crude to move freely in the interests of price competition. This, as I mentioned, is surely totally inconsistent with the hon. member's approach. On the one hand he is suggesting that we stop exporting petroleum products because prices internationally are higher, and on the other hand he is suggesting the removal of the Ottawa valley line to take advantage of those competitive international prices. You cannot have it both ways. If export prices are higher, I think the hon. member has a lot of explaining to do as to why he feels we would have lower prices in this part of Canada as a result of that line being removed. In fact, I believe it would be very detrimental to Ontario in particular if through inadvertence or lack of planning we became totally dependent upon foreign producers for our petroleum products.

● (2010)

It has been seriously suggested that the price of gasoline could go as high as $1 per gallon in this country. Surely the hon. member does not wish to contribute to bringing about that situation. As I said before, I would much prefer to continue to negotiate with the Premier of Alberta than deal with the sheiks of the Middle East, which could well be the end result of his suggestion in paragraph (c) of this resolution.

In proposing this resolution I think the hon. member and his colleagues have been opportunistic. They have taken certain items which they feel suit their purpose and have chosen to—

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, please. I regret to interrupt the hon. member, but his allotted time has expired. He may continue, however, if he has unanimous consent.

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Is it agreed?

Some hon. Members: No.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: There is not unanimity.

[*Translation*]

Mr. J.-J. Blais (Nipissing): Mr. Speaker, let me start my speech by referring to what was said by the hon. member for Waterloo-Cambridge (Mr. Saltsman).

[*English*]

Mr. Speaker, I was most interested in the stress the hon. member for Waterloo-Cambridge (Mr. Saltsman) placed upon the controls he thought should be imposed on the exportation of crude oil, and the position taken by the hon. member for York-Simcoe (Mr. Stevens) that there should be encouragement in respect of the exportation of products refined from crude oil. Indeed, that flies directly in the face of the proposal of his colleague.

I also take exception to the statement of the hon. member for Waterloo-Cambridge to the effect that indeed there was consideration by United States authorities to put quotas on the importation by that country of oil products from Canada. Let me advise the hon. member through you, Mr. Speaker, that in his mid-April energy message President Nixon contemporaneously issued an oil import program proclamation in which power was given to the Secretary of the Interior to increase at will the importation of products from oil, including crude oil, unfinished oil and finished products from Canada.

When we look at the latest count in respect of weekly consumption by the United States in barrels, we see that the United States consumes at the present time approximately 45 million barrels per week, the maximum capacity of their refineries. They foresee that within a very short time the increase in the demand for gasoline will be in the order of 4 million barrels a week. Indeed, it becomes evident that with the capacity of 45 million barrels a week being completely used at the present time, in a few months the United States will face a considerable shortage of gasoline, and it would be silly of them at this particular stage to commence the imposition of restrictions on the amount of oil products imported from Canada. I would suggest that at this particular juncture it might be wise for the National Energy Board to consider imposing increased controls on crude oil in lieu of controls on refined products.

In the speech of the hon. member for Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands (Mr. Douglas) there was no indication of the capacity of Canadian refineries. I suggest that if the

United States is going to be short 4 million barrels of oil or gas per week, that refining capacity could be found in Canadian refineries. This is particularly true in view of the minister's statement in this chamber this afternoon that the whole of the increase cited by the hon. member for Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands was the entire production of eastern refineries, representing only 2 per cent of total Canadian output.

It is staggering to realize that this substantial increase represents only that small percentage of total Canadian production involving only refineries in eastern Canada. If there were greater imposition of controls on crude, we could perhaps employ the additional capacity of western Canadian refineries to our advantage. As stated by the hon. member for Waterloo-Cambridge, we should carry out more refining of our crude oil in Canada.

I also take issue with the statement that the present government hides behind the National Energy Board. Let me simply reiterate what the minister has already said, that the National Energy Board was constituted by an act of Parliament, with specific powers, and this government has an obligation, until otherwise advised, to give that board its support. Indeed, in view of the way the board has acquitted itself of its obligations in the past, it should be commended.

I should now like to turn to the subject of guidelines referred to by the minister this afternoon. He indicated he was ready, notwithstanding the powers of the National Energy Board in respect of the Mackenzie valley pipeline, to review those guidelines for the board in its determination of the advisability of this pipeline. The minister indicated his willingness to refer the guidelines to the Standing Committee on National Resources and Public Works in order that it might study the problem. I commend the minister for that statement and hasten to add that I am sure hon. members of that committee are ready, able and willing to review these guidelines.

Let me now turn to the comments of the hon. member for York-Simcoe. I take strong issue with the entire content of that hon. member's speech. I have been present during all speeches on this matter and not once did I hear the expression of any anti-American sentiment. Not once was the United States attacked in the House this afternoon, nor was anything said which might lend credence to the thought expressed by the hon. member for York-Simcoe to the effect that the speech of the hon. member for Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands was an expression of anti-American sentiment. We have heard this sort of demagoguery before, and I suggest it has no place in this House. Our dealings with our neighbour to the south have always been on friendly terms, and we have always sought to protect our national interests. I fail to see at this time how the comments of the hon. member for York-Simcoe fit that endeavour.

The plea of the hon. member for Qu'Appelle-Moose Mountain (Mr. Hamilton) was that we should abandon our partisan stance in order to analyse this very serious problem. He indicated that all parties were very concerned about this problem and were busy studying it, considering its various facets. I suggest that plea was completely neutralized by the attitude of the hon. member for York-Simcoe, expressed in sensational rhetoric. He then proceeded to use his best efforts and most tortuous logic to protect the interests of big oil companies. All I can say is, bully for him.

Mr. Stevens: I rise on a point of order, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member for York-Simcoe (Mr. Stevens) rises on a point of order.

● (2020)

Mr. Stevens: Mr. Speaker, unfortunately we do not have the benefit of today's *Hansard,* but I would remind the hon. member that in moving the motion the statement was made that we do not have a national oil policy, that it is designed by the Americans, that we do not export to the United States but that Canada has been used as a tap by that country.

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): That is not a point of order.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: It is not a point of order. It is a point of debate, and the point of debate has been made.

Mr. Blais: As for the hon. member for Qu'Appelle-Moose Mountain, as well as the hon. member for Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands they made most informative addresses in which they sought to review the past and the reason we are in this particular situation. They sought to offer some solutions. They ought to be commended for that. The hon. member for Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands agreed that the solutions proposed are short-term. He was well advised in this regard.

It seems evident from the nature of the solution expressed in paragraphs (a), (b) and (c) of the motion that the hon. member was attempting to engage other hon. members in debate and to seek the ideas of others. Undoubtedly he did not propose those particular solutions as being conclusive, because I am sure if he had known the ultimate conclusions he would not have resorted to the type of motion that he presented. The hon. member for Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands, in paragraph (A) speaks about the government taking immediate steps to implement the measures he cites. Yet I suggest he has not provided any evidence, with reference to paragraph (a), that there is a direct relationship between the incidence of exports of gasoline and, indeed, the takeover of known reserves in Canada of crude oil. The evidence as adduced by the hon. member in this particular instance is to the contrary. Really, all the gas which has been exported has been exported from refineries in eastern Canada. That oil was offshore oil, in accordance with the Ottawa valley policy adopted by the former government.

In the second step which the hon. member proposes, he states that there should be a two-price system. But he did not indicate, at least to my recollection, what sort of a two-price system he thought should be imposed. Is it a two-price system by way of an increase at the wellhead, with subsidy to the domestic user? That is one solution. Or is it an export tax or export duty imposed by the federal government? That would be another solution. Or, indeed, is it by way of a two-price system established by the Alberta Energy Conservation Board and, if so, what would be the role of the National Energy Board in that case? The

hon. member does not consider the various alternatives. This leads me to the point that he must have been attempting to engage in debate.

With reference to the removal of the Ottawa valley line, that policy was adopted by the former Conservative government under the right hon. gentleman from Prince Albert (Mr. Diefenbaker) more than a decade ago. That has been, and is, a way of life in Canada. The matter was before the Supreme Court of Canada 18 months ago, I believe, at which time the Supreme Court upheld that particular policy.

The hon. member for Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands has not reviewed how western refineries would feel in the event that the Ottawa valley line was removed as the demarkation point. How about the interests of the provinces of Quebec and Nova Scotia—which are now very seriously considering accommodating huge ocean tankers at their seaports? I understand from the hon. member for Madawaska-Victoria (Mr. Corbin) that New Brunswick is also considering this.

With the increased traffic by means of oil tankers, what would be the effect in respect of the price of oil in Canada? With the increased volume, what would be the effect on western oil prices? What about the offshore, continental shelf finds? I feel there is here a situation which requires a great deal of consideration. From reading one of today's evening papers we learn that the leader of Libya has indicated he will nationalize his country's oil industry if the OPEC negotiators are not successful in their negotiations with the particular companies involved. So we must consider the situation in the Middle East.

With all these uncertainties, we have a member of this House who suggests that the protection which is afforded to western producers should be removed. I suggest, again, that we can only conclude that the hon. member for Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands was not serious in suggesting that these are solutions which the government should adopt but, rather, he was really leading with his left in order to obtain a response. I hope I am providing that response for him.

In this context I suggest that the hon. member for Qu'Appelle-Moose Mountain and the hon. member for Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands have advised this House that they are giving consideration to the problem and that they recognize the historical context. I suggest they know there is a need in Canada for more exploration capital in order to get into the area north of the sixtieth parallel, into the Mackenzie delta and into the Arctic Island. I suggest they know, also, that there is a need for capital expenditures in respect of transportation from those regions, that there is constant pressure from the environmental agencies, that there are serious questions of regional inequalities and disparities, that the provinces are indeed in competition one with another and that there are offshore, political considerations.

In addition to this, all members know there is the question of monetary difficulty and monetary stability. I suggest that all members who have debated this matter today are aware of the difficulties and know that the suggestions put forward in this motion are made in order to encourage debate. The debate is now officially under way. We hear comments by members of the opposition to

the effect that we should have a national policy, notwithstanding the fact that the minister indicated we are protecting our national interests through policies adopted by the government.

Opposition members are calling for a national policy in an effort to get the public involved. Surely they are attempting to engage in debate on this subject, having recognized all the difficulties cabinet faces in respect of the offshore situation, the monetary situation, the difficulties in respect of access to national resources, and the need for exploration capital. Surely they are not serious, in this particular context, in suggesting that the federal government could proceed with a national energy policy which would resolve all these difficulties. Of all the suggestions I have heard, that would be the most ridiculous. I have heard this not only from members of this House; I have heard it from the parliamentary assistant to the Premier of Ontario, who on two occasions stated the same thing.

That province has not seen fit to give sufficient importance to the subject of energy by naming a cabinet minister with responsibility for this particular topic. There is a parliamentary assistant in charge of energy. That is how serious that province considers the problem. When he took the question of energy under consideration he attempted to impose an energy tax. However, some of my constituents reacted to that particular attempt quite directly and quite articulately, and it was withdrawn.

I suggest energy is a very interesting and very essential part of government policy. It has to be analysed and reviewed. The plea of the hon. member for Qu'Appelle-Moose Mountain that we abandon our partisan interest in this situation should be considered with all its merits, and I hope we will endeavour to do so.

● (2030)

Mr. Jim Balfour (Regina East): Mr. Speaker, what concerns me most with respect to the crux of the remarks of the hon. member for Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands (Mr. Douglas) is the basic premise which he appears to have adopted, that the posture of Canada toward our neighbour to the south should be that of protectionism in the form of severe restrictions on hydrocarbon exports, the creation of a two-price system and the elimination of the Ottawa valley line, on the assumption that these steps will operate to protect the security of supply of cheap fuel for Canadians.

I suggest that this is essentially a negative approach. I submit that in reality the so-called energy crisis, from Canada's standpoint, in fact creates opportunities for Canada which, if well managed, will result in short-term and long-term economic benefits for all Canadians, but if mishandled will result in the loss of opportunities for Canadians. In this respect I think it behooves us to analyse and draw conclusions from the initiatives proposed by President Nixon on April 18 and to consider the implications from our point of view of President Nixon's so-called energy message.

I suggest that this message makes it clear that sharp changes in United States energy policy are under way which will affect Canada and have the potential to seriously disrupt our domestic industrial strategy. Accordingly, any attempts to develop domestic energy policy initia-

tives must now seek as their primary objective the minimization of these changes.

It is quite apparent that some of the paramount, short-term objectives of the new U.S. policy are to decrease American dependence on increasing amounts of imported oil and gas while at the same time seeking to expand domestic hydrocarbon reserves and production to meet rising energy consumption. Of course, the Americans would continue to take all the Canadian oil and natural gas that we are prepared and able to sell them on a short-term basis, but I suggest it is obvious that the Americans have written off Canada's oil and gas reserves as a potential major source of supply for their long-term needs and are evolving new policies and programs as alternatives to the use of Canadian hydrocarbon reserves. Such an over-all policy direction appears to be consistent with American objectives of continuing to have access to secure energy supplies while at the same time seeking to eliminate an annual import trade deficit of $1.25 billion.

Over-all, the Nixon message makes it clear that Canada's previously favoured position in the American market will be diminished and could be eventually eliminated. Furthermore, Canada will in the near future not only have to compete with other countries seeking to enter the United States evergy market including, I suggest, the Soviet Union, but will also have to face competition from American energy companies operating in a favoured domestic environment.

While the United States is under pressure to reduce annual expenditures for foreign oil, corrective measures taken against this trade imbalance will no doubt start gradually and build up over several years. This, taken together with many of President Nixon's proposals, is directed toward speeding up these corrective measures. Higher gas prices, prorated import tariffs on all oil by 1980, 12 per cent tax credits on intangible expenditures for successful drilling ventures, relaxation of environmental regulations governing resource extraction and use, and initiatives to bring Alaskan oil to market all suggest the urgency with which the Americans view this trade imbalance.

Other long-term objectives of the Nixon energy message, taken collectively, will have potentially even greater effects on Canada's energy position. I am referring to the continued and better protection of the United States petrochemical industry at the expense of foreign oil importers, more favourable domestic tax laws that will favour redirection of exploration funds from Canada's frontier areas to more intensive exploration in the United States, elimination of oil import quotas which may redirect Middle East oil to the large U.S. markets there to challenge or possibly replace traditional Canadian markets for oil, and the establishment of deep water facilities in American waters at the expense of similar facilities planned for our maritimes.

But perhaps the most significant effect of the Nixon message on Canada is also the most intangible one, namely, that any bilateral trade arrangements between the two countries will of necessity and inevitably involve some commitment of Canada's energy resources, particularly natural gas which, if unwisely managed, could disrupt our own national industrial development strategy. I mention these conclusions in support of the proposal that it would be shortsighted and unwise to invoke hasty, precipitous and unnecessarily harsh or unreasonable measures which in the weeks and month ahead could create an unfavourable environment and attitude in respect of our trade relations vis-à-vis our neighbour to the south.

Instead of regarding the current situation from a negative standpoint, I suggest we regard it as a situation creating great opportunity for Canada. Certainly we have problems which cry out for action in the energy field in this country: such matters as federal versus provincial ownership of our offshore oil and gas resources, the routing and environmental impact of future proposed pipelines, the cost of transportation, royalties and taxes, prices in the field and in the marketplace, equity participation by Canadians, foreign ownership, and similar matters. However, I submit that one thing we should not, and need not, be concerned about is the long-term adequacy of our energy supplies.

Current production limitations may well require some restriction of our export of crude oil to the United States and there are certain limits to the quantities of natural gas available for export. However, for the long term I submit that the overwhelming weight of scientific and expert opinion establishes that Canada's present and future energy resources are vastly greater than it is anticipated will be required well into the next century.

What are Canada's energy opportunities? Canada has substantial supplies of all the common fossil fuels such as oil, gas, bitumen, coal and lignite, and of hydro energy and uranium. There are very large proven supplies of oil, natural gas and natural gas liquids in British Columbia, Alberta and Saskatchewan, and there are enormous prospects for further discoveries and growth in these three provinces and even more so in the frontier areas of northern Canada.

Alberta's Athabasca and related oil sands deposits represent one of the largest sources of bitumen and synthetic crude oil in the world. British Columbia and Alberta have tremendous proven reserves of bituminous and subbituminous coal. Saskatchewan has large reserves of lignite suitable for electrical energy generation. The enormous hydro resources of British Columbia, Ontario, Quebec and Labrador are well known. Canada possesses one of the world's largest reserves of natural uranium in the provinces of Ontario, Saskatchewan and the Northwest Territories.

Most of Canada's energy supplies come from its own resources, but we do benefit in eastern Canada from imported crude oil supplied from overseas sources. Similarly, eastern Canada benefits from the import of substantial quantities of coal presently available from the eastern United States. Canada's trade in energy resources has, and will enable it on the one hand to benefit from lower cost supplies to eastern Canada, and on the other to market surplus supplies and help to maintain a satisfactory balance of trade, offsetting essential imports in other commodities.

It is of fundamental importance, however, that we manage our energy resources so as to maintain and develop the health and vigour of our energy resource industries and make sure that they work for the benefit of all

Canadians. In order to accomplish this we must recognize certain fundamental factors. We must ensure that we can generate and attract the necessary investment capital for further resource development. Some of this will undoubtedly come from outside Canada, but there is no reason why we cannot ensure Canadian control where it really counts and Canadian equity participation to the extent that Canadians really want it.

● (2040)

We must ensure that realistic prices are paid for our energy products whether they are sold in Canadian or export markets, prices which reflect true commodity values. We need realistic transportation policies which will enable the economic movement of energy products to the market. We must as Canadians be prepared to benefit from imports where these are logical and, by the same token, we must be prepared to benefit from the export of energy resources surplus to our own requirements. What is needed are firm but positive policies to provide incentives for growth, opportunities for investment and employment of Canadians, fair royalties and tax rules, and stern but rational environmental controls.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Rosaire Gendron (Rivière-du-Loup-Témiscouata): Mr. Speaker, I think that this is a timely resolution. There is no problem holding the attention of the Canadian people as much as that of energy resources at the present time when answers are sought for sources of supply.

We note a deep concern about protection of environment. At times, coupled with regional conflicts of interests, both seem to be so incompatible that trying to undertake comprenhensive planning in that field is an impossible task.

However, without pretending to be an expert and most humbly, it seems to me that if we make a survey of the problems which we must tackle, there is no possible solution without comprehensive planning of our national interests with respect to the development of those resources.

I was saying that the concern with environment seems to be such at times that it could be at the root of conflicts in the development of our resources.

I understand very well, if I look towards western Canada, that the citizens of British Columbia are worried about the transportation of crude oil from Prudhoe Bay, through Anchorage and along the coasts to Seattle. In fact, the residents of this province who face the possibility of ecological risks without any economic reward or any benefit suggest that this crude oil be transported in the way outlined in their book *The Way Out* which, incidentally, is very good. This means transportation by railway which appears to me very logical since there is the advantage of increased protection for the environment and also the possibility that building this railway from north to south could open access not only to countless resources but it would be possible to develop the whole province which, as we know, has a wealth of mineral, lumbering and other resources.

I may be qualified as utopian because I support this project but let us remember that when there was a proposal to build a railway from east to west the Prairies were then considered as an unproductive area and that after that, with the sense of vision and of risk of the pionners, the Prairies became not only the world's granary, but huge oil, gas and potassium resources were discovered and today they benefit the provinces concerned and the whole country.

I say that this same concern of the people of Alberta who pleaded their cause by referring to the protection of the environment to get the oil out of the north as against through Valdez and their ambition to have oil and gas pipelines also seems to me very justified.

I think that these policies can be reconciled with the interest of the country and with those of the Americans. This was brought out and I think it is good to recall that Canada does enjoy a wealth of raw and other products that can be considered as energy sources such as uranium. In fact we have so much that finally we have a bargaining power with our wealthy neighbours to the south, a negotiation power that we should be able to use skillfully so that in North America we will be able to reconcile our interests for our development while keeping in mind that our first concern which is also included in the present resolution must be to serve the Canadian consumer in the best way possible. And I think that if we begin with this policy of wanting to serve the Canadian consumer, it is really possible to reconcile what we thought was impossible.

We know that the pipeline extends into Ontario. At the committee on National Resources and Public Works, I heard Mr. McKeough, Parliamentary Secretary to the Ontario Prime Minister, complain about the fact that being at the end of this pipeline was costing Ontario between $70 and $80 million a year. His province was doing that rather than taking advantage of imports. In fact, I asked him if he considered that this was the price to pay to protect the Ontario refineries and the petrochemical industry rather than remove the "Borden barrier", the Ottawa valley boundary, and extending the pipeline to Montreal, provided supply and demand came into play and the flow went both ways.

● (2050)

As long as we will be able to get foreign products at a better price, good for the Canadian consumer and good for our own resources as well. How are they endangered at this point? And are our markets not good and big enough that in fact we will only have to plan what we really want to sell, in the interest of manufacturers, of Canadians and of those who will be our customers? But even with this first concern, we must not forget Canadians.

I see the Minister of Environment (Mr. Davis) in the House, and recently I heard him say that he would have the same concern for both eastern and western harbours as far as environment is concerned. I say to the minister that we must agree on this policy and this concern for environment. However, there is quite a difference between ships that would come to get a product in Anchorage or Valdez to go to Seattle, and a sea harbour in the St. Lawrence Valley that is built to accommodate the new generation of ships and develop all our territory. A child could see that difference. We must agree on the same

policy and the same concern for environment, but as regards environment if the same reasoning should be followed on the eastern and the western coasts, I think something is wrong and does not make any sense.

I now come to the concern of Quebec and Ontario which depend on foreign supplies for 80 per cent of their supply; Ontario gets it from Alberta and Quebec from imports. You know that the Quebec minister of natural resources, (Mr. Massé), when stating the objectives of a Quebec policy on energy, has indicated some priorities: building a supertanker harbour to handle raw products from overseas, rationalizing distribution and building a pipeline from Gros-Cacouna et Quebec, Montreal and the United States.

Does this appear as still being irreconcilable with Canadian interests? If is quite reconcilable, and it is even in our interest. For the reasons I mentioned earlier, as long as we can profitably get our supply from foreign sources I do not see why we should not draw benefits from it.

We must accept the fact that Quebec is now at the end of the natural gas pipeline. Now, when it comes to extending this gas pipeline, the government is requested to pay the entire cost of the extension and furthermore, as it still is at the end of the pipeline, the product becomes more expensive. It is obvious that the situation would be the same if we only adopted this policy extending the pipeline. The Montreal refineries would then be in a non-competitive position with those of Ontario. This would be a fool's deal that Quebec would not accept. Unfortunately, there are people who think that the true vocation of Quebec is to remain in the field of crafts, folklore and leave to other provinces the responsibility of developing their more advanced, more industrialized resources.

Some people are quite sincere and earnest about environment. However, they did not make a single move about the Golden Eagle Canada Limited in Quebec City. They never even thought of refineries in Montreal, stating high principles about pollution. The city of Montreal dumps its raw sewage into the St. Lawrence River through four 18-foot pipes; nobody says a word about it. But at a time when a region which suffers an annual average unemployment rate of 31 per cent tries to get out of its misery, to industrialize its part of territory, all these famous thinkers who would not have made a single move to help it, appoint themselves as experts and geniuses in the field of environment. Everyone of them comes and gives us a lesson and shows us the path to follow.

In this House, some hon. members have proved themselves to be so unacquainted with the conditions of the environment and even with port and maritime conditions, that I wonder whether it is worth answering them. But since this has been said in the House, let me only remind them that all the experts who have carried out studies not only stated that there was the necessary depth of water, that is 100 feet or more—this is also found in the English Channel where traffic is ten times heavier than here—but also that this is the most accessible place in the whole St. Lawrence River, and that this was recognized as a result of many studies and surveys which would take too long to mention.

Then, the common good, the good of the province of Quebec, requires that most profit be taken out of it, and not only as far as oil is concerned. Let me remind our friends who are sitting in this House that we must take advantage of it in the context of the four big vocations of development of the whole St. Lawrence Seaway. It is quite obvious that the province of Quebec is separated by this Seaway which constitutes the real "entrance door" to it. The province must take full advantage of it. It can profit by it and the Gros Cacouna port is the only one to have the four major benefits required. It can benefit from the fact that it can accommodate the latest lines of ships closer inland. It can handle the loading and unloading of special ships on the Great Lakes which cannot leave the St. Lawrence River, which cannot, for example, go to the Maritime ports because they are not built for it. They would not be insurable and for them it would mean a route extension involving five to ten days more of navigation. In addition to handling, loading and unloading in other ships to develop our whole St. Lawrence Seaway, there is pipeline loading and unloading and shipping by the shortest route to supply Quebec, and railway transport which would allow access to the port 12 months a year and the transport of goods to the inland. Transport by a four-lane highway, the Trans-Canada Highway, which goes up to that place, can be found nowhere else and it facilitates the development of the whole St. Lawrence Seaway. There will be projects which will be developed at Thunder Bay as long as we are intelligent enough to build that sea port and accommodate the new generation of ships. And there is no conflict between different sea ports along the Seaway. The question is which of the United States or Canada will be more intelligent to get there first to handle in the most economical way all primary resources which make our country an industrialized country. And that is how the problem shapes up.

And I ask people concerned with environment: Is it more logical to have three thousand ships go up to Montreal or to have 300 go up to Gros Cacouna? And that is the situation of the problem.

Anyhow, Quebec needs 30 million barrels of oil a year. Right now, small ships flying a foreign flag—about this read the report of the inquiry on pilotage—and without any radar or radiotelephone in good order sail up the St. Lawrence River and no one is shocked about this. However, they are shocked about the fact that some people want to build a super harbour on the lower St. Lawrence. They say: Wildlife must be protected. We are not allowed any more to gather shells along our shores, because that is forbidden. Eel fishing has been forbidden. We are not allowed to catch any salmon because that fish is threatened with extinction. Finally, it is certainly not this super harbour which has caused all these problems concerning the environment since the Minister of Environment has already been forced to ban fishing in this area. Several other cases could be given.

It is obvious that it would be far less dangerous for the environment to accommodate this new generation of ships to the most inland places and thus take full advantage of this development. That, they will tell me, comes into conflict with the interests of the Maritimes. I say it will not. But even there there can be conciliation. How so? On the one hand, the potential of the continental shelf of the Maritimes has not yet been developed. If and when it is developed, the building of a pipeline reaching the Mari-

time provinces ports, to take advantage of all the resources of the continental shelf will make sense. However, it is clear that if the sole purpose is to receive imports, it is more profitable to move the products further inland because the ports of the Maritimes are well placed to serve the Atlantic coast. They do, and this is a source of satisfaction; in fact we wish them well.

However, the Maritimes do not want to take ecologic risks without benefiting from economic fall-outs because they do not want to ship crude oil, but the refined product and here again—I return to the example I gave a while ago—this would correspond to limiting Quebec to crafts and folklore, leaving peak industries to others.

But after the continental shelf is properly tapped, the pipeline should be extended to Gros Cacouna, and then there will be a link between Alberta and the Maritimes. Then a comprehensive and continental policy can be established to serve all Canadians and, because it is such a huge market, we shall see to it that our resources are developed fully and profitably. In short, with such a large demand, our industries do not run the risk of being unable to operate at full capacity; the greater problem will develop as we expend this non-renewable commodity. We shall have to make new discoveries as economically as possible, and maintain our priorities in this country full of resources and promises.

Mr. Speaker, I think it is possible to reconcile all our interests in this respect. We must have the honesty and courage to say things as they are; the blame must not be put where it does not belong, nor should the progress and development of our country be jeopardized meanly because of small camouflaged interests one does not want to reveal.

A war is being waged against me now about the seaport project, because a citizen has land and a cottage on that site. The whole problem of environment is being brought up, and Isle-Verte is being dubbed "Isle-Noire"; a witchhunt is being drummed up, and dramas made out ot the situation. I say we are much more concerned about environment than any stranger with recently found new vocations.

We have homes there and live there. We want to develop that area and we know what problems have to be solved to do so. We are constantly—

● (2100)

[*English*]

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, please. I regret to interrupt the hon. member, but the time allotted to him has expired. He can, however, continue with unanimous consent. Is this agreed?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Gendron: I thank the House for its indulgence and I shall not abuse it.

Still, I would not like to close on a pessimistic note. A sincere, honest survey of our needs, our aspirations should be made. I feel it has been proved generally that the dangers to the ecology have not been added to; on the contrary, they have been decreased. I feel that we are still capable of conciliating the efforts to conserve beautiful sites, our wildlife and our touristic vocation, with modern technology and the vastness of the territory; those various interests can be reconciled.

[*English*]

Mr. Lorne Nystrom (Yorkton-Melville): Mr. Speaker, it is very interesting to hear the arguments from both sides of the House when debating a question as fundamental as the energy crisis in Canada and in the world generally. I was very amused by some of the arguments put forth by the last two speakers from the Conservative party, particularly the hon. member for York-Simcoe (Mr. Stevens) who was very eloquent in coming to the defence of the oil companies. He said the socialist hordes of this party would frighten off the oil companies, that the United States for sources of supply would turn elsewhere, and that we in this party are anti-American. He criticized us for being so tough on the poor little oil companies.

I remind the hon. member that these poor little oil companies have a gross income approximately three times that of the Canadian government. They are the seven largest companies in the world. The largest, Standard Oil of New Jersey, the parent of Imperial Oil, has a gross income equal to that of the Canadian government. These are the companies the Conservatives, particularly the hon. member for York-Simcoe, seem to be so concerned about and so afraid that we might injure by raising this question in the House.

Another member of that party asked about the terrible NDP, socialist idea of a two-price system. He asked who would pay for this. Would it be the producers? Would they not receive the benefit of increased prices in the United States by increasing the price to Canadian consumers? The oil companies are able to produce their product in this country at a really big profit. I see no reason why the consumers of this country should not have the benefit of the lowest possible price. I maintain that the oil does not belong to the oil companies; it should belong to the people of Canada and the provinces wherein it is situated. It is amusing, and perhaps very revealing, that certain members of the Conservative party should exhibit their true colours and come to the defence of these poor little weak sisters, the huge multi-national oil companies of the world.

During the past few months we have witnessed in this country increasing prices for gasoline, farm fuels and home heating fuels. We have actually seen a shortage of some of these fuels in parts of the United States. This is because the Americans find themselves in a situation where they are running short of cheap energy supplies. This is not only true of that country but of other countries in the world. There is not a shortage in Canada; we have enough reserves of cheap fuel in this country to last for several years. The price in Canada has been increasing because the multinational companies which control our oil are milking Canadian consumers for as much as possible as result of what is happening in the United States.

The issue of energy, gas, oil and pipelines is very important, as the hon. member for Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands (Mr. Douglas) said earlier, not only in the short term but the long term as well. If we play our cards right, if we have a national energy policy and move with real controls on behalf of the people of Canada, energy could

become our trump card. It could make our industry much more competitive and create jobs. There could be literally billions of dollars in profits for the Canadian people. This is the situation at its best. Taken at its worst, without any planning, I can visualize the ruin of our economy. Because of the balance of payments problem which the United States will have in 10 or 20 years, without a controlled or planned energy development program I can visualize the ruin of the Canadian economy, and perhaps annexation by the United States. These are the two extreme options we should bear in mind when talking about a fultime energy policy for Canada.

My concern is that the huge, multinational oil companies, with the complicity of this government and the United States government, are orchestrating the public of Canada to the fact that there is an energy crisis. If we do not do something about it there will be a real crisis in this country, and therefore they say we need a confidential energy plan. The United States does face a crisis in terms of cheap energy. According to United Nation's statistics of 1969, the United States, with 5.7 per cent of the world's population, consumes approximately 34 per cent of the world's energy. Canada is almost as bad: with 0.6 per cent of the world's population, we consume 2.9 per cent of the world's energy. India, with 15.2 per cent of the world's population, consumes only 1.5 per cent of the energy in the world.

Until the end of World War II, the United States was self-sufficient in terms of energy needs. Today the United States imports approximately 25 per cent of its energy and that percentage is rising every year. By 1980 they will be importing approximately 50 per cent of their energy needs. The Americans have many options. We have spoken about a number of these today. One is the Middle East. They can expand their take of energy from Middle East countries such as Saudi Arabia, Iran and Kuwait. However, the United States does not feel these countries are secure; there are many political problems. This makes the situation very dicey and shaky as far as the United States is concerned.

● (2110)

The second source of energy available to the United States is Canada, but Canada could not supply what is needed by the United States even if we did have a continental energy policy. Today we export to the American market about 60 per cent of what we produce, and this accounts for only 5 per cent of the crude oil consumed in the United States and 3.6 per cent of the gas consumed in that country. If you take the current situation and project it into the future, you will see that the situation does not differ much even if the Mackenzie valley pipeline is constructed and in full operation. If it is constructed and in operation by 1977, for example, and producing two million barrels of oil a day for the American market, about all that would do is make up for the drop in production in the lower 48 states of the United States.

The same is true of Alaska oil. If Alaska oil is developed to its potential, the Americans by the time 1980 comes along will still be producing about the same amount of oil as it is producing today. They would still find themselves in the position of having to import about half their energy. By that time the price will have gone up to at least $5 a barrel, if not higher, compared with about $3.40 in 1972. And, as I said, Canada cannot fulfil the American demand for energy; we do not have the reserves, and if we did develop them our economy would be in serious trouble.

In 1972 there were proven conventional reserves of eight billion barrels of oil and 53 trillion cubic feet of gas in Canada. The Canadian Petroleum Association estimates that the conventional reserves in Canada which are recoverable amount to about 120 billion barrels of oil and 725 trillion cubic feet of gas. This would not be sufficient to satisfy American demands even if we wished to do so.

The world is currently using oil at the rate of about 20 billion barrels a year, increasing at an annual rate of 7 per cent, or doubling every ten years. By the year 2000, about 1,330 billion parrels of oil will have been used—that is, between the present year and the year 2000. Canada will have consumed about 30 billion barrels, the United States 300 billion barrels and the rest of the world about 1,000 billion barrels. Proven conventional oil reserves in the world at this time, according to an American geological survey, amount to about 634 billion barrels.

This, in a nutshell, is the situation which faces us at the present time. What will the solution be? There is extra oil and gas available, but it will be much more expensive to produce. For example, there are the tar sands in Athabasca, Alberta. Oil reserves there could amount to as much as 300 billion barrels. Other tar sands in Canada hold estimated reserves of 145 billion barrels. It is, as we all know, much more expensive to refine this oil, get it out of the ground, and so on.

In the 1980s the Colorado oil shale might become competitive, but here again we are into a much more expensive operation. The reserves in the oil shale show about twice as much as the reserves of the tar sands in Canada. But if a sequence of this kind occurs, we can see what is likely to happen to the price. Canada, if we are not careful, will have priced herself out of her own market; we shall find our energy resources are much too expensive for our industrial needs.

Canada can meet its energy needs until the end of the century, with cheap energy, only if the government steps in and exercises certain controls and restraints. But this is not happening. We find ourselves, instead, accidentally step by step moving toward a continental energy deal of one kind or another. We find, for example, that 99 per cent of the refining capacity in this country is foreign-owned; 82.6 per cent of the gas and oil industry is in the hands of foreign companies and corporations. And this is only part of the situation which concerns me. These are all capital-intensive industries; they do not provide much employment.

Moreover, Canadian tax laws reinforce foreign ownership in this area and encourage investment of capital in this area. Eric Kierans, when he was a member of this House, pointed out many times that in the three years between 1965 and 1968 the oil companies showed a book profit of $795 million. Their taxable income, after accounting for all exemptions, amounted to $45 million. This means they paid taxes on 5.7 per cent of their book profits. Compare this with the level of taxation applied to manufacturing industry—63 per cent—or with that paid by the retail trade, where small businessmen and others pay tax

at the rate of 90 per cent on their book profits. This illustrates how distorted our priorities are when it comes to industrial planning and the direction of capital to areas where it should be going.

Imperial Oil showed a profit of $1 billion in the last ten years. This fact was referred to earlier by my hon. friend from Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands. They were taxed at the rate of 4 per cent. This is a lower tax rate than is levied on a girl who is working for the minimum wage at an all-night truck stop, if she is single, with no dependants. Thus, basically we are subsidizing, at the expense of the Canadian people, a commodity which is vital for the growth and welfare of the United States, Japanese and European economies. This policy will eventually be to the detriment of the people of Canada.

Consider the argument one step further. Industries in the resource area are highly capital-intensive. Eric Kierans quoted figures to show that $100 invested in resource development would provide about $6.50 in wages, while $100 invested in manufacturing would provide between $30 and $35 in wages. You can see right there why we have the highest unemployment rate of any industrialized country in the world. We in Canada import more manufactured goods than any other industrialized country in the world. We import $463 worth a year per capita, compared to manufactured goods worth $116 per capita imported by citizens of the United States. This imbalance will become increasingly severe in the years ahead if we continue with an energy policy such as the one we appear to be stumbling into.

I think we should be operating in the opposite direction. We should be carrying out more refining and processing right here in our own country, instead of exporting the raw material in its crude state. But if the people who represent the oil companies get their way, this position will probably get even worse by 1980. Here I am talking about the possible development of the Mackenzie valley gas and oil pipeline, other gas and oil pipelines, the development of the tar sands, and so on.

It has been estimated by many economists that the cost of a gas and oil pipeline down the Mackenzie valley would be about $12 billion by 1980. Some people are saying that by 1980 there might be as much as $30 billion invested in the tar sands, and another $6 to $8 billion in the James Bay project. Just think what effect this would have on inflation in this country, on our exchange rate, on interest rates, on our export markets, on Canadian industry or on Canadian agricultural and farm goods. It would have a negative effect on this whole area of our economy. With this type of investment in the tar sands, the Mackenzie valley and other Canadian oil and gas producing areas, we would be in a position to export five, six or seven million barrels a day of crude oil to the United States, resulting in an inflow into Canada of $11 billion or $12 billion in U.S. currency.

● (2120)

Let me carry that a step further. The United States balance of payments deficit today is around $4 billion. By 1980 it could go up to $20 billion or more due to their energy shortage. The United States is going to find itself in a straitjacket so far as its balance of payments problem is concerned, and thus will want to sell us even more manufactured goods and finished products in exchange for the oil and gas that we sell them. This will mean even less jobs for Canadians, perhaps an even greater inflation rate in this country, along with higher interest rates and difficulty in selling our exports, which in turn will mean we will be unable to develop any secondary or manufacturing industry in this country. The value of the Canadian dollar will probably go up once again we will go through the cycle of economic problems.

So far as the Canadian dollar is concerned, a United States economist from California has estimated that a 5 per cent increase in the value of the Canadian dollar over the U.S. dollar would result in a negative trade shift against Canada of $715 million. A 10 per cent increase in the value of the Canadian dollar over the U.S. dollar would result in a $1.6 billion negative trade shift between the two countries against Canada. These, Mr. Speaker, are some very real factors that could very well be valid if we are stampeded into a continental energy plan, construction of the Mackenzie valley gas and oil pipe line and development of the tar sands without regard to the real needs Canadians face, not just in the field of energy but in our whole economy.

The solutions must be radical ones; I do not think we can just tinker around. Our oil resources belong to the people of this country, not to the big oil companies and multinationals. For this reason we must establish immediately a number of priorities for this country. The first is a marketing agency which would be responsible for the marketing of gas and oil, an agency that would not be afraid of establishing a two-price system such as that advocated in the motion put forward today by the hon. member for Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands. Secondly, we must not be afraid to regulate production and export of gas and oil in Canada. Thirdly, I suggest we must begin seriously to consider the possibility of public ownership of our gas and oil resources.

Let me remind the House of a Gallup poll that was conducted a few weeks ago and which showed that the majority of the Canadian people now thought that the option of public ownership of our energy resources should be considered. These resources are very profitable. For example, in the province of Saskatchewan it is anticipated that $117 million will flow out of the province this year in the form of profits from the gas and oil industry, and in Alberta the amount leaving the province will be roughly $868 million.

If our energy resources were placed under public ownership we could then increase our refining capability and our petrochemical industry would become more sophisticated. We would be able to direct the profits therefrom into establishing additional manufacturing industry in this country and into a whole wealth of industrial, resource and energy planning the likes of which this country has never seen, but which it will have to see if we want to remain a united and free country into the twenty-first century.

Mr. Speaker, I see that my time has expired.

Mr. Gordon Ritchie (Dauphin): Mr. Speaker, in rising to debate the energy problems facing Canada over the

next few years, may I say that if one were to adopt the proposal put forward by the previous speaker you would have to suggest that if we all traded less, we would be better off. I do not think that is true. I do not think that we as a nation can escape the fact that there is an energy shortage throughout the world, and especially in the United States. I do not think we can dodge the changes that are developing throughout the world any more than we can escape food shortages, vast famines and political events that occur.

In the discussion of what our relations should be with the United States—which after all is the only country that can afford to buy our expensive energy—from the point of view of the export of gas and oil, it seems to me some historical events should be noted. For most of Canada's life we have been an oil deficient country. Only in 1954, with the discovery of Leduc, did Canada approach anything like energy sufficiency in gas and oil. The energy needs of central Canada and the western prairies were dependent upon imports from the United States. Had the United States not allowed oil exports to Canada, the Canadian economy would have been seriously retarded for a long time, and I suggest we might well have had only one-half or two-thirds of our population. For example, western Canadian agriculture would have developed at only a fraction of the rate it did.

Canada has now become one of the few western industrialized nations that has an adequate oil and gas supply for its immediate use. Bearing in mind that less than 20 years ago we had practically no oil and gas production, it is wise to remember that times change, and not always in our favour.

In his motion the hon. member for Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands (Mr. Douglas) speaks of the curtailment of gasoline shipments to the United States. I suggest that this curtailment of gasoline flies in the face of the many attempts to increase the export of more refined products, which has been the goal of many governments for a long time and the goal of the NDP. In the province of Manitoba, the NDP government has pledged itself to export more processed materials. Let us all also consider that oil from offshore that is surplus to our needs we can refine and re-export. Any oil we require, we can get from the Middle East, which does not deplete our own resources. So for a while, at least, we can benefit from the shortage in the United States.

While the Canadian public has to be protected, this placing of export controls on refined petroleum products means that we are negating much of the effort we have made to export refined products. It also places in jeopardy the large refineries at Come-by-Chance and Melfort Point, the production of which is beamed to the American market and is considered surplus to Canadian needs.

Furthermore, we cannot be unaware that the President's message to Congress has an evaluation content that must place the long overdue energy policy of the Canadian government into perspective. The important item in the President's message is that all existing tariffs on imported crude oil and oil products have been removed, and has direct control over the quantity of such crude oil and refined products. This is being replaced with a licence fee import system starting May 1 of this year. Under this new system, tariffs are only paid on the amount of oil over the amount imported in April. These tariffs will increase from about 10.5 cents a barrel initially to 21 cents per barrel by November 1, 1975.

• (2130)

In addition, between 1973 and 1980 the amount of oil already covered by this fee will decline progressively until in 1980 all oil will be eligible for fee. The fees themselves vary as between crude oil and refined petroleum products. For residual fuel oil the import fee starts at 15 cents per barrel, rising to 63 cents per barrel by November, 1975. For gasoline, fees will start at 52 cents per barrel, rising to 63 cents during the same period; and there are proposed import fee exemptions for 75 per cent of crude oil imports during five years for new or expanded refinery capacity in the United States. In other words, the president has anticipated the motion of the hon. member for Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands and the United States is already going to substantially increase the import tariff on gasoline in the next two and a half years.

In regard to natural gas, the President has proposed that gas from new wells or gas newly dedicated to interstate markets, and continuing production from expired contracts, should no longer be subject to price regulation at the wellhead. Thus, the future price of gas will be related to a mix of regulated and unregulated natural gas. In other words, the United States is anticipating rises in prices that will no doubt make for more efficient use of their energy resources, in the short term, to bias the import tariff so that crude oil will be favoured for importation over refined products. The United States has anticipated this motion and regards it in its interest not to import gasoline and other refined petroleum products.

The action of the President in respect of natural gas also indicates a departure from that which is proposed in this motion. It has long been felt that the price control of natural gas in the United States has stimulated its uneconomical use by being abnormally cheap. It is being used in the production of generating plants that could well be fuelled by other forms of fuel such as ooal. This would result in a saving of this very highly desired fuel. In other words, the United States has tried a price system and has discarded it in favour of the market system. This in itself should bring an end to the wasting of high quality products such as natural gas. For instance, it is stated that one-third of the energy used in an ordinary gas cooking range is consumed by the pilot light.

It is clear from President Nixon's message that these changes will have an effect on Canada in a very direct way and will tend to disrupt our domestic industrial strategy. We must develop our own domestic energy strategy in order to compensate for this change. The President's objectives are as detailed by the hon. member for Regina East (Mr. Balfour). They include continued and better protection of the United States petrochemical industry at the expense of foreign oil importers. This means curtailment on the importation of gasoline into the United States in favour of crude oil. Domestic tax laws in the United States are being changed to promote a redirection of exploration fees which have been going to Canadian frontier areas, to move intensified exploration in the United States.

A further objective is the elimination of oil import quotas with a redirection of Mid-East oil to the large U.S. market, to challenge or possibly replace traditional Canadian markets. I suggest that Mid-East oil is not nearly as unstable as many would seem to suggest. The President's message refers to the establishment of deep water facilities off the east coast of the United States at the expense of similar facilities which are planned for our maritimes. This indicates that the United States regards it more important to build refineries and ports in the United States than in Canada. The effect of President Nixon's message is that trade concessions or bilateral arrangements between our two countries will of necessity involve Canada's energy resources, and we cannot get away from that.

Having regard to a two-price system for gas in Canada, as I understand it we already have this in effect for the export market, which is the United States market, in that gas must be priced at least 105 per cent of the price of fuel comsumed in that area. Does this motion intend to change this situation? What do the NDP expect the domestic price to be? The motion states that the domestic price should be significantly lower, but how much lower is not said.

If the domestic price is lower than the cost of production, or at least the cost of bringing gas not now found into production, or to make economical the production of gas not now considered viable under the price structure, this would indicate that the price of natural gas should rise in order that we can exploit the discovery of natural gas in the field to the fullest. In other words, the industry says there is natural gas that cannot be exploited as long as the price is low. If we are to cut back on our exports to the United States to the extent of $1.25 billion in respect of oil and gas, how will we fill that gap in the immediate future?

Recently the United States closed the trade gap with us as far as the merchandise account is concerned and is now showing a surplus trade account. Inevitably, a discussion about the restriction of energy, particularly oil and gas, with the United States brings forth the idea that Canada could with impunity shut off the supply of oil and gas and suffer no untoward effects. We have complained bitterly that the United States sees and treats Canadians as hewers of wood and drawers of water. However, my analysis would indicate that of all the highly finished industrial products we sell abroad, by far the greatest amount goes to the United States.

Let me give the House an example. On September 7, 1971, a former minister of finance, Mr. Edgar Benson, said in the House of Commons that 85 per cent of Canadian finished, export goods were sold in the United States. In 1969 we sold only 13.2 per cent of our finished products manufactured for export outside the United States. This amount totalled more than one-third of our total exports. In 1969 Canada sold about one-third of its exports as processed industrial material, with the United States providing 70 per cent of our total market. I would doubt that these figures have changed a great deal. If we complain about Canadians being treated as hewers of wood and drawers of water, we must remember our export of raw material to Japan and the European common market, such as coal, wood, and so on, used there for the production of finished products.

[Mr. Ritchie.]

The hon. member for Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands mentioned that Canada needs low-cost gas and oil for its own manufacturing industry. Surely the widespread shutting off of gas and oil to the United States would be interpreted as a direct blow to that country's industrial capacity. We could not embark on this course without expecting substantial changes in the United States regarding its dealings with us. To keep its industrial machines going, the United States would have to import oil from other sources, and it is not likely it would allow the export of our high-priced manufactured goods into their markets. Indeed, the United States would be required more and more to export only finished goods while restricting imports. The United States would have little sympathy if it could not import energy from Canada. As the balance of payments grew worse, the United States could not continue to import high-priced Canadian goods without some compensation.

Perhaps there is good news as far as the basic economy of the western world is concerned in the fact that the United States balance of payments has improved in the past year, particularly in the past month or two. I think it is interesting to note that this is largely due to an increase in exports to world markets. This is something for the House to think about in considering Lift programs, and so on. To replace the United States market for our Canadian manufacturers with either the Japanese market or the European Common Market would involve a problem that I think would concern even the most avid Canadian nationalist.

• (2140)

It is already widely apparent that United States investment in our oil and gas exploration is being severely curtailed and we will have to shift Canadian investment into these fields. This will cause heavy demands on the Canadian economy if we wish to sustain new finds. It seems to me that the radical setting of a domestic price for oil and gas that is greatly lower that the world market would only store up problems for the future and would do nothing to solve our problems in the long run. Perhaps there is some need for regulation of local, unusual circumstances.

With regard to paragraph (c) of this motion, I think it is very much in conflict with the attempt to establish a two-price system for gas and oil. It may well be that now is the time to consider a more flexible Ottawa valley line. Prices east of the Ottawa valley are bound to rise. It seems there will be factors that will prevent their rising to abnormal levels. First of all, the OPEC countries can only raise the price of energy to a degree before they bump into competition from other fuels.

It is widely recognized that in North America, which includes Canada, much of our energy needs are dictated by our high standard of living. Inevitably, the gasoline rationing in the United States will reduce the demand and increase the trend to smaller cars, with perhaps more efficient use of public transport. This should cause a levelling off of energy demands. All these will modify the Arab demands in respect of oil. But the hon. member's suggestion that the Ottawa valley line be removed is in direct conflict with the two-price system for oil which he has suggested.

In the matter of oil, generally speaking Canada has remained with the price at the world market level. Unless conditions change significantly, this still seems to be by far the best policy for us to follow. I foresee great overtones of trouble developing for us in the future in moving into a two-price system.

Mr. Bill Knight (Assiniboia): Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the opportunity to speak in this debate on the motion moved on behalf of our party by the hon. member for Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands (Mr. Douglas). To my mind, no question outlined in Parliament today is more central to the very future of our country and the future needs of the consumers of this country, regardless of whether they are farmers on the prairies or consumers of natural gas in Toronto or wherever they may live.

I listened to some of the debate today with great interest. I think it has outlined the position of the different parties in terms of their stand on the energy crisis as it affects the people of Canada. I am appalled at the position and the attitude of the Tory party on such a fundamental question. First of all, this party which has historically taken the position of advocating a sort of nice Canadian nationalism of the days of Sir John A. Macdonald is now the greatest proponent of a continental approach to the use of our oil and gas resources.

The hon. member for Dauphin (Mr. Ritchie) seemed to apologize for the U.S.A. and the position in which it finds itself in terms of energy and energy needs. He seemed to be suggesting that we really must not start to control our export of oil and gas and must not begin to plan for the needs of Canadians. I want to point out that before the committee of the House of Commons dealing with the price, cost and supply of oil and natural gas it was pointed out, in terms of the charts, that in fact if all the known reserves of oil and natural gas in Canada today were turned over lock, stock and barrel to the United States, those reserves of oil and natural gas would supply the United States market for less than one year. That is the kind of situation which exists in respect of Canada and the United States. There is less than one year's supply in terms of known reserves. The Tory party talks about a wide open field between the United States and Canada in terms of a continentalist policy in respect of oil and natural gas.

The hon. member for Regina East (Mr. Balfour) and one of the Toronto members cried crocodile tears for the oil companies. I believe it would be written in the history of this country, if a Tory government were formed and allowed a free flow of non-renewable resources into the United States market, that it would be one of the greatest sell-outs, comparable only to the sell-out of the rest of our industries by those sitting across from the Tories. Let me point out that if we continue to operate on a philosophy of allowing the free flow on a so-called open market among multi-national, United States-owned and controlled corporations, and keep working under this narrow and outdated philosophy presented by the oldline parties in this House, we will be in the position of putting the price of our oil and gas at a level which is inconceivable in terms of the farmer on the land and the consumer in the town or city.

We must begin now to look into planning the use of our natural resources. For whom are those natural resources there? Are they there for the large, United States multinational corporations, corporations which when they face a certain restriction, a very minor move by the Minister of Energy, Mines, and Resources (Mr. Macdonald) about which the Tory party complained, switch to another angle to protect their own private interests? They export out of Canada by moving gasoline across the border.

Members of this House listened to the independent dealer, not a representative of the monopolies to which the hon. member for Qu'Appelle-Moose Mountain (Mr. Hamilton) referred but, rather, a representative of the independing suppliers in the Ottawa valley who had to close down most of his independent operations while the monopoly corporations had a greater market supply. He told the newscaster on television at six o'clock, during the news program, that one of the major reasons he was closing down was that the large, United States-owned monopoly corporations in this country were now in fact moving gasoline across the border in order to avoid the import restrictions on oil.

If the government, in the interest of the people of Canada, cannot now see the absolute necessity of considering the public interest in respect of the production and supply of our oil and natural gas, I believe the philosophy of the old-line parties is outmoded and outdated in terms of the development of our resources which are needed by the people of Canada.

The resolution points out the concept of a two-price system for oil and natural gas, or energy supplies in Canada. I believe it is of considerable merit. Surely when out population is so dependent on these resources, and the industrial world is so dependent on the supply of non-renewable resources, it is incumbent upon us as the representatives of our people to find it in the public interest to control the price they must pay for their energy. I believe we must begin to prod the government into directly intervening in the activities of the oil and gas industries, which is a policy I do not believe we will see followed by either old-line party, in terms of meeting the real and desperate need for energy supplies in Canada.

• (2150)

I heard the hon. member for Qu'Appelle-Moose Mountain earlier today cry out for non-partisanship in dealing with this issue. If I had to speak for the Tory party and some of the representatives within it who represent the oil cartels, I would cry for non-partisanship as well, because surely there is no defence of the position being taken by the Tory party. I recall a meeting of the Standing Committee on National Resources and Public Works when officials of the National Energy Board came before it and clearly outlined, by chart, the discrepancy between the supplies we had in Canada for our domestic consumption and our needs in the coming decades. One of the officials pointed out very clearly a problem which was raised by the hon. member for Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands, namely, that the supply in a decade or more from now will not be there.

I remember a spokesman for the Tory party saying at that time that he was glad the National Energy Board had shown there was no problem in terms of oil and gas supplies. Either in protecting their friends in the oil indus-

try, or in sheer blindness, they cannot see the fundamental question we are facing in this country. The hon. member for Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands pointed out the possibilities of a dual pipeline system so as to bring about some kind of competition between domestic oil and offshore oil.

Mr. McKinley: Capitalism.

Mr. Knight: The hon. member says "capitalism". I want to point out that the first word they forgot in terms of the oil and gas industry was the word "competition". I am referring to the creation of a situation in which the entire Canadian economy east of the Ottawa valley is not dependent on offshore oil supplies, and this is fundamental.

If we can create such a situation, we will not be trapped should the Americans find their supplies in the Middle East or other parts of the world tapped, and they continue to get a limited supply from other foreign markets and decide that they have to restrict the offshore oil which is going to meet Canadian needs, through their multinational corporations. So I believe it is in the public interest that we move into a two-price system as it relates to energy and that we move into an area of marketing agencies, as the hon. member for Yorkton-Melville (Mr. Nystrom) pointed out.

We should establish eventual ownership of all the pipeline systems and distributions in this country as an initial step in order to keep control of this movement. As a result of control of the pipelines we can bring an end to the ludicrous position of TransCanada Pipe Lines which, in all the years of its operation, has not paid corporate income taxes to the public treasury. The income of TransCanada Pipe Lines should not go to a privileged few; it should be used for the public interest.

From there we should move to the eventual position of complete public ownership of the gas and oil industry, in the public interest. The resources in the Northwest Territories and the Mackenzie region should not be confined to private industry and multinational corporations. People in the Northwest Territories represented by my colleague should have a say in the kind of development that takes place there, in terms of the relationship to large, multinational corporations. These corporations should be restricted. This should be done in the public interest. Exploitation of the resources should be carried out by public entreprise and a publicly-owned corporation.

I want to point out how this energy crisis relates to the ordinary people of Canada. In my constituency at present we have the culmination of the seeding season and every producer on the land needs gas and oil for his machinery. If we as Members of Parliament do not solve the energy problem in terms of the kind of price the producer will have to pay on the domestic market, the price for that commodity will continue to rise unendingly. It is not the only cost with which he is faced.

May I quote a few statistics. The cost of running a farm in the first quarter of 1973 was up over 10 per cent from last year, according to Statistics Canada. The farm input price index was pushed up by an 18 per cent increase in the cost of livestock, a 15 per cent increase in the cost of feeder cattle, and a 31 per cent increase in the cost of seed.

Add to this major increases in the price of fuel which came this spring. Some farmers point out to me that it will cost them an additional $400 or $500 this year to operate their machinery.

The index of 100 in 1961 in respect of costs to eastern farmers shows an increase to 119.2 in 1970 in the cost of petroleum products compared to 125.8 for 1972. For western farmers rose to 113.5 in 1970 and to 120 in 1972, not including the increases since Christmas in their costs. The consumers of Canada who want cheap food will have to pay the ever rising costs of the producer unless we answer the fundamental questions related to energy costs in terms of oil and natural gas.

I believe that the program outlined by the hon. member for Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands on behalf of this party provides an approach to the energy question in our country which will ensure a reasonable price for both consumers and producers, and which will protect a steady supply of oil and gas to meet the needs of the Canadian people.

PROCEEDINGS ON ADJOURNMENT MOTION

A motion to adjourn the House under Standing Order 40 deemed to have been moved.

NATIONAL DEFENCE—REQUEST FOR RETENTION OF THE KILT FOR HIGHLAND UNITS

Mr. Allan B. McKinnon (Victoria): Mr. Speaker, I regret that the Minister of National Defence (Mr. Richardson) is not here this evening to hear my representation. I presume he is engaged on something which he considers more important. On April 10 I asked the minister if he would reconsider the decision to force the Highland units to give up their cherished kilts, and if he would reinstate the maintenance grants for Highland dress for those units. The minister gave the totally specious reply that "there is no regulation preventing the Highland regiments in the reserves from wearing the kilt".

The question, as the minister well knew, was about the cutting off of maintenance grants to Highland units. The people concerned are well aware that Highland units may continue wearing the kilt, the change being that the minister now demands that the troops involved pay for their own uniforms.

● (2200)

Since April 10 I have received petitions from the St. Andrews and Caledonian Society of Victoria, the Regimental Association of the Cameron Highlanders of Ottawa, and the Soltire Society of Victoria requesting the retention of Highland uniforms at government expense. There are some 4,000 signatures to these petitions, and I will be requesting permission tomorrow to table them. One is left to ponder upon the reasons for this move on the part of the minister. Highland units have been a proud part of the Canadian military for over a hundred years. I

am informed that 35 per cent of the militia order of battle are Highland units. I wonder if the minister wishes to alienate such a sizeable proportion of the militia.

On a dollars and cents basis there is little ground for the curtailing decision. It is estimated that the life expectancy of the new green trousers is approximately two years, at a cost of approximately $10. The Highland units suggest that the minister should save the $10 and instead restore a kilt maintenance grant of $5 per annum for the Highland militia and cadets. I might mention now, Mr. Speaker, that I am glad to see the minister has taken his seat in this chamber and will reply to my presentation. I might also mention that the $10 for the green trousers does not include payment for certain undergarments, which it is well known Highland units do not need or wear.

It seems strange that the forces are advertising for recruits and at the same time are giving up the best kind of advertising they have. In this respect I note that in the estimates there is an increase of $2 million in defence expenditure on information. I hope that tomorrow I will also have a chance to inquire into the spending of that large amount of money.

It is the negative approach that the minister seems to take to recruiting people into militia that I believe is particularly unsuccessful. Field Marshall Montgomery established as a principle of war that we should reinforce success. The Highland units have always had success in attracting recruits. Why not reinforce their successful ways?

This government adopts the attitude of the born loser. In "Defence for the 70's" it stated, "The government intends to maintain the reserve force at the current authorized size." In "Defence 1971" it stated, "The average militia strength in 1971 was approximately 18,000." In "Defence 1972", at page 91 it states, "As of October 1, 1972, the militia strength was 16,583." Obviously, the government is failing to attract recruits into the militia; and I do not wonder, when it takes away the things the militia feel most seriously about.

The government pretends to encourage groups to remember their heritage. The very fine Royal 22nd Regiment wear on their cap badges "Je me souviens"—a fine motto, and I agree with their wearing it. Pride of past, race, family and self are all intertwined, and the proud regiments are the best. Perhaps I might close by recommending to the minister that he should not choose Highland units to be the next victim of his policy of anonymity for all units in the forces. Instead, he might consider Sir Wilfrid Laurier's enlightened comment in a speech delivered in Toronto on January 5, 1893, when he said, "If I were not French I would choose to be Scotch."

Hon. James Richardson (Minister of National Defence): Mr. Speaker, I welcome the opportunity provided by the ten o'clock debate to reply to the hon. member for Victoria (Mr. McKinnon). I know that since he entered this House after the election of October 30 last he has had a very keen interest in the armed forces, both the regular and the reserve. I might say that my awareness of his interest has resulted from personal conversations as well as from questions he has directed to me across the floor.

The subject of dress for Highland units that he first raised back in April, and which he has addressed himself to again tonight, is a matter which I like to think is of as much concern and importance to me as it is to many members of the House and many Canadians. First of all, I would like to clarify any misunderstanding that may exist with regard to the present policy. There is no regulation of any kind which prevents the Highland units from wearing the kilt. I am well aware, however, that there was a change of policy brought about before I became Minister of National Defence. This change in policy had the effect of eliminating financial support from the department for the purchase and, particularly, for the maintenance of the kilt.

I have the responsibility, as the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre (Mr. Knowles) knows, as have other ministers, for reassessing the decisions made by my predecessors. At this point in time the most I can say to the hon. member for Victoria is that I believe he has brought forward for public attention and consideration a matter of importance. It is important to the department, particularly important to the Highland units, and I like to believe it is of importance to Canada.

I say to the hon. member that there are a number of matters, and this is one of them, which I am still evaluating as Minister of National Defence and upon which I am still reaching my own conclusions. I have not yet had an opportunity to fully assess the implications of the proposals that he is suggesting. However, it does not trouble me to say to him that I am in general agreement with the sentiments and representations that he has made on behalf of Highland units.

It should be pointed out that in matters of dress of all federal employees, including the armed forces, the approval of Treasury Board is required. With this in mind, and also having regard to the numerous other financial demands on my budget, it is my personal belief that the Canadian armed forces—I will conclude in less than one minute, Mr. Speaker, if I may.

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Laniel): Order, please. The rule of the "late show" is applied strictly. I am ready to let the minister go on but I am afraid that this will set a precedent for another evening, and we are already in difficulty in that the minister has now taken one minute longer than he should. I will let the minister continue, but I would not want this occasion to create a precedent.

An hon. Member: One minute.

Mr. Richardson: What I want to say, and this is really the main point I wanted to bring before hon. members is that it is my personal belief that the Canadian armed forces would be well served if the payment for some part of the capital cost of kilts for the Highland units, and an annual grant per member for the maintenance of kilts, was reinstituted as our policy.

I will conclude by saying that I welcome the representations by the hon. member for Victoria because, as I have said, the sentiments he has expressed are very close to my own. I wish to assure him tonight that I intend to move

our policy concerning financial assistance to the Highland units along the lines which I have just described.

NATIONAL REVENUE—REQUEST THAT GOVERNMENT NOT SEEK RETURN OF OVERPAYMENTS TO FARMERS UNDER WHEAT INVENTORY REDUCTION PROGRAM

Mr. Bill Knight (Assiniboia): Mr. Speaker, on May 25 I asked a question of the Minister of National Revenue (Mr. Stanbury) relating to the long-outmoded policy of the Lower Inventory for Tomorrow, or Lift, as it relates to the western producer. It appears that under this program the government overpaid some 4,000 farmers to the tune of $365,000. It has collected some of this money; the farmers concerned now owe about $288,000. According to the Auditor General's report, the government can write off moneys to the tune of $6 million owed to the federal treasury by such illustrious individuals as United States automobile manufacturing companies.

● (2210)

The Auditor General further pointed out that this government, according to its philosophy, is prepared to ignore joint-owned corporations in joint ventures to save corporate income tax. The essence of it is that the government is trying to collect $288,000 from 4,000 farmers. This amounts to between $40 and $50 per farmer. They are also trying to collect overpayments under the old age security program in the neighbourhood of $1 million. I understand they have made a recovery of half that amount. While trying to collect these overpayments, the government is willing to allow a United States automobile manufacturing company a forgiveness of $6 million owing to the federal treasury.

This government has a philosophy of free enterprise—free for the rich but not for the poor. If that is their philosophy, there are two points that should be made. They ought to forget about the overpayments under the LIFT program. It was disastrous; it was an act against humanity to tell the farmers not to grow food while millions were starving. Second, the government will present figures which probably will not add up to $288,000. If they keep at it each year, it will probably cost more to try to collect than it is worth in terms of money owing by these thousands of farmers. If the government is going to operate with the philosophy that it can write off $6 million for their large corporate friends, they should be prepared to write off the $288,000 owned by western farmers.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Léopold Corriveau (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Agriculture): Mr. Speaker, the question which was asked by the hon. member of the opposition to the Minister of National Revenue is the same as the one he asked exactly a year ago to the Minister of Justice. In view of the pertinency of the reply given by the then Parliamentary Secretary, may I be permitted to quote this reply as recorded on page 2874 of the Debates for June 5, 1972. Here it is:

> Mr. Speaker, the hon. member in directing his original question to the Minister of Justice (Mr. Lang) sought to draw a parallel between two distinctly different circumstances. The situations mentioned were the Canada-United States automotive agreement on the one hand and the Operation Lift program on the other. The minister in his reply stated that he could see no connection between the two situations and frankly, Mr. Speaker, neither can I.
>
> Although the Canada-United States auto agreement is not administered by the Canadian Department of Agriculture, perhaps I may still reply to that part of the hon. member's question which pertains to this agreement. It is my understanding that this agreement was based on the principle of free trade. As such it did not envisage collection of duty or sales tax by either party. The amount the hon. member interprets as being a direct liability is, in my understanding, what has been referred to as a contingent liability, not a direct liability nor an outstanding debt owing.
>
> The overpayments to farmers are examples of direct liabilities and as such are quite different both in terms of accounting principles and of actual fact. Under the terms of the Lift program, farmers who elected to participate in the program were paid a specific amount for each acre taken out of wheat production, with an additional payment made when this acreage was diverted to perennial forage production. These payments were made subject to a definite set of governing regulations.
>
> I am certain the hon. member is well aware of the reasons behind the Lift program and I need not go into them in detail. However, I should like to mention the fact that the government, in an attempt to put needed cash into the hands of farmers as soon as possible, made advance interim payments to farmers who submitted claims. Final payments were made when on-farm inspections had been made. Some overpayments did result. Some of these overpayments arose out of arithmetical errors and misunderstanding of the regulations. In other cases there were definite inconsistencies when the actual farm inspections were made.
>
> In conclusion, and to answer the hon. member's question, the government does not intend to forgive or writeoff these overpayments. Rather, we have already collected much of the amount owing and have been and are, judging each outstanding case on its own merits. Where, according to the regulations, recovery is justifiable we shall attempt to collect the full amount owing.

[*English*]

AGRICULTURE—TAXATION OF MARKETING QUOTAS—POSSIBLE REVISION IN LIGHT OF REPRESENTATIONS BY FARM GROUPS

Mr. Bill Jarvis (Perth-Wilmot): Mr. Speaker, the capital gains tax provision respecting farm merketing quotas is bad legislation and this, I suggest, is the responsibility of the Minister of Agriculture (Mr. Whelan). There are two fundamental principles of these capital gains tax provisions: first, capital gains tax shall not be retroactive, that is, the cost of acquiring an asset before valuation day, January 1, 1972, is not material. Second, this tax applies only to capital assets. These are sound principles and should lead to little or no confusion but somehow, between the Minister of Agriculture and the Minister of Finance (Mr. Turner), the whole area of farm marketing quotas has been turned into a hopelessly complex system of unfair and retroactive taxation.

The two ministers to whom I have referred have agreed between themselves that these quotas are the same as goodwill and should be taxed accordingly. This must mystify thousands of farmers who have purchased these quotas at auction sales, for example, just as they might purchase a piece of machinery; the purchaser was buying a capital asset worth, in the case of many milk quotas, tens of thousands of dollars. The purchaser would be astonished to hear from these ministers that he was purchasing goodwill. Similarly, when a broiler producer purchases a barn with a broiler quota, will the Minister of Agriculture tell him he is not buying a capital asset?

Third, the marketing quota tax is retroactive, as I have said, and this is not hard to demonstrate. In January, 1971, group one pool milk quotas in Ontario sold for an average of $25.05 per pound. Let us assume farmer A purchased a 1,000-pound quota which cost him about $25,000. The same day his next door neighbour turned his farm over to his son and gifted to the son the same sized quota. Under the budget provisions, neither farmer can have a valuation day value for their quotas. Farmer A gains a hollow victory because he can on disposal, ten years hence, for example, deduct his original cost. But even he can place no valuation day value on this asset. The neighbour's son, according to this legislation, has incurred no cost and is taxed on the full amount of disposal proceeds, subject of course to the usual provisions affecting all gains and to the transitory provisions respecting goodwill and similar assets.

The Minister of Agriculture and the Minister of Finance say this is fair because it cost the son nothing. Their attitude is absolute nonsense, Mr. Speaker. I and thousands of other estate planners spent years transferring assets by way of gifts, including real estate, shares in companies and other assets. Let us assume that on the same day the farmer's son received the $25,000 milk quota, his cousin in the city received from his father $25,000 in shares in the family business. The cousin in not subject to capital gains tax on the whole proceeds of disposal because he can deduct from such proceeds the value of those shares on valuation day. Will the Minister of Agriculture tell us the difference between a $25,000 milk quota and $25,000 in shares in an incorporated company? Of course he will not, Mr. Speaker, because insofar as capital gains tax is concerned there can be no difference if we are to be fair and equitable.

Since the first week of March I have been asking the minister to have the legislation changed. What has been his response? He says the legislation is good. I have pointed out to him that every farm organization concerned with the problem has been diametrically opposed to this inequitable, complex and retroactive taxation.

● (2220)

On March 6 I quoted the Canadian Federation of Agriculture's position. The minister replied that he had met with the federation and he said: "I am not of the opinion that they are that dissatisfied." Subsequently I received copies of briefs to the minister from farm organizations, and in light of the universal condemnation in these briefs of this taxation I asked the minister what steps he would take to correct the inequity. I quote his reply on March 20: "I am still of the same opinion as I was before".

Finally, I raised the matter on May 17 and pointed out the overwhelming criticism of this retroactive taxation. Again the minister said he disagreed that there had seen such strong criticism, and he went on to say that the president of the Ontario Federation of Agriculture had told him: "You are doing one hell of a good job, Mr. Minister". I do not know in what context the president of the federation made those remarks. He may have been speaking in general terms or, more likely, he may have been talking about the quantity of speeches that the minister has been delivering across the country. One aspect of farm life that the president was not referring to was the capital gains tax on farm marketing quotas, where he could have been accurately quoted as saying. "You are doing one hell of a bad job. Mr. Minister."

I say this without qualification or reservation, because exactly five days after the minister's reply in this House to my latest question there appeared in the May 22 edition of *Farm and Country* a feature story by the president of the Ontario Federation of Agriculture. The heading is: "Next target: no gains tax on quotas assigned before V-day". Let me quote briefly from this article:

> However, there are many major inequities that still have not been removed. Capital gains tax on marketing quotas acquired before January 1, 1972, is still retroactive and unjust . . .
>
> Obviously this must be corrected immediately.

Will the Minister of Agriculture again try to tell the House that the Ontario federation is anything but absolutely opposed to this legislation? This position is echoed by a multitude of farm organizations and marketing boards right across this country.

I referred earlier to the many speeches that the minister has been giving across Canada, and I hasten not to condemn him for this. But it surprises me that I have to remind the minister that he has an obligation not only to speak to farmers but to speak for farmers as well. If it had not been for the energy and determination of agricultural groups and the opposition parties in this House we would still have a capital gains tax on the transfer of family farms. I for one am going to do battle again on this unjust, complicated and retroactive taxation on marketing quotas; but it seems to me that if the Minister of Agriculture paused even briefly between his speeches to tell the Minister of Finance the truth about these positions, we would all save a lot of time and the farmers of Canada would receive no more than they deserve—fair and equitable capital gains tax legislation.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Léopold Corriveau (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Agriculture): On May 17, 1973, the honourable member opposite referred to "overwhelming criticism" of the Capital Gains Tax provision respecting farm marketing quotas. The minister has and does reject as an exaggeration the statement that the Federation is overwhelmingly critical of this provision as it now stands.

However, much has been done to change other provisions contained in the February 17 budget which were of even greater concern.

That being said, Mr. Speaker, I would like to address myself specifically to the Capital Gains Tax on marketing quotas. The quotas most commonly referred to in this connection are individual milk quotas. These quotas were made available to producers at no cost. Since the original allocation quotas have been bought and sold between producers with the result that quotas have now acquired a value. The tax would then be applied to the appreciated value. The real concern of the Federation, however, is that it is not possible to assign a valuation day value to such quota, and it is in this connection that this organization has expressed dissatisfaction.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Tuesday, May 29, 1973

The House met at 2 p.m.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

USE OF UNPARLIAMENTARY LANGUAGE—STATEMENT BY MR. SPEAKER

Mr. Speaker: Hon. members will recall, I am sure, the procedural difficulties in which the House became involved yesterday when a charge was made by the hon. member for Gander-Twillingate against the Minister of the Environment and Fisheries. The Chair intervened to suggest that the words used by the hon. member were unparliamentary. A discussion ensued as to whether the rule could apply where the charge relates to conduct or statements made outside the chamber. I appreciate that the distinction was proposed constructively with a view to being of assistance both to the hon. member and to the Chair.

On reflection, I find it difficult to agree with the proposition that so-called unparliamentary language would be irregular when it refers to the conduct or statements of members inside the House but that the same so-called unparliamentary language would be acceptable when relating to events outside the chamber. Hon. members, I am sure, will want to agree with the Chair when I suggest that unparliamentary language is just that, and requires the intervention of the Chair in accordance with the long established practice of this House. I will not burden the House with a long list of citations or precedents. I simply remind the House of Standing Order 35 which is to the effect that no member shall use offensive words against either House or against any member thereof. I refer also to Citation 155, paragraph 3, of Beauchesne's Fourth Edition, as follows:

> No Member can be allowed . . . to tell a Member that he went about the country telling palpable lies.

This particular citation is referred to in connection with the suggestion that the hon. member's words might not be unparliamentary in that they had reference to statements made outside the House.

Having made these comments, I wish to assure the House that I do not want to dramatize the situation. I realize that members participate in debate in the House under considerable pressure and stress. I consider it to be the duty of the Chair to take this into account. It is easy and, indeed, sometimes natural for members to use words or expressions which, while they may honestly express one's feelings, may perhaps go beyond the limits of parliamentary propriety. Repeating a suggestion which I made yesterday, it seems to me that it should be possible for members to express strong views and to oppose other members vigorously without using offensive expressions which, by long-established practice and tradition and by the common consent of members, are not acceptable in debate.

These rules and practices are established by the members themselves. They can be changed when it is felt that they are no longer relevant to the times. Such changes are accomplished by the House itself following debate either in the House or in committee. If members feel that the rules relating to the use of so-called unparliamentary language should be altered or that we should change the much-disputed rule that no question should be asked of a minister during the question period in relation to statements he has made outside the House, then it is up to the members themselves to make these changes. In the meantime the rules are there for members to observe. There is no way, I suggest, that the Chair can enforce these rules without the full co-operation of members, and I do not mean only the majority of members but every single member of the House of Commons.

● (1410)

I have always felt deeply indebted to the members of this House who in similar difficult positions in the past have made it possible for this type of procedural difficulty to be cleared up without dramatic confrontations. I am hopeful that, with the continuing assistance and, indeed, with the guidance of the House, it might be possible to soothe hurt feelings and restore a feeling of harmony between aggrieved members and proceed happily to the business of the House.

I think it would be unfortunate if this whole matter were resolved in a climate of emotional tension. I am prepared to leave the matter in abeyance for today in the hope that sweet reason will prevail, while at the same time reserving the proprieties of debate which are essential to the reasonable and orderly conduct of parliamentary business. In other words, I am prepared to make a distinction between the two aspects of this matter.

The first deals with ministerial statements made outside the House and reference to such statements. I myself have had serious doubts about this rule, and I think the hon. member for Gander-Twillingate and the right hon. member for Prince Albert had a point when they said that this rule should be reviewed. The hon. member for Peace River suggested yesterday that perhaps this is a question that might be referred to the committee.

Then there is the second aspect, which is perhaps not as important as the matter of substance, that is, the use of unparliamentary language. As I have said, it is important that no decisions should be made in the House by the Chair, by individual members or by the House in general on an emotional basis. I think that yesterday, and perhaps even today, we are still under considerable stress in relation to this very serious and contentious issue.

Tabling of Reports

The Chair is quite prepared to leave this matter in abeyance for the time being in the hope, as I have said, that by referring the matter of substance to the committee on procedure we might in due course resolve the other matter, which I really do not think should be made a tragedy. That is my view, and I feel very confident that all hon. members will want to co-operate with the Chair in this respect so we can get on with the business of the House, which I understand is very important business today, rather than spending the day on whether a word is parliamentary or unparliamentary.

I insist on my feeling that certain words have to be judged by the Chair and that it is the duty of the Chair to take action. I suggest it is the duty of individual members to co-operate with the Chair in ensuring that we can proceed on a reasonable basis, observing the proprieties of this chamber. I seek the co-operation of all hon. members, and I am confident that they will extend that co-operation to me as they have in the past.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

* * *

[*Translation*]

ELECTORAL BOUNDARIES READJUSTMENT ACT

TABLING OF REPORT OF COMMISSION FOR PROVINCE OF ALBERTA

Mr. Speaker: It is my duty, pursuant to section 19 of the Electoral Boundaries Readjustment Act, chapter E-2, Revised Statutes of Canada 1970, to lay upon the table of the House a certified copy of the report of the Electoral Boundaries Commission for the province of Alberta, 1973.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

COMMITTEES OF THE HOUSE

FISHERIES AND FORESTRY

Second report, in both official languages, of Standing Committee on Fisheries and Forestry—Mr. Béchard (Bonaventure-Îles de la Madeleine).

MISCELLANEOUS ESTIMATES

Third report of Standing Committee on Miscellaneous Estimates—Mr. Leblanc (Laurier).

[*Editor's Note: For text of above reports, see today's Votes and Proceedings.*]

[Mr. Speaker.]

[*English*]

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

VIET NAM—DECISION TO WITHDRAW CANADIAN ELEMENT FROM INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION OF CONTROL AND SUPERVISION

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, speaking in the House of Commons on March 27 I said that the government had decided to extend Canadian participation in the International Commission of Control and Supervision until May 31 and that before that date the government would decide whether to remain or to withdraw.

At that time I said, as will be found on page 2630 of *Hansard,* that we would withdraw our contingent by June 30 unless there had been a substantial improvement in the situation or some signs of an imminent political agreement between the two South Vietnamese parties.

The decision is a serious one and the government so regards it. Canada has a reputation, I believe, for responsibility in international affairs. We have served in more peacekeeping and peace observer roles than any other country and we remain ready to serve wherever we can be effective. We have also in the course of this varied and extensive experience, including 19 years in Indo-China, learned something about the conditions that are necessary to success in peacekeeping and peace observer activities.

The House will recall the efforts that the government made to establish conditions which would help to improve the prospects for the successful functioning of the International Commission of Control and Supervision provided for in the Paris Agreement on Viet Nam. I shall not repeat them now. The record of Canada's approach to the question of participation in the ICCS up to the end of March, 1973, is to be found in a White Paper that I shall table at the conclusion of this statement.

Stated briefly, what we sought to ensure was that the new International Commission would be an impartial, fact-finding body, supported by the parties to the peace agreement, with sufficient freedom of access to enable it to ascertain the facts about any alleged breach of the agreement and reporting quickly not only to the parties to the agreement but also to the international community as a whole. While we did not achieve all our purposes, I think it is fair to say that we helped to effect some improvements, at least in form.

What we could not ensure, and what the ICCS could not ensure, was peace in Viet Nam. That depends on the parties to the peace agreement and not on the ICCS. Nor can Canada alone ensure that the ICCS fulfils its function of peace observing and reporting as provided for in the peace agreement. That too depends on the parties to the agreement and on the other member delegations of the commission.

Notwithstanding our hesitations and doubts we accepted membership for a trial period of 60 days. At the end of that first 60 days our hesitations and doubts had been reinforced but we were urged by many countries to show patience. So we agreed to another two-month period which is not coming to an end.

By and large there has been no significant change in the situation that would alter the view we formed at the end of the first 60 days, notwithstanding the strenuous efforts of the Canadian contingent to support the functioning of the international commission.

Let me repeat that our attitude results from Canadian experience in the old ICSC and the Canadian concept of the functioning of a peace observer body. We are not criticizing the peace agreement. We welcomed that agreement; we regard it as a good agreement that provides as sound and honourable a basis for peace as was negotiable. If the parties will set themselves to applying it, as we hope they may yet do, it can bring lasting peace to Viet Nam. We hope that the efforts of Dr. Kissinger and Mr. Le Duc Tho to achieve a stricter observance of the agreement will be crowned with success.

We have come to the conclusion, however, that the Canadian concept of the functioning of the International Commission has not been accepted and that it would be in the interest of all concerned if we were now to withdraw. Nor do we believe that Canadian withdrawal would have any significant effect upon the prospects for peace in Viet Nam. That depends upon the parties to the peace agreement and not upon the ICCS. It is only if the parties are co-operating in a strict observance of the agreement and are willing to use the ICCS as a means of reinforcing the agreement that the commission can perform its function with any hope of success.

● (1420)

Throughout our tenure on the ICCS we have sought above all else to be objective. We have represented none of the contending parties. We have been as insistent in calling for and participating in investigations of alleged violations by the United States and the Republic of Viet Nam as we have with regard to alleged violations by the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam and the other South Vietnamese party. If the RVN or the United States has been at fault we have said so. If the other parties were to blame for cease-fire violations we also have said so. I assure the House that we have no need to listen mutely now or later to any charges that we have acted partially; we can be proud of our objectivity in the commission and of our attempts to see this impartiality as an integral part of commission activities.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Sharp: I also said in my statement to the House on March 27 that Canada would be prepared to return to Viet Nam to participate in the international supervision of an election clearly held under the terms of the Paris Agreement and therefore with the concurrence and participation of the two South Vietnamese parties. It went without saying that our participation would not be necessary if a replacement were found for Canada on the ICCS. I am not convinced that there is much chance that an election will take place as provided for in the agreement, but if it should, and we would want to examine it carefully to make sure it was this kind of election, and if no replacement had been found for Canada, we would consider sympathetically a request to return temporarily to the ICCS for this purpose, in the light of the circumstances then prevailing and our assessment of the chances for effective supervision.

The Peace Agreement itself anticipates the replacement of the named members of the ICCS—Canada, Hungary, Indonesia and Poland, or any of them. I have also said that we would be prepared to remain on the commission until June 30 so that a replacement could be found. We have since learned that the discussions which took place recently between Dr. Kissinger and Mr. Le Duc Tho will be resumed in June. We want to give those discussions every chance of success and we would certainly wish to do nothing that would complicate them by introducing what might seem to be too short a deadline for agreeing on a replacement for Canada on the commission.

In recognition of that possible difficulty, we are prepared if the parties to the agreement so wish, to stay for a period beyond June 30 but not later than July 31. Canada's decision to withdraw is firm and definite, but the additional flexibility should give the parties adequate time to find a replacement for the Canadian delegation. Should a successor be named and be ready to take its place before July 31, we would be prepared to hand over our responsibilities at any mutually convenient earlier time. We shall, of course, continue to function as we have been doing during the remaining period of our stay on the commission.

In conclusion, I should like to pay tribute to Ambassador Gauvin, Major-General MacAlpine and all the members of the Canadian delegation now in Viet Nam and to their predecessors going back to 1954.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Sharp: Notwithstanding great frustration and serious risks they have carried high the flag of Canada; for some it has cost them their lives. Those who now will be returning to Canada can have the satisfaction of knowing that they did all in their power to help in bringing peace to the war-weary people of Viet Nam. It was our delegation that carried the main burden of organizing the work of the commission and whatever success the commission has had can, in a large measure, be attributed to their professional competence, dedication and energy.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Sharp: Mr. Speaker, as mentioned in my preceding remarks, I wish to table in both official languages a White Paper entitled "Viet Nam—Canada's Approach to Participation in the International Commission of Control and Supervision."

[*Translation*]

Mr. Claude Wagner (Saint-Hyacinthe): Mr. Speaker, the very respect of peace as a value, and the very reputation of our country within an international peace force today demand that we regretfully withdraw from Viet Nam, that we cease to be accomplices in an illusory peace, that we do not forfeit our credibility as an autonomous country.

Notwithstanding this choice, and this must be specified, we are not unconcerned about the fate awaiting the population of Viet Nam in general and more particularly civilians, a great number of whom, it would appear, are in

prison for alleged political reason. Nor does this choice make us indifferent toward the task of socio-economic reconstruction of Viet Nam.

Quite on the contrary, we express our deep regret of the obligation to withdraw, and we do hope that this withdrawal will enable us to appeal freely once more within the framework of the United Nations in order that in all justice a lasting and healing peace may at last come about for all the people of Viet Nam.

[*English*]

I say to the minister, and I say so with sincerity, that as a nation we should not be discouraged by this episode, either in terms of pursuing peace in Indo-China or of discharging our responsibilities as a member of the world community.

The minister's statement on our withdrawal should be seen by Canadians as something more than an end to a valiant international effort. It should be seen as a beginning of a very real determination to pursue peace in Indo-China through other means.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Wagner: There may be those nations that will say that Canada quit when the going was rough. I say to those nations, as I am sure every member of this House would say, that to make this suggestion is to deny the fundamental spirit and international sense of responsibility that have become our nation's tradition in foreign policy. I know that that tradition will be enriched by this experience rather than discouraged by our withdrawal.

[*Translation*]

In closing, Mr. Speaker, I should like to subscribe to the sentiments expressed by the Secretary of State for External Affairs (Mr. Sharp) concerning our valiant peace ambassadors who are entitled to hold their heads high when they come home, having well deserved of their fellow-citizens.

[*English*]

Mr. Andrew Brewin (Greenwood): Mr. Speaker, we in this party agree with the substance of the decision announced by the Secretary of State for External Affairs (Mr. Sharp). We agree with the proposal that the Canadian contribution to the International Commission of Control and Supervision be withdrawn.

● (1430)

We regret that the making of this decision was not left to parliament. There are, of course, in the realm of international affairs many things that have to be left to the executive, but major decisions as to war or peace or decisions as to important Canadian international commitments and their withdrawal should, in our opinion, be made by parliament itself.

With respect to the actual decision to withdraw, my colleague, the hon. member for Selkirk (Mr. Rowland), stated our view in the debate on March 27. The position of the New Democratic Party stated by the hon. member for Selkirk was that Canada should give the 90 days notice provided for in the agreement and make it clear that Canada would be leaving on June 30, 1973, at the end of the 90 days whether or not a replacement was found. The government has now, in effect, decided to accept this policy, and we will naturally support the government's decision.

This party approved originally of the acceptance of an observer role in Viet Nam in the ICCS by Canada. We believed then and we still believe that there was no honourable alternative. Canada had for a long time maintained a position as a member of the international community ready, willing and qualified to seek, through the provision of peace-keeping forces and observer teams, to maintain peace. But while we approved of Canada's participation we made it clear that we did so on the basis of the conditions formally set out by the Secretary of State for External Affairs, and we added that we would urge that Canada should make clear its intention to withdraw, unilaterally and promptly, if the parties did not accept the cease-fire or if they indicated by their actions or by their words that they were not accepting the provisions of the agreement.

We do not regret the decision we made to support the original contribution. Indeed, the presence of Canada in the ICCS may have contributed to some of the constructive things that have happened, namely, the withdrawal of American troops from Viet Nam and the exchange of military prisoners.

But the question remains whether the conditions for Canada's continued participation in the ICCS and our acceptance of a role there have been fulfilled. The answer is clearly no. There has been and there is no cease-fire to observe. Violations have continued on both sides. Indeed, the head of Canada's truce observers, Ambassador Gauvin, stated in the last day or so that fighting was continuing and even was intensified since the truce.

Precisely the same report was brought back from Viet Nam by the Secretary of State for External Affairs and the hon. member for Selkirk in March. There has been no sign of real improvement since. The commission cannot, therefore, fulfil its function.

Canada, as we have stated from the beginning, does not want a repetition of the exercise in futility which characterized the International Control Commission under the Geneva Agreement. The various parties to the present agreement have in fact disregarded its terms, and they are not in a strong position to ask that Canada undertake grave risks to maintain a non-existent peace and a constantly violated agreement.

Both the United States of America and the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam have continued military activities in Cambodia and Laos, contrary to Article 20(b) of the Paris Peace Agreement. We read every day of the violation of this part of the agreement by both sides. The Americans continue the aerial bombardment of Cambodia and Laos, adding to the devastation, death and flood of refugees in those unhappy countries. If it be said that to call attention to this fact is in some way anti-American bias, let me remind the House that both the Senate and the House of Representatives of the United States have cut off funds for this operation.

Lastly, the spirit, if not the letter, of the agreement which called for national reconciliation between the two

administrations in Viet Nam and for the maintenance of civil rights and of freedom of speech, and for holding of elections, has been nullified by the detention of many thousands of civilian political prisoners subject to gross mistreatment.

It has been clear from the beginning that the observer role of the ICCS would not put the ICCS in the position to enforce a peace the parties themselves were unwilling to accept. I think Canada has made an honest effort to make its contribution to the working out of the agreement. I think it has a perfect right now to say that it has discharged its international obligation in this respect.

There is another international obligation which we share with the world community, and in my view it is not in any way discharged or lessened by withdrawal from the ICCS. I refer to the responsibility for humanitarian intervention in respect of civilian prisoners held in jails and camps in South Viet Nam. While there have been denials, a number of completely reliable sources such as the World Council of Churches, Amnesty International and many other reputable witnesses, including some who spoke to members of this House in the last few days, have given detailed statements in support of these allegations.

Imprisonment has been accompanied by torture, by detention after the service of sentence, by detention without trial. The people so held include those best qualified in the country to make a reality out of the process of national reconciliation called for by the Paris Peace Agreement.

Canada, of course, cannot deal with this problem alone, but it can do all in its power to arouse world public opinion. General Thieu and his regime rely entirely on American supplies of ammunition and weapons. The American government contributes a good part of the budget of his regime. That regime could not function without massive American aid.

It is our position that the Canadian government should make an urgent appeal to the American government and the American people to see that the Thieu government is responsive on this humanitarian issue to world opinion. This is not intervention in the internal affairs of South Viet Nam. It is in accordance with the well established tradition of international law of the right to intervene where fundamental human rights are denied on a substantial scale.

I have just two more sentences, Mr. Speaker. I would like to conclude my remarks by saying—

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Brewin: Thank you. I would like to conclude my remarks by saying that peacekeeping—

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Brewin: Mr. Speaker, some people may not understand the importance of these matters, but I think most members of the House do understand.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Brewin: Peacekeeping and the use of observer teams have not been discredited by what has happened. Indeed, the Canadians in particular on the ICCS have conducted themselves according to the highest traditions. Peacekeeping and observer teams remain, as they have been in the past and will be in the future, an important instrument in the making of peace.

To say that, after the 25 years of war in Viet Nam and the bitter hostilities there, the present truce is not working and cannot work without a change of attitude on the part of the adversaries is not to devalue peacekeeping and the Canadian policy of being willing to participate and contribute in such efforts to build the world community.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Eudore Allard (Rimouski): Mr. Speaker, when Canada was asked by the countries involved in the Viet Nam war to participate in the International Commission of Control and Supervision of the cease-fire, we agreed because we feel that Canada cannot refuse to help maintain peace in the world.

As long as the parties to this conflict showed some goodwill and there was still some hope that the fighting would stop, we supported the efforts of the Canadian delegation within the Commission. However, we must admit that the cease-fire is only a myth. Fighting has started again and it is a miracle that there have not been more prople killed within the Commission, which had to carry out its mandate under the fire of machine guns and bombs.

The infiltration of communist battalions from North Viet Nam, American bombings in Cambodia are all hostile acts which show that the parties involved are not willing to stop fighting.

Therefore, we find it logical to withdraw the Canadian delegation from the ICCS in the hope that such action will give cause for reflection to the countries involved in this costly war.

However, let us be ready to serve and to maintain peace whenever we are asked and our co-operation is really useful.

If there is a real cease-fire in Viet Nam and the countries involved in this conflict put an end to their warlike acts, we will be in a position to return to Viet Nam in order to help establish a lasting peace.

But we believe that this government is wise to withdraw our delegation from Viet Nam before more Canadian soldiers are victims of this continuing war.

In conclusion, Mr. Speaker, I should also like, on behalf of my party and my colleagues in the House, to give my respects to our ambassador, Mr. Gauvin, as well as to our brave soldiers who showed so much courage and fair-mindedness.

● (1440)

[*English*]

WAYS AND MEANS

TABLING OF FURTHER MOTIONS RELATING TO INCOME TAX

Hon. John N. Turner (Minister of Finance): Mr. Speaker, I rise to table two notices of ways and means motions relating to income taxes pursuant to Standing Order 60(1). In part they supersede notices tabled at the time of my February budget and in part they reintroduce proposals which I made to this House in my budget of May, 1972.

Members will recall that last March I proposed that this House deal first with outstanding tax measures affecting 1972 and then with those measures which take effect in 1973 or later years. Just before the Easter recess, all of the tax changes affecting income tax, excise tax and customs duties for 1972 were enacted into law.

Today, I am tabling notices of ways and means motions which deal with income tax measures that take effect in 1973 or later. Members will recall that in my February budget I proposed an increase in personal exemptions for individuals from $1,500 to $1,600 and for married couples from $2,850 to $3,000. I also proposed a reduction in federal basic tax of 5 per cent of tax otherwise payable subject to a maximum of $500 and, most importantly, a minimum of $100. These measures are to take effect on January 1, 1973. It is also proposed to index the personal income tax, starting January 1, 1974, in order to eliminate, once and for all, the automatic tax increase which arises as a result of the interaction of inflation and the progressive rate schedule.

Some hon. Members: Author!

Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton): In addition, there are a number of measures of a technical nature arising out of tax reform.

The ways and means motions also call for new measures to strengthen the international competitive position of our manufacturing and processing industries in order to protect existing jobs and create new ones in this vital sector of our economy and in all those industries serving it. As described in my budget of last May, the government is proposing that the rate of corporate tax to be applied to manufacturing and processing profits be reduced to 40 per cent. In the case of manufacturing and processing income which is eligible for the small business deduction, the rate would be reduced from 25 per cent to 20 per cent.

In my budget speech of February, 1973, I advised the House that the government intended to establish a new procedure to monitor the effect of these measures in strengthening our manufacturing and processing industries. This review procedure would assess the effect of not just the reduction in the rate of corporate tax but also the proposed two-year write-off for manufacturing and processing equipment. At that time I indicated that a report would be submitted to the House before the end of 1974.

The report would be based on detailed information gathered from more than 1,000 individual companies and from an in-depth study of some 200 of the largest corporations.

The report would seek to determine the effectiveness of these new manufacturing incentives in achieving their intended purposes.

Finally, I indicated that in order to better evaluate not just the new fast write-off but all aspects of the present capital cost allowance regime, I proposed to initiate a thorough examination of the entire capital cost allowance system, to be completed by the end of 1974.

I am firmly convinced that these manufacturing incentives are vital to our national interest, for reasons I have indicated on numerous previous occasions. However, I have been carefully following the public debate on this matter and I am anxious to do everything reasonably possible to meet the legitimate concerns that have been expressed about various aspects of these proposals without impairing their effectiveness in achieving our objectives. Hence, I wish to announce that it is my intention to put before this House by April 1 of next year an interim report based on the review and monitoring procedure which I described earlier. This will give members an early opportunity to begin to assess the results of these measures on the basis of facts and figures. Members will also have an opportunity to make constructive suggestions before the final report is submitted by the end of 1974.

In this context, the government will include in the legislation a provision whereby parliament will have a fresh opportunity to consider the incentive measures. Upon the request of 60 members of this House, and after the measures have been in force for a reasonable period of time, namely, after April 1, 1974, the government will take the steps necessary to provide an early occasion for this House to re-examine these tax incentives and, if the House so decided, the measures would be withdrawn thereafter in whole or in part.

Finally, in order that the discussion of the manufacturing incentives may be both meaningful and comprehensive, I am also tabling today a draft of the proposed capital cost allowance regulations. These provide for the two-year fast write-off of manufacturing and processing equipment acquired between May 8, 1972, and December 31, 1974. Under authority provided by parliament, capital cost allowances are a matter of regulation. However, during the course of the debate on the bill, members will be free to discuss the incentive proposals as a total program.

With the permission of the House, I would ask that the notices of ways and means motions and the draft capital cost allowance regulations which I have tabled today be printed in *Votes and Proceedings*.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. Before calling on the hon. Leader of the Opposition I would inquire whether it is agreed that the documents referred to by the hon. minister will be printed as requested.

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Mr. Baldwin: Put them in the museum.

[*Editor's Note: For text of ways and means motions and draft of proposed capital cost allowance regulations, see today's Votes and Proceedings.*]

Hon. Robert L. Stanfield (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, we have just witnessed the culmination of an

exhibition of courage and determination that the minister—

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Stanfield: —has followed without swerving since May 8, 1972. He has brought in some sort of measures relating to corporate tax cuts, measures which he announced on May 8, 1972, as being of the very greatest importance to the country, but they were not sufficiently urgent to be introduced before the House was dissolved and an election called. Following the election I stated my assumption that, because the minister had mentioned these measures in his budget of May 8, Canadian businessmen had probably acted on these proposals and consequently they ought to be implemented for the time being at least. However, the minister took no action on these or any other tax measures. On March 21 of this year I elaborated my position in order to try to break the log jam.

• (1450)

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Stanfield: At that time the minister did not even have the courage to move on personal income tax measures for 1972.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Stanfield: I stated on March 21 that we had no difficulty with the proposal for fast write-offs for 1973 and 1974. I gave reasons why we took objection to the proposed cut in the corporate tax rate in respect of manufacturing and processing profits and why we could not agree to accept this as a permanent part of our tax structure. I said we would support these measures for the year 1973. I have examined the minister's proposals as of today and I find that he has accepted my position—

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Stanfield: —of implementing these measures for the time being at least. The minister is not terminating the proposals as of December 31, 1973, but is asking parliament to commit itself definitely for a further period of three months. Ordinarily an opposition party or groups of opposition members in the House could not initiate the termination or readjustment of any tax measure in 1974 because, among other things, of the requirement of a Governor General's recommendation. Under the minister's proposal, whether the tax cut he now proposes will remain in operation after April 1, 1974, will depend upon the will of the House at that time without the requirement of a Governor General's recommendation. It is evident that in these proposals the minister is not asking us to adopt as a permanent part of our tax structure a cut in corporate taxes which, of course, is what I object to.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Stanfield: I do not wish to take too long because we will have a lot of time to discuss these matters.

An hon. Members: Four years.

Mr. Stanfield: As I say, the minister has not precisely accepted my proposal. He is asking for three months more than I proposed. The minister is asking us to accept the arrangement he has put forward for a review of the tax cuts after April 1, 1974, rather than accepting a definite termination as of December 31, 1973.

We will certainly want to examine very carefully the mechanism of the review process that the minister is proposing. We will want to know, for example, whether it can be counted on to work, whether we can rely on it or whether we will have to dismiss it as something that the minister has put forward as some kind of ploy. I want to emphasize that I approach this matter on the basis that I have absolutely no confidence in the gentlemen opposite.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Stanfield: They say one thing one day and do exactly the opposite a few months later. For example, included in the minister's recommendations is a proposal to index incomes for the purpose of the calculation of income tax. A year ago the minister ridiculed this proposal which he is now bringing into the House with such pride. This is why I say I have absolutely no confidence in these gentlemen. It is in this light that we will want to examine very carefully the recommendation with regard to proposed tax cuts that the minister has put before the House today. The minister is proposing implementation for the time being. I could use words such as—

Mr. Nielsen: Totally unacceptable.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Stanfield: —totally unacceptable. I could say that the minister is backing down and that this represents a complete surrender.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Stanfield: Or should we just content ourselves by saying that the minister has adjusted his position?

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Stanfield: The minister wants a commitment for an additional three months. I remind Your Honour that even a cat is entitled to three months. Since the minister has moved so far, my colleagues will want to examine carefully the mechanism the minister is proposing to accomplish his purpose.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. David Lewis (York South): Mr. Speaker, I listened to the Minister of Finance (Mr. Turner), whose statement I had read earlier, and to the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Stanfield). At the end of the speech of the Leader of the Opposition, I was not quite certain what his position may be. I understand that he is going to examine carefully the review mechanism and something else, but I am not quite certain what his position may be.

The Leader of the Opposition has complained for some time that the government's lack of action with regard to the May, 1972, budget has caused uncertainty in the business world. I suggest to the Leader of the Opposition that

his shifting back and forth for some months has added to that uncertainty in the business world.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

● (1500)

Mr. Baldwin: How did you vote?

Mr. Lewis: But if there is any uncertainty in your mind, Mr. Speaker, about the position of the Conservative Party in this House, there will be none about the position of the New Democratic Party.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Lewis: Everyone in this House, everyone in the media, everyone in the country knows that we supported the budget of February, 1973. We supported it because it provided among other things a progressive cut in the income tax for individual taxpayers. I might remind you, Mr. Speaker, that the Official Opposition voted against that budget which we supported. But I want to say to the Minister of Finance that his attempt to package the honey of February, 1973, with what we consider to be the poison of May, 1972, will be opposed by us if the bill contains corporate rip-off provisions.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Lewis: I suggest that in all honesty and decency the minister should provide the House with two separate bills so that those of us who consider the corporate rip-off unjustified and unnecessary will be able to vote against that aspect, and those of us who wish to support, as we do, individual income tax cuts will be able to vote for them. But if the minister is trying what I consider to be a trick in order to catch those who are opposed to the corporate tax concessions by adding the individual income tax cuts to the measure, he certainly has not learned that the members of my party are tough enough to oppose it.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Lewis: Tough enough to oppose the bill, even if it contains individual income tax cuts, as long as it contains the corporate rip-off of May, 1972.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Lewis: I am not surprised at the noise that certain gentlemen in the House are now making. They have been caught by a smart ruse on the part of the Minister of Finance. The Conservatives did exactly what we knew they would do. We knew that, come the crunch, they would get together with the Liberals—

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Lewis: —to support the tax cuts for corporations.

Mr. Muir: Bring Woodsworth back!

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. This is obviously a very healthy House. However, hon. members should allow the hon. member for York South to pursue his statement.

[Mr. Lewis.]

Mr. Lewis: Mr. Speaker, some have suggested that I was in bed with the Prime Minister.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. Perhaps the hon. member might continue his remarks.

Mr. Lewis: When that was suggested, I pointed out that neither of us is a consenting adult. But I point out to you, Mr. Speaker, that the Leader of the Opposition is a consenting adult enjoying the bed now.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Lewis: As far as I am concerned, there is no need for a study of the effect of fast write-offs. We have had years of experience. They have not produced employment in the past and they will not do so in the future. They have only deferred taxes for corporations, mainly large and mainly foreign owned. This is a colossal rip-off at the expense of the ordinary taxpayers of Canada. There must be a halt to this rip-off, and we do not intend to support it no matter how it is packaged before the House.

It is a fact that the manufacturing industries of this country now have in their coffers over $2 billion by way of deferred taxes. Yet the minister wishes to add to this amount. This is unjust and unfair to the ordinary taxpayers. As far as I am concerned, we do not need any study of the effect of the cut in the tax rate on corporations. Corporation profits, without extra concessions from this parliament, have increased rapidly. They went up by 20 per cent in 1972 compared with 1971; they went up by 16 per cent in 1971 compared with 1970; they increased by 35 per cent in the first quarter of 1973 compared with the first quarter of 1972. The profits of the corporations in this country are already too high and we have no right to increase them by making further tax concessions.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Lewis: On May 8, 1972, when the Minister of Finance presented his budget, he informed the House that the cost of these concessions to the federal treasury would be about $500 million. Let me take a few moments to indicate what that means. I hope Your Honour is not becoming impatient because there has been a great deal of interruption and I should like the time in which to finish my remarks. They will not take too long. I want to indicate to the House what the figure means. That amount of $500 million is $100 million more than the total cost of the increase in pensions and the adjustment for the cost of living in the guaranteed income supplement. Instead of $500 million for the corporations the government could have used the money to increase pensions by a further $20 a month and still have money left over. We could have used that money to increase the individual income tax cut by at least 50 per cent so there would be a minimum of $150 instead of $100. We could have used it to reduce freight rates for the Atlantic provinces and the western provinces of Canada in order to stimulate the economies of those regions. We do not need any studies. The proposals of May, 1972, for concessions to corporations are unjustified economically and immoral socially. We do not need

any studies to prove what has already been proven over the years.

Finally, a word about the monitoring agency which was mentioned and which I assume will be inside the Department of Finance. I have no confidence in the people in the Department of Finance monitoring a policy which they themselves have promoted and supported for years. They will no more come up with any real, valuable results from their study than anyone responsible for policy is likely to be objective about it.

● (1510)

I think it is wrong for the minister to package the 1972 and 1973 budget income tax proposals in one bill. If he is going to be fair and honest about it, I believe he should have two bills. But whether there are two bills or only one, the New Democratic Party will support nothing that involves further corporate concessions.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Réal Caouette (Témiscamingue): Mr. Speaker, on the one hand, we hear the Leader of the Official Opposition (Mr. Stanfield) accuse the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) of going to bed with the Leader of the New Democratic Party (Mr. Lewis) and on the other hand, we have just heard the Leader of the New Democratic Party say that the Prime Minister is sleeping with the Leader of the Official Opposition. We must conclude then that the Prime Minister has become a bigamist.

You may be assured, Mr. Speaker, that as far as we are concerned, we have not slept with the Prime Minister.

However, I have closely listened to the statement made by the Minister of Finance (Mr. Turner) where he seems to be deliberately confusing, referring to personal income tax exemptions that will be raised from $1500 to $1600 for single persons and from $2850 to $3000 for married couples, and going on to say that we should help the big corporations and grant them tax reductions up to 40 per cent in order to enable them to stimulate the Canadian economy.

[*English*]

The Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Stanfield) says this is a complete surrender by the minister.

[*Translation*]

Then, the Leader of the New Democratic Party said:

[*English*]

There is no confusion at all; we are going to vote against those corporate welfare bums again.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Speaker, for example I would like to hear the minister talk about abolishing the sales tax on building materials which would have resulted in the creation of jobs in Canada.

I would have also liked to hear him say that not only professionals but miners and workers could deduct from their income tax the cost of the tools they need to work.

We overlook those aspects. When we deal with them we do so very parsimoniously. On the other hand, in order to help corporations become more competitive on international markets the government says: we are going to have a trial shot for a while and if 60 members express the wish to have the whole question discussed again in the House it will be brought back before the House so it can be decided.

Mr. Speaker, I have no compromise with any corporation in Canada. When we hear the Leader of the Opposition say that the government gives in to his wishes I say quite honestly that the two parties can hardly be separated from one another because their election campaigns are both financed by big corporations. If we are against socialism and for private enterprise it is not to get election funds but to allow this country to develop and be competitive across the world.

When I hear the leader of the New Democratic Party say: we are going to vote against corporate bums, I cannot help recall that the new NDP premier of B.C. is grovelling before European financiers to borrow funds to develop his province. I wonder if he goes to bed with European financiers.

Mr. Speaker, we must put an end to this hypocrisy of saying things here and doing the opposite elsewhere. The same thing goes for Manitoba.

Mr. Speaker, as we advocate in our basic policy, the first role of a government is to stimulate personal initiative and not to crush it. When I hear these people say: power to the people! The power is in the hands of the people, in Russia and in Czechoslovakia, and look at the kind of power they have!

Mr. Speaker, I feel that this measure which encourages personal initiative and private enterprise, even though it is incomplete as far as individuals and workers are concerned, will contribute to the creation of jobs in Canada. It will help the country to be a better competitor on the international market. However, I would like the hon. Minister of Finance and the government to think of helping Canadian workers, especially the low income group in the area of income tax.

For example, not long ago when we moved a motion to grant old age security pensions at 60, how come the New Democratic Party voted against it?

How come the Progressive Conservatives also voted against it? And the Liberals who shout "It is true" voted against it too.

Mr. Speaker, I must admit that the independent member for Joliette (Mr. La Salle) voted with us.

In conclusion, Mr. Speaker, I would say as a measure of precaution that the motion of the government could be discussed anew within a year and a half, twenty months. So, let us make the experiment, let us see what happens: if there is no result, we will say so. If nothing comes out of this, we might possibly convince the New Democratic Party leader (Mr. Lewis) to back private enterprise.

* * *

[*English*]

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

DESIGNATION OF WEDNESDAY, MAY 30, AS OPPOSITION DAY

Hon. Allan J. MacEachen (President of the Privy Council): Mr. Speaker, I should like to advise the House

that, following consultations, we have agreed to have an opposition day tomorrow.

* * *

ENERGY

PROPOSED OIL TANKER ROUTE ALONG EAST COAST OF NEW BRUNSWICK—REQUEST FOR UNANIMOUS CONSENT TO MOVE MOTION

Mr. Fred McCain (Carleton-Charlotte): Mr. Speaker, I wish to move a motion under Standing Order 43. On May 15 of last year the hon. member for Skeena (Mr. Howard) sought and obtained the unanimous consent of the House under Standing Order 43 to move a motion relating to the proposal to move oil by tanker down the coast of British Columbia from Valdez, Alaska, to Cherry Point in the state of Washington.

I rise today also to seek the unanimous consent of the House under Standing Order 43 on a related matter, namely, the proposed movement of oil by tanker along Canada's east coast through channels less than 250 feet wide to a new refinery at Eastport, Maine. I should like, therefore, to move, seconded by the hon. member for York-Sunbury (Mr. Howie):

● (1520)

That this House herewith declares that the movement of oil by tanker along the east coast of New Brunswick to the proposed refinery at Eastport in Maine is inimical to Canadian interests, especially those of an environmental nature;

And further, that this resolution be forthwith transmitted to the government of the United States of America in order that that government be apprised of the concern that the House of Commons of Canada has about the proposed movement of oil.

I might again stress, Mr. Speaker, that a motion almost identical to this one received the unanimous consent of the House—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member has proposed his motion under the terms of Standing Order 43. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

An hon. Member: How can you say no to that?

Mr. Speaker: There is not unanimity and the motion cannot be put.

An hon. Member: You blew it.

* * *

NATIONAL DEFENCE

PETITION FOR PROVISION OF KILTS FOR HIGHLAND MILITIA UNITS

Mr. Allan B. McKinnon (Victoria): Mr. Speaker, I beg leave, under Standing Order 67, to present a petition for the retention of Highland uniforms at government expense for Highland units in the Canadian militia.

[Mr. MacEachen.]

The petition has been received from the St. Andrew's and Caledonian Society of Victoria, the Regimental Association of the Cameron Highlanders of Ottawa and the Saltire Society of Victoria. There are some 4,000 signatures on the petition.

An hon. Member: Did you sign the petition, Allan?

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Speaker: Oral questions. Order, please. Before recognizing the hon. Leader of the Opposition, perhaps the Chair might be permitted to recognize the hon. member for Wellington on a point of order.

Mr. Hales: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order dealing with a letter the Secretary of State for External Affairs agreed to table following your ruling yesterday that it should be tabled. To the best of my knowledge it has not been tabled yet.

Mr. Sharp: Mr. Speaker, it had been my intention to table the letter today but apparently the rules require that it be translated, so it will be tabled tomorrow.

Mr. Hales: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a question of privilege. I find I must do so as I do not think there is any excuse for not having a two-page letter translated into both official languages between three o'clock yesterday afternoon and now.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Hales: There is no excuse whatsoever for this. I must say that it is two weeks today since this tragedy occurred in Rhodesia and I must now demand that the Secretary of State for External Affairs complete a comprehensive and factual report on this whole situation as I am advised—

Some hon. Members: Order!

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I thought the hon. member was rising on the original point of order relating to the possible tabling of the letter. The ruling of the Chair yesterday was that perhaps there might be discussion between the Secretary of State for External Affairs and the hon. member but that if I were to rule only on the point of order, the document clearly having been quoted by the minister, it was the duty of the minister to table it. Perhaps it might be easier if the document were tabled in its original form, subject to the House officials looking after the translation.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Sharp: Mr. Speaker, on the same point of order, I would have done this except I am advised that under an act of this parliament all documents must be tabled in both official languages.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

An hon. Member: But not at the same time.

ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

REQUEST FOR EXPLANATION OF INCREASE IN CLAIMANTS IN FIRST THREE MONTHS OF 1973 AND DECREASE IN UNEMPLOYED

Hon. Robert L. Stanfield (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Manpower and Immigration arising from the fact that the number of unemployment insurance claimants was some 10 per cent higher during the first three months of 1973 than in the first three months of 1972, although Statistics Canada reported some 34,000 fewer people unemployed in the month of March. Has the minister prepared or had prepared any detailed explanation of the fact that the claimant rate and the unemployment rate seem to be moving in opposite directions during these three months and, if so, is he prepared to table that explanation in the House?

Hon. Robert K. Andras (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, there are several factors involved here: the length of time of benefit, the accelerated or speeded up treatment of claims which has condensed the pay-outs in the first quarter this year compared with last year, the maturity of the plan, the increase in sickness and maternity benefits and several other factors which explanation was placed before the standing committee recently and which will be in the transcript that will be available to this House very shortly.

Mr. Stanfield: I appreciate what the minister has said about maturity of claims, maternity claims and so on, but I should like to ask whether he is having any accurate study made of the total number of claimants and the fact that the number seem to have been going in a direction opposite to the unemployment rate as reported by Statistics Canada?

Mr. Andras: Mr. Speaker, these kinds of statistics are under constant examination.

REQUEST FOR PROJECTED EXPENDITURE FOR 1973

Hon. Robert L. Stanfield (Leader of the Opposition): I have another supplementary question, Mr. Speaker, and I hope that the minister will give us some information on this. In light of the cost of the program being $150 million higher during the first quarter of 1973 than in 1972, and the total cost of some $2 billion during 1972, can the minister give us any revised estimate as to the projected expenditure under the plan during 1973?

Hon. Robert K. Andras (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, this too would depend on very many factors: the rate of unemployment, the length of benefit pay-outs and several other factors which have been stated in this House many times. The actual pay-out will be made known and will be approved or otherwise in the main estimates for 1974 as provided for in the recent amendments contained in Bill C-124.

Mr. Speaker: The Chair will recognize the hon. member for Trinity on a supplementary question and then the hon. member for Winnipeg North.

REQUEST FOR ANSWER TO QUESTION 2086 CONCERNING NUMBER RECEIVING BENEFITS

Hon. Paul Hellyer (Trinity): Mr. Speaker, I wonder if the minister could indicate whether he will be in a position to answer question 2086 tomorrow so that the House will know how many people were actually receiving benefits in January, February, March and April?

Hon. Robert K. Andras (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, I will see if that answer can be expedited.

* * *

CANADIAN BROADCASTING CORPORATION

PROPOSED ELIMINATION OF PROGRAMS IN OTHER THAN FRENCH AND ENGLISH ON STATION CKSB, ST. BONIFACE—GOVERNMENT ACTION

Mr. David Orlikow (Winnipeg North): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Minister of State in charge of multicultural programs in the absence of the Secretary of State. I should like to ask whether he or the Secretary of State has had discussions with officials of the CBC about representations made to the minister in the past week in connection with the CBC limitation of programs in other than the English or French languages which have been carried on Station CKSB, St. Boniface, now taken over by the CBC, and which the CBC proposes to eliminate after a year's operation?

Hon. Stanley Haidasz (Minister of State): Mr. Speaker, I have not had any personal meeting with the President of the CBC since last Friday, but since the Secretary of State is here now perhaps he might answer the other part of the question.

Mr. Orlikow: Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct the question to the Secretary of State who has just come into the House. Has he had any discussions with the president of the CBC in the past few days in connection with representations made to ministers of the Crown and other members concerning the proposed cutback by the CBC of programs in other than the French or English languages which have been carried by station CKSB in St. Boniface?

• (1530)

Hon. James Hugh Faulkner (Secretary of State): No, I have not had a discussion with the president of the CBC.

RECOMMENDATIONS OF LANGUAGE COMMISSIONER ON MULTICULTURAL PROGRAMS—GOVERNMENT ACTION

Mr. David Orlikow (Winnipeg North): Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask the Secretary of State whether he has learned of the representation made to the CBC by the language commissioner on this subject, and the subsequent rejection by the CBC of the suggestion made by the

language commissioner, and whether he intends to take any steps to implement these suggestions which are in line with the government's program on multiculturalism?

Hon. James Hugh Faulkner (Secretary of State): Yes, Mr. Speaker. I have had a chance to briefly review the letter, which I believe was from the deputy commissioner. I want to make sure we are talking about the same letter. However, I have not decided on what steps I will take beyond that.

[*Translation*]

ARRANGEMENTS RESPECTING CONTINUATION OF MULTICULTURAL PROGRAMS

Mr. Joseph-Philippe Guay (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, I wish to ask a supplementary question.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for St. Boniface on a supplementary question.

Mr. Guay (St. Boniface): Mr. Speaker, I wish to ask a question to the Secretary of State.

I would like to ask him if he can tell whether the manager of CKSB, Mr. Couture, has informed him that he had reached agreements with other radio stations of the Metropolitan Winnipeg area to provide the same service to all ethnic groups referred to, namely Jews, Ukrainians and others? Has that service already been offered to the groups concerned?

[*English*]

Hon. James Hugh Faulkner (Secretary of State): Yes, Mr. Speaker. Again I am not sure of the latest details, but in fact that type of negotiation has been going on and, as the House knows, the corporation itself has agreed to continue third language broadcasting over station CKSB for a period following the takeover of the station to allow for these negotiations to be completed.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. We will have to try to move on. However, the Chair will recognize the hon. member for Winnipeg North on a last supplementary and then recognize the hon. member for Champlain.

POSITION OF CORPORATION ON MULTICULTURAL PROGRAMS—POSSIBLE AMENDMENT TO BROADCASTING ACT

Mr. David Orlikow (Winnipeg North): Mr. Speaker, is the minister aware that the CBC has insisted it cannot provide the broadcasting time for programming in languages other than English and French because of its interpretation of the Broadcasting Act but the CBC is in fact, on its stations at Yellowknife, Inuvik, Churchill and Frobisher Bay, now carrying broadcasts in various Indian and Eskimo dialects? If this is so, why is there this contradiction?

Hon. James Hugh Faulkner (Secretary of State): Well, Mr. Speaker, we have discussed this matter of third language broadcasting at some length in the committee. We are aware of what appears to be a contradiction, namely, that in the Northwest Territories there are third language broadcasts taking place. As the hon. member knows, CBC affiliates are allowed to broadcast third-language programs as of course are private stations. It seems to me if there is to be a change in this basic policy then it is something the House must direct itself to in terms of the Broadcasting Act itself.

[Mr. Orlikow.]

* * *

[*Translation*]

FINANCE

INQUIRY RESPECTING REQUEST BY PROVINCE FOR TRANSFER OF INCOME TAX PAID BY BELL CANADA TO FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

Mr. René Matte (Champlain): Mr. Speaker, I want to ask a question to the right hon. Prime Minister.

Could he tell whether the government of Quebec has submitted a formal request for the transfer to the provinces concerned of the tax amounts paid to the federal government by Bell Canada?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): No, Mr. Speaker, not to my knowledge. The Minister of Communications also tells me that as far as he knows such a demand has not been made.

* * *

[*English*]

FOOD PRICES REVIEW BOARD

ALLEGED INABILITY TO INVESTIGATE FARM COSTS—GOVERNMENT POSITION ON ADEQUACY OF TERMS OF REFERENCE

Mr. Allan Lawrence (Northumberland-Durham): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs. In light of the fact that last Friday, in the absence of the minister, I believe the acting Prime Minister rejected the suggestion of the hon. member for Regina East that the Food Prices Review Board investigate farm input costs and, as a high priority, the escalating farm machinery costs, would the minister now tell the House whether it is the position of the government that it would be outside the terms of reference of the board to investigate these increasing farm production costs? If that is so, would the minister tell the House how the board will be able to decide what are justified food costs increases and what can be done without reviewing farm input costs?

Hon. Herb Gray (Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs): Mr. Speaker, the terms of reference of the board are a matter of public record; certainly as of yesterday. It is my own view that in looking into food price increases the terms of reference are broad enough to enable the board to examine any of the relevant factors, but the interpretation of the terms of reference in the final course of events I believe would be for the board itself.

RECRUITMENT OF STAFF—POSSIBLE USE OF EXISTING GOVERNMENT ORGANIZATIONS

Mr. James A. McGrath (St. John's East): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a supplementary question to the minister related to the appointment of the chairman and members of the Food Prices Review Board. Is it the intention of the government to utilize the existing organization that was brought together for the Prices and Incomes Commission or does the government propose to establish an added bureaucracy for this board?

Hon. Herb Gray (Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs): Well, Mr. Speaker, the organization to which the hon. member refers essentially went out of existence with the Prices and Incomes Commission. In order to make sure that the board is able to carry out its responsibility in an independant manner, as the food trends committee recommended, it is our view that the board should have its own staff.

Mr. McGrath: Mr. Speaker, may I ask the minister if he can assure the House that the staff necessary for the functioning of the Prices Review Board will be taken from existing government organizations and that a new bureaucracy will not be created?

Mr. Gray: No, Mr. Speaker. I cannot give the hon. member that assurance. I am not certain that this would be desirable. The decision in this regard in my view is something to be worked out between the review board and the government.

* * *

AGRICULTURE

REQUEST FOR INQUIRY INTO INCREASED FARM PRODUCTION COSTS—GOVERNMENT POSITION

Mr. Jack Murta (Lisgar): Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary for the minister. In light of the unanimous concern by farmers in all parts in Canada about rising machinery costs and in light of the 6.1 per cent increase in farm input cost in the first quarter of 1973, does the minister intend to undertake a separate and special investigation under the Inquiries Act into farm production costs, and if not, why is he reluctant to do so?

Hon. Herb Gray (Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs): Mr. Speaker, I think all I can say is I will take the hon. member's suggestion under advisement.

* * *

ENERGY

PROPOSED ESTABLISHMENT OF SUPERTANKER PORTS ON ATLANTIC COAST—POSSIBLE PROTEST TO UNITED STATES

Mr. Fred McCain (Carleton-Charlotte): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Minister of the Environment. Since an aide memoire of protest was forwarded to the government of the United States in respect of the proposed Alaska to Cherry Point route, will a similar memoire of protest be forwarded to cover the Eastport proposal.

Hon. Jack Davis (Minister of the Environment): I hope so and very shortly, Mr. Speaker.

* * *

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

POSSIBLE ESTABLISHMENT OF UNITED NATIONS AGENCY TO REGULATE ACTIVITIES ON HIGH SEAS OR SEA BED—GOVERNMENT POSITION

Mr. Lloyd R. Crouse (South Shore): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct my question to the Prime Minister. In view of the fact that scientists believe that by the end of the 70's some 35 per cent of the world's oil requirements will be met from offshore production, while pressure mounts for increased control over deep-sea mining, transportation and fishing problems, is the government giving any thought to proposing the establishment at the United Nations of an international agency to regulate, supervise and control all activities on the high seas or under the sea bed.

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Not to my knowledge, Mr. Speaker, but I will consult with the Secretary of State for External Affairs and the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources to ascertain the final answer on that.

* * *

FISHERIES

SUGGESTED RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT CANADA'S POSITION AT ICNAF CONFERENCE—GOVERNMENT POSITION

Mr. John Lundrigan (Gander-Twillingate): Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the Prime Minister a question. In view of the possible danger that a decision which was reached yesterday might be misinterpreted as lack of support for the ICNAF delegation which is meeting in Copenhagen on Sunday, would the Prime Minister be prepared to bring before the House a resolution of support for Canada's position at the ICNAF conference on June 3 at which time the conference hopes to bring back a better deal for the Canadian fishery. I am sure, Your Honour, all members of all parties would be willing to work toward such a resolution.

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Well, Mr. Speaker, it goes without saying that a delegation of the Canadian government would have the authority to speak on behalf of the government and I am happy to see that the opposition joins itself with this position.

Mr. Lundrigan: Your Honour, my question had nothing to do with the support of the government. It is the support of the House of Commons. I am asking the right hon. gentleman whether the government will bring forward some form of resolution that can be unanimously accepted by the House giving the Canadian delegation led by the very competent Dr. Needler an assurance that the position

they are to take requesting that Canada harvest as much marine resources as it is capable of harvesting will receive the support of the political and parliamentary system of Canada.

● (1540)

Mr. Trudeau: Mr. Speaker, we have delegations in various parts of the world speaking for the government and expressing its policies all the time. If the opposition wants to support the government in this, I think we would welcome it very much, and perhaps they could use their opposition day tomorrow to do this.

Mr. Lundrigan: Mr. Speaker—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. We are running short of time. The hon. member has put two questions. If there is time, I will return to him in a short while. The Chair would like to recognize the hon. member for Scarborough West.

* * *

ENERGY

PROPOSED SUPERTANKER PORT IN ISLE VERTE REGION OF QUEBEC—REQUEST FOR ECOLOGICAL STUDIES

Mr. John Harney (Scarborough West): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of the Environment. In view of the minister's expressed justifiable concern over dangers to the Canadian environment in the building of a supertanker port at Eastport, Maine, and in view of the recent statement by the Quebec minister of natural resources that environmental studies with regard to the building of a superport at Isle Verte, Quebec have not begun, could the minister express to the House the concern of his ministry by indicating that the department has begun ecological studies surrounding the building of the superport in Isle Verte, Quebec?

Hon. Jack Davis (Minister of the Environment): Mr. Speaker, we have already completed an environmental impact assessment on the Lorneville project in New Brunswick, and a joint investigation regarding the Canso project is under way. We are happy to join with the provinces in these kinds of appraisals at any time.

PROPOSED SUPERTANKER PORT IN ISLE VERTE REGION—INQUIRY RESPECTING ALLEGED APPROVAL GIVEN QUEBEC BY FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

Mr. John Harney (Scarborough West): I have a supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. May I address it to the right hon. Prime Minister?

[*Translation*]

Could the Prime Minister inform the House of the answer to the question I put to the Acting Prime Minister last week, when I asked him what department or government branch had approved Quebec's participation in the supertanker port project at Gros Cacouna-Isle Verte, since the Quebec department of natural resources had admitted earlier this year that such approval had been received from the federal government?

[Mr. Lundrigan.]

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): I shall be pleased to inquire about the answer to this question, Mr. Speaker. I understand that the hon. member put it while I was at the federal-provincial conference last week. I apologize for not having been informed of this question and I shall see to it that it is answered as soon as possible.

* * *

FEDERAL-PROVINCIAL AFFAIRS

LACK OF SUCCESS OF RECENT CONFERENCE OF FIRST MINISTERS—CESSION TO PROVINCES OF CERTAIN TAX FIELDS

Mr. Léonel Beaudoin (Richmond): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the right hon. Prime Minister.

In view of the qualified success of the recent federal-provincial conference as to the fair sharing of the taxation fields, and to put an end to the provincial premiers' periodic "marches" on Ottawa, could he advise the House whether he is seriously considering the possibility of declaring World War II officially terminated, thereby automatically surrendering to the provinces the taxation fields granted to the federal government in 1942, pursuant to section 23(1) of Bill C-16, which was given Royal Assent May 13, 1942.

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, without going into details, I should like to tell the hon. member that, if he carefully examines the documentation submitted to the conference as well as the positions taken respectively by the Minister of Finance (Mr. Turner) and the Minister of National Health and Welfare (Mr. Lalonde), he will realize that the government's position was in fact to surrender to the provinces the taxation means which they need to finance the two programs under discussion, namely health services and post-secondary education.

Therefore, should the hon. member examine the documentation, he will see that this is our position, and I am delighted that he should support the government on this issue.

* * *

[*English*]

AIR TRANSPORT

DISCONTINUANCE OF CUSTOMS PRECLEARANCE—SUGGESTION MORE CONSIDERATION BE GIVEN PASSENGERS THAN AIRLINES

Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Prince Albert): Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the Minister of Transport whether or not the government is about to put an end to the system now in effect in respect of air passengers out of Toronto and Montreal not being able to secure their customs clearances before departure.

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, this is part of the negotiations which are taking place now with the United States. As soon as the negotiations are completed, I will be happy to inform the right hon. gentleman.

Mr. Diefenbaker: Mr. Speaker, does the minister consider that Canadians should be used as pawns in an

endeavour on the part of the government of Canada to force action by the United States for what they require? Are Canadians not entitled to more consideration than that?

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Marchand (Langelier): I think that Canadians deserve consideration. I believe the right hon. gentleman will agree with me that if we have a national airline here, which is important, we should protect it against unfair competition.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Diefenbaker: If the minister means to imply by that that he places corporation requirements ahead of human needs, surely he is not that hard toward the people of Canada, or is he?

Mr. Marchand (Langelier): I know the right hon. gentleman is very sensitive and probably would like to help the American airlines, but at this moment I think it is the Canadian airline which should be protected.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh.

Mr. Diefenbaker: That is nonsense.

* * *

AIRPORTS

VANCOUVER INTERNATIONAL—INQUIRY AS TO POSSIBLE SECRET TESTS RELATED TO NEW RUNWAY

Mr. John A. Fraser (Vancouver South): Mr. Speaker, I wish to address my question to the Minister of Transport. In view of the fact that a few weeks ago the Department of Transport almost exulted over the fact that tests had been taking place unknown to the public with respect to STOL aircraft and that these tests showed that in fact people were not complaining about the noise, may I have the minister's assurance that no similar tests are taking place at the Vancouver airport relating to the new proposed runway at that airport?

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, there is something surprising there. Surely, the new runway cannot be used because it has not yet been built.

Mr. Fraser: The department might try even that.

Mr. Trudeau: And you will be the first passenger.

Mr. Fraser: My question to the Minister of Transport is quite simple. Are any tests being done now, the results of which will be brought forward later with the suggestion by the Department of Transport that they took these planes on exactly the same route as the new runway would require and nobody complained? I am sure the minister knows exactly what I am getting at.

Mr. Marchand (Langelier): Unfortunately, the problem now at the Vancouver airport is the problem of the new runway. I really do not know whether there are some Twin Otters which land on the runway at present, but I can inquire. I do not know of any regulations that would prevent Twin Otters from landing anywhere in Canada.

Mr. Fraser: Can the minister assure the House that no secret runs are being made by aircraft to simulate the patterns that would be required if the new runway were built with a view to bringing out this fact later and saying to the people: You did not complain when we were carrying out these secret tests?

Mr. Marchand (Langelier): If it is so secret that nobody notices it, I do not think it is a successful experiment. However, I will inquire and make a report.

Mr. Baldwin: Ask Turner. He's the minister of simulation.

* * *

HEALTH

MEDICARE—ALLEGED RECOMMENDATION OF COUNCIL OF HEALTH TO LIMIT AVAILABILITY OF INSURED SERVICES

Mr. P. B. Rynard (Simcoe North): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct my question to the Minister of National Health and Welfare. In view of the federal government's failure to buy itself out of the responsibility of health care costs, is the minister aware of the recommendation being made by a committee appointed by the Council of Health which would limit the quality and availability of insured medical services?

● (1550)

Hon. Marc Lalonde (Minister of National Health and Welfare): Mr. Speaker, I am aware of a report in Ontario limiting the quantity of services. I am not sure it is the right conclusion to say it would limit the quality of such services. I will look into this particular report. I am aware of it only through press reports, and I want to make sure that such proposals would meet the four basic criteria for federal financing of health services.

MEDICARE—POSSIBLE INCLUSION OF ACUPUNCTURE IN INSURED SERVICES

Mr. P. B. Rynard (Simcoe North): As a supplementary question, Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the minister if he is going to include acupuncture in insured medical services?

Hon. Marc Lalonde (Minister of National Health and Welfare): Mr. Speaker, I think it is too early to give an answer to that particular question. I will give an answer later.

Oral Questions

PENITENTIARIES

ALLEGATIONS BY ESCAPED CONVICT McCANN—REQUEST FOR INVESTIGATION

Mr. Frank Howard (Skeena): Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct a question to the Solicitor General in the hope that I can provide him with an opportunity to provide an answer that will prevent the penitentiary service from falling into greater disrepute than it is in now. Is he aware of comments, reported to have appeared today in the Vancouver *Sun*, by escaped convict McCann, who escaped from the B.C. penitentiary, to the effect that he spent 25 months in the hole while there, that he waited for four months for a reclassification, and that while in the hole he was able to obtain illicit drugs? Is the minister investigating these allegations and will he say, with respect to the 25 months reportedly spent in the hole, whether they were largely the result of the request of McCann himself?

Hon. Warren Allmand (Solicitor General): Yes, Mr. Speaker, I am aware of these statements made by inmate McCann to certain newspapermen. I must say, according to the report I have had, that he spent 25 months in the hole because he offered a $1,000 bribe to the guards. We are now investigating the different statements he made to the press, and I will have a more complete report in a few days.

* * *

HARBOURS

CHURCHILL—REQUEST FOR TABLING OF STUDY ON FUTURE DEVELOPMENT AND STATEMENT ON POSSIBLE IMPROVEMENTS

Mr. Keith Taylor (Churchill): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Transport. In view of the importance of the port of Churchill to the economy of western Canada, is the minister now prepared to table the study just recently completed for the port, as requested by the Standing Committee on Transport and Communications?

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, actually I have received the report on the port of Churchill. There are many aspects with which I am not satisfied, and I have returned the report to the marine administration of my department for further details and comments.

Mr. Taylor: As a supplementary question, in view of the fact that the Chairman of the National Harbours Board does not yet know what work will be carried out at Churchill, is the minister prepared to advise the House as to what improvements and up-grading will take place at the port of Churchill for this season?

Mr. Marchand (Langelier): This decision will be made as soon as I have received the second report for which I have asked on the first one.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. There are a number of hon. members who wish to ask supplementaries. I will recognize the hon. member for Battleford-Kindersley on a supplementary, and then the hon. member for Calgary North on a supplementary to the previous question.

INQUIRY AS TO POSSIBLE ESTABLISHMENT OF NEW DEEP WATER PORTS

Mr. Norval Horner (Battleford-Kindersley): Mr. Speaker, in view of the fact that Canada does not now have deep water ports that can handle ships presently being constructed by some of our grain customers, and in view of the recent statement made by the President of the United States when he called for an ambitious program to create new deep water ports in that country, can the Minister of Transport inform the House if any deep water ports are being planned by the government?

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): Yes, Mr. Speaker.

* * *

PENITENTIARIES

ESCAPED CONVICT MERCIER—INQUIRY AS TO MEASURES TAKEN TO BRING ABOUT APPREHENSION

Mr. Eldon M. Woolliams (Calgary North): Mr. Speaker, in light of the fact that there will be a vote on second reading of the capital punishment bill this evening. I would like to put this question to the Solicitor General. Would he advise the House and the country whether Mercier, who escaped from St. Vincent de Paul penitentiary with three other inmates, has been caught? I know that the three others have been caught, but I ask the question because the last time Mercier escaped he was later found guilty of murdering two game wardens?

Hon. Warren Allmand (Solicitor General): Mr. Speaker, I have no report that he has been caught to this time.

Mr. Woolliams: In light of the fact that Mercier and probably some others with similar records are at large, has the Solicitor General, working in conjunction with the attorneys general of the various provinces, done anything or offered any assistance to the RCMP or others to bring about that kind of administration which would ensure these people will be caught and put back into custody?

Mr. Allmand: Mr. Speaker, the Quebec Provincial Police, the Montreal City Police and other police forces in the Montreal area, together with the RCMP, have been doing everything possible since Mercier's escape to capture him.

* * *

AIR TRANSPORT

ADVANCE BOOKING CHARTER REGULATIONS—REQUEST FOR IMPROVEMENT OF REGULATIONS AND AID TO STUDENTS UNABLE TO OBTAIN CHARTER SERVICE

Mr. Don Mazankowski (Vegreville): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Minister of Transport. In light of the continuing confusion which surrounds air charter

travel in Canada, and in particular the recent evidence that a number of Canadian students will be deprived of the opportunity of fulfilling their air charter travel as previously organized under the old affinity rules, can the minister advise the House if he is actively conferring with officials of the Canadian Transport Commission with a view to drawing up a set of workable regulations concerning air charter service in this country because there has been a failure of the ABC's, and in particular is any consideration being given to accommodating these Canadian students affected by the ABC's?

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, I think the House knows that the Air Transport Committee of the CTC was formed in order to protect the ABC's against outside influence. I think this committee must make its own decisions. However, I am ready to check into the case referred to by the hon. member and will try to help everybody.

Mr. Mazankowski: Mr. Speaker, in view of the fact that the minister did state in the House that he would be prepared to examine these regulations personally after they were implemented for some time, and improve upon them or recommend improvements to the ABC's, will the minister now take that course of action and confer with officials of the CTC with a view to up-grading these regulations into a set of working rules?

Mr. Marchand (Langelier): Mr. Speaker, in many cases I have drawn the attention of the CTC to certain effects and shortcomings of the regulations, and I hope everything will be taken care of.

* * *

[*Translation*]

ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE

REQUEST OF YVES GEOFFROY FOR NEW TRIAL—MINISTER'S POSITION

Mr. Roch La Salle (Joliette): Mr. Speaker, I wish to ask a question of the Minister of Justice.

As notary Geoffroy's lawyers asked the department for a second trial a few weeks ago and as perjury charges were directly related to his trial and laid before the court a few days ago, does the minister intend to wait for proof of perjury before ruling on the possibility of ordering a second trial in the Geoffroy case?

[*English*]

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Justice): Mr. Speaker, we are in the process of carefully assembling the facts relating to the request for reconsideration. The events now unfolding in the courtroom will also be taken into consideration in dealing with this request and, as a result, I do not anticipate giving a definitive answer at the moment.

FISHERIES

REQUEST FOR ACTION TO ALLEVIATE PROBLEMS CAUSED BY GREY SEALS IN CERTAIN AREAS OF ATLANTIC

Mr. Elmer M. MacKay (Central Nova): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Minister of Fisheries regarding a matter on which I have made representations to his department for some time. In view of the great difficulties caused by grey seals to fishermen in certain areas of Atlantic Canada, including the constituency of the government House leader, does the minister have under active consideration any measure to aid the fishermen at this time, and would he undertake to send some of his departmental officials to the area to seek some practical ways to solve some of the problems of the fishing industry there?

Hon. Jack Davis (Minister of the Environment): Mr. Speaker, each time I visit the area fishermen make representations about this problem which they encounter. The department has had a program in effect there for a number of years, and it is being reviewed.

* * *

PENITENTIARIES

ESCAPED CONVICT McCANN—POSSIBLE CHARGES AGAINST VANCOUVER "SUN" REPORTER

Mr. John Reynolds (Burnaby-Richmond-Delta): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Solicitor General who mentioned investigating the statements made by the convict who escaped from the British Columbia penitentiary. Is the government considering investigating how a reporter for the Vancouver *Sun* could find this escaped criminal, and is the government contemplating any charges against the interviewer for not reporting where the convict was when he saw him?

Hon. Warren Allmand (Solicitor General): Mr. Speaker, it is my understanding that the escaped inmate telephoned the reporter. It was not the other way around; the reporter did not contact the inmate. We will be looking into the question of whether the reporter could be charged with any type of offence.

● (1600)

FEDERAL-PROVINCIAL CONFERENCE ON PENAL REFORM—REPRESENTATION OF YUKON AND NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

Mr. Erik Nielsen (Yukon): A supplementary, Mr. Speaker. With respect to the answer given by the Solicitor General to the member for Hamilton-Wentworth yesterday concerning the federal-provincial conference of attorneys general. Can the Solicitor General tell the House whether the Yukon and Northwest Territories are going to be represented at that conference, which I understand will be discussing penal reform, and if not, why not?

Hon. Warren Allmand (Solicitor General): Mr. Speaker, I understand that they will be included.

Oral Questions

ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE

POSSIBLE TRANSFER OF JURISDICTION OF ATTORNEY GENERAL TO YUKON AND NORTHWEST TERRITORIES—GOVERNMENT POSITION

Mr. Erik Nielsen (Yukon): Mr. Speaker, a supplementary question to the Minister of Justice. Does the minister intend to transfer jurisdiction of his capacity as Attorney General for both northern territories to those territories so that they may participate actively in such conferences?

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Justice): Mr. Speaker, there is no present intention to make such transfer.

* * *

CANADIAN BROADCASTING CORPORATION

DISCONTINUANCE OF MULTICULTURAL PROGRAMS BY CKSB, ST. BONIFACE—REQUEST MINISTER ASK WINNIPEG STATIONS TO UNDERTAKE SUCH PROGRAMS

Mr. Doug Rowland (Selkirk): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Secretary of State and, in essence, is supplementary to earlier questions asked about the third language broadcasts by CKSB, St. Boniface. One of the recommendations associated with the reports on discontinuance of those broadcasts after one year was that the existing English language stations in Winnipeg could perhaps take up some of the slack which would result. I wondered if the minister would make active representations to English language broadcasting stations in Winnipeg himself in an effort to encourage them to undertake some third language broadcasting?

Hon. James Hugh Faulkner (Secretary of State): I have not, Mr. Speaker, but I am certainly prepared to do so. That was the point raised by the hon. member for St. Boniface. Frankly, my impression was, up to this point, that these negotiations were going very well but if it is felt by the hon. member and the hon. member for St. Boniface that my intervention would help I would be pleased to do so.

MULTICULTURAL PROGRAMS—ALLEGED LACK OF GOVERNMENT DIRECTION—POSSIBLE AMENDMENT TO BROADCASTING ACT

Mr. Paul Yewchuk (Athabasca): A supplementary, Mr. Speaker. The President of the CBC indicated recently that he is willing to use a third language in broadcasting, provided some direction comes from the government in keeping with this idea. Could the minister tell the House why no such direction has come from the government so that the CBC could proceed?

Hon. James Hugh Faulkner (Secretary of State): Mr. Speaker, I think we should be clear on this point. At the present time, the issue on language policy is abundantly clear. The fact is that the CBC interprets its mandate to broadcast in this country in English and French and CBC affiliates, as well, private stations, are allowed under regulations to broadcast in third languages. If we want changes, and the House of Commons can change this, let us address ourselves to the Broadcasting Act.

[Mr. Allmand.]

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. There are a few minutes left to the end of the question period. We have already had a few supplementaries on this subject and it might be pursued tomorrow.

* * *

[*Translation*]

TRANSPORT

INQUIRY RESPECTING SECURITY STANDARDS FOR AUTOMOBILES

Mr. Gilles Caouette (Charlevoix): Mr. Speaker, I wish to put a question to the Minister of Transport.

With regard to the many releases the minister has sent to us on safety standards for motor vehicles, can he tell us whether those standards are set as a result of studies and research conducted in Canada under Canadian conditions, or are they only set in accordance with American standards?

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): No, Mr. Speaker. The research bureau of the motor vehicle section has its own investigation and checking facilities; it sends a great number of investigators on the highways and conducts its own tests. Now it is possible that sometimes procedures used in other countries are followed here.

* * *

[*English*]

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

POSSIBLE INCREASE IN EXTERNAL AID PROGRAMS AND SUPPORT FOR UNITED NATIONS—REQUEST FOR STATEMENT

Mr. Douglas Roche (Edmonton-Strathcona): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Secretary of State for External Affairs. In view of the government's decision to withdraw the Canadian peace force from Viet Nam, will the minister make a statement on motions soon indicating specifically how Canada can augment its contribution to world peace and justice through, for example, increased support of United Nations programs and more equitable trade policies with underdeveloped countries?

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, this is part of the government's policy. Our contribution to external aid is increasing more rapidly than any other country in the world at the present time. We have been a very strong supporter of the United Nations, and I believe our action today underlines our real concern for peace in the world.

* * *

AIRPORTS

MOUNT HOPE—POSSIBLE MORATORIUM ON EXPANSION—LENGTH OF TIME FUNDS AVAILABLE

Mr. Duncan M. Beattie (Hamilton Mountain): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Transport. In light of the fact that the Hamilton Academy of Medicine has asked the city of Hamilton to seek a moratorium on

the expansion of Mount Hope airport for health reasons and in view of the fact that the council has no assurance that if they do seek a moratorium the funds will still be available for expansion, will the minister inform the Hamilton city council in writing how long the funds for expansion of this municipal airport will be available?

[*Translation*]

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, it might take rather a long time to give here all the details of what is known as the revolving fund of airports. In any case, we are now reviewing the whole situation at the Hamilton airport, and we will certainly be able to get in touch soon with the city council.

[*English*]

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I would recognize the hon. member on a supplementary, then perhaps we might have time for two last questions by the hon. member for Battle River and the hon. member for Kingston and the Islands. The hon. member for Hamilton West.

MOUNT HOPE—POSSIBLE CONSULTATION WITH CIVIC OFFICIALS AND CITIZENS ON EXPANSION

Mr. Lincoln M. Alexander (Hamilton West): A short supplementary, Mr. Speaker. As I understand it, there has been a statement made by the Minister of Labour that he is seeking citizenship participation by holding a meeting in Hamilton to deal with this entire matter. Can the minister advise whether, in fact, the data has been sought? Has there been consultation with the officials of the city of Hamilton, as well as others, as to a suitable date and, if so, what is that date?

[*Translation*]

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, I might ask what meetings took place. I asked the department to see all the persons concerned and also to look into some new proposals which had been made, so as to satisfy the entire population of Hamilton.

* * *

[*English*]

TRANSPORT

AUTOMOBILE SAFETY—RUPTURE OF GASOLINE TANKS ON VEHICLES INVOLVED IN ACCIDENTS—GOVERNMENT ACTION

Mr. Harry Kuntz (Battle River): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct my question to the Minister of Transport. In view of the fact that there is an ever-increasing number of deaths by fire when the gasoline tank ruptures on a motor vehicle involved in an accident, resulting in the surrounding area being sprayed with gasoline, will the minister tell this House whether his department has any intention of investigating this very serious problem to determine if these gasoline tanks are being manufactured to a sufficient strength to lessen the possibility of them rupturing in an accident?

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, I know my department has been working hard in the field of safety as far as cars are concerned. From memory, I have no indication that they worked particularly on this aspect of security. I will inquire. I may profit by the occasion to say that since the department undertook this responsibility four years ago, the number of accidents in Canada in relative terms has declined quite sharply.

* * *

INDIAN AFFAIRS

GRASSY NARROWS AND WHITE DOG RESERVES—MERCURY CONTAMINATION OF FISH—RESULTS OF FEDERAL TESTS—GOVERNMENT ACTION

Miss Flora MacDonald (Kingston and the Islands): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of National Health and Welfare. Since the minister indicated to the House on May 10 that a team of doctors from his department had carried out tests on the effects of mercury contamination on fish food sources for the Indians of the Grassy Narrows and White Dog reserves, and in light of the fact that 60 of these native people have been informed by provincial agencies that they have an excess of mercury in their system, can the minister tell the House if the result of the federal tests have shown a high incidence of mercury contamination? If so, what steps are planned to deal with this serious matter affecting the health of our native people?

[*Translation*]

Hon. Marc Lalonde (Minister of National Health and Welfare): Mr. Speaker, the federal team has been working jointly and in very close co-operation with the Ontario government team, and I have no reason to believe that the figures quoted by the members of the Ontario team are different from those that may have been compiled by the federal team.

As to the action required, it is a responsibility that the Ontario government has assumed for some time, and it is up to the provincial government to make sure that food and other necessities are available to the people on this reserve.

[*English*]

Mr. Speaker: Orders of the day. There are a number of hon. members still seeking an opportunity to ask questions. The hon. member will be given priority tomorrow to pursue the matter, but we have gone four or five minutes beyond the question period. Perhaps we should call orders of the day now.

The hon. member for Lanark-Renfrew-Carleton rises on a question of privilege.

Mr. Paul Dick (Lanark-Renfrew-Carleton): Mr. Speaker, I should like to point out that for six days I have risen, and on more than four occasions have caught your eye. I noticed you have known I have been rising, but I have not been granted the privilege of asking a question which is of some urgency. I request that tomorrow I might be given some consideration. I have only asked five previous ques-

tions in this House. I have risen 20 or 30 times a day for six days and I would like to draw that to your attention.

Mr. Speaker: Orders of the day.

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

● (1610)

CRIMINAL CODE

REINSTATEMENT OF LAW RELATING TO CAPITAL PUNISHMENT THAT EXISTED PRIOR TO DECEMBER 30, 1972

The House resumed, from Thursday, May 24, consideration of the motion of Mr. Allmand that Bill C-2, to amend the Criminal Code, be read the second time and referred to the Standing Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs.

Mr. Ellwood Madill (Peel-Dufferin-Simcoe): Mr. Speaker, when the House rose at 10 o'clock on Thursday night, May 24, I was speaking on Bill C-2. In continuing the debate, I wish to put on the record a table indicating the murder rate in Canada per 100,000. The source is "A Study of the Deterrent Effect of Capital Punishment with Special Reference to the Canadian Situation" by E. A. Fattah. The two years to which I will be referring will be 1962 and 1970. The rates are as follows: Newfoundland, 0 in 1962 and .2 in 1970; Prince Edward Island, 1.1 in 1962 and 1.1 in 1970; Nova Scotia, 1.6 in 1962 and 2.2 in 1970; New Brunswick, 1.6 in 1962 and 1.5 in 1970; Quebec, 1.4 in 1962 and 1.9 in 1970; Ontario, 1.4 in 1962 and 1.7 in 1970; Manitoba, 2.5 in 1962 and 3.3 in 1970; Saskatchewan, 1.7 in 1962 and 2.9 in 1970; Alberta, 1.7 in 1962 and 3.1 in 1970; British Columbia, 3.9 in 1962 and 4.1 in 1970. These figures indicate a growth over the years. Ezzat Abdel Fattah draws the conclusion that this increase is no greater than the general increase that was occurring prior to temporary abolition.

In the February 20 issue of the Brampton *Daily Times*, there is an editorial headed "Death Penalty Demand Anti-Liberal Backlash". It reads:

> Our readers have voted overwhelmingly for retention of capital punishment in some form.
>
> A Daily Times survey now compiled and tallied indicates 73 per cent of those replying wanted retention of capital punishment as it was before the five-year trial ban and another 10 per cent wanted a limited form of capital punishment.
>
> Any sort of liberalism which brought the ban into effect in the first place appears to have been dispelled, judging from the fact that only 17 per cent of those replying wanted total abolition of capital punishment.
>
> It was clear while compiling results that our readers freely relate bail reform legislation and other liberalizing trends with capital punishment.
>
> Quite frankly, we're not sure these can be related. However, it is clear that what is being said is that "enough is enough" and we're inclined to agree.
>
> We would suggest that through abuses of current bail and penal legislation, Canada has sold out on its prerogative to abolish capital punishment.
>
> We are not sure that capital punishment deters crime but we are now very certain that liberalized prison and bail procedures certainly don't. The general public, however, sees a parallel between the two areas in question and the cry is out for capital punishment.
>
> Considering the number of brutal murders of police officers and citizens generally, one can hardly blame the public for being incensed.
>
> You may call capital punishment a "revenge" motive and point out that innocent people are hung, too, but it will do little to deter the tide of public opinion.
>
> We think an alternative is to tighten the legal controls on bail and assure that sentences as they exist are carried out.
>
> We would further suggest that if this were done, many capital punishment advocates might change their mind. On the other hand, the vote we received is undeniably clear . . .
>
> Needless to say, our social order is in sad shape when the public cries for death but we understand the reasoning behind the cry and we would have to ascribe it to a situation where such a demand was predictable.

In discussing the pros and cons of capital punishment, one would be wrong not to consider facts lest one be carried away by strong emotion. Thus, when the facts suggest some conclusions which do not support a person's feelings, a great conflict might arise. However, we should look again at those figures and ask why there is a rise in the crime rate at all. Murder is the most glamourized of crimes, but other crimes are on the rise, even faster than murder.

If the liberal attitude taken in the last dozen years regarding crime and criminals had been the correct attitude, surely the crime rate would not be rising. Our leniency has led to a grave situation. The argument that abolition of the death penalty has not caused an increase in murders, especially when compared to other crime rates, cannot be fully accepted because our liberalism has led to a general easing of punishment for all crimes. Murder, as mentioned above, is only one portion of an overall horrendous picture. By retaining the death penalty and enforcing its use Canadians will be returning to a more common sense attitude. It is not so much the execution of the murderer but the self-realization that we are prepared to deal sternly once again with all criminals that will help society. As with the proverbial camel who has worked his head and neck into the tent, so it is with our leniency towards those who commit capital crimes. We must take a strong stand now.

The crime of treason against our country should never be removed from our statute books. Any one who commits treason against this country deserves the death penalty. Hijackers, who endanger the lives of hundreds of people, should not have a second chance because they do not consider the passengers on the aircraft or what this act means to society. If life imprisonment meant at least 25 years for those convicted of murder, whether it be a policeman, guard or any citizen, we could probably take a second look at this bill. However, there are those who consider that 25 years in prison is not humane punishment.

Those of us who served our country in World War II did so in order to protect our democratic way of life and to keep Canada a safe place in which to raise our families. There could be a much more humane method of execution than hanging, such as the electric chair, the gas chamber or the needle which we use on our pets when we put them permanently to sleep. However, since during the five year trial period the murder rate in Canada has increased, it is necessary to have a strong deterrent as well as a punish-

ment. Under these circumstances, Mr. Speaker, I will vote against Bill C-2.

Mr. Joe Clark (Rocky Mountain): Mr. Speaker, I do not intend to take much of the time of the House, partly because I do not think I have much to say that will be particularly fresh. However, this issue is of such interest and concern in my constituency that I feel obliged to say how and why I intend to vote. I want to make clear my view that the major value of the bill before us is that it gives us something to amend. I intend to vote for it on second reading to get it into committee so that it may be amended. A second question has almost been introduced into this debate. While the vote concerns capital punishment of a sort, the way we vote has raised questions of responsiveness to the wishes of constituents. I want to deal with this important question as much as with the substance of the bill.

I was asked by a constituent just last weekend whether on this vote on capital punishment I would follow my conscience or my constituents'. Put in these terms, the decision is relatively easy to make. Most people would want their Member of Parliament to follow his conscience on any question, not violate it. However, there is a suggestion of stark choice that I do not believe is exact. It is possible to serve both conscience and constituents even when, as in my case, the member is reluctant to sanction the taking of a human life by execution and his constituents have indicated a strong preference for capital punishment.

That is so because the advice of constituents, for or against capital punishment, is advice on a question which is not before this House. The choice we face in this bill is not a choice between the death penalty and abolition. The death penalty provision in this bill is very limited in its application. It is limited even more in its application in practice and, despite the assurances of the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau), there is no evidence at all that it would be applied in practice in the future. The choice offered here is not even a choice between a hard and a soft approach to murder. The approach in this bill is hard on paper and soft in practice. So, many members of parliament are faced with a mandate from their constituents to deal severely with murder and a bill which makes that impossible.

● (1620)

In the circumstances, I think it is necessary for a Member of Parliament, since he cannot act exactly on the advice given him, to interpret that advice for guidance in his own vote. The specific advice given to me by more than 3,000 people responding to a questionnaire, showed that 82.8 per cent were in favour of capital punishment and only 17.2 per cent opposed. Virtually all of those who responded, 96.7 per cent, wanted any penalty to apply to all convicted of murder, not only those convicted of murdering policemen or prison guards. But in addition, 49.1 per cent indicated they would support a policy which meant the imposition of prison term which really meant life imprisonment, or long imprisonment, instead of the death penalty. As applied to the empty bill which faces us today and on which we are to vote tonight, it seems to me the main desire is for a penalty severe enough to stop murder, or at least to make murder less likely to be tried. Most of my constituents do not necessarily want to have the state kill people. But they want some sanction, and the sanction they know is the traditional sanction, the death penalty. That is the guidance they have given me.

I emphasize the word "guidance" because this issue is the first in my career in parliament upon which I am required to state my view of the relation between the advice of a constituency and the action of a member. It seems to me that a special duty grows out of the special nature of this chamber as the only place in which the whole nation gathers, not just to state strong views but also to work out ways of reconciling the strong views of one part of the country with the strong, but often contrary, views of another, and to reconcile them all with the goals and traditions of the nation as they are understood by those who have a responsibility to think about them. In an age of computers and questionnaires, and in an age, also, when it is the style of interest groups to demand that parliament adopt selfish policies which it is our duty only to consider, it is important to reassert and respect the responsibility of parliamentarians to decide ourselves, in the final analysis, what course the country should take.

We can use questionnaires and similar means of gathering evidence. I, for one, intend to do so. But if we abandon the responsibility to assess on our own account what to make of the evidence, we might as well be replaced by calculating machines or crystal balls. And if our judgment conflicts too often with that of our constituents, they have the sovereign power to replace us. A strict reliance upon questionnaires and other devices of so-called direct democracy is really not a long way removed from the kind of consultation MacKenzie King employed to divine, if that is the proper word, the best interests of the country. This is modern, and his was mystic, but neither is exact and neither excuses the Member of Parliament from performing the elemental exercise we are sent here to perform, the exercise of judgment.

In fact, in my view, this aspect of the duty of a member of parliament is one of the things which distinguishes our system from that of the United States. The United States system has been described as representative government, while ours is responsible government. This implies that the Congressman has a duty to represent more exactly the views of his constituents. The member of the Canadian parliament has a different and more difficult duty—the duty to be responsible to his constituents—to act in the way in which his judgment and conscience direct, and then to be judged. Our job is to judge; our fate, and restraint, is to be judged.

In making a judgment on any particular issue, one major consideration to be taken into account must be the expressed wish of our constituents. But we cannot rely exclusively on the evidence that is sent us. We must seek all the evidence which applies, thus assuring ourselves that our decision will be right, and not just popular. This is what I committed myself to do when this question came up during the election campaign—to consult with my constituents by means of a questionnaire and consult with those who have made it their business to study the effectiveness of capital punishment as a deterrent. I have consulted both now, and the evidence concerning the deterrent is such that I must place on the record my view

that, even if we had before us a bill which would apply the death penalty in practice, even if we had the kind of penalty this bill does not provide, I would have to vote against it or try to amend it. This is not because of an unwillingness to execute, which might be interpreted as naïve or sentimental; I am quite prepared to have society take a life if that would serve a necessary social purpose which no other instrument can serve. It is because the evidence I have sought suggests that the death penalty does not do the job my constituents want to see done. I would have to vote against any legislation which came forward, even legislation with teeth. This bill does not do that job. It does not do what my constituents want to be done. It does not stop murderers who want to murder. It does not add to public safety in any real sense, although it might offer a temporary psychological security.

What we have to do here—and more particularly what those of us whose constituents clearly want an effective deterrent to murder have to do—is try to find some deterrent which will be effective. The bill before us will not do that job. Nor would a more widespread application of the death penalty, if we believe the studies made by people whose business it is to know. A long fixed term might. It would at least provide some psychological security to society without making the government a killer or without indulging in the fraud this bill involves when it promises a penalty which, will not be implemented.

Others in this House have noted frequently a concern for order and a desire to stop—with this legislation, and symbolically—what is called permissiveness. I believe we must take this concern seriously. I am no sociologist, but politicians do their own kind of sampling and I think it is fair to presume that many of my constituents who are most anxious to see capital punishment reinstated are people whose lives are still based on things that do not change. Some of them farm. Others live in view of the constant mountains. Many practice a strong, firm faith. They are settled people. This is not to say they are outmoded or inept at meeting modern challenges. Indeed, some are highly skilled, innovative, imaginative. What distinguishes them is that they have grown accustomed to having something to come back to. And they are worried, now, that what they knew is being broken down—not just some of it, but all. They are apprehensive of the day when there will be nothing to come back to—no respect for law, no respect for faith, no familiar landmarks. This is not intended as a eulogy for these people. Quite the opposite.

I believe we must begin to pay much more attention, when deciding on national policies, to the values and aspirations of these settled Canadians, not just because they pay the fare for many of the programs we propose here but also because in many cases they possess a special expertise which comes from experience. They know about things we only talk about. Whether or not we see it, they see plenty of evidence to show that government today is moving to exclude them from influence. There is a very real feeling in my constituency that power in Canada has passed to a narrow, insensitive, metropolitan elite, and while the people of Rocky Mountain are prepared to give that elite some voice, they also want a voice of their own. The danger is that they feel passed by.

[Mr. Clark (Rocky Mountain).]

If I might reiterate a theme I have raised before, let me just say this: when parliament becomes preoccupied by the need to build great cities we seem to overlook the equal need to preserve existing communities, whether they are neighbourhoods in a metropolis or small towns in a countryside. When we become preoccupied by the demands of the venturing young, we sometimes forget the desire of older Canadians for a sense of stability or even for an adequate income. When we devise fancy new programs to give young people summer jobs they will enjoy, we overlook the resentment such programs can cause among people schooled to believe in the virtue of an honest day's work. I do not intend to devalue the importance of programs for transient youth, or of Opportunities for Youth or of help to build great cities. My point is simply that if our emphasis on these goals seems too complete, if we seem consistently to ignore the requirements of the settled people of the country or to demean their values, we make them feel less at home in their country. Those of us who are genuinely concerned about a sense of alienation, or even of disorder, should look in this direction for solutions rather than try to redress such a problem under the guise of amending the criminal law.

Mr. J. P. Nowlan (Annapolis Valley): Mr. Speaker, having heard many of the speeches made on Bill C-2 during the present debate, and having, also, heard many of the speeches made five years ago on what is basically the same measure, I wish to speak briefly to explain my reason for voting against the legislation before us when the question is put.

Basically, this bill deals with the age-old question of the sanctity of human life on the one hand, and the security of society on the other. The debate on this issue symbolizes the confusion in which parliament presently finds itself. Once a question of conscience arises there will, undoubtedly, be confusion and differences of opinion. Bill C-2, on which we are going to vote tonight, to me completely symbolizes this parliament. It symbolizes a government that refuses to lead and leaders who are afraid to govern. This bill is a sham, a farce and a charade. As the hon. member for Rocky Mountain (Mr. Clark) said a moment ago, this bill stands not for abolition and not for retention. We are going to send to the legal affairs and justice committee a qualified abolition bill or a qualified retention bill, depending on how you interpret it, so that for another five years we are going to have what we have had for the last five years. As long as a man murders a policeman or a prison guard, there is a chance he will have to pay the supreme price; if he murders anyone else, obviously he does not pay the supreme price following due process of law.

● (1630)

I listened to the leaders of the parties who spoke last Wednesday. I was very glad that they entered into the debate because this was the catalyst that decided me to participate. All three leaders of the national parties, in effect, supported the sending of Bill C-2 to committee. If you follow their arguments, Mr. Speaker, basically they support a form of abolition as contained in the bill, if not total abolition. But I suggest in all seriousness that the remarks of the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau), the Leader

of the Opposition (Mr. Stanfield) and the hon. member for York South (Mr. Lewis) again illustrate the symbolism of this parliament and its confusion.

Let me take their remarks in synoptic form and deal first with the remarks of the Prime Minister, who I thought gave one of his more sensitive speeches in this House. I did not say "sensible" but "sensitive". He said that members must take their responsibilities seriously. He said let us not avoid the issue; let us face up to the responsibility of voting. Yet we know from his very next words that we are not voting for abolition or for retention; we are voting for a sham. I say it would have been much more forthright of the Prime Minister not to have produced this hybrid bill.

Mr. Allmand: Would the hon. member permit a question at this point?

Mr. Nowlan: Yes.

Mr. Allmand: The hon. member says that if we vote for this bill we are voting for a hybrid bill, a sham that is neither abolition nor retention. Does not the hon. member realize that if he votes against the bill he will also be left with a law that, in itself, is a hybrid? The law now in effect is the law of 1961, which divided murder into capital and non-capital for different reasons. The only difference is that the bill now before the House provides for a much more restricted retention. If the hon. member votes against the bill, does he not realize that the situation will still be a hybrid?

Mr. Nowlan: All I can say to that, Mr. Speaker, having listened to the speeches of the three leaders, as did the Solicitor General (Mr. Allmand), is that I am prepared to accept the premise of the Prime Minister that we take our responsibility. I am against a hybrid situation. The Leader of the New Democratic Party never once mentioned the distinction between capital and non-capital crimes. The debate we had in 1961 was the culmination of much anxiety and soul searching on the part of members of the House in putting into the law provision for capital and non-capital murder. Very few members have mentioned this distinction between capital murder and non-capital murder, and it is only in the popular definition of capital murder that you invoke the supreme penalty. I fully appreciate that the fact that we have capital murder and non-capital murder leads to a hybrid situation, but I think members of the House are prepared to face that fact, as the Prime Minister suggested. It is a question of whether they want the law of 1961 or whether they want to vote for full abolition of capital punishment.

I interpret the present bill as providing a qualified abolition or a qualified retention. The bill still recognizes capital punishment, but its imposition, is limited to the murderers of policemen and prison guards. I appreciate the intervention of the Solicitor General, but what I am saying is that I would have followed with more conviction the premise of the Prime Minister regarding members facing their responsibility, rather than trying to hide under a sham bill which can be interpreted as providing for either abolition or for retention.

After having had a five year trial period, I ask, why have another five year trial period when we should be prepared to face the question squarely? I agree with the Prime Minister that the question posed in this bill is eternal. But we do not need another five year trial period. We had a false trial period previously, but let us assume that we do have another so-called trial period. What statistics or philosophical argument that we know of today is going to change over the next five years? This is my point. This House could make a definitive decision tonight and vote either for or against abolition, instead of hiding the vote under this sham bill. To the fervent abolitionists, I say that by voting for the bill they are creating a sham for their constituents. They want to hide under the cloak of the bill and have another five year trial period. The question of the sanctity of life as measured against the security of society is an eternal one, and we do not need another five years to determine it.

As far as the speech of the Leader of the Opposition is concerned, he used the basic argument that is used by all of those who support this bill, namely that there is no statistical evidence to show that capital punishment is a deterrent to the commission of murder. I am prepared to agree that that is so. Equally, I do not think he could disagree with me that the converse of the situation is true, namely that there are no statistics to show that the absence of capital punishment eliminates or reduces capital crime. As far as I am concerned, the statistics prove neither one side of the issue nor the other.

What bothers me about the argument that the statistics show that the commission of murder is not deterred by capital punishment, is that if you follow this to its logical conclusion we might ask why we impose any penalties or have any deterrents at all. Why not throw the whole thing into the laps of the sociologists and the philosophical do-gooders so we can all have an ideal society, try to rehabilitate those who can be rehabilitated, and then keep our fingers crossed when we let them outside prison walls?

With regard to the proposed amendment that may be moved in committee to provide that anyone convicted of capital murder be put behind bars for at least 25 years—indeed, some say a convicted murderer should stay in jail for life—frankly, I am wondering whether that is not even more inhumane. In this country there have been no executions since 1962. I do not know whether it is more humane to keep someone behind bars in a cage for the rest of his life than to resort to the law of 1961 of capital and non-capital offences.

I do not want to get into a dissertation on the law, but following some of the arguments that were raised at the time in this House concerning instances where juries were reluctant to convict if they thought the accused would hang, we decided to divide the category of murder into two and to provide capital punishment only for crimes of capital murder. It is only in such cases that a convicted murderer may be exposed to the threat of execution, but in such cases there is the royal prerogative of mercy which the government of the day can exercise at its discretion.

● (1640)

Coming back to this question of deterrence, I suggest you cannot say that statistics indicate a deterrent or, conversely, that the threat of capital punishment has not

been a deterrent to murder. The important point is that if you dilute the effect of deterrence, you must wonder why we should impose a penalty in respect of any lesser crime. That is why I find it difficult to follow the words of my leader. Immediately after referring to the deterrent effect, he castigated the government for being too liberal in its use of the royal prerogative of mercy in the commutation of sentences. I do not understand the connection. If capital punishment has no deterrent effect how can there be any deterrent effect in the penalties for lesser crimes?

The leader of the NDP presented a basic argument that statistics cannot prove that capital punishment is a deterrent to murder. He also referred to the inhumanity and brutality of the state in taking a life. He supported his case by developing the argument that juries are reluctant to convict when there is the possibility of a murderer paying the supreme price. He did not once mention the fact that there is a distinction between capital and non-capital murder. Juries can convict a man of a non-capital murder where there is no possibility of execution. That hon. member did not mention that fact, and for that reason I think his argument is a little confusing intellectually, as no doubt he will think my argument is intellectually confusing, if he takes the time to read my speech.

The leader of the NDP then went on to say there were no statistics to prove the deterrent theory, and advanced his own argument that juries would be reluctant to convict if they knew the man would swing, without pointing out the distinction between capital and non-capital murder. What the hon. member did not mention, and what has not been mentioned often during this debate, is the other side of the coin. This is the situation which exists when you do not have capital punishment for capital murder, those murders being of a very different kind from non-capital murder.

Perhaps a sociologist or a student of penal reform could use this subject as the basis of a thesis. Perhaps such a thesis has already been written on this subject. You might have the situation in which a man, alleged to have committed a murder, is being apprehended and in the process kills a policeman. Perhaps the policeman is attempting to apprehend him and there is a shoot-out. Who is to say that, because the policeman knows there is no possibility of this man paying the supreme penalty, he will not take the law into his own hands? There have been cases in the country to the south of us involving policemen who have broken into the residences of members of the Black Panther organization, and have caused a shoot-out which has resulted in the death of several people. Investigations have shown that guns were drawn and people were killed. I suggest that where there is no supreme penalty at the end of the judicial role, there will be a possibility of an increase in the number of incidents of this kind. Such incidents will result in the quick administration of justice and the snuffing out of more lives than would be the case if the proper judicial process were followed.

My personal dilemma lies in the fact that I have been on both sides of this issue. The first time the bill came before the House I voted for retention. Five years ago, I voted for qualified abolition or retention as long as capital punishment was invoked in the case of the murder of a policeman or prison guard. Perhaps there was no logic at all in my support on that occasion of qualified abolition or retention, because we ended up with an unnatural discrimination as between policemen and prison guards and other citizens across Canada. I have come to the conclusion that I must face this issue on the straight basis of abolition or retention, without trying to descriminate between citizens; in other words, making out that policemen and prison guards are in a different category than other citizens. That is the way we must face the issue, hence my dilemma.

I might suggest I am a reluctant retentionist. I am reluctant because I have no more fervour for retention than I have enthusiasm for abolition. Therein lies my quandary. When we change the law there should be an onus on those who want a change to show a positive reason for the change. The abolitionists suggest you cannot support the deterrent theory of capital murder statistically. If you cannot support abolition statistically, on what grounds can you support partial retention? I suggest more evidence is required to bring about a qualified state of abolition than the mere suggestion that this would result in a blissful and ideal society which we would all love to see in existence. At this very moment throughout the world many people are not dying peacefully in their beds. Men have not died peacefully in their beds since the beginning of history. Without being cynical, I would venture to guess that it will be a long time before mankind can be assured of a peaceful death in bed. I would guess that more people have died as a result of some kind of armed conflict somewhere in the world during one day of this debate than will ever face execution under this bill.

In times of emergency, crisis and war, it is necessary for the state to protect itself against attack. It is abhorrent that we train men to kill for the defence of society, but this is a necessity. Cold-blooded and calculated murder by execution is a form of defence, just as cold-blooded and calculated murder itself is a form of war against society or a form of war by individual against individual. Anyone who engages in this form of war should face the possibility of paying the supreme penalty after due process of law. This is retribution, revenge or reality, and frankly I am not sure which. We have laws that must be obeyed and penalties that must be paid in respect of breaches of those laws. If there is logic to the idea of penalties in respect of lesser laws, there must be logic to the penalty of capital punishment for capital crimes, keeping in mind always the royal prerogative. If it is logical to have penalties for infractions of lesser laws, then it must be logical and reasonable to have at least the possibility of the supreme penalty for the supreme crime. Surely, that must follow.

● (1650)

It is for those reasons I intend to vote against Bill C-2 tonight so that the government can bring in a bill, either for or against capital punishment. Then, Members of Parliament can make up their minds on that issue, and not try to hide behind the sham that is implicit in this bill.

Mr. G. W. Baldwin (Peace River): Well, Mr. Speaker, I have listened with some interest to this debate and what I have not been able to hear I have read. This will be the fifth debate on this subject in which I have participated in

this House. This matter, as usual, presents a host of problems to a political party, despite the fact that it is described as being a free vote, and many problems to members. For 40 years I have been opposed to, have voted against, have spoken against and have worked against capital punishment. Many other members on both sides of this House have participated in this debate. I must say at once that I find the measure we are discussing falls somewhat short of the ideal I would like to see as the law of this land. It would be easy to rationalize voting against it on second reading, although one might be an abolitionist. Members on both sides of the House could do this and come out nicely. However, I believe it would be wrong to do that.

I must indicate I will vote for the bill, despite its defects. I am reinforced in this view as a result of the procedure which has been adopted in this House. The vote on second reading of a bill, has lost some of the significance which at one time was attached to it. The vote on third reading is, of course, the most important in respect of many bills, and certainly in respect of this bill. Assuming the vote on second reading is a yea vote and the measure is referred to a committee, then in the committee there will be an opportunity for members, the total retentionists, the total abolitionists and those in between, to put forward their views. There are members who have indicated some preference for a 25-year mandatory penalty. They will have a right to put forward their views either themselves, if they should be members of the committee, or through substitutes.

My guess is that a great variety of amendments will be moved in the committee. I do not know what procedure the committee will follow, whether or not it will decide to hear witnesses. This, of course, is a matter for the committee itself to decide. After this debate, after the national discussions which have taken place, I personally do not think there is a great deal to be gained by having the committee examine witnesses and accept briefs. I do not think there is one member in this House who has not had some form of communication from either a group or individuals concerning their views on this issue. However, I leave it for the committee to decide. When the bill is reintroduced into the House in its new form after having passed the committee, every member will have an opportunity to initiate further debate on the basis of the amendments at the report stage.

I fully expect that almost every amendment which will be moved in the standing committee will probably be re-introduced in the House at the report stage. We will then have a debate, or possibly a series of debates, on these issues after which the bill will appear in its final form. Then, knowing what is in the bill, what its final form will be and what its terms are, that will be the time to test the views of members of this House. If abolitionists feel that the bill contains elements which are repugnant to them, they may be compelled reluctantly to vote against it, despite their views on abolition. The same situation may apply to those who are retentionists. At that time, in that way, in this House we will come to the final challenge on this measure. I must say that as yet it is not a perfect bill. If one waited in this House for perfection before deciding to approve a proposal, one would wait here for a much longer period than you and I, Mr. Speaker, have left in these mortal portals before we shuffle off.

I am not being partisan in making these comments. I think all governments fail to achieve perfection in respect of a bill which is moulded to the economic and social needs of a country. There are too many tensions. I must say that this government shows itself far more able than most governments to avoid that degree of perfection which would appeal to me. I have been waiting for ten years. I think I can count on the fingers of one hand the number of bills which in that period have come even half-way toward reaching the degree of perfection I believe a measure should reach. I am hoping that by the process of bringing in amendments we can go forward by stages, accepting partial remedies and reducing or eliminating some defects, and hope to do better next time. Thus, believing capital punishment to be wrong and just as inconsistent with the improvement of human society as the killing which leads to the infliction of hanging, I say any proposal which limits the extent to which the state, acting on behalf of the people who constitute it, deliberately takes the life of one or more of those people, ought to be supported. So, I intend to support this bill and hope to give more of my reasons at eight o'clock, since Your Honour probably has other purposes in mind for the time between now and six o'clock.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: I thank the hon. member for Peace River. He will indeed be recognized at eight o'clock. Perhaps it might be agreed—it was not agreed the other day when the original order was passed—that the Solicitor General (Mr. Allmand) should have 15 minutes, or more if the debate should be completed beforehand, to reply. Members would have an opportunity to speak up until 9.15, and then the Solicitor General would have a right to reply to the various arguments which have been adduced, since he is the sponsor of the bill, from 9.15 until 9.30 at which time the order states the debate shall expire. Is this agreeable to hon. members?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

PROCEEDINGS ON ADJOURNMENT MOTION

SUBJECT MATTER OF QUESTIONS TO BE DEBATED

Mr. Deputy Speaker: It is my duty, pursuant to Standing Order 40 to inform the House that the questions to be raised tonight at the time of adjournment are as follows: the hon. member for York-Sunbury (Mr. Howie)—regional economic expansion—Atlantic Canada—request for massive capital investment in large infrastructures; the hon. member for Compton (Mr. Latulippe)—public works—construction of new post office in Lac Mégantic—inquiry about when tenders will be called; the hon. member for Provencher (Mr. Epp)—post office—re-examination of requirement for establishment of rural routes in western Canada.

Senate and House of Commons Act

It being five o'clock, the House will now proceed to the consideration of private members' business as listed on today's order paper, namely public bills.

Mr. Reid: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, I think there would be agreement to call Bill C-30 in the name of the hon. member for Cochrane.

● (1700)

PRIVATE MEMBERS' PUBLIC BILLS

SENATE AND HOUSE OF COMMONS ACT

AMENDMENT CONCERNING DISQUALIFICATION OF MEMBER

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Perhaps I should call the order. I understand there is an objection to the bill.

On the order:

Second reading and reference to the Standing Committee on Procedure and Organization of Bill C-30, an act to amend the Senate and House of Commons Act—Mr. Stewart (Cochrane).

Mr. John M. Reid (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): Mr. Speaker, I want to be brief and refer hon. members to the remarks of Mr. Speaker on January 18, 1973 when he served notice of an objection to this particular bill. Mr. Speaker made the comment at that time that this bill would infringe upon the financial rights of the Crown. He argued, therefore, that when it came up for debate this procedural point should be considered. I want to refer Your Honour to the remarks made by him and to ask for a ruling on the point.

Mr. Stewart (Cochrane): Mr. Speaker, I rise on the point of order. There does not seem to me to have been a clear ruling by Mr. Speaker, inasmuch as there was some question in his mind regarding whether this is a money bill. He felt that it may, perhaps, infringe upon the financial responsibility of the government. In my opinion, the bill is quite clear and does not transgress in that way at all. It has nothing to do with money or the responsibility of the Crown in that regard. It simply provides that a Member of Parliament will not be liable to disqualification if he is a member of a board of directors of one of the Crown corporations, whether or not it is a remunerative position. In that respect, I suggest with great respect that this bill has nothing to do with the financial responsibility of the Crown.

Mr. Baldwin: Mr. Speaker, I do not want to interfere in this family argument, which is very interesting, and I do not want to get involved in technicalities. All I can say on the question of substance, having in mind the recent report of the Auditor General, is that I am amazed to see the government take the position that they should be very careful about how the Crown flings away its money. I make this comment in view of the Auditor General's version of the mis-spending, extravagance and waste of this government. However, I will let Your Honour decide that issue.

[Mr. Deputy Speaker.]

Mr. Reid: I rise on the point of order, Mr. Speaker. Since this is a rather interesting case, and probably a marginal one, I wonder if Your Honour might want to take a few minutes to consider it. In that period of time, we might proceed with amendments to the Judges Act which, I understand, can be dealt with in a short time, following which it might be possible for Your Honour to make a ruling. I think there would be agreement in the House to that.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: If the House is agreeable to this course I must say I would be eternally grateful. I do not want to be peremptory in my decision on a matter which I know the hon. member has pursued in other ways over a number of years. I just do not want to make a quick decision on it. So, if the House is agreeable to the suggestion of the parliamentary secretary, the Chair would certainly be agreeable also. Is it agreed that the ruling be made later?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Does the hon. member for Cochrane (Mr. Stewart) agree to this course? It is his bill.

Mr. Stewart (Cochrane): Yes, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: It is agreed then, that we return now to public business and that we deal with the Judges Act.

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

JUDGES ACT

PROVISION OF ADDITIONAL JUDGES FOR CERTAIN COURTS

The House proceeded to the consideration of Bill C-177, to amend the Judges Act, as reported (without amendment) from the Standing Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs.

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Justice) moved:

That Bill C-177, an act to amend the Judges Act, be amended by striking out line 11 of clause 5 on page 2 and substituting the following:

"(b) One hundred and four judges and"

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Is it the pleasure of the House to adopt the said motion?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Motion (Mr. Lang) agreed to.

Mr. Lang moved that Bill C-177, to amend the Judges Act, as reported (without amendment) from the Standing Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs, be concurred in.

Motion agreed to.

Mr. Lang moved that the bill be read the third time and do pass.

Motion agreed to and bill read the third time and passed.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Is it agreed that the House revert now to Public Bills, order No. 26?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

PRIVATE MEMBERS' PUBLIC BILLS

SENATE AND HOUSE OF COMMONS ACT

AMENDMENT CONCERNING DISQUALIFICATION OF MEMBER

On the order:

Second reading and reference to the Standing Committee on Procedure and Organization of Bill C-30, an act to amend the Senate and House of Commons Act—Mr. Stewart (Cochrane).

Mr. Reid: Mr. Speaker, may I again rise on a point of order on this bill. I have reread the bill, and I have come to the conclusion that the remarks made by the hon. member for Cochrane (Mr. Stewart) are more apt in this case than those made by Mr. Speaker, because if the bill does affect the financial prerogative of any agency of the government it would affect the financial prerogative of the House of Commons more than that of the government.

What the bill apparently seeks to do is to remove the prohibition from Members of Parliament and permit them to accept fees and expenses when they are able to obtain seats on government commissions and boards. Therefore, it does not seem that the funds flowing to a Member of Parliament in such a case would come from the government but rather from a Crown agency, and second, Members of Parliament are not funded by the government but by the House of Commons.

● (1710)

Under those circumstances it would seem to me that the bill would be admissible on procedural grounds. My point in rising originally was merely to remind Your Honour of the caveat that Mr. Speaker, had placed on the record on January 18. If Your Honour finds that the matter is to be decided so closely that, in effect, it is a marginal matter, I believe it has been the practice in private members' hour to permit the bill to proceed.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: I think the parliamentary secretary makes a good point, especially as it has become a marginal matter for the Chair, and the hon. member for Cochrane should be allowed his moment in the sun. I say this without making a definitive ruling on it. I think that justice, or at least common sense, would say that the hon. member should be allowed to put his argument. Does the hon. member for Peace River have a better way out?

Mr. Baldwin: No, Mr. Speaker. I was just going to say that this was a very wise suggestion, and to call your attention to the fact that very significantly on May 29 the government has made three retreats, by the Secretary of State for External Affairs (Mr. Sharp), by the Minister of

Finance (Mr. Turner), and now by the Parliamentary Secretary to the President of the Privy Council (Mr. Reid).

Mr. Deputy Speaker: The next retreat is about to be made by the Deputy Speaker when he vacates the Chair.

Mr. Ralph Stewart (Cochrane) moved that Bill C-30, to amend the Senate and House of Commons Act, be read the second time and referred to the Standing Committee on Procedure and Organization.

He said: Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker, particularly for your graciousness in permitting this debate to continue. Hon. members who were members of the House in the last parliament will recall that I sought various means in order to include on the boards of directors of Crown corporations and agencies some representation from the elected representatives of the people, the reason being to have a watchdog effect on the spending of government through those agencies and in order to have a political in-put, political with a capital "P" rather than with the meaning of partisanship, to provide a greater understanding from the point of view of the grass roots of the country. Who better than the members of this House are in the position to know and understand that feeling?

There are all kinds of complications to bringing this about, because of rules, regulations and laws that we already have on the books. When I brought forth a bill that would permit a Member of Parliament to sit on the board of a Crown corporation, it was considered not to be in order because there is a regulation to the effect that a member can lose his seat if he receives any kind of remuneration, whether it be in the form of fees or expenses, from any agency of the government. For that reason, it was difficult to get anywhere with the proposal.

We tried another method by putting the proposal forth as a motion. It was debated in the House but that was as far as it got. I do not wish to debate the merits of placing Members of Parliament on the boards of Crown corporations today. I simply want to debate the actual bill in front of us, which would remove that regulation which provides that a member can lose his seat if he is in receipt of any kind of stipend from a government agency. This is a silly regulation.

Members of parliaments are appointed to boards in other jurisdictions, in the province of Ontario and elsewhere. At present, if a member of this House were appointed to the board of Air Canada, and a meeting of that board were to be held in Montreal on a Thursday morning, the Member of Parliament would not be allowed to have his way paid there by Air Canada, as other members of the board are paid, simply because of the existence of this regulation that I seek to have changed. If it should so happen that one of us would be required to appear on television in Toronto, and if it happened to be the CTV station there would be no difficulty. That member could travel down to Toronto at the expense of CTV. But if it were for CBC television he could not do so. This is ludicrous. The only reason he would not be reimbursed for the expense in going to Toronto is this Provision in the House of Commons Act. That is why I feel this bill is extremely important and why it should go to a committee where it could be examined properly.

It is not a question of wanting to have members receive remuneration for something. That is not the point. The point is that a member should not be liable to lose his seat should he be in a position where he could receive expenses or other fees that go along with being on a government board. So, I ask that the members of this House allow this bill to proceed to a committee where it can be properly examined.

Mr. Andrew Brewin (Greenwood): Mr. Speaker, I regret that I cannot approve the principle of the bill introduced by the hon. member for Cochrane (Mr. Stewart). As I understand the bill, it contemplates that Members of Parliament can, without the normal disqualification, be appointed to boards or agencies of the government. I have three reasons why I think that would not be a good principle.

First of all, it seems to me that we in this House have enough to do already, perhaps too much to do to discharge the functions that we have here. If we are going to sit on boards and commissions, which are often very demanding jobs, we would be over straining our capacity and not doing justice to the primary task we have, which is to be elected members of this House. It is one thing to say that we sit on committees and learn about these things, and perhaps criticize deeply these boards and commissions. That is the watchdog function to which the hon. member referred. But when you sit on a board, you are not just a watchdog. You are part of the whole machinery. You are part of the internal machinery that is running the board or agency, and at that stage you have loyalties and demands which I think would be inconsistent with being a member of Parliament.

I suppose all members of the House have different degrees of business in their tasks, but if the recent experience of most members is like my own, I find a great multiplication of work in this House. There are more committees. There are more people coming to see you all the time. There are greater demands by constituents. Even for the private member, whether he be on the government side or on the opposition side, this is an increasingly taxing job we assume when we become elected representatives. To suggest that we mix that up with responsibilities to a public utility, to a great corporation like Air Canada, or to others of these companies, organizations and agencies of government, would be to overtax our ability, and I do not think would be a constructive approach.

● (1720)

The second thing is related to the first. I am not sure that it might not create conflicts of interest—if not conflicts of interest, at least clashes of loyalty. If you sat on a board of a great utility like Air Canada or like a provincial hydro board, you would acquire not only inside knowledge of the operation and management, but loyalties to the organization. When the legislation comes before the House you must be thinking of the dual interest, the interest of the country as a whole and the interest of the board, institution or agency of which you are, presumably, a loyal and industrious member.

Lastly, Mr. Speaker, I do not like the suggestion in this bill that those who sit on these commissions should get extra remuneration. I call attention of the House to the fact that this principle was applied in the province of Ontario, and for all I know in various other provinces, where various members of the legislature—nearly always members of the government party—were associated with various boards and drew salary considerably in excess of their ordinary indemnities as members of the legislature. I do not think we need that. I see no objection to having cabinet office or duties as a parliamentary secretaries, those who serve a particular function in the House, recognized by extra salary. I think, however, for extra salaries in the gift of the government to be made available to people whose primary job is that of a Member of Parliament, is a mistake.

I do not like to differ from the hon. member for Cochrane, and I know he has given a lot of thought to this matter. I am sure the bill has some merit but as far as I am concerned the merits are dwarfed by the disadvantages. If the bill ever comes to a vote—which I doubt even the hon. member expects—I shall have to vote against it.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Jacques-L. Trudel (Montreal-Bourassa): Mr. Speaker, I listened closely to the hon. member for Cochrane (Mr. Stewart) when he introduced his bill, and also to the remarks of the hon. member for Greenwood (Mr. Brewin).

The more I study the bill, the more I realize the intention the hon. member wanted to put forward in the House. He feels that an association with a crown corporation should not prevent an hon. member from sitting in the House. He made his point quite clearly and I am sure he devoted much time and energy to research in order to bring his views forward in the House.

Now, in spite of the explanation the hon. member kindly supplied, I am most reluctant to believe that it would be possible for an hon. member who sits on the board of a crown corporation to make completely neutral decisions at a given time if, when making his decisions, he is aware that this same corporation will be carrying out certain projects.

For instance, I think of natural resources. We now have several Crown corporations, as Panarctic Oils Limited, which deal particularly with resources; if the question were to construct a pipeline to move products found in the Arctic, how could the hon. member be impartial if he were an administrator or a member of a corporation which would be neutral, as he would know at a certain time that the corporation, because of his duties as member of management, would probably put it in a prejudicial position. Whatever his personal position, he would certainly have to give some explanations.

The hon. member for Cochrane said that remuneration was not an issue. It is possible—and I think he made it very clear—that a member of parliament could be in a very difficult position; evidently he would not have been paid if he had given a favourable judgment or if for instance at a management meeting he had voted in favour of such and such project to be carried out later by the same corporation. The very fact that he were at the meeting and had his money refunded for expenses incurred to go to the meeting, as explained by the hon. member, would likely prompt him to go anyway. But I understand that

meetings are not always held at the same location for various reasons and that conflicts can arise.

Here is how I see it: the duty of a federal member is much more demanding today than before. In the past, we could sit a few months a year; now, in my case, it is a full time occupation and, a corporation requiring us to devote a few months, a few sittings, even several days or weeks, I wonder how we could determine the primary interest. Then, would the House take precedence or would it be preferable to go to the meetings of company executives?

I fail to see how we could make a value judgement which would not compromise the role we were assigned by our electors. These people sent us to the House knowing very well that it was out of the question for us to take other responsibilities than that of representing them and not to become managers or even interim shareholders of various corporations, be they completely controlled by the crown or not. I think that our electors would have many reservations in that respect.

We could deal with many other points but I think I must single out the conflict of interests which could arise, not necessarily as regards the salary but rather at the level of decisions that have to be taken by managers of various corporations whether they are crown corporations or not.

I congratulate the member for having pointed this out. I know that this has existed for many years in provinces such as Ontario. Furthermore, it is not incumbent on I or us to decide how these people can conciliate various interests. I know that many cases of conflicting interests have been published in the papers recently. Some people tried to make a scandal out of those things. I do not have the right to judge them, but it has been reported that some people have defended interests other than those of their electors.

There are also other administration levels where this is allowed but in spite of this, I sincerely think that I cannot at this point support Bill C-30 that the member for Cochrane has brought before this House for the reasons that I have pointed out earlier.

[*English*]

Mr. Chas L. Caccia (Davenport): Mr. Speaker, the proposal put forward by the hon. member for Cochrane (Mr. Stewart) is a rather intriguing idea. It has been put into practice with some degree of success at the municipal level and also in some cases at the provincial level. Municipally, we find planning boards and hydro boards, upon which there is a mixed composition of members, non-elected and elected, who try to deliberate and decide on the business of the organization to which they have been appointed.

I do not know whether the reasonable success that has been met so far, at least at municipal level, is because we do not have the party system at that level. I suspect this could be the reason the mixed composition is working very well municipally. At provincial levels we find a similar pattern. I am aware of the one in the province of Ontario, and here I would have to approach the subject in a different manner because the same argument does not stand, namely, that there is a party system and so if this mix works it must be based on other reasons and considerations.

The proposition of the hon. member for Cochrane that this bill would create a watchdog effect by providing a political input, renders the idea perhaps even more attractive. However, if one looks at these aspects more closely, one finds that the watchdog effect of the presence of elected representatives would indirectly cast doubt on the ability of those non-elected members to that specific board to operate without the presence of elected members. That, by implication alone, is rather serious. With regard to the political input, we are all aware of the frustrations sometimes faced by elected representatives in dealing with some independent corporations; they are not as responsive to popular and political pressures as perhaps one would like them to be.

• (1730)

We must look into the reasons for these independent and semi-autonomous bodies being set up originally. I suspect one reason was to create entities once removed from political pressures to enable them to make certain decisions. The National Energy Board, which was created by this House after the experience of 1957, was to be a Crown corporation, board or commission that could deliberate and make decisions on matters of national importance removed from the political pressures of the day.

If one looks at this bill in light of these thoughts, one begins to wonder about the merits of it. I do not deny that it embodies an intriguing idea. One must also look at other aspects such as current trends. All members are aware of the trend toward greater participation on the part of citizens in the affairs of their community and country; there is a great desire to become involved.

With regard to the role of elected representatives, as was pointed out by the hon. member for Greenwood (Mr. Brewin) there is already a great workload on elected representatives. There is no need to elaborate on how difficult it is sometimes to man the standing committees of this House, without there being the added responsibility of sitting on boards away from Parliament Hill. These two basic trends, the workload of Members of Parliament and greater desire on the part of citizens to become involved, must be considered before giving approval to a measure of this kind. I believe the thought embodied in this bill runs counter to these two trends. I would prefer there to be a tendency by Members of Parliament to appear before a board when a matter is of particular interest to them. They could make representations on behalf of a group or a specific interest. There have been some fine examples of this being done in the past.

With regard to the manning of these Crown corporations, boards and agencies, I support what has been done in the past, that is, a continuation of the efforts of this government to reach out into the community and bring in from the ranks of the non-elected people with fresh talents, abilities, skills and particular backgrounds, people who are not prepared to run for office but have a keen interest in the affairs of the nation or a specific field of endeavour which affects the interests and policies of Canada. This seems to be a better approach.

The Member of Parliament has a role to play in his constituency, in the community at large, in the House and in our committees. We are frequently criticized by our

constituents. We often hear it said that a member can be found only when soliciting votes and after that is not seen again for many years. An additional responsibility such as the one proposed in Bill C-30 would only add to this kind of criticism. The alternative was launched several years ago of reaching out into the community and bringing in new talent from the non-elected ranks to these boards and keeping them removed from political pressure. After all, these bodies are responsible to a minister and he will ensure that the policy is impressed upon the members of that body. This approach which has been used over the years is fairly sound.

Mr. Brewin: Would the hon. member permit a question before resuming his seat? The hon. member for Davenport (Mr. Caccia) referred to the fact that a practice has been established in Ontario of appointing members of the legislature to various boards and commissions under the control of the legislature. Is it a fact that the so-called Camp commission which has been inquiring into various matters affecting the legislature has recommended that this practice in Ontario be dropped?

Mr. Caccia: Mr. Speaker, I am very grateful to the hon. member for Greenwood for having raised this point. I was not aware of it.

Mr. T. Lefebvre (Pontiac): Mr. Speaker, I wish to make a few comments on this very interesting bill which has been brought forward by the hon. member for Cochrane (Mr. Stewart). The hon. member for Greenwood (Mr. Brewin) has raised a very important point. I was also under the impression that it has been a long-standing practice in Ontario for members of the legislature to be appointed members of Crown corporations. I understand this practice has been followed for many years. It has been pointed out by hon. members from Ontario that it seems to be the practice that such members chosen from the legislature over the past 30 years have been backbenchers of the Conservative Party; in other words, this is another way of giving recompense to their own members and not necessarily because of their knowledge or aptitude to sit on any particular board.

As pointed out by the member who preceded me, and the hon. member for Montreal-Bourassa (Mr. Trudel), a conflict of interest could easily arise if a Member of Parliament was also a member of the CBC, the CNR or any other Crown corporation and a decision had to be taken that could concern his constituency. He has been elected to parliament to represent a constituency, and if he is a member of the board of directors of a Crown corporation he may have to make a decision affecting that constituency. I do not know how a Member of Parliament could possibly have an unbiased point of view under such circumstances.

I commend the hon. member for Cochrane for having brought forward this bill. However, I would like more research carried out on the subject; we could then have an interesting discussion on what is being done about this problem in Ontario. They have had 30 or 50 years' experience. I am not a resident of Ontario so I cannot say how they will resolve this question. But I do have misgivings in connection with this question.

[Mr. Caccia.]

• (1740)

I understand the hon. member for Cochrane has brought forward many good subjects for debate in this House. I know he was one of the two members responsible for having the Canadian flag displayed in this chamber. I appreciate the work he has done not only in connection with this bill but other bills, and I am sure if he continues his good work the House will look favourably on other measures which he may introduce. However, I am not prepared to support him on this occasion without making a further study of what is involved. Parts of this bill are contentious. Moreover, an expenditure of funds by the government may be involved, as has been stated. This alone would warrant withholding consent to the passage of the bill at the present time.

Mr. John M. Reid (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): Mr. Speaker, I should like to join other hon. members in acknowledging the tenacity of purpose of the hon. member for Cochrane (Mr. Stewart). This subject has appeared under the guise of questions on the order paper, oral questions, motions for the production of papers and, now, as a private member's public bill. I believe the hon. member has demonstrated the kind of fixity of purpose which is required when a private member wishes to have his pet idea put forward, debated extensively and, hopefully, brought to a decision.

It seems to me that the bill we are debating contains only one clause. It is one of those seductive bills embodying a whole series of principles, involving changes in the way in which Members of Parliament would work, involving considerable changes in the way in which government operates, all under the cover of an apparently innocuous clause. I congratulate the hon. member for Cochrane on the way in which he has packaged this idea. It is a seductive idea, one which at first blush has much to recommend it. But when the evening is over, when the make-up has been removed, and under harsher light, one sees the idea in true perspective. To disregard the artful use of cosmetics, to strip an idea of its protective coloration, is part of the function of private members' hour. In the hard light of day, stripped of the mood music, the appeal of this idea is dissipated.

The heart of the argument against the proposal has to do with the responsibilities of Members of Parliament. It has always been my belief that Members of Parliament are here to make policy. They are here to provide direction to the country at large. It is not the responsibility of Members of Parliament, particularly those of us who are backbenchers, to take on the task of setting policy for Crown corporations or other agencies of government. Our task in this direction was accomplished with the passing of the act of Parliament which established those corporations—Air Canada, Northern Transportation, Eldorado, Atomic Energy of Canada, to name only a few.

The task was discharged at the point at which we voted to establish these organizations to carry out certain specific aims as enumerated in the act of parliament giving those organizations life and authority. If we were to reach into the affairs of the boards of directors by appointing ourselves to the boards, there is one question which immediately comes to my mind: How could we be assured

that all members of the House would be fairly represented? I reject altogether the way in which the Ontario government chooses people to sit on provincial boards. If we were to adopt such a procedure it would be necessary to ensure that all parties in the House of Commons had an opportunity to participate directly in the formation of policy.

But consider where this would lead. Not only would we as a parliament have established certain functions for these organizations to carry out, but we would have taken upon ourselves responsibility for sitting as directors and assuming day to day control. This would be a complete reversal of the way in which parliament and government has seen its responsibilities. We have always taken the view that for the sake of the common good it is sometimes necessary to set up Crown corporations to carry out specific tasks. But in doing so, we set them up in such a way that they operate at arm's length.

It is instructive to point out that these corporations operate not only at arm's length vis-à-vis Members of Parliament, but also vis-à-vis members of the government. It is not the Minister of Transport who directs Air Canada to carry out a certain policy; it is not the Secretary of State who insists that CBC carry out a specific policy: it is parliament which has established the responsibilities of those organizations. They are creatures of parliament and they report to parliament through ministers as intermediaries. This is an important principle.

I suggest that if they have not done so, hon. members should read a book by John Kenneth Galbraith entitled The New Industrial State. It contains a fascinating chapter describing the attempt by emerging nations to gain some control over their economies, to break the bonds which had tied them to the nations which controlled them as colonies and, in particular, the bonds that tied them to the corporations whose activities had such influence on the economic scene. The technique they used was called socialism, but it was socialism with a difference because the process involved not only taking over a particular segment of the economy but also making those corporations responsible directly to the democratically elected chamber. What has been the result? Absolute chaos.

● (1750)

That would be the system that would apply in Canada if it were possible for Members of Parliament to dictate the policy of all Crown corporations. I think it is important to understand that Members of Parliament are not free beings; they are tied to their constituencies and to their regions, and they come here to represent them in the best possible way and to get policies implemented that will benefit their areas. The dilemma, of course, is that these policies are always in conflict in a country like Canada which has so much regional disparity.

Therefore, the point is that if you have Members of Parliament on the board of directors of these corporations, and if they have the power to influence the direction of policy and the implementation of policy, a conflict of interest arises between the responsibility of Members of Parliament representing their constituents and their responsibility as members of the House of Commons which has created the corporation and given it certain policy directives.

It seems to me that the experience of other countries indicates that where Members of Parliament are able to dabble in the administration of a particular program or in the activities of a particular country, the result can only be disastrous for the country and for the program. We are not driven or controlled by a sense of what has to be done, or by a sense of the responsibilities which an organization may or may not have; we are driven by other forces. It is right that that should be so. But it is also right that in trying to set up organizations to carry out the will of the members of the House of Commons we do not put those organizations under constraints which may prevent them from carrying out their responsibilities under the act of parliament that created them, and at the same time put Members of Parliament in a highly equivocal position which could lead to serious conflict of interest.

So I think I would oppose this particular bill, which is a rather seductive and apparently simple idea, on the basis that it conflicts with the traditional, and I think proper, interpretation of my role as a Member of Parliament. It would also put me in the highly visible position of becoming the victim of a conflict of interest. I believe the point made by the hon. member for Greenwood (Mr. Brewin), that we do develop loyalties to companies and to organizations when we are put on their boards and have an opportunity to participate in decision-making, is a perfectly logical and accurate point, one that I think we ignore at our peril.

The second point I wish to make regarding this bill is that it is promoted under the guise of controlling government spending. It is quite true that there is government money given to many of these corporations. For example, we give the CBC considerable sums. The amount of revenue the CBC has is not as great as it might be. On the other hand, the CBC is an institution of particular importance to Canada. It is also the kind of institution, it seems to me, that ought not to come under the direct control of politicians of any party. I suggest there may be one or two in this chamber who might be considered exceptions to that rule, members who have the breadth of wisdom and statesmanlike qualities to be able to handle such a potentially powerful propaganda machine. However, I have not met any in the House, and I include myself, because we are all susceptible to emotional feelings in the House of Commons. The point I am trying to make is that while government money might be involved, and the amounts are significant, the proposal would also impinge on areas of great concern to Canadians, areas into which it is unwise for Members of Parliament to venture. I think the CBC is a perfect example of this principle.

Another perfect example of this principle would be the operations of the Canadian Radio-Television Commission which regulates all of the broadcasting industry of Canada. I could also mention other regulatory bodies, such as the Canadian Transportation Commission. In my case I think it would be very unwise for me to be appointed to the board of directors of, say, the CNR or Air Canada, because decisions that they take may affect my constituency and I might be in a position where I could have the

board of directors accept recommendations which might not be in keeping with the good of the country as a whole.

These are principles that I think we ignore at considerable risk to the structures that we have created in this country, that are unique to this country and with which to date we have had a certain level of success. Where these techniques have been implanted into other countries, their level of success has not been as great because the members of their legislatures have not been able to stand away to allow their handiwork, which is the act of the legislature establishing corporations, to be carried through by the boards of directors and managements that they have selected.

By and large we have used Crown corporations in this country for a variety of purposes. For example, we have used Crown corporations to provide services that we have deemed essential but for which purpose there was little private capital and little or no willingness to accept responsibility. The creation of Trans-Canada Air Lines, now Air Canada, is a perfect example of that kind of operation. Air Canada, with its private board of directors and the financing that the government of Canada has provided to it, has given Canada a unique and efficient service. But even then I could point out that a few years ago a deterioration began to set in in the operations of Air Canada, a problem that was solved to some extent by providing competition from CP Air. Under the regional air transportation policy, additional competition was provided by CP Air and other regional carriers, which has forced the larger companies to pay attention to competitive pressure which formerly they were not sufficiently taking into account.

It seems to me that this kind of decision-making by government and by parliament has far superior efficacy than the pleading of a number of Members of Parliament on boards of directors or the pleading of representatives of all parties on boards of directors to attempt to get something done for a particular region. I must say I accept—

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Laniel): Order. I regret I must interrupt the hon. member, but the hour appointed for the consideration of private members' business has expired. I do now leave the chair until eight o'clock p.m.

At six o'clock the House took recess.

AFTER RECESS

The House resumed at 8 p.m.

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

CRIMINAL CODE

REINSTATEMENT OF LAW RELATING TO CAPITAL PUNISHMENT THAT EXISTED PRIOR TO DECEMBER 30, 1972

The House resumed consideration of the motion of Mr. Allmand that Bill C-2, to amend the Criminal Code, be

[Mr. Reid.]

read the second time and referred to the Standing Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs.

Mr. G. W. Baldwin (Peace River): Mr. Speaker, at five o'clock when the House gave consideration to other important matters I had just finished saying that while this bill lacked the perfection I should like to have seen in it, because I have been used to this House for over 15 years and understand that perfection is something we are not likely to see here in the form of legislation, I intend to support the bill on second reading, with all its imperfections. The gods must have been amused by this inconsistent society of man which after grave deliberation says that the taking of life is the worst of all possible crimes and then proceeds deliberately to fix for that crime the punishment of death by hanging. I think of what Montaigne said:

> There is no man so good who were he to submit all his thoughts and actions to the law, would not deserve hanging ten times in his life.

Much has been said in this debate on the philosophical and ethical aspects of this matter and it would be a waste of time to repeat many of the very good arguments that have been made here. As I have said, this is the fifth debate on this subject in which I have participated in the House and my views are on the record many times. I suggest there are certain collateral issues which have crept into the debate, have become part of it, and we must consider them in light of the subject matter which is the issue of this bill.

One issue is the relationship between the elected representative, the Member of Parliament, and the people. It would be improper, wrong, foolhardy and stupid for any elected representative at any level of government to suggest he can ignore, deny or refuse to give most careful consideration to what his constituents in particular, and the people of the country in general, have to say at any time on any given issue. Certainly, the views of the people who elect us must play an exceedingly important part in the decisions which we individually come to in this House.

Polls are not completely reliable, and letter writers are those who feel most strongly about an issue. I am very happy to know that there are in this country people who feel very definitely and positively about things and will write letters to support those feelings. But it has been my experience, not only in this House but in other places, that the people who write letters are those who have the determination to put their views on the record. But they are not, alone—for that reason—safe criteria of the general feeling of the country.

I have lived with this issue for many years. I would say that eight or nine years ago a reasonable majority of the people in this country were opposed, in general principle, to capital punishment on the basis on which it then stood in the law. Even taking into account all the safeguards in assessing public opinion—and I have given a few of them here—if it be correct that the majority of people today favour capital punishment, and I think probably it is, I suggest it is equally true that 10 or 15 years from now—I venture to make this prediction—a substantial majority of the people in this country and those in most western, democratic countries, will stand up and indicate they are

opposed to capital punishment being part of our penal code.

● (2010)

I spoke against capital punishment the first time I was a candidate in a federal election. I spoke against it in other election campaigns. The first time I spoke against it during an election campaign was 35 years ago. I have been quoted. I have made my position clear. I have spoken during every election campaign, not raising the issue on my own but answering questions when asked. I have made it quite clear that so far as I am concerned, I have been and continue to be opposed to capital punishment.

I have made public speeches on this question in and out of my constituency. I have spoken in debates in the House of Commons and I have been, am now and will continue to be in favour of abolition. So when I had the honour to be re-elected to this House on October 30, I was elected as a person whose views were plainly known. I have received 11 letters from my constituency. Six of these were in favour of the retention of capital punishment, one was undecided and four were against. I mention this, not because I am not affected by the views of my constituents. I say it, however, to those hon. members who during the course of this debate have expressed concern, have shown a measure of doubt and difficulty and even mental anguish in having to decide issues regarding which the opinions of themselves and their constituents might not coincide.

It is not for me to make up the minds of these hon. members or exert pressure upon them, but I suggest to them that the trends and weight of opinion in respect of issues of this kind can vary, will change, and the views of people today which exist, as I propose to show, for a specific reason will not be the same years from now. I believe I am right on moral, legal and philosophical grounds. Much has been said in this and other debates about capital punishment being a deterrent. There are figures available. Members on both sides of the House have taken advantage of those figures because they are capable of being adjusted. I do not suggest that they are twisted or distorted, but they are capable of being used on either side of the argument.

In my view, after the closest possible examination, it would seem evident that the statistics do not establish that homicide coming within the meaning of murder has had any significant increase terms of percentage of population since 1967. The information in other jurisdictions seems to bear this out. I shall not go beyond this. Others have taken a different view, and I respect those who support retention. I hope that they, in turn, will give me and those whose views are the same as mine credit for honestly believing that fear of hanging has not in the past been an effective deterrent. I suggest that every time the hangman springs the trap and sends the hooded and pinioned, condemned person spinning down to dark eternity, this is a clear example of the failure of capital punishment as a deterrent.

In addition to this I have a sort of statistical score of my own. No one, I suppose, is an expert on the question of murder and capital punishment, but in the course of my professional career I have defended a very large number of people charged with homicide. In the course of the trial, the Preliminary hearing and the investigations which I always found it essential to be involved in, as well as the studies I made, I became pretty well acquainted with these people. I am using this information because I believe today we have been sort of engulfed in the problems connected with social difficulties which are creeping into this debate. I think we of the present are justified in using the periscope of the past to look into the future. After all, one cannot be associated with these people day after day, particularly during the course of a trial, and with them three or four times a day briefing them, talking to them and obtaining their reactions, without having a reasonably accurate opinion of their motivation, their course of action, why they did this thing, how it came about—in fact, the whole background.

In each and every one of these cases I can say categorically that it is my belief the thought of the punishment did not enter into the calculation or the consideration of those who committed the crime. To that extent I use my own personal observations, my understanding and my interpretation of the discussions I have had with these people to support the comfort I take from the statistics which have been made available. So this knowledge, added to my own views and the reading I have done, has placed me where I stand in this debate.

In passing, I refer to the fact that a short time ago the parliament of the United Kingdom, by a very substantial majority, abolished capital punishment in Northern Ireland. I was of the opinion that the debate which took place about two or three months ago—which, by the way, it is interesting to note was dealt with and disposed of in two ten-minute speeches for and against—dealt with capital punishment in the United Kingdom, but apparently it did not apply to Northern Ireland. Just two or three weeks ago the United Kingdom Parliament, which apparently has legislative jurisdiction in this respect over Northern Ireland, passed a bill which had the effect of abolishing capital punishment specifically in Northern Ireland.

When one looks at the sad and tragic history in these dark days of Northern Ireland, the mass, deliberate killings and the violence in that country, it is interesting to find that the legislature which has jurisdiction over this issue is so little taken with the view that capital punishment constitutes a deterrent that it has seen fit, by a non-partisan vote involving all parties in the United Kingdom House of Commons, to legislate the abolition of capital punishment at this time specifically in Northern Ireland. That is a fact which I urge my colleagues not to ignore.

I do not want to leave this issue without a final comment on a related issue, for it is not sufficient for me to simply indicate my position and let it go at that. I do not believe that ordinary Canadians are blood thirsty, violent or revengeful by nature. They are not anxious to take human life even by an act of parliament. However, something must be wrong when such large numbers of people in this country wish to restore, or even think about restoring the practice of legal killing by hanging.

There is unease, anxiety and deep unrest abroad in this land. It has been manifested in many ways, particularly in this debate, not only in the House but in the country. The

anger and the unease over our prison, penitentiary, parole and prison leave systems I believe is an apt demonstration of that feeling. It cannot be ignored or separated from this debate. In my view, this debate should have taken place concurrently with debate on remedial measures in respect of these and other penal issues.

● (2020)

I believe there are many people who think we have gone too far, too fast; that we have not been able to digest many of the social and economic reforms in our society; that our body politic probably has severe indigestion. This debate is one of those manifestations of the fact, as is the feeling of many people in the country. In recent years we have witnessed in many western countries phenomena such as the tremendous acceleration toward urbanization, with all its concomitant defects and problems. Associated with it and partly related to it is the rise of permissiveness, militancy, violence, changes in life style, increased use of drugs, and the thrust of organized crime. These are many of the phenomena. What will come out of this environment we do not know.

People who came to this continent did so to satisfy a desire for self-expression, for incentive and individual enterprise. Big government and big business have made great strides to blunt these characteristics and substitute for them organized welfare and an industrialized and highly centralized society, and in doing so they have disturbed and blunted the drive and the ability to cope of individuals who built this land into what it is.

So having in a way given up our right to deal with problems on our own, we have allowed the giant unions and the large corporations and, above all, big, benevolent governments to order our affairs to an almost unlimited extent. It has been a sort of trade-off of our independence. We have been told by our masters that this is in exchange for a better life, more order and stability. But we have obtained neither. In fact, we have probably lost out on both counts. So, made hostile by these phenomena, yearning for an orderly and stable society, people demand scapegoats. It is an expression of human nature.

To some extent a request for the restoration of capital punishment has a measure of symbolism about it, with which I sympathize though I cannot accept it to the point of voting for it. I was glad to read in the speech of the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) that he seems, at long last, to have recognized this fact on behalf of the government. I hope this bill passes. But whether it does or does not, this other major issue will continue. It must be settled. It will not wait, because time does not wait. It will not wait because there is a corrosion and a sickness in our society which has to be diagnosed at once and remedied. It will not wait because if it is not dealt with and eased, the existing malady which is temporary may well become permanent and terminal.

While I cannot, and will not under any circumstances, believe that hanging a criminal will make a better world. But for a better world to be brought about there must be the acceptance that certain action will be taken to make it better; there must be some assurance of a reasonable amount of tranquillity in our society.

[Mr. Baldwin.]

Mr. Mark Rose (Fraser Valley West): Mr. Speaker, in the last few months this House has heard literally dozens of speeches on the subject contained in Bill C-2. The subject of the supreme penalty has been covered from every conceivable point of view, sometimes covered haltingly but more frequently, I think, with passionate conviction and eloquence. It is doubtful to me, however, whether any minds have been changed as a result of this prolonged debate because capital punishment, like abortion, poses for many a deep moral dilemma.

I wish to speak tonight, not because I feel I can bring anything vitally new or convincing to the floor but principally because I feel also very deeply about the subject and I am prepared to stand or fall for my convictions or, if you prefer—my prejudices. I do not like to be at odds with what I take to be the wishes of my constituents. What I find even more demeaning, however, is to be at odds with myself. If I voted in any other way than to support this bill before us, I am afraid that I would forever regard myself as being grossly, in fact obscenely, disloyal to a very personal matter of conscience which has inhabited my mind for many years.

The issue of capital punishment has been proclaimed many times as a moral decision or a matter of conscience, and I agree with this position. For those members who believe that the shadow of the gallows represents a deterrent sufficient to inhibit the prospective transgressions against society of a life taker, there is no alternative but to vote against this bill. However, for those who believe, just as firmly and just as sincerely, that since murder is more frequently an impulse, a crime of passion usually directed against friends and family, the deterrent effect of capital punishment is enormously suspect.

This group, the latter group of members—and, I hope, the majority of members in the House tonight—have no alternative but to vote in favour of the bill before us even though it represents but *de facto* abolition. To these members the vengeful, premeditated taking of human life by the state is a violation of civilized behaviour far too abhorrent to be accepted with equanimity. Both of these pro- and anti-capital punishment positions are at least consistent with the concept of a vote of conscience and are therefore rational positions to hold.

The members who are really troubled, it seems to me, are the ones who are going to vote against their philosophical and moral principles chiefly because they believe that a vote contrary to their conscience is at once democratic and pleasing to their constituents. I reject this idea, this notion completely, because I reject the concept that a Member of Parliament is little more than his constituents' delegate, that is, that he should always reflect accurately, as far as he can gauge in his decisions and in his votes, what he regards as the temporal opinion of the majority of the people he is privileged to represent.

If our democratic process no longer depends on electoral confidence in the judgment of an individual Member of Parliament, we should burn down this House, as Guy Fawkes once tried to do with the mother of parliaments, and install a multiplicity of computers to sample public opinion continuously, day by day. Members of Parliament at worst become redundant if we take this view, that is, if we embrace the delegate concept, and at best, little more

than highly paid ombudsmen social workers whose main preoccupation in this House is to entreat ministers of the Crown for some favourable titbit such as a pension for Mrs. Jones.

My objections to the death penalty are as follows, and I will summarize them: first, there is no statistical evidence, that I have been able to uncover, that capital punishment is a deterrent. Murder, as I have said before, is most often a crime of passion and premeditated murder is extremely rare. Second, juries being human and composed of humans can make mistakes and innocent men can die. Third, even in the various American states which have retained the death penalty most murders are never solved, or murder suspects are acquitted by juries who choose to err on the side of mercy rather than on the side of doubtful testimony coming before them. Fourth, legalized murder—that is, capital punishment—in my view and in the view of many members of this House brutalizes society. Finally, I could not execute a human myself; therefore I feel that I am in no position to ask someone else to do what I, as an individual, could not bring myself to do.

● (2030)

I have looked into some of the authorities on the subject. Karl F. Schuessler in his book The Deterrent Influence of the Death Penalty wrote this:

—previous studies have uniformly concluded that the death penalty is inconsequential as a deterrent, that the relative frequency of murder in a given population is a function of the conditions under which the group lives.

This is a very important statement, because if we change the conditions under which we as a group live then we are certainly going to have a profound effect on the incidence of murder, and I cannot accept the fact that if the state goes into the business of murder an improvement in the homicide rate in our society can be brought about. What Mr. Schuessler says about groups I think might also apply to sub-groups. He concludes that "different population classifications have different homicide and execution rates," meaning of course that the difference affects different people differently.

I think it is well-known that the law tends to discriminate against low socio-economic males in its application. This discrimination also holds true in terms of convictions in homicide cases. Nothing that I have read about this subject, therefore, has persuaded me that I should abandon my position that state murder or, if you like, execution, brutalizes society and that it has little or no influence on public security. We must, then, ask ourselves: Why is there in existence now this powerful, public sentiment apparently in favour of returning to the noose?

I do not know of any parliamentarian who has not gone through agony of doubt about capital punishment and the bill before us. We have been bombarded by the pro- and anti-noose forces. Incidentally, both sides have used the Bible liberally to reinforce their positions. The candidates of the Liberal Party, the Conservative Party, and of my own party in my riding during the last election all came out as abolitionists. I am pleased that we are in the company of the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau), the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Stanfield), the right hon. member for Prince Albert (Mr. Diefenbaker), a former prime minister, and the leader of my own party as being philosophically opposed to capital punishment.

We will all vote for the present bill, but when it gets to committee we will be asked to consider certain amendments to retain the death penalty in limited circumstances and also amendments which would broaden its use in the light of current public opinion. I, of course, cannot be hypothetical about what might happen in the committee, but certainly a number of amendments will be put forward and undoubtedly some of them will be accepted. Perhaps the matter of hijacking and the protection of families of policemen and prison guards might be considered favourably.

I would like my constituents, and people all across Canada, to know that Members of Parliament on both sides of this moral question have tried desperately to analyse the rationale behind current public sentiment in favour of returning to the noose. Regardless of the outcome of the vote, I insist that no public-be-damned attitude exists on the part of elected representatives in this chamber.

I think that the urge to reinstate capital punishment has become, not a citizen regression into a state of barbarism but a symbol of the general malaise in society, which was touched on by the hon. member for Peace River (Mr. Baldwin), a symbol expressed by people who feel that something is definitely wrong and either their elected representatives are unable or perhaps unwilling to do anything about it. I do not think we are either unwilling or unable to come to grips with problems, but I am suggesting that that is what the public thinks.

There exists a profound public concern about the increasing number of crimes of violence. There is a suspicion that even when dangerous men are caught and convicted, irresponsible parole and prison policies release these men to prey again on the public after they have served a minimal portion of their sentences. That may or may not be true, but nevertheless I am certain that the feeling exists, and not without some foundation.

Citizens also consider it irresponsible of prison officials to allow convicted, dangerous sexual offenders unescorted weekend freedom, which in one instance led to the tragic murder of the daughter of a prison guard. The public is also fed up with policies which appear to direct more sympathy to the rehabilitation of the criminal than to the protection of the innocent. We as Members of Parliament have to face it; we cannot avoid it.

I am also convinced that much of the pro-noose sentiment arises from a nostalgic yearning for simpler times when things did not change so fast. The new morality to many people means no morality at all. The increasing incidence of drugs, long hair, funny clothes and the decline of religion and the work ethic all combine to pulverize traditional values and priorities and to insulate one generation from its predecessor.

I believe that Canadians and North Americans generally are frustrated. They are bombarded with propaganda, afraid, herded into cities where they are rootless and isolated. People have been forced to cope with more change in the last 40 years than civilization had to cope with in the previous 4,000 years. Popularizing this view-

point is TV's Archie Bunker who illustrates the difficulties many people have in making value adjustments. But if social tensions resulting from inability to cope with rapid change are so deep and complex, and if the death penalty has become a symbol upon which all of societies ills are focused, I ask you, Sir, would the execution of a relatively few murderers, including the odd innocent person, help much to resolve these tensions? I very much doubt it.

That, however, does not mean that Members of Parliament should ignore the legitimate demands for better public safety, and I do not think we will. We can begin by demanding tighter gun control legislation. We can do as I did before Christmas, call for a parliamentary investigation of the parole and day pass system. We can also begin to make certain that dangerous sexual offenders are permanently isolated from society, because apparently there is no treatment for them, and that murderers stay behind bars for a specified time. We can provide the funds necessary for a massive educational, rehabilitative enforcement attack on the drug problem, a problem which leads inevitably to degradation, debilitation, death—and, yes, sometimes even murder.

● (2040)

Before concluding, Mr. Speaker, I should like to say that I have heard the letters from constituents read into the record in order to rationalize the positions members perhaps had already taken. Last week we listened to the speech of the leader of the Social Credit party (Mr. Caouette), who read to us from his mailbag. I would like to do the same now because I think my letter rises far above the Old Testament logic of retribution and vengeance and puts at least one individual on a more contemporary celestial plane. I will withhold the name of the writer. He wrote:

> A couple of years ago when I applied for a position at Matsqui—

Meaning Matsqui institution.

> —I was asked a number of questions, of which one was, am I against capital punishment? My reply was, and has not changed, "As long as humans are used to investigate, charge, try, and finally execute a person who has committed a capital offence, a mistake could be made, and it is impossible to rectify that mistake."

Here, I think, is the most important part, Mr. Speaker:

> Recently my daughter died and at present two young people are in custody in Vancouver charged with her death. If they are convicted, they could face the extreme penalty. Our whole family was hurt deeply by our daughter's passing, but can you imagine what our feelings would be if that mistake I mentioned earlier was made?

He is referring to the execution of an innocent man. He continues:

> Don't get me wrong; we all want the guilty person or persons punished and punished severely. I think, and this is my own feelings, I would rather see them—persons convicted of a capital offence—put away for life with no hope of parole, passes or appeals, than if again that mistake was made the person or persons would have lost naught but time.

We might quarrel with the details of that letter, but I think it takes a very big man—and this one was suffering from a very grave loss—to rise above that and come out as an abolitionist. I think all of us who have not had to face his situation should ponder on the agony that this man and his family went through, and the idealism and the courage it took to put forward his viewpoint. His position is both surprising and encouraging. It reminds me of the abolitionist position taken by the Kennedy family after having lost two outstanding sons by assassins' bullets.

In conclusion, Mr. Speaker, I do not think that those of us who are supporting Bill C-2 are repudiating the wishes of Canadians. There are many who seize upon the capital punishment issue as a solution to their many concerns about the wrongs of our current society. I disagree with them. Execution is no solution to anything. How much public outcry would be raised, for instance, if we hanged a dog or a horse or a man publicly, on colour television? For those who believe that hanging is a deterrent, would not a public exhibition of hanging with nationwide dissemination over the electronic media be a greater deterrent? Why hide it in private? Of course I exaggerate, Mr. Speaker, but a grisly exhibition like the one I have described would cause a public outcry against further executions far greater than any kind of retentionist sentiment that may prevail today.

Mr. Speaker, I hope with all my heart that the bill passes tonight and that Canada may continue to be among the number of civilized nations in the world which can no longer tolerate the death penalty as a cruel and unusual punishment and banish it forever from our judicial process.

Mr. Stan Schumacher (Palliser): Mr. Speaker, in view of the fact that the government is anxious to conclude second reading of this bill, and as a result not everyone who wishes to speak may be allowed to do so, I hope to keep my remarks to a bare minimum so that as many members as possible may participate. Later this evening there will be an alleged free vote on this question. I would have thought that those who advanced that nomenclature would also have taken the view that there should be a completely free debate, but apparently such an idea is beyond the logic of those who urged that discussion on this question cease tonight.

The main reason I am opposing this measure, Mr. Speaker, is that it would merely carry on the unsatisfactory experiment that was commenced in December, 1967. I believe it is recognized by all hon. members that, rightly or wrongly, the vast majority of Canadians wish the death penalty retained. I think my hon. friend from Fraser Valley West (Mr. Rose) recognized that position.

In that connection I should like to say that I for one do not think there is any great advantage in retaining the method of execution—that is, hanging—and that consideration should be given to bringing the death penalty up to date with the methods which have been developed in recent years in order to make it more humane. Nevertheless, I believe that the death penalty should be retained as the ultimate punishment for capital murder.

I have listened to argument on both sides about how a member should behave when he disagrees with his constituents. I listened to the Solicitor General (Mr. Allmand) on the CBC program "Cross Country Check-up" on Sunday and heard what he said about referendums. I understand the rationalization of some hon. members who are opposed to capital punishment, even though I disagree

with it, when they say they are going to support this measure contrary to the wishes of their constituents. To me, their rationalization is a very strong argument for supporting the idea of a national referendum on this question.

Contrary to the views of the Solicitor General on a referendum, I do not feel such a vote should be held in a vacuum, but that prior to the poll there should be a wide-ranging debate all across the country during which all the information on the subject could be made available to the voter before he cast his ballot.

In any event, Mr. Speaker, I would suggest that the argument against a referendum is a spurious one. Such arguments are only advanced to deny the people of the nation a chance to express themselves clearly on the subject. We find their representatives here denying their views for various reasons. I would say that at least the arguments are much stronger for a referendum on this subject than they were the last time such a device was used, which was when the Liberal government of the day polled the Canadian people on the question of conscription.

As for the measure itself, I do not see how anyone can support it. With respect to the abolitionists, it retains the principle of capital punishment; but probably they are depending on the continuation of the present Prime Minister's penchant for flouting laws with which he does not agree. In this case, though, it is hard to see how even he could have the gall to flout a law for which he is responsible. At least prior to last December it could be said that the reason for ignoring the law was that the Pearson government had placed it on the books. If this measure passes tonight, even that flimsy excuse will disappear. The retentionists are unhappy to see such double-standard legislation continued; they can only expect a continuation of the present *de facto* abolition situation if the measure passes.

Mr. Speaker, I should like now to say a few words about deterrence, because in my opinion that is the crux of this whole debate. The legislation recognizes the validity of this argument, otherwise why have capital punishment even for the murder of police officers and prison guards? Figures that have recently become available show a tremendous increase in homicide, both solved and unsolved, since 1967 when the general deterrent was removed. I defy anyone to say that in the past ten years, a period in which there have been no hangings, Canada has been a less violent country than it was previously in its history, even though there have been periods of great stress and turmoil such as during the great depression and two world wars. Any member who says that retention of capital punishment would promote a more violent society is just expressing bleeding-heart mishmash.

● (2050)

One just has to look at the real world, see what happens there and take note of the deterrent that capital punishment has been. I completely agree with the hon. member for Hamilton-Wentworth (Mr. O'Sullivan) who cited the example of organized crime. He pointed out that that segment of our society is pretty well orderly and is not subject to much violence, primarily because of the deterrence of capital punishment. Its members know what is waiting for them if they disobey the laws of that group.

I think we can take an example much closer to home for most of us by examining the situation of our driving laws. We all know that the existence of radar machines, breathalyzers and the points system help people to obey the driving laws of this country; people know they are there and are being used. If these machines were not there, or a person's driving privileges were not at stake, one can imagine the increase in the carnage on the highways. As far as deterrence is concerned, no one can tell me there is less deterrence in capital punishment than a radar machine, breathalyzer or demerit points system.

This legislation is no good. If I had any doubts, they would be dispelled by recalling the performance of the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) in administering such a law over the past five years. I urge hon. members to oppose the passage of the bill at this stage.

Mr. James A. McGrath (St. John's East): Mr. Speaker, 101 speeches have been made during the 12 days of this debate. It is only fair to say that everything has been said. There is little left to be said, but I rise to support the bill because I support the principle of the abolition of capital punishment. I also rise because this view does not necessarily represent the view of the majority of my constituents. Notwithstanding that fact, and regardless of how the majority of my constituents may feel on this matter, I do not think they would want me, as their representative in this House, to vote against the dictates of my conscience. My conscience dictates that I should support this bill and, indeed, I should urge the government to go one step further and bring a measure before this House that would totally abolish capital punishment in Canada.

I began my remarks by saying that everything had been said. Consequently, I will be brief. However, while I support this bill and would like to see a measure ultimately brought before this House totally abolishing capital punishment in Canada, at the same time I would like to see a tightening up of our parole laws to ensure that dangerous criminals are not turned loose on society.

Finally, may I say to hon. members who support capital punishment, those who put forward the argument that capital punishment is a deterrent, that I respect their views. I quote from the novel Doctor Zhivago by Boris Pasternak:

> If the beast who sleeps in man could be held down by threats—any kind of threat, whether of jail or of retribution after death—then the highest emblem of humanity would be the lion tamer in the circus with his whip, not the Prophet who sacrificed himself.

I urge the House to support this bill.

Mr. F. Oberle (Prince George-Peace River): Mr. Speaker, my colleague said that 12 days of debate have gone by. At the beginning of the debate I did not intend to make any comments on this bill; however, as comments were made by my colleagues some very interesting points were raised. I agree with the hon. member who preceded me that everything must have been said. We have heard many statistics. What an experience it must have been for those who like statistics to compare the pros and cons and make interesting calculations. We have compared other nations such as Ireland which recently abolished capital punish-

ment, as well as the state of California which recently reinstated capital punishment. I am somewhat at a disadvantage, being almost the last person to speak on the subject before we are called upon to stand and be counted. All has been said. Even though the galleries are filled with spectators tonight and one is tempted to repeat what has already been said, I will refrain from doing that.

At the outset, I would like to say that I have not heard one speaker who would not much rather abolish capital punishment. However, many of my colleagues are attaching a number of conditions to this luxury. Some of these conditions are worth repeating. My colleagues in the House are saying, "Remove the threat of murder; remove the fear of war; remove the fear that whole generations of young people could be destroyed by some drug that someone may be pushing; remove the terrible, agonizing pain of a mother whose child has been raped, and remove the fear and devastating effect it has on a human being when he is deprived of the freedom to enjoy the accomplishments of a lifetime, or when the goods he has acquired are destroyed or taken from him—then we will fight until we have no breath left in our bodies, to abolish capital punishment."

● (2100)

Because as a child, I can truthfully say, I witnessed almost all of those things I have talked about, I have listened to or read with great interest the comments my colleagues have advanced, and I must say that at times those comments were not made from the heart. I am not being critical of any party in particular. All of us are guilty of that. I am not critical, because many of the things about which I have spoken need to be experienced to be fully understood.

For example, one has to experience the pain it is to be poor in a rich country in order to understand and support some of the social advances which are being made and some of the ideas which certain of our colleagues are putting forward in this field. One has to be old in order to understand how devastating it is to be poor as an old person. And many of my colleagues are not old. Some of my colleagues have made speeches with their lips only, probably to explain their concern to the press and people back home, because the people back home are very concerned—all of us know that—and they are watching us closely because they look on us as the government, as the leaders in charge of the situation upon whom all depends in times of disaster.

They look upon us as the guardians of all that is held true, all that is worth writing down, all that is worth saying and all that is worth doing. These people have been watching us making deals with various groups of people, some of them criminals. They have watched us being pushed into a corner by elements which are threatening to destroy our system from the outside. It is these people who wonder just how secure our system is.

My colleagues who have held referendums, who have questioned their constituents as I have, know what the people want, and some of them have used this debate to justify their own positions. They have tried to use arguments; indeed, they have invented arguments such as, "We shall not call it capital punishment, but murder punishable by death, or, "We would vote to abolish capital punishment if we could be sure that the prisoner would be locked up for life and the keys thrown away." What a barbaric way to treat a human being! It is true, though, that the prisoners we lock up in jail today are better off than some people who are living under stumps and in snow huts in our country. They say they would vote for the death penalty if the murderer, the guilty person, could be shot instead of hanged, or if the murderer were gassed, cremated or, maybe, drowned. This they say, would be more humane.

[Mr. Oberle.]

Mr. Speaker, all these things have been tried individually and in mass operation ever since the world began. People have been executed by every society in the world as far back as man can remember. The cave man executed anyone who invaded his cave or challenged his seniority over his woman. In our own lifetime we have witnessed executions, singular or en masse, for crimes that have not even seen a court. It happens all over the world. Yet it is significant that not one of my colleagues—not a single one—is in favour of capital punishment if—and this is a big "if"—the reason which prompts society to take this drastic step could somehow be removed.

Mr. Speaker, I shall be very brief. I do not wish to say the last word on this subject; I do not think I have the right. There are signs all over the world that this is actually happening—that the need for society to take this drastic step will be removed. As we become masters of the universe we shall become masters of ourselves. Such is the faith I have in humanity. We shall learn to understand what sickness it is that drives men to commit capital crimes. We shall learn how to cure—yes, how to prevent such a disease—as we advance, continuing the pace of our advance in the last 50 years. The world population will advance to a point at which this is possible. I will go even further. I predict that this evolution will take place within the next 50 to 75 years; we shall understand so much about the human body and the human brain that we will be able to prevent these things.

I believe that some of my colleagues are ahead of their time. They have achieved this intellectual status now. They are ahead of their constituents and they ought to follow their own consciences. They are not only ahead on this subject but in the application of some of the other things with which this House concerns itself. Our social laws are, to my thinking, too far advanced in some areas. They say they do know better than the people they represent, and I agree. But until all people, not only Canadians and those living in the western world, have had a chance to evolve to the same extent intellectually as some of my colleagues, the abolition of capital punishment is premature. It is a luxury. I say that, and I sincerely believe it, and all my colleagues believe it. It is a luxury we cannot afford at this time. Until we have mastered all the things I have talked about we must, as those charged with the responsibility of protecting those in our care, discharge our duty.

Mr. Kenneth J. Higson (Lincoln): Mr. Speaker, it is a distinct honour and great privilege for me to rise in this chamber to speak for the first time on behalf of the people of the constituency of Lincoln, which riding is in the heart of the Niagara peninsula in the province of Ontario.

I have noted that all hon. members when speaking for the first time have paid tribute to you, Sir, and your deputy, and have congratulated you upon the elevation to your high office. I, too, join with my colleagues in this House to congratulate you, Mr. Speaker, and the hon. member for Halifax-East Hants (Mr. McCleave). Had I spoken earlier, my words might have been mere form rather than words with meaning, but I have now had the opportunity to observe your command of this House, your sense of wit and humour, your warmth of personality and great sense of fair play. I now have experienced the reasons why you are held in such high esteem and affection by all members of this House, and I appreciate those reasons.

In speaking for the first time, I might have preferred, Mr. Speaker, to tell you and hon. members of the House generally something of the constituency of Lincoln and the people whom I have the honour to represent. I trust I shall have an opportunity to talk about these things on another and more suitable occasion.

• (2110)

During this debate on the proposed amendments to the Criminal Code incorporated in Bill C-2, a great deal has been stated by members of this House, both by the so-called abolitionists and retentionists of the death penalty. As is usual with the final speaker or two, there is little original or of startling consequence on this subject that has not heretofore been brought before this House for consideration. Thus, one is left to comment on one's personal observations of what has transpired in this country during recent years, one's conclusions and recommendations.

The ultimate question to be decided—that is to say, whether we are to retain the death penalty for all premeditated murder or merely for the murder of police officers and others listed in subsection 2 of section 214, as proposed in Bill C-2—is a most difficult and complex one, having as it does social, legal and moral ramifications and sparked by a high degree of emotion regardless of one's point of view on the subject. It is a subject which has clearly awakened the conscience of Canada, as may be evidenced by the continuous and voluminous amount of mail which each of us as members has received during the last five months, and I am sure over greater periods of time for members who have been here longer than I have.

I should have preferred that this parliament deal with the question on a more permanent basis than continuing the experiment, as it were, for a further five-year period. While I appreciate that any statutory provision may be repealed or amended by an act of this or future parliaments, I do not believe that it is either wise or intelligent to deal with this matter on an ad hoc or continual-review basis.

I should have preferred, as well, that this parliament deal not just with the narrow question as to whether we are to abolish the death penalty for most murder for a further five-year period, but rather that we consider in a most comprehensive manner the startling increase in crime, including armed robbery, rape, arson, theft, drug abuse and similar crime, and generally the administration of our penal system, including the administration of our parole system. The fear of our citizens to go about their daily activities in safety in our cities and towns across this country has, in my view, created to a large extent the emotion surrounding the issue which we are discussing tonight.

Much has been stated as to the deterrent effect of the death penalty, and presumably reliable figures have been quoted to illustrate or prove that the removal of the death penalty has not substantially increased the homicide rate during the last five years. However, I have heard very little by way of figures to show how many murders did not take place because of the presence of capital punishment in the Criminal Code prior to five years ago, and I suspect that such figures would be impossible to compile. I am sure of the advice offered by the sociologists and psychologists on the subject, but I do not comprehend the argument that punishment, albeit the ultimate punishment, is not a deterrent to wrongdoing—in the case at hand, the crime of premeditated murder.

I have heard the argument of the finality of the death penalty in the case of an error in our judicial process. I must admit this is difficult, for admittedly the subject at hand is not a pleasant one. But such argument does a disservice to our judicial process, for we must say that such cases are very rare, and we will retain the royal prerogative of clemency which should be exercised in favour of the convicted should there by any shadow of doubt as to his or her guilt, or should there be humanitarian or extenuating reasons not to exercise the penalty of death.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order. I very much regret interrupting the hon. member, more particularly since it is his maiden speech, but the House made an order earlier today that would permit the Solicitor General (Mr. Allmand) as mover of the bill, to reply for 15 minutes before the vote is taken. Again, I apologize to the hon. member and thank him for the spirit in which he takes the interruption.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Hon. Warren Allmand (Solicitor General): Mr. Speaker, in closing this debate on second reading I should like to emphasize a few points that I think need emphasizing, and to answer some of the questions and arguments put by hon. members during the debate. It was interesting this evening that the hon. member for St. John's East (Mr. McGrath) said that 101 members had spoken in the debate to this time. As hon. members know, I made a lengthy statement in favour of the bill at the beginning of the debate, so I shall not repeat those arguments this evening.

Above all, I should like to urge upon members, especially those in doubt and those undecided, to vote for the bill on second reading. By doing this they will send the bill to the justice committee where it can be considered in detail and amended where appropriate. Consequently, this will give parliament the opportunity to improve the bill and to examine many of the suggestions put forward in the debate, many of which were good suggestions. So I ask those who are undecided to vote for the bill now, exactly for that reason. This will give the bill a chance to be improved. If it is not improved, then the House still has a

chance to vote against it on third reading or at the report stage.

The hon. member for Kingston and the Islands (Miss MacDonald) made this point in her speech of May 22, and the hon. member for Peace River (Mr. Baldwin) also made the point very well this afternoon. When the hon. member for Kingston and the Islands spoke, she said she supported the principle of abolition but did not like many aspects of this bill. Others have said that they would support the abolition of capital punishment if some improvements were made in the parole system and in the penal system. Is not this the sort of thing that can and should be considered by the committee? There will be an opportunity to present amendments in the committee and also at the report stage of the bill. If a member votes against the bill at this stage, he will eliminate any opportunity for further discussion or amendment.

I personally feel there should be improvements made in the parole and temporary absence system. It is for this reason that we announced in the Speech from the Throne that improvements would be made in the prison and parole system. Because we were very concerned about this, my predecessor set up the Hugessen task force in 1972. Later this week, or possibly next week, I will present proposals to the House for improving the parole and temporary absence system in a general way. I might say, further, that we are also studying several possibilities for changing the parole provisions as they apply to convicted murderers, and I would be willing to discuss these proposals with the justice committee if and when the bill is sent to that committee.

There are other areas in which we could amend the bill as well. When the bill was introduced in January—it was one of the first bills that was introduced—at that time we did not have the murder statistics for 1971, which was one of the reasons for putting forward a bill that would continue the previous law in force over the last five years. We now have another year's statistics. Also, in that time we have been able to get to know each other in this House. This was a new parliament and when we presented the bill we did not know what to expect. We had a minority government and we did not know what would be the opinions of members with respect to capital punishment. We now have a better feel of what is in the minds of hon. members, and again this will provide us with the opportunity to accept and consider amendments.

Many hon. members have asked why we have a bill that retains capital punishment for the murder of two categories of individuals, policemen and prison guards. If the House remembers, when this measure was introduced in 1967 the basis for its introduction was the British experiment. The British parliament had decided to try an experiment for five years in which it abolished capital punishment for murder, except for the murder of prison guards and policemen. At the time we felt this would be an appropriate experimental move for ourselves. Since that time the five-year experiment expired in Britain and the British House of Commons decided to completely abolish capital punishment. However, this year, as hon. members know, there was an attempt by a number of private members to have capital punishment reinstated by another vote. On that occasion the British House of Commons again turned down the reinstatement of capital punishment.

● (2120)

I might say that in the five and a half years since we partially abolished capital punishment there has been no certain trend, At the beginning of the debate I pointed out that immediately after partial abolition, in certain provinces, and in particular in the province of Ontario, the largest, most industrialized and most urban province in Canada, for three successive years there was a decline in the number of murders. After three years there was a slight increase. In other provinces there was a steady increase, although slight in all, right through 1968. In some provinces there was a decrease in the latter part of the five-year trial period. There has been no definite trend following partial abolition in 1968.

As I said at the beginning of the debate, I would prefer complete abolition, but first of all this is a government bill decided upon by the government to be put to the House. In putting it forward I am speaking on behalf of the government. This is to be a free vote, but it is a government bill. The same thing occurred in 1967 when a considerable number of members in the government party voted against the bill.

We put it forward as a compromise move toward total abolition in the best way we could. At the time we put the bill forward, we felt that if we proposed total abolition at that time it might be defeated and we would be left with the 1961 law which would probably, from the abolitionist's point of view, be much worse and would provide for many more executions than under the law we have had during the past five years.

For this reason, I find it very difficult to understand members who have spoken in this debate declaring themselves complete abolitionists and saying they would vote against this bill because it is not abolitionist enough. I fail to understand that argument, because if they are abolitionists and vote against it they will be left with a law which will provide for a much larger area of capital punishment. I cannot understand how a person who is really an abolitionist could fail to vote for a bill which moves toward the goal of total abolition, but instead would vote against the bill which is a move backward.

Some members during this debate have said they will not vote for this bill because it is a hybrid bill, neither abolitionist nor retentionist. As I pointed out this afternoon, if they vote against the bill they are left with a law which in itself is a hybrid law. They are left with the law of 1961 in which there is capital murder and non-capital murder. In other words, the law that will apply if they defeat this bill is a law under which certain types of murder will lead to life imprisonment and other types of murder will lead to capital punishment. So they are not being consistent in their arguments. The difference between the two laws is that this bill will provide for a greatly restricted area of capital punishment, and the law that will be in force if this bill is defeated will provide for a much larger area.

I said I would try to deal with some of the arguments put forward during the debate, an important one being that put forward by the right hon. member for Prince

Albert (Mr. Diefenbaker). He referred to a very important case decided in the United States Supreme Court. In that case the U.S. Supreme Court decided that capital punishment was contrary to the United States Bill of Rights on the ground that it was an unnecessarily cruel punishment. Consequently, they ruled it unconstitutional.

The right hon. member for Prince Albert suggested that we suspend the debate on this bill and refer the question of capital punishment to our Supreme Court, on the basis that our Bill of Rights contains provisions which are very similar to the United States Bill of Rights. I am sure the argument of the right hon. gentleman was a very serious one. I think perhaps capital punishment in relation to our Bill of Rights should be the subject of decision by the Supreme Court.

However, I do not think that gives us here in parliament the right to avoid our responsibilities in making a decision in respect of capital punishment this year, tonight and within the weeks to come. As a legislative body, I think we must accept our responsibility. There is a time to refer something to the Supreme Court for decision, but that is another matter. That is a method of deciding the question judicially. I think that should be done as well. But tonight and on other occasions to come I think we must decide how we stand on this issue.

Mr. Diefenbaker: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a question of privilege arising from the statement just made by the Solicitor General (Mr. Allmand). There was no suggestion on my part, indirectly or at all, that parliament should not discharge its responsibility. What I pointed out, having regard to the decision of the United States Supreme Court, was that the whole question as to whether capital punishment is a cruel and unnatural punishment should be decided by the Supreme Court of Canada. Otherwise we are going through a fatuous course of action. I want to make that very clear. I was not in any way suggesting that parliament should not make its own decision.

I also point out to the hon. gentleman that the government, as a government, should make clear what its attitude is on this matter, because a moment ago the minister said ministers could vote one way or the other, but this is a government bill.

Some hon. Members: Order.

Mr. Allmand: Mr. Speaker, I apologize to the right hon. member. I thought he said earlier in the debate, I think in February, that we should suspend the debate and refer this matter to the Supreme Court. I think there is much merit in the suggestion that the question should be referred to the Supreme Court, but I think we should also make our decision. I might also say, in response to the right hon. gentleman's last remark, that I did not say ministers would vote whichever way they want. This is a government bill. The cabinet decided it would present this bill as a government bill.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Allmand: I said that members of the government party are free to vote as they want, because it is a free vote. I only have two minutes left at my disposal although there are many arguments to which I should like to reply. Many hon. members have said they must vote against this bill because a vote in favour of it would be a vote in negation of measures to protect the public. In other words, if you vote for this bill you are not serious about protecting the public. I reject that argument. I think we must do everything possible to protect the public, but I have not seen one bit of evidence to suggest that capital punishment has ever protected the public.

Some of the worst murder rates in the world have existed and do exist in countries where there is a prevailing practice of applying capital punishment. On the other hand, I again refer to the example given by the hon. member for Fundy-Royal (Mr. Fairweather) of the state of Maine in the United States which abolished capital punishment in 1913 and has had one of the lowest murder rates in the United States, much lower than many of the southern states in that country which have had capital punishment for many years and still have very high rates of murder.

Hon. members have talked about this bill in relation to parole and have suggested that—

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, please. I regret to interrupt the hon. Solicitor General but, it being 9.30 o'clock p.m. on all the clocks I can see, it is my duty, pursuant to special order made Wednesday, May 23, to interrupt the proceedings and put the question. The question is on the motion of the Solicitor General (Mr. Allmand). All those in favour of the motion will please say yea.

Some hon. Members: Yea.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: All those opposed to the motion will please say nay.

Some hon. Members: Nay.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Call in the members.

The House divided on the motion (Mr. Allmand), which was agreed to on the following division:

● (2130)

(*Division No. 23*)

YEAS

Messrs.

Alexander	Boulanger	Demers
Allmand	Breau	Diefenbaker
Andras	Brewin	Douglas
Atkey	Broadbent	Drury
Baker	Buchanan	Dubé
Baldwin	Caccia	Dupont
Barnett	Cafik	Ellis
Basford	Chrétien	Ethier
Beatty	Clark	Fairweather
(Wellington-	(Rocky Mountain)	Faulkner
Grey-Dufferin-	Corbin	Firth
Waterloo)	Côté	Fleming
Béchard	Cullen	Forrestall
Bégin (Miss)	Cyr	Foster
Blackburn	Danson	Fox
Blais	Davis	Gauthier
Blaker	De Bané	(Ottawa East)

Capital Punishment

Messrs.

Gendron
Gilbert
Gillespie
Gillies
Gleave
Goyer
Graffiey
Gray
Grier
Guilbault
Haidasz
Harding
Harney
Hellyer
Herbert
Holmes
Howard
Hymmen
Jamieson
Jerome
Knight
Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre)
Lachance
Lajoie
Lalonde
Lang
Langlois
Laniel
Leblanc (Laurier)
LeBlanc (Westmorland-Kent)
Lefebvre
Leggatt
Lewis
MacDonald (Cardigan)
MacDonald (Egmont)
Macdonald (Rosedale)
MacDonald (Miss) (Kingston and the Islands)
MacEachen
MacGuigan
MacInnis (Mrs.) (Vancouver Kingsway)
Mackasey
Macquarrie
Marceau
Marchand (Langelier)
Marchand (Kamloops-Cariboo)
Marshall
McGrath
McRae
Morgan
Munro (Hamilton East)
Neale (Vancouver East)
Nelson
Nesdoly
Nystrom
Olaussen
O'Connor
Olivier
Orlikow
Ouellet
Pelletier (Hochelaga)
Pelletier (Sherbrooke)
Penner
Peters
Portelance
Poulin
Prud'homme
Railton
Reid
Reilly
Richardson
Ritchie
Roche
Rodriguez
Rompkey
Rooney
Rose
Rowland
Roy (Timmins)
Roy (Laval)
Saltsman
Sharp
Smith (Northumberland-Miramichi)
Stanbury
Stanfield
Stewart (Cochrane)
Stollery
Symes
Trudeau
Turner (Ottawa-Carleton)
Walker
Watson
Whelan—138.

NAYS

Messrs.

Alkenbrack
Allard
Andre
Arrol
Balfour
Bawden
Beattie (Hamilton Mountain)
Beaudoin
Bell
Blenkarn
Boisvert
Campbell
Caouette (Charlevoix)
Caouette (Témiscamingue)
Caron
Clarke (Vancouver Quadra)
Clermont
Coates
Comtois
Corriveau
Cossitt
Crouse
Danforth
Darling
Dick
Dinsdale
Dionne
Dupras
Duquet
Epp
Fortin
Frank
Fraser
Gauthier (Roberval)
Godin
Guay (St. Boniface)
Guay (Lévis)
Hales
Hamilton (Qu'Appelle-Moose Mountain)
Hargrave
Hees
Higson
Hollands
Hopkins
Horner (Crowfoot)
Horner (Battleford-Kindersley)
Howie
Hueglin
Hurlburt
Isabelle
Jarvis
Jelinek
Kempling
Knowles (Norfolk-Haldimand)
Korchinski
Kuntz
Laflamme
Lambert (Bellechasse)
Lambert (Edmonton West)
Laprise
La Salle
Latulippe
Lawrence
L'Heureux
Loiselle
Lundrigan
MacInnis (Cape Breton-East Richmond)
MacKay
MacLean
Madill
Masniuk
Mather
Matte
Mazankowski
McCain
McCleave
McKenzie
McKinley
McKinnon
Mitges
Morin (Mrs.)
Muir
Munro (Esquimalt-Saanich)
Murta
Neil (Moose Jaw)
Nielsen
Nowlan
Oberle
O'Sullivan
Paproski
Patterson
Reynolds
Rondeau
Rynard
Schellenberger
Schumacher
Skoreyko
Smith (Saint-Jean)
Stackhouse
Stevens
Stewart (Marquette)
Taylor
Thomas (Maisonneuve-Rosemont)
Thomas (Moncton)
Towers
Trudel
Turner (London East)
Wagner
Whicher
Whittaker
Wise
Woolliams
Yanakis
Yewchuk—114.

[Mr. Deputy Speaker.]

● (2150)

Mr. Speaker: I declare the motion carried.

Bill read the second time and referred to the Standing Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs.

● (2200)

PROCEEDINGS ON ADJOURNMENT MOTION

A motion to adjourn the House under Standing Order 40 deemed to have been moved.

REGIONAL ECONOMIC EXPANSION—ATLANTIC CANADA—REQUEST FOR MASSIVE CAPITAL INVESTMENT IN LARGE INFRASTRUCTURES

Mr. J. Robert Howie (York-Sunbury): Mr. Speaker, on March 28, 1973, I asked the Minister of Regional Economic Expansion (Mr. Jamieson) to consider certain infrastructures involving massive capital investment, such as a corridor road from McAdam, New Brunswick to Sherbrooke, Quebec. The corridor road would be a straight line highway through the state of Maine from the province of New Brunswick, and would be created by the extension of the Vanceboro-Lincoln road at the New Brunswick border to the outskirts of Sherbrooke in Quebec. Over such a road it would be some 400 miles from Fredericton to Montreal, compared with nearly 600 miles at the present time over Canadian highways or some 540 miles driving through the United States.

In addition to saving on distance, there is a great reduction in time involved. This is a factor of considerable importance where trucking costs are involved. At the present time, using either the Canadian or American routes there is a distance of approximately 665 miles from the port of Saint John, New Brunswick, to Montreal, Quebec. The corridor road would reduce this by approximately 200 miles in distance and about four hours in time.

Over the period of a week this would allow one additional trip per vehicle per week through the saving in time. The corridor road would bring the Atlantic provinces and the industrial centres of Quebec and Ontario much closer in terms of distance and time.

The construction of the modern highway envisaged by the corridor road linking the Atlantic provinces and the great markets of Quebec and Ontario through the state of Maine appears to be an important, indeed a vital component of any program for economic improvement of the region. Freight haulers, furniture vans, tank trailers and car carriers would gravitate to the corridor road. Truck transportation of milled lumber would also benefit in savings and cost of operation over the shorter route. Reduced freight rates for the movement of maritime products westward and on eastward shipments designed for the Atlantic market, or through our winter ports to the international markets of the world, would benefit producers and shippers. Fresh and frozen fish products from the maritimes could compete with imported products in central Canadian markets and the reduced prices for these goods would be a direct benefit to all consumers.

A shorter route to the markets of Quebec and Ontario would give tremendous impetus to highway transportation of all kinds, including tourist traffic, and would provide competition for our rail lines. Many low-class bulk commodities now tied to rail and water transportation could look to new market potential. Militarily, there is an advantage of the utmost importance in linking the United States with the great military base at Gagetown and the naval and air bases of the Maritimes.

To construct such a road would probably be expensive. In much of this territory where no previous road exists I would estimate it would be in excess of $200,000 a mile if built to the same standards as the Trans-Canada Highway. The improvement of any sections of existing low-standard roads would probably cost less, and improvement of a better paved road that could contribute to the highway would be less still. My estimate, based on slight research, puts the cost at about $60 million.

Maintenance due to the terrain and the climate would probably be comparable to maintenance of roads in New Brunswick. Big questions to be solved are, who would pay for the road, construct it and maintain it? With the American interest in talks about to take place with respect to international trade and tariffs, the auto pact, resource development and transportation, it seems that now is an appropriate time to place this subject on the agenda for discussion with our American friends.

It is my view that such a road would be welcomed in the state of Maine, but that state does not have the funds to build it. In my opinion, a road which would benefit two countries might well be constructed on a shared-cost basis. The first step, the important step, involves negotiations with the United States of America and the state of Maine. It is important that this matter be raised now. If this government has any intention of even considering the matter, negotiations should start now. If we envisage discussion on a bundle of rights covering a number of topics, this could well be the quid pro quo forming part of a general agreement on a multiplicity of matters.

I say to the government: Do your homework well, and do it now. We have already lost much time; there has been too much talk and too little action. We can make things happen in the Maritimes if we develop the arteries of commerce—the corridor road, our ports, the power potential in the tides of Fundy, the Chignecto canal and the P.E.I. causeway. We need investment in the Maritimes to challenge the enterprise of our people, not handouts. Invest in these arteries of commerce and development will follow as day follows night, and it will follow without handouts. Our people could then live in prosperity and dignity.

Mr. Marcel Prud'homme (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Regional Economic Expansion): Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to have this opportunity of replying to the hon. member for York-Sunbury (Mr. Howie). I am always very interested in his suggestions. I find no difficulty in acknowledging that there is need for particular DREE assistance in the Atlantic provinces both in terms of infrastructure and support and incentive grants to local industries.

The policies of regional development are important to the economic well-being of that region, just as they are to Quebec and other parts of Canada which have not developed over the years to their fullest potential. The hon. member has referred to the failure of this policy. I do not agree with this conclusion, because I think there is growing evidence which shows marked improvement in the economy of the Atlantic region. However, I agree that we need improvement.

I am aware of a considerable increase in investment in manufacturing. I know that the employment rate has been growing gradually over the past four years. I also know that unemployment has continued to plague this area, but there has been a marked reduction in the outmigration of people from the maritimes, and it is encouraging to see a closing of the gap of the average income in the Atlantic compared to the national average.

I believe that Atlantic Canada's economy is starting to expand on the basis of the development of viable, long-term economic opportunities. Infrastructure projects are considered on their merits, and if they are sound and desirable they receive full consideration. I think our colleague from York-Sunbury will agree that since he asked this question of the Minister of Regional Economic Expansion (Mr. Jamieson) over two months ago considerable progress has been made. I refer not only to the recent announcement of a DREE grant of over $2.5 millions to reopen the textile mill at Marysville, but also to the extensive federal-provincial co-operation regarding DREE involvement in all provinces which has been undertaken by the minister.

● (2210)

[*Translation*]

PUBLIC WORKS—CONSTRUCTION OF NEW POST OFFICE AT LAC MÉGANTIC—INQUIRY AS TO DATE OF TENDERS

Mr. Henry Latulippe (Compton): Mr. Speaker, on May 23 last, I put a question to the Minister of Public Works (Mr. Dubé) with regard to the federal building there has

been talk of building at Lac Mégantic for nine years now. On October 10, 1963—I was a member of Parliament at the time—the occupants of the Lac Mégantic post office asked me to intervene with the Post Office Department and the Department of Public Works to ask that repairs be made to that post office.

Here is the letter I received in reply to my question:

> The minister has asked me to reply to your letter dated October 3 with regard to the condition of the inside of the Lac Mégantic post office. Your remarks surprise us. Rest assured that our Montreal officers will inspect the building immediately. Unless you insist, we doubt that it will be necessary to consult Mr. Langford, since our Montreal office has an architect as well as an engineer who are capable, to our mind, of taking care of all repairs or alterations in that building.

At that time, I asked that repairs be made; it was found that no repairs were indicated because the building was in perfect condition. Some time later, those inspectors and engineers inspected the building and condemned it. Now, Mr. Speaker, that building is as solid as the Parliament buildings. That building is in perfect condition; it is still in good repair.

On that occasion I had also asked to repair the post office in Coaticook, a city identical to Lac Mégantic. There again was a very good building that has also been condemned, to which they found all kinds of defects. Those buildings were about to crumble down; they were not safe and could not be of any use to the public. So they had to be set aside.

As to the Lac Mégantic building, windows were boarded up and in 1963 they put a big sign on the door saying: A new post office will be built here to provide all public services to this area. Much water has flowed under the bridge since then.

Mr. Speaker, decisions of all kinds were made. First they decided to erect a small one-storey building and that was refused by the municipality on account of the municipal rules prohibiting one-storey buildings in the town. It had to have two storeys. Afterwards, I intervened on many occasions and with the support of the municipal council, I obtained the permission to erect a federal building for all federal services.

We have at home the following services: customs, post-office, Unemployment Insurance Commission offices, manpower services and other agencies of the federal government.

All those services could be in that building but it was closed; offices were sub-leased elsewhere and since then we pay rent. During the last eight years, Mr. Speaker, we paid almost $200,000 for rent elsewhere and buildings that were in very good condition were closed.

In Coaticook, I enjoyed the full co-operation of the civic authorities and we had the honour of obtaining a brand new federal building which could be used to accommodate all federal services. Nothing has changed in Lac Mégantic. On five occasions, we have been promised some buildings. Plans and specifications have been drawn up, tender have been drafted and each time they were to be called somebody put a spoke in the wheel. The issue has been used for petty politics.

[Mr. Latulippe.]

I have here a letter dated September 1, 1970 and addressed to Mr. Hervé Fecteau, clerk of the municipality of Lac Mégantic and I quote:

> I acknowledge receipt of your letter dated June 8, 1970 and addressed to the minister, along with copy of the resolution passed on June 1 at a meeting of the municipal council of Lac Mégantic and a picture of the former post office to be demolished.
>
> I appreciate your interest in the improvement of postal premises at the above-mentioned location and wish to advise you that we are trying to set up some new premises as requested. Local officials have experienced some difficulty in this connection due to the local building code which specifies that buildings situated in the district where the construction of the new post office is contemplated must have at least two stories. Department officials are considering the possibility of building a property for renting purposes and it is anticipated that tendering will take place about September 1, 1970. Mr. Laing will write to you as soon as we have further information.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Laniel): Order. I regret to interrupt the hon. member, but his time has now expired.

I recognize the Postmaster General (Mr. Ouellet).

Hon. André Ouellet (Postmaster General): Mr. Speaker, I know some hon. members who, hardly a year after being elected to this House, have obtained post offices. So, I would like to suggest to the hon. member that he should not be too proud of his performance, since he has been waiting for his post office for ten years.

I would also like to remind the hon. member that the things he said to a newsman of the paper *La Tribune* last weekend and those he stated tonight in this House clearly show that he is off the track concerning the construction of a federal building in Lac Mégantic.

Mr. Latulippe: You are the one who is off the track.

Mr. Ouellet: I went recently to Lac Mégantic and I noted the urgency of building a new post office there. Mr. Speaker, the truth is that the Department of Public Works has been authorized since April to call for tenders for the construction of a new federal building on the very site of the former Lac Mégantic post office. The construction plans provide, in a first phase, for post office facilities and, in a second phase, for other rooms on the second floor designed for other federal departments.

Before that call for tenders, the Unemployment Insurance Commission had asked the Department of Public Works to provide it rapidly with facilities at Lac Mégantic.

● (2220)

Now, the Department of Public Works is considering, as it ought to do, the possibility of revising its plans for the immediate construction of a two storey-federal building.

This is the situation, Mr. Speaker, and I can assure the House that my colleague, the Minister of Public Works (Mr. Dubé), will announce his decision in due time. I am convinced that such a decision will please both the municipal council and the whole population of Lac Mégantic, and I hope that the hon. member will approve this decision.

[*English*]

POST OFFICE—RE-EXAMINATION OF REQUIREMENTS FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF RURAL ROUTES IN WESTERN CANADA

Mr. Jake Epp (Provencher): Mr. Speaker, on May 23 I asked a question of the Minister of National Health and Welfare (Mr. Lalonde), as reported at page 4019 of *Hansard* in part reads as follows:

> In view of the fact that the Hutterian Brethren of Canada take vows of poverty and perpetual poverty, and because they are church-employed, would the minister indicate whether he will present legislation to the House to exempt the Hutterian Brethren of Canada from paying Canada Pension Plan premiums?

This minority group living in western Canada has from time to time been severely criticized for the social position they take, but I should like to submit that this group exists and has set up a society on the basis of what they believe to be right; on the religious beliefs that dictate to them the manner of life that they should lead. So the question is—

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Laniel): Order, please. The Chair is wondering about the matter being raised by the hon. member. The question which appears on the order tonight has to do with a rural post office. I am wondering if there is some confusion that we can sort out. Perhaps the hon. member will explain the situation.

Adjournment Debate

Mr. Epp: Mr. Speaker, if you check the record you will see that the question for the adjournment debate has to do with a rural post office—and I thank the Postmaster General (Mr. Ouellet) for being here—but if you look at *Hansard* for May 23 you will note that Mr. Speaker suggested that because of the brevity and urgency of this matter it would be the topic under discussion at the adjournment debate, and not the matter of the post office. When I checked with the Clerk at the table I also indicated this. I am sorry about the confusion, but that is the issue.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Laniel): The difficulty that arises now is that there might not be anybody here to answer the hon. member's question. If he wants to proceed with the matter, he may do so at the risk of not receiving a reply satisfactory to him. Perhaps a member for the government benches might attempt to answer the question.

An hon. Member: Mr. Latulippe will answer you.

Mr. Epp: I realize that the hon. gentleman might feel he is an expert in many areas, but I doubt if that is the case in respect of the Hutterian Brethren of Canada. Mr. Speaker, I wonder if we could defer this question until the next adjournment debate, which will be on Thursday.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Laniel): There is no problem in respect of the request of the hon. member.

Motion agreed to and the House adjourned at 10.22 p.m.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Wednesday, May 30, 1973

The House met at 2 p.m.

[*English*]

HOUSE OF COMMONS

USE OF UNPARLIAMENTARY LANGUAGE—STATEMENT BY MR. SPEAKER

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. As hon. members know or suspect, there is a procedural question relating to the use of unparliamentary language in the House which is uppermost in my mind and has been for the last 48 hours. I did mention yesterday that there were other procedural aspects which I thought the Chair owed it to hon. members to have the House leaders consider for possible referral to the committee on procedure. Unfortunately, this aspect of the matter has not yet been cleared up, so I think I will have to suffer another 24 hours before I seek to bring the matter before the House with, I hope, the co-operation of every hon. member at that time.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[*English*]

HEALTH, WELFARE AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS

Third report of Standing Committee on Health, Welfare and Social Affairs—Mr. Railton.

[*Editor's Note: For text of above report, see today's Votes and Proceedings.*]

* * *

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

TABLING OF LETTER FROM FOREIGN MINISTER OF ZAMBIA ON DEATHS OF CHRISTINE SINCLAIR AND MARION DRIJBERG

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, as I said yesterday, I wish to table in both official languages the text of a letter dated May 28 addressed to me by the foreign minister of Zambia on the subject of the recent tragic deaths of Miss Sinclair and Miss Drijberg.

ENERGY

NUMBER OF BARRELS OF GASOLINE EXPORTED PER DAY—CORRECTION OF FIGURE BY MINISTER

Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. In the debate on Monday last, when discussing shipments of motor gasoline in April from Canada, I conveyed to the House figures from the National Energy Board putting the barrels a day rate for such shipments at under 10,000 barrels a day. The board has informed me that late on the day of the debate notification of an additional shipment from the Atlantic provinces was received which puts the April rate at the rate of 17,000 barrels a day, which is over the previous figure and over the figure for March. I wanted to correct the record in that respect.

* * *

THE ROYAL FAMILY

ENGAGEMENT OF PRINCESS ANNE—REQUEST FOR UNANIMOUS CONSENT TO MOVE MOTION

Mr. Tom Cossitt (Leeds): Mr. Speaker, I rise to move a motion of importance under Standing Order 43. I move, seconded by the hon. member for Winnipeg South Centre (Mr. McKenzie):

That this House expresses its congratulations and best wishes to Her Royal Highness, Princess Anne, on the occasion of the announcement of her engagement to Lieutenant Mark Phillips, and that Mr. Speaker be requested to kindly convey this message on behalf of the Canadian House of Commons to Her Royal Highness.

● (1410)

Mr. Speaker: Hon. members have heard the motion proposed by the hon. member for Leeds. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

Mr. Speaker: There is not unanimity and the motion cannot be put.

Mr. Diefenbaker: On the government side.

* * *

AIR CANADA

POSSIBLE STRIKE BY MACHINISTS—REQUEST FOR UNANIMOUS CONSENT TO MOVE MOTION

Mr. Peter C. Bawden (Calgary South): Mr. Speaker, I rise to propose a motion under Standing Order 43 on a

matter of pressing and urgent necessity arising out of the early June deadline when a national airline strike can gravely affect the public interest during a peak travel period. Latest press reports show that 97 per cent of Air Canada machinists are voting in favour of strike action against Air Canada. This threat to the public interest is caused by Air Canada's disregard of the legitimate grievances of the machinists against discriminatory airline practices.

With consent, Mr. Speaker, I would therefore move, seconded by the hon. member for Lethbridge (Mr. Hurlburt):

That this House resolves that Air Canada immediately take all steps necessary in the public interest to ensure settlement of its dispute with the 6,900 machinists in its employ.

Mr. Speaker: The House has heard the motion proposed by the hon. member. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

Mr. Speaker: There is not unanimity and the motion cannot be put.

* * *

[*Translation*]

URBAN AFFAIRS

LOANS TO MUNICIPALITIES BY CENTRAL MORTGAGE AND HOUSING CORPORATION—REQUEST FOR UNANIMOUS CONSENT TO MOVE MOTION

Mr. Léonel Beaudoin (Richmond): Mr. Speaker, pursuant to Standing Order 43, I request the unanimous consent of the House in order to discuss a matter of urgent and pressing necessity.

Since the Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation, under its program of loans to municipalities for the establishment of water and sewage systems, wishes to help low income Canadians anxious to buy a house; since there is now a very strong demand for houses, and procedures to be followed by municipalities to obtain such loans are often long and arduous, I move, seconded by the hon. member for Shefford (Mr. Rondeau):

That the House consider in the shortest delays the possibility of revising procedures to be followed in order that municipalities may obtain more easily and rapidly loans from the Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation for the establishment of community water and sewage systems.

Mr. Speaker: The House has heard the motion of the hon. member. Pursuant to Standing Order 43, this motion requires the unanimous consent of the House. Is there such unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

Mr. Speaker: There is not, and the motion cannot therefore be put.

[Mr. Bawden.]

[*English*]

CANADA DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

LOCATION OF HEAD OFFICE—REQUEST FOR UNANIMOUS CONSENT TO MOVE MOTION

Mr. John Reynolds (Burnaby-Richmond-Delta): Mr. Speaker, because of the confusion regarding the movement of the Canada Development Corporation head office to Vancouver emanating from conflicting statements in the House by the right hon. Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) and the Minister of Finance (Mr. Turner), I rise, pursuant to the provisions of Standing Order 43, to seek consent to move a motion, seconded by the hon. member for Prince George-Peace River (Mr. Oberle):

That the House request the Prime Minister announce that his statements to this House on November 29, 1971 and April 5, 1973, are in fact government policy and that the CDC head office will be located in Vancouver.

Mr. Speaker: Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

Mr. Speaker: There is not unanimity and the motion cannot be put.

* * *

[*Translation*]

HOUSING

INDEMNIFICATION OF PURCHASERS OF BADLY CONSTRUCTED HOUSES—REQUEST FOR UNANIMOUS CONSENT TO MOVE MOTION

Mr. Roland Godin (Portneuf): Mr. Speaker, under Standing Order 43, I ask the unanimous consent of the House to move a motion of national interest.

In view of the fact that the CMHC is always wont to grant contracts to contractors whose past gives us cause to question their competence, that a large number of contractors have gone bankrupt, that dissatisfied owners have benefited from court judgments advocating the cancellation of their purchasing contracts as well as the reimbursement of rather important damages, and that, when the contractor proves insolvent, it is absolutely impossible to carry out the said legal decisions, I move, seconded by the hon. member for Champlain (Mr. Matte):

That this House examine as soon as possible the action required so that the Ministry of Urban Affairs be empowered to grant subsidies to certain buyers who are nothing less than victims of a disaster whose property needs urgent repairs.

Mr. Speaker: The House has heard the motion of the hon. member. Under Standing Order 43, unanimous consent is required. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Yes.

Some hon. Members: No.

Mr. Speaker: There is no unanimous consent; therefore, the motion of the hon. member cannot be put.

[*English*]

CRIMINAL CODE

MINIMUM SENTENCE FOR INDICTABLE OFFENCE WHILE ARMED—REQUEST FOR UNANIMOUS CONSENT TO MOVE MOTION

Mr. Ken Hurlburt (Lethbridge): Mr. Speaker, I rise, pursuant to Standing Order 43, concerning a matter which should be brought before the House, namely, that an amendment unanimously recommended by the western police chiefs be introduced into the Criminal Code so that any person committing an indictable offence while armed with a firearm will be liable to a minimum sentence of two years in prison. This would curb the increasing problem of offences committed by armed persons and will help solve an increasing western problem, cattle rustling. I therefore move, seconded by the hon. member for Red Deer (Mr. Towers):

That this matter be referred to the Standing Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs for study and report to the House.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member's motion requires unanimous consent of the House. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

Mr. Speaker: There is not unanimity. Is the hon. member rising on the same motion?

Mr. Hurlburt: No, Sir. I have another motion.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member for Lethbridge.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT RESPECTING HORSES SHIPPED TO EUROPE FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION—REQUEST FOR UNANIMOUS CONSENT TO MOVE MOTION

Mr. Ken Hurlburt (Lethbridge): Mr. Speaker, I rise pursuant to Standing Order 43 concerning a matter of urgent necessity arising from public concern about the shipping of live horses from Canada to European markets for human consumption. I move, seconded by the hon. member for Perth-Wilmot (Mr. Jarvis):

That an amendment be introduced to the Criminal Code stating that all horses shipped to Europe be processed and inspected in Canada before shipping.

This would stop the inhumane shipment of horses to Europe—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member is no longer presenting his motion. He is presenting an argument in support of the motion. I suggest to hon. members that when they propose a motion under Standing Order 43 to the House it should not include argument. Would the hon. member indicate whether that is the motion he wishes to put to the House under the terms of Standing Order 43.

Mr. Hurlburt: Yes, Mr. Speaker. It is illegal for live horses to be sent from the United States to France and I would ask hon. members to give unanimous consent to the said motion.

Government of Yukon

[*Translation*]

Mr. Speaker: Hon. members have heard the motion. Pursuant to Standing Order 43, this motion requires unanimous consent of the House. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

Mr. Speaker: There is not unanimous consent, therefore, the hon. member's motion cannot be put.

* * *

[*English*]

INDIAN AFFAIRS AND NORTHERN DEVELOPMENT

CONCURRENCE IN FOURTH REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

On the order: Motions:

May 28, 1973—Mr. Nielsen:

That the fourth report of the Standing Committee on Indian Affairs and Northern Development, presented to the House on May 22, 1973, be concurred in.

An hon. Member: Stand.

Mr. Speaker: It is suggested that this motion stand. I think I owe it to the House to put hon. members on notice that this motion, referring to a committee report, could perhaps be out of order. I have serious procedural reservations about some of the reports that are coming from committees and the motions presented to the House on the basis of these reports. I believe we may be preparing some future difficulties for the House unless hon. members are prepared very soon to look at this procedure very closely. I mention this to put hon. members on notice and to suggest to them that when this and perhaps other motions of this kind come before the House I will invite procedural advice from hon. members.

Mr. Reid: Mr. Speaker, on the same point of order, I have been concerned about the point Your Honour has raised. It has come to my attention that committee clerks have been advising chairmen that because no ruling has been made by Your Honour on these reports—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member is putting to the House an argument he may want to put to the House for the consideration of the Chair and other hon. members when the matter is brought to the attention of the House. I was not raising it at all by way of a point of order but only for the purpose of putting hon. members on notice. Perhaps at that point the parliamentary secretary and other members, I am sure, would want to give the Chair the benefit of their wisdom, knowledge, experience and advice.

Order Paper Questions

VETERANS AFFAIRS

CONCURRENCE IN FIRST REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

On the order: Motions:

May 28, 1973—Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre):

That the first report of the Standing Committee on Veterans Affairs, presented to the House on February 23, 1973, be concurred in.

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. I would simply like to say that I filed this motion in the hope that it would put pressure on the government to bring in its bill to amend the Pension Act. In the hope that that might be done in a few days I would like the motion to stand.

● (1420)

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I will, of course, stand the motion but I wonder whether it is in order for hon. members to present an argument in support of the suggestion that a motion should stand. In any event, the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre has made the point. He asks that the motion stand. The Chair will say that it is stood.

QUESTIONS ON THE ORDER PAPER

(Questions answered orally are indicated by an asterisk.)

[*Text*]

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE—PERSONNEL

Question No. 1,096—**Mr. Paproski:**

1. How many full-time employees were under salary in the Department of Agriculture on (a) January 1, 1963 (b) January 1, 1973?

2. How many people in each of these years were receiving salaries of (a) under $10,000 (b) between $10,000 and $20,000 (c) over $20,000.

Hon. E. F. Whelan (Minister of Agriculture): 1. (a) 8,964 as at January 31, 1963; (b) 9,057 as at January 31, 1973.

2.	January 31, 1963	January 31, 1973
(a)	8,746	6,085
(b)	218	2,612
(c)	Nil	360

LIP—APPLICATION FOR GRANT RELATING TO PROJECT No. H-2804

Question No. 1,358—**Mr. Allard:**

1. On what date did the government receive an application for a grant under LIP concerning project No. H-2804?

2. On what date was the application either approved or refused?

3. What were the reasons set forth by the government for its refusal or approval of said project?

[Mr. Speaker.]

4. If the project was accepted, what was the amount granted by the government to finance it?

5. How many jobs were created by the implementation of this project?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. November 23, 1972.

2. Rejected on February 20, 1973.

3. The Department received a far greater number of applications than funds were available for. All applications were carefully assessed and many difficult decisions not to approve had to be made.

4. N/A.

5. N/A.

LIP—APPLICATION FOR GRANT RELATING TO PROJECT No. H-2975

Question No. 1,359—**Mr. Allard:**

1. On what date did the government receive an application for a grant under LIP concerning project No. H-2975?

2. On what date was the application either approved or refused?

3. What were the reasons set forth by the government for its refusal or approval of said project?

4. If the project was accepted, what was the amount granted by the government to finance it?

5. How many jobs were created by the implementation of this project?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. November 24, 1972.

2. Rejected on February 1, 1973.

3. The Department received a far greater number of applications than funds were available for. All applications were carefully assessed and many difficult decisions not to approve had to be made.

4. N/A.

5. N/A.

LIP—APPLICATION FOR GRANT RELATING TO PROJECT No. H-5898

Question No. 1,360—**Mr. Allard:**

1. On what date did the government receive an application for a grant under LIP concerning project No. H-5898?

2. On what date was the application either approved or refused?

3. What were the reasons set forth by the government for its refusal or approval of said project?

4. If the project was accepted, what was the amount granted by the government to finance it?

5. How many jobs were created by the implementation of this project?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. January 9, 1973.

2. Rejected on February 15, 1973.

3. The Department received a far greater number of applications than funds were available for. All applica-

tions were carefully assessed and many difficult decisions not to approve had to be made.

4. N/A.

5. N/A.

LIP—APPLICATION FOR GRANT RELATING TO PROJECT No. H-5886

Question No. 1,361—**Mr. Allard:**

1. On what date did the government receive an application for a grant under LIP concerning project No. H-5886?

2. On what date was the application either approved or refused?

3. What were the reasons set forth by the government for its refusal or approval of said project?

4. If the project was accepted, what was the amount granted by the government to finance it?

5. How many jobs were created by the implementation of this project?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. January 6, 1973.

2. Rejected on February 19, 1973.

3. The Department received a far greater number of applications than funds were available for. All applications were carefully assessed and many difficult decisions not to approve had to be made.

4. N/A.

5. N/A.

LIP—APPLICATION FOR GRANT RELATING TO PROJECT No. H-5885

Question No. 1,362—**Mr. Allard:**

1. On what date did the government receive an application for a grant under LIP concerning project No. H-5885?

2. On what date was the application either approved or refused?

3. What were the reasons set forth by the government for its refusal or approval of said project?

4. If the project was accepted, what was the amount granted by the government to finance it?

5. How many jobs were created by the implementation of this project?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. January 9, 1973.

2. Rejected on February 19, 1973.

3. The Department received a far greater number of applications than funds were available for. All applications were carefully assessed and many difficult decisions not to approve had to be made.

4. N/A.

5. N/A.

LIP—APPLICATION FOR GRANT RELATING TO PROJECT No. H-5917

Question No. 1,363—**Mr. Allard:**

1. On what date did the government receive an application for a grant under LIP concerning project No. H-5917?

2. On what date was the application either approved or refused?

3. What were the reasons set forth by the government for its refusal or approval of said project?

4. If the project was accepted, what was the amount granted by the government to finance it?

5. How many jobs were created by the implementation of this project?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. January 9, 1973.

2. Rejected on February 19, 1973.

3. The Department received a far greater number of applications than funds were available for. All applications were carefully assessed and many difficult decisions not to approve had to be made.

4. N/A.

5. N/A.

LIP—APPLICATION FOR GRANT RELATING TO PROJECT No. H-5734

Question No. 1,364—**Mr. Allard:**

1. On what date did the government receive an application for a grant under LIP concerning project No. H-5734?

2. On what date was the application either approved or refused?

3. What were the reasons set forth by the government for its refusal or approval of said project?

4. If the project was accepted, what was the amount granted by the government to finance it?

5. How many jobs were created by the implementation of this project?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. January 5, 1973.

2. Rejected on February 8, 1973.

3. The Department received a far greater number of applications than funds were available for. All applications were carefully assessed and many difficult decisions not to approve had to be made.

4. N/A.

5. N/A.

LIP—APPLICATION FOR GRANT RELATING TO PROJECT No. H-5732

Question No. 1,365—**Mr. Allard:**

1. On what date did the government receive an application for a grant under LIP concerning project No. H-5732?

2. On what date was the application either approved or refused?

3. What were the reasons set forth by the government for its refusal or approval of said project?

4. If the project was accepted, what was the amount granted by the government to finance it?

5. How many jobs were created by the implementation of this project?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. January 5, 1973.

Order Paper Questions

2. Rejected on February 20, 1973.

3. The Department received a far greater number of applications than funds were available for. All applications were carefully assessed and many difficult decisions not to approve had to be made.

4. N/A.

5. N/A.

LIP—APPLICATION FOR GRANT RELATING TO PROJECT No. H-5900

Question No. 1,366—**Mr. Allard:**

1. On what date did the government receive an application for a grant under LIP concerning project No. H-5900?

2. On what date was the application either approved or refused?

3. What were the reasons set forth by the government for its refusal or approval of said project?

4. If the project was accepted, what was the amount granted by the government to finance it?

5. How many jobs were created by the implementation of this project?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. January 9, 1973.

2. Approved on February 5, 1973.

3. One of those projects that best combine the dual objectives of job creation and a realistic and identifiable contribution to community betterment.

4. $96,968.

5. Eight hundred eighty-four man-weeks.

LIP—APPLICATION FOR GRANT RELATING TO PROJECT No. H-1539

Question No. 1,367—**Mr. Allard:**

1. On what date did the government receive an application for a grant under LIP concerning project No. H-1539?

2. On what date was the application either approved or refused?

3. What were the reasons set forth by the government for its refusal or approval of said project?

4. If the project was accepted, what was the amount granted by the government to finance it?

5. How many jobs were created by the implementation of this project?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. November 3, 1972.

2. Approved on December 6, 1972.

3. One of those projects that best combine the dual objectives of job creation and a realistic and identifiable contribution to community betterment.

4. $63,517.

[Mr. MacGuigan.]

5. Five hundred forty-six man-weeks.

LIP—APPLICATION FOR GRANT RELATING TO PROJECT No. H-2911

Question No. 1,368—**Mr. Allard:**

1. On what date did the government receive an application for a grant under LIP concerning project No. H-2911?

2. On what date was the application either approved or refused?

3. What were the reasons set forth by the government for its refusal or approval of said project?

4. If the project was accepted, what was the amount granted by the government to finance it?

5. How many jobs were created by the implementation of this project?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. November 24, 1972.

2. Approved on January 9, 1973.

3. One of those projects that best combine the dual objectives of job creation and a realistic and identifiable contribution to community betterment.

4. $28,476.

5. Two hundred forty-eight man-weeks.

LIP—APPLICATION FOR GRANT RELATING TO PROJECT No. H-2805

Question No. 1,369—**Mr. Allard:**

1. On what date did the government receive an application for a grant under LIP concerning project No. H-2805?

2. On what date was the application either approved or refused?

3. What were the reasons set forth by the government for its refusal by the government to finance it?

4. If the project was accepted, what was the amount granted by the government to finance it?

5. How many jobs were created by the implementation of this project?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. November 23, 1972.

2. Rejected on February 20, 1973.

3. The Department received a far greater number of applications than funds were available for. All applications were carefully assessed and many difficult decisions not to approve had to be made.

4. N/A.

5. N/A.

LIP—APPLICATION FOR GRANT RELATING TO PROJECT No. H-2781

Question No. 1,370—**Mr. Allard:**

1. On what date did the government receive an application for a grant under LIP concerning project No. H-2781?

2. On what date was the application either approved or refused?

3. What were the reasons set forth by the government for its refusal or approval of said project?

4. If the project was accepted, what was the amount granted by the government to finance it?

5. How many jobs were created by the implementation of this project?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. November 23, 1972.

2. Approved on January 3, 1973.

3. One of those projects that best combine the dual objectives of job creation and a realistic and identifiable contribution to community betterment.

4. $48,672.

5. Four hundred sixteen man-weeks.

EQUIPMENT TO VIET NAM

Question No. 1,375—**Mr. Godin:**

Since 1965, has the government supplied Viet Nam with any type of equipment and, if so (a) under which program (b) what was the nature of such equipment (i) technical (ii) medical (iii) military (c) what was the total value of each category of supply?

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Since 1965, Canada through the bilateral grants program of the Canadian International Development Agency has provided equipment to the Republic of Viet Nam (often in conjunction with technical assistance) in the field of humanitarian relief assistance and for paramedical projects. The value of equipment in the paramedical sector which included emergency hospital units has totalled approximately $1,664,200. The value of other equipment is approximately $764,300 and included iron roofing material. Canada has never provided military equipment to the Republic of Viet Nam.

ADMINISTRATION OF CNR PENSION FUND

Question No. 1,661—**Mr. Diefenbaker:**

1. What is the total amount of loans in each year 1965 to 1972 inclusive made by the CNR Pension Fund to (a) Canadian companies (b) foreign-controlled companies?

2. What amount has been loaned to Fidinam (Ontario) Limited and at what interest rate?

3. Is Fidinam (Ontario) Limited a Canadian-owned company?

4. Have railway workers any voice in Pension Fund decisions concerning monies in the fund that have been contributed to a large extent by them and, if not, for what reason?

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): The management of the Canadian National Railways advises as follows: 1. The CNR Pension Fund does not make loans as such. It does invest in mortgages, corporate bonds and debentures and as at December 31, 1972, it had total mortgage investments of $225 million, at least 95 per cent of which have been placed with Canadian controlled companies. As at the same date the Pension Fund held bonds and debentures having a total par value of $331 million and less than 10 per cent of these obligations were issued by Canadian companies that were foreign controlled.

2. Nil.

3. To the best of our knowledge the company is not Canadian-owned.

4. The fund is administered by the CNR as trustee. The amount of pensions payable to employees is guaranteed regardless of the amount of money in the fund or the return on investment.

CONTROL OF WIRE TAPPING AND ELECTRONIC SNOOPING

Question No. 1,773—**Mr. Cossitt:**

Does the government intend to re-introduce legislation not passed by the last Parliament for control of wire tapping and electronic snooping and (a) if so, on what date (b) if not, for what reason?

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Justice): Yes, at the earliest suitable opportunity. Note: Bill C-176 received 1st reading on April 13, 1973.

FEDERAL FINANCING TO GOVERNMENT OF SENEGAL

Question No. 1,878—**Mr. Masniuk:**

1. Has the government made loans to the Government of Senegal and, if so, on how many occasions, what amounts and, in each instance, at what rate of interest?

2. With any of the loans made by the government to Senegal, was there a loan for the purchase of outboard motors and, if so (a) how many outboard motors were purchased (b) at what cost (c) from what firm or firms?

3. Were tenders called for the purchase of these outboard motors and, if so (a) what firms were invited to tender (b) which firms submitted tenders (c) what was the amount of each tender in each instance?

4. Were any firms in Manitoba invited to tender and on what basis was a selection of firms in Manitoba determined?

Mr. John M. Reid (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): I am informed by the Secretary of State for External Affairs and the Department of Supply and Services as follows: 1. Yes, two. One concerned with a project called: Chaîne de froid, $880,000 and a second for the motorisation of dugout canoes, $2,710,000. Both were awarded on the following terms: no interest, 10 years before the first payment and 40 years to repay.

2. (a) 1650 motors; (b) $689,254; (c) Outboard Marine Corporation of Canada Limited, Peterborough, Ontario.

3. At the request of Canadian International Development Agency and Sénégal, this program was a directed procurement to ensure compatibility and interchangability with Outboard Marine engines already in use in Sénégal.

4. See answer to part 3.

MULTICULTURALISM—FEDERAL-PROVINCIAL DISCUSSIONS

Question No. 1,906—**Mr. Yewchuk:**

1. To date, which province(s) has the government met with at the ministerial level to discuss the teaching of a third language and culture in (a) primary schools (b) secondary schools (c) universities?

2. To date (a) which province(s) has shown interest in the government's policy on multiculturalism (b) with which provinces have discussions been held concerning multiculturalism?

3. Has the government been in touch with the Canadian Education Association for the purpose of discussing the teachings of

languages and cultures in the schools and (a) if so, on what date (b) if not, for what reasons?

4. Has the government surveyed the provinces to determine (a) the availability of instruction in non-official languages in the public school systems (b) the relationship between those languages available and the ethnic composition of the province in question?

Hon. James Hugh Faulkner (Secretary of State): 1. None.

2. (a) All provinces have expressed interest; (b) Quebec, Ontario, Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta.

3. (a) No; (b) any such discussions would be held with the provinces individually or with the Council of Ministers of Education, after the results become available from the current research program on language as a factor in cultural retention.

4. (a) The Royal Commission on Bilingualism and Biculturalism examined the availability of instruction in the non-official languages and the results of that study are available in Volume 4 of the Commission's reports; (b) no.

LISTENING DEVICES IN CANADIAN EMBASSIES AND CONSULAR OFFICES

Question No. 1,938—**Mr. Cossitt:**

1. Have listening devices of any kind been discovered at any time since 1958 in Canadian Embassies, Consular Offices, or any other buildings occupied abroad by the Canadian Government and, if so, in what specific places were such devices found and on what dates were they found?

2. During the above-mentioned period of time, did the government ever become aware of third parties listening to telephone conversations to or from any buildings occupied by the government abroad and, if so, what were the dates of such occurrences and specifically where did these incidents happen?

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs): 1. Yes. We have had evidence of such activities directed against some of our missions abroad. It would not be in the national interest, however, to go into detail on this evidence or how or where we obtained it.

2. No. Due to the ease with which telephone conversations can be monitored, members of the Canadian foreign service exercise caution and discipline in the use of telephone.

JUDICIAL APPOINTMENT

Question No. 1,939—**Mr. Cossitt:**

1. What were the considerations that led to the appointment of Mr. Russell Honey, formerly M.P. for Northumberland-Durham, to a Judgeship as announced by the Minister of Justice?

2. Did the fact that he was formerly a Liberal Member of Parliament have a bearing on his appointment?

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Justice): Governments in the past have not commented on matters relating to specific judicial appointments except in respect to policy and procedure. The major formal consultative process in considering appointments to the Bench involves the submission of names of potential candidates to the Judicial Committee of the Canadian Bar Association and their return of a judgment about whether or not the person or persons under consideration for appointment are qualified, well qualified or not qualified for the appointment. The criteria considered before recommending individuals for judicial appointment to the Governor in Council for approval include competence, integrity, honesty, experience and merit, as the quality of our justice is measured by the quality of our judges. The chief criterion in the past has been, and will remain, one of competence for the appointment under consideration.

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION—PERSONNEL

Question No. 1,958—**Mr. Dick:**

1. How many persons were hired, in each of the past five years 1968, 1969, 1970, 1971 and 1972 by the Public Service Commission to become public servants?

2. How many hired, in each year of the past five years, were not Canadian citizens?

3. Of the number who were not Canadian citizens, how many were not landed immigrants at the time they were accepted in the Public Service?

Hon. James Hugh Faulkner (Secretary of State): I am informed by the Public Service Commission as follows: 1.

	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972*	Total
By Public Service Commission	17,602	11,206	8,350	7,226	7,992	52,376
By Departments (under delegated authority)	2,777	9,527	14,705	20,480	30,576	78,065
Total	20,379	20,733	23,055	27,706	38,568	130,441

*Figures taken from annual report.

2. The Public Service Commission does not keep a central record of the number of persons who were not Canadian citizens hired in each of the past five years.

3. Since the Commission does not maintain records of persons hired who were not Canadian citizens, it has no record of those who were not landed immigrants.

BANK OF CANADA—MONEY SUPPLY

Question No. 2,005—**Mr. Clarke (Vancouver Quadra):**

1. By what percentage rate did the Bank of Canada inflate the money supply between January 1 and December 31, 1972?

2. By what percentage rate does the Bank of Canada plan to inflate the money supply between January 1 and December 31, 1973?

3. What rate of inflation of the consumer price index does the Bank of Canada expect will result from this increase in the money supply during 1973?

Hon. John N. Turner (Minister of Finance): 1. Total chartered bank deposits and currency outside banks increased by 13.6 per cent between December 31, 1971 and December 31, 1972. Over the same period, privately held deposits and currency outside banks grew by 13.9 per cent.

2. The Bank of Canada does not establish in advance a precise target rate of growth for the banking system or for monetary aggregates. Its view of the appropriate rate of monetary expansion and of credit conditions is subject to modification as new information about the current state of the economy or unexpected developments alter prospec-

tive economic conditions. In a recent speech, the Governor of the Bank of Canada, while stressing that "the banking system would continue to be in a position to accommodate reasonable growth in bank lending", expressed the view that "the recent pace of bank credit expansion had clearly been too rapid".

3. The extent to which prices in Canada will rise in 1973 is dependent upon a great many factors other than the increase in money supply in 1973.

INFORMATION CANADA BOOKSTORE—CUSTOMER SURVEY

Question No. 2,030—**Mr. O'Connor:**

1. To how many people, businesses or corporations was the Information Canada Bookstore 9-page Customer Survey sent?

2. (a) How many replies have been received (b) has a cost benefit study of this survey been undertaken and, if so, what are the results of this study?

3. What is the total cost of the survey including, but not limited to, computer time, postage, printing, staff salaries and calculations of results and implementation of new programs or procedures based on survey results?

Hon. John C. Munro (Minister of Labour): 1. Nine thousand questionnaires (in French and English) were distributed through our bookstores and to mail order customers.

2. (a) to date, 1,200 questionnaires have been returned; (b) since the survey is still in progress, no cost benefit study has been conducted.

3. Twelve thousand dollars.

CBC—PERSONNEL

Question No. 2,040—**Mr. Boisvert:**

How many CBC employees earn (a) less than $5,000 per annum (b) from $5,001 to $10,000 (c) from $10,001 to $20,000 (d) more than $20,000?

Hon. James Hugh Faulkner (Secretary of State): I am informed by the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation as follows: (a) 139; (b) 3,746; (c) 5,093; (d) 346; Total, 9,324 (Number of continuing employees).

APPEALS UNDER SECTION 20 OF THE PUBLIC SERVICE EMPLOYMENT ACT

Question No. 2,046—**Mr. Yewchuk:**

Since March 1967, how many candidates have appealed against the decision of the Public Service Commission, because of the provisions in Section 20 of the Public Service Employment Act and Regulations?

Hon. James Hugh Faulkner (Secretary of State): I am informed by the Public Service Commission as follows: The statistics kept by the Appeals Branch do not permit a direct reply to the question as posed. However, the Appeals Branch is able to provide some information relating to the topic covered in the question.

Statistics indicating the key issues raised at appeal hearings have been kept since January 1, 1972. During the 16-month period from January 1, 1972, until April 30, 1973, issues relating to language requirements were raised in 110 appeals out of a total of 3,530 appeals heard. Of these, 44 were allowed and 66 dismissed. This category of the Appeals Branch statistics includes allegations of irregularities and/or unfairness with regard to three Sections of the Public Service Employment Act: Section 14(2) which deals with the language of notice of a proposed competition, Section 16(2) which deals with the language in which an examination, test, or interview is to be conducted, and Section 20 which deals with the language qualifications necessary of employees in order that the functions of the department, portion or part can be performed adequately and effective service provided to the public. Section 20 of the Public Service Employment Regulations deals with the establishment, period of validity, and extension of eligible lists. The Appeals Branch statistics do not indicate appeals against this section of the regulations as a key issue in appeals hearings.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE—NUMBER OF CLAIMANTS JANUARY TO APRIL, 1972

Question No. 2,086—**Mr. Hellyer:**

How many persons were in receipt of unemployment insurance payments in Canada in January, February, March and April 1972 in the week in which Statistics Canada took its sample of unemployment levels?

Hon. Robert K. Andras (Minister of Manpower and Immigration):

Beneficiaries of Unemployment Insurance Benefits[1]

1972	Regular Benefits[2] No Earnings Reported	Regular Benefits[2] With Earnings Reported	Special Benefits[3]	Total
January	552,000	34,000	34,000	620,000
February	614,000	40,000	43,000	697,000
March	613,000	42,000	42,000	697,000
April	589,000	41,000	35,000	665,000

[1]Each of these statistics relate to a reference week taken as representative for the month in question (The same week as that used by Statistics Canada).

[2]Regular unemployment insurance benefits including benefits for trainees who have completed their courses but have not found work.

[3]Special benefit types include Sickness, Maternity, Retirement, fishing and benefits paid to trainees while on an approved training course.

FEDERAL ASSISTANCE TO MUNICIPALITY OF HAM-NORD

Question No. 2,109—**Mr. Beaudoin:**

For each year since 1965, what was the total amount received directly or indirectly from the government by the municipality of Ham-Nord, in the constituency of Richmond?

Mr. John M. Reid (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): It is not feasible to provide aggregate information on government expenditure dis-

bursements for municipalities, constituencies or other comparable units. Government estimates are not prepared on this basis nor are records of expenditures kept in this way. Information concerning expenditures could be supplied where specific projects, programmes or payees are identified in a question. These, of course, would in some cases relate to a particular municipality or constituency.

* * *

QUESTIONS PASSED AS ORDERS FOR RETURNS

CAB CONTRACTS TO GOVERNMENT SERVICE

Question No. 574—**Mr. Muir:**

1. How many cab companies have contracted parts of their fleets to government service in the National Capital Region?

2. How many cabs are under contract with each company and at what cost?

Return tabled.

LANGUAGE COURSES

Question No. 857—**Mr. Korchinski:**

1. To date, how many public servants have taken language courses and of these, how many took (a) English courses (b) French courses?

2. What was the cost of these courses?

3. How many were there from each department?

4. Of these, how many met the bilingual requirement to qualify for the special bonus awarded bilingual public servants?

5. What has been the cost of the special seven per cent bonus since it was introduced?

Return tabled.

COST OF PEACEKEEPING ROLES

Question No. 993—**Mr. Forrestall:**

What has been the length, manpower strength and total cost to date of all internationally supervised peacekeeping roles played by the Canadian government, broken down by departments involved?

Return tabled.

UIC BENEFIT PAYMENTS

Question No. 1,023—**Mr. Hueglin:**

1. Are total UIC benefit payments in 1972 running twice as high as the originally estimated $1.02 billion and, if so, for what reason?

2. On what basis was this estimated $1.02 billion for payments made?

Return tabled.

ESTABLISHMENT OF NATIONAL POWER GRID IN CANADA

Question No. 1,810—**Mr. Dinsdale:**

1. What progress has been made in establishing a National Power Grid in Canada?

2. What provinces are inter-connected to the extent of meeting peak loads on the basis of exchange of power?

[Mr. Reid.]

3. Has a committee been established to co-ordinate the Grid and, if so (a) who are the members of the committee (b) on what date did it last meet?

4. (a) Are major power projects, such as the Nelson River in Manitoba and the James Bay Project in Quebec, planned with a view to the power savings to be realized by inter-connection with the National Grid (b) what discussions have there been with Quebec Hydro in this regard (c) what agreements have been reached?

5. What savings in cost would there be on the James Bay Project as the result of this inter-connection?

Return tabled.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE CCMMISSION—BENEFIT CONTROL COMMISSION

Question No. 1,936—**Mr. Rodriguez:**

1. How many Benefit Control Officers were employed by the Unemployment Insurance Commission as of April 15, 1973 (a) how many were men (b) how many were women?

2. How many of the Benefit Control Officers speak (a) English only (b) French only (c) both French and English?

3. How many speak English or French and another language?

4. How many Benefit Control Officers have previous law enforcement experience?

5. (a) what are the various job levels within the Unemployment Insurance Commission (b) what are the salaries for these various job levels?

Return tabled.

INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT BANK

Question No. 2,018—**Mr. Laprise:**

1. For each fiscal year ending March 31, 1970, 1971, 1972 and 1973, how many loans did the Industrial Development Bank make in each province and territory and for what amounts?

2. For each of the same fiscal years, by province, what were the number and amount of unpaid debts and how many are considered as a loss?

Return tabled.

MOTIONS FOR PAPERS

[*English*]

Mr. John M. Reid (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): Mr. Speaker, notice of motion for the production of papers No. 205 is acceptable to the government.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Speaker: Is it the pleasure of the House that notice of motion No. 205 be deemed agreed to?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

[*English*]

CORRESPONDENCE RESPECTING DECISION TO APPROVE CONSTRUCTION OF CN TOWER IN TORONTO

Motion No. 205—**Mr. Forrestall:**

That an humble Address bo presented to His Excellency praying that he will cause to be laid before this House copies of all notes, correspondence or memoranda exchanged between the government, the City of Toronto, Canadian Air Line Pilots Association, Canadian Owners and Pilots Association and any other department or agency of the government with respect to the decision to approve the construction of the proposed 1800 foot CN Tower in downtown Toronto.

Motion agreed to.

Mr. Reid: Mr. Speaker, would you be so kind as to call notices of motions Nos. 187, 215 and 219.

BRITISH COLUMBIA OFY AND LIP PROJECTS—COPIES OF AUDITED OR UNAUDITED STATEMENTS 1971-72

Motion No. 187—**Mr. Reynolds:**

That an Order of the House do issue for copies of the audited statements or unaudited, as the case may be, of all OFY projects in British Columbia for the year 1971-1972.

Mr. Speaker: Stand.

[*Later:*]

Mr. Reynolds: Mr. Speaker, when you were calling motions I was busy for a second and, if it is not too late, I would like to have my motion read today.

Mr. Speaker: Is the hon. member asking for leave of the House to return to motions? We require unanimous consent of the House for the purpose of returning to motions.

Mr. Reynolds: No, Mr. Speaker. I would not want to return to motions. I want you to read the motion you called earlier.

Mr. Reid: Mr. Speaker, I think the hon. member is referring to motion for the production of papers No. 187.

Mr. Speaker: No. 187.

Mr. John M. Reid (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): Mr. Speaker, in so far as the Department of the Secretary of State is concerned this motion is not acceptable because the requested papers are of a voluminous character, and an inordinate cost and length of time would be required to produce them.

In so far as the Department of Manpower and Immigration is concerned the motion is not acceptable because the requested papers reflect on the personal competence or character of an individual and are also private or confidential and not of a public or official character. I would therefore ask the hon. member to withdraw his motion.

Mr. Reynolds: Transfer for debate.

Mr. Speaker: Transferred for debate.

Motions for Papers

TRIDENT STEAMSHIPS LIMITED—OWNERSHIP PARTICULARS

Motion No. 215—**Mr. Beattie (Hamilton Mountain):**

That an Order of the House do issue for a copy of the full particulars as to ownership of Trident Steamships Limited.

He said: Stand, Mr. Speaker.

[*Later:*]

Mr. Beattie (Hamilton Mountain): Mr. Speaker, I am afraid I have to beg your indulgence to ask the parliamentary secretary if he would mind going back to the production of papers. The reason I asked for my motions to stand in the first place was that I could not locate them in the book but I now have them here. Would he be so kind as to provide answers to Nos. 215 and 219?

Mr. Speaker: We will return to that item of business and call on the Parliamentary Secretary to the President of the Privy Council.

Mr. John M. Reid (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): Mr. Speaker, this motion is unacceptable to the government because Trident Steamships Limited was incorporated provincially and no source exists in the federal government for determining the ownership of this company. I would therefor ask the hon. member to withdraw his motion.

Mr. Beattie (Hamilton Mountain): Agreed.

Mr. Speaker: The motion is dropped.

Order discharged and motion withdrawn.

NEWFOUNDLAND STEAMSHIPS LIMITED—OWNERSHIP PARTICULARS

Motion No. 219—**Mr. Beattie (Hamilton Mountain):**

That an Order of the House do issue for a copy of the full particulars as to ownership of Newfoundland Steamships Limited.

He said: Stand, Mr. Speaker.

[*Later:*]

Mr. John M. Reid (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): Mr. Speaker, this motion is unacceptable to the government because no source exists for determining the ownership of this company. Annual returns submitted to the Department of Consumer and Corporate Affairs under the Canada Corporations Act and the Corporations and Labour Unions Act indicate officers and directors but not the ownership of companies. I would therefore ask the hon. member to withdraw his motion.

Mr. Beattie (Hamilton Mountain): Transfer for debate.

Mr. Speaker: Transferred for debate.

Mr. Reid: Mr. speaker, I ask that the other notices of motions be permitted to stand.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Speaker: Shall the remaining notices of motion stand?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

[*English*]

Mr. Howard: Mr. Speaker, before we leave the production of papers I rise on a point of order. My point is that either the government has been particularly negligent in responding to certain motions passed by the House or is seeking to avoid answering them. On February 21 two motions standing in my name were passed by the House, each of them relating to documents concerning fish canning facilities on the north coast of British Columbia. On March 28 three other motions or a total of five, relating to the same subject matter were passed by the House asking that there be laid before the House certain documents and exchanges of correspondence with respect to canning facilities on the north coast of British Columbia.

The same motions were put forward to the House during the previous session of parliament. There is ample information, ample advance notice, and ample knowledge about them in the hands of the government and the Department of Fisheries. My point of order is that either through negligence or a desire not to comply with orders of the House the returns have not been tabled. I would like to have some response from the government on why it has not complied with five orders of the House with respect to the tabling of documents.

Mr. Reid: Mr. Speaker, there are two points I would like to raise with the hon. member at this time. The first is that before we can table these documents in the House we must receive consent from the government of British Columbia, and I have been informed that to date it has not been forthcoming.

The second point is that when we do have permission to table these documents it then becomes necessary to provide them in the two official languages. That means a built-in delay not only with respect to the production of the documents the hon. member for Skeena has requested but the production of all documents under this order of business that hon. members request. These are built-in delays, and I am sorry that it is not possible for me to expedite either the consent of the government of British Columbia or the translation process once we get permission.

Mr. Howard: Mr. Speaker—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I suggest to the hon. member as well as to the parliamentary secretary that we could go on for a long time discussing the point raised by the hon. member for Skeena and the response made by the Parliamentary Secretary to the President of the Privy Council. I would hope that we could go on to the next item of business. Is the hon. member rising on a question of privilege?

Mr. Howard: On another point of order, Mr. Speaker. Production of the documents in response to only one of the five motions, separately passed by this House, rests on the consent of the government of British Columbia. The delay in producing the other documents is purely the responsibility of the federal government.

[Mr. Speaker.]

HOUSE OF COMMONS

PRESENCE IN GALLERY OF HIS BEATITUDE, JOSYF CARDINAL SLIPYJ

Mr. Paul Yewchuk (Athabasca): Mr. Speaker, with your indulgence I would like to call the attention of the House to the presence in the Senate Gallery of a distinguished visitor, His Beatitude, Josyf Cardinal Slipyj of Rome, Archbishop-Major and Primate of the Ukrainian Catholic Church.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Hon. Stanley Haidasz (Minister of State): Mr. Speaker, as Minister of State responsible for the federal government's policy on multiculturalism I would like on behalf of the government of Canada to join with the hon. member for Athabasca (Mr. Yewchuk) in extending a very warm welcome to His Beatitude Josyf Cardinal Slipyj.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

• (1430)

Mr. Stevens: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. I should like to point out once again that we have not received an answer to question No. 832. I have asked on several occasions that the answer be produced. The Auditor General has now referred to this matter in his report and I believe the House is entitled to an explanation why this question involving some $28 million in expenditure has not been answered to the satisfaction of the House.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member, of course, is now going back to questions and we have already moved beyond the production of papers. If we continue going backwards we will find ourselves back to Tuesday.

Mr. Oberle: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, I too may be wanting to go back but I am a little confused by the proceedings. I have a question on the order paper, No. 2,048, which was placed there on May 14. I do not abuse the privilege of asking questions on the order paper and have had very few. This question is very timely and concerns thousands of Canadians throughout the country. I would seek the indulgence of the House to ask the parliamentary secretary to answer this question in the immediate future.

ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

[*English*]

TRADE

CANADA-UNITED STATES—REQUEST THAT MINISTER TAKE INITIATIVE TO RESUME TALKS—GOVERNMENT PROPOSALS—DUTY ON IMPORTED CARS

Hon. Paul Hellyer (Trinity): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce. In view of the statement by Peter Flanigan, President of the Council on International Economic Policy, to the effect that there is no schedule for resuming trade talks between Canada and the United States, can the

minister tell the House whether he will take the initiative in arranging a meeting at the earliest possible date?

Hon. Alastair Gillespie (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): Mr. Speaker, I would hope that a meeting will take place in the very near future.

Mr. Hellyer: Has the government prepared a series of proposals and a comprehensive strategy for such talks and has the government suggested any specific date for resumption of the talks?

Mr. Gillespie: Mr. Speaker, as I indicated on an earlier occasion, the result of my previous discussions with Secretary Shultz was that both sides would examine their positions and at a later date—I would hope very shortly—both sides would sit down together at the official level to discuss matters of mutual interest.

Mr. Hellyer: In light of the concern of the Premier of Ontario about the 15 per cent import duty on new cars and in the interest of Canadian automotive parts producers, is the minister going to consult with the government of Ontario on these two areas in particular prior to the resumption of the talks?

Mr. Gillespie: Mr. Speaker, I recognize the importance of the auto pact to the province of Ontario. I have had discussions with the Minister of Industry for the province and have indicated to him that on the appropriate occasion I would have further consultations with him if there is some point at which it would be appropriate.

* * *

ENERGY

GASOLINE—POSSIBILITY OF SHORTAGE—REQUEST FOR CONTROL OF EXPORTS

Mr. T. C. Douglas (Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands): Mr. Speaker, may I ask the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources whether his attention has been drawn to the fact that a number of Canada's largest independent retailers of gasoline, including such firms as Caloil Inc. of Montreal, Gasex Oil Limited of Montreal, Premium Oil Company of Toronto and Capital City Gas and Fuel Company of Ottawa, have all stated that their inability to secure supplies of gasoline is compelling them to abandon plans to open new outlets and even to close some filling stations now in operation? In view of the minister's statement on Monday that he was keeping this situation under close scrutiny, I should like to ask him whether he is now prepared to extend export controls to cover refined products?

Hon. Donald S. MacDonald (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): Mr. Speaker, as I recall from the article in the *Globe and Mail* this morning to which the hon. member refers, the explanation was given by several of the distributors that it was an inability to purchase the refined product overseas which had imposed this termination on them. I would like to confirm that the board is keeping close surveillance on exports, but the basic problem is the tight international supply situation and the inability of these firms to buy refined gasoline abroad as they have been doing for the past several years.

Mr. Douglas: In view of the minister's explanation may I ask whether his attention has been drawn to the statement made by revenue minister Allan Grossman in the Ontario legislature yesterday to the effect that in the month of April Ontario exported 4.1 million gallons of gasoline, or 11 times as much as it exported in all of 1972? Since this gasoline was refined from western crude oil, may I ask the minister what action he or the National Energy Board proposes to take to protect the gasoline consumers of this country?

Mr. MacDonald (Rosedale): Mr. Speaker, I have already indicated to the hon. gentleman that I would agree there is no action that can be taken about exports that occurred in April, but we have indicated to the refiners that we will expect them to meet the demands of the Canadian market and that if they fail to do so we will put on export controls.

Mr. Douglas: In view of the fact that exports of gasoline have risen astronomically and that imports have virtually come to a standstill, creating a real problem in Canada, may I ask the minister whether he has taken any action such as he promised on Monday, that the National Energy Board would intervene informally to make sure that these independent distributors get adequate supplies of gasoline?

Mr. MacDonald (Rosedale): Yes, Sir, the National Energy Board has been intervening in a number of cases. Indeed, on page B2 of the Report on Business in the *Globe and Mail* this morning he will see an example of the intervention.

* * *

[*Translation*]

REGIONAL ECONOMIC EXPANSION

REQUEST FOR TABLING OF STUDY OF ECONOMIC PERFORMANCE OF QUEBEC

Mr. Léonel Beaudoin (Richmond): Mr. Speaker, in view of the absence of the Minister of Regional Economic Expansion, I wish to put a question to the right hon. Prime Minister.

Can he tell us whether the government intends to publish the 13th file on Quebec's economic performance and, if so, when?

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, I shall take the question as notice and convey it to the Minister of Regional Economic Expansion.

Mr. René Matte (Champlain): Mr. Speaker, I wish to put a supplementary to the Minister of Transport.

Can he tell us whether the study referred to was undertaken when he was responsible for the Department of Regional Economic Expansion?

Mr. Marchand (Langelier): Mr. Speaker, studies were constantly being made when I was in charge of that

department; I do not know whether this study had anything to do with them.

As I have not seen it, I shall have a look at it and then answer the question.

* * *

● (1440)

[*English*]

AIR CANADA

IMPENDING STRIKE BY MACHINISTS—GOVERNMENT ACTION—POSSIBLE ESTABLISHMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES COMMISSION

Mr. James A. McGrath (St. John's East): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Minister of Labour. In view of the fact that Canada faces a tie-up of its national airline, Air Canada, because of a dispute with the machinists' union, and indications are that a vote favouring a strike is very likely, one local already having voted 97 per cent in support of a strike, what action is the government taking to avert this strike which could have devastating effects on many parts of the country? I might say that this question was directed to the Acting Prime Minister five days ago and at that time the Acting Prime Minister promised he would have the Minister of Labour bring a report to the House.

Hon. John Munro (Minister of Labour): Mr. Speaker, I prefer not to go into further details in reporting to the House and the hon. member until such time as we know the official result of the vote for ratification. If it is turned down, I will be pleased to indicate what further action the government will take.

Mr. McGrath: Mr. Speaker, may I direct a supplementary question to the Prime Minister. Is the government giving consideration to implementing the recommendation of the Woods Commission, which was made five years ago, that an industrial disputes commission be established to avert strikes that threaten the national interest and tie up the national economy?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, this report was considered quite some years ago, and whatever decision the government decided to adopt was incorporated in the bill which has long since passed before parliament.

Mr. McGrath: On May 25 a similar question was directed to the Acting Prime Minister and the Acting Prime Minister, as recorded on page 4092 of *Hansard* said that the government was giving this matter consideration. He said, "However, the government has not found it easy to deal with this question in a satisfactory manner." He did say, and this is on the record, that the government is considering this question. In light of that answer, I wonder whether the Prime Minister would like to revise his answer?

Mr. Trudeau: Mr. Speaker, obviously some ministers are considering this matter but it has not come before cabinet recently. I will look into the matter and see if consideration is being given to it at any departmental level.

[Mr. Marchand (Langelier).]

STRIKE BY FINANCIAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE EMPLOYEES AT WINNIPEG—SUGGESTED ACCEPTANCE OF UNANIMOUS CONCILIATION BOARD REPORT

Mr. Les Benjamin (Regina-Lake Centre): Mr. Speaker, may I direct a supplementary question to the Minister of Labour. In light of the questions asked last Friday, can he now advise whether or not he has had discussions with Air Canada with the object of getting Air Canada to accept the unanimous report of the conciliation board concerning the strike of the financial and administrative group of Air Canada employees in Winnipeg?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I have serious doubts whether the question is supplementary, but as it has been asked it might be easier to allow the minister to reply, if he has a reply for the hon. member. Perhaps the hon. member might like to renew the question. Apparently it has not been heard.

Mr. Benjamin: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will direct my question to the Minister of Labour if he is prepared to turn this way. In light of the questions asked of him last Friday, can he advise the House whether or not he has been in contact with Air Canada with a view to having it accept the unanimous report of the conciliation board, signed by their own nominee, concerning the dispute with the financial and administrative group now on strike in the city of Winnipeg?

Hon. John C. Munro (Minister of Labour): Mr. Speaker, contact has been made with both parties to the dispute.

Mr. Benjamin: And what happened?

* * *

INCOME TAX

LIVESTOCK INVENTORY PROVISIONS IN LAST BUDGET—RETROACTIVITY TO JANUARY 1, 1972, IN LIGHT OF TERMINATION OF BASIC HERD PROVISIONS IN 1971

Mr. Bill Jarvis (Perth-Wilmot): Mr. Speaker, last Friday I directed a question through you, Sir, to the Minister of National Revenue. He said he had to consult with some cabinet colleagues before replying. I think he has had that opportunity. It had to do with the livestock inventory provisions in the latest budget. Can the minister tell the House whether these provisions will be retroactive to January 1, 1972, and, if not, will the government take any steps to cure the tax hiatus between the termination of the basic herd provisions and the commencement of the livestock inventory provisions?

Hon. Robert Stanbury (Minister of National Revenue): Mr. Speaker, I have checked, and section 28, subsection 1, as amended by Bill C-170, is effective from January 1, 1972. I can assure the hon. member that if farmers who filed 1972 returns prior to the passage of Bill C-170 would like to so request, their returns will be adjusted.

NATIONAL REVENUE

PRACTICE OF DEPARTMENT IN ORDERING FORMS

Hon. Robert Stanbury (Minister of National Revenue): Mr. Speaker, with your permission perhaps I might reply further, as promised, to a question posed to me last week by the hon. member for York-Simcoe. I have inquired and am advised that my department does not order its forms from the private sector but obtains them through the Department of Supply and Services.

* * *

PATENTS

REQUEST THAT ANNUAL REPORT OF CANADIAN PATENTS AND DEVELOPMENT LIMITED BE REFERRED TO COMMITTEE

Mr. Paul Dick (Lanark-Renfrew-Carleton): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a brief question to the President of the Treasury Board. May I ask him whether or not he will direct that the annual report of Canadian Patents and Development Limited, a Crown corporation, be referred to the appropriate committee? If so, can he do so before June 15, and to which committee would he refer it?

Hon. C. M. Drury (President of the Treasury Board): Mr. Speaker, I think the appropriate committee would be the Miscellaneous Estimates Committee. I will consult with the House leader about such a reference.

* * *

HOUSING

MORATORIUM ON RENT INCREASES ON SENIOR CITIZENS' ACCOMMODATION OPERATED BY METRO TORONTO HOUSING COMPANY—STEPS TO EXTEND

Mr. Terry Grier (Toronto-Lakeshore): Mr. Speaker, may I direct a question to the Minister of State for Urban Affairs. In view of the fact that the initial 60-day moratorium on proposed rent increases for senior citizens' accommodation operated by Metro Toronto Housing Company will expire tomorrow, will the minister advise the House what steps have been taken to extend this moratorium to March, 1974, as he originally requested. Also, can he assure the House that the planned increases will not be proceeded with?

Hon. Ron Basford (Minister of State for Urban Affairs): Mr. Speaker, in so far as CMHC housing is concerned, of course the House is aware that we have imposed a freeze on that. With regard to this particular housing, I have had an answer given to me by my advisers with which I am not entirely satisfied and I will be wiring the officials either this evening or tomorrow morning to determine what the position will be.

Mr. Grier: In view of the fact the minister advised the House on March 15 that officials of CMHC would be entering into discussions with Metro Toronto Housing Company in order to work out the details of the moratorium, can he advise the House whether these discussions actually took place?

Mr. Basford: Mr. Speaker, I believe there have been discussions but I am not entirely satisfied with the outcome in order to ensure the protection of senior citizens in the buildings, and I want to change what has been presently suggested.

* * *

[*Translation*]

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

KILLING OF TWO CANADIAN GIRLS AT VICTORIA FALLS—REQUEST FOR REPORT BY RHODESIA ON INCIDENT

Mr. Gilbert Rondeau (Shefford): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Secretary of State for External Affairs.

The hon. minister tabled in the House a copy of a personal letter from the foreign minister of Zambia concerning the killing of two Canadian girls about a month ago in Zambia.

On page 2 of the letter the following can be read:

> Responsibility for the death of these persons must definitely be laid at the door of the rebel government of Salisbury . . .

And further on, it is stated:

> The news also deeply shocked us in Zambia.

Therefore, here is my question:

Following this entirely irresponsible and childish statement of the Zambian government, does the hon. minister intend to call upon the government of Rhodesia, accused in the circumstances, to let us have its version of the facts, since the country guilty of the murder is making a cowardly accusation against a country which was never involved in—

Mr. Speaker: Order. The hon. member's question, as stated, is entirely out of order. The hon. member is not asking a question but making a statement and I believe that the question should not be accepted. On the other hand, since the hon. member has formulated statements in his question, I believe the Secretary of State for External Affairs should have an opportunity to reply.

[*English*]

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, as the hon. member has said, the foreign minister of Zambia lays responsibility upon the Rhodesian authorities for the death of the two girls. We are pursuing our inquiries with the Zambian government to try to ascertain the facts.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Rondeau: A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker.

Since Rhodesia has been accused by the Zambian government, is it also the intention of the Secretary of State for External Affairs to ask the Rhodesian government to present its account of the events in order to know both sides of the picture?

[*English*]

Mr. Sharp: Mr. Speaker, our Assistant High Commissioner in Lusaka was in Rhodesia. He interviewed eyewitnesses. He received the utmost courtesy from the government of Rhodesia. Since we do not have diplomatic relations with the Rhodesian government, we are not addressing any inquiries directly to them.

[*Translation*]

ALLEGED LOSS OF LIFE BY CITIZEN OF ZAMBIA IN CANADA—REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

Mr. Claude Wagner (Saint-Hyacinthe): Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the Secretary of State for External Affairs a supplementary question.

In the letter tabled in the House, I read the following:

[*English*]

"Last year a Canadian and a Zambian lost their lives in your country in the cause of strengthening our relations."

[*Translation*]

Could the Secretary of State for External Affairs tell the House the names of those two persons who died in Canada, and in what circumstances, in order perhaps to reassure those who will read that letter from the foreign minister of Zambia?

[*English*]

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, I took note of the same statement in the letter and am making inquiries. I was not familiar with the incident.

PERSECUTION IN THE UKRAINE—REQUEST THAT QUESTION BE BROUGHT BEFORE UNITED NATIONS

Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Prince Albert): Mr. Speaker, the House has just paid tribute to Cardinal Slipyj who for 18 years was imprisoned by the communists in Siberia. Attention has been directed to the fact that today Ukrainian writers, literary critics, journalists, professors and students are being thrown into prisons and psychiatric hospitals for expressing their thoughts and beliefs with regard to linguistic and cultural freedom, even though freedom of speech is guaranteed under the constitution of the U.S.S.R. In view of the persecution that is taking place in the Ukraine, will the minister bring this question before the United Nations to the end that the U.S.S.R. be asked to live up to its agreements under the charter of the United Nations?

● (1450)

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, as one of the signatories of the convention on human rights we are urging all countries, including the U.S.S.R., to live up to their obligations.

Mr. Diefenbaker: A generalization of that kind will not do much to help those who are in great difficulty. Has a protest been made to the U.S.S.R. against the inhuman treatment being imposed upon people who appreciate freedom and who are simply speaking out in favour of certain principles in the constitution of the U.S.S.R.?

[Mr. Rondeau.]

Mr. Sharp: Like the right hon. gentleman, I believe in those principles and I urge that they be observed everywhere. Unfortunately, there are many parts of the world where the standards are not as high as they are in Canada. I hope they will all reach our standards, at least.

Mr. Diefenbaker: That is no excuse at all. That is just an alibi.

* * *

AGRICULTURE

ESTABLISHMENT OF EGG QUOTAS—ASSURANCES FROM PROVINCES OF PARTICIPATION IN A WAY TO ENSURE PROPER OPERATION OF PLAN

Mr. Bill Frank (Middlesex): Mr. Speaker, may I direct a question to the Minister of Agriculture? In view of the fact that national egg quotas will be established among the provinces shortly, has the minister received assurances from all the provinces that they will be participating in such a way as to ensure the proper operation of the plan?

Hon. E. F. Whelan (Minister of Agriculture): The national egg marketing agency runs its own operation. I had been assured it will do so in a proper and fair fashion. I have no doubt it will do this.

* * *

ENERGY

GASOLINE—ASSURANCE OF SUPPLY TO INDEPENDENT OPERATORS

Mr. Reg Stackhouse (Scarborough East): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources supplementary to the one addressed to him by the hon. member for Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands. It concerns the effect the shortage of gasoline supplies to service station operators is having not only on the smaller companies mentioned by the hon. member but also on individual independent operators who, in communities such as Scarborough, are in danger of being put out of business by their inability to obtain gas. Is the minister prepared to call representatives of the major oil companies together and use his good offices to ensure a more equitable distribution of gasoline among all operators, including those independent dealers who are so important in keeping prices of gasoline competitive in Toronto?

Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): I had a meeting with representatives of the industry on Friday last.

Mr. Stackhouse: I thank the minister for the teaser he gave us by telling us there was a meeting. Will he now tell us whether it produced any results? We know that the price of gas in Toronto has gone up by six cents in the past month.

Mr. Macdonald (Rosedale): As I told the House in the debate last Monday, we advised the industry that we expected them to meet the demands of Canadian consum-

ers as a priority before any exports of gas, and that if they failed to do this we would apply export controls.

* * *

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

ALLEGED CONSPIRACY BY UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT TO BREAK INTO CANADIAN EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON

Mr. G. W. Baldwin (Peace River): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Secretary of State for External Affairs. Has the hon. gentleman received any information about an alleged conspiracy by the United States government to break into the Canadian embassy in Washington? Has he any information he can give us in the form of an answer to the question?

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs): I have no information of that kind nor any evidence to suggest there is any substance to the allegation. I believe the answer given by an anonymous spokesman for the department was a good one, namely, that if the Americans wanted to know about our policy toward draft dodgers and deserters, they had only to ask.

Mr. Baldwin: I hope they do better than we do when they ask.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for York South.

Mr. Lewis: I had a question for the Minister of Labour, Mr. Speaker, but he seems to have disappeared. Perhaps Your Honour would recognize me if he returns.

Mr. Speaker: I will recognize the hon. member at any time.

* * *

FINANCE

MEASURES TO ASSURE SUFFICIENT FUNDS AVAILABLE TO FARMERS, FISHERMEN AND SMALL BUSINESSES UNDER GOVERNMENT GUARANTEED LOANS

Mr. R. E. McKinley (Huron): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Finance. It is in the same vein as a question asked some days ago; the minister said then that he would look into it. Has the government taken any measures to assure that sufficient loans are being made available to farmers under the legislation providing for government guaranteed loans, as well as under the arrangements concerning small business loans and loans to fishermen?

Hon. John N. Turner (Minister of Finance): On that subject, when we have something to announce we shall announce it here.

CANADA DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

ASSURANCE OF LOCATION OF HEAD OFFICE IN VANCOUVER

Mr. John Reynolds (Burnaby-Richmond-Delta): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Prime Minister. It relates to the Canada Development Corporation. In April, 1971, the Prime Minister announced that the head office would be located in Vancouver. Again, in April of this year, he reassured me that this would be the case. However, some of his colleagues in the cabinet are going round the country saying it will not be located in Vancouver.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member should ask the question. He is now making a statement. He has been recognized for the purpose of asking a question.

Mr. Reynolds: I should like to ask the Prime Minister whether he misinformed me when he told me in his statement in April that the head office would be located in Vancouver?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): No, I did not misinform the hon. member. But I should like to inform him that unintentionally he himself misinformed the House when he said that ministers are saying the contrary.

Mr. Reynolds: There is a restaurant in Vancouver called Sneaky Pete's and I think it was named after the right hon. gentleman.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. Hon. members may applaud that kind of remark but I do not. I think that kind of statement by the hon. member is not conducive to the dignity of the House of Commons.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Reynolds: On a question of privilege, Mr. Speaker, I respect your statement, but might I point out that the Prime Minister said his ministers did not make the statements I attributed to them. About two weeks ago, in this House, the Minister of Justice said to one of his own members that the CDC would be locating in western Canada but not in Vancouver.

Mr. Speaker: I do not quarrel with the hon. member's statement now. Obviously, there is a disagreement as to fact between the hon. member and other members. But I suggest it is always possible to make that kind of point while remaining within what I regard as being the traditions and proprieties of debate in the House of Commons.

* * *

CRIMINAL CODE

ABORTION—REQUEST FOR STATEMENT

Mr. Perrin Beatty (Wellington-Grey-Dufferin-Waterloo): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Justice who two weeks ago informed me he would consider the possibility of making a statement to the

House concerning his review of too-liberal abortion laws. In light of the fact that more than 7,000 foetuses have been aborted since he announced his review on March 5, is the minister now willing to make a statement on this matter?

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Justice): I am giving consideration to that question. I have, of course, discussed the proper enforcement of the criminal law with the provincial Attorneys General upon whom the main responsibility rests.

* * *

● (1500)

LABOUR RELATIONS

STRIKE BY EMPLOYEES OF NOVA SCOTIAN HOTEL, HALIFAX—POSSIBLE APPOINTMENT OF MEDIATOR

Mr. David Lewis (York South): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Labour. It arises out of another unfortunate strike of four or five weeks' duration by the employees of the Nova Scotian Hotel in Halifax, a subsidiary of Canadian National Railways. Is the minister's department taking any steps to bring the parties to the dispute together in the hope that a settlement may be reached?

Hon. John C. Munro (Minister of Labour): Mr. Speaker, I believe, if my memory serves me correctly, we have offered mediation services to the parties to resolve the dispute. I can obtain further particulars for the hon. member.

Mr. Lewis: I am certain the minister made that statement in good faith and something may have happened, but in view of the fact a spokesman for the union informed me only last night that there has been no such invitation to the parties to meet, would the minister inquire and make certain that such an invitation does in fact go out to the parties without delay, because I am informed there may be an opportunity for settling the dispute?

Mr. Munro: Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the observations of the hon. member and I will do that.

Mr. Speaker: I believe the hon. member for Wellington-Grey-Dufferin-Waterloo has a supplementary to his question and he will be recognized for that purpose,

[*Translation*]

—and then I shall recognize the hon. member for Portneuf.

* * *

[*English*]

CRIMINAL CODE

ABORTION—POSSIBLE AMENDMENTS

Mr. Perrin Beatty (Wellington-Grey-Dufferin-Waterloo): Mr. Speaker, I have just a short supplementary question for the Prime Minister. Would the Prime Minister tell the House whether he is currently envisaging bringing down any further amendments to the Criminal Code dealing with abortion?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): No, Mr. Speaker.

* * *

[*Translation*]

HOUSING

PLACE MORIN VILLE VANIER, QUE.—MEASURES TO COMPENSATE DISSATISFIED OWNERS

Mr. Roland Godin (Portneuf): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of State for Urban Affairs.

In view of the fact that some homeowners who were dissatisfied with the houses they bought from the Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation in Place Morin, Vanier City, have recently obtained a court judgment cancelling the sale and granting the payment of $1,500 in costs, as a result of the action they had brought against Darec Construction and since the said judgment cannot be enforced because of the insolvency of the firm, could the minister indicate what steps he considers taking to help the victims whose houses are in need of immediate repairs?

[*English*]

Hon. Ron Basford (Minister of State for Urban Affairs): Mr. Speaker, I should like to look into the judgment first and the situation before I answer, so I will take the question as notice.

* * *

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

SOUTH AFRICA—REASON COMMONWEALTH TARIFF PREFERENCE NOT WITHDRAWN BY CANADA

Mr. Gus Mitges (Grey-Simcoe): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Prime Minister. On May 11 last, I asked the right hon. gentleman a question at which time he stated he would take it as notice. The question is as follows, as reported on page 3659 of *Hansard:*

> In view of the fact South Africa has been expelled from the Commonwealth of Nations for some time now, would the Prime Minister tell the House why no plans were ever formulated by his government to withdraw Commonwealth preferential tariff treatment from that country?

I wonder whether the right hon. gentleman could give me an answer to that question today?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I must confess that I did look into the question at the time. The answer is not fresh in my mind, but I will try to formulate it. These preferences are on a reciprocal basis. Their object is to obtain as much gain as possible for the Canadian people as a trading nation, and I do not see any link with the Commonwealth. If they are favourable to us I can see no reason at all to abolish them. If they are unfavourable to us, then I think they should be negotiated out, whether South Africa is in the Commonwealth or not.

NATIONAL PARKS

REQUEST THAT FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE PARTICIPATE IN HEARINGS CONCERNING EASTERN SLOPES OF ROCKY MOUNTAINS OR SUBMIT DETAILED BRIEFS

Mr. Joe Clark (Rocky Mountain): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development. Would the minister reconsider his refusal to accept the invitation of the Alberta Conservation Authority to have a federal parks representative sit on the panel at the hearings concerning the eastern slopes of the Rocky Mountains, which are dominated by national parks, and where proper hearings cannot succeed without the full co-operation and participation of the federal government?

[*Translation*]

Hon. Jean Chrétien (Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development): Mr. Speaker, if I understand the situation correctly, these territories are outside the national parks. I do not see how I could interfere with the activities of the Alberta government, since I am myself so touchy whenever the Alberta government meddles with our affairs within the parks.

[*English*]

Mr. Clark (Rocky Mountain): Mr. Speaker, I would remind the minister that an invitation was issued by the province of Alberta, which indicates that they were not particularly concerned about jurisdiction—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. Would the hon. member kindly ask his supplementary question.

Mr. Clark (Rocky Mountain): My supplementary question is this. Would the minister at least give an undertaking that the briefs that his department intends to submit will, despite his answer, be detailed and not general, and will give enough guidance about parks plans that the province and private citizens can make sensible plans of their own for development of that region?

[*Translation*]

Mr. Chrétien: Mr. Speaker, I am quite at ease in that connection, because we had public hearings held over a year ago on possible developments in Jasper and Banff parks. Plans were then made public. Many comments were received from the public at large and if someone has not received copy of those plans, I will be pleased to send them directly or through the hon. member.

* * *

[*English*]

AIR CANADA

REQUEST THAT PRIME MINISTER GIVE HIGH PRIORITY TO POSSIBLE STRIKE

Mr. Peter C. Bawden (Calgary South): Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question for the Prime Minister. The right hon. gentleman said earlier in answer to a question about the possible Air Canada strike that he had not looked at it recently. In view of the fact that it has had very low priority, would the Prime Minister move it up to

a higher priority on his agenda and take a look at the matter before the strike takes place rather than after the strike?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I am sure there must be some misunderstanding. I do not recall ever having said that I had not looked at it recently. I am sure that if I commented on it at all it was to refer the matter to the Minister of Labour who, on the contrary, has reported more than once to me and the cabinet on the situation and is following it very closely.

* * *

ENERGY

REVIEW OF OIL AND GAS REGULATIONS—POSSIBLE CHANGE IN ROYALTIES AND LEASE RATES—REQUEST FOR DEBATE

Mr. Randolph Harding (Kootenay West): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources. Are the federal oil and gas regulations still under review and, if so, when will the review be completed, and will the royalties and permit and lease rates under the new regulations be substantially increased over the rates existing under the present regulations?

Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): Mr. Speaker, they are still under review. Royalties for offshore oil development are one of the questions under discussion and negotiation with the five eastern governments at the present time, and until those negotiations are completed I would not anticipate that there would be any change in the regulations. The exact nature of the changes will be announced at that time.

Mr. Harding: In view of the statement in the Canadian trade journal, *Oilweek*, that the petroleum industry has had frank, open and understanding discussions with the government on the new oil and gas regulations, may I ask the minister if and when similar discussions on these regulations will be held either with this House or the appropriate standing committee?

Mr. Macdonald (Rosedale): Mr. Speaker, whenever the House wants to so order.

* * *

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

LAOS AND CAMBODIA—CANADIAN POSITION ON STATUS OF INTERNATIONAL CONTROL COMMISSIONS

Mr. Donald W. Munro (Esquimalt-Saanich): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Secretary of State for External Affairs. Against the background of the statement made in the House yesterday relating to withdrawal of the truce supervisory group from Viet Nam, may I ask the Secretary of State for External Affairs whether he is prepared to give to the House and to the country, either today or at some early date, a clear statement on the status of the other two supervisory commissions still legally in existence in Southeast Asia, that in Cambodia and the one

in Laos, and about Canada's present and future involvement on those commissions?

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, I might attempt a brief answer, and if it is not satisfactory I might make a statement later. The position in Laos is that Canada is one of the signatories to the agreement under which the International Control Commission is operating in that country and therefore we have obligations, unlike the situation in Viet Nam. The International Control Commission in Cambodia has been adjourned *sine die* and I see no prospect of it being revived.

* * *

POST OFFICE

ALLEGED DELAY IN DELIVERY OF FIRST CLASS MAIL

Mr. Gordon Towers (Red Deer): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Postmaster General which refers to one I asked on May 7 regarding the slowness of mail, to which I did not receive an adequate answer since specifics were required. Does the Postmaster General consider a complaint received by him from Rosedale Presbyterian Church in Toronto, stating that a letter posted at noon on April 26 in Toronto was not delivered in Toronto until Monday morning, April 30, and the fact that a letter addressed to the Prime Minister from the manager of the Red Deer exhibition and mailed in Red Deer on May 11—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I suggest that this question should be put on the order paper or considered at the time of adjournment.

* * *

● (1510)

STATUS OF WOMEN

INQUIRY AS TO APPOINTMENT OF WOMEN'S ADVISORY COUNCIL

Mr. R. Gordon L. Fairweather (Fundy-Royal): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Labour. When will he appoint the women's advisory council which he promised early in March would be appointed in six weeks, and what accounts for the inordinate delay in such appointment?

Hon. John C. Munro (Minister of Labour): Mr. Speaker, I hope to be in the touch with the House and the hon. member on that matter very shortly, indeed.

* * *

HEALTH

REQUEST FOR GRANTS TO FAMILY PLANNING GROUPS TO REDUCE NUMBER OF ABORTIONS

Mr. Stuart Leggatt (New Westminster): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of National Health and Welfare and arises from a question that was asked by the hon. member in front of me, and also from the concern expressed by the Minister of Justice about the number of abortions that are taking place in this country, a concern not shared by the rest of the Canadian people. Would the Minister of National Health and Welfare give consideration to additional grants for family planning purposes so there may be some approach to reducing the number of abortions in a rational way and an appropriate education program developed across the country?

[*Translation*]

Hon. Marc Lalonde (Minister of National Health and Welfare): Mr. Speaker, if the hon. member takes the trouble of referring to my departmental estimates he will find out that large amounts have been allotted for that purpose.

* * *

[*English*]

MANPOWER

LOCAL INITIATIVES PROGRAM—ALLEGED LACK OF PROJECT RECORDS FOR AUDIT PURPOSES

Mr. Lincoln M. Alexander (Hamilton West): Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct a question to the minister responsible for manpower regarding the policy of extending LIP. In light of the fact that the Audit Service Bureau, as a result of the lack of records by many LIP projects, has on several occasions either declined an opinion or at best has only given a qualified or negative opinion, is the minister aware of this, have there been any recommendations made to his department and has he followed them through in respect of this entire program?

Hon. Robert K. Andras (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, to the best of my knowledge we are following through on the recommendations when we have examined them, checked into them, looked into them and agreed with them.

LOCAL INITIATIVES PROGRAM—NUMBER OF PROJECTS EXTENDED—REQUEST FOR ASSURANCE ALL PROJECTS KEEP RECORDS FOR AUDIT PURPOSES

Mr. Lincoln M. Alexander (Hamilton West): In light of the fact the minister is on the verge, I would hope, of giving some indication as to the number of projects that have been extended—I would hope he is in a position to tell us how many projects have been extended under this new policy—can he assure the House that all the projects being extended have had a favourable auditor's report upon which the minister can act? In other words, can he assure the House that all Local Initiative Programs that have been extended have been the subject of a complete and full auditor's report that has been favourable?

Hon. Robert K. Andras (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, I will take the question in its detail as notice.

[Mr. Munro (Esquimalt-Saanich).]

IMMIGRATION

INQUIRY AS TO POSSIBLE RECOVERY OF TRANSPORTATION COSTS OF IMMIGRANTS FROM UGANDA

Mr. F. Oberle (Prince George-Peace River): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Manpower and Immigration. In view of our government's humane and generous gesture last year of inviting to Canada a number of immigrants from Uganda, can he tell the House whether it is now the policy of his department to recover from these refugees, who came to Canada as a result of the inclement climate in their political system there, the transportation costs incurred by the government?

Hon. Robert K. Andras (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, I will check into the status of that and let the hon. member know.

* * *

AGRICULTURE

POSSIBLE INTRODUCTION OF INCENTIVES FOR PRODUCTION—GOVERNMENT POSITION

Mr. Gordon Ritchie (Dauphin): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Agriculture. In view of his statement that the government would be introducing incentive programs to help farmers "grow to beat the band this year", can he tell the House when these incentives will be introduced as seeding is already far advanced?

Hon. E. F. Whelan (Minister of Agriculture): Mr. Speaker, prices have been incentive enough for them. A lot more fertilizer has been used and they have seeded as many crops as expected and will seed even more than they did before.

* * *

FLOODS

HIGH WATER LEVEL IN LAKE ONTARIO—EFFECT ON PRIVATE LANDS OF LACK OF PROTECTIVE MEASURES ON ADJACENT GOVERNMENT PROPERTY

Mr. Kenneth J. Higson (Lincoln): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Public Works. Is he aware of the continuing erosion of vacant lands owned by the government of Canada along the shoreline of Lake Ontario as a result of the increasing high water level of Lake Ontario where no protective measures are being taken, and the adverse effect this lack of protection is having on adjoining improved privately owned lands where such protective measures have or are being taken, and what does he propose that the government should do about this situation?

[*Translation*]

Hon. Jean-Eudes Dubé (Minister of Public Works): Mr. Speaker, the Department of Public Works or the Canadian government do not necessarily assume responsibility for all damages caused by erosion. This erosion must have been caused by navigation or by federal undertakings in order for us to assume responsibility. I will have in this instance to check the hon. member's request to see whether this actually comes under the responsibility of the federal government.

* * *

[*English*]

AIRPORTS

WINDSOR, ONTARIO—REQUEST FOR ASSURANCE EXPANSION BASED ON DOMESTIC DEMAND

Mr. Derek Blackburn (Brant): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Transport. Can he assure the House that the proposed expansion of the Windsor, Ontario, airport is based on domestic demand and is not a response to the Detroit charter business?

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): It is most surely for local demand.

[*Later:*]

Mr. Blackburn: Mr. Speaker, can the minister explain the rationale behind extending the airport in a community the size of Windsor, Ontario, for the purpose of jumbo jet aircraft?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. A question asked in those terms is argumentative or invites debate—perhaps that is a better way to put it—and is not in order.

* * *

INDUSTRY

SHOES AND TANNING—POSSIBLE GOVERNMENT ACTION IN LIGHT OF REPORT OF ANTI-DUMPING TRIBUNAL

Mr. Sinclair Stevens (York-Simcoe): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce. Can he now confirm that he has received a report from the anti-dumping tribunal in respect of the shoe industry in Canada and, if so, when will he be in a position to make a statement as to what his department or the government intends to do to relieve the plight of the shoe and tanning industries of this country?

Hon. Alastair Gillespie (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): Mr. Speaker, I have received a report from the anti-dumping tribunal and I expect to make a statement in the very near future.

Multiculturalism

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

[*English*]

BUSINESS OF SUPPLY

ALLOTTED DAY S.O. 58—ALLEGED LACK OF GOVERNMENT'S RECOGNITION OF MULTICULTURAL NATURE OF CANADA

Mr. Paul Yewchuk (Athabasca) moved:

That this House, re-affirming that generations of peoples of diverse races and many nationalities have joined in peace and war to build a free Canada and to mold a Canadian nationality, regrets the government's reluctant and token recognition of this reality.

He said: Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased with the opportunity to use one of our opposition days to discuss the question of multiculturalism. The diversity of origins, customs, religions, languages, literature, music and the arts is a precious Canadian asset. Retention and enhancement of these contributions to our society should be given every reasonable assistance, and where assistance involves the use of public funds it is incumbent upon the government to insure that there is no suggestion that such funds are being used to gain political favour.

To date, steps taken to implement a multicultural policy in this country have not convinced many Canadians that the aim has not been in some ways partisan. The program so far has been almost exclusively related to a few grants for this and for that; throw in a four-page ad which has the distinct appearance of election campaign material, and one could easily become suspicious of the motives. I am not being critical of the idea of grants, but it is clear that in order to realize the aims of a policy of multiculturalism much more than a few government handouts is necessary. There has to be a genuine effort to introduce appropriate legislative changes designed to give complete equality to all ethnic groups in the country.

We recognize that you cannot buy or legislate cultural activity or harmony. The government's cultural role has to be a supportive one to create the proper atmosphere and institutional basis to allow the realization by all Canadians of their cultural aspirations, and conditions must be such that these aspirations could emanate from the people, not from the state.

● (1520)

Multiculturalism is a uniquely Canadian concept and represents the traditional difference between the American melting pot and Canadian mosaic. This mosaic probably remains the single most important strand in the fabric of our national identity. Inside the melting pot everyone is rootless, floating like driftwood in the ocean, no roots to attach it to firm soil. Here in Canada, the English, the French and other Canadians of European origin, the Indians, are maintaining their identity and therefore maintaining their roots on Canadian soil. These groups occupy a special place in the unofficial agreement between people of various backgrounds living together, recognizing and appreciating each other's differences and respecting these while maintaining their own particular identities.

The original "B and B" concept failed to recognize this Canadian reality and in fact implied a quiet suppression of non-official cultures and languages, creating a feeling not conducive to unity in the country. Acceptance of and recognition of Canada's multicultural reality gives official status to the positive value of the contribution of other cultures to the Canadian cultural framework. In short, Canada's basic fibre consists of many groups, each of which has a rich and cohesive internal life, each of which has a desire to reach outward, to co-operate with, and appreciate the others.

Official recognition of this Canadian multicultural reality is a new thing for many Canadians. Many Canadians have greeted this recognition with joy, while others have greeted it with some suspicion. There have been feelings expressed that in some way an official policy of multiculturalism will detract from, or undermine, Canada's two largest ethnic groups, namely the English and French.

Mr. Speaker, I want to emphasize that I do not see multiculturalism in that kind of light. Multiculturalism simply adds to the richness contributed to this country by the two largest ethnic groups.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Yewchuk: It is an embellishment and refinement of the definition of Canadian society as it actually exists. I would like to assure those who feel threatened that multiculturalism is not a threat to anyone. As I mentioned previously, official recognition of multiculturalism was generally accepted as a step in the right direction. As far as the non-official language groups are concerned, the policy was nearly universally received with some pleasure.

The minister's announcements of a few days ago concerning the establishment of an advisory council and the plan to hold a national conference on multiculturalism, as well as the various grants, are also small steps in the right direction but none of these things are satisfactory from the point of view of creating a feeling of complete equality amongst all Canadians. Mr. Speaker, there is a growing feeling amongst the ethnic groups that steps so far taken connot be interpreted as much more than tokenism.

Many of the recommendations of the fourth book of the B and B Commission are left unattended, and many moves that could be made to achieve a better sense of belonging are yet to be made. There are certain legislative changes for example that could be carried out. First, a constitutional change would be in order which would officially embody the concept of multiculturalism within the Canadian constitution. This move is not something that would cost the taxpayer but would go a long way toward making all minority groups feel officially recognized and equal as Canadians.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Yewchuk: The language bill could be improved as well by the strengthening of section 38, which deals with the rights of ethnic groups, in such a way as to make the section more positive. The purpose of such an amendment would be to ensure that the Official Languages Act does not have the effect, either directly or indirectly, of restricting in any way the current status or the future growth of any minority languages. Such an amendment could include guarantees of the right to speak a minority

language other than either of the two official languages, and the right of that language to enjoy natural development within this country. Furthermore, the language act could be improved in such a way as to bring about consultation and agreement between federal and provincial governments for the purpose of assisting and encouraging the natural development of any such minority language. It would also be useful to declare minority languages that have been in common usage in this country for many years to be Canadian languages.

I have a letter from the deputy language commissioner which refers to the takeover of a radio station in Winnipeg by CBC and the future right of non-official language groups to use this radio station for programming. At least six times in that letter, the assistant language commissioner refers to German, Italian, Ukrainian and other languages that have been programmed on this station as foreign language broadcasts and, at the same time, to English and French as Canadian languages. The fact of the matter is that English and French as well as German, Italian, Ukrainian and many other languages are all of European origin and therefore, by definition, are all foreign languages to Canadian soil. However, we accept English and French as the official languages of the country, and I do not think that anybody suggests there should be more than two official languages. But we must recognize that other languages commonly used are no more foreign to this soil than either of the two official languages.

Some hon. Members: Hear! Hear!

Mr. Yewchuk: I can see no particular reason that other languages cannot be declared to be Canadian languages in order to avoid the application of the word "foreign" to Canadians who have been here for generations.

Mr. Alexander: That is right.

Mr. Yewchuk: Again, that would not cost any money and would not undermine in any way the two official languages. I want to point out that there are many countries of the world which have several languages which are their own but which have only one or two official languages.

Another legislative change which would go a long way towards creating equality amongst Canadians would be to amend the Canadian Bill of Rights, section I, which deals with the four traditional freedoms. Two more freedoms could be added. One would be the freedom of choice of language to be spoken by any individual—and again I do not suggest the addition of more official languages—and the other would be freedom of choice of culture or way of life. This simple move would put into statute the intent of this parliament and this government to ensure Canadians that the Canadian Bill of Rights explicitly sets out and guarantees Canadians the absolute right to speak any language they may wish, regardless of the universality of such language, and to guarantee them the absolute right to adopt as a style of life any culture or part thereof contributing to the Canadian mosaic.

These changes would reassure Canadians of their right to exist as a cultural group—and you may call that a group right if you like—and the right to be different if they so choose. These rights would guarantee that no politician, no political party or any other group of significant importance could trample on the mosaic and therefore disturb the fine balance between Canadians that has developed over the years.

In addition to amendments to the Bill of Rights itself, Canada should set up an independent national human rights commission to deal with the whole range of individual rights in every field be it labour, housing, status of women or any other field where there is jurisdictional involvement of the federal government. If properly set up and administered, such a commission could be of enormous value in reinforcing the practical every-day application of the Bill of Rights. In terms of moral force, in terms of publicity through periodic reports to the House of Commons, and in terms of administrative decisions, its influence could be considerable. Such a commission could deal with a number of matters which the federal government itself might refer to it. For example, they might refer matters like questions on the census forms, or place of birth information required on Canadian passports, or situations such as have been produced by the takeover of station CKSB by CBC in Manitoba. The commission could also be helpful to the government in the process of removing from the statutes all remaining distinctions between native and naturalized Canadians in order to lessen the opportunities for discrimination that may be presented by these distinctions.

● (1530)

I mentioned before that while Canada has always been a multicultural country, the concept was officially recognized only recently and there are some Canadians who do not fully understand multiculturalism, who feel that in some ways it may threaten them or detract from the official language groups of the country. In order to overcome these problems and to make the general public more aware of multiculturalism and of the contribution made by all Canadians, certain steps need to be taken as part of a public educational program. A two pronged approach would serve the purpose, namely, first, the use of the mass media, of national radio, of television, of newspapers, and of cablevision; and second, the educational system itself, which involves dealings with the provinces in their area of responsibility for education.

With regard to the mass media, the Broadcasting Act appears to present certain difficulties to the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation in that it specifically suggests that the language of broadcasts is to be English or French. While it does not say that other languages should not be used, it is interpreted by the CBC in such a way that other languages are not used. The president of the CBC, when questioned about this matter, indicated that amendments to the Broadcasting Act were not necessary in order to allow the use of third language programming and broadcasting, but that direction from the government and from parliament must come prior to any changes in their policy. At the same time other languages are used in broadcasting in the north, namely, the native languages, a move which I fully support but one which also confirms the fact that the Broadcasting Act does not stand in the way of the use of other languages than English and French on the national networks.

When questioned in the House on this matter, the Secretary of State (Mr. Faulkner) seemed to be of a different opinion. He felt that it was up to the CBC to set policy, and only a day ago suggested that possibly amendments to the Broadcasting Act would have to be made in order to allow third language broadcasting. Whether or not it is intentional, there appears to be a conflict between the opinions of the president of the CBC and the Secretary of State on this question of third language broadcasting. However, this is a subject which must be squarely faced and dealt with in order that multicultural programming can be made available to the Canadian public within a reasonable time. Cablevision could be used for this purpose initially, and the national networks in due course. The National Film Board and the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation should certainly be exhibiting a greater awareness of the variety of backgrounds of Canadians than they presently are.

The ethnic press in Canada has been an important source of information, cultural and otherwise, to many Canadians, but it is experiencing severe difficulty. While government advertising in the ethnic press is of some benefit from the point of view of revenue, such advertising in itself is in no way a means of guaranteeing the viability of the ethnic press. I do not need to emphasize the importance of the survival of the ethnic press as a tool of maintaining language and culture.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear.

Mr. Yewchuk: Increases in postal rates in recent years have acted as a great drawback to a wide circulation of Canada's ethnic press. The situation could be easily remedied by a roll back in postal rates as applied to ethnic and other uniquely Canadian publications.

Another step in assisting the ethnic press would be to establish an ethnic press bureau in Ottawa operated by the ethnic press itself, independent from government ties but with government assistance.

Finally, greater recognition of the third force in Canada could be given by promoting more outward signs of Canada's multicultural nature. Again, these do not run into additional costs. They simply require decisions to be made. For example, we could produce commemorative stamps commemorating authors, poets or other great men originating from ethnic groups. Every level of government can certainly do more to promote multiculturalism through the naming of public buildings, streets, and other public institutions by names which originate in other ethnic groups. In short, all public means should be used to give more indication of our commitment to multiculturalism.

These are some of the principles that must be considered and some of the policies that must be implemented. We must create a society in which every Canadian is proud of his past, his present, his origin, his name, and his ability to achieve equality in this country.

Hon. Stanley Haidasz (Minister of State): Mr. Speaker, I welcome this opportunity to speak on the motion before the House this afternoon, a motion submitted by the hon. member for Athabasca (Mr. Yewchuk) on behalf of his party, which reads:

[Mr. Yewchuk.]

> That this House, re-affirming that generations of peoples of diverse races and many nationalities have joined in peace and war to build a free Canada and to mould a Canadian nationality, regrets the government's reluctant and token recognition of this reality.

In my 12 years as a member of the House of Commons, I have never heard anything more unfair to a government which has a tremendous and enviable record of achievement on all fronts. This motion, I think, demonstrates such an incomplete knowledge of the facts and lack of appreciation of this government's and other Liberal administrations' achievements in the recognition and support of all the people comprising the Canadian society that I am disappointed that the hon. member for Athabasca allowed his name to be associated with such a motion.

I am pleased this afternoon to take this opportunity to put on record the achievements of Liberal governments and to clarify any misconceptions. We in the Liberal party have always worked for unity in diversity. May I refer to the first Liberal prime minister of Canada, Sir Wilfrid Laurier, under whose administration Canada flourished and welcomed to our shores people from many nations. Who is there who is not stirred or not inspired by his ideals and his oratory, especially when he reads the speech that Sir Wilfrid Laurier delivered to Acadians in August of 1900 when he likened his concept of Canada to the harmonious structure of a great English cathedral, saying:

> As long as I live, as long as I have power to labour in the service of my country, I shall repel the idea of changing the nature of its different elements. I want the marble to remain the marble; I want the granite to remain the granite; I want the oak to remain the oak. I want to take all these elements and build a nation that will be foremost amongst the great powers of the world.

I recall many other speeches of Liberal prime ministers, such as those of the Right Hon. Louis St. Laurent who recognized the Canadian reality of multicultural Canada, who in their words as well as in their deeds worked tirelessly for unity in diversity.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Laniel): Order, please. The hon. member for Provencher (Mr. Epp) wishes to rise on a point of order.

Mr. Epp: Mr. Speaker, I apologize to the minister for interrupting his speech but he is lauding former Liberal prime ministers. I believe he made a statement which was erroneous when he said that the first Liberal prime minister was Sir Wilfrid Laurier. In fact, it was Alexander Mackenzie. I would think he would know that.

Mr. Haidasz: I am sorry, Mr. Speaker, I meant the first French Canadian Liberal prime minister.

It was our beloved prime minister, the late Lester B. Pearson, who recognized the need to build a modern Canada as we were approaching the 100th birthday of Canadian confederation. When he established the Royal Commission on Bilingualism and Biculturalism in 1963, he directed them, among other things, in their terms of reference to:

> take into account the contribution made by the other ethnic groups to the cultural enrichment of Canada and the measures that should be taken to safeguard that contribution.

● (1540)

The Liberal government of the present Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) acted upon the recommendations of that royal commission, and he announced formally in the House of Commons on October 8, 1971, his government's policy on multiculturalism. That, Mr. Speaker, was an historic date that will be remembered as the most significant event in the Canadian history of our time.

Our late prime minister, Lester B. Pearson, will also be remembered for his enlightened and humanitarian approach to the needs of the Canadian people. The legislation he introduced such as medical insurance, the Canada Pension Plan, the Canada Assistance Plan, and other progressive and reform legislation will be remembered gratefully by the Canadian people.

Canada also honours its men and women of outstanding achievement with the Order of Canada, thanks to Lester B. Pearson. The Order of Canada was created on Canada's 100th birthday, and will be forever associated with Lester B. Pearson whose initiative led to the establishment of the order, and gave our country its own system of recognizing merit, achievement and courage. It is a fitting memorial to his great patriotism and statesmanship. Among his many other achievements is our national flag which takes its place of honour to the right of your chair, Mr. Speaker. It was with satisfaction that the Canadian people learned that effective July 1, 1972, the Order was to be enlarged, while at the same time a new Order of Military Merit gives recognition for outstanding achievement on the part of members of the Canadian Armed Forces.

The Liberal governments, present and past, have recognized other outstanding Canadians of various ethno-cultural groups by appointing them to the cabinet, to the Senate to diplomatic posts around the world, to the courts of justice, and to federal agencies and advisory bodies. I recall at this time distinguished Canadians so honoured by Liberal governments such as the famous Ukrainian Canadian, Senator Wall of Winnipeg, a Lebanese Canadian, Senator Basha of Newfoundland, our Jewish Canadian senator, Senator David Croll, a Ukrainian Canadian physician, the Hon. Stephen Worabetz who was appointed the Lieutenant Governor of Saskatchewan, His Honour John Decore, a chief judge for the district of northern Alberta, and also the Hon. Michael Starr and Peter Taraska, and as recently as May 15 this year Mrs. Isa Scotti, were appointed judges of the Canadian Citizenship Courts. The Postmaster General (Mr. Ouellet) is also considering commemorating famous Canadians and ethno-cultural groups through a special series of commemorative stamps.

Moreover, Mr. Speaker, it was Liberal governments, always guided by compassion and humanitarian considerations, that opened Canada's gates to refugees from displaced persons camps, to thousands of former soldiers, to refugees fleeing from Hungary, Czechoslovakia, Tibet, Uganda, and to other immigrants. Our governments have a distinguished record also in assisting these refugees to settle in Canada. Many immigrants to this country have been assisted through paid language courses, vocational retraining or up-grading, in this way facilitating their entry into the main stream of Canadian life.

Canada has also assisted its citizens who are striving to be reunited with their families by being a signatory to the United Nations Charter on Human Rights and by insisting, during preparatory talks on European security, that countries act on the reunification of families, freedom of travel, and information exchange.

But the most recent significant development in the field of federal recognition of the contribution of Canadians of all ethno-cultural origins was on that historic date, October 8, 1971, when the Prime Minister formally announced his government's official policy on multiculturalism. May I take time to quote some of his remarks on that occasion. He said:

> There are two official languages, there is no official culture, nor does any ethnic group take precedence over any other. No citizen or group of citizens is other than a Canadian, and all should be treated fairly.

He also said on that occasion:

> A policy of multiculturalism within a bilingual framework commends itself to the government as the most suitable means of assuring the cultural freedom of Canadians.

The importance of the Prime Minister's statement is that it clearly presents the government's position in this sensitive area, and in doing so it removes constraints and sanctions, particularly official or quasi official ones, that impede the full participation of all groups in Canadian society. Furthermore, the statement is a clear recognition of a reality, the reality that multiculturalism has always existed in Canada, beginning with the diversity of the native peoples, followed by the arrival of explorers from various countries, and reinforced by waves of immigrant settlers from around the world. The record of our government is one of recognition, respect for and encouragement of this cultural diversity as a distinctive feature of the Canadian identity.

An aspect of this recognition is that while Canada is to have two official languages, and legislation in the form of the Official Languages Act has been passed to ensure that Canadians can deal with their government in one or the other of the official languages and guarantee the acquired legal and customary right of other languages, Canada does not, and I repeat does not, have an official culture or cultures. A policy of multiculturalism is a policy of virtually unlimited scope and one which allows all strands of thought, values and beliefs to contribute to the identity we have as Canadians. Culture is not something which should be officially sanctioned, for if it is to have any meaning it must be free to grow and change as the values and beliefs of the Canadian people change. The role of the government is to eliminate barriers to cultural development and, where necessary, to provide support to expressions of the various cultures in our country.

Moreover, this support must be in response to an initiative on the part of the groups themselves. To have it otherwise, in my judgment, would be folly. The government cannot and should not develop a multicultural society by decree, for in attempting to do so something artificial would be created. The cultural identity we have as Canadians is for all Canadians to contribute to, and what we as a government must ensure is that everyone has a full and equal opportunity to participate in the development of our way of life. This concern of ours that all Canadians should participate in the development of our cultural identity is a major consideration which guides our actions. Consequently, we are well aware of the need

to sensitize the majority groups in Canada to the value of a multicultural society.

Last November the Liberal government manifested its faith in the concept of multiculturalism by appointing a Minister of State responsible for multiculturalism and by assigning to him the task of the implementation of its policy in a vigorous and effective manner. Upon assuming this post, I requested of my officials that they prepare a policy paper which would, on the basis of the experience in the past year and a half, and in light of representations made to us, expand the existing programs and introduce new ones. I am happy to say to you today that I was successful in obtaining approval for a new and expanded program which underlines the fact that the policy on multiculturalism, initiated by this government, is being implemented with both seriousness and determination.

● (1550)

On May 17 in the House of Commons, Mr. Speaker, I was pleased to announce the first appointments to the Canadian Consultative Council on multiculturalism. I envisage this council playing an important role in the development of multiculturalism in Canada. It is composed of able people who were selected on the basis of their achievements and abilities, and not, and I wish to emphasize this, because they belong to certain ethnic organizations. The primary role of the council is to provide an overview of all ethno-cultural groups in Canada including the dominant groups, the native peoples, the well-established minority groups and the newer ones which are still arriving in Canada. It is intended to examine their changing relationships to each other and to chart the long-range course of multiculturalism.

We see this council as a unique experiment in consultation for the federal government. It is much larger than most advisory bodies simply because we want to ensure that it is as fully representative as possible of all peoples and regions of Canada. In addition to serving as a source of consultation for the government, it is our desire to see it serve as an effective instrument for the development of cross-cultural understanding among members of all Canada's ethno-cultural groups, by playing an important role in sensitizing members of the dominant cultures to the needs, aspirations and values of Canada's minority groups.

The responsibilities of the council are onerous, but we have every reason to be optimistic for, in my judgment, the membership of the council is composed of excellent people who will work to ensure the full participation of all Canadians in the cultural development of this country. I am asking them to begin their work as soon as possible and expect that five regional meetings across the country will be convened in the next few weeks in preparation for a national meeting.

Our federal government continues to take the initiative in meeting the need to preserve and nurture our cultural heritage and is responding to the aspirations of the ethnocultural groups of Canada by creating and further developing the multicultural program. If the program is to continue to meet the needs of Canadians, an ongoing consultative process is necessary. The Canadian consultative council on multiculturalism is, of course, an important instrument in this process. But other techniques are necessary, too, if we are to keep closely in touch with those we serve, and specific organizations and individuals should be given an opportunity to express their views within a national forum. For this reason, I am convening the first national conference on multiculturalism to be held in Ottawa this fall. The members of my consultative council will be in attendance and I hope that all interested organizations will be active participants in these deliberations.

[Mr. Haidasz.]

There have been those who said that the multicultural policy has been one of "tokenism". The hon. member for Athabasca (Mr. Yewchuk) said that a few moments ago. We reject this view entirely. Funds in the amount of $3 million were made available in January, 1972 to carry out the initial organization and launch not only a project grants program, but also other specific programs to express the multicultural reality of Canada. These included a major research program into the role that language plays as a factor in cultural retention, the commissioning of a series of textbooks on the histories and contributions of ethno-cultural groups to the development of Canada, an examination of ethnic studies in academic institutions, developmental work with multicultural centres, negotiations with provincial governments and ethnocultural groups regarding the writing of language textbooks, the beginning of a series of films on the present day life styles of different ethnocultural groups, the initiation of programs to make books and films in ancestral languages available across Canada, and the development of collections and exhibits depicting the heritage of all the groups making up Canadian society.

I list these activities not merely to illustrate how much work has been done since January 1972, but to make a very essential point. The multicultural program is not merely a granting program. It is something far more complex and far more significant than that. It is a response to a major change in direction in our society, a change of which many organizations in Canada are in the forefront and of which they are well aware.

Mr. Speaker, I must say that at a time when governments at all levels in Canada are being accused of excessive, and indeed frequently wanton expenditures of public funds, it is refreshing to be accused of having an undue regard for the public purse. Unfortunately, the allegation that has been made by the hon. member for Athabasca rests neither upon accuracy nor a recognition of this government's efforts to exercise both restraint and wisdom in the expenditure of public funds.

The basic argument of his party is that we are not doing enough to promote multiculturalism and more especially our expenditures reflect a token recognition of the multicultural fact in Canada. As I mentioned, only a few days ago I announced in this House that my budget for the multicultural program has been tripled to $10 million. This is a large sum by any standards and if the members of his party regard amounts of this size so lightly, I think the people of Canada ought to note this and count their untold blessings that they have not entrusted the government to a party which would use public funds of this magnitude so flippantly.

I do not take the hon. member's charge of tokenism seriously, Mr. Speaker, as I do not think he really means it. Perhaps it is intended to be provocative for its own sake

or for the sake of the debate this afternoon but the barrenness of his party's policy on multiculturalism is evident. So that there will be no confusion over the plans which this government has for multiculturalism, and so that at least we can retain the distinction of being clear on what we advocate as a party, I should like to highlight for the edification of hon. members opposite, the major direction and components of our multicultural policy.

I want to say that the best known of our programs, and certainly the one from which we have had the greatest public response, is that of multiculturalism grants. This program was implemented in January of 1972, and since then more than 300 ethno-cultural groups have received financial assistance to assist them in undertaking cultural and social projects. One of the basic criteria of any responsible government is to determine needs which can be legitimately made before deciding how much money to seek and then deciding how to spend it. This latter course appears to be the one which the hon. member for Athabasca favours, and it is quite possible the reason his party is not in power today.

Governments must base their decisions on a good deal more than talk, Mr. Speaker. They must decide on the legitimate aspirations and genuine needs of the ethno-cultural groups. The government is well satisfied that the multicultural grants program is meeting the needs of those whom it is intended to serve. On the basis of expressed interest in it, and also because we have regretfully had to refuse a number of deserving applications in the past year, $1.1 million will be added to the existing budget for this program in this fiscal year.

● (1600)

Further on the subject of program expansion, Mr. Speaker, and the allegation of tokenism, let it be noted that under our program of grants for multicultural centres, we are increasing our expenditures there by well over 300 per cent in actual dollars; the amount involves an increase from $154,000 to $654,000.

As well as having increased the funds available for the establishment of multicultural centres, we have also modified the criteria originally established for this program so that we can provide greater support for these very desirable facilities. Indeed, it is our desire to see multicultural centres develop throughout Canada because they can be a very significant factor in developing cross-cultural understanding. I must say, however, that the basic initiative for establishing these centres rests with the people in the communities themselves and, as they demonstrate a desire for these facilities, I shall ensure that adequate resources are made available so that those requests which do come within the clear terms of established and public criteria need not be denied assistance. If this is tokenism, Mr. Speaker, I would be most grateful to hear how our position could be more liberal and still remain responsible which, of course, is a concept that the opposition party does not have to attach great significance to, since they have been unable to persuade the electorate to entrust them with the care of federal programs.

As I announced in the House of Commons on May 17, the government is establishing a Canadian identities program as a further, and important part of its multicultural program. The purpose of this program is to increase an awareness and understanding by all Canadians of the cultural diversity and, within Canada, expenditures under the Canadian identities program will, in this fiscal year alone, exceed $3.8 million.

Additionally, the government plans to continue its assistance to multicultural projects involving all media of communication, including films, radio and television, theatre, literature, crafts and cuisine, travelling exhibits under the sponsorship of the National Museum of Man, and the collection and exhibition programs of the Public Archives. Encouragement to conduct research in ethnic studies is an integral part of our multicultural policy, and the government proposes spending a further $425,000 on its multicultural studies program in this fiscal year.

The very special role and problems of the ethnic press in Canada are well understood, and we shall be making greatly increased use of the ethnic press to supply all cultural groups with essential information on such matters as the availability and entitlement to pensions and other individual assistance programs which are of interest to many Canadians.

The government recognizes that many young Canadians experience difficulty in retaining their ancestral languages, and in consultation with the provinces and to give Canadians greater opportunity to learn more of their cultural origins, we have undertaken to provide language teaching aids to those provinces and ethno-cultural groups which have expressed concern because these aids are not presently available from Canadian sources. Research on the role of ancestral languages as an element in the retention of a culture is currently under way. We are extending this program to include a larger number of ethno-cultural groups and rural areas in Canada in addition to the large urban centres, previously the focus of this program, as recommended to us by many ethno-cultural groups and members of this House.

Our multicultural programs are relatively new, and I think it is only prudent that before seeking additional funds, or making additional commitments, we, as a responsible government, should be satisfied that there exists a legitimate reason for doing either of these. Neither do I profess to have ready all of the solutions to our multicultural needs, or, indeed, to foresee all of them. I am, therefore, always grateful for advice which is objective and factually given and which comes from members of this House and various ethno-cultural organizations. There is no doubt that the government's multicultural programs have been received with great success, and that is perhaps nowhere more apparent than in the desire of the official opposition to identify themselves with support for the basic concept of a multicultural Canada. I thank them for that.

I have followed the public reaction to our multicultural programs very closely, and I think it is worth citing from an article in the Montreal *Star* of May 12 by a distinguished Ukrainian Canadian, Mr. Roman Rakhmanny. He wrote:

> ... neither the Progressive Conservative Party nor the New Democratic Party has included in its program any form of multicultural policy.

I shall be quite content, Mr. Speaker, to have the Canadian people decide at an appropriate date whether this government's effort to foster a multicultural society has been a token one or not. I take some consolation in this matter, even at this stage in the life of our government, in knowing that we shall have a record on which to go to the people. Unfortunately, the Conservative party continues to remain in its traditional position of saying what they would do if only they could persuade the people of Canada to entrust them with the responsibility of leading the country. The record of this government already exceeds that of any government in the past with respect to assistance to all of Canada's peoples and our position and programs are clearly stated. We have not indulged in epithets; we have not recited meaningless clichés or adopted positions of tokenism.

Canada stands today on the threshold of troubled times. In an era when economic and technological changes in the world have produced sweeping dislocations without precedent in the entire swell of human history—

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Laniel): Order, please. I regret to interrupt the minister, but the time allotted to him has expired and he may continue only if he has the unanimous consent of the House.

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Mr. Bell: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, it is with deep regret that we must insist that members stick to their allotted times. The minister could be allowed a minute or two in order to finish his remarks but it will take our members every minute that is available this afternoon to straighten out the fantasy which he has been putting on record.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Laniel): Is the proposal submitted by the hon. member agreed to?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Mr. Haidasz: In an era when economic and technological changes in the world have produced sweeping dislocations without precedent in the entire swell of human history, and at a time when the traditional seams of cohesion threaten to snap, a major thrust in Canadian multicultural development is most opportune. Whether the search for identity and struggle for survival prove to be divisive or cohesive, futile or fortunate, will depend on the degree of our participation in shaping Canadian society.

Our attitude, our interest, our response to the federal government's initiative and leadership must transcend economic problems, social differences and language barriers. It must involve all of us. Yes, all of us must be concerned with the development of the Canadian cultural mosaic that will do justice to all Canadians. The additional human and financial resources which will be allocated to carry out these programs is further evidence of the importance that this government attaches to its multicultural policy. That is what multiculturalism is really all about, and I invite all hon. members to participate fully in this Canadian multicultural destiny.

[Mr. Haidasz.]

Mr. Alexander: Mr. Speaker, I wonder if I might be permitted to ask the minister a question on a matter that needs clarification.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Is this agreed?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Mr. Haidasz: Yes, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Alexander: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I could not ascertain from press releases whether the people who represent the minister's advisory council represent visible minority groups who make up our cultural mosaic. Can the minister clarify this question for us? Does it, in fact, represent the ethnic minorities?

● (1610)

Mr. Haidasz: I am pleased to say the membership of the council on multiculturalism is representative of all the ethno-cultural groups in Canada. I will send the hon. member particulars of the membership, from which he will see that it includes representation from among the black people in Canada.

Mr. Alexander: I was not making reference particularly to the black people, though I am glad to see the minister has included them. I am thinking of the Indians, the East Indians and the Eskimos. I am pleased to know that this is what is happening. I would appreciate the information in any event.

Mr. Haidasz: The native peoples of Canada are represented, both Indian and Eskimo. And the East Indians.

Mr. David Orlikow (Winnipeg North): Mr. Speaker, the former Prime Minister, Mr. Pearson, proposed the establishment of the Commission on Bilingualism and Biculturalism. The New Democratic Party Members of Parliament supported the recommendations made by that commission because we recognized that the unity of Canada was endangered by the feeling among French people, particularly those in Quebec, that they had not been treated fairly in Canada. Some of us, though, including the former member for Selkirk who is now premier of Manitoba, suggested on more than one occasion that while recognizing that English and French were the official languages of Canada, both the federal government and provincial governments should encourage, financially and otherwise, the continuing use and development of the cultures and languages brought to Canada by the other ethnic groups. This was probably because all of us represent essentially English-speaking constituencies and because many of us represent constituencies whose population is largely ethnic in origin, that is, they contain large numbers of Canadian citizens whose origins are neither English nor French. Such citizens, now, in fact, make up one third of the population.

I do not regret the support which I and other members of the New Democratic Party gave to the policy of biculturalism. But I want to say to the minister who has just completed his statement that it is because so many Liberals made this policy appear to be a political issue which only the Liberals can solve that so many Canadians have in recent years felt doubts about that policy. The Liberal

party did no service to Canada by taking such an approach. I say to the minister that he does nothing good for Canada by suggesting that only the Liberal party has such a policy with regard to multiculturalism. If these programs are to be successful they will succeed only to the extent to which Canadians of all ethnic origins in all provinces accept them as being a response to the aspirations of all Canadians irrespective of party. When the minister gives the impression that only his party has a policy which meets the needs of those whose origin is neither English nor French, he invites opposition parties to criticize his programs even though, occasionally, they are on the right track.

We accept the principle that the cultural traditions brought to Canada by the various ethnic, religious and racial groups which came to this country during the past 200 years are of value to the development of our national culture. The literature, art and music they brought to Canada have all helped to develop a greater cultural depth in this country. As to the native peoples, in recent years Canadians have begun to realize, for the first time, I suspect, that the people who lived in this land before it was called Canada also have a culture and a way of life which possessed, and possesses, an ability to make a contribution to the over-all achievements of our society. I draw attention to the world-wide acclaim which has been given in recent years to Eskimo sculpture, prints and other forms of art. It is only in recent years we have begun to realize that those who lived here before our forefathers arrived possessed a distinctive and valuable culture of their own—that they were not savages, and so on, as they were too often called, and as they are still sometimes referred to, in our history books.

Volume IV of the report of the Royal Commission on Bilingualism and Biculturalism recognized and accepted many of the ideas which some of us who are neither of English nor French origin have been expressing from the time the proposal to establish the commission was first made. I have already indicated the principles which guided us. The minister, in his speech, quoted with approval the statement made by the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) on October 8, 1971 at which time he accepted the principle of multiculturalism. The words he spoke on that occasion were excellent, as was the document tabled at that time, which was entitled "The Federal Government's Response to Volume IV of the Report of the Royal Commission on Bilingualism and Biculturalism". I do not have time to put on record all the excellent ideas and principles which were expressed in that document, but let me quote just a few of the statements made in that response by the government:

> Bilingualism does not properly describe our society. Multiculturalism is more accurate.

And later:

> The Government of Canada will support all of Canada's cultures and will seek to assist, resources permitting, the development of those cultural groups which have demonstrated a desire and effort to continue to develop, a capacity to grow and to contribute to Canada, as well as a clear need for assistance.

It goes on to say:

> Government aid to multicultural centres, to specific projects of ethnic groups and to displays of the performing and visual arts as well as the programs already mentioned, will promote cultural exchange.

Then, later:

> The government will continue to assist immigrants to acquire at least one of Canada's official languages in order to become full participants in the Canadian society.

After discussing the process of implementation and administration, the document states:

> The growing provincial interest and public action in the field of multiculturalism make it imperative that the two levels of government co-operate. Patchwork programs and jurisdictional confusion will result unless an attempt is made to coordinate federal and provincial policies at the ministerial level and good relationships are established between the officials administering the programs.

All these are excellent ideas. What dismays me is that for a period of almost a year and a half after this statement was made, the government did virtually nothing to implement these principles. We are told today that the government is providing $10 million for that purpose this year. Until the present year, the appropriation was a great deal less—something in the neighbourhood of $2.5 million. Why is this? It is not as if the ethnic communities are bereft of organization or leadership or ideas. Ten times the $2.5 million appropriated last year could have been spent. Why was there virtually no consultation between the government of Canada and the ethnic groups? The minister has not explained that.

● (1620)

Mr. Haidasz: There was consultation.

Mr. Orlikow: The minister says there was. I represent a constituency which probably has more ethnic groups and people of ethnic origin than any other constituency in Canada. I am in frequent consultation with them and I know the groups that receive funds and the groups that do not. But until today I have been unable to get any explanation from the government or from these groups as to why certain of them get grants while others do not. Much more important than the fact that I could not get any explanation is the fact that the organizations themselves could not get any explanation. It is true that criteria were tabled supposedly outlining the basis on which grants would be made. I have looked at these criteria and I know which organizations received grants and which did not. Although I have lived in my constituency all my life and know these organizations quite well, I know no more than they do why some got grants but others did not.

The document that I quoted refers to the absolute need for consultation with the provinces. I have not had a chance to discuss just what happened in other provinces, but I do have some connection with the present government of Manitoba and on more than one occasion I have discussed with the minister in charge the objectives of this program in that province. The province of Manitoba is doing its own work in this field, and also encouraging ethnic groups by providing funds. It makes no sense to me, as it made no sense to the federal government when they tabled their response to volume 4 of the report of the royal commission on bilingualism and biculturalism, to run these federal and provincial programs virtually in separate compartments.

On the many occasions when I discussed the amount of consultation being had between the federal government and the provincial government of Manitoba in respect of this kind of programming, I was assured that there was little, if any, consultation. The minister in charge of these programs, the former Secretary of State, came through Winnipeg once or twice and paid a courtesy call on the minister in charge in Manitoba, but there was no—

Mr. Haidasz: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. Perhaps it would be helpful to the hon. member if I stated that I met, on a visit to Winnipeg, with the hon. Mr. Desjardins and had several talks with one of his chief advisers, Mr. Cecil Senchyshyn.

Mr. Orlikow: Mr. Speaker, I accept what the minister says and it merely confirms what I have been saying. The minister has only been in his present portfolio for a relatively short period, and I am saying that until he was appointed to his present position the federal government and the departmental officials responsible for implementing the program were not in consultation with the provinces. I am not just talking about a meeting between ministers but about detailed discussions between officials of the department of the federal government responsible for this work and provincial governments across Canada. These kind of discussions are required to achieve a sensible co-ordination that will make these programs work.

The minister spoke with a good deal of pride about the appointment of his advisory committee and I want to congratulate him on that score. But again I point out that almost a year and a half has been lost. There was no need to wait a year and a half before appointing a committee representative of most of the important ethnic groups so that the kind of consultation that is really required if the program is to be meaningful is had. The appointment of the advisory committee is a case of better late than never.

Members on this side of the House have been critical of the government in view of the fact that, having apparently enthusiastically endorsed the recommendations made in volume 4 of the B and B commission report a year and a half ago, the Prime Minister and his government have taken all this time to do the most elementary and fundamental things that are required to be done if this program is not to be what the hon. member for Athabasca (Mr. Yewchuk) said it has been. I agree with him that, to a large extent, the program until now has been tokenism.

Those of us who represent constituencies that are largely ethnic in composition cannot be blamed if until now we have felt that to some considerable extent grants were given not on the basis of need, or on what organization can do the best job or is the most deserving, but rather possibly on the basis of political considerations. I am not saying we are right on that count, but I am saying that until the government made the move it made recently and appointed an advisory committee that is representative to conduct meaningful consultations with the provinces and provide a budget that begins to meet needs both for this year and next year, we critics could not be blamed, either inside or outside parliament, for feeling that the program was, as I say, tokenism to a large extent.

Mr. Prud'homme: Would the hon. member accept a question?

Mr. Orlikow: Mr. Speaker, I do not mind the hon. member asking me a question but I only have a few more minutes. If the House will give the hon. member the time when I have finished, I will be more than happy to answer his question.

● (1630)

Let me say further that we hope to be able to say the government has finally moved along the lines we felt it should have moved a year and a half ago. We hope that the advisory committee will have real power and that consultations with the provinces will be meaningful. We hope that if the government finds that $10 million is not enough it will provide more money. We can assure the minister we will not criticize the minister for being profligate with the taxpayers' money but will support him in the expenditure of whatever amounts are reasonable in order to implement the policy the government has adopted in principle and that we enthusiastically support.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Is the hon. member for St. Denis (Mr. Prud'homme) seeking the floor to ask a question?

Mr. Prud'homme: Yes, Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask the hon. member a question.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Since the hon. member did complete his remarks when his 20 minutes had expired, I think the hon. member must seek the consent of the House in order to ask a question. Is there agreement?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Mr. Prud'homme: This is not a controversial question, Mr. Speaker, but rather to enlighten the House. Does the hon. member realize how difficult it is, and how long it takes to set up a multicultural advisory committee? Does he realize the multitude of consultations which must take place in every province of Canada? Unless someone is appointed by the government, and this could be done very rapidly, does the hon. member realize the difficulties that must be faced in consulting every single ethnic group in every single province in Canada, and how long this would take if it is to be well done?

Mr. Orlikow: Mr. Speaker, if the hon. member asking the question came from an area closer to Manitoba than he does, he would realize he need not ask a member of any party representing north Winnipeg that kind of question. My constituency is like a small United Nations, and if any Member of Parliament knows the difficulties and intricacies in respect of ethnic groups in this country, I want to assure the hon. member that I surely do.

Mr. Prud'homme: There are 17 languages spoken in my district.

Mr. Orlikow: I should think it would be easier to appoint an advisory committee of this kind when the ethnic groups are well organized and represented by a multitude of organization than it would be to set up a Local Initiatives Program or an Opportunities for Youth Program. We spent a lot more money in this regard, and

we started with no organization and no representatives at all. I do not think that is a very valid reason for taking so long.

Mr. Otto Jelinek (High Park-Humber Valley): Mr. Speaker, I hope you will bear with me and my bad voice, but spring has been catching up with me.

I enjoyed hearing the minister's statistics in respect of moneys proposed for ethnic grants, but to date I still fail to see a clear government policy benefiting all Canadians. I should like to take the opportunity of answering the minister's allegation regarding this party. I can assure him that, if and when this party forms the government, we will not only have a policy we will update on a continuing basis but, more importantly, it will not take us three and a half years to realize that we have a multicultural situation in Canada, whether we like it or not.

Briefly, Mr. Speaker, let me just make my thinking clear as far as multiculturalism is concerned. Contrary to the critics of multiculturalism in Canada, and unfortunately there exist a great number of critics, some here in this House, multiculturalism in no way constitutes an attack on the basic duality of our country. We all know there are two official languages in Canada and no one is trying to take away the importance of either of them. We all know that Canada has many of its own original cultures, such as Eskimo and Indian, and no one is trying to take away the importance of that. We all know that Canada has developed many talented individuals and organizations over the years in all walks of life, be it in education, literature or the arts, and no one is trying to take away the importance of that either.

What then do we want, Mr. Speaker? We want both justice for all Canadians and recognition of the cultural diversity of this country. We want the opportunity of continuation of the talent, cultures and arts brought to Canada by our fathers and forefathers. The federal government can and must play an important role in utilizing the resources and powers which only it has rather than promoting itself and its ministers as it so lavishly did through the recent national advertising campaign at the taxpayers' expense. The government should assist all ethno-cultural communities in Canada to become dynamic and creative. This course would benefit not only the Canadian members of a certain community but, in the long run, all citizens of Canada. This is a simple principle of preserving and enhancing the many cultural traditions which exist within our country.

I agree with some of the suggestions made last year by Heritage Ontario for the benefit of all Canadians. These are suggestions which the government has not acted upon or even reacted to. But how can you expect this government to act upon anything if it does not even have a clear policy of its own on these matters? The only thing the government seems to have done so far, as I said earlier, has been to advertise through the ethnic press across Canada the fact that it, indeed, has a minister responsible for multiculturalism. I suppose we cannot blame the government completely for this display, as how else would the people of Canada know there was such a department, let alone a minister responsible for it?

In the last number of years, Canada has been characterized by an expanding economy in which there has been a vast increase in the impact of technology on the forms of our social organization and the cultural life of our society. Two results of these changes have been the social and spatial mobility of people and the increasingly important role played by the mass media, primarily television, in the lives of the population. For the minority ethno-cultural groups, the consequence has been an increased pressure to adapt to these changes at ever increasing rates. Groups have been forced to concentrate most of their energies on self-preservation. Since the cultures of Canada's ethnocultural minorities are a common resource, they must not only be maintained but, above all, developed.

It is not only necessary to deal directly with the individuals and their organizations, but to deal and work as much as possible with such national bodies as the National Film Library, the Public Archives, the National Film Board and many others; to work and to promote in the interest of all Canadians, within a unifying scheme, the development and promotion of all cultures available to any Canadian citizen. For Canadians to reap full benefit from the many-faceted nature of these cultures, we must have an adequate means of cultural exchange among all segments of our population. The government, the media, the cultural agencies and our educational systems must share responsibility for ensuring that the people of Canada are informed about all of Canada's ethnocultural groups and have access to each other's cultural heritage.

It has long been recognized in Canada that international cultural exchange is an important aspect of cultural development. It was to this end that the government of Canada participated directly in international conferences with France and other French-speaking countries. I believe this to be a very positive development which should be extended to other countries that share with Canada common cultural attributes. I strongly endorse the recommendations of Heritage Ontario that the federal government and Canada's ethnocultural groups initiate cultural exchange programs with the originating countries of Canada's ethnocultural groups.

● (1640)

In conclusion, Mr. Speaker, I should like to make a suggestion concerning what I believe to be the only realistic way to operate with regard to this multitude of problems and possibilities. I must point out that I am speaking personally and am merely expressing my own opinion in this regard. I do not believe that the council which is presently being assembled by the minister will be able to cope with the problems at hand, if for no other reason than size alone and the indiscriminate manner in which appointments are made to the council. I believe a government agency, perhaps along the line of Sports Canada, should be formed which would be representative of all Canadians. This agency would be manned and operated by representatives of all minority groups, including Indian and Eskimo, who would be selected or elected by their own communities and who would sit under one umbrella organization, so to speak, which would be directly responsible to the minister and his department.

Until something along this line is developed, I cannot foresee the government being in a position to deal in an

adequate, fair, equal and productive manner with the hundreds of different groups in Canada. I wish to remind the minister that the greatest strength of Canada lies in its people of various cultural heritages and backgrounds. The quality of the lives of all Canadians has been enriched by the number of cultures that have joined to form our society. It is important that we maintain this rich cultural heritage while adapting to changing conditions in Canada. I believe in Canadian unity, and will play any part I can to ensure that this unity is maintained in every sense of the word. First, however, we must persuade the government to do the same.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Henry Latulippe (Compton): Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to take part in this discussion and to find that we have before us a most interesting motion. It deals with various questions—particularly from an ethnic viewpoint—concerning the technicality of biculturalism and multiculturalism.

Mr. Speaker, this motion reads as follows:

That this House, re-affirming that generations of peoples of diverse races and many nationalities have joined in peace and war to build a free Canada and to mold a Canadian nationality, regrets the government's reluctant and token recognition of this reality.

Yet, during the war, for instance, we recognized all those nationalities and because of that war, we allowed all those ethnic groups to live more decently and to speak their languages. In spite of the war, they were also allowed to continue erecting their buildings, use their mother tongue and learn a lot of things.

War, Mr. Speaker, actually put an economic power in the hands of citizens. Even if several things were manufactured only for the purpose of war, citizens suffered many technical and physical hardships. Nevertheless, we were able to develop in a few years a hundred times more than during the ten depression years. During the depression nothing was possible, but with the war everything became possible.

Now, Mr. Speaker, before talking of bilingualism, multiculturalism and languages, people must have the means to live. I know that in Canada we have some means but we must borrow from future generations in order to be able to live. To build what each nationality needs to develop and even live—schools, churches, well, everything—we have to use the formula of capitalism which says that you have to go into debt and borrow. We cannot do anything unless we go into debt and mortgage the future in order to develop our country. So it is quite difficult from that point of view to allow all ethnic groups in Canada to develop according to their aspirations.

Mr. Speaker, according to the study and a survey made by the Treasury Board, the number of French-speaking and bilingual public servants is not adequate. Bilingualism programs are ineffective and inadequate. High officials are always recruited among unilingual anglophones in preference to others.

This is what Mr. Spicer says in his report.

I am certain that the problem, Mr. Speaker, has to do with economics: all those who have economic power are free and self-governing. Money has no language, but it has power, and this is what Canadians need most.

[Mr. Jelinek.]

Then, Mr. Speaker, if a beneficial economic system were set up, if taxpayers were provided with the necessary funds, they would have their own power and they could use it as they please, and they could develop technically in all respects. They could also speak their own language and develop their nation according to their aspirations.

Mr. Speaker, in order to establish unity in our country, to reinstate unity, national unity must be strengthened by granting equal rights and opportunities to all Canadians. Whether they be French-speaking, English-speaking or other, all Canadians have the right to live. Every human being has the right to live and this right, Mr. Speaker, must be safeguarded and it is up to us, in this parliament to safeguard the rights of the citizens. At present, we safeguard the rights of the dollar bill, of finance, but the rights of the human being, we despise them. That is what we are doing now.

● (1650)

In fact, I claim that in this country, the problem is not so much one of language than of participation. Even though the whole federal administration were bilingual, the problems would not be solved, since French Canadians or people from other countries would not feel at home. Thus, it would not be possible to solve the problem only through bilingualism. It is very important, Mr. Speaker, that structures and administrators be fairly and equitably divided among the ethnic groups making up our country.

We have been living in hope for a long time. In 1969, when the Official Languages Act wAs passed, it gave rise to great hopes because we thought then that we would have a tangible contribution to make. What did the royal commission on biculturalism do to settle the problem of bilingualism? Though this inquiry cost more than $9 million, we only learned that there were so many French Canadians, so many Ukranians, so many English Canadians and so many German Candians in Canada. That is all we got out of this inquiry. Then, the problem will not be solved through inquiries. To solve this problem, we must enable Canadians to take part in the administration of their country, give them the importance they deserve.

If, for instance, 27 per cent of the people are French Canadians and 10 or 12 per cent belong to other ethnic groups, each nationality, according to the population ratio it represents, must be accepted within the public service and each should be able to exercise powers and participate in the administration like all the other groups in Canada. That is how we will really create in Canada social unity and give Canadians their true rights.

All linguistic rights are recognized, but financial power is necessary in order to exercise them. Since that power is detrimental to all that, we find it difficult to exercise our true powers and allow each nationality to develop normally. If we have true respect for human beings and their linguistic and cultural rights, let us arrange to make available to them what they lack to acquire their rights. And such true rights citizens will enjoy if we supply the population with economic power, which dominates all others. The exercise of any other power is useless without economic power. So let us fight for and demand economic power. Having obtained it, we shall have political,linguistic and ethnic powers, in short all powers.

There is much else I should have liked to say, but since other hon. members want the floor, I shall be content with the few remarks I have just made.

[*English*]

Mr. Chas L. Caccia (Davenport): Mr. Speaker, I should like to thank the hon. member for Athabasca (Mr. Yewchuk) for choosing this topic for today's debate, even though his motion is drafted in such highly partisan terms—

An hon. Member: Like the minister's speech.

Mr. Caccia:—that it does not add very much to an unbiased, lucid and objective approach to the topic of his choice. It strikes me as being significant that today's debate has taken place so far in English and French, not in Ojibway, not in Italian, not in Polish, not in Ukrainian, not in Greek, and not in Portuguese. This has a certain significance. If the hon. member had spoken in Ukrainian in making his opening remarks, if the Minister of State (Mr. Haidasz) had replied in Polish and had been followed by the next member speaking Jewish and then by me speaking Italian, perhaps we would have been achieving real multiculturalism. The fact remains that we are addressing each other in this debate today either in English or in French, and this is something that strikes me as being a fact of life in this country, a reality with which we are all coming to grips and from which we probably draw different conclusions but which nevertheless could also be a subject for a deeper analysis.

Apart from this observation, let me say that this debate raises several other questions. It raises the question of what is the role of the state in determining the cultural policy of the nation. Is it to strengthen and encourage the retention of identities along the road travelled so far which has found its definition in the term "mosaic", or is it that of strengthening and encouraging the integration of individuals in the new society which eventually leads to the so-called melting pot? Is it also to keep in mind considerations of national unity and of common denominators despite differences, this being a third alternative apart from the other two?

Another question that this debate raises in my mind is whether it is good to have a separate policy, a separation between the multicultural policy on one hand and the other cultural policies of the state. Should there be a distinction between the two, whereby you have the Secretary of State (Mr. Faulkner) implementing a policy aimed at Francophones and Anglophones and another policy that takes care of all the others. Is this something to which we would like to address our thoughts? I would like to do that, and also to consider what the consequences are of these approaches in the long run.

Another question that comes to my mind, of course, is one that has been raised by many other speakers, namely, do we believe in hyphenated Canadianism, such an Anglophone-Italo-Canadian, or a Francophone-Greek-Canadian, or an Anglophone-Armenian-Canadian, and so forth? What is the meaning of that and what are the implications of this approach?

These are very intriguing questions, but I should not compliment myself upon the fact that I am asking these questions. Nevertheless, they arise from the motion which is now before us. I do not have the answers, of course, but I think there is more to this subject than is revealed by the terms of the motion put to us in a highly partisan way by the hon. member for Athabasca. This is a very important and serious matter which cannot be measured in terms of the cash value of cultures. It is for this reason that when the idea of creating a council and its composition where announced by the Minister of State I thought it was a tremendous thing. I believed that a body had been launched which perhaps could provide some of the answers to these questions which cannot be resolved in the course of an afternoon's debate. For instance, some of the questions which should be put for guidance and deliberation are: Which direction is the state to take within the Canadian experience, and if there is a balance to be achieved between identity and integration, what kind of balance should it be? What is the role of the federal government, of provincial governments, and of municipal governments?

The hon. member for Athabasca raised a number of points in his remarks, some of which were purely under provincial jurisdiction, such as, for instance, the teaching of other languages in high schools. Different standards and different patterns are applied in the various provinces. Another question is: What is the role of volunteer agencies. The next one is related to the point which I just raised, namely, should multiculturalism remain a separate component of Canada's cultural policy? Another area for investigation which intrigues me very much is: What do the second, third and fourth generation Canadians expect from multiculturalism, and what does it mean to youth, to the ones who will probably be implementing some of the ideas that are being forged now? When you have individual approaches, there are all sorts of replies to such questions and some of them are so much in conflict with each other that it is rather difficult to reach a conclusion regarding what the expectations are. Obviously, the expectations of the first generation Canadian who has voluntarily become Canadian during his lifetime are quite different from the expectations of second, third or fourth generation Canadians.

• (1700)

The perception of the country and the ambitions are varied as a result of the experience of each generation. This is why I say it is rather sad when cultural programs are measured in terms of dollars and cents or, even worse, when they are compared with expenditures for implementing the Official Languages Act, as was done some weeks ago by the right hon. member for Prince Albert (Mr. Diefenbaker). That question was raised by him in this House, and comparing the two struck me as being a kind of cheap politics. Really, this is not the way we should approach these two questions.

Obviously, bilingualism is a policy that is highly supported and is received with great enthusiasm by all cultural groups in this country, because through the bilingual policy we see a vehicle to a recognition of a multicultural society. Therefore, the comparison of one with the other is a most unfair approach. Actually one program complements the other. The bilingual policy is followed by the multicultural concept. There is historic evidence for this

statement because, if I remember correctly, when the commission was launched it was a bilingual and bicultural commission. Then, over the years it was discovered that there was more to the question than just biculturalism, and so that approach was modified. As I say, the two are tied in with each other. Bilingualism is a recognition of the two languages and is highly welcomed in Canada today.

Of course, it is true that financial support is important, but more than that is needed. What is needed is vigour, vitality, and the will to retain one's culture, and to keep it up to date. It is a dynamic force. It is a way of life. It is language, of course. It is customs. It is art. It is folklore. It is a way of doing things. If these ingredients are there, then the funds will follow as a natural consequence, but let us not measure the funds first and then see what happens to multiculturalism. Multiculturalism is an option that is offered to the Canadian people, and its vitality has already been expressed in the first two years of the government's program. If that continues, the question of funds will be resolved. I am keeping my speech short because the thought has been expressed that there are others who want to speak in this debate. The main emphasis of my little speech is to ask that we treat some of these questions with care, in order that we approach the matter as objectively as we can.

The answers to these questions will be more readily found if we keep the subject out of so-called partisan politics, and whether we will be able to do that remains to be seen. Perhaps in these present days, Mr. Speaker, we are engaged in the process of shaping a rather unique society the like of which does not exist in other parts of the world. Perhaps we are travelling along a broad middle road, motivated by the liberal instinct of providing the broadest scope for expression to men and women of good will. Let us keep it that way, Mr. Speaker.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Stan Schellenberger (Wetaskiwin): Mr. Speaker, I see that the Minister of State (Mr. Haidasz) was consulting with the hon. member for Athabasca (Mr. Yewchuk), and I hope some solutions have been reached. I listened very attentively to the last speaker, and I assume that most of his questions will be answered in the future by the minister who, I may say, gave us a very good history of past prime ministers. I came to this chamber as a new member. I was very happy that the minister gave us that past history, but I am looking for some future policies. I hope, as the previous speaker just mentioned, that we can work together in developing a worthwhile type of multicultural society in Canada.

I am delighted to rise in support of the motion moved by my colleague from Athabasca, for to me the subject of multiculturalism and all it implies for our country is fundamental to our Canadian existence and prosperity. From the beginning in this country, we have wisely resisted the lure of an American style melting pot society in which all are assimilated. As a result of the decision of the British Crown to reject Lord Durham's recommendations and ensure the survival of the French language and culture, and the Roman Catholic religion, Canada has been a place where a multiplicity of identities has been encouraged, not as an end in itself but as a valid expression of the greatest unifying force we have in Canada, the common love of her varied peoples for Canada, and for each other.

My constituency mirrors the mosaic pattern of which we have heard so much. The elusive Canadian identity, which I think makes us stronger, not weaker; freer, not less free, shows up in my riding with a population which is 12 per cent German. I speiken zie Deutch, but I do not think our interpreters do here in the House. Some 7 per cent of the population is Ukrainian, and 10 per cent is other including Magyar, Gaelic and French. In the same way my own ancestry illustrates the rich background which has developed this land. My great grandfather left the plains of Prussia and settled in Alberta. His son's first language was German. His grandson, my father, had English as his first language but always remained fluent in German. And so today his great grandson rises to speak in the parliament of Canada, although I have lost all the German, in support and defence of that great tradition of diverse development. He rises as a man who is thoroughly Canadian and who only occasionally catches glimpses of his antecedents in the great dishes my mother prepares and in which I probably indulge too much.

But I rise as one who is convinced of the validity of my ancestry as part of the Canadian experience, an experience which, as I have said, has tremendously enriched this country and which can, if properly aided and maintained, continue to keep Canada Canadian, united and free. So a challenge presents itself to government today, and that challenge is a fundamental one. It is not an invitation to make funds available to sponsor pretty folk dances in quiet local communities, in town squares, as the Russians sometimes do for the slave states of the Ukraine and Georgia. It is a call to preserve a multicultural presence in a completely Canadian context, for we know that the various ethnic groups charged with this task are among the most fervent and patriotic in Canada today. Indeed, some of our self-appointed "relevant" trend setters, who have been here longer, could learn many lessons about Canadian citizenship from these people.

The motion before us refers to tokenism in the government's policies and attitudes towards multicultural development. Of course having a Minister of State charged with this is a very fine thing, but in itself it means nothing. One aspect of this tokenism is the appalling paucity of the budget for multiculturalism. A sum of $10 million sounds like a lot, and is in fact two and a half times last year's budget, but after the minister's overpriced advertising propaganda campaign, of which I hope the opposition has completely informed him, and the salaries of the bureaucrats who seem to proliferate these days, how much will actually be left to do the job? How much will get down to the local level where it can be much more effective? A government content to spend over a billion dollars of revenue to administer the unemployment insurance scheme—which we have just read is consuming our tax dollars at a new and record level—and a paltry $10 million for citizenship development, has got its priorities mixed up, and that is an understatement.

● (1710)

I should like to see much more assistance and funding available for the important experience of travel, to let

Canadians learn to share their views and identities with each other. Personal contact is worth millions of words or dollars paid to an advertising agency. Education is, of course, the root of the problem and the solution. Too many school systems disregard the diverse ethnic contributions to the progress and history of Canada. Local and regional history is nearly totally ignored. Literature courses cover only Anglophone authors. Immediate assistance should be given by the government to fund provincial educational programs to allow a certain amount of teaching, not only in the two official languages, but also the other languages.

The school systems should be used to promote, rather than to discourage, the use of non-official languages in Canada. On a per pupil basis, this federal funding would be an investment in the future of this dominion. Assistance is needed, too, for school library programs, teacher training, provincial exchanges of information. With provincial co-operation, incentive grants should be made available to schools with outstanding multicultural programs. The resources of the government should be made available to develop history and social studies courses with a view to ensuring a more balanced picture and a broader perspective. The government should help to ensure that many languages are available for study, especially in the early learning years. These should be taught in relation to a cultural context, and not in a vacuum as if they were foreign to the Canadian experience. The previous speaker mentioned that perhaps education is a provincial matter, but I would point out that the education costs across Canada in 1971 were some $7.4 billion and the federal contribution was 21.3 per cent. The estimates for 1972-73 are $8.8 billion. Just the beginnings of the program I have mentioned would gobble up that $10 million budget in one bite.

One of the most important steps the government should take is the increasing of support and funding of multicultural centres across Canada. Only if at the local and regional level understanding and history are promoted will community understanding and more national unity be fostered. I must state the appreciation of many of my constituents for the grant given to their multicultural centre for development studies at Stony Plain, and the apparent co-ordination by Opportunities For Youth officials. But much more will be needed and, I trust, afforded this project in particular and other similar efforts.

I am not unaware, Mr. Speaker, of the need to proceed circumspectly in this field. We do not want insensitive handling or misunderstandings to give rise to the type of disunity and ill-feeling which this government has sometimes successfully promoted in the past. We exist not to divide, but to unite; what the government should remember, too, is that we exist to serve the people, and not as an end in ourselves. If the multicultural program is allowed to wallow in bureaucracy and civil service inefficiency, it will do more harm than good.

In conclusion, Mr. Speaker, I am proud to be associated with policies to develop our heritage and with the motion that the hon. member for Athabasca has put forward today. I am proud of the rich variety of that heritage which we can see even in this House. Let us hold fast to this good thing and develop it with the care and attention it needs; not to serve partisan propaganda ends or enrich the sociologists and advertising men, but to help build a better, stronger Canada in which the diverse backgrounds of all are welded into a firm common future.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Marcel Prud'homme (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Regional Economic Development): Mr. Speaker, I was struck by the motion of the hon. member for Athatasca (Mr. Yewchuk). Immediately, Mr. Speaker, I must admit that I was very much disappointed with this motion, in which the hon. member says that he regrets the government's reluctant and token recognition of this reality. At least, that is how it reads in today's order paper.

Mr. Speaker, a matter as important as that of multiculturalism in Canada should in fact transcend any party politics and we should admit that this motion of the hon. member is highly unfortunate. Of course I do not want to voice any political considerations myself; I only regret the terms he used to draft his motion. He accuses the government—particularly the present government—of tokenism when it comes to the multicultural policy.

Mr. Speaker, is it tokenism for government members to have been first to admit that Canada was multicultural? The hon. member knows very well that we have come a long way, beginning with a concept of bilingualism and biculturalism, and ending with the recognition of the Canadian reality which for historical reasons, is that of bilingualism but which, for reasons of social order, prompts us to recognize that multiculturalism exists in Canada.

This was a giant step taken by the present government. And the hon. member should not try to say anything to the contrary. In fact, this was a historical gesture when we announced on October 8, 1971 that henceforth we would prefer to have in Canada a multicultural policy which would be expressed within an official bilingualism.

The hon. member knows very well—and if he does not know, I will tell him—that I have always defended, long before it became official, the policy concerning multiculturalism.

I will keep some of my arguments for the debate on the bilingualism resolution which will soon be introduced in the House, but right now, I wish to say something in both French and English—I am extremely proud of being a French Canadian. However, when I really discovered that I was proud of being a French Canadian, I realized an important thing, that is others must also be proud of their extraction. Whether we are from Ukrainian, Italian, British, Irish, Scottish or Welsh extraction, we always have to be proud of it.

In such circumstances, I find the multicultural policy excellent. Indeed, it recognizes to each of us the right to be proud of our extraction. And for historical reasons which we may reconsider next week during the debate on bilingualism, we can say that our pride in our ethnic extraction is expressed in Canada through two official languages.

This multicultural policy, far from being a piecemeal approach, as suggested by the hon. member for Athabasca, is an additional example which should strengthen tolerance that has always existed in this country. In that regard, I think that I will now draw closer to the view expressed by the hon. member for Athabasca.

If some people in Canada, and especially in the House, believe that is perhaps there a superior race showing more tolerance towards the others, I immediately say that we must dispute such an ideology.

● (1720)

[*English*]

There is in Canada no superior race and no superior group. We are all equals in this country, and as long as I am a member of this House or am anywhere else in Quebec or in Canada, I will make absolutely sure that everybody realizes that no one is superior to anyone else because of background, because of the alleged superiority of his language or because we use one language more often than any other language in this country.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Speaker, to my mind it is unfortunate that the hon. member for Athabasca should have told us that the government is not really interested in a multicultural policy, that it uses it merely to flatter the people and induce them into supporting the liberal party, perhaps for political ends.

For the guidance of the hon. member for Athabasca and those who may share his views, I shall quote a journalist of high repute who is certainly very well known in Canada. I refer to an article published in the *Montreal Star* on May 12, 1973.

[*English*]

I now wish to quote something written by a man, highly regarded, not only among Ukranian Canadians but, as well, by all others across Canada, including many writers and journalists. I am referring to Mr. Roman Rakhmanny, a Montreal journalist and native of the Ukraine who moved to Montreal 14 years ago. I will not quote much of his article. Nevertheless, what he wrote, it seems to me, refutes the charge that we are merely interested in tokenism in our multicultural policy. He wrote:

> To be sure, no one doubts the sincerity of the architects of the policy; they did what they believed to be just and necessary for Canada. Nevertheless, there was no debate during the last election campaign, which would have clarified the primary issue of the problem; the need of constitutional guarantees for the 'third-language' groups.
>
> More specifically, neither the Progressive Conservative Party nor the New Democratic Party has included in its program any form of multicultural policy.

I shall continue reading from the article in a moment. The author refers to the Ontario government. I wonder which government is guilty of adopting positions of tokenism in this country. Is it this government, the government of Ontario, or the government of the province of Alberta? Mr. Rakhmanny goes on to say:

> The Ontario government supported a large Heritage Ontario Congress last June. A similar conference on multiculturalism was held in Alberta and its recommendations were upheld by the new Conservative administration.

However, as Professor M. E. Lupul, a prominent Ukranian Canadian of whom the mover of the motion must be aware, remarked, although those recommendations were upheld by the new Conservative administrations, "Neither has lifted a finger yet to put into practice the precepts they seemingly have embraced."

[Mr. Prud'homme.]

Let me tell you what I think about this, Mr. Speaker. I think that because the federal government in October, 1972, announced that Canada was a bilingual and multicultural country, and showed the way, the province of Ontario said, "We must do something, too," so they organized Heritage Ontario. This action was followed by the action taken by the provincial Conservative government of Alberta, which thought that it, too, must organize something similar. Consequently, it organized Heritage Alberta. Neither of these governments has done anything yet in the multicultural field. I will not mention all the things that the minister has done. I will only say that ever since he was appointed, the minister has been absolutely tireless.

[*Translation*]

The minister spared neither his efforts nor his time in making of this policy a truly positive policy to help Canadians better respect, know and understand one another.

The hon. member knows full well—and I said so a while ago to the hon. member for Winnipeg North—that it is not easy to set up an advisory committee whose members are obviously not all chosen from the riding of Winnipeg North. It is quite obvious that if the members of that advisory committee had been selected in the riding of Saint-Denis in Montreal, where 17 languages are spoken, and not solely in Winnipeg North—

[*English*]

I have always said that the district I represent is like a small United Nations, and it works. My majority was not provided by the French; it was provided by every group. The community I represent includes 17 linguistic groups. If the minister had asked me to supply him with a multicultural board from the riding of Saint-Denis in Montreal, it would have been easy to oblige him. Obviously, it would have taken me only one week to do this. However, the minister had to consult with people all across Canada, with people in every one of the ten provinces and in the Northwest Territories and the Yukon. He had to attend an unbelievable number of meetings with various groups.

Mr. Yewchuk: Nonsense. He sent letters.

Mr. Prud'homme: I think the minister started by doing the right thing. He sent letters first and, after that, held consultations, as the hon. member ought to know.

[*Translation*]

There are also, in the hon. member's remarks, certain points which I should like him to elucidate—not today, of course, but in the future—and which I find hard to understand.

When, for instance, he says that the CBC, under the Broadcasting Act, is denying us programs in languages other than French or English, I should like to ask him, in the first place, what he is suggesting to the House. Is it the creation of a third state television network, over and above the French and English ones? There is something which I personally dislike to hear, although I am of French origin, is that Canada is divided into three groups of different origins.

[*English*]

Some hold the concept, which I reject, that Canada is divided between the French, the English and the others.

Mr. Yewchuk: That is the hon. member's concept.

Mr. Prud'homme: I have always said, even in the hon. member's district in western Canada, if my name were "Prud'hommeski", I would reject the concept, as would the hon. member of German origin who spoke, as would the hon. member for Athabasca (Mr. Yewchuk) and as would the hon. member for Davenport (Mr. Caccia), that I am "one of the others". I would object to that. I ask the hon. member, what kind of broadcasting act would he envisage in order that we might adopt such a concept in this country? Would the hon. member be ready to cut out some programs on the English CBC network in order to have programs in Ukrainian? If so, would not every single one of the other groups whose mother tongue is not one of the official languages of this country raise their arms and say, "We want a program in our language, too?" Is he suggesting that French stations should curtail their programs somewhat in order that we might broadcast programs in Italian, say?

Mr. Yewchuk: Right.

Mr. Prud'homme: If that is what the hon. member is suggesting—

Mr. Yewchuk: That is what I am suggesting.

Mr. Prud'homme: —then I, personally, reject that concept. I think we are now approaching a time at which, with the multiplicity of channels available, there will be no need to change the Canadian Broadcasting Act. We should continue to use Radio Canada and the CBC as they are, and allot other channels so that persons who want to listen to one of the other languages may do so.

● (1730)

Mr. Yewchuk: You just rejected that.

Mr. Prud'homme: I did not. I said it should be done by others, not by the CBC.

Mr. Yewchuk: You said you did not want a third one.

Mr. Prud'homme: I am asking you if you want a third CBC. If so, in what language will it operate? A CBC for the others? I say I reject that concept. I want the hon. member for Athabasca to define what he meant by "the others".

Mr. Yewchuk: The hon. member asked me to define what I meant. I am sorry he was not listening to my speech. What I meant was that the CBC, as it now exists, should allow third language broadcasting on both the English and French networks.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Prud'homme: Mr. Speaker, in case the time allotted to me is more advanced than I think, I should like to make a few constructive suggestions.

Multiculturalism

If the government is serious about this multicultural policy—and I think it is, judging from the efforts the minister has made to date and the amounts of money earmarked for this policy—if the government is really serious—and I shall think it is unless proven otherwise—it must appoint more and more people of ethnic origins other than French or English to sit on government agencies.

In all Crown corporations, it is obvious that people belonging to other groups than the French and the English are clearly in a minority, as well as elsewhere.

I believe—and it is already a beginning at the present time—that it is up to the CBC, through its French and English networks, to show Canadians what Canada is—and that can be done in French and in English—to indicate in both languages the cultural contribution of the ethnic groups other than the French and the English, who have, for all that, as everybody knows, historical rights that others have not.

I think that the National Film Board is beginning to make films in the languages of those people who wish to keep their identity in Canada by clinging to their language and origins, but the National Film Board should show those films in English and in French in order that Canadians of long standing, from English or French stock, may realize and appreciate better the cultural contribution that groups other than Francophones or Anglophones have made to Canadian history. That is something that is not well enough known among the Canadian people, Canadians of old stock if you would rather call them that way. As for me, I do not like the word "ethnic", I would rather say: old Canadians and new Canadians. If old Canadians of English or French origin were better informed of the cultural, historical and economic contribution of communities other than French and English ones, there would be better understanding in this country and people would accept one another better.

I also hope, Mr. Speaker, that during election campaigns there will be fewer and fewer people, especially in western Canada—

[*English*]

—and more particularly in western Canada where we see politicians who for the sake of easy re-election play ethnic group against ethnic group as I have myself heard, not only during the last campaign. I am not putting the blame on one individual or on one particular party.

Mr. Yewchuk: Put it on the Prime Minister.

Mr. Prud'homme: I said I am not putting the blame on anybody, but if the member wants to start mentioning names I might give him a preview of names I could mention next week. What I am saying is that time after time we have seen politicians of various political parties—I am ready to go that far—playing one against the other. For instance, I have in mind the example of a district where the French Canadians—I prefer to say les Canadiens français—you know where I place the emphasis; I did not do the translation from "Canadiens français" to "French Canadians"—I am as Canadian as the hon. member for Athabasca and Canada is as much mine as it is his, or anyone else from western Canada, I can assure you of that, Mr. Speaker—

Mr. Yewchuk: I agree with that.

Mr. Prud'homme: I want to say this in conclusion. I hope that in future politicians of every party will try to explain the history of Canada. I hope they will try to explain what we mean by recognizing two official languages. Then it will be much easier to make people understand why Ukrainian is not one of the official languages, even though in one particular district they might number 40 per cent of the population while the Canadiens français might account for only one per cent. The day politicians begin to realize the history of this country and explain it in various parts of Canada, Canada will be really bilingual as well as highly multicultural.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Jake Epp (Provencher): Mr. Speaker, in speaking in favour of the motion before us, my purpose is to give the minister responsible for multiculturalism some of my views and suggestions. I trust they will be in a positive vein.

First, though, I must comment on some of the statements just made by the hon. member for St. Denis (Mr. Prud'homme). It is precisely that type of veiled threat he has just finished making with reference to western Canada, in which he gave the impression that people are elected on the basis of bias and bigotry, which should have no place in this House. It should have no place in Canada whatsoever.

[*Translation*]

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Boulanger): Does the hon. member rise on a question of privilege?

Mr. Marcel Prud'homme (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Regional Economic Expansion): Yes, Mr. Speaker.

I took all possible precautions to escape the trap in which the hon. member would like me to fall now. I never said what the hon. member suggests I said and he has no right to credit me with such intentions. I spoke in a general way. I did not show any political partisanship and I think that the hon. member opens the debate on a very unfortunate note as my intentions were not really such and if that is what the hon. member understood, well, I think he misunderstood me.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Boulanger): Order. I regret, but I rather feel the hon. member is initiating a debate.

[*English*]

Mr. Epp: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As I said before, I believe the innuendo was there, and I do not think an innuendo of that type has any place in a discussion of bilingualism or the multiculturalism we are discussing today.

As the underlying premise of the ideas I wish to convey to the minister, let me state clearly that bilingualism, together with biculturalism, is an historical fact of Canada. It is also a constitutional fact. I agree with other speakers that for too long we have paid only lip service to the French language. I fully recognize that Canadians who are French speaking have a right to expect services from the federal government to be provided in the language of their birth. In other words, I want to say that multiculturalism does not detract from the official policy on bilingualism and biculturalism. I do not believe that multiculturalism is divisive. It does not undermine bilingualism or biculturalism. But I believe that this government in the past, especially between the years 1968 and 1971, gave the impression to many Canadians of so-called multicultural background that multiculturalism had to be played down in order that bilingualism and biculturalism could survive. It is clear to many smaller ethnic groups that while multiculturalism has been played down and just lip service paid to it as a policy, there has in fact been very little constructive policy between these years.

• (1740)

Ethnic and multicultural groups have made contributions to Canada of various kinds, and I shall not go into that aspect. Canada is a pluralistic society, but first of all we must be Canadians, not hyphenated Canadians. There is no such thing as an English-speaking or French-speaking Canadian being any better than any other Canadian; we are all Canadians and that is what we should stress. Each member of this House should take it upon himself to bring this message to all Canadians in their ridings. Divisiveness on the basis of nationality and ethnic background has no place whatever in Canada. I suggest members on both sides of the House heed this lesson very carefully. I do not disagree with the minister that multiculturalism as such has been recognized, and I welcome this and commend him for it. But we must also recognize that the so-called third group—a term that I also have some difficulty with—has a background which, when its members came to Canada, had to be if not negated at least reduced in terms of the importance those members would have liked to give it.

Today, we see our young people whose background is not French or English asking for a clear identification of their cultural background of generations ago. Someone said that a person who forgets the lessons of the past has no right to look to the future, and I think that multiculturalism proves that looking to the past is a valid concept. Canada has been a refuge for many people. This country welcomed those who do not belong to the two largest ethnic groups in Canada, and I believe that they have made their contribution in a positive way and added to Canada's contribution on the international scene as well.

Multiculturalism policy can fall into the trap of becoming partisan. Much has been said today about former prime ministers of the Liberal party recognizing this fact when they made multiculturalism part of government policy. I do not want to discredit that fact, but I should like to refer to the contributions made and the leadership given by the government led by the right hon. member for Prince Albert (Mr. Diefenbaker). Speaking now as a western Canadian, the right hon. gentleman was recognized by multicultural groups as a man who, in turn, recognized the contribution that they had made to life in Canada, and that it was a positive contribution. It was not simply a matter of increasing funds from $3 million to $10 million and of saying: "I have now recognized you and that you have made a contribution".

In his statement in the House on October 8, 1971 the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) outlined the multicultural policy of the government. In reply to his statement, the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Stanfield), as reported at page 8546 of *Hansard* of that date, had this to say:

> I wish to state immediately, Mr. Speaker, that the emphasis we have given to multiculturalism in no way constitutes an attack on the basic duality of our country. What we want is justice for all Canadians, and recognition of the cultural diversity of this country.

That, Mr. Speaker, is what we want, a recognition that the contribution has been made and that multiculturalism not only be an official policy but that clear cut action be taken to implement that policy.

I direct my attention to two specific areas. One is the problem of language instruction. Much is said today about third language instruction in schools. Having taught high school in western Canada for some time and taken a second language other than French, I know what has happened to second or third language instruction, depending on interpretation, in western Canada.

As long as our universities, specifically in Alberta and Manitoba, had a second language requirement for entrance to most faculties, there was in our high schools the maintenance of second language instruction. Generally this second language instruction was French, Ukrainian or German. Since the governments of Alberta and Manitoba have now dropped this requirement for almost all faculties, the impact on second language instruction in the high schools has been disastrous. Today, students do not opt for second language instruction, be it French, Ukrainian, German or any other language that is authorized.

The federal government and the provincial governments must together provide, to my way of thinking, a positive program whereby once again there will be a resurgence of second language instruction. Not only is a second language an advantage and gives a person an additional cultural outlook; it is a necessity if language instruction is itself to survive at all and western Canada is not to become even more unilingual than is the case now. So, a program of financial aid will have to be stepped up and students must be encouraged to take second language instruction.

Another point I want to make concerns radio broadcasting. The hon. member for St. Denis (Mr. Prud'homme) has given the House his view about the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, though I do not subscribe to that view. If the House will recall, we discussed the sale of radio station CKSB of St. Boniface for use by the CBC as a French language radio station. I have no quarrel with that, and I have so stated previously in a debate in this House. But I do suggest that the CBC re-evaluate this policy, and that if need be the Broadcasting Act be amended so that in cases where the need is demonstrated time be made available on English or French speaking CBC stations for so-called third language broadcasting.

Why do I say that, Mr. Speaker? There are many radio stations across Canada, especially in western Canada, that might make time available. But very often this time is not prime time, and the financial obligations that have to be met are such as to pretty well exclude the use of these stations by multicultural groups. Volume four of the report on bilingualism and biculturalism, which is entitled "The Cultural Contribution of the Other Ethnic Groups", contained these recommendations:

> 8. We recommend that the CRTC remove restrictions on private broadcasting in languages other than English and French, except those restrictions necessary to meet the administrative and legal responsibilities of the licensees and those that also apply to English- and French-language programmes.

● (1750)

> 9. We recommend that the CBC recognize the place of languages other than English and French in Canadian life and that the CBC remove its proscription on the use of other languages in broadcasting.

I suggest to the Secretary of State (Mr. Faulkner), to whom the CBC is responsible, that the necessary amendments to the Canadian Broadcasting Act be made so that time can be made available by the CBC, be it on the English or French stations, to these multicultural groups for the broadcasting of information.

I should like to commend the Secretary of State for embarking on this program, limited though it is, for the development of films of an ethnic nature. This present policy needs encouragement and expansion. I concur with the hon. member for St. Denis (Mr. Prud'homme) that these films should be made in English and in French for the purpose of education and giving a better understanding among all Canadians of the various backgrounds we have, yet common to the Canadian identity we share.

Lastly, it is approximately 100 years since Canada really embarked upon a multicultural program, in the sense that it was approximately 100 years ago the so-called third groups or third forces began to come to Canada. Up to that time, Canada was known to other than the native people as an English and French-speaking country. As these people are embarking today on centennaries, and I could point out various groups, I suggest there is great credit to Canada in that 100 years later, even though these people have learned the English language, primarily for economic reasons, they retained and gave to us some of the culture they brought, for which Canada is the richer.

As we approach this period in time, looking again at what effect this has had on Canada as a country, we should recommend very strongly to the minister and his colleagues that the department of multiculturalism should not simply be considered as a second-rate department, but rather a full-fledged department promoting programs based on the fact that Canada is better off because of the contribution these ethnic groups have made. Once this is done, I am sure a greater understanding will evolve in Canada. I, personally, am convinced that when we consider our various backgrounds it will only be when we understand and communicate with each other that understanding will develop and that we, as Canadians, will recognize our responsibility to foster a Canadian identity in spite of our diversity. Canada is too important to me to be divided by partisan issues on the basis of nationality. Our responsibility is to build a national unity.

Mr. Jim Fleming (York West): Mr. Speaker, I think I overheard someone mention that I have a lucky seven minutes remaining. I will try to be as brief as I can in my remarks as I know the hon. member for Meadow Lake (Mr. Nesdoly) has been trying for sometime this afternoon

to get the floor. I may be able to complete my remarks in a couple of minutes so he will have an opportunity to speak.

First of all, I should like to say how much I regret the word "regrets" and all that follows in this particular motion before the House today. I think it most unfortunate that one member of the official opposition a moment or two ago summed up what I really wanted to say this afternoon, that this is surely a subject of concern to us all. We are all of ethnic backgrounds and all part of the multicultural complex that makes up Canada today. In fact, if anyone can say he is not a member of one of these ethnic groups, then he must be a native Canadian. Only a native Canadian can honestly say he is not part of what has been developed in Canada.

I think I am one of the few people who has risen this afternoon in the House who is perhaps not tarnished with that term I so much dislike, the "third group". I think perhaps the hon. member for St. Denis (Mr. Prud'homme) and myself somehow get shoved into the other two categories. I do not see it that way at all. I see us as one people in Canada, members of a nation that has been built to greatness by diversity. It is only because we have grown over the years as English and French that we can say we are stronger because of that, and because of what one has offered the other and what each has offered this country. That is also so of the so-called "third force". It has grown in strength and is equally important. We are all equal and we all have something important to contribute.

I can very well remember 12 or 13 years ago, when I began working in the metropolitan urban area of Toronto as a young journalist, how dull and staid a city it seemed. It was not because the English, Scottish and Irish did not have a great heritage and style, but because that was all we had. That was the main force within the boundaries of that area. We learned about little else to diversify our understanding, pleasure and interest in the cultural backgrounds, languages and styles. In that 10 or 12 years, I have seen a tremendous change, which I think has in fact created a really great city that did not exist 10 or 12 years ago. It is now one of the most cosmopolitan cities on earth.

Some five years ago if you were a first or even second generation Canadian and did not speak English or French, you suffered a stigma; you were second class. I do not believe that is so today. I think all that changed in October 1971 when this multicultural direction was established by parliament. I think we have followed through on that with the $3 million given to the program last year and the $10 million this year. What other program dedicated to preventing the slipping away of the cultural backgrounds of these people has had its funds tripled?

I share the concern of some hon. members on the other side about the radio station in St. Boniface, and I certainly will make as many representations as I can to the government that its multicultural programming should remain. I agree with the issue presented by the hon. member for Provencher (Mr. Epp) concerning second languages in school. I think that is predominantly a provincial matter, but certainly any federal input that can help should be forthcoming.

There are a number of things I wanted to mention, but I want to leave a moment or two for the hon. member for Meadow Lake. I want to conclude by saying how very proud I am to be the member of a riding in which, while it is made up of 40 per cent or 45 per cent with Italian background, 40 per cent or 45 per cent with an English background, 5 per cent with a French background and 5 per cent with other backgrounds, all the constituents consider themselves Canadians and have come to enjoy each other and to enjoy Canada even more because of each other.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Boulanger): Order, please. I cannot recognize the hon. member for Meadow Lake (Mr. Nesdoly) as it is now six o'clock, unless the House agrees that we should continue.

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

An hon. Member: We have two minutes left according to that clock.

Mr. Elias Nesdoly (Meadow Lake): Mr. Speaker, I should first of all like to quote something said on television not too long ago by a character named Archie Bunker. He said "Whattaya wanna learn yourself Spanish for? English is good enough." I hold in contempt the sentiments mouthed by this illiterate American television character, yet there appears to be reason for believing that the imbecilities cherished by Mr. Bunker are not totally absent from the Canadian scene.

I regard the various cultural traditions now domiciled in Canada as a great national good and as an extraordinary national resource. There is no reason for believing that a theatre group offering plays in German or Ukrainian is less important to our national wealth and welfare than mineral deposits or arable lands. It does take money and labour to extract minerals or to make wastelands arable. It also takes money and labour to extract cultural values, yet this fact is not accepted as completely. Much money is put into various economic programs by both federal and provincial governments. We are interested in creating jobs. However, we forget that things of cultural value nourish the body as well as the mind. In at least one aspect of national interest it seems preferable to pour development grants into multicultural programs rather than into industries because industries often are owned by non-Canadians. Multicultural projects in my view are most completely Canadian.

I have much more to say, Mr. Speaker, but this will complete my comments for today. I feel that one aspect which has not been touched upon today during this debate is that we should not worry so much about multiculturalism but should be thinking in terms of a Canadian culture, period.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Boulanger): Order, please. It being six o'clock, according to Standing Order 58(11) this debate is now terminated.

[*Translation*]

This House stands adjourned until tomorrow at two o'clock, pursuant to Standing Order 2(1).

At six o'clock the House adjourned, without question put, pursuant to Standing Order.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Thursday, May 31, 1973

The House met at 2 p.m.

[*English*]

HOUSE OF COMMONS

REFERENCE TO COMMITTEE OF SUBJECT OF QUESTIONS ON STATEMENTS MADE OUTSIDE HOUSE—RETRACTION OF CERTAIN WORDS BY MEMBER FOR GANDER-TWILLINGATE

Mr. G. W. Baldwin (Peace River): Mr. Speaker, I rise with your permission and that of the House to deal with a point of order which has been before the House for the last two days in respect of matters that arose during the question period the day before yesterday when the hon. member for Gander-Twillingate (Mr. Lundrigan) made certain comments.

I have read with very great care what you had to say and what other hon. members had to say, including the right hon. member for Prince Albert (Mr. Diefenbaker), the government House leader and the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre (Mr. Knowles). In particular, I listened to Your Honour with interest when you indicated there is a collateral problem to the main issue which might invite the attention and consideration of the committee of this House best qualified to deal with such matters, that is, the Standing Committee on Procedure and Organization. Since then there have been some consultations among House leaders which have proceeded reasonably well, as such meetings do, and I think we are at least in agreement that there is a problem relating to statements made outside the House by members of the House touching on proceedings in the House, and the opportunities and means by which such statements may be the subject of comment and discussion and may be dealt with in the House.

Your Honour has ruled on many occasions that the age old accommodation and principle of privilege does not apply. I think I must agree, perhaps without prejudice, that Your Honour is quite right in the strict interpretation of that principle. However, because of the introduction of electronic media and because many statements are frequently made outside the House immediately following what has been said in the House, I think we can all accept the fact that a very real problem has been created. I do not pretend to say what the answer is, but I say there ought to be an answer.

In light of that and the fact I have had discussions with the other House leaders, I would propose, and with the hope that the House might feel disposed to accept it, that Your Honour might put to the Committee on Procedure and Organization as accepted by the House something along these lines, and I offer this as a guide:

That the question of statements by members outside the House with regard to proceedings inside the House, and the manner and extent to which such statements can be dealt with or be the subject of comment and consideration by members in the House, be referred to the Standing Committee on Procedure and Organization.

I only say that I drew this in the widest possible terms in the hope that the Committee on Procedure and Organization, which is now engaged in dealing with questions of procedure and the Standing Orders of the House, might be seized of this matter and, hopefully, might deal with it and bring in some recommendation.

Mr. Stanley Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, I should like to confirm the statement by the hon. member for Peace River (Mr. Baldwin) to the effect that there have been consultations among us in respect of this matter. I should also like to indicate that we are in agreement with regard to the proposition that the question of comments in the House on statements made outside the House be referred to the Standing Committee on Procedure and Organization.

I should like to make it clear, indeed, to use words I am accused of using too often, I want to make it crystal clear that this is all we are talking about in so far as reference is being made to a recent occurrence in the House. We are not in this context making any reference to the use of unparliamentary language. That is not what we want referred to the standing committee but rather the clearcut question of whether the rule is now out of date which denies to members in the House the right to make reference in questions to statements made outside the House by ministers of the Crown.

I would point out, Sir, that this problem arises not only in the way you indicated a few days ago, namely, in relation to weekend speeches which seem to provide material for Monday afternoon questions, but it also arises during the week. There are occasions when a member puts a question to a minister and gets a certain answer, if he is lucky, on the floor of the House, and then the minister goes outside the chamber to room 130-S, goes on radio and television and says things he did not say here on the floor of the House.

Mr. Diefenbaker: A revised version.

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): But because these statements are made outside the House the member, under the rule, is precluded from asking questions about them. I am not trying to solve the problem here but I believe it should be looked at. I think it becomes a bit of a farce for us to have to go through the formula, every time we want to ask a question about a minister's statement, of asking the Prime Minister whether that minister was stating government policy. It seems to me, for the reasons given by the hon. member for Peace River, particularly the electronic age in which we are living, that the Standing Committee on Procedure and Organization should look into this matter.

● (1410)

Therefore, Mr. Speaker, we would support the proposal that this matter be referred to the Standing Committee on Procedure and Organization, making it clear that we are not in this reference going into the question of the use of unparliamentary language. We feel that is in the hands of the Chair and that we should not deal with that aspect of the matter in the standing committee.

[*Translation*]

Mr. André Fortin (Lotbinière): Mr. Speaker, I should also like to confirm discussions which have taken place between parties concerning the recent point of order resulting from the last incident.

I should like to say that we endorse the remarks of hon. members for Peace River (Mr. Baldwin) and Winnipeg North Centre (Mr. Knowles). The problem is of course a major one which often causes embarrassment to the Chair and to hon. members. Ministers have got into the unpleasant habit of making statements outside the House which, as is generally known, prevents hon. members from actually giving the impression, let alone the reality of a responsible government reporting on its policy.

We are inconvenienced because of that situation, Mr. Speaker, and no doubt the efficient and profitable work carried out by the Committee on Procedure and Organization will be useful in clearing up the matter, of course, assisted by the advice and comments of the Chair.

Mr. Speaker, I should like to seize the opportunity to say that the oral question period, which lasts only 40 minutes, is now under review in the committee, with the purpose of improving it according to your pertinent suggestions. Nevertheless, our party deplores increasing use of the question period for rising on questions of privilege which are often unjustified and on points of order, thus depriving many hon. members of their right to put pertinent questions to ministers.

The last incident which took place this week caused us to lose over 12 minutes of the oral question period, with practically no result. We have now unanimously decided that the matter be referred to the Committee on Procedure and Organization.

Mr. Speaker, I hope that in future committees will be allowed to carry out their tasks and that the oral question period will really be used for the purpose it is meant to serve, namely to allow opposition members to force the government to report on its action, as befits any responsible system.

[*English*]

Hon. Allan J. MacEachen (President of the Privy Council): Mr. Speaker, I wish to make a few brief comments on the suggestion of the hon. member for Peace River. I certainly underline the point made by the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre (Mr. Knowles) that this suggestion is not, in my opinion, intended to deal with the question of unparliamentary language, nor is the acceptance of any such reference to a committee to be regarded as embodying any alteration in the standards that have been accepted by the House.

I would make the further comment that in my opinion the question of statements by members outside the House embraces more than just the question of statements by ministers of the Crown. It certainly would be improper to have one category of statement made outside the House subject to comment within the House and another category of statement made outside the House not subject to comment.

[Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre).]

Mr. Baldwin: That is why I used the word "members".

Mr. MacEachen: That is why the hon. member for Peace River has used in the wider expression, "by members outside the House". Similarly, the problem in respect of the electronic media applies, of course, to ministers of the Crown, but it also applies to all other members including the Leader of the Opposition and leaders of the other parties who are free, if they wish, to amplify outside the House comments made in the House.

Mr. Diefenbaker: Not revised as the government did.

Mr. MacEachen: We accept the notion of the right hon. gentleman that all the evil rests with this side of the House and all the virtue rests on that side. At one time I thought it was only those at the far end of that side of that House who wrapped themselves in the cloak of virtue, but the right hon. member for Prince Albert is doing that today.

Aside from these comments, Mr. Speaker, we think it might be useful for the committee to look at these questions, and if its members come forward with useful suggestions the procedures of the House would probably be improved.

Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Prince Albert): Mr. Speaker, I never realized before that statements made on television in the extramural performances that take place from time to time represented anything in the nature of government policy. What is objected to is the fact that ministers find themselves making one statement in the House that is not in accordance with the facts—I had better be careful what I say because I might arouse the eggshell sentimentalities and feelings of those opposite. I will put it this way. Some of those ministers who indulge in terminological inexactitude on occasion—this is within parliamentary tradition—state things to be true that one can only say are the very antithesis of the truth as represented by them and bring down parliament because this is where ministers should be answering, not revising outside the House.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I appreciate the suggestions that have been made by the hon. member for Peace River and other House leaders in reference to the incident which I think has caused much anguish to many of us, certainly to the Chair. I have already mentioned that to hon. members. I have suggested from the beginning that, in my way of thinking, there was more than one issue involved here and perhaps the most fundamental issue was the question of references that might be made in the House to speeches made outside the House by members of the government—or others, if that will please the President of the Privy Council. I had hoped that if we could clear up that difficulty by making it the object of a study by the Standing Committee on Procedure and Organization, at the same time we might solve the other problem.

It was my thought that because of this rule, because of the procedural difficulties, there was considerable provocation, and I can understand why the hon. member for Gander-Twillingate felt it necessary at the time to use what in my estimation in any event were rather strong words. That is why I sought his co-operation and assistance to the Chair. But I felt at the same time, and I repeat this, that we should try to solve the other situation at the same time. I do not agree with the suggestion that these are two entirely different problems. This is one and the same problem, and I would hope that the efforts of members of the House to try to resolve the procedural matter which has caused so much difficulty in past months, indeed, in past years, would be supported by every single member, including the hon. member for Gander-Twillingate.

I would hope, very sincerely and very deeply, that the hon. member for Gander-Twillingate will look at this matter in the same way as I do and confirm the suggestion I am making to him which I have made before that the words used were unparliamentary and that there might be ways of saying what we want to say by using words that are acceptable and in the traditions of the House. It is in accordance with this line of thinking that I seek again the co-operation of the hon. member for Gander-Twillingate.

● (1420)

Mr. Lundrigan: On a question of privilege, Mr. Speaker, first of all I want to say that the motion by the House leader of this party and the response by the other three House leaders come as a bit of a pleasant surprise to me, although I was aware of the motion for the last 15 or 20 minutes immediately before the House opened. I also want to say that this was not done as a result of pressure on my part directed toward Your Honour or to any of the House leaders. It arises out of something that happened earlier in the week and is a mutual effort on the part of hon. members, and I suspect on the part of Your Honour, to have the matter properly dealt with.

Second, what started out as Canada's mini cod war has developed into something much more fundamental and complex. For some time I have felt strongly that when statements are made outside the House, members should be able to deal with them in some way in the House of Commons that would enable the House to express itself upon them and to impose some kind of political morality on all hon. members. The people of Canada should be able to demand of their parliamentary representatives at the national level, not only members of the Privy Council but all representatives, the highest degree of integrity and the highest degree of frankness and openness possible under our parliamentary system. This was the basis on which the question was raised earlier in the week.

I also feel that while the rule preventing members of the House from responding to statements made outside the House might very well have been applicable 100 years ago, today we are living in an age in which, with instant communication, sometimes what is said outside the House becomes more important than what is said inside the House. That, I feel, leads to a degradation of our parliamentary system. As a young Member of Parliament, relatively speaking, compared with the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre (Mr. Knowles), I feel this is something we should all examine in the hope of upgrading it and bringing it into proper perspective in the twentieth century.

The other point I want to make is that I have the greatest respect for Your Honour and the deepest admiration. Without sounding condescending by saying under these circumstances what you might expect me to say, I feel it is impossible for this House of Commons ever to expect to obtain anybody else to preside over events in the House with more capability, stature and dignity than Your Honour possesses. I believe every member of the House will agree with that.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Lundrigan: At the same time, I feel that nothing comes easy. To experience anguish and a little broken rest, which not only Your Honour may have suffered during the last few days, may sometimes be necessary in order to bring certain matters to the fore and have them properly dealt with. I do not see how we are going to get reform unless members are willing, within the rules, to stand up and sometimes even take issue with those rules to have matters reformed and brought to a satisfactory conclusion. Frequently during the question period, and now with respect to this particular rule, I find myself in a position that I do not enjoy. Some people enjoy a comfortable pew. I enjoy a comfortable pew too, but sometimes we have to put this kind of comfort behind us and be willing to stand up for things which, in the future, will be of the greatest importance for our Canadian parliamentary system.

I feel that what has happened today will go down in Canadian parliamentary history as an important event, if the procedure committee deals with it as I know they will deal with it. Consequently, I believe I would be cutting off my nose to spite my face if I were not willing, in deference to the House, to make a compromise. In saying this I am not retracting in any way from the substance and essence of the statement I made in the House on Tuesday. In fact, I hope to be able to appear before the committee. With reference to the specific words that are not acceptable within the rules we now have and perhaps may always have, out of respect for you, Mr. Speaker, and the House may I say that the recommendation Your Honour has made is quite acceptable to me.

I reiterate that I have a great deal of respect for all members of the Privy Council who have very heavy responsibilities, but I will never condone any member of the House not being completely honest in the representations he makes to the Canadian people. I do not view my retraction, as has been said by the hon. member for Peace River (Mr. Baldwin), as prejudicing any future moves I would like to make.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. President of the Privy Council.

Mr. MacEachen: Mr. Speaker, there is a very important point I want to stress in the simplest possible words. The acquiescence of myself and others on this side of the House to this suggestion is strictly on procedural grounds and is not put forward in any way as a conditional offer to any member to observe the rules of privilege. I believe that ought to be understood clearly.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I think that was made clear by all members who took part in the procedural debate we had a moment ago. I think there is no suggestion that there is any condition put on what has been agreed to or will be agreed to by the House if I put the motion. I go back to what I said originally. I feel that these two questions which forcibly, because of the circumstances, came together. I felt very deeply that it would be helpful to the House if the matter of substance relating to statements outside the House could be referred to committee, and I think the House will agree. At the same time, the hon. member for Gander-Twillingate has agreed to retract the statement he had made to the extent that it was a statement which is contrary to the traditions of the House, and I certainly am prepared to accept the explanation of the hon. member for Gander-Twillingate.

I think we have perhaps managed to establish that there are some norms in parliamentary language which all members would want to observe in co-operation with the Chair, because I am here not to invent rules but to put into force rules which members have agreed to and expect the Chair to put into force.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Speaker: Is it the pleasure of the House to adopt the motion proposed by the hon. member for Peace River?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Motion agreed to.

TABLING OF THIRD REPORT OF CLERK OF PETITIONS

Mr. Speaker: I have the honour to inform the House that the Clerk of the House has laid upon the table the third report of the Clerk of Petitions.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[*Translation*]

COMMITTEES OF THE HOUSE

LABOUR, MANPOWER AND IMMIGRATION

Fourth and fifth reports of Standing Committee on Labour, Manpower and Immigration—Mr. Portelance.

[*English*]

REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Second and third reports of Standing Committee on Regional Development—Mr. Penner.

[*Translation*]

JUSTICE AND LEGAL AFFAIRS

Fourth report of Standing Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs—Mr. Jerome.

[*English*]

BROADCASTING, FILMS AND ASSISTANCE TO THE ARTS

First report of Standing Committee on Broadcasting, Films and Assistance to the Arts—Mr. Stewart (Cochrane).

AGRICULTURE

First report of Standing Committee on Agriculture—Mr. Whicher.

NATIONAL RESOURCES AND PUBLIC WORKS

Third, fourth and fifth reports of Standing Committee on National Resources and Public Works—Mr. Hymmen.

[*Editor's Note: For text of above reports, see today's Votes and Proceedings.*]

Mr. Nielsen: Mr. Speaker, because of the urgency of the matter I wonder if we could have the unanimous consent of the House to concur in the fourth report of the Standing Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs later this day.

Mr. Jerome: Mr. Speaker, I think my friend may be under a misapprehension. I think he is interested in concurring in the report dealing with the augmentation of the committee. That will be the subject of the fifth report which I hope to get the permission of the House to table later this afternoon. The one I have just tabled deals with the estimates.

* * *

STATUS OF WOMEN

ANNOUNCEMENT OF ESTABLISHMENT OF ADVISORY COUNCIL, TERMS OF REFERENCE AND NAMES OF MEMBERS

Hon. John C. Munro (Minister of Labour): Mr. Speaker, I should like to make a statement on motions and table documents in both official languages under Standing Order 41(2) concerning this government's action with regard to the status of women.

• (1430)

As you know, I recently announced my intention to establish an advisory council on the status of women. I would like now to announce the terms of reference for this council, and the names of the members to be appointed to it.

The purpose of the council will be twofold: to bring before the government and the public matters of interest and concern to women, and to advise the government on actions that it deems necessary to improve the position of women in society.

The terms of reference for the council are as follows: to advise the minister responsible in respect of such matters relating to the status of women as the minister may refer to the council for its consideration, or the council considers appropriate.

These terms of reference are purposely very broad in order that the council will have freedom to take whatever action it considers necessary. To enable the council to carry out its mandate effectively, provision has been made for a full-time chairman plus two vice-chairmen working on a full-time basis who will be supported by a staff and office. The council will meet as often as it feels necessary, and its first meeting will probably be early in July.

The council will also have authority to publish its reports, recommendations and statements. In this way the council will be in a position to keep before the public, as well as the government, the whole question of the status of women.

In establishing the council in this manner, I am aware that it does not follow the exact recommendation of the Royal Commission on the Status of Women in that it will not report directly to parliament. However, the main objective in having a body that reports to parliament is to enable that body to make its advice public so that parliamentarians can look at the advice and question the government concerning that advice. By giving this advisory council authority to publish its recommendations and reports, this objective has been met.

In considering whom to appoint to this council, I felt strongly that it must be as representative as possible of all the women of Canada. For this reason, I wrote to women's organizations across the country and publicly requested their assistance in suggesting people who could contribute to this council. More than 200 letters have come back, all with excellent suggestions. The list of names that I am now tabling is made up of the best people available, 28 people from across Canada of varying backgrounds and experiences, all of whom are vitally interested and concerned about the status of women in our country.

I am appointing as chairman Dr. Kate Cooke, who has been chosen because of her excellent understanding of the problems of women in all walks of life, because of her ability to work with and communicate with people of varying backgrounds and concerns, and because of her in-depth knowledge of the situation of women in Canada at the present time. Dr. Cooke has a Ph.D. in sociology and is presently with the Department of Regional Economic Expansion. She will be taking leave of absence from the government to fill this position. The two vice-chairmen will be appointed after the council has met.

I would like to take this opportunity to inform the House that as well as setting up this advisory council on the status of women, the government is taking other actions to improve the position of women in Canada. I will be introducing, in the very near future, a bill to amend the Canada Labour Code (Fair Employment Practices). The purpose of this bill will be to amend the act so that discrimination on the grounds of sex, age and marital status will be added to other prohibited grounds of discrimination by employers and unions coming under federal jurisdiction. Hon. members may recall that a bill to this effect was introduced in the last parliament; however, there was insufficient time for debate and it died on the order paper. The bill that will be introduced in the near future will contain a number of improvements, specifically in regard to pension and insurance schemes.

I also wish to announce at this time that the regulations under the Fair Wages and Hours of Labour Act have been amended so that all government contracts will include a provision that, in hiring and employment of workmen to perform work under a contract, the contractor will not refuse to employ and will not discriminate in any manner against any person because of that person's race, national origin, colour, religion, age, sex or marital status.

In line with amendments to the Canada Labour Code, my colleague the President of the Treasury Board (Mr. Drury) will be introducing amendments to the Public Service Superannuation Act. These are presently being drafted by the Department of Justice and it is the government's intention to introduce a bill amending the Superannuation Act in the very near future. These amendments will follow the recommendation of the Royal Commission on the Status of Women.

In addition, the Treasury Board has developed a new relocation directive with appropriate provisions to implement the recommendation of the Royal Commission on the Status of Women on the subject of removal expenses for public servants. The new directive will be issued shortly and will replace the actual removal expenses regulations. This does not require legislative action.

Mr. R. Gordon L. Fairweather (Fundy-Royal): Mr. Speaker, I wish to thank the minister sincerely for his courtesy in sending me a copy of his statement this morning. I assure him that my question of yesterday on this topic was not as a result of any leak from his office, although I understand this government has a propensity for leaks.

My party treats this matter very seriously. The status of women in Canadian life is not funny, is not a joke, is not something for locker room snickers. The subject is not amenable to tokenism. The government, parliament and the political parties must do more than mouth platitudes about the subject. I must say that although I deplore some of the stridency of language I add, gratuitously, that this is quite understandable because of the lack of results women have achieved up to now. The royal commission, after all, recommended in 1970 that the advisory council on the status of women should be established and report to parliament. The government, unfortunately, ignored that good advice and took a different route by appointing what is, in reality, a committee that is to report to the minister. The results will enable us to judge who is right.

Despite what the minister says, in my opinion the terms of reference he enunciated today are much too restrictive. Mr. Speaker, the parties must be serious about women candidates in public life. Surely the twenty-ninth parliament provides splendid evidence of the quality of women Members of Parliament.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Fairweather: The hon. members for Ahuntsic (Mrs. Sauvé), Vancouver-Kingsway (Mrs. MacInnis), Kingston and the Islands (Miss MacDonald), Saint-Michel (Miss Bégin) and Louis-Hébert (Mrs. Morin) are a credit to themselves and to this parliament.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Muir: There is something Irish there, too.

Mr. Fairweather: All right. That is tokenism. We all understand that Canada lags far behind most countries in the world when it comes to having women represented in public life. The government's employment of women in senior positions in public life is, I believe, a scandal and disgrace. I assume that this committee will be doing something, even though it may mean quotas, to a limited extent, to end what is a serious and scandalous imbalance in this area. As government and parliament are bellweathers in employment practices, I hope that industry, which also has a reprehensible record in this regard, will deal with this matter quickly.

The council is but a beginning. The royal commission recommended:

> ... that the federal government immediately take steps to enter into agreement with the provinces leading to the adoption of a national Day-Care Act under which federal funds would be made available on a cost-sharing basis for the building and running of day-care centres meeting specified minimum standards, the federal government to (a) pay half the operating costs; (b) during an initial seven-year period, pay 70 per cent of capital costs; and (c) make similar arrangements for the Yukon and Northwest Territories.

● (1440)

It is a pity that when the minister made his announcement about the composition of the board, although he was specifically requested by women of the Yukon, there is no representation from the Yukon on the committee.

My leader has advocated in eloquent terms the need for the establishment of a human rights commission. I hope this recommendation will be brought forward very quickly by the government.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Fairweather: Speaking on behalf of my party, Mr. Speaker, I welcome the appointment. I hope the committee will become established quickly. I hope its members never let up on their recommendations to the government and that they push this minister until he wonders why he ever made the appointments.

Finally, the minister mentioned pension plan changes. If these changes do not include the right of the housewives of this country to make contributions to and, therefore, to be eligible for pensions under the Canada Pension Plan, that will be a serious gap in the legislation.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Fairweather: I can assure Dr. Katie Cooke and the new council they will have enthusiastic support from this parliament if they push the Minister of Labour to the end of his endurance.

Mr. Stuart Leggatt (New Westminster): Mr. Speaker, we in this party do not welcome this announcement if it is mere tokenism as I strongly suspect. In fact, from examining the 28 appointments it can be seen that it is clearly tokenism as only one male was appointed to the council. This demonstrates the continuing attitude of this government not to take this subject as seriously as it should.

[Mr. Fairweather.]

Injustice and discrimination continue in this country in terms of employment opportunities, wage levels and promotion. This is nothing short of scandalous. It is particularly true of the federal civil service where an infinitesimal number of senior positions are held by women.

The recommendation of the royal commission is being avoided by not having this body report to parliament. The procedure being followed will in fact only provide protection for the minister through the council. That is not what is needed. What is needed is parliamentary action and a direct report to parliament.

We welcome the proposed changes in the pension and insurance schemes, in the Fair Wages and Hours of Labour Act and the Public Service Superannuation Act. However, we must remember that most of this work has already been done by the Royal Commission on the Status of Women and it is unneccessary to do a complete overlap. What is necessary is legislative action and not delay.

I might say I am pleased to represent a British Columbia constituency that has two women cabinet ministers and a woman deputy premier.

I repeat that this is tokenism. We have very serious doubts that all the recommendations of the royal commission will be quickly implemented as they ought to be. This is a poor substitute for action.

[*Translation*]

Mr. René Matte (Champlain): Mr. Speaker, if the creation of an advisory council on the status of women can help change the discriminatory attitude towards women and encourage as well her emancipation and fulfilment, it could prove to be an efficient move.

Though we dislike any type of crusade for the equality of the two sexes, we must admit that prejudice still exists in this regard.

As for us, the Social Credit Party of Canada, who preach with deep conviction the freedom of human beings, we advocate the quality of all individuals, regardless of their race, nationality or sex.

We can only hope that women will contribute even more to the formulation of our laws, the administration of our country and the general progress of society.

* * *

[*English*]

THE CANADIAN ECONOMY

GOVERNMENT PRIORITIES—REQUEST FOR UNANIMOUS CONSENT TO MOVE MOTION

Mr. G. W. Baldwin (Peace River): Mr. Speaker, I rise to propose a motion under Standing Order 43. The urgent and pressing necessity arises out of the revelation that the government has repudiated the basis on which it gained the support of the House, including the budget which gave first priority to the reduction of unemployment and inflation. If the House gives unanimous consent, I will move, seconded by the hon. member for Saint John-Lancaster (Mr. Bell):

> That this House does hereby request a copy of a document incorporating the cabinet decision to relegate government action

against inflation and unemployment from top priority to number six priority be tabled and that the government forthwith ask for the confidence of the House of this attempt to reverse the previous decision of this House.

Mr. Speaker: The motion proposed by the hon. member under the terms of Standing Order 43 requires the unanimous consent of the House. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

Mr. Speaker: There is not unanimity. The motion cannot be put.

* * *

REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT

PROPOSED REFERENCE OF DEPARTMENT'S ANNUAL REPORT TO COMMITTEE—REQUEST FOR UNANIMOUS CONSENT TO MOVE MOTION

Mr. Bill Knight (Assiniboia): Mr. Speaker, pursuant to Standing Order 43 I rise on a question of urgent and pressing necessity. In view of the fact the government has suggested regional development will have top priority, and in view of the fact that only 21,000 jobs have been created in all of Canada in the first three and a half years of operation compared to 562,000 unemployed in Canada in 1972, I move, seconded by the hon. member for Sault Ste. Marie (Mr. Symes):

That the annual report of the Department of Regional Economic Expansion be referred to the Standing Committee on Regional Development.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member's motion requires the unanimous consent of the House. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

Mr. Speaker: There is not unanimity. The hon. member's motion cannot be put.

* * *

HOUSE OF COMMONS

PRESENTATION OF PETITION REQUESTING STAMP COMMEMORATING FORTHCOMING VISIT OF HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN

Mr. John A. Fraser (Vancouver South): Mr. Speaker, I have been requested to present a petition signed by 778 citizens from my area requesting the authorization and publication of a commemorative stamp bearing a portrait of Her Majesty the Queen, crowned, on her Royal visit to Canada this year. This petition is in accordance with government intentions, as stated by the Postmaster General (Mr. Ouellet) on May 15.

Princess Anne

THE ROYAL FAMILY

ENGAGEMENT OF PRINCESS ANNE—REQUEST FOR UNANIMOUS CONSENT TO MOVE MOTION

Mr. Hugh Poulin (Ottawa Centre): Mr. Speaker, I rise pursuant to Standing Order 43 on a matter of importance to this House and to Canadians. I seek the unanimous consent of the House for this motion. I move, seconded by the hon. member for St. Boniface (Mr. Guay):

That this House express its best wishes to Her Royal Highness, Princess Anne, on the occasion of her engagement to Lieutenant Mark Phillips; our sincere affection to Her Royal Highness and best wishes for their continued happiness; and that Mr. Speaker be requested to convey this message on behalf of this House to Her Royal Highness.

Mr. Howard: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order to indicate to the House that from my point of view we have more important things to do and the motion does not have my consent.

Some hon. Members: Shame!

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. There is not unanimous consent. The motion cannot be put.

● (1450)

Mr. Cossitt: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. The motion that has just been proposed is similar to the one I put yesterday which the hon. gentlemen opposite did not agree with at that time. There seem to be those on the government side who, I feel, are interfering with the privileges of the House by hiding their mouths behind their hands to cover their nays when the House tries to express legitimate views on legitimate matters arising under Standing Order 43. I accept, of course, that Standing Order 43 requires unanimous consent in order for the motion to be put, but I feel that the privileges of the House are being interfered with day after day by members on the opposite side when they cry no and remain anonymous.

The rules of the House do not permit a secret ballot, but in fact hon. members opposite are succeeding in doing this very thing by not identifying themselves when these votes arise. May I respectfully ask whether the Chair would consider the possibility of asking, in connection with proposed motions under Standing Order 43, firstly for the yeas and secondly for the nays.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I appreciate the suggestion that is being made by the hon. member for Leeds and it is one that has been made before. However, the practice is clear: what the Chair is required to do is to ascertain whether there is unanimous consent to move the motion. It is sufficient for this purpose if there is one nay. I wonder whether it would be appropriate to change the practice, call for the yeas and nays and count noses or heads. I think that the application of Standing Order 43 is complicated enough at the present time without making it more complicated.

The problem raised by the hon. member in connection with the present motion is somewhat hypothetical because there were clearly members who identified themselves in expressing a negative response to the inquiry whether

there was unanimous consent under Standing Order 43. In any event, I have noted the hon. member's suggestion and I assume that those who look after rules reforms will want to take it into consideration.

Mr. Poulin: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a question of privilege.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Ottawa Centre on a question of privilege.

Mr. Poulin: Mr. Speaker, I heard the hon. member opposite say in his remarks just now that I had not concurred in his motion yesterday, which is clearly not the case.

Mr. Speaker: Order. I do not want to interrupt the hon. member but again I wonder whether there is any point in going into this matter much further by raising a question of privilege. If the hon. member has a question of privilege, would he indicate what it is.

Mr. Poulin: Mr. Speaker, the question is that the accusation has come from the other side that members on this side, I among them, did not support the motion moved yesterday. I did not detect that either yesterday or today. If there was any opposition it did not come from this side.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Nielsen: That is not true.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member for St. Boniface on a question of privilege.

Mr. Guay (St. Boniface): Mr. Speaker, using the same words as the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre, I should like to make it "crystal clear" that the reason I seconded the motion was to bring it to the attention or the House that no member on this side opposed the motion moved yesterday.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Fortin: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a question of privilege.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Lotbinière on a question of privilege.

Mr. Fortin: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a question of privilege because again today, for the last 10 minutes, we have been wasting our time with things of lesser importance, as the hon. member for Skeena (Mr. Howard) stated.

We want to work in this chamber, ask questions of the government, make progress and give accounts to the public, instead of wasting our time.

Mr. Speaker, there is a limit to everything and it is most regrettable to give such a sad show to the people of Canada.

[*English*]

Mr. Speaker: Again I suggest to the House that three or four members have now risen on the same question of privilege and, with respect, I do not think anything can be achieved by pursuing this matter further and ascertaining who said yea and who said nay. The hon. member for Leeds raised a point a moment ago and I would hope we could now go on with the business of the House.

Mr. Cossitt: A question of privilege, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Leeds is rising on a question of privilege.

Mr. Cossitt: Mr. Speaker, I will only take one moment but I feel it is necessary to rise in view of the statement made a few moments ago by the hon. member opposite regarding what I had said. I must draw to the attention of the House that I certainly did not specify that the two members who moved and seconded the motion today were specifically among the nays of yesterday. It was stated incorrectly by the hon. members opposite that I did do such a thing; I simply said it was obvious that the nays came from the government side of the House.

An hon. Member: No, they did not.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I think I have to make a ruling at this point that we have to go on with the business of the House. The hon. member for Toronto-Lakeshore.

* * *

HOUSING

TORONTO—RENT INCREASE ON SENIOR CITIZENS ACCOMMODATION—REQUEST FOR UNANIMOUS CONSENT TO MOVE MOTION

Mr. Terry Grier (Toronto-Lakeshore): Mr. Speaker, I rise under the provisions of Standing Order 43. Considering that this is the last day of a 60-day moratorium on proposed rent increases for senior citizens living in housing operated by Metropolitan Toronto Housing Company, I move, seconded by the hon. member for Greenwood (Mr. Brewin):

> That the Minister of State for Urban Affairs be instructed to advise the House immediately what steps are being taken to ensure that these increases will not now be proceeded with.

Mr. Speaker: Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

Mr. Speaker: There is not unanimity; the motion cannot be put.

* * *

AIR CANADA

ALLEGED DETERIORATION IN SAFETY STANDARDS—REQUEST FOR UNANIMOUS CONSENT TO MOVE MOTION

Mr. Dan McKenzie (Winnipeg South Centre): Mr. Speaker, I rise under the provisions of Standing Order 43 on a matter of urgent and pressing necessity, namely, the reports of deterioration in safety standards on the part of Air Canada, and in particular the facilities at Dorval

International Airport in Montreal. I seek consent to move the following motion, seconded by the hon. member for Portage (Mr. Masniuk):

That this House does hereby request the immediate placement of a committee of investigation at Dorval airport to inspect the haphazard implementation of safety standards as they presently exist.

Mr. Speaker: Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

Mr. Speaker: There is not unanimity.

* * *

REGIONAL ECONOMIC EXPANSION

NORTHERN ONTARIO—REQUEST FOR UNANIMOUS CONSENT TO MOVE MOTION

Mr. Cyril Symes (Sault Ste. Marie): Mr. Speaker, I am rising under the provisions of Standing Order 43 on a matter of urgent necessity to seek unanimous consent of the House to move a motion. In view of the revelation in today's press that regional development will get top government priority, and in view of the admission by the Department of Regional Economic Expansion, contained in another unpublished document, that northern Ontario's economic viability has been declining since 1961, I move, seconded by the hon. member for Nickel Belt (Mr. Rodriguez):

That the House directs the Minister of Regional Economic Expansion to present within a month to the House a detailed program for the development of the long neglected region of northern Ontario, with specific reference to the establishment of special areas for the development of infrastructures, and to the establishment of Crown corporations for the benefit of our neglected people in northern Ontario.

Mr. Speaker: Does the House give unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

Mr. Speaker: There is not unanimity.

* * *

CRIMINAL CODE

AMENDMENT OF DEFINITION OF "HEALTH" APPLICABLE IN MAKING DECISIONS ON ABORTIONS

Mr. Don Blenkarn (Peel South) moved for leave to introduce Bill C-187, to amend the Criminal Code.

Some hon. Members: Explain.

Mr. Blenkarn: Mr. Speaker, the purpose of this bill is to define "health" in the Criminal Code under section 251(6) of that statute to mean actual physical or mental danger to the mother and, without limiting the generality of the word "danger", consideration of social and economic conditions affecting the mother or her family unit shall not be taken into account.

Motion agreed to, bill read the first time and ordered to be printed.

● (1500)

ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

[*English*]

THE CANADIAN ECONOMY

ALLEGED CHANGE IN GOVERNMENT PRIORITIES—BASIS ON WHICH PRIORITIES ESTABLISHED—POSITION OF UNEMPLOYMENT AND INFLATION

Hon. Robert L. Stanfield (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Prime Minister arising from a leaked document purporting to be a cabinet document. I would ask whether the cabinet has changed its list or order of priorities and, in particular, whether the attack on inflation and unemployment has been moved from the top of the list, where it was in the Speech from the Throne and the budget speech of the Minister of Finance, to number six on the list?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I think the House and the Leader of the Opposition will understand that it is not good practice to comment on documents or exchanges between Privy Councillors of a confidential nature. I am prepared to answer questions on any subject but not on the basis of any document supposed to be leaked.

Mr. Stanfield: Mr. Speaker, I would ask the Prime Minister whether the order of priorities indicated by the government in the Speech from the Throne and in the budget speech of the Minister of Finance has been changed and, in particular, whether the fight against unemployment and inflation is now number six on the list instead of number one?

Mr. Trudeau: The answer to that is no.

Mr. Stanfield: Mr. Speaker, has the government changed its priorities in any respect?

Mr. Trudeau: Mr. Speaker, the government does change its priorities from time to time. We have problems that we look at either on an urgent or essential basis. When we think they are solved or on the way to being solved we put others in a higher priority position. It would also depend on whether they were priorities from the point of view of action, from the point of view of consideration by cabinet, or from the point of view of eventual study by some department. The priorities are of a different nature according to the field of action about which you are talking.

Mr. Stanfield: Mr. Speaker, I thank the Prime Minister for his philosophical dissertation. I should like to ask whether he will table in the House the government's list of priorities as it now exists, and whether he denies that the list of priorities, as contained in the purported cabinet

document, does in fact constitute the government's list of priorities as of today?

Mr. Trudeau: Mr. Speaker, in respect of the last part of the question I would answer it first by saying I do not comment on cabinet documents whether they are reputed to have been leaked or not. On the question as to what our priorities are, Mr. Speaker, they vary from time to time, and I hope that the country and the opposition know what they are from time to time. Today our priorities—

An hon. Member: Do you know?

Mr. Trudeau: Today our priorities—

An hon. Member: What are they? Let's hear about them.

Mr. Trudeau: I will be glad to answer any question of the hon. Leader of the Opposition as to what our priorities are at a particular point in time from the point of view of action or from the point of view of study.

An hon. Member: When is the next election?

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The Chair will recognize the hon. member for Peace River on a supplementary question and then the hon. member for Nickel Belt. If there are further supplementary questions on this subject they can be asked after we have completed the first round of questions.

UNEMPLOYMENT AND INFLATION—POSITION OF GOVERNMENT

Mr. G. W. Baldwin (Peace River): Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask the Minister of Finance if it is now the opinion of the government that it has found itself incapable of dealing with inflation and the unacceptable rate of unemployment and is therefore turning to deal with the consequences that flow from such failures?

Hon. John N. Turner (Minister of Finance): No, Sir.

* * *

REGIONAL ECONOMIC EXPANSION

NORTHERN ONTARIO—POSSIBLE ESTABLISHMENT OF CROWN CORPORATION

Mr. John Rodriguez (Nickel Belt): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Regional Economic Expansion. In view of the highest priority which the cabinet places on regional development, and in view of the admission in the confidential DREE document entitled "Ontario Regional Report" that the incentive program is not sufficient in itself to alter substantially the position of northern Ontario in the Canadian economy as a whole, will the minister tell the House whether he intends to establish a Crown corporation located in northern Ontario in which the people of northern Ontario would have a say?

[Mr. Stanfield.]

Hon. Donald C. Jamieson (Minister of Regional Economic Expansion): Mr. Speaker, with regard to the preamble to the hon. member's question, I would respond in precisely the same way as did the Prime Minister. I do not propose to comment on alleged leaked documents, if you like. In terms of the substance of the question, we have in every part of Canada, in other provinces, created either Crown corporations or federal-provincial corporations. This is a mechanism which we will be quite prepared to discuss either with the province of Ontario or with other groups within the province of Ontario.

NORTHERN ONTARIO—ESTABLISHMENT OF DESIGNATED AREAS—DISCUSSION WITH PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT

Mr. John Rodriguez (Nickel Belt): Mr. Speaker, since the document in question further states that the problems of northern Ontario are related to the lack of adequate housing, inadequate sewage facilities and a lack of fully-serviced industrial land, will the minister tell the House whether he intends to make a statement on the designation of several special areas in northern Ontario for the purpose of infrastructure?

Hon. Donald C. Jamieson (Minister of Regional Economic Expansion): Mr. Speaker, all of the matters to which the hon. member has referred will be discussed with the government of Ontario within the next ten days. I believe they are scheduled for the forthcoming DREE discussions I will be having in the early part of June. Certainly, these matters will be discussed in detail at that time.

Mr. Rodriguez: I have a supplementary question.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. Again a number of members are seeking to ask supplementary questions. I have been trying to finish the first round of questioning. The hon. member for Assiniboia can ask one supplementary question, after which the Chair will recognize the hon. member for Compton.

NORTHERN ONTARIO AND WESTERN CANADA—REQUEST FOR CONSIDERATION OF TRANSPORTATION COSTS AS FACTOR IN ECONOMIC CONDITIONS

Mr. Bill Knight (Assiniboia): Mr. Speaker, in view of the fact that areas in northern Ontario and in western Canada face a most difficult situation because of the freight rate structure, can this minister, who has a long record of experience with transportation, inform the House what precise action is being taken in these areas to meet this all-important question of revising the freight rate structure?

Hon. Donald C. Jamieson (Minister of Regional Economic Expansion): Mr. Speaker, in so far as my own responsibilities are concerned, transportation is one of the key elements I have been discussing, in association with my colleague, the Minister of Transport, with the provinces. I did have discussions in Edmonton yesterday with the government of Alberta and have been doing so at all the federal-provincial discussions that have been going on. In addition, of course, we have met with the premiers of

the four Atlantic provinces and a meeting which was scheduled with the Prairie provinces on transportation for June 7 has now been postponed at the request, I believe, of the province of Alberta.

* * *

[*Translation*]

CANADA ELECTIONS ACT

DATE OF PRESENTATION OF BILL RESPECTING ELECTION EXPENSES—REPRESENTATIONS TO GOVERNMENT

Mr. Henry Latulippe (Compton): Mr. Speaker, I should like to put a question to the Prime Minister.

Could he tell us what stage the proceedings have reached concerning an electoral reform; is the government still considering the possibility of preparing a bill before the summer adjournment?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Yes, Mr. Speaker, we still intend to carry on.

Mr. Latulippe: Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask a supplementary question.

Does the Prime Minister find that the matter has some importance and could he tell us whether he has received representations from the other parties or other Canadian taxpayers asking for reforms, especially as regards the financing of candidates at election time?

Mr. Trudeau: It is possible, Mr. Speaker, but I do not remember any specific representation. It is possible that someone wrote me in that connection, but I do not recall any special communication. We have tried to answer all legitimate requests.

* * *

[*English*]

ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

ALLEGED LOW POSITION OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION ON GOVERNMENT'S PRIORITY LIST

Hon. George Hees (Prince Edward-Hastings): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Prime Minister. Can he explain to the House why it is that the government has relegated to the very bottom of the list of priorities the subject of environmental protection, as reported in the leaked cabinet document, when so recently it was such a high priority matter on the government's list?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): The government has not done that, Mr. Speaker.

* * *

THE CANADIAN ECONOMY

INQUIRY AS TO SETTING OF PRIORITY ON NATIONAL ECONOMIC INDEPENDENCE

Mr. Sinclair Stevens (York-Simcoe): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce. On or before May 17, did the cabinet set a priority on the subject entitled "Secure Our National Economic Independence" and, if so, where did the subject rank on the list of priorities?

● (1510)

Hon. Alastair Gillespie (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): Mr. Speaker, as the Prime Minister and my colleague have already indicated, I do not intend to comment on alleged cabinet leaks.

Mr. Stevens: Mr. Speaker, I remind the minister that I did not refer to any paper but simply asked whether on May 17 such a priority was set and, if so, what was the numerical priority?

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for St. John's East.

* * *

AIR CANADA

POSSIBLE STRIKE OF MACHINISTS—REQUEST FOR PERSONAL INTERVENTION OF MINISTER TO AVERT

Mr. James A. McGrath (St. John's East): Mr. Speaker, on another matter of priority I would like to direct a question to the Minister of Labour. In view of the fact the machinists union has voted overwhelmingly for strike action, is it the intention of the minister to follow the excellent example of his predecessor, the hon. member for Verdun, and personally intervene in this dispute with a view of trying to avert a strike which would result in the tying up of air travel in Canada?

Hon. John C. Munro (Minister of Labour): Mr. Speaker, I certainly agree with the hon. member in terms of the excellent job the hon. member for Verdun did as Minister of Labour.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Munro (Hamilton East): I would advise the hon. member that Mr. Gallagher, the conciliation commissioner who came down with a report which has not been accepted, has re-entered the picture. I have appointed him, with the consent of both sides, and he is attempting to mediate the dispute. It is my hope that he will be successful.

Mr. McGrath: Mr. Speaker, in view of the fact that the union can legally strike at any time beginning tomorrow and that we could have a series of rotating strikes beginning tomorrow, does the minister personally intend to intervene in this matter and does the government have a contingency plan to meet the situation in the event of a strike?

Mr. Munro (Hamilton East): Mr. Speaker, I think the hon. member should be aware it is natural that the government is concerned—I am sure the opposition shares this concern—that there not be a strike in this country. We also adhere to the principle of free collective bargaining. The fact remains that if you adhere to that principle the strike weapon remains in the hands of the union members of this particular company. Having said that—and we of this party adhere to that principle and I believe the mem-

bers of the official opposition also—there can be no absolute guarantee that there will not be a strike. All I can do is assure the hon. member we will de everything possible in our role as the government to prevent it.

STRIKE BY FINANCIAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE EMPLOYEES AT WINNIPEG—SUGGESTION MINISTER URGE PRESIDENT OF COMPANY TO RE-ENTER NEGOTIATIONS

Mr. David Orlikow (Winnipeg North): Mr. Speaker, may I direct a supplementary to the Minister of Transport. In view of the fact there is already a strike of Air Canada employees taking place in Winnipeg and because of the fact that the strike is caused by the refusal of Air Canada management to accept the unanimous report of the conciliation board, will the minister discuss with the president of Air Canada that refusal and urge him to re-enter negotiations in that strike?

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, there is in this government, like all others, a Minister of Labour who has responsibility in that field and if I have to do something I will do it according to the advice given to me.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The Chair will recognize the hon. member for Winnipeg North in a moment, if he will resume his seat, and then the hon. member for Calgary Centre and the hon. member for Kingston and the Islands. The hon. member for Winnipeg North.

Mr. Orlikow: Mr. Speaker, I wonder whether the Minister of Transport really understood my question. Surely, the Minister of Transport, through whom Air Canada reports to parliament, has some relationship with the president of Air Canada and can discuss its refusal to accept the unanimous report of the conciliation board with its officials.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Calgary Centre.

POSSIBLE STRIKE OF MACHINISTS—INQUIRY AS TO GOVERNMENT ASSESSMENT OF EFFECT OF STRIKE

Mr. Harvie Andre (Calgary Centre): Mr. Speaker, my supplementary is directed to the Minister of Labour. Along with any contingency plans the government may or may not have formulated to avert such a strike, has the government prepared an over-all assessment of the effect of such a strike and will it be tabled in the House?

Hon. John C. Munro (Minister of Labour): Mr. Speaker, I think we can accept the fact that if there is a strike of Air Canada it will have serious repercussions of an economic nature, as do all strikes under federal or provincial jurisdiction that involve a number of employees. Still, a price is involved in adherence to the principle of free collective bargaining and all we can do is try to avoid the economic consequences. If they become too serious, I point out that parliament is in record as having taken appropriate action in the public interest.

[Mr. Munro (Hamilton East).]

INDIAN AFFAIRS

POSITION OF ABORIGINAL RIGHTS ON GOVERNMENT'S LIST OF PRIORITIES

Miss Flora MacDonald (Kingston and the Islands): Mr. Speaker, my supplementary is addressed to the Prime Minister. Since neither the throne speech nor its substitute listed any priority or made any reference to the problems of Canada's native people, I wonder whether the Prime Minister could say at what level these problems, including the question of aboriginal rights, are being considered?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Yes, gladly, Mr. Speaker; at the very highest level and I believe they are being very excellently dealt with by the minister responsible.

Miss MacDonald (Kingston and the Islands): Am I to understand then that the question of aboriginal rights is being considered by the minister?

Mr. Trudeau: The whole subject of our native people is one which has been before the government since the beginning of the last parliament. The government's position on all aspects, including the one raised by the hon. member, has been stated from time to time.

* * *

AIR TRANSPORT

REQUEST FOR STATEMENT OF NATIONAL POLICY AND DIVISION OF ROUTES BETWEEN AIR CANADA AND CP AIR—ALLOCATION OF ROUTE TO MILAN, ITALY

Mr. Don Mazankowski (Vegreville): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Transport. Is the minister in a position to advise the House whether the government has now reached a decision on a new international aviation policy, to which the minister referred on previous occasions, which would allocate international air routes between Canada's two major air carriers? If so, can the minister indicate to the House when this policy will be made public and also can he advise when a decision will be reached on the landing rights at Milan, Italy?

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, we are still looking into this problem in the department. I do not think I am in a position to say at what moment we will be ready to make any public statement and not for the Milan route either because it has to be decided.

DISCONTINUANCE OF CUSTOMS PRECLEARANCE—REQUEST FOR STATEMENT ON STATUS OF NEGOTIATIONS

Mr. Don Mazankowski (Vegreville): Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary. Having regard to the bilateral discussions now taking place in Ottawa, can the Minister of Transport tell us whether the subject of preclearance is a subject of top priority. Can the minister assure the House that after these meetings are concluded we will have any definitive decisions as to the extended air routes and the

overcoming of this problem of preclearance at the Toronto International Airport.

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): As the hon. member mentioned, negotiations are going on now. I do not have the result of those negotiations and I do not think I should reveal anything which is being discussed at this moment.

INQUIRY AS TO ALLOCATION OF EDMONTON-CALGARY LINK TO UNITED STATES

Mr. William Skoreyko (Edmonton East): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Transport and is supplementary. Can the minister tell the House whether the government has reached a decision now on the expansion of western Canada air routes, and particularly the Edmonton-Calgary link to the United States?

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): This is surely one of the preoccupations of the department and is something we are trying to achieve now.

* * *

VETERANS AFFAIRS

INQUIRY AS TO LEGISLATION TO INCREASE BASIC RATE OF DISABILITY PENSION

Mr. Stanley Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, may I direct a question to the Minister of Veterans Affairs. In view of the assurance the minister gave the House on May 17 that he hoped to be able, before the end of May, to introduce the government's bill to amend the Pension Act so as to increase the basic rate of the war disability pension, and in view of the fact that there are only about eight or nine hours left in the month of May, is he now in a position to introduce that legislation?

Hon. Daniel J. MacDonald (Minister of Veterans Affairs): Mr. Speaker, my department is presently working on the legislation and I hope to present it to the House before too long. I do not think we can get it here before tonight.

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Can the minister say whether that legislation will follow the recommendations of the joint study group on the basic rate of the war disability pension?

Mr. MacDonald (Cardigan): I would prefer not to make that statement at this time. When the legislation is brought in this will be determined.

ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

POSITION OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION ON GOVERNMENT'S LIST OF PRIORITIES—EQUAL APPLICATION TO ALL AREAS

Mr. John A. Fraser (Vancouver South): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of the Environment. In view of the fact that in the list of priorities reported today environmental protection apparently is not considered by the government to be as important as bilingualism, does the order of priority apply equally to every part of this country?

● (1520)

Hon. Jack Davis (Minister of the Environment): No comment, Mr. Speaker.

* * *

[*Translation*]

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

KILLING OF TWO CANADIAN GIRLS AT VICTORIA FALLS—REQUEST THAT MINISTER TABLE THE HIGH COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

Mr. Claude Wagner (Saint-Hyacinthe): Mr. Speaker, I wish to ask a question of the Secretary of State for External Affairs.

Is the minister prepared to table a copy of the report drafted by the Canadian High Commissioner, Mr. A. M. Leith, giving the real version of the events surrounding the killings in Zambia of two Canadian citizens, a report which is rumoured to contradict the remarks of Zambia's foreign affairs minister?

[*English*]

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, if the House will permit, I will make a short statement. I do not intend to table the communication from the deputy high commissioner to me because that is a privileged document. However, I would be prepared to give the substance of the disagreement if the House would let me make a statement now.

Mr. Speaker: Is this agreed?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Mr. Fairweather: You are reverting to motions.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. To clarify what we are doing now, may I point out that the suggestion made by the minister is that we revert to motions for the purpose of making a statement. I am wondering whether the House might not prefer that we go to the end of the question period, and then have the minister make his statement on motions under the Standing Order which would invite comments from parties in opposition. Is this agreed?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Oral Questions

FISHERIES

REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE TO FISHERMEN IN VIEW OF ICE CONDITIONS

Mr. Walter C. Carter (St. John's West): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Fisheries. Can the minister tell the House what action he proposes to take with respect to requests made to him by the Premier of Newfoundland and the provincial Minister of Fisheries in Newfoundland for emergency assistance to help the fishermen who are prevented from fishing because of severe ice conditions?

Hon. Jack Davis (Minister of Fisheries): Mr. Speaker, the income problem faced by the fishermen on the Atlantic shores due to ice is under active consideration.

* * *

MANPOWER

LOCAL INITIATIVES PROGRAM—REQUEST FOR TERMINATION OF GRANTS TO PROJECTS RELATED TO ROCHDALE COLLEGE

Mr. Otto Jelinek (High Park-Humber Valley): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Manpower and Immigration and it arises from my recent questioning regarding the troubled Rochdale College in Toronto following which I received a letter from the minister, for which I thank him. Because of the fact that the minister now confirms there is still a total of $110,000 in LIP grants outstanding to individuals or organizations associated with Rochdale, and due to the tragic and deplorable events which are continually taking place at that drug infested institution, I ask the minister to advise the House why his department has not, or in fact is not even considering, any action for the premature termination of these grants?

Hon. Robert K. Andras (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, I think I went on to say in the same letter to which the hon. member refers that not all those projects which are even remotely associated with Rochdale were located in Rochdale. I think the fact that some tenant may be occupying space in the building or may have some other remote connection does not call for the cancellation of a worthwhile project. Projects are being examined on their merits. I might say that the whole affair is probably superceded by the termination date of May 31, and I do not know at this moment whether any of these will be eligible for extension.

* * *

[*Translation*]

REGIONAL ECONOMIC EXPANSION

POLICY ON DESIGNATED AND SPECIAL AREAS—DISCUSSION WITH QUÉBEC

Mr. Roch La Salle (Joliette): Mr. Speaker, I want to ask a question of the Minister of Regional Economic Expansion.

Since there have recently been meetings with the Quebec government concerning designated or special areas which should be announced soon, at the same time as the departmental policy, can the minister assure us that the recommendations or proposals made by the Quebec government will not only be examined but taken into serious consideration?

[*English*]

Hon. Donald C. Jamieson (Minister of Regional Economic Expansion): Mr. Speaker, obviously the answer is yes. They will get very serious consideration.

* * *

TRADE

LUMBER—ALLEGED SHORTAGE FOR HOME BUILDERS—REQUEST FOR EXPORT CONTROLS

Mr. Trevor Morgan (St. Catharines): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce. In view of the continual rise of shelter costs, and in view of the high percentage of lumber generally used for home building here in Canada presently being shipped to Japan causing a lack of lumber which has raised the price here in Canada some 300 per cent in the last two years, will the minister consider imposing export quotas on lumber being shipped out of this country?

Hon. Alastair Gillespie (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): Mr. Speaker, my answer to the question on export controls on lumber is no but, as the hon. member probably realizes, we do have export controls on Canadian logs.

[*Later:*]

LUMBER—ALLEGED SHORTAGE OF HARDWOOD FOR FURNITURE MANUFACTURERS—REQUEST FOR EXPORT CONTROLS

Hon. Alvin Hamilton (Qu'Appelle-Moose Mountain): Mr. Speaker, my question is supplementary to that of the hon. member for St. Catharines and I address it to the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce. In view of the fact that his predecessor in the portfolio spent a great deal of the taxpayers' money building up the furniture industry in Quebec and eastern Canada in general for export purposes, and as there are industry reports that they are now short of lumber to carry out their commitments due to this expansion, would the minister indicate whether he is willing to reconsider his stance of no export controls such as we have on copper, natural gas and oil?

Hon. Alastair Gillespie (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): I understand from conversations that I have had with lumber producer groups, particularly hardwood, that hardwood lumber production in Canada has increased significantly, in fact 24 per cent last year over 1971. The current trend indicates that during the past year Canadian hardwood lumber consumers have received an increasing share of Canadian production supplemented by larger net increases in imports of both hardwood logs and lumber.

Mr. Hamilton (Qu'Appelle-Moose Mountain): Mr. Speaker, does the minister contradict the reports coming

out of Quebec that the furniture industry is short of hardwood lumber in that province?

Mr. Gillespie: I understand that there is a tight situation, but I have also been assured that Canadian producers will do everything they can to assure a supply to Canadian furniture makers.

Mr. Speaker: The Chair will recognize the hon. member for St. Catharines on a supplementary.

Mr. Trevor Morgan (St. Catharines): Again my question is directed to the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce. Does he not agree that there is a substantial shortage of lumber for home building here in Canada today?

Mr. Gillespie: There seems to be a worldwide shortage of lumber at present.

* * *

FISHERIES

REQUEST FOR TABLING OF AGREEMENT ON RECIPROCAL FISHING ARRANGEMENTS WITH UNITED STATES

Mr. Thomas S. Barnett (Comox-Alberni): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Fisheries. I wish to ask him whether he will table in the House a copy of the text of the recently negotiated agreement with the United States on reciprocal fishing arrangements.

Hon. Jack Davis (Minister of Fisheries): Yes, we are prepared to do that, Mr. Speaker.

* * *

GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION

ALLEGED LEAK OF CABINET DOCUMENT—POSSIBLE INVESTIGATION

Hon. Robert L. Stanfield (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the right hon. Prime Minister and I am sorry to interrupt him. I should like to ask him whether he has launched, or caused to be launched within the last two weeks, any investigation into any leaked cabinet document and, if so, would the date of the document be May 17?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I cannot say from memory if there has been an investigation on a particular date or in reference to a document of a particular date, but I can say quite candidly that when documents are leaked there is a standing instruction from me to ensure that the departments from which there appears to be a leak are carrying out an investigation within the department to see if they can ascertain the source of that leak. Confidentiality remains the basis on which we think governments should be able to operate in receiving advice from their officials.

Mr. Stanfield: I should like to ask the Prime Minister whether in fact such an investigation has been launched during the past two weeks with regard to a leaked cabinet document.

Mr. Trudeau: I would presume so, Mr. Speaker. When I was told this morning that there might be a leak of a cabinet document, I said that we should try to ascertain the source of that leak.

* * *

PUBLIC SERVICE

INQUIRY AS TO PURPOSE OF ALLEGED FINGERPRINTING OF EMPLOYEES

Mr. Eldon M. Woolliams (Calgary North): Mr. Speaker, I asked the Prime Minister some ten days ago whether all civil servants were fingerprinted. Since then I have done some ascertaining myself and I believe that to be correct. Was the reason for doing so, now that all civil servants in any category hired by the Public Service Commission are being fingerprinted, to catch and trace down the leaks which are now so frequent?

● (1530)

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I did look into the question and so far as I can recall, subject to refreshing my memory, the answer is no. There is no fingerprinting automatically of all civil servants. Certain categories of civil servants are indeed fingerprinted, as was recognized by the Minister of Manpower and Immigration in the particular case requested of him.

Mr. Woolliams: Do I now take it from the Prime Minister's answer that what he is saying is that there is no requirement that all public servants be fingerprinted?

Mr. Trudeau: Yes, Mr. Speaker. That is what is in my memory. If I am in error on that I will want to correct it later today or tomorrow.

* * *

HOUSING

TORONTO—REQUEST FOR ASSURANCE THAT PROPOSED RENT INCREASES FOR SENIOR CITIZENS WILL NOT BE PROCEEDED WITH

Mr. Terry Grier (Toronto-Lakeshore): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Minister of State for Urban Affairs. Is the minister today in a position to assure the House that the proposed rent increases in the Toronto area for senior citizens, to which I have referred, will not be proceeded with after May 31, which is the end of the 60-day moratorium, and if the minister is not able to give us that assurance today will he indicate whether by tomorrow he will be able to do so?

Hon. Ron Basford (Minister of State for Urban Affairs): Mr. Speaker, the Metropolitan Toronto Housing Company is a non-profit organization and I have offered them a proposal to convert their limited dividend housing into public housing and therefore have a 50 per cent federal contribution toward the rent to income scale in

that housing, which I would hope would allow the housing association to maintain its moratorium on rent increases. There are discussions going on between CMHC and the association, all of which are subject to the approval of the Toronto Housing Corporation, but I would hope that would be the result.

Mr. Grier: Can the minister assure the House that pending the outcome of the present discussions no rent increases will be proceeded with?

Mr. Basford: Mr. Speaker, the rent, of course, is charged and levied by the association. I hope that my offer to them will enable them to maintain the moratorium on any rent increases.

* * *

HARBOURS

PROPOSED DEEP WATER PORT AT LORNEVILLE, NEW BRUNSWICK—REQUEST FOR SUPPORT OF PROJECT BY PRIME MINISTER

Mr. Fred McCain (Carleton-Charlotte): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Prime Minister. In view of the fact that the Minister of Public Works has expressed support for the development of all potential Atlantic deep-water ports, and particularly for the development of Lorneville, and as the Minister of Regional Economic Expansion has agreed that his department will assist in such development, would the Prime Minister now state that he will fully support the position of these two cabinet ministers and their policies in this regard, and will he also state that he will use the full force of his office to see that their policies are expedited?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Yes, Mr. Speaker, I can state that quite unequivocally. It is the policy of the government, in fact of all ministers.

* * *

FISHERIES

ALLEGED DIRECTIVE TO NANAIMO RESEARCH STATION NOT TO COMMENT ON LOBSTER PROGRAM—REQUEST FOR INVESTIGATION

Mr. John Lundrigan (Gander-Twillingate): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Minister of the Environment in connection with the controversial lobster program at Nanaimo. Can the minister indicate the basis of the directive received at the Nanaimo Research Station, and, if he is not aware of it, cause it to be investigated, stipulating that in order to protect the minister from unwarranted badgering in the House of Commons any comments to the press, Members of Parliament and the general public should be released through the office of the director?

Hon. Jack Davis (Minister of Fisheries): Mr. Speaker, I do not recall any unwarranted badgering in the House of Commons.

[Mr. Basford.]

Mr. Lundrigan: May I ask the minister if he would cause to be investigated this very serious directive which has been received at the Nanaimo Research Station?

Mr. Davis: Mr. Speaker, this subject was covered, I know at considerable length, in the relevant committee of the House a few weeks ago. I will be glad to speak to the subject if it comes up again in that committee.

* * *

GRAIN

WHEAT—REQUEST FOR CONSIDERATION OF INCREASE IN INITIAL PRICE—POSSIBLE WITHHOLDING OF GRAIN BY FARMERS

Mr. Jack Murta (Lisgar): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the minister responsible for the Canadian Wheat Board. Since the Canadian Wheat Board has raised its export price for wheat by some 20 cents a bushel at the eastern ports and 10 cents a bushel at the western ports, and since wheat prices have strengthened by approximately $1.25 during the past year, is the Board at this time giving any consideration to increasing the initial price paid to western farmers for the wheat they are delivering this crop year?

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Justice): No, Mr. Speaker. I do not know of such consideration. I think many farmers would be rather more upset than otherwise by an increase in the current year, and of course the general practice is to allow for a fairly large final payment six or eight months after the pool period is closed. Further, prices are a very volatile matter. There was some decline today. That alone justifies the policy of a large final payment.

Mr. Speaker: I think I should bring to the attention of hon. members that we are coming to the end of the question period and we should have as few supplementaries as possible in order to allow other members to ask at least one question each.

Mr. Murta: In view of the fact that some farmers may hold back marketings until after August 1 in expectation of higher initial prices for the 1973-74 crop year, would this not give grounds for considering a possible increase in the initial price for the coming year?

Mr. Lang: No. Farmers know in fact that the total amount of money is the important figure and not the initial price. The flow of wheat into the system is still adequate to meet the Wheat Board's commitments.

* * *

INDIAN AFFAIRS

REPRESENTATIONS BY MINISTER TO MANITOBA GOVERNMENT CONCERNING HYDRO PROJECTS

Mr. Keith Taylor (Churchill): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development. In view of the repeated requests from Manitoban Indians for assistance in dealing with the

government of Manitoba and Manitoba Hydro with respect to hydro projects in northern Manitoba, would the minister advise the House what representations he has made on behalf of those Indians to the government of Manitoba or to Manitoba Hydro, and what the results of his representations have been?

[*Translation*]

Hon. Jean Chrétien (Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development): Mr. Speaker, a few weeks ago I wrote the Manitoba premier concerning this. Last week, during the premiers' visit to Ottawa, when I raised again this issue with Mr. Schryer, his reply was that he was drafting a letter. Not having received it yet, I am still waiting for it.

* * *

[*English*]

TRANSPORT

LEGISLATION GOVERNING MANUFACTURE OF MOTOR VEHICLE GAS TANKS

Mr. Harry Kuntz (Battle River): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Minister of Transport on a matter related to a question I asked of him in the House the day before yesterday. Will the minister tell the House whether or not there is existing legislation governing the manufacturing of motor vehicle gas tanks such as to strength, gauge of material, and the welding technique used?

[*Translation*]

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, a division of the department is responsible for highway safety and all parts used to build a car are assessed according to established standards.

* * *

[*English*]

MANPOWER

LOCAL INITIATIVES PROGRAM—NUMBER OF PROJECTS APPROVED AND TOTAL DOLLAR VALUE IN EACH PROVINCE

Mr. David Orlikow (Winnipeg North): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Minister of Manpower and Immigration. Is he giving consideration to making a statement early next week informing the House how many LIP projects have been approved for continuation in each province, and the total dollar value of each project?

Hon. Robert K. Andras (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, I will be glad to convey that information to the House in one form or another when it is available to me. At the moment those figures are not finalized, and I am not sure they are in a form that I could use early next week. As soon as they are available I will see that hon. members are informed.

CONSUMER AFFAIRS

GASOLINE—COMPLAINTS OF INDEPENDENT RETAILERS CONCERNING PRICE INCREASES

Mr. Stan Darling (Parry Sound-Muskoka): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs. It concerns reports of price rises and price fixing in the wholesaling of gasoline by large companies to independent wholesalers, who in turn sell to the small independent gasoline retailers. I would like to ask the minister if any complaints have been submitted by any independent gasoline retailers or their associations concerning this matter?

Hon. Herb Gray (Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs): Mr. Speaker, matters of this kind have been brought to the attention of the Combines Branch from time to time.

* * *

VETERANS AFFAIRS

LEGISLATION TO INCREASE BASIC RATE OF DISABILITY PENSION—DATE OF INTRODUCTION

Mr. Ian Arrol (York East): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the President of the Privy Council. In view of the statement today by the Minister of Veterans Affairs that legislation to increase the basic rate of disability pensions for veterans will not be introduced before the end of May as he predicted, may I ask the President of the Privy Council if he could give the government's assurance that such legislation will be introduced before the end of June?

● (1540)

Hon. Allan J. MacEachen (President of the Privy Council): Yes, Mr. Speaker, I should like to give that assurance and I think I can. I would certainly guarantee it would be introduced and dealt with before we rise for the summer recess.

* * *

NATIONAL DEFENCE

CRASH OF SEA KING HELICOPTER—REQUEST FOR INVESTIGATION OF MECHANICAL RELIABILITY

Mr. Stan Schellenberger (Wetaskiwin): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of National Defence. In view of another recent crash of a Sea King helicopter in the Atlantic, at which time the captain and his crew were fortunately rescued, would the minister now look into the matter of the mechanical reliability of these helicopters as brought to light by my question on the order paper?

Hon. James Richardson (Minister of National Defence): This has been done, Mr. Speaker.

Oral Questions

AIRPORTS

PICKERING—INQUIRY AS TO ESTABLISHMENT OF INDEPENDENT STUDY GROUP

Mr. Ron Atkey (St. Paul's): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Transport. Would the minister tell the House when he is going to announce the personnel of the independent study group for Pickering airport, which he first indicated he was going to set up over four months ago?

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, as I said in the House and before the committee, I consulted with the government of Ontario and understand that they will shortly be in a position to announce the names of the members of the board of examination.

Mr. Speaker: Before returning to motions for the purpose of hearing the statement to be made by the Secretary of State for External Affairs the Chair will allow the hon. member for Carleton-Charlotte to ask a supplementary to the question he asked previously and then return to motions.

* * *

HARBOURS

PROPOSED DEEP WATER PORT AT LORNEVILLE, N.B.—REQUEST FOR CLARIFICATION OF STATEMENT BY MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT

Mr. Fred McCain (Carleton-Charlotte): Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary for the Prime Minister in respect of my initial question. In view of the fact that remarks attributed to the Minister of the Environment in New Brunswick over the last weekend were interpreted as virtually negating the policies of the Department of Regional Economic Expansion and the Department of Public Works, and that only the Prime Minister can clarify this matter which has created a great deal of uncertainty and worry over the future of the Lorneville development, would the Prime Minister please state where this government stands and what help can government and investors expect to receive in making a healthy development at Lorneville?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Yes, Mr. Speaker. Quite simply, the Minister of the Environment has already talked to me about this and I understand he has attempted to get some rectification of the way in which his remarks were reported. The significance of his remarks, and I certainly would support him, is that in any development of this kind we must show due concern for the environment and any development which is proceeded with in these places must be looked at from the point of view of the Minister of the Environment.

[Mr. Richardson.]

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[*English*]

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

KILLING OF TWO CANADIAN GIRLS AT VICTORIA FALLS, RHODESIA—STATEMENT OF MINISTER

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, as I have reported to the House earlier, the First Secretary of our High Commission in Lusaka, Mr. A. M. Leith, visited the scene of the shooting incident primarily to assist with the arrangements for the recovery and return to Canada of the body of Miss Sinclair and in regard to the search for the body of Miss Drijber. He also took the occasion to speak to the eye-witnesses of the tragedy and to officials concerned. Mr. Leith left Zambia for Rhodesia before we were aware of the contents of the initial Zambian communiqué. During his journey Mr. Leith received full co-operation from Rhodesian and Zambian authorities concerned and was able to assist in the speedy return to Canada of the body of Miss Sinclair. The information given to Mr. Leith by the eye-witnesses on the Rhodesian side to whom he spoke revealed some serious discrepancies in regard to the Zambian version. For example:

(1) Mr. Leith reported to the effect that there was no evidence of any provocation for the incident so far as he could determine;

(2) As to whether the two Canadian girls had been in the water, the Rhodesian police report on Miss Sinclair's clothing confirmed no evidence of water on her shoes or trousers;

(3) There was no evidence that any member of the party was wearing bandoliers or waterproof gear, and

(4) There was evidence that more than one gun was used and an examination of spent bullets and bullet marks indicated that the shooting had been directed to three locations on the Rhodesian side.

As I have already reported to the House, I have not been satisfied with the version of events contained in the Zambian communiqué. On my instructions our High Commissioner brought to the attention of the Foreign Minister the discrepancies between the information obtained by Mr. Leith and the Zambian communiqué. This interview between our High Commissioner and Foreign Minister Mudenda took place on May 24. Mr. Broadbridge stressed to the Foreign Minister my desire to receive a full and satisfactory statement from the Zambian government immediately. The result of these representations was the receipt of the personal message from the Zambian Foreign Minister which I tabled yesterday. Although this statement expresses the Zambian government's regrets, it leaves a good deal to be desired and I have instructed our High Commissioner to continue to press the Zambian government for a more satisfactory response. When I have received further information from the Zambian authorities I will be in a position to advise the House further.

May I add, Mr. Speaker, a reply to the question asked yesterday by the hon. member for Saint-Hyacinthe (Mr. Wagner) regarding a statement in the letter from the Foreign Minister of Zambia that I tabled yesterday which reads as follows:

Last year a Canadian and a Zambian lost their lives in your country in the cause of strengthening our relations.

So far as we can discover, the incident refers to the deaths in an automobile accident of a Zambian who was in Canada on a training program and a Canadian whose house guest he was at the time. The Zambian, Robinson Chibundi, was a superintendent of the Zambian police force, and had arrived in Canada August 23, 1972 to participate in a three-month training program. Over the Labour Day weekend, superintendent Chibundi and a fellow Zambian police officer were the house guests of a lieutenant of the Hamilton police force, Michael Pauloski, who was also on the training program. Lieutenant Pauloski, members of his family, and the two Zambians were returning from a football game on September 4 when Lieutenant Pauloski and Superintendent Chibundi were killed in an automobile accident.

Mr. Claude Wagner (Saint-Hyacinthe): Mr. Speaker, I am glad that the minister has decided to make a full statement on this issue following a report submitted to him by our High Commissioner on the facts concerning the death of two Canadian girls. I have to admit, Mr. Speaker, that as my colleague the hon. member for Wellington (Mr. Hales) has noted, there seem to be many questions unanswered and up until now there did not appear to be considerable activity on the part of the Department of External Affairs with reference to this matter.

It seems to me, Mr. Speaker, that Canadians travelling abroad have a right to the fullest protection that the Canadian flag can afford. This can only be assured if further efforts with reference to redress are made and the strongest possible protests are launched, perhaps at the United Nations.

There are many questions that I should like to have answered. With respect to the circumstances surrounding these deaths we have already had a report given by a reliable and comprehensive reporter from Reuter, who gave us certain facts a few days ago. The government does not seem to have conducted any inquiry into that report. These facts are substantially different from those which have been given by the Minister of Foreign Affairs for Zambia. I should like to quote from the Reuter report the following paragraph:

The front page story, which the newspaper said was the result of a week's investigation—

May I say, Mr. Speaker, that if the reporter has been able to make such an investigation quickly, surely our Department of External Affairs could have done likewise.

—said that "about 50 people watched in horror" while five Zambian soldiers shot dead Christine Sinclair, of Guelph, Ontario, wounded American John Crothers "and then sniped for nearly two hours at Marjan Drijber hiding behind a rock in the Zambesi river."

The article continues:

According to the *Star*, all witnesses to the incident had been "cowed into silence" and "indications in Lusaka are that President Kaunda has had the truth deliberately kept from him by his security forces with the connivance of members of his cabinet, including Mr. Grey Zulu, Minister of Defence."

And, later:

"During all this several Zambian policemen and plainclothes officers looked on in silence." The report said the Zambian troops were in a state of high agitation, sweating profusely.

And a further paragraph from the report reads:

● (1550)

When objections were made to the uniformed police and plainclothesmen looking on, one reported that the fact that the person was a woman made no difference because the Black September movement had used women to blow up Israeli airliners.

Surely, Mr. Speaker, these facts brought out by a reporter should have been looked into by the Department of External Affairs. Other questions, as well, come to mind and it seems to me that the minister should look into them. In the letter which was tabled yesterday, sent by the Minister of Foreign Affairs for Zambia, these sentences appear:

Besides, we have several Zambians who have trained or are training in Canada. Last year a Canadian and a Zambian lost their lives in your country in the cause of strengthening our relations.

Having heard the Secretary of State for External Affairs, we now know what the last sentence means. Nevertheless, I am disturbed by those sentences. It is said that several Zambians have trained or are training in Canada. I do not know if these Zambians have been trained as managers of corporations or as soldiers in certain camps. I wonder, if they are still being trained in Canada, what action the government is taking, now that these two girls have been murdered. Will the action to be taken by the government be swift and decisive, or will the government wait until the High Commissioner returns and gets information from the same person who wrote this personal letter to the Secretary of State for External Affairs?

In this matter we want more than regrets. We do not want excuses from the government. We want compensation, and we have not yet heard anything of that nature. It seems to me that these questions and many more will have to be answered. The hon. member for Wellington (Mr. Hales) has been pressing the government day after day, without success. We have received a partial report from the Secretary of State for External Affairs. I hope that, since he has been asked these additional questions today, he will be able to satisfy not only us, in this Parliament, but all Canadians.

Mr. Doug Rowland (Selkirk): Mr. Speaker, the incident to which the minister referred in his statement was tragic in the sense that two young Canadian women unnecessarily lost their lives. It could be doubly tragic if we were to allow that unfortunate incident to affect our relationships with Zambia, which, after all, has been friendly, without first determining the facts of the case. I appreciate the efforts of the government in first ascertaining those facts before determining its course of action.

We provide substantial aid to Zambia on a regular basis. We have provided emergency aid to Zambia, to help that country overcome difficulties encountered as a result of the closure of its border with Rhodesia. We have trained Zambian policemen and military personnel in this country. I have received suggestions, both direct and veiled, that perhaps this kind of assistance should be stopped

because of the incident to which reference has been made. I hope the government will not act on that basis, and that the government's actions will not be dictated by the obvious and normal human desire for revenge in instances of this kind. If two or three Canadians had been killed, for example, in the Kent State incident in the United States, there would have been outrage but certainly not demands for separation of relationships from the United States. There would have been demands for an official apology from the government of that country and perhaps for compensation, but certainly not demands for punitive action. I think it is only proper, even though Zambia is not one of the world's most powerful nations, that we should treat that country in the same way as we would treat any other nation with whom we have friendly relations.

I think it was unfortunate in the extreme, given the potential for adverse reaction in this country, that the government of Zambia did not see fit to communicate directly with our government on the issue and provide it with facts at its disposal directly, instead of operating via press releases. I think it is also unfortunate that in its initial reactions to this incident, the government of Zambia made statements which now would appear clearly not to have been in accordance with the facts.

I hope our government will insist that the government of Zambia issue an official apology and a full explanation of the incident. And, if that full explanation seems to warrant it, I hope our government will demand compensation for the families who have suffered this tragic loss. Certainly, until such time as we receive a satisfactory answer from the government of Zambia, our own independent inquiries through our embassy officials there should continue.

I think one final point must be made. This tragedy should have brought home to all Canadians forcefully the results which flow from the kinds of tensions which are produced in this world by racist regimes. Borders are closed, and armed troops patrol those borders. These tensions are a result of policies pursued by certain countries which are unacceptable to us as a nation and unacceptable to the United Nations. I hope that that is the lesson that Canadians have learned from this incident.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Gérard Laprise (Abitibi): Mr. Speaker, the statement the Secretary of State for External Affairs just made leaves us somewhat puzzled, althouth the minister seems to demand a more exhaustive investigation than the report submitted by the Zambian government.

I think we should demand more than that in order to know all the facts involved in a situation we looks like a double murder.

Many Canadians are wondering about that, particularly those who are planning to go abroad. We need to feel secure when we travel in other countries, either as tourists or official representatives. And when such tragedies occur, we need to know all the circumstances. In the present case, some families have lost dear ones, and I agree with my colleagues who urge the Secretary of State for External Affairs to insist that those families should receive some compensation.

[Mr. Rowland.]

[*English*]

Mr. Hales: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, may I ask permission to say one or two words about this tragedy, particularly as these two girls come from my riding?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: I gather that the House agrees. I expect hon. members are familiar with subsection 3 of Standing Order No. 15. However, if it is the will of the House that the hon. member be heard, he will be recognized.

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Mr. A. D. Hales (Wellington): Mr. Speaker, may I thank you and hon. members of the House. I will not repeat what has been said concerning this tragedy. I am wondering why it has taken this government 16 days to make a statement in the House, and not a complete statement, at that. We are still left in doubt about the true facts surrounding this tragic incident. I hope the Secretary of State for External Affairs (Mr. Sharp) will give to this House early next week a full and complete report on this tragedy. I also hope he will be able to say what compensation may be forthcoming to the families of the two Canadian girls, in addition to covering many other points that I do not wish to take up the time of the House in discussing as they have already been mentioned. We must not delay this matter any longer. The longer the government lets this matter stay in limbo, the more questions will be asked and the more serious and complex will become this political issue. So, I seriously hope that early next week the Secretary of State for External Affairs will give us a more comprehensive report.

* * *

● (1600)

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

Mr. Deputy Speaker: I have the honour to inform the House that a message has been received from the Senate informing this House that the Senate have passed Bill S-6, An Act respecting Centre Amusement Co. Limited, to which the concurrence of this House is desired.

* * *

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

WEEKLY STATEMENT

Mr. Baldwin: Mr. Speaker, I rise on the usual Thursday afternoon, now almost evening, question.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: The hon. member for Peace River on the usual Thursday point of order.

Mr. Baldwin: I wish to ask the government House leader if he has managed to maintain his priorities for the legislative program between now and the end of June. I do not suggest this is the order because that may be embarrassing, but I understand we are to deal with housing,

capital punishment, bilingualism, family income legislation, electoral boundaries, Immigration Appeal Board and legislation relating to the Olympics. I ask this as complementary to the question with regard to the business of the House for this week and next. In light of the fact tomorrow is June 1, the minister might like to keep the House acquainted with his views as to what he wants done.

Mr. MacEachen: Mr. Speaker, the business for today and tomorrow has already been announced. Hopefully, it will be concluded early next week. We will continue our discussions. On Tuesday, I would like to call the report stage of the national housing bill, to be followed by the residential mortgage bill and the fisheries development bill. Thursday and Friday must be opposition days. Hopefully, within that week there will be a day designated to deal with the Ways and Means resolutions tabled this week. The following week will probably be taken up with consideration of the tax bill or bills and an Immigration Appeal Board bill.

With regard to the list of legislation that the hon. member has mentioned, certainly all of that is on the priority list to be dealt with before the summer adjournment. I would like to look at the list to see whether anything has been omitted.

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, can the President of the Privy Council indicate when summer begins on his calendar?

Mr. MacEachen: Mr. Speaker, I should add to the list the veterans legislation. The summer adjournment will begin when these bills are completed.

Mr. Benjamin: Mr. Speaker, I rise on the same point of order. In light of the commitment made by the Prime Minister each year since 1967, may I ask the government House leader whether the bill on the limitation and control of election expenses will be presented to parliament during this coming month.

Mr. MacEachen: Yes, Mr. Speaker. It will be presented. I am not sure whether it can be dealt with completely before the summer adjournment, but it will be presented before that time.

Mr. McGrath: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. Perhaps Your Honour might want to hear the hon. member for Lotbinière first.

[*Translation*]

Mr. André Fortin (Lotbinière): Mr. Speaker, the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau), in answer to the hon. member for Compton (Mr. Latulippe), has stated, if I have it right, that from now until the end of the session, a legislation on election expenses would be introduced according to what had been announced in the speech from the throne.

I realize that he will talk about it, but I would like to know whether the government leader anticipates that this bill can be considered and whether we will be able to pass it before the end of this session, or whether it will be introduced only for consideration during summer?

Business of the House

[*English*]

Mr. McGrath: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a very important point of order affecting all hon. members. It has to do with the business of the House. According to Standing Order 58(14), as of midnight tonight, all estimates of the House will be deemed to have been passed. The standing order reads:

> Each such committee shall consider and shall report, or shall be deemed to have reported, the same back to the House not later than May 31 in the then current fiscal year.

Today there are 11 standing committees and one special committee of the House meeting, with just a couple of exceptions, for the purpose of examining estimates. For example, four committees met at 9:30 this morning to examine estimates and two at 11 a.m.; four were scheduled to meet at 3:30 p.m. and two are scheduled to meet at 8 p.m. today. It is with regard to the meeting scheduled for 8 p.m. that I base my point of order.

The estimates of Information Canada are to be referred to the Standing Committee on Broadcasting, Films and Assistance to the Arts. These estimates will be examined for the first time at eight o'clock. That means the members of that committee will have a maximum of four hours to examine the estimates of this very important government agency. In fact, if the House adjourns at 10:30 and the committee adjourns at 10:30 as is the custom, we will have approximately two and one half hours to examine the estimates of Information Canada. I might point out that when the supplementary estimates were before the House, the vote under the heading Information Canada for $19,000 was voted down by a majority vote of the House. This must have indicated to the government there was less than satisfaction in the House with this government agency and the substantial amount of government funds that have been earmarked for expenditure by this agency.

I realize that Your Honour's first reaction will be that no rule of the House is being violated or broken. That is true. However, this is certainly a flagrant violation and abuse of the rules of this House. Members of this House have the responsibility of examining the estimates. Government expenditures amounting to $20 billion have been referred to the standing committees of this House for examination and scrutiny. If committees are meeting simultaneously with the sitting of the House, and that is another argument, my grievance is this: The government should have referred the estimates of Information Canada to the committee before two or four hours prior to the deadline set out in Standing Order 58(14). We can only conclude that the government does not want this agency to receive the kind of scrutiny it certainly warrants under the circumstances.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. McGrath: When the estimates of the Minister of Labour (Mr. Munro) were being examined by the Standing Committee on Labour, Manpower and Immigration, we were informed that we could not examine the minister on the Information Canada vote because, for some strange reason yet unknown, the estimates of Information Canada were to be dealt with by another standing committee, the Standing Committee on Broadcasting, Films and Assistance to the Arts. Consequently, we were denied the oppor-

tunity of examining the Minister of Labour on the estimates of Information Canada. The only opportunity that we will have to examine the estimates of this particular agency will be at eight o'clock this evening. This will be our first and our only opportunity, because by midnight tonight, under the Standing Orders of this House, all estimates will be deemed to have passed.

● (1610)

I appeal to Your Honour, as custodian of the rights and privileges of the members of this House, to take this matter under advisement so as to ensure in future that when the government manages the business of the House, especially supply and reference of estimates to standing committees, it takes into account the very specific provisions of Standing Order 58(14) and sees to it that all hon. members are given ample time to examine all of the estimates which are placed before the standing committees.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: The Parliamentary Secretary to the President of the Privy Council on the same point of order.

Mr. Reid: Mr. Speaker, on February 27 last the estimates of Information Canada, along with all the other estimates, were referred to the various standing committees. For three years now, the estimates of Information Canada have been referred to the Standing Committee on Broadcasting, Films and Assistance to the Arts. This was certainly the case while I was chairman of that committee over the last four years.

Second, the government does not control those committees. It does not have a majority on those committees. It is the combined opposition that controls those committees by virtue of its controlling vote. The committees make their own decisions as to what departments they call. Each committee has a certain number of hours allocated to it, the total time available divided evenly among them, and it is possible for the committee to use this time as it sees fit. I do not think that the charge that the government has deliberately attempted to hide the estimates of Information Canada is valid, because it is, as I say, the committee that controls its own time and sets its own schedule and agenda.

The last point I want to make is that it was at the behest of the government, and at my insistence as the parliamentary secretary having some responsibility for committees, that the committee decided to hold hearings tonight on Information Canada. According to the chairman of that committee, no indication had been given by members of the opposition that they wished to consider those estimates. They had among themselves made their own decision as to which departments and agencies they wanted to examine. I think if anyone is to be found at fault, it is not the government but the members of the committee, members of all parties in the House. The members of that committee have had no direction from the government in terms of what the committee shall call or what it shall do.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: The member for Regina-Lake Centre on the same point of order.

[Mr. McGrath.]

Mr. Benjamin: Mr. Speaker, I appreciate that some efforts have been made to schedule committee meetings in such a manner that the situation we have had in the past where a number of committees are sitting at the same time will not occur, and I must say I appreciate those efforts. But what has been happening over the past two weeks in two committees of which I have personal knowledge is that there has been a strange inability on the part of both the government party and the official opposition to assemble a quorum. This occurred just 30 minutes ago when a meeting of the transport and communications committee was cancelled. Only two members were present, the hon. member for Skeena and myself; no one was there from the government and there was no one from the official opposition. Some 30 officials of the Department of Transport were sitting waiting. The same thing happened in the privileges and elections committee. On two occasions, it was unable to meet because of a lack of a quorum. I find it passing strange for a member of this House to complain that we cannot deal with estimates when the fact is that committees cannot get quorums.

I urge the government and the House leaders of all parties to revert to a practice we tried two or three years ago, which was for the House not to sit for a full week while committees met two or three times a day for the entire five day period. A great deal of work was accomplished. I suggest a modification of that practice might be to have the orders of the day question period, and then have House recess until the next day. This procedure could be followed for an entire week. Perhaps a week out of each month over a period of three months should be devoted to committee meetings, and most of the work of hon. members during that week would be on committees. I hope that the committee on privileges and elections will be able to get a quorum tonight.

Mr. Horner (Crowfoot): Mr. Speaker, I rise on a question of privilege and also on the point of order.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: The hon. member for Cochrane is rising on the point of order.

Mr. Horner (Crowfoot): I have a question of privilege, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: The hon. member for Crowfoot is rising on a question of privilege.

Mr. Horner (Crowfoot): Mr. Speaker, I rise on a question of privilege because the committee that I have the honour to Chair has been referred to by the hon. member for Regina-Lake Centre. I think I should point out that it has been standard practice for committees to schedule meetings at 3.30, on the understanding that the committee may meet later than 3.30 if the question period in the House of Commons continues past that point. Today has been a rather unusual day to begin with, and even now the question period is not over, or least we have not reached orders of the day.

I could see trouble arising today at 3.30, since a lengthy question period in the House is still in progress. This is why today, after consultation with the vice-chairman of the committee, the minister and others concerned, we decided that the best thing to do would be to cancel the

meeting of the committee. I regret very much that the hon. member was there at 3.30, but the question period was not over at that time. It was not a question of getting a quorum in the committee but rather whether the committee should meet.

Mr. Benjamin: I waited for half an hour.

Mr. Stewart (Cochrane): Mr. Speaker, on the point of order raised by the hon. member for St. John's East, may I assure the hon. member that as chairman of the Standing Committee on Broadcasting, Films and Assistance to the Arts I do not take direction from the government as to the business to be heard. As far as any decision to hear certain departments is concerned, this decision is arrived at through consultations with other party members on that committee. As a matter of fact, there are so many different departments and agencies referred to this committee that it is impossible to examine all their estimates in the course of a year, much less in the time we have been given.

As far as the hearing tonight with regard to Information Canada is concerned, there would not have been an opportunity to examine these estimates at all had it not been for the fact that we disposed of one item of the Secretary of State's department yesterday. This left us with time to examine the estimates of Information Canada, since it happens to be an agency that is important and should be examined. However, there is certainly not time to hear from all departments. I point out to the hon. member for St. John's East that at the present time he is not a member of this committee, so therefore is not in a position to know what has taken place up to now. As I say, it has not been possible to schedule any other meetings to hear from this particular agency.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: The hon. member for Egmont on the same point of order.

Mr. MacDonald (Egmont): Yes, Mr. Speaker, on the same point of order. With respect to the basic question that was touched on by the hon. member for Cochrane namely the increasingly difficult situation in which we find ourselves each year with very limited time to deal with so many departmental estimates, particularly when government expenditure is increasing every year, would it not be possible for the procedure and organization committee to give this matter some priority of examination in order to introduce a formula that would be a good deal more workable than the present one set out in Standing Order 58(14)?

On a more practical note, I am sorry that the government House leader is not in his place, but earlier he said that he would give consideration to the referral of annual reports to various committees in order that the basic work done by committees of scrutinizing government expenditures and programs could continue. If the government House leader could give us some assurance that these reports would be referred to committees, presumably some of the pressures referred to by hon. members on both sides of the House would be relieved. I think it is important that the House have a much better opportunity to examine the workings of government departments than it has under this present prohibition.

Business of the House

● (1620)

Mr. Howard: Mr. Speaker, it seems that a number of factors have emerged all of a sudden. The matter of the Committee of Transport and Communications having a meeting scheduled for 3.30 this afternoon to consider the estimates of the St. Lawrence Seaway Authority, and other committees having just this last day to consider estimates, brings us to the point that I think we might want to consider altering the Standing Order that demands that the estimates be deemed to have been adopted by the end of May. We might want to provide additional time to do this cleanup work and also to do a very much better job of considering the estimates. If we do not move in that direction ourselves, we shall be open to some rather serious charges of completely disregarding the expenditure of public funds.

I am not referring only to the Committee on Transport and Communications, but that is the one of which I am a member and in respect of which I am particularly concerned. I wonder if I might put forward the suggestion, not to seek consent to it now, but so that the House leaders might discuss it and come back later today with agreement on a course of action. I suggest that Standing Order 58(14), the one in question, be amended for this session so that instead of today, May 31, being the time when estimates are extracted from these committees automatically, whether they have been considered or not, we extend the time to June 15. This procedure would give the committees another couple of weeks to do a proper and thorough job of considering all those estimates with which they have so far not dealt. Perhaps that might get us out of a very awkward situation.

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

Mr. MacDonald (Egmont): Mr. Speaker, I wonder, now that the government House leader—

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Let me say to the hon. member for Egmont (Mr. MacDonald), in view of my ruling in respect of other hon. members wishing to speak on this point of order, he may not speak now. Hon. members are allowed to make one contribution and that is all. I regret to have to take that action.

Mr. MacDonald (Egmont): Mr. Speaker, I rise on a question of privilege. I was merely rising to invite the government House leader to respond to my suggestion, in view of his earlier indication that he would consider the proposal to refer the annual reports, in order that we might clear this impasse and make the work of the committees more effective.

Mr. MacEachen: Mr. Speaker, in respect of the point raised earlier, by the Leader of the Opposition, as to whether there would be some arrangement or extension in respect of a particular committee, namely the Standing Committee on Regional Development, that committee has reported and has completed its study of the estimates. It was in respect of that committee I had promised consideration.

Mr. McGrath: What about the motion?

Mr. MacEachen: There is not a motion.

Mr. Stanfield: No, he did not put it.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, please. Standing Order 58(14) states:

In every session the main estimates to cover the incoming fiscal year for every department of government shall be referred to standing committees on or before March 1 of the then expiring fiscal year. Each such committee shall consider and shall report, or shall be deemed to have reported, the same back to the House not later than May 31 in the then current fiscal year.

Several hon. members have taken that Standing Order to mean that at the expiry of today the estimates of any particular department, more particularly the ones to which the hon. members refer, shall be deemed to have been passed by the House of Commons. This is not so. The relevant words are "shall be deemed to have reported". It is open to hon. members, at a later stage in this session, to challenge the particular estimates they wish to have challenged. I think the Chair might also say that hon. members are anticipating what may happen this evening when a meeting has been called to consider the estimates of a particular department or division of government. That is something I think the House cannot do. The estimates have been referred to the committees and until these come back, either as a result of the provisions of the Standing Order I have mentioned or in some other way, we should not interfere.

Mr. Howard: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order to determine whether or not there would be unanimous consent to the proposal I put forward earlier, namely, that the Standing Order be altered so that June 15 becomes the deadline, without proposing that there be any debate on it.

An hon. Member: No, Mr. Speaker.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

An hon. Member: The Liberals say no.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Orders of the day.

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

[*Translation*]

OFFICIAL LANGUAGES

DECLARATION OF CERTAIN PRINCIPLES RESPECTING EMPLOYMENT IN PUBLIC SERVICE OF CANADA

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister) moved:

That this House,

(i) aware that, as provided in the Official Languages Act, the English and French languages possess and enjoy equality of status and equal rights and privileges as to their use in all the institutions of the Parliament and Government of Canada;

cognizant that it is the duty of departments and agencies of the Government of Canada to ensure, in accordance with that Act, that members of the public can obtain available services from and communicate with them in both official languages; while

recognizing that public servants should, as a general proposition and subject to the requirements of the Official Languages Act respecting the provision of services to the public, be able to carry out their duties in the Public Service of Canada in the official language of their choice;

do hereby recognize and approve the following Principles for achieving the foregoing:

(1) that positions which are seen, under present circumstances, as requiring the knowledge and use of both the French and English languages will pe first identified, and then designated, as bilingual in the course of the period ending December 31, 1978;

(2) that positions will also be identified where English is an essential requirement of the job, where French is essential, or whether either French or English may be used;

(3) that a knowledge of English and French is one of the elements of merit in the selection of candidates for bilingual positions;

(4) that competitions for bilingual positions will be open both to bilingual candidates and unilingual candidates who have formally indicated their willingness to become bilingual;

(5) that competitions for unilingual positions will continue to be open to unilingual or bilingual candidates who meet the language requirements of the job;

(6) that unilingual incumbents of bilingual positions may elect to become bilingual and undertake language training, or transfer to another job having the same salary maximum, or, if they were to decline such a transfer, to remain in their positions even though the posts have been designated as bilingual;

(7) that employees who, as of April 6, 1966, had at least ten years of continuous service and who, since that date, have been employed continuously in the federal Public Service, will be entitled to apply for any job that has been identified for future designation as bilingual without having to indicate their willingness to become bilingual;

(8) that unilingual French-speaking and English-speaking persons from outside the Public Service who are willing to become bilingual may apply for bilingual positions open to public competition;

(9) that language training, at public expense, will be provided to unilingual public servants as well as to persons who are appointed to the Public Service to bilingual positions;

do further approve the Government of Canda, and, in particular, the Treasury Board and the Public Service Commission, taking the measures required to give effect to the aforementioned Principles; and

(ii) do further approve the taking of measures, after consultation with employee representatives, designed to produce a greater use of the French language at all levels in the Public Service, through increasing, where practical, the number of French Language Units, through further recruitment efforts by the Public Service Commission, through training programs offered in the French language and by developing proposals, in conjunction with the Governments of the Provinces of Ontario and Quebec, to enhance the bilingual character of the National Capital region, thus helping to realize the objective of achieving, within the merit principle, full participation in the Public Service by members of both the anglophone and the francophone communities.

He said: Mr. Speaker, the Speech from the Throne indicated that our government would ask Parliament to "confirm the basic principles of our program for bilingualism in the public service. The resolution now before this House sets out those principles, together with further measures to achieve greater use of the French language in the public service.

Since we must this session deal with quite a few national concerns, I am sure hon. members will allow me a few moments to relate today's resolution, and the govern-

ment's official languages policy, to other major legislation proposed in the throne speech.

[*English*]

Mr. Speaker, in one way or another, every government since Confederation has sought to enhance national unity in Canada: to remove the irritants which divide us, while strengthening the many links which join us. Like many of its predecessors, this government understands that national unity is not to be found in an immutable formula chiselled in stone. The quest for Canadian unity is not frozen for all time in any one track or single direction. The pace of modern change is too rapid for that; our country is too large and diverse for that.

In Canada we have two official languages; a number of proud provinces and regions; many thriving cultures. All of us rejoice in our diverse identities, and are vigorously determined to retain them. Hence, achieving national unity will depend on meeting different priorities in different areas. Our challenge is that it now depends on meeting many of them at the same time.

The throne speech has proposed measures to improve urban life, and to widen opportunities for western Canadians; to deal with many economic and regional expansion problems; and with what some call "the language problem". They are all on our agenda for this session; we will deal with them all with equal vigour. For as we well know, if the essential needs of any major group or region are consistently ignored, in the long run there may not be a Canada for any of us.

● (1630)

Mr. Speaker, in relation to national unity, today's resolution has an extra dimension because it concerns the Public Service of Canada. Our public service develops and applies the whole range of federal policies affecting the lives of all Canadians. This puts it in constant touch with the people, in intimate contact with their everyday concerns. The public service must be acutely sensitive to the needs of Canadians, so Canadians will feel it is their public service; and so the public servant will feel himself involved with the whole.

The policy of the government is to attract the most capable and competent people to our public service. We cannot do this, and the Public service cannot adequately serve all Canadians, unless it is increasingly representative of the two language groups.

Why do we have two official languages in Canada? In my opinion, not primarily because of any historical founding rights, though they are important to many people. Not, certainly, because those two particular languages are superior to any other. We are not dealing with historical abstractions or cultural preferences. We are dealing with straightforward political and social realities.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Trudeau: And a stark reality of our country is this: there are about 16 million English-speaking Canadians, most of whom speak no French. There are about 6 million French-speaking Canadians, a majority of whom speak no English. If only because of sheer force of numbers, either group has the power to destroy the unity of this country.

Those are the facts, Mr. Speaker: two numerically dominant language groups, both of them prevalently unilingual. As the President of the Treasury Board (Mr. Drury) reminded us last December:

> These facts leave Canada with only one choice, only one realistic policy: to guarantee the language rights of both linguistic communities. They are the facts which have dictated the government's bilingualism policies, and the principles which must apply in their application in the public service.

Mr. Speaker, this concern with the two official languages is a very old one here in parliament. My right hon. friend from Prince Albert has cited this himself. So perhaps he will remember how vigourously John A. Macdonald denounced any attempt—in Macdonald's words—"to oppress the one language or to render it inferior to the other." "I believe", said Macdonald, "that would be impossible if it were tried—and it would be foolish and wicked if it were possible". Impossible, of course, because neither the French nor the English-speaking Canadian is going to throw himself, or his language, into the sea. Foolish and wicked, because to make one language inferior to the other, even by default, would implant a core of implacable dissatisfaction at the heart of our country.

You know, many of us take language pretty much for granted, much like breathing. But that is exactly why limiting a person's use of his language can cause in him such a trauma, because you are interfering with something almost as basic as breathing. The Pearson government accurately stated a number of years ago that:

> . . . language is at once the extension of the individual personality, and an indispensable tool of social organization: fail to recognize the linguistic rights of either French or English-speaking Canadians, and their will to preserve Canada will be seriously weakened, if not destroyed.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Trudeau: Mr. Speaker, for more than a century now many French-speaking Canadians have been saying, "That government in Ottawa, that's not my government . . . Why, it doesn't even speak my language". That is the kind of frustation that fed separatism. So the federal government finally said to the people of Quebec, "Look, keep faith in Canada. Things can be changed. We'll implement the B and B report, and bring in the Official Languages Act. We'll get the public service people to look over their recruitment and personnel policies".

"We'll get Ottawa and Hull, with Queen's Park and the people in Quebec City a bit enthusiastic about making the capital more bilingual, a more open city, a more national capital. Because Quebeckers have to feel at home in all of Canada; and certainly in our federal government."

Now, so far the people of Quebec have kept the faith. They rejected separatism when it was raised as an issue in the elections of 1968, 1970 and 1972. But the federal government must keep the faith too. All of us, working together, have got to show once and for all Ottawa can speak in the French language and can reflect the values of French as well as English-speaking Canada. This we must do, because we want to stay together as one Canada. Thanks to all parties in this House, we have our basic tool, the Official Languages Act. But we always have to ensure we are using it in the very best way we can. And that is part of what today's resolution is all about.

Mr. Speaker, let me explain quite clearly the major reasons for this resolution. Some have asked: "Why is Parliament being asked to debate? Why is Parliament being asked to vote on it?" Others even say, "Why did the government even bother drafting it? Isn't all of this already in the Official Languages Act?"

Well, I will agree on one point. Nothing in today's resolution deviates from the spirit or letter of the act. But, we are not debating the act; we are debating the public service official languages program. It was criticized and it caused uneasiness on the part of public servants because of the way in which it was applied or allegedly applied. That is why we want this Parliament to know the way in which we want to apply it. That is why we want the public service to know what the guidelines are and that is why the unions in the public service have been also consulted on this. The program itself has evolved remarkably in the past four years. More than almost any other recent measure I can think of it has required constant adjustment, constant improvisation and constant experimentation. After all, what we are doing in our public service has never been done before, at least not in Canada. All of us, the government and treasury board, the Public Service Commission and staff associations, have had to take a chance on the methods we thought best. And we have had to be willing to refine and even change some of our techniques and to try new ones in the light of our experience.

I am happy to say that we recently reached something of a watershed in this rather hectic effort. The results have been evaluated. And the new guidelines we promised last September, well before the result of October 30, are now embodied in a firm set of principles—that is the first part of today's resolution—and in further concrete measures—that is the second part—which we expect to pursue with consistency for some time to come. Hence today's resolution presents to this House several new, basic developments in the way we are implementing the public service languages program. Every part of the resolution carries the full support of the staff associations, and was developed in full consultation with them. I was certain that the House would want this opportunity to express its opinions as well. After all, all parties in the House support the goals of the Official Languages Act. Along with the government, the Public Service Commission and staff associations, the House is a full partner in this vital enterprise.

● (1640)

There is another reason for bringing forward this resolution. The government's language policies are intended to benefit all Canadians. But it is primarily our public servants who have to live, in a very personal sense, at the cutting edge of this fundamental change; who have to bear much of the burden for us all. We owed it to them to spell out more precisely, as soon as we could, the specific conditions of the program. To do so has been a primary purpose of this resolution.

During the past few years, I have felt a great deal of sympathy for any men and women in the public service who at any time may have felt personally threatened. I also understand the concern of public service candidates who want to know more precisely whether a second language will be required of them in a few years time. Today's resolution should help clear the air, certainly not by slackening the pace of our program but by making both the requirements and guarantees far more tangible, concise and precise than before. In this sense, the resolution is a matter of simple fairness to those most directly involved. It can help ensure that a vital instrument of national unity, the Official Languages Act, shall not become a tool of disunity.

[Mr. Trudeau.]

My colleague, the President of the Treasury Board (Mr. Drury), will be explaining in some detail both the principles embodied in the resolution and the guidelines which flow from them. In the near future, I hope that he and I may also meet with the senior officials of the federal public service to discuss with them the substance of this resolution and to ensure an understanding of the objectives involved. I can think of no area where understanding and co-operation at all levels of the public service are more important.

There are just a few important points I should like to make now. English speaking Canadians often forget that a majority of French speaking Canadians are not bilingual—they too are unilingual. An Anglophone takes it for granted that he can work in the public service of his country, in his national capital, using his own language. A Francophone cannot. That is obviously unfair and must be changed.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Trudeau: But let us also remember this: We do not repair one man's house by removing the bricks from his neighbour's. Hence, I am speaking of both Francophones and Anglophones when I state my determination that our language policy must never be a barrier to any Canadian wanting to work in the federal public service.

[*Translation*]

If Canada's public service is to offer real equality of opportunity, as many public servants as possible must be able to work in their own language. It was certainly never the policy of the government that most public servants need to become bilingual to enjoy satisfying careers. On the contrary, our intention is to enable most of them to remain unilingual if they so desire.

Obviously, this will not be possible unless they can communicate in their own language with their supervisors, and with their central departmental services: the reference library, let us say, or the personnel branch. Which means a certain number of central service and supervisory positions (as well as some of those dealing with the public) will have to be held by bilingual men and women.

There are more than 250,000 public service positions in all of Canada. We estimate that about 25,000 of these must be held by bilingual officials to permit most other public servants to work in their own language. (I'm told that something like half of the 25,000 posts already are filled by bilingual persons.) By designating just these specific positions, I think we've found the best, least disruptive way to enable Canadians to work for the public service in the official language of their choice and to ensure that the federal government can serve every Canadian in his own language.

[*English*]

To summarize, we do not seek a public service in which most men and women are individually bilingual. This approach would obviously be the wrong one since the vast majority of Canadians do not speak two official languages. Rather, we wish to create a public service that is functionally bilingual—that is one in which most men and women will be able to work, to function, in whichever official language they choose.

Let me assure the House that we have not the slightest intention or desire ever to impose a second official language on any Canadian who does not wish to speak one. While the phrase may sound a bit awkward, there is really nothing mysterious or frightening about what we call "functional bilingualism". It will not take anything away from anyone. It will give something very desirable to all of us, to the Canadian speaking only English and to the Canadian speaking only French. It will give us a public service in which all of us can work in the language that comes most naturally to us as individual men and women, a public service from which all of us can obtain essential government services in our own language. Is that bad? Is it a policy to make any of us fearful? I do not think so, and that is why I commend this resolution to every member of this House and to all the Canadian people.

As the resolution recognizes, most Canadians have not had a need or an opportunity to learn both official languages. With this in mind, the government proposes that those who are unilingual, as well as those who are already bilingual, be able to compete as equals for any bilingual position open to public competition. They can do so on the understanding that, should a unilingual candidate be selected for a bilingual post, he or she will take up to a year of language training—at public expense—to develop whatever degree of second language proficiency is required. This measure is for the benefit of both unilingual English speaking and unilingual French speaking Canadians, and will apply to them of course without distinction.

The principles embodied in today's resolution also deal with those already working for the government. In this 1966 statement which established the government's basic position on bilingualism in the public service, prime minister Pearson promised that the careers of unilingual public servants:

> . . . who have devoted many years of their lives to the service of their country must not be prejudiced in any way by measures to develop bilingualism.

From the outset, our language policy has been elaborated within that spirit. I am aware, however, that many doubts have arisen among unilingual public servants in part because the 1966 promise was general in nature.

In contrast, today's resolution is quite specific. It states that unilingual public servants will be given at least one year's notice of the bilingual designation of their posts. They will have an opportunity to take language training—also at public expense—or to transfer to a unilingual position at no loss of salary.

What if someone should decline language training or be unsuccessful at it, and also refuse a transfer? If all that befalls, him, he may remain in his post if he wishes to and we will make administrative arrangements to ensure that the bilingual needs of his office are met. In other words, no public servant will be removed from his position by virtue of our implementation of the principles. We wish to provide an extra measure of protection for public servants who had ten years of continuous service as of the date of Mr. Pearson's statement, April 6, 1966, and who have been continuously employed in the public service since that time. Even though they are unilingual and wish to remain unilingual they will have the right to apply for positions identified as bilingual, but not yet formally designated as bilingual.

● (1650)

[*Translation*]

Mr. Speaker, I have described in some detail the safeguards we are providing to protect the interests of unilingual public servants. These safeguards will apply to both English and French-speaking public servants, but in terms of numbers will most help the English-speaking group. Now let me turn more specifically to the primary interest of French-speaking Canadians: Are public service careers becoming available to them on the basis of equality? I know that some people—pointing to the targets previously set for 1975, and the new deadline of 1978—have charged that today's resolution represents a retreat from our objectives, or a delay in implementation of our policies. This is simply not the case. On the contrary, we cannot meet our new objectives for 1978 unless, at a minimum, we meet the targets previously set for 1975. The President of the Treasury Board will explain this question in detail. I would like at this time only to impress one crucial point upon this House:

I do not regard the achievement of a functionally bilingual public service as a vague and distant desideratum. I regard it as a very concrete matter; I regard it as having immediate importance to the well-being of our country as a whole—and of millions of our citizens as individuals.

Quite frankly, Mr. Speaker, we would be blind not to recognize that many French-speaking Canadians still do not regard the federal Public Service as "theirs". That many of them feel the federal government "belongs to the anglophone", because it still largely speaks in English, and works in English. With the cooperation and goodwill of our public servants, we have already made a certain amount of progress towards changing this situation. Now we must call upon ourselves to do more.

That is why the second part of today's resolution refers to specific measures to increase the use of French in the public service, and to enhance public service career opportunities for French-speaking Canadians. Where appropriate, we are increasing the number of French Language Units. We are undertaking further measures to increase recruitment of francophones. So that these recruits may compete as equals for promotion within the public service, we are increasing the number of professional training programs offered in French. And we will seek progressively more effective action, in consultation with provincial and municipal authorities, to enhance the bilingual character of the National Capital Region.

For just a moment, let me also recall that the first part—the "basic principles"—of the resolution are of at least equal importance from the point of view of a unilingual

francophone. Their importance to him is this: our good intentions, our efforts to create a functionally bilingual working atmosphere, have now crystallized as a precise and systematic program to identify—by December 31st of this year—and to fill—by 1978—the key positions with bilingual public servants. To assist in this end, we are augmenting second-language training facilities for federal public servants.

I have just one additional note. It may be of special interest to the francophones who have contributed so much to our federal cultural agencies, and are beginning to contribute much more than in the past to the commercial, scientific and technical ones. I am writing to the heads of the federal agencies, to inform them that the government anticipates their personnel policies will take full account of these measures to enhance the use of French. (Along, of course, with the entitlements and safeguards which I described earlier.)

Mr. Speaker, I would humbly express the wish that comparable measures will apply everywhere on Parliament Hill as regards both Houses, the House of Commons and its services and the Senate. I also will draw the resolution to the attention of the presidents of corporations such as Air Canada and Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation.

Mr. Speaker, we are trying, in a fair and just way, to create a public service increasingly based on a true partnership of the anglophone and francophone communities. We are trying to widen the opportunities for public service for all Canadians who may wish to serve. But we are today discussing only one aspect of the Official Languages Act. It must be remembered that that Act also covers such matters as provision to the public of services in both official languages by the federal courts and crown corporations; the use of the two languages in Parliament; and the appointment of a Commissioner for Official Languages.

That Act and today's resolution make sense only if we agree on the kind of Canada we want: A Canada where French and English-speaking Canadians feel at home in all parts of the country; a Canada where all citizens treasure the privilege and challenge of building one nation with two official languages, and many cultures.

[*English*]

Mr. Speaker, language policy is not an idée fixe with this government; it is one of the means toward our two pre-eminent goals, national unity, and equality of opportunity. To a Quebecker a more desirable Canada may vitally depend on respect for language rights. To a westerner more interest may currently attach to whether this government and their own provincial premiers make real progress at the Western Economic Opportunities Conference. In many parts of the country millions of Canadians will judge their government less by the language it speaks than by whether it provides equity and compassion in our social welfare system, or new ideas and resources to help keep urban life liveable and urban government workable.

Can all these needs be understood and tackled together, Mr. Speaker? I think they can, because while in Canada we may often have different priorities, we respect each other and want to live together as a nation. Canadians also realize that your well being or mine cannot be purchased at the expense of our neighbour's. Hence today's resolution is one essential in a complex of programs and objectives to foster unity and equality for all in this country. Today's resolution is a clear option for the kind of Canada we want. I commend it to all hon. members of this House, and indeed to all Canadians.

[Mr. Trudeau.]

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

● (1700)

PROCEEDINGS ON ADJOURNMENT MOTION

[*English*]

SUBJECT MATTER OF QUESTIONS TO BE DEBATED

Mr. Deputy Speaker: It is my duty pursuant to Standing Order 40 to inform the House that the questions to be raised at the time of adjournment are as follows: the hon. member for Athabasca (Mr. Yewchuk)—Broadcasting—Sale of radio station CKSB, Winnipeg, to CBC—Action to set aside Canadian Radio-Television Commission decision; the hon. member for Surrey-White Rock (Mr. Mather)—Energy—Proposed West Coast oil tanker route—Alleged lack of departmental co-ordination of opposition; the hon. member for Provencher (Mr. Epp)—Canada Pension Plan—Hutterian Brethren of Canada—Request for exemption from paying premiums.

It now being five o'clock, we will proceed to the consideration of private members' business.

Mr. Jerome: Mr. Speaker, I indicated earlier when tabling the fourth report of the Standing Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs that I would be seeking the consent of the House to revert to presenting reports of standing and special committees to present the fifth report of that committee if hon. members are agreed.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Is it agreed that the House should return to the order, "presenting reports" so that the hon. member for Sudbury (Mr. Jerome) may present his report?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[*English*]

JUSTICE AND LEGAL AFFAIRS

FIFTH REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

Mr. J. A. Jerome (Sudbury): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have the honour to present the fifth report of the Standing Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs. If the House gives consent, I intend to move immediately for concurrence in that report.

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

[*Editor's Note: The Clerk Assistant (Administrative and Procedural) read the report as follows:*]

The Standing Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs has the honour to present its fifth report.

Your Committee recommends that its membership be increased by adding thereto the following names: Messrs. Beaudoin, Fox, Howard, Lawrence, Miss MacDonald (*Kingston and the Islands*), Messrs. O'Connor, Olivier and Prud'homme, and that the provisions of Standing Order 65(1)(i) relating thereto be suspended, so that two sub-committees may be formed to begin investigation into the administration of the penitentiary system while the Committee proceeds with consideration of proposed legislation now referred to it, that the quorum of the committee be set at ten members and that the provisions of Standing Order 65(6) relating thereto be suspended.

Your committee further recommends that the said sub-committees be empowered to adjourn from place to place in Canada, accompanied by the necessary supporting staff, for the purpose of visiting penitentiaries.

A copy of the relevant Minutes of Proceedings and Evidence (*Issues Nos. 11 and 12*) is tabled.

Respectfully submitted,

JAMES JEROME,
Chairman.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: The House has heard the presentation of the report. It would now be a matter of moving that it be adopted. I take it that the President of the Privy Council (Mr. MacEachen) is so moving, seconded by Mr. Drury—

Mr. MacEachen: Mr. Speaker, I would prevail upon the Chairman of the committee to allow us to look at a certain part of the report overnight before we move concurrence in it.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, please. If there is not unanimous consent, then concurrence in the report cannot be moved now.

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Mr. MacEachen: Mr. Speaker, I hesitate to be difficult with my good friend the Chairman of the committee, but I would like to look at that part of the report which requires travel from place to place in Canada. If the rest of the report could be adopted but that—

Mr. Deputy Speaker: I gather that there is not unanimous consent. We will now proceed to the consideration of private members' business. The first order of business would be notices of motions for papers.

Regional Economic Expansion

PRIVATE MEMBERS' MOTIONS FOR PAPERS

[*Translation*]

REGIONAL ECONOMIC EXPANSION

OFFER OF LOAN TO THE PARK SAMUEL HOLLAND HOTEL OF QUEBEC

Mr. Adrien Lambert (Bellechasse) moved:

That an Order of the House do issue for copies of the signed agreement and all other documents relating to the offer of a guaranteed loan made by the Department of Regional Economic Expansion to the Parc Samuel Holland Hotel of Quebec.

He said: Mr. Speaker, I should like at the outset to thank my good friend, the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre (Mr. Knowles) for seconding my motion. It shows once more that this Parliament is the assembly of the nation. Notwithstanding political parties, whenever the public good is concerned, we agree.

The object of the motion of which I am the sponsor is to have an order directing the executive to produce, in this House, which is the supreme authority in this country, the documents specifically concerning the signed agreement between the Department of Regional Economic Expansion, of the first part, and the management of the Parc Samuel Holland Hotel of Quebec, of the second part.

I really cannot understand why the government appears reluctant to reply to information requests made by hon. members, according to the Standing Orders of the House.

Logically, it seems to me that hon. members' privileges should be taken into account by the executive. The credits that the ministers are authorized to spend are voted by Parliament, therefore by the members. The legislation authorizing the expenditure of public funds is also voted by the members.

Why deny them this right of looking into the use of funds they have voted to such or such department? I know that in general, the civil service decides whether this or that plan submitted under an act must be accepted or rejected. I understand that the minister cannot do everything by himself, however he is responsible before Parliament and if he refuses to answer requests for information coming from the members of this House, how can these members be informed and play their role of supervising?

The motion being considered is to the effect that the House orders the Minister of Regional Economic Expansion (Mr. Jamieson) to table a document that would allow us to verify whether the act governing this department has been complied with.

The Department of Regional Economic Expansion is one of the most important in the federal administration; we need only look at the budget to be convinced of this. Moreover, we know that the former minister of this department has been the target of many criticisms. Were they all warranted? I hope not.

To remedy the concerns and the numerous requests for information with which the members are flooded, the executive power would have to be more flexible and generous toward information requests coming from hon. members. The work of parliamentarians becomes more demanding and more tiresome. News bulletins and comments by so-called experts are coming from everywhere. Men and women in public life have fewer chances than

before of thinking about complex questions before making a judgment.

It has become an art to follow the events so as to give valid opinions on vital issues for the electorate as for its representatives. Those who asked questions expect quick and wise answers on the part of Parliament members on many subjects which concern the community, such as fiscal matters, economic matters which are becoming more and more disturbing and also on local topics which are increasing in number and difficulty.

Specifically, we have people asking why a co-operative flour-mill which contributes to provide jobs and boost the economic growth of an area cannot benefit from DREE grants to upgrade its equipment and offer new products to the public when a hotel such as the one mentioned in the motion can benefit from the act. Are products or services offered to the public more useful than those of a co-operative flour-mill?

Why can that same department financially help a business and not another? People will say that the act is the governing criterion. There are also regulations edicted under the act but they are made by officials and not members of parliament; that procedure is a deficiency which prevents members of parliament from fulfilling their role to the fullest extent.

A parliamentarian often needs information on delicate questions—perhaps a problem or a grievance from one of his constituents—and the department may be reluctant or give an inadequate answer because of restrictive rules.

A real or imaginary barrier may stand between departments and members of the opposition in the sense that the public service is at the government's disposal. That is why members will feel sometimes that an official is trying to avoid or escape certain questions because he thinks that the subject is politically touchy. Personally, I have that problem mainly with the Department of Manpower and Immigration which is in charge of the Local Initiatives Program.

I know that as far as the motion is concerned I will be told that those documents are of a confidential nature and that the department has no choice but to refuse the information requested. For this reason, Mr. Speaker, one could rightly say that all reports from individuals and companies to the government are of a confidential nature.

I also want to say that the remarks found in the report of the auditor general relating to the use of public funds are quite fair, and the government should draw inspiration from them.

● (1710)

I should like to quote from the notes on the report of the auditor general a passage that appears to me to be very fair, which somewhat supports the motion through which I request the tabling of certain documents, in order to be in a position to control, in accordance with our parliamentary duties, expenditures and appropriations of public funds. I am referring to paragraph 195, on page 26, which states:

Weakening of parliamentary control over expenditure through failure to disclose the total cost of a project. Canada has undertaken to contribute $6 million toward the cost of building a provincial ferry with ice-breaking capabilities of which $3 million was paid by the Department of Regional Economic Expansion during the year and $3 million is to be paid by the Department of Transport in 1972-73. When contributions to a single project are divided between the appropriations of more than one department, the full extent of the related cost—

[Mr. Lambert (Bellechasse).]

—to a given department—

—is not adequately disclosed, thereby contributing to the weakening of parliamentary control over expenditure.

And further on, it says:

196 Irregular charges to Regional Economic Expansion appropriation. Charges of $694,000 with respect to the projects mentioned in this paragraph were irregular as they came within the programs of other departments for which specific appropriations had been provided by Parliament.

A third point was raised by the auditor general concerning the same department, and I quote:

197 Irregular payment of a development incentive grant. The grant, of which $442,000 out of a possible $570,000 had been paid, relates to the takeover without interruption of the operation of a completely organized manufacturing firm which was in commercial production. It is difficult to understand how the acquisition of a functioning facility can be construed as being the establishment of a new facility as contemplated by the Regional Development Incentives Act.

The fourth point—the last I shall quote—will prove once more that we are justified in availing ourselves of the Standing Orders to present a motion for production of papers.

198 Grant made under Department of Regional Economic Expansion Act. Grant of $33,500 paid to company notwithstanding the fact that an investigation showed that company equity was negative and the operation was not viable.

This will be my last quotation. I merely wanted to bring to the attention of the House the merits of my motion and I hereby invite hon. members to adopt it unanimously, so that the documents may be produced.

Mr. Speaker, this is not only out of curiosity, but to fulfil our duties as parliamentarians. If, as I said earlier, we authorize credits, we have the right and the responsibility to find out how things are done and the money administered.

Therefore, if an hon. member is entitled pursuant to Standing Orders to submit a motion to compel the government to produce documents, I hope this is no laughing matter and that this motion will be unanimously carried.

● (1710)

[*English*]

Mr. Maurice Foster (Algoma): Mr. Speaker, I very much appreciate your recognition of me. The hon. member for Sault Ste. Marie (Mr. Symes) stood up at the same time I did. I am sure I will leave plenty of time to enable the hon. member for Sault Ste. Marie to put his remarks on the record.

The notice of motion in the name of the hon. member for Bellechasse (Mr. Lambert) that we are discussing this afternoon reads:

That an Order of the House do issue for copies of the signed agreement and all other documents relating to the offer of a guaranteed loan made by the Department of Regional Economic Expansion to the Parc Samuel Holland Hotel of Quebec.

I think the basic reason that I, personally, would oppose this motion is that we are trying to get new industries

established in the designated areas of Canada. In this case, the industry happens to be a hotel. We are striving to get new businesses into these areas so that they will provide more jobs. It is basic that when people apply for grants or, in this case, a guaranteed loan, they do so because they want to do business with the government. They have to file very detailed information as to their long-term projections and show what their assets and liabilities are. If this information is to be made public, those companies will not bother applying. For every one application that is granted, many, many are never granted. If we want these companies to apply for this assistance, I suggest they have every right to be dealt with confidentially.

In this connection I wish to quote from page 5 of the March issue of "Report on Regional Development Incentives":

> In conclusion, it should be noted that applications for incentive assistance and supporting documentation contain a large amount of information that must be regarded as commercially confidential. It is for this reason that, as a matter of policy, the Department is unable to make public certain types of data. It is for the same reason that the Department does not reveal the fact that a particular application has been received unless and until it results in an accepted offer of incentive assistance. This policy is, of course, consistent with the aims and objectives of the program, which is designed to encourage investment in the designated regions and special areas of Canada.

Many of the things to which the hon. member referred were discussed in great detail by the Regional Development Committee yesterday when it visited Sudbury, at which time various groups from all over northeastern Ontario were heard. One area in which we should be doing more is that of loan guarantees and assistance of various types to those engaged in the tourist industry. Northeastern Ontario, like many other areas of Canada that have been designated, has tremendous tourist potential. Under the federal regional economic expansion program, not much assistance is granted to those engaged in the tourist industry. The loan guarantee is one part of the regional economic expansion program which applies directly to the tourist industry.

● (1720)

When this matter was before the House two or three years ago, it was pointed out that the main reason for establishing the loan guarantee was that often the resort operator had only 20 per cent of the capital required. If he were establishing a manufacturing or processing plant, he would perhaps receive a grant from the federal government of another 15 per cent to 20 per cent of the capital required. However, in a slow growth area, it was often difficult to raise the additional capital needed to finance the project. Therefore, the loan guarantee was introduced so that the entrepreneur would be able to go to the bank or some other lending institution to borrow the money and the government would guarantee the loan. There has not been a large number of loan guarantees approved. Perhaps there is a need to improve this program because it is not being utilized nearly as much as the Regional Development Incentives Act.

The hon. member also mentioned the hotel type of operation which received assistance through the Industrial Development Bank. I was pleased to note that, according to the Speech from the Throne, the Minister of Finance (Mr. Turner) will be introducing amendments to the Industrial Development Bank Act later this session to make it more flexible. The bank has made a lot of progress in securing new business.

Some of the witnesses who appeared before the Standing Committee on Regional Development in Sudbury yesterday indicated that they were much more aggressive and were doing a better job of getting new business. This does not deny the fact that the interest rates continue to be high. Although the interest rates are higher than those charged on loans from the Northern Ontario Development Corporation, there is still a great deal of money made available to the tourist industry and hotel chains through the Industrial Development Bank.

Another agency in which the federal government is involved is ARDA. It does not make loans directly to those engaged in the tourist industry, but does make grants to communities for the development of tourist facilities. I understand the smallest loan on which a guarantee is given is $250,000. This seems rather high. Perhaps if it were lower, more businesses could take advantage of it.

When speaking on this subject some time ago, the hon. member for Compton (Mr. Latulippe) argued that such loan guarantees should be available to the operators of smaller hotels. All hon. members are aware of inflation and increased costs. Possibly you could not build much of a hotel for $250,000, but this limit still seems high. The hon. member for Compton also suggested that the assistance should only be available to Canadian owners of hotels. Of the two examples cited, I understand that one hotel is owned by a company in Quebec and the other in Winnipeg is Canadian owned as well.

I wish to refer to the criteria upon which the government bases a decision to produce papers because it gives a guide to the type of information which is available to Members of Parliament. This document was appended to *Hansard* for March 15. The general principle set out in the document is as follows:

> To enable Members of Parliament to secure factual information about the operations of government to carry out their parliamentary duties and to make public as much factual information as possible consistent with effective administration, the protection of the security of the state, rights to privacy and other such matters, government papers, documents and consultant reports should be produced on Notice of Motion for the Production of Papers unless falling within the categories outlined below in which case an exemption is to be claimed from production.

Exemptions

> The following criteria are to be applied in determining if government papers or documents should be exempt from production:

1. Legal opinions or advice provided for the use of the government.

This should be self-evident. Sometimes a government gets more than one legal opinion. To reveal this information ahead of time, especially if the government were involved in a litigation with a company or individual, would certainly prejudice the position of the government. The second criterion reads:

> Papers, the release of which would be detrimental to the security of the State.

This obviously refers to matters of national security, such as police information, RCMP information and so on. The third criterion is as follows:

Papers dealing with international relations, the release of which might be detrimental to the future conduct of Canada's foreign relations; (the release of papers received from other countries to be subject to the consent of the originating country).

If members were given access to private papers and reports concerning other countries, the effect on our international relations could be detrimental. The fourth item reads:

Papers, the release of which might be detrimental to the future conduct of federal-provincial relations or the relations of provinces inter se; (the release of papers received from provinces to be subject to the consent of the originating province).

With the tremendously complex maze of federal-provincial and interprovincial papers, it is evident that if the federal government were to release these, there would be great difficulty in the negotiations between the federal and provincial governments. The fifth item is as follows:

● (1730)

Papers containing information, the release of which could allow or result in direct personal financial gain or loss by a person or a group of persons.

I believe this item in the criteria relates directly to the inquiry today by the hon. member for Bellechasse. If companies apply for this kind of assistance and their complete financial picture is released to the public, these companies, having given the government the information privately and confidentially, would very soon cease to have any faith in doing business with the government or at least in giving factual information to the government. Then No. 6:

Papers reflecting on the personal competence or character of an individual.

I shall not go into that; I am sure most members appreciate its significance. The criteria continue:

7. Papers of a voluminous character or which would require an inordinate cost or length of time to prepare.

Many of the questions put on the order paper require a tremendous amount of information-collecting. For instance, the government might have to ascertain how much of any particular item it has in its stores. Therefore, it seems to me it would be unreasonable to expect the government to go to all the expense of gathering and collecting such information.

8. Papers relating to the business of the Senate.

I understand we do not even refer to the Senate as such but, rather, refer to "the other place". If we start to release information through the government and the House of Commons relating to the Senate, we will change the relationship that has traditionally existed between this House and the other place.

9. Papers, the release of which would be personally embarrassing to Her Majesty or the royal family or official representatives of Her Majesty.

10. Papers relating to negotiations leading up to a contract until the contract has been executed or the negotiations have been concluded.

Likewise, this relates to the sort of situation we are debating this afternoon, a loan guarantee given to a company which has provided the government with confidential information. Because of that trust, this information should not be released to the general public.

11. Papers that are excluded from disclosure by statute.

For example, those covered by the Official Secrets Act.

12. Cabinet documents and those documents which include a Privy Council confidence.

13. Any proceedings before a court of justice or a judicial inquiry of any sort.

14. Papers that are private or confidential and not of a public or official character.

15. Internal departmental memoranda.

16. Papers requested, submitted or received in confidence by the government from sources outside the government.

Similarly, I believe this latter item applies to the subject matter of the motion we are debating this afternoon asking for a House order to release information. I think this particular criterion has been applied to the release of documents. The motion presented by the hon. member this afternoon makes it clear that these papers do not fall within the category of those that can be released. The committee held hearings yesterday in Sudbury.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Foster: Yes, Mr. Speaker, I might say it was a very successful meeting and was devoted entirely to the Department of Regional Economic Expansion. Some consideration was given to the loan guarantee program and to other programs. A great deal of concern was expressed about the need for decentralizing the department and for having field officers able to assist applicants applying for a small loan guarantee or regional development grant directly, thus eliminating the expense entailed by engaging consultants and accountants. I believe there was unanimity among the committee members that this kind of assistance should be made available especially to people in the more remote areas. For the large corporation, decentralization perhaps is not so necessary since they have people on staff to handle detailed information and a trip to Ottawa to consult officials is not all that onerous.

We met many groups from various cities in northeastern Ontario and they, likewise, supported the idea of decentralizing this department. One group was from the Spanish River Indian Reserve and was represented by Chief Wilfrid Owl who made a presentation on behalf of his band and the 26 bands he represented in northeastern Ontario. Their experience with the loan guarantee program and the Regional Development Incentives Act has not been particularly favourable. They have received some assistance through the ARDA program as well as the Indian economic development fund, but the assistance received directly from the loan guarantee program and RDIA has been exceedingly limited.

In spite of the lack of direct liaison with the department, considerable progress has been made. The chief outlined the leathercrafts, woodcrafts and other development programs that have been financed through the department and the Indian economic development fund, including assistance to the forest products industry, small sawmill operations and pulp-cutting operations that are being carried out on his reserve. He indicated that the same kind of program has been implemented on other reserves in northeastern Ontario. Similarly with the ARDA program; he

indicated the kind of assistance that had been given to that part of Ontario. I see you are moving to your feet, Mr. Speaker, so I shall resume my seat and let the hon. member for Sault Ste. Marie speak.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Before I recognize the next speaker in this debate, perhaps I should point out that by one of those coincidences that comes along once in every two lifetimes, the mover and the seconder of this motion both happen to have names the same as other members of the House. The hon. member who seconded the motion under discussion is the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre (Mr. Knowles).

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Thank you for that favourable mention, Mr. Speaker.

● (1740)

Mr. Cyril Symes (Sault Ste. Marie): Mr. Speaker, first I should like to congratulate the hon. member for Algoma (Mr. Foster) on his attempt to talk out the bill. He did an excellent job, although I do not share his sentiment that the bill should be talked out.

I also congratulate the hon. member for Bellechasse (Mr. Lambert) on his motion. It is important that we try to get information from this government, especially the Department of Regional Economic Expansion. I find myself a bit more fortunate than the hon. member for Bellechasse in that I have in my possession a confidential document which I received just a few days ago, prepared by a study group of the Department of Regional Economic Expansion which examined northern Ontario. The study group produced a report entitled "The Ontario Regional Review". I think it contains some very important information which the committee on regional development should have had before it. I see there are a number of members of that committee in the House and I would be most happy to give them a copy of the report when I have concluded my remarks.

We in northern Ontario feel great sympathy for those in the Maritimes because, like the Maritimes and parts of Quebec and western Canada, we are an underdeveloped area. In northern Ontario, in the ten years from 1961 to 1971 employment rose by only 18 per cent, compared with a 47 per cent increase in Ontario and 43 per cent in the rest of Canada. The per capita income slipped from the equivalent of the Canadian average in 1961 to only 93 per cent of the national average in 1969. Chronic unemployment is one of our problems. Young people graduating from school not being able to find jobs and having to move to southern Ontario is another problem we face.

This report by the Department of Regional Economic Expansion highlights these very important problems and I should like to read some of its more important parts to the House. After examining the four years of operation of DREE, the report states:

> In summary, northern Ontario occupies about the same relative position in the Canadian economy as it did four years ago when the region was first designated. It remains isolated from the mainstream of economic activity in the remainder of the province. As a slow-growth region its problems are akin to those in the west and to some extent the Maritimes.

In another part of the report it is stated:

> The growth prospects of the region must be viewed as mixed at best. While increases in output may be realized in the traditional sectors (i.e. mining, forestry, and related manufacturing) the employment gains will be relatively small and will certainly fall well short of the over-all job requirements for the region as specified by the Ontario government. The single-industry towns will continue to decline and the possibility of resource depletion—especially of minerals—creates some uncertainty regarding the longer term growth prospects of the region.

The report mentions specific problems in northern Ontario as follows:

> Even the largest centres in the region have moved only slightly beyond their resource-based origins. Related to this are such infrastructure problems as the lack of adequate housing, inadequate sewage facilities and the lack of fully serviced industrial land. Third, remoteness from the major markets of North America results in higher transportation costs relative to, for example, the Toronto-centred region.

The report goes on to describe the DREE program in northern Ontario in these words:

> In northern Ontario incentives amounting to $31 million have been accepted by 57 firms. These firms are expected to create about 4,000 jobs with a capital investment of approximately $200 million.

You will note that it is expected, not guaranteed. The report continues:

> Two projects have been dominant in the over-all distribution of incentives in northern Ontario. Of the $31 million in total incentives, Algoma Steel in Sault Ste. Marie has accepted $12 million and Eckstall Mining in Hoyle township just east of Timmins has accepted $8 million. Thus $20 million has been committed to two projects; the remaining $11 million is spread among 55 firms.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, please. I think the hon. member for Algoma (Mr. Foster) has a question, if the hon. member for Sault Ste. Marie (Mr. Symes) agrees. The Chair will then present its own question to the hon. member.

Mr. Foster: Mr. Speaker, the hon. member referred to the grant made to the Algoma Steel Corporation and seemed to be in opposition to that grant. I was wondering whether he in fact believes that the grant made by the department to the Algoma Steel Corporation was a good one.

Mr. Symes: Mr. Speaker, the point being brought out in the report is that the majority of the grants made in northern Ontario have gone to two firms, one at Sault Ste. Marie and one at Timmins. As a result, the money spread among the other areas of northern Ontario has been rather thin.

The whole point of the motion of the hon. member for Bellechasse is that if we had access to this government's information, the study by the regional development committee could be of immense importance. When we went to Sudbury yesterday and heard the briefs from municipalities, organizations and individuals, this was the kind of problem brought forward. DREE had done studies, yet the local people have not had access to them in order to take advantage of them and develop programs and policies for northern Ontario. As a result, when we look at the situation in northern Ontario we find that the helter-skelter approach by the department has not solved our problems. We need a co-ordinated and over-all plan for this area.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Before the hon. member continues, perhaps the Chair might say it is in some difficulty in that the motion before the House reads:

That an order of the House do issue for copies of the signed agreement and all other documents relating to the offer of a guaranteed loan made by the Department of Regional Economic Expansion to the Parc Samuel Holland Hotel of Quebec.

It seems to me that both the previous speaker and the present speaker in this debate have gone rather far afield from that motion. I suppose the hon. member for Bellechasse (Mr. Lambert) is hoping that there will be a conclusion in respect of what he has proposed. Therefore, I suggest it is the duty of the Chair to try to hold the debate within the realm of the motion presented by the hon. member. It seems to me that to range far and wide over the operations of the Department of Regional Economic Expansion, unless it can be tied to or kept in line with the loan made to the Parc Samuel Holland Hotel of Quebec, would be to do a disservice to the motion and to the hon. member.

Mr. Symes: I take your comments under advisement, Mr. Speaker.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Lambert (Bellechasse): On a point of order, Mr. Speaker.

● (1750)

[*English*]

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member for Bellechasse on the point of order raised by the Chair.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Lambert (Bellechasse): Mr. Speaker, I do not wish to interrupt needlessly the present speaker, but I highly appreciate your remarks. The two members who followed me considerably wandered from the motion.

The object of the motion is to facilitate the access to departmental papers and information.

I think that the motion is particularly interesting and I ask the support of hon. members to have those papers tabled.

I thank the Chair for its comments and I am sure that the subsequent speeches will deal exclusively with the motion.

[*English*]

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Is the hon. member for Sudbury (Mr. Jerome) rising on the point of order raised by the Chair?

Mr. Jerome: Only with regard to clarification of your intervention, Mr. Speaker. I appreciate the concern of the Chair in respect of speeches relating to the subject matter of the motion. However, in private members' hour there is always a general question of principle involved, aside from the substantive motion put forward by an hon. member, particularly on Thursdays when we deal with the production of documents. There is not only the question of the production of documents specifically related to the motion, but there is always in this hour the question of when a government should release documents and when it should not. That was the tenor of the speech of the hon. member for Algoma (Mr. Foster). I would urge upon Your Honour that these remarks be taken in the context that hon. members refer not only to the subject matter of the motion but should also be given an opportunity to discuss the principle of whether or not documents should be released.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: I think the remarks of the hon. member for Sudbury are well taken. Certainly, it is not a procedure which happens so often that it would interfere with the rules which have been laid down. However, it seems to me it is a difficult matter when a member wishes to pursue a quest for information, as the hon. member for Bellechasse is doing, if he suddenly finds himself confronted with a great, over-all debate. Obviously, hon. members can see I am in a state of perplexity on this matter. I recognize the merit of what the hon. member for Sudbury says, but I think in fairness to the hon. member for Bellechasse I must ask that the debate be as restricted as possible and as relevant as possible to his motion.

Mr. Symes: In view of those comments, Mr. Speaker, I shall be brief. However, I believe the point I am trying to make is relevant to the motion. While the hon. member for Bellechasse is worried about particular documents which relate to a particular problem, I am arguing on the same principle, the principle of access to information. We are not getting it in this House. I was using the example of a document which came into my hands which is not public and which would have been of immense value to the committee on regional development. In that sense I agree with the hon. member for Bellechasse that we should have more access to this type of information, and I do not agree with the strictures elaborated by the hon. member for Algoma. I shall resume my seat in order that we may make a decision on this motion.

Mr. B. Keith Penner (Thunder Bay): Mr. Speaker, I shall keep in mind your direction to the House about relevancy and abide by it. However, I think we should bear in mind the remarks of the hon. member for Sudbury (Mr. Jerome) on the subject of general information. I should like to speak at the outset, as chairman of the Standing Committee on Regional Development, about information which comes to government and does not ordinarily make its way into the House of Commons or become accessible to Members of Parliament.

There is a very happy piece of information which we are told has leaked out of that very secret cabinet room, which apparently indicates that this government gives the very highest priority to regional development. I take it that this means consideration by the Treasury Board, which sometimes can be a little tough in respect of some programs. The information is that this department is to be given every consideration so that the important job which is being done in respect of developing the various regions of this country can be done in a much more vigorous way.

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, would the hon. member permit a question?

Mr. Penner: I would be delighted to accept a question from the venerable hon. member from Winnipeg North Centre.

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Is the hon. member confirming the authenticity of the document to which he has referred?

Mr. Penner: Mr. Speaker, in answer to that question may I say I would be a very proud man if I could say I had access to cabinet secrets and could guarantee their authenticity. My sources are the same as those of the hon. member, that is, the morning newspapers. But I am delighted with this news. I take it to be authentic. Perhaps that is wishful thinking. I want it to be authentic because we must get on in this country with the job of experimenting, spending money and doing much more, so that Canada can be something other than a few pockets of population with vast areas in between which are underdeveloped and which are not getting their fair share of the opportunities which should be available to every citizen of this country.

The hon. member for Sault Ste. Marie (Mr. Symes) pointed out that there has not been a great amount of growth in northern Ontario. It is quite true that we have only been able to hold our own. The fact that we have only been able to hold our own is to a large extent the responsibility of the Department of Regional Economic Expansion, in co-operation with certain provincial agencies also concerned with regional development. It came out at the hearings of the committee yesterday that much more must be done and that the Department of Regional Economic Expansion could do much more in this area.

I should like to mention one point that was raised. In case you are concerned about relevancy, Mr. Speaker, it is about information. Some of the witnesses who appeared before our committee in Sudbury yesterday pointed out that industrial commissioners, reeves, mayors and people involved in regional development find it extraordinarily difficult to obtain information which would be useful to them. It is expensive to gather it themselves. These people made the plea that much of the information which is available in the department should be released so that they could use it. Indeed, the committee unanimously passed a motion, which is part of the second report submitted earlier this afternoon, urging the government to give consideration to making some of this information available in the areas where it could be used. Rather than having it locked up here in Ottawa, it should be available to the regions and given to the people who can use it.

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Question.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, please. The hour appointed for the consideration of private members' business having expired, I do now leave the chair until 8 p.m.

At six o'clock the House took recess.

AFTER RECESS

The House resumed at 8 p.m.

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

[*English*]

OFFICIAL LANGUAGES

DECLARATION OF CERTAIN PRINCIPLES RESPECTING EMPLOYMENT IN PUBLIC SERVICE OF CANADA

The House resumed consideration of the motion of Mr. Trudeau:

That this house,

(i) aware that, as provided in the Official Languages Act, the English and French languages possess and enjoy equality of status and equal rights and privileges as to their use in all the institutions of the Parliament and Government of Canada;

cognizant that it is the duty of departments and agencies of the Government of Canada to ensure, in accordance with that Act, that members of the public can obtain available services from and communicate with them in both official languages; while

recognizing that public servants should, as a general proposition and subject to the requirements of the Official Languages Act respecting the provision of services to the public, be able to carry out their duties in the public service of Canada in the official language of their choice;

do hereby recognize and approve the following principles for achieving the foregoing:

(1) that positions which are seen, under present circumstances, as requiring the knowledge and use of both the French and English languages will be first identified, and then designated, as bilingual in the course of the period ending December 31, 1978;

(2) that positions will also be identified where English is an essential requirement of the job, where French is essential, or whether either French or English may be used;

(3) that a knowledge of English and French is one of the elements of merit in the selection of candidates for bilingual positions;

(4) that competitions for bilingual positions will be open both to bilingual candidates and unilingual candidates who have formally indicated their willingness to become bilingual;

(5) that competitions for unilingual positions will continue to be open to unilingual or bilingual candidates who meet the language requirements of the job;

(6) that unilingual incumbents of bilingual positions may elect to become bilingual and undertake language training, or transfer to another job having the same salary maximum, or, if they were to decline such a transfer, to remain in their positions even though the posts have been designated as bilingual;

(7) that employees who, as of April 6, 1966, had at least ten years of continuous service and who, since that date, have been employed continuously in the federal public service, will be entitled to apply for any job that has been identified for future designation as bilingual without having to indicate their willingness to become bilingual;

(8) that unilingual French-speaking and English-speaking persons from outside the public service who are willing to become bilingual may apply for bilingual positions open to public competition;

(9) that language training, at public expense, will be provided to unilingual public servants as well as to persons who are appointed to the public service to bilingual positions;

do further approve the Government of Canada, and, in particular, the Treasury Board and the Public Service Commission, taking the measures required to give effect to the aforementioned principles; and

(ii) do further approve the taking of measures, after consultation with employee representatives, designed to produce a greater use of the French language at all levels in the public service, through increasing, where practical, the number of French language units, through further recruitment efforts by the Public

Service Commission, through training programs offered in the French language and by developing proposals, in conjunction with the governments of the provinces of Ontario and Quebec, to enhance the bilingual character of the national capital region, thus helping to realize the objective of achieving, within the merit principle, full participation in the public service by members of both the anglophone and the francophone communities

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Boulanger): The hon. Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Stanfield).

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Hon. Robert L. Stanfield (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, I am almost overwhelmed by the interest of my hon. friends opposite in this subject. I must add, however, that I have received a note from the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) expressing his regret that it would be almost impossible for him to be here tonight, and I certainly accept that. I am sorry he will not be here because I would have liked to say what I have to say in his presence.

Mr. Fraser: Where is the government?

Mr. Bell: I hope the press notes their absence.

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Here is the government.

Mr. Stanfield: The resolution contains a preamble referring to the Official Languages Act and the status of French and English under that act. It goes on to set out nine principles which set forth what are commonly known as the Drury guidelines for achieving the purposes of the Official Languages Act within the public service, guidelines promulgated following the election of last autumn.

[*Translation*]

The proposed motion also recommends that this House, and I quote:

(ii) do further approve the taking of measures, after consultation with employee representatives, designed to produce a greater use of the French language at all levels in the Public Service, through increasing, where practical, the number of French Language Units, through further recruitment efforts by the Public Service Commission, through training programs offered in the French language and by developing proposals, in conjunction with the Governments of the Provinces of Ontario and Quebec, to enhance the bilingual character of the National Capital region—

[*English*]

The principles of the Official Languages Act are not in question in this debate; they are not before the House. They were approved when the Official Languages Act was adopted a few years ago. I supported the measure at that time and I continue to do so. I support the principles and I do not propose tonight to discuss or to reargue in any way the principles involved in the Official Languages Act.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Stanfield: But it is really a little puzzling to see what purpose this resolution is intended to serve. The Official Languages Act is law; it has legal effect. The part of the resolution before us setting out what are generally called the Drury guidelines are already announced government policy. The government, for example, did not consult Parliament before adopting these guidelines. Obviously, they did not see the necessity to do so. The adoption of this resolution by the House and by the Senate does not have the force of law in any way. Obviously, the resolution does not modify in any way the Official Languages Act or any other legislation that has been adopted by this parliament.

Mr. Guay (St. Boniface): Do you think it should go further?

Mr. Stanfield: I hope the hon. member for St. Boniface (Mr. Guay) will have the courtesy to listen to me. I am quite prepared to deal with him in my usual way, but I do not know that it would add very much to this debate or to the importance of the subject.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Guay (St. Boniface): Let us hear what you have to say.

Mr. Fairweather: An empty barrel!

Mr. Stanfield: The adoption of this resolution—I emphasize this—is not binding on the government. It is a matter of law, despite what the Prime Minister said in the House on May 7 of this year in answer to the hon. member for Crowfoot (Mr. Horner). One might argue, of course, that there would be some moral obligation on the part of the government to comply with the resolution, but there certainly could be no legal obligation on the part of the government, or officials administering the legislation, because this resolution cannot have the force of law, cannot change any existing law and cannot be binding upon those who are administering the law.

In saying this I am not in any way questioning the competence of the House to proceed with an affirmative resolution, to express an opinion as it were, and I am certainly not intending to indicate, by virtue of expressing this opinion, that I propose to vote against the resolution. But I am saying that this kind of resolution obviously has no binding effect upon the ministers of the Crown nor upon the officials administering the legislation.

Earlier this session the Viet Nam resolution was before the House and the Secretary of State for External Affairs (Mr. Sharp) indicated that the outcome of that resolution, that is, the views of the House as expressed on the resolution adopted by the House, would not bind him in the actions he might take, because the resolution would not have the force of law. So we intend to offer to the House an option to do more than simply express an opinion of the House. We intend to attempt to bind the government to the substance of the content of the resolution, and accordingly I will put forward an appropriate amendment at the conclusion of my remarks.

● (2010)

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Stanfield: Sir, I believe very much in the support of institutional bilingualism in this country. I believe the cause of institutional bilingualism needs support. But I do suggest that we will not necessarily do very much to increase the support in the country for institutional bilin-

gualism simply by passing a resolution in this House. I suggest we really do more to help the cause if we discuss the issue frankly, if we recognize and discuss any mistakes that have been made, with a view to correcting them and with a view to making the implementation of the principles of the legislation fairer and more acceptable.

The Prime Minister has put forward this resolution. I must comment on it very frankly. I speak as a supporter of the principles. I think I might be personal enough to say that I speak as one who, in the course of defending the principles and the policy throughout the country, bears a few scars as a result thereof.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Stanfield: It seems to me that the resolution is put forward with a view to trying to screen some of the failure and mistakes that the government has made in implementing the Official Languages Act. One does not have to be a vigorous anti-government partisan to recognize the dangers of many of the needless strains that the government, by its methods, has caused in connection with the program. Not the least of its sins has been in the area of arousing suspicion, distrust and confusion in the minds of many of those Canadians who are neither French- nor English-speaking in their origin. The government cannot say that it acted in the absence of any advice which was constructive and intended to be helpful.

[*Translation*]

Four years ago, during the debate on the Official Languages Act, I suggested the importance of recognizing and encouraging the various ethnic groups established in Canada. I stated at the time that we had to make those people understand that they should not see in the bill a form of depreciation and even less of negation of their own cultures.

I then suggested that the committee could perhaps draft a preamble to the act underlining that idea.

In addition, we recommended the incorporation into the act of an amendment recognizing the right to speak other languages and the importance of helping the conservation and development of other cultures. This amendment stipulated among other things that it was impossible to recognize the linguistic duality of Canada without in so doing trespassing on the rights of other cultural groups.

[*English*]

The government, Sir, rejected that amendment. Indeed, it took the government until October, 1971, even to get around to doing anything in recognition of these other cultures in Canada. Its failure to do so earlier, particularly two and a half years earlier at the time of the introduction of the Official Languages Act, was a source of profound regret to every Canadian who wanted to see the act operate in the interests of unity in the country. I think parliament at that time created the impression in the minds of a good many Canadians who are neither of French nor British stock that they were being treated as second-class citizens; and I think the move of the government, non-contemporaneously with the act—in fact, a couple of years later—was belated. The government also cannot duck, and I say this very earnestly, its record of generating concern in the country about the downgrading of the monarchy and the erosion of symbols and institutions.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Stanfield: Sir, this has nothing to do with bilingualism.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Stanfield: It has nothing to do with bilingualism. I see my hon. friends opposite shaking their heads, but I say very earnestly that in the minds of many people who were concerned about the erosion of these institutions the two became quite erroneously linked.

Mr. Allmand: Let's have some examples.

Mr. Stanfield: My hon. friends can laugh; they can do anything the like. I say we are only going to make progress—

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Boulanger): Order. I regret to interrupt the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Stanfield), but it is becoming very hard to follow his speech. I think that this afternoon we had very good order in the House. I must frankly admit that I hear noise on both sides. I hope that hon. members, who know the rules of the House and have respect for them, will listen to the Leader of the Opposition with great attention.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Stanfield: Mr. Speaker, I have no desire to arouse the House. I would be very grateful if everybody would just sit quietly and listen to what I have to say. I just say that this coincidence, in the minds of many people, has been an unfortunate circumstance which has not helped but which has poisoned the atmosphere.

Let us return to the record of the government in relation to the public service. Here again, the government created hostility toward its program, and again the government cannot claim lack of constructive comment at the time the legislation was introduced. During the debate on the Official Languages Act on May 16, 1969, I said, for example, and I hope I will be forgiven for quoting myself:

> If this bill is not administered fairly and sensibly it can very easily create more disunity than unity. I say that in all sincerity. We could very easily create more new grievances in trying to remove old grievances . . .
>
> This bill must be administered in such a way that it will not destroy the careers of the many Canadians now in our federal public service who are not bilingual. I suggest the emphasis ought to be on providing bilingual government services to the extent it is practical rather than upon the public servants providing those services being bilingual. This must be done to the fullest extent possible so that both French—and English-speaking persons will feel at home in the federal service. The emphasis should be placed to the fullest extent practical upon the bilingual aspect of the service rather than the bilingual aspect of the servant.

● (2020)

At the time I spoke in the debate the government had already got off to a ham-handed start involving secrecy and lack of frankness on the one hand and a flippant and

inflammatory remark by the Prime Minister on the other hand. I am sorry he is not in the House at the moment. Many people still flinch when they remember the elevator operator remark. I say, Sir, that this was no way to start and the performance of the government over the next several years was unfortunately sometimes consistent with that bad start.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Stanfield: I must say that it seemed to me this afternoon that the Prime Minister was eminently reasonable in what he said.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Stanfield: I have to say, too, that it seems to me that sometimes he has made remarks that have sounded rather cavalier about matters of very real concern to Canadians. Not until the so-called Drury guidelines were made public on December 14, 1972, did the government give any definite indication of what it was up to in relation to the careers of public service personnel. This was almost two years after the episode in connection with the secret memorandum which aroused further suspicion and anger unnecessarily. I remind you, Sir, that on that occasion the Prime Minister provided another example of his talent for bringing people together by calling the opposition "a bunch of fanatics". At the time of that so-called secret memorandum revelation in February, 1971, I asked the government to produce details of any programs designed to create a proper balance in the public service. As I say, the silence persisted until late into 1972.

This afternoon the Prime Minister suggested that the so-called Drury guidelines were produced just as soon as possible. That I cannot accept. They were not produced for a good many years after the legislation. Indeed, I do not think they were produced until some fairly sober second thoughts were forced pretty heavily upon the government. I think the kind of guidelines spelled out in the nine points in this resolution can be identified with the President of the Treasury Board (Mr. Drury). These assurances are basically the same as those so long demanded by many who from time to time have been called fanatics.

There are other areas where the government needs to get on with the job of implementing the proposals of the Official Languages Act. I have spoken about what I consider to be the mistakes that have been made. I should like now to turn to some of the areas that I think need attention. By dealing with them we can do more to help the cause of institutional bilingualism in the country than by simply talking about it here. Mr. Keith Spicer, the Commissioner of Official Languages, has provided an ongoing critique of the government's performance. According to Mr. Spicer, the most fundamental criticism of the government is its continuing failure to close what he calls "the deep and perilous information gap" that exists between the government's intentions and the public's awareness and understanding of the government's aims. In his second report to parliament, the commissioner said:

> For if there remains one disturbing setback in the slow march of Canada's federal administration toward equity for our two official languages, it is the scandalous misinformation that, in too many parts of Canada, still overshadows the act's basic, civilized truths—

Mr. Spicer says he is convinced that if bilingualism remains controversial in some quarters it is precisely because too many public officials, in spite of some honest efforts, have not fully met their responsibilities in explaining the legislation. Mr. Spicer indicates that this information gap is flourishing within the public service where many federal employees have a singularly inaccurate understanding of the act. If the government cannot even adequately explain it to its own employees, they cannot explain it to the Canadian people. Mr. Spicer zeros in on a number of other specific areas. He has termed second language teaching in the provincial school systems "a countrywide catastrophe" which must be remedied. I do not pretend for a moment that it is a simple thing to correct but it is important that we make progress on it, and surely we can do better than we have in the past. I say that, accepting some responsibility as a former minister of education in one of our provinces.

The commissioner also raises questions about the concept of the bilingual district—that is, the present state of the bilingual district—and states that the Official Languages Act itself is adequate to protect language rights without the particular bilingual districts which run the risk of creating linguistic ghettos. Further, the drawing of bilingual districts can create friction since they must be revised after each census. This could be a source of irritation. I think we should be looking at this area and considering it dispassionately to see what course should be followed. In his report of November, 1971, Mr. Spicer commented on language training programs in the public service. He said there had been high drop-out rates caused—

> —apparently, by lengthy and partly ill-adapted courses: according to the Public Service Commission, 30 per cent of more than 22,000 students withdrew from training since 1964, and only 2,000 successfully reached the end of level 3, the top level being 4.

More recent figures show the drop-out rate running at 33 per cent. I realize this is not an easy challenge to meet, Mr. Speaker, but we cannot regard this performance as very satisfactory. When I say that, I speak—if I may put it in these terms—as a beneficiary of the system of instruction in the public service language schools. Invariably, the teachers have been courteous and very patient with me. The criticisms I have touched upon, the references I have made to Mr. Spicer's remarks are not references to the criticisms of a partisan; they are references to the observations of the officer responsible to parliament for the Official Languages Act.

We have heard criticism, as well, from the associations which represent employees in the public service and these, too, have not been based on partisan considerations. These criticisms reflected the deep concern of people in the service who did not know where they were, and no one would tell them where they were going. They wondered what had become of the Pearson pledge of April, 1966. It is no wonder that people are emotional about bilingualism in the public service. This is, in part at least, the government's fault because it failed to explain its plans for implementation.

I say the government has shown a distinct lack of consideration for the fears and apprehensions of public

servants. The government has done precious little to encourage a positive attitude by addressing itself to explaining the implementation of the program. The way in which the government has proceeded with its language training program in the public service has also contributed to frustration. A survey of drop-outs established that at least two-thirds of them had been forced to discontinue their training because it conflicted with their regular workload. It is true that many have complained about the unrealistic administrative policy of the government with regard to the program of bilingualism in the public service, but this must not be construed as opposition to the principles of bilingualism in the public service.

● (2030)

I think that language training programs must be closely examined. The practice of pulling senior civil servants away from language training to take care of departmental duties has been costly and has weakened the program. Too many language students have failed to achieve any measure of competence, regardless of personal effort. Leaving language training to attend to departmental matters and then returning, only to find one has fallen far behind, has discouraged a number of eager people.

There is also the question of selection of candidates for language training. Many feel they are being discriminated against because they have been refused the opportunity to become bilingual. I realize that all these things cannot be corrected overnight, but they are things we ought to talk about. The government, in all seriousness, must make language training available to those who want it. Many well disposed civil servants have been frustrated by the government's failure to give them a fair chance to compete professionally through wider access to language training. The government must assist its own employees who may need another language to advance their careers. Many find this lack of opportunity a great threat.

What is the best service the government can render at this point in time to the program of bilingualism in the public service? What are the priority actions? Certainly, Sir, the program of bilingualism in the public service, and of institutional bilingualism in the country generally, needs public support.

An hon. Member: And you are so helpful.

Mr. Stanfield: I beg your pardon? The program needs public support. In a national sense the government must respond effectively to Mr. Spicer's criticism regarding lack of explanation: it must act to close "the deep and perilous information gap". Within the public service it must undertake an immersion course itself, a full immersion course in consultation. It must certainly listen and be prepared to listen, and it should act to give the force of law to the assurances and guarantees in the resolution before us. We feel that the nine points of the resolution deserve more than a simple affirmation by this House. They have been generally well received by those best equipped to judge.

Mr. L. W. Barnes, the executive director of the Professional Institute of Canada, the certified bargaining agent for 38 professional groups in the public service, has said that the guidelines represent a "great improvement". He also said that they remove the fears and doubts of many public servants and that they provide clarification about the implementation of bilingualism policies. Mr. Barnes noted that these new guidelines match the objectives of the institute's policy on bilingualism.

Mr. Claude Edwards, president of the Public Service Alliance of Canada, said the association was favourable to the guidelines, which met most of the objectives of the Public Service Alliance, particularly as regards long service and unilingual public servants. He cautioned, however, that much depends on the way in which they are implemented and on good faith on both sides. Both these staff associations, the main bargaining agents for federal public servants, are involved in the National Joint Council which is engaged in continuous consultation with the Public Service Commission on the designation of bilingual positions. Spokesmen for both groups stress implementation as the key to the success or failure of the guidelines.

I believe that a growing number of public servants should have the opportunity to speak both our official languages. As far as I am concerned, there should be a system of incentives to this end. But, of course, there should be no attempt to force people and I would not support or permit any attempt to stop short the careers of men and women of either language because of lack of fluency in the other.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Stanfield: Sir, I urge all hon. members to consider the case for the amendment to be put forward and I ask for their support. If it is said that these guidelines have to be, and should be flexible, and that they have to be subject to change, why are we being asked to endorse them in this House? We could incorporate them in legislation and still change them from time to time, if it seemed necessary. If the amendment is lost—I want to emphasize this—if the House does not accept my amendment, I want to make it perfectly clear that I will support the resolution as it stands.

I have been a supporter of this program. I believe we will best serve the program if we discuss these problems frankly and openly, as I have tried to do, and concentrate on methods to improve the program. As far as my amendment is concerned, I urge it upon the House. I think it would be an appropriate step to take. Nevertheless, I will support the resolution as it stands. I will not play all or nothing here, Sir; there is too much at stake in terms of morale in the public service and there is too much at stake in the broader terms of national unity.

I will not allow my position regarding the content of the resolution to be in any way misunderstood. I support the content, Sir. I certainly want the public service of this country to be attractive to French-speaking Canadians in every sense of the word. I want it to be attractive to French-speaking Canadians as well as to English-speaking Canadians. I think that is essential for national unity and essential for the country. In saying this I emphasize that my support for the resolution is in no way a vote of confidence with regard to the government's actions in this area. In putting forward the motion in the way that it has, it seems to me the government is trying to distract from its own failures and mistakes. These failures and mistakes are not limited to the matter of bilingualism in the public

service. Resentment, fear and frustration have been created in many related areas.

I refer again to my remarks of May 16, 1969. I said that firm and unequivocal assurances had to be given to the employees in the public service and I suggested that such assurances "be written into the act to the fullest extent possible". We have the opportunity to take this step now, Mr. Speaker. The government has brought the matter before the House in the form of a resolution. The government did not choose to take that course back in 1969 and we have seen some unfortunate results as a consequence. We cannot undo the past, but we can take action to make, not necessarily a fresh start but a new leap forward and to express ourselves not simply in the form of an opinion but in doing something in meaningful, legislative terms.

Therefore, Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the hon. member for Grenville-Carleton (Mr. Baker):

That the motion be amended by adding to paragraph (i) thereof, next after the words, "taking the measures required to give effect to the aforementioned principles", the following:

"and the Government of Canada, as a priority measure, introducing legislation to incorporate the aforementioned principles in the Official Languages Act, the Public Service Employment Act and other appropriate statutes;"

● (2040)

Mr. Reid: Mr. Speaker, we have not had an opportunity to examine this motion on its procedural acceptability.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Reid: I want to enter this caveat on behalf of the government.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Boulanger): Order, please. I am sure the hon. member will have an opportunity later to rise on a point of order or a question of privilege.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. David Lewis (York South): Mr. Speaker, may I first say that we will study the amendment moved by the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Stanfield). I will have to consider exactly what it means. I will want to discuss it with my colleagues. Therefore, I cannot say anything about our attitude toward it at this time.

In a sense, I regret that this resolution has been brought before the House, not for some of the reasons I have heard but for another and perhaps deeper reason. I have learned that in life, particularly in collective life, there are matters with respect to which repeated argument produces confrontation and repeated confrontation pollutes rather than clears the air.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Lewis: I cannot condemn the government for having brought this to parliament. I remember the discussion a couple of years ago when the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) followed up with some guidelines after volume 3 of the B and B report was presented and discussed. The Leader of the Opposition and others demanded that something be done legislatively instead of sending the matter to the Department of the Secretary of State, so that parliament could discuss it. I think there was something to that request at that time. I am not being dogmatic about it, because the subject that is before us ought to receive our very careful consideration and we should use carefully considered words. However, from some of the things I have heard, and some of the things I fear I may hear, both in the House and outside I am not certain that it is the wisest step to bring this resolution before the House.

A statement was made by the late Mr. Pearson in 1966 with regard to policies in the public service. That was followed by the adoption of the Official Languages Act, supported by all parties in this House. Some members opposed it, but all parties officially supported it. We had the introduction of new public service suggestions after volume 3 of the B and B report. Commissioner Spicer reported twice to this parliament. There has been a great deal of discussion on the subject across this country.

One of the disturbing things about this kind of delicate, sensitive subject is that instead of discussion producing more understanding and clearing the air, it frequently rejuvenates prejudices and misunderstandings rather than allaying them. That is why I am sorry to some extent that this resolution is now before us. Because of its past, because of what parliament has done, because of what the government has done, because these guidelines were announced by the President of the Treasury Board (Mr. Drury) in November or December, some weeks before the Speech from the Throne, the government ought to have continued trying to improve as it learned from mistakes made along the way, in the hope that, not overnight but in the course of a few years, the uneasiness and misunderstandings would disappear and we would be on the road to real harmony on the question of linguistic equality in the public service.

That might have been more wise, but the resolution is before us. I hope our discussion will follow the discussion that has taken place thus far. I hope it will follow the reasonable and sincere statement of the Prime Minister this afternoon and the reasonable and equally sincere support of the Leader of the Opposition.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Lewis: I hope with all my heart that a discussion of this resolution in the House will help, rather than hinder, understanding and national unity in this country.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Lewis: That is said to those of us who are Anglophones and uneasy about the steps suggested, and those of us who are Francophones and impatient because the steps are not big enough. If we start that kind of argument we can go on forever and do nothing but harm to linguistic equality in the public service and to unity in this country.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Lewis: I was pleased that for the first time—I do not think I am exaggerating when I say it is the first time—in the discussion on the subject of bilingualism in Canada, the Prime Minister, by implication at least, admitted that it was not the "be all and end all" of the question of

national unity. Because I had the pleasure of being my party's spokesman on this subject before I became leader, as well as since I have been leader, I have had occasion in several debates to underline to the Prime Minister that he is making an error if he thinks that the institution of bilingualism, if properly applied and universally used, will solve the problem of national unity in this country. It is just not so.

● (2050)

Therefore, I was glad to hear him say this afternoon that he admits that there are other issues, economic and social, in this country and that the question of language in the public service of Canada is only one aspect of national unity. That is an admission that I welcome, and I only hope that the government keeps it in mind.

The adoption of this resolution is now guaranteed. The Leader of the Opposition said that he would vote for it, and I am sure that all or most of his colleagues will. I, too, support this resolution, though we will have to see what we shall do about the amendment. There may be one or two of my colleagues who have some doubts—I do not know—but by a decision of our caucus I can tell the House, as leader of the caucus, that this party supports the resolution. Therefore, the resolution will pass and I can only hope that this debate, and the resolution when adopted, will remove the justified grievance which French-speaking Canadians, not only in the province of Quebec but right across Canada, have had.

I have heard a good many of my friends across the country expressing the fear that these bilingualism guidelines for the public service are going to mean that some English-speaking Canadians may not be able to get certain jobs or advance in their jobs in the same way as before. And that may happen in some cases. But I cannot really feel that this is seeing more than the one side. Those of us who are English-speaking and who see that side ought to remember that the French-speaking Canadian has not had an opportunity to advance in the public service of Canada, not only for a century but for two centuries: not only since confederation but for a century before confederation that was the situation in this country. I therefore hope that we will now solve that problem.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Speaker, it is obvious that some members object to the resolution because they feel it is a reversal of original views.

It is important that English-speaking Canadians inside and outside the civil service become conscious of the fact that some members and other French-speaking Canadians deplore the dilatory measures taken to develop linguistic equality in the civil service and ask an acceleration of the process.

This finding, Mr. Speaker, is important because it shows the difficulties and duties which we have to face. Some impatient individuals are taking part in this debate. Some question the requirement of linguistic equality in the civil service, while others are impatient because of the slowness in establishing such equality.

For almost a century, Mr. Speaker, a great number of Canadians as well as Parliament and the federal government have not given enough attention to the requirement of establishing linguistic equality in the departments and agencies of the federal government. The federal public service—I know because I lived in Ottawa from 1935 to 1950—had become almost entirely unilingual and English-speaking. This failure has inspired a certain rancour among French-speaking Canadian, but it is important to notice also that this failure has also produced a tradition of unilingualism that some English-speaking Canadians hesitate to change.

Today, Mr. Speaker, justice is struggling against tradition. Such a struggle always produces some reactions and fears that make difficult any logical discussion and reasonable solution.

That is the problem. It can be solved only through patience, respect and understanding. To people who are impatient before the slowness in establishing bilingualism, I say that it is impossible to correct within one or two years the injustice of two centuries. The task inevitably risks being subject to painful discussions; it requires a long education in various regions of this country and changes of attitude and tradition among people who were not even aware of the existence of such a problem and who, therefore, do not understand it.

In such a situation, rancour and bitterness cannot help us, Mr. Speaker.

[*English*]

I take the liberty of saying to my English-speaking fellow Canadians that they ought to recognize the injustice to French-speaking Canadians that has existed up until now, and that all of us must show a measure of understanding and appreciation of the need for change in the public service. Even if we do have some doubts from time to time, even if it has not been our habit to hear French spoken, and even if we have to accept something that we had not thought about before, we should accept these things now. The disgrace is not that we accept it now; the disgrace is that we did not think of it before.

Going about this country we all have our own experiences. When I hear Members of Parliament of all parties sometimes expressing the view that their constituents are fearful of bilingualism, I really doubt this is so. I learned a long time ago that when someone comes to me and says that he is expressing the opinion of the public, what he is really saying is that that is his opinion which he wishes were the opinion of the public.

Let me cite three of my own experiences, Mr. Speaker; it will not take me very long. Two and a half years ago the hon. member for Selkirk (Mr. Rowland) was at his nomination meeting in, I think, his own city of Selkirk, Manitoba. The audience at that meeting represented practically all national and racial origins in this country. There were people from French-speaking families, people who came from every European background you can think of, and there were even a few Anglo-Saxons, people whose origins were British.

A hardnosed member of the audience rose to his feet and put to me a question about bilingualism. This was at a time when debate on the subject was raging in this House. I spoke in reply with some passion, I must admit, but straightforwardly, without bending a word or hiding my

views. I spoke, as I have said many times in this House, as a new Canadian speaking to another new Canadian. The hon. member for Selkirk is here and he will underline the fact that my answer to that person was not booed, but received a standing ovation that lasted many seconds—not for me but for the ideas I expressed.

● (2100)

During the campaign last fall I attended a meeting in Port Alberni in the constituency of my friend the hon. member for Comox-Alberni (Mr. Barnett). The same sort of question was asked, and I gave the same sort of answer. A good many people in British Columbia say that you get a lot of backlash there. I gave the same sort of answer, and again there was a standing ovation in acceptance of the ideas I expressed.

I have been on open-line programs in British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Ontario, Nova Scotia and every other province in this country. Of course, occasionally you receive a call from a person like one call I will never forget, from an obviously very elderly lady whom I am sure is the salt of the earth. I have not the faintest notion who she is, but her cracked voice indicated she was pretty elderly. She said to me; "Mr. Lewis, why do those fellows want to speak French? Why don't they speak Canadian?" That angered me. But there is that kind of person in this country; that kind of person exists not only on the Anglophone side but also on the Francophone side. One might think of the province of Quebec, and I have travelled through that province. But by and large I am confident that the Canadian people from coast to coast are ready to accept this policy.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Lewis: They are ready to accept this policy particularly if all of us who are political spokesmen and political leaders have the sense and the imagination to promote the policy and not tear it down.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Lewis: I mention another experience because it moved me very much. A couple of months ago I was at a meeting at the University of Western Ontario, London. The hon. member for that constituency may know of that meeting. It was a special meeting started as a counter-convocation but which ended in a very positive Canadian meeting. There was a large audience of well over 2,000 students, not only from the university but from the high schools. The reason I am mentioning this is that London, Ontario, is not in the centre of a large French-speaking community.

An hon. Member: Would you believe!

Mr. Lewis: With great respect to the citizens of London, whom I love, particularly when they vote NDP—

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

An hon. Member: Which is rare.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

An hon. Member: Who were those three?

[Mr. Lewis.]

Mr. Lewis: I thought I had become a little too serious and a bit of levity was called for. With great respect to the citizens of London, that city does not have the reputation of being a revolutionary centre of modern ideas. The important thing about that meeting was that its chairman, a young student at the university, started to speak French. The person who introduced me made his speech half in English and half in French. The person who introduced the other speaker, who happened to be Pierre Berton, spoke half in English and half in French. After the meeting we had a little get-together and I asked these three people why this was done. This is the important part. I asked, "Why did you speak French?" They spoke fairly well in French. The answer was, "We were discussing the independence of Canada, the building of a distinct society, and we could not discuss it only in one of its languages".

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Lewis: I say that the people of Canada, particularly the young people, are ready to accept this kind of policy, to stand behind it and to remove all the prejudices which have plagued some of us older Canadians. There are some people who, because they believe that the steps are too slow, say that the resolution is a retreat from the original idea. It is not. What happened, and I am not going to put it the same way as the Leader of the Opposition, nor am I going to put it any better, is that the implementation of the policy in the public service in the first two or three years raised a great many unnecessary fears and a great deal of unnecessary opposition inside the public service.

I am not going to read what I said because it is not as worthy of reading as the quotation used by the Leader of the Opposition, but during the debate on the Official Languages Act I underlined the need for openness in the implementation of the policy and for making sure it was based on consent and did not appear to the people to be imposed from the top. On rereading the remarks of the Leader of the Opposition and my own remarks—I reread them just today; that is why I remember them—I pleaded with the government to consult the unions of the public servants about the implementation of that policy, because that was not done early enough and a great deal of unnecessary misunderstanding and bitterness was created.

I am glad to see, as I was last November or December, that the resolution now contains safeguards which the policy should have contained before. The resolution does not now indicate that the unilingual public servant who has been in the service for some time will suffer as a result of the new policies now being introduced. Let me quote only one sentence of what I said on May 16, 1969:

I say, Mr. Speaker, that we must make sure that one injustice is not replaced by another.

That is what appeared to some people to be happening and I am glad the resolution now precludes such a thing from happening. I am not going to take the time to explain how the resolution has answered some of the criticism that some people, including myself, have sometimes expressed, but at a nomination convention for Pauline Jewett here in Ottawa certain things were mentioned. Perhaps I should not take the time to repeat them.

Mr. Pelletier (Hochelaga): Take the time; you should.

Mr. Lewis: The resolution deals with a situation which I did not like, and since the hon. member was good enough to invite me perhaps I should point this out. What I did not like, and said so at that time, was that the public servants did not know which jobs were to be designated bilingual jobs. I said that the public servants should be consulted and the unions should be consulted, and those with long-term service in the public service should not be disadvantaged in the way of advancement and promotion.

It is always unfair, when you introduce a new policy which was not there when the person was first hired, to hit him with that policy to his disadvantage. I further asked in that speech that the long-service employee in the public service not be disadvantaged by the new policy. I am very happy to see that almost every one of those criticisms is met by the paragraphs of this resolution, although I am sure some people have some doubts about the last paragraph; that is, that in future all jobs may not be open to unilingual applicants. I would be dishonest if I did not say that this is possible.

The present employees in the public service are protected by the guidelines set out in the resolution, but it may well be that when people are new in the public service they will have to be rated either unilingually English or French, or rated bilingual, and they may have to make a decision at some point in their career, which civil servants did not have to do ten years ago. But I am ready to accept that because I do not know any way in which one could introduce this kind of policy and not make language one of the qualifications of the job for certain designated positions. Just as it is necessary for a stenographer to be able to take shorthand and to be able to type, so it is necessary for a person in certain designated positions to be able to speak one or other, or both languages as the case may be. That is a qualification of the job. I repeat what I said earlier, that even though this affects some it will be only a few—English-speaking applicants for jobs, the situation until now has been such that almost all French-speaking applicants for jobs were affected in this way, and that kind of inequality or imbalance must be adjusted in this country.

● (2110)

As the last point I want to make, I find it a fact in my travels across the country, particularly in the province of Quebec, that too many Quebecois do not even now regard Ottawa as their capital. I am not talking about separatism or separatists. I do not pay any attention to the kind of attitude the separatists may take, because I am very clear in rejection of their objects. I am talking about people who really believe in Canada but who simply do not feel or sense that Ottawa is their capital. They are oriented toward the city of Quebec rather than toward Ottawa as their capital.

Part of that is due to the kind of country we have, because to some extent this is true of every province in the country. To some extent it is true of many British Columbians—perhaps I should say some British Columbians—who regard Victoria as their capital rather than Ottawa. And there are people in Saskatchewan who regard Regina as their capital. Part of it is due to the nature of our country, as I have stated. It is due in part to the grievances every region of the country has against the centre, and the centre has been insensitive to the needs of the east and the west. I do not blame the people in these areas. The centre has been as insensitive about the needs of the east and the west in Canada as it has been of the need for linguistic equality. So you have the same kind of resentment.

But in addition to the normal thing you may find in English-speaking Canada about Ottawa, there is the additional dimension of language in Quebec. The trouble with many English-speaking Canadians is that when they visit the province of Quebec they visit Montreal. There is no doubt that a good many Montrealers speak both English and French. However, it is a fact that when you travel around the rest of the province of Quebec there are many—I am certain, a majority—of Quebecois who do not speak English. They may understand it a little, they may speak a few words, but they do not know the language sufficiently to be able to do a job of work in the English language in the public service.

I have met such people in other parts of Canada. I have met Canadian citizens who are French-speaking even in communities outside Quebec. Many of these people at the age of 14 or 15 are just beginning to learn the English language sufficiently to be able to handle it in a job in the public service. I think we ought to remember this. We are dealing, as was rightly said this afternoon, with a majority of English-speaking people who do not speak French, and a majority of French-speaking Canadians who do not speak English. All these people ought to have the same opportunity to serve the people of Canada and to serve in the language of choice of the people concerned.

Finally, there is among those who come from origins other than British or French undoubtedly a feeling of unease. I have found this very often. The newcomer to Canada, if he does not go to Montreal but, rather, to somewhere else in Canada assumes that Canada is a unilingual country. He hears only English spoken around him. His children attend an English language school and he assumes it is a unilingual country. He lives with that assumption, fairly and honestly, for a good many years. Then suddenly, in 1967 and 1968, he was confronted with the fact that it is not so, that although Ukrainian, German, Finnish, Swedish, Italian and Jewish are still languages which have unofficial status, French does have an official status equal to English. I think he is wrong in his reaction. I say this with respect. However, I am not surprised that he has this reaction; no one should be surprised, because all his life that is what he learned.

He may not have had that reaction if when he came to Canada he had gone to Montreal and heard both official languages spoken. But if a person had settled in Regina, Edmonton, Melville, Vancouver, Victoria or, for that matter, Orangeville or London, Ontario, he would probably never have heard a word of French spoken and it would never have occurred to him that it is on the same level as English. Then suddenly when he finds that this is so by law, it is natural for him to say, "What is wrong with my mother tongue?" This is what is happening in Canada. It is perfectly understandable. I say to my fellow Canadians who are immigrants, who came to this country as I did when I was 12 years of age, that if they are able to enjoy their original culture, if they are now able to draw upon public funds to assist them in retaining and in developing

their original culture, it is only because this country is a bilingual country.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Lewis: It is only because this country has recognized more than one language and more than one culture since its existence. If this had been a unilingual country with only one culture, there would not have been this acceptance of multiculturalism. I am not saying that what has been done is enough, but there has been and will be an expenditure of millions of dollars in order to assist in the development of multiculturalism in Canada and the original cultures of the various communities in this country.

I say to my fellow Canadians of all origins that this is a great country. It could be greater. It has immense potential. It is important to keep it together. It is important that French-speaking Canadians feel at home everywhere in Canada as Canadian citizens. This resolution is a step in that direction. I appeal not only to all hon. members to support this resolution but to all Canadians to understand its purpose.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

● (2120)

[*Translation*]

Mr. René Matte (Champlain): Mr. Speaker, this consensus which seems to develop in this House on the occasion of this debate on the motion of the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) which deals with bilingualism, I regret being unable to share it because, as I already had the opportunity to point out, time has come to face up to the situation just as it is and to attempt together to find true solutions to the real problem confronting us.

It is therefore useless to hide once more behind fine speeches and behind a principle which seems to bring solutions but which, unfortunately, does not.

I was listening a while ago to the leader of the official opposition (Mr. Stanfield) who was boasting that the principles in the motion brought in by the government came from him. I heard the leader of the New Democratic Party (Mr. Lewis) say about the same thing.

Mr. Speaker, we know perfectly well that, although it is the Prime Minister who has decided to propose this motion and, in support of it, to state the general principles with which we are in complete agreement, which we cherish like the apples of our eyes, and which are included in the preamble, the means proposed to realize these basic principles were suggested by the leader of the opposition. Perhaps this is why they are far from being sound.

Mr. Speaker, we are in 1973, and 106 years have already elapsed since Confederation. The leader of the New Democratic Party keeps advising hon. members to be patient. We are willing to wait, but we do not want our patience to be taken for weakness.

I only want to state once more what Quebecers and French Canadians want. There is absolutely no intention to cheat anyone of his rights, of affecting in any way those who are now in the public service and who have put forth their efforts there over many years. We realize that they have a right to their jobs. We do not wish to replace those

people. What we do want is to achieve true equality in a fair and equitable manner.

Mr. Speaker, to express the feeling of a Quebecer, or of a French Canadian, and primarily in order that hon. members may understand that no animosity, nationalism or anything else is involved, I shall say that the issue is merely the freedom of the individual. Mr. Speaker, having been born in Quebec and of French Canadian parents, my universe, my country was the French language. Is it to be held against me that I was nursed by my mother who was French-speaking?

Mr. Speaker, this is something instinctive and natural. I feel really at home in this country, but little by little I discovered that the universe of my childhood was not quite the same as the one of my manhood. That is when every Quebecer wakes up and finds that he is not quite at home with the government of his country and that sometimes he is quite a stranger outside the borders of Quebec.

We don't blame anybody but we simply want, today more than ever, to take what is coming to us. Therefore, we completely agree with the principles referred to by the right hon. Prime Minister. Where we are going in different direction is when the means to reach this goal are being determined.

Mr. Speaker, the nine practical principles set out in the motion are sometimes insignificant, sometimes, stupid and sometimes again they simply sanction a situation of fact which Quebecers, French Canadians have been up against for years if not always. Here is the first of these principles:

(1) that positions which are seen, under present circumstances, as requiring the knowledge and use of both the French and English languages will be first identified, and then designated, as bilingual in the course of the period ending December 31, 1978;

Mr. Speaker, I heard today the Prime Minister explain this section a little. I felt he had been compelled to do so because as soon as the motion had been introduced, and even when the President of the Treasury Board (Mr. Drury) stated these principles last December, some people already began protesting.

● (2130)

In fact, if today in 1973, as representative of the constituency of Champlain in the House of Commons, I have to deal with various departments of the federal government, how is it that I cannot do it in my own language? And why should I be referred to some clerk assigned to the service to make up for the lack of French-speaking officials in that office?

If the problem exists at the present time and if everybody can see it, why say that it is going to be solved before 1978? That is what I cannot understand. If such a need exists now and has been known to exist for years, my patience, does not stretch that far. I believe it my duty to be proud and energetic and to express the views and the wishes of everyone of my constituents on the subject.

Here is an example of the difficulties experienced at times in the administration. This week, I had an appointment with the Canadian Patent Office. My constituent was ready to come on Wednesday or today, but since there will be a Francophone only next Tuesday in that office, we shall have to wait until next Tuesday. Perhaps some other

person will submit the same invention this week, and I believe it will be a good one. My constituent will be outstripped merely because he was not looked after immediately in his own language.

Therefore we cannot be patient anymore. We merely want justice. We merely want French Canadians to be looked after in their own language, nothing less.

That objective set for 1978 seems to us like a mere joke on Quebecers. I know that the government can afford to laugh at Quebecers when it gets massive support. However, I think that it is high time the truth came out on certain points.

The second principle of the motion is as follows:

(2) that positions will also be identified where English is an essential requirement of the job, where French is essential, or whether either French or English may be used;

Mr. Speaker, this is quite a find. It will be determined which positions require a knowledge of English, which require a knowledge of French and those requiring bilingual applicants.

The Prime Minister stated this afternoon, if I am not mistaken, that of the 250,000 positions of the Civil Service, 25,000 are bilingual.

I would have liked then to ask him: among the 225,000 other positions, how many will be for English-speaking applicants and how many for Francophones?

An hon. Member: He did not mention it.

Mr. Matte: Mr. Speaker, it is all very well to say that, because one would be inclined to believe that the same applies to both, and of course that is probably what many of my colleagues would tell me. It is as true of Anglophones as of Francophones. However, let us not be so stupid.

We know full well that in the Public Service—and this is borne out by figures supplied in replies to questions placed on the order paper and statistics brought out over the years—there are virtually no Francophone units. As a matter of fact, in notices of Public Service competitions, one finds that in 90 per cent of cases the only language requirement is knowledge of English. Let us not wonder why graduates of Francophone universities, for instance, show little interest in coming to work in Ottawa. From the very start, they are frustrated by an organization conceived exclusively in terms of the Anglo-Saxon component of this country.

The third principle reads as follows:

A knowledge of French and English—

that is a good joke—

—is one of the qualifications required for the selection of applicants to bilingual positions;

Mr. Speaker, we could have been referred to the dictionary where the word "bilingual" is defined as someone who speaks two languages. That is the principle. We are told that a bilingual person is someone who speaks two languages. To get excited with that and make us believe that Canada's problem has been settled by telling us that a bilingual person is someone who speaks two languages, that is too much! The Larousse dictionary, the Webster and all other dictionaries have said it long before the Prime Minister.

The fourth principle reads as follows:

Competitions to bilingual positions will be opened both to bilingual and unilingual applicants who have formally indicated their willingness to become bilingual;

Mr. Speaker, let us stop playing on words and handing out a convincing line. I know perfectly well that literally, I am compelled to say that I agree with that. Yes, I agree with that, literally, but when one is aware of the Canadian reality, when one is aware of the facts, this principle, stated in subsection (4) means: competitions for bilingual positions will be opened both to bilingual applicants and unilingual English speaking applicants, since they are the only ones to be unilingual. Then, when one considers this nice principle that, literally, one would be led to approve in contrast with Canadian reality, one realizes that once more it does not solve anything. That is why some people must be brave enough not to play the game of the traditional good understanding and say: That is very fine, we accept it and everything continues to be the same!

I suggest, Mr. Speaker, that I am fulfilling here tonight an important duty, so that we can, at a given time, think in a more realistic way.

The fifth principle reads as follows:

that competitions for unilingual positions will continue to be open to unilingual or bilingual candidates who meet the language requirements of the job;

I can hardly see how anyone really serious can find anything making any sense here. It is said: "for unilingual positions". Again, unilingual candidates, O.K., but it says bilingual candidates who meet the language requirements of the job.

Again, Mr. Speaker, if we stick to the present facts and circumstances, we know quite well that that does not mean anything whatsoever. Again, it all looks nice but when one stops and thinks about it for a while one realizes that it is simply another way of trying to please a certain part of the country which showed some dissatisfaction during the last election campaign, and rightly so. I will come back on that later.

The sixth principle reads as follows:

that unilingual incumbents of bilingual positions may elect to become bilingual and undertake language training, or transfer to another job having the same salary maximum,

Here again, why if it is a bilingual position, talk about unilingual incumbents. That I can understand, and I would agree if it were not for what comes after:

or, if they were to decline such a transfer, to remain in their positions even though the posts have been designated as bilingual;

Mr. Speaker, I think it is a negation of any intelligence in individuals and people. The principle is set that some positions will be bilingual. English-speaking or French-speaking unilingual; we have a bilingual position, and unilingual person gets it. The unilingual person can be transferred to another position at the same salary under that principle but if he does not want it he can stay there. I cannot get over how one can think of solving problems with such principles.

I will not read the seventh principle but it boils down to this: Those who have been in the Public Service for 17

years are kings and masters in the Public Service. That is all.

● (2140)

It is as simple as that: the "establishment" which may exist in the civil service is being sanctioned.

(8) that unilingual French-speaking and English-speaking persons from outside the Public Service who are willing to become bilingual may apply for bilingual positions open to public competition;

I do not advise them to go and get a job at the United Nations, Mr. Speaker. Such a story will not cut any ice: if expressing the wish to become bilingual made it so, if it were as simple as that, we would never have problems! It reminds me of the "upper chamber" when Christ appeared and the Holy Spirit conferred the gift of languages upon everyone. One need only have faith, and express the wish of becoming bilingual for it to be so! That is the miraculous principle the government has come up with in an attempt to solve another problem. Finally, I shall deal with the last principle:

that language training, at public expense, will be provided to unilingual public servants as well as to persons who are appointed to the Public Service to bilingual positions;

Mr. Speaker, once again, when one is aware of the situation, when one knows that about 2, 3 or 4 per cent of all civil servants hold top positions, what does that principle mean? It means that money is spent on training bilingual personnel to the detriment of the Francophone element in this country, of course.

That is why, Mr. Speaker, in the fact of such a situation, if one really wanted to see things as they are, one would realize that to solve the problem there must be no beating around the bush. For instance, we note that in this case the Canadian reality contradicts the stated principles. What can be done, Mr. Speaker? It is a fact that the Canadian reality contradicts all those principles.

We must therefore find solutions that are more adequate, more equitable and more realistic. And, Mr. Speaker, we do have some of those solutions. The right hon. Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) delivered a very good speech, very interesting to listen to and which, in certain aspects could be very true. Nevertheless, the principles contained in his resolution do not agree with what he said. As I listened to his speech, I was thinking, Mr. Speaker, about an amendment that I had prepared, which is a logical extension to the words spoken by the Prime Minister.

That is why my criticisms, tonight, are made without passion, without spite against anyone. We appreciate, Mr. Speaker, that the problem, in this country, is not a problem of language but a problem of participation. Even if the entire federal public service, in Ottawa, were bilingual, if 95 per cent of our executives were unilingual, English-or French-speaking, we would have solved nothing, because we would be a hundred times more justified in saying that Canada is an impossible thing, because we are not there. That is why there is but one solution, since the actual problem is one of participation. There is but one solution, Mr. Speaker: to have people participate, to provide the occasion to the various elements of this country to take part in the development of legislation, in the administration of this country. That is what is needed, because that is the real problem.

[Mr. Matte.]

It is quite true that it is not a language problem, even though, because of historical circumstances, French Canadians have identified their national problem with a language problem. This is due only to a historical coincidence, and I am sure that the Irish, to give you just another exemple, have not identified their national problem with a language problem. But let nobody tell an Irishman point blank that he is an Englishman: he will not appreciate it. He is of a different nationality, but he has accepted the English language to express his thoughts.

As for us, in Canada, we have identified our national problem with a language problem. That is why when we deal with the language problem, we are dealing with the national problem of the French Canadians. But the time has come to make a distinction.

Therefore, we will not solve this problem by spending $29,000 per civil servant trying to teach him a second language, or $55,000 per civil servant trying to make him understand the other culture. There is a means which is less costly than this heavy bilingualism which does not satisfy anyone, and this means would enable everyone to participate in it.

This is why I have considered introducing an amendment which, in my view, is the solution and brings the problem back to its true dimension and whose principles are just as satisfactory, I am sure, to the people of British Columbia, Newfoundland, Ontario or Quebec. In fact, these principles are acceptable everywhere and constitute a concrete solution which, obviously, would settle once and for all the problem which we are facing.

Mr. Speaker, I am therefore considerably pleased to move, seconded by the hon. member for Shefford (Mr. Rondeau), the following amendment:

That the motion be amended by deleting, after the words "the foregoing" in the fourth paragraph, the nine Principles listed therein and substituting therefor the following Principles:

(1) that bilingualism cannot be considered as an essential factor of competence;

(2) that the knowledge of both official languages is required only for administrative positions where it becomes a criterion of competence, such as telephone operator, hostess, train conductor, receptionist, etc.;

(3) that everyone is free to speak the language of his or her choice in Canada;

(4) that, account being taken of geographical and demographical circumstances, everyone in Canada has the right to be served and administered in the official language of his or her choice;

(5) that unilingualism cannot prevent a civil servant in the Canadian government from being eligible for senior positions; therefore, the government undertakes to set up, organize and implement a parallel administration, one English-speaking, the other French-speaking, in all departments of the federal government;

(a) each department shall have two sections, one English, the other French; the size of these sections shall be proportional to the requirements of their respective administrative needs, which means that the departments shall not necessarily have the same number of employees;

(b) these departments shall be autonomous entities with equal responsibilities up to the deputy minister level, both the English-speaking and the French-speaking deputy ministers having similar authority and similar responsibilities;

(c) promotions in each department shall be based exclusively on merit.

Mr. Speaker, in conclusion, I must say that this proposal was integrally included in our election program, and that if we have included it, it was only after finding out that this was the true solution for all Canadians. We realize very well that a Canadian from an entirely English-speaking community, as soon as he feels that they want to impose on him the knowledge of another language, is perfectly right in protesting and we want to satisfy him. The same could apply to a Quebec French Canadian from Quebec who could also protest in the same circumstances.

Now to avoid any friction or misunderstanding and to preserve—as one likes to say—unity and harmony in this country, why not accept the sole solution which I find realistic, that is to enable each ethnic entity to gain freedom and self-fulfilment as it may see fit.

Mr. Speaker, in concluding I would like to refer to the Beaudet report which has never been made public by the President of the Treasury Board. We are still waiting for it. It is a negative report about the government policy on bilingualism. Indeed, when I read therein that it costs $29,000 to make an employee bilingual and $55,000 to have him gain some insight into the other culture, I say that it costs nothing to stay as you are.

● (2150)

[*English*]

An hon. Member: Ten o'clock.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: I thank the hon. member for Champlain (Mr. Matte) for having given the Chair notice of the motion that he proposed to move and which he read into the record a few minutes ago.

In order to avoid a long, time-consuming procedural debate I should indicate now to the hon. member my reservation about the motion. My reservation is that the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Stanfield) in his speech earlier this evening moved an amendment which would seek to incorporate by way of legislative action the purposes of the resolution that we are now discussing. It seems to me that what is proposed by the hon. member for Champlain is a matter entirely different from the one incorporated in the amendment presented to us by the Leader of the Opposition.

I also have some doubts about paragraph 5 of the proposed motion of the hon. member for Champlain. Be that as it may, I suggest to the hon. member that he is not restricted either from participating again in debate or from having a colleague participate in the debate at a future time in order to move exactly what he has presented, after the amendment proposed by the Leader of the Opposition has been disposed of. This does not prejudice the hon. member's rights at all.

I say again that I have read paragraph 5 of the proposed motion and it gives me some concern. However, that is not a question we need to decide immediately. All I am saying is that the hon. member will have an opportunity to move his motion at a future time, but it cannot be accepted now.

Is it agreed that we call it ten o'clock?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Adjournment Debate

PROCEEDINGS ON ADJOURNMENT MOTION

[*English*]

A motion to adjourn the House under Standing Order 40 deemed to have been moved.

BROADCASTING—SALE OF RADIO STATION CKSB, WINNIPEG, TO CBC—ACTION TO SET ASIDE CANADIAN RADIO-TELEVISION COMMISSION DECISION

Mr. Paul Yewchuk (Athabasca): Mr. Speaker, I want to make a few comments, in the brief time available to me, about a situation which has already been raised in the House on numerous occasions, namely, the takeover of radio station CKSB, Winnipeg, by the CBC. First I should like to make some comments about the Canadian Radio-Television Commission itself. It appears to be most insensitive to the meaning and import of section 38 of the Official Languages Act and insensitive to the concept of multiculturalism as proclaimed by this government on several occasions in the past year and a half.

When the application was made to the CRTC and it was asked to consider the matter in Winnipeg, it decided to hold its meetings in Montreal. That decision was hard to understand; it did not make any sense at all. Representations were made to the CRTC prior to the meetings. Nevertheless, the commission insisted on holding the hearings, not in the city involved where people who were concerned could be present in sufficient numbers to make reasonable representations on their own behalf, but in another city, Montreal. I know that a few representatives travelled from Winnipeg—so far as I know, at government expense—to make representations but this was by no means satisfactory and did not obviate the need to hold hearings in Winnipeg where proper representations could have been made by all groups concerned.

I think the decision of the CRTC to allow this sale to go through constitutes blatant disregard of the established rights of the people in the Winnipeg area who have been accustomed to using this radio station for the purpose of third language broadcasts. I think the minister should explain to the House why the CRTC was so unreasonable in refusing to hold hearings in Winnipeg and, secondly, why he refused to direct the CRTC to the extent that he has any influence over it. The Minister of Communications (Mr. Pelletier) is here this evening. I hope he will take this opportunity to explain what has happened.

We also had a communication from the Commissioner of Official Languages who was requested to investigate this takeover and see whether it was contrary to section 38 of the Official Languages Act. The commissioner's report indicated that station CKSB had been broadcasting in a third language for 20 years. In his report he repeatedly used the words "foreign languages". These words are offensive to Canadians who speak a language other than the two official languages; they object to having a third language referred to as a foreign language on so many occasions in the report of the Commissioner of Official Languages.

In any event, the commissioner concluded that in his opinion this takeover and the consequent loss of rights for ethnic groups with regard to the use of a third language in

programming did not constitute an infraction of section 38 of the Official Languages Act. I am sorry to say that I have to disagree with the languages commissioner. He did not explain fully on what ground he made his deduction, and I hope he takes the opportunity to explain it in the near future.

In any event, the languages commissioner recommended that the CBC should reconsider its language policy and allow third language broadcasting. He made his point of view known to the CBC. The CBC replied in a negative manner; that is to say, they condescended to allow the use of this station to continue as at present for another year. In other words, it is to continue on a temporary basis. However, the CBC made it very plain to the languages commissioner that this concession that was granted to the ethnic groups concerned should not be considered by any means as a change in policy but only as a temporary arrangement, and it could not accede to the request of the languages commissioner to change its policy with respect to third language broadcasting.

The CBC has been hiding behind the Broadcasting Act on which it has based its policy. Section 3 of the act provides that all Canadians are entitled to broadcasting service in English and French as public funds become available. The CBC has considered broadcasting in English and French to be a priority. This does not mean that the CBC is not allowed to broadcast in other languages.

In this House there have been previous discussions on this subject with the Secretary of State (Mr. Faulkner) and with the minister responsible for multiculturalism. We have also had discussions with the president of the CBC. We have obtained conflicting reports in that the president of the CBC has indicated that the Broadcasting Act does not really stand in the way in this matter; on the other hand, the Secretary of State has suggested that the Broadcasting Act does stand in the way of third language broadcasting. It is therefore my impression that arguments about legal principles and technicalities prevent third language broadcasting by the CBC. It is also my impression that nobody who so argues is at all interested in seeing that the ethnic groups involved receive justice. I think that is a shameful reflection on this government which claims to be concerned about all Canadians and says it is committed to a policy of multiculturalism. I think this matter ought to be straightened out forthwith.

A petition was presented to the governor in council a few days ago by the groups involved, asking that the government use its power to reverse the position taken by the CRTC in permitting this sale. They want the hearings to be held again in order that concerned groups can be heard. However, the government has refused to heed this petition and I should like to know why. I think the big fear created by this action is that it will set a precedent. If this action is allowed to go unchallenged, it is possible that other radio stations which now broadcast programs in a third language may follow the same course.

● (2200)

What will happen to stations in Regina, Saskatoon, Edmonton, Toronto and other parts of the country which are now broadcasting in a third language? Are these to go the same way? Will the languages commissioner claim that established and customary rights have not been lost in all cases and refuse to take action? It is time the minister and the government were honest and gave us information as to where they really stand on this matter, to clarify once and for all the long-term prospects in third language broadcasting and the prospects for protecting established and customary rights as stated in Section 38 of the Official Languages Act.

[Mr. Yewchuk.]

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, please. I regret to interrupt the hon. member, but the time allotted to him has expired.

Hon. Gerard Pelletier (Minister of Communications): Mr. Speaker, the hon. member wants to give me the opportunity to explain the situation. I welcome this opportunity but I will use it mainly to inform the hon. member, who seems to ignore a great number of things pertaining to the question he has put forward tonight. The hon. member stated that the CRTC is insensitive and unreasonable about third languages. He has forgotten the policy the CRTC established for private stations over which it has authority, and in the field where it can make a policy outside the Broadcasting Act which concerns the CBC.

The hon. member blamed the CRTC for not holding the meeting in Winnipeg. This is very unfair, because the CRTC is the most mobile of all regulatory bodies in Canada. If the hon. member were reasonable, he would recognize that the CRTC cannot be in every city or town in this country at the same time. The hon. member must realize that there are problems pertaining to broadcasting and cablecasting in almost every city and town in this country at almost all times. It is absolutely impossible for them to be everywhere at the same time. It is very unfair to level such a charge against the CRTC which, I repeat, has been more mobile than any other regulatory body.

With regard to the petition that was presented to the governor in council, the hon. member can see no reason why the governor in council decided not to refer back to, or vary the decision of the CRTC. I must inform the hon. member that the petition was received so late that the cabinet would have had exactly 36 hours advance notice to review a question on which the CRTC had been holding hearings for days. It was entirely unreasonable to hope that within 36 hours the government would decide to reform, rescind or refer back the decision of the CRTC which had been very well motivated.

The CBC's language policy is another question. The CBC must interpret the law. It has legal advisers. It broadcasts in English and French. It cannot do any other broadcasting except at arm's length, in some northern parts, in native languages. The hon. member says we are committed to multiculturalism, but forgets the second part within a bilingual framework. When I was secretary of state and this policy was being developed, I met with many groups including the very interesting ethnic group to which the hon. member belongs. I asked whether they recognized the true terms of the policy of multiculturalism within a bilingual framework. Not one group in this country said no at that time. If they want to change their minds now, that is their absolute right. They can ask for a hearing before the CRTC at a place of their choice. They can hear the CBC, and their propositions can be considered—

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order. I regret to interrupt the minister, but the time allotted to him under the Standing Order has expired.

CANADA PENSION PLAN—HUTTERIAN BRETHREN OF CANADA—REQUEST FOR EXEMPTION FROM PAYING PREMIUMS

Mr. Jake Epp (Provencher): Mr. Speaker, may I thank the minister for his presence here tonight. The question I should like to deal with concerns Canada Pension Plan premiums paid by the Hutterian Brethren of Canada. Not only is the Department of National Health and Welfare concerned in the matter, but perhaps at this stage the Department of National Revenue is even more concerned; and I am sure the minister will convey my comments to the Minister of National Revenue (Mr. Stanbury).

The Hutterian Brethren are a minority group, a very unique group living in western Canada who in many instances, I feel, have been misunderstood, specifically with regard to the Canada Pension Plan. The Hutterian Brethren hold all things common. I should like to make it very clear to the minister that no individual can own any property, nor can he build up any personal equity, and a pension plan could be regarded as building up personal equity.

The Canada Pension Plan Act, section 6(2)(e), provides that "employment of a member of a religious order who has taken a vow of perpetual poverty and whose remuneration is paid either directly or by him to the order" is exempted from payment of Canada Pension Plan premiums. In their baptismal vows Hutterian Brethren are required to state:

> That no one shall have any private possessions any more: for one gives and surrenders himself to the Lord and his church with all that he has and is able to do, as it was in the original apostolic church, when no one said of his possessions that they were his own, but all things were common to them.

According to a letter signed by the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs (Mr. Gray), the Hutterian Brethren of Canada were exempted from payment of CPP premiums as of January 1, 1972. In this regard I asked the Minister of National Health and Welfare (Mr. Lalonde) whether an amendment would be tabled or brought into the House to cover this provision by legislative action. In addition, there is a backlog of unpaid premiums from 1966 to the end of 1971. For six years, from the inception of the plan to the date the exemption took effect, these premiums have been accumulating on behalf of various Hutterian colonies in Manitoba.

I suggest that the collection of these fees is the whole nub of the matter. In the same letter to which I referred, the minister undertook not to take any action against the Hutterites to collect premiums without prior consultation with Hutterian representatives. Prior to 1972, when the exemption took effect, the Department of National Revenue took the tax refund credits which were to be paid to the Hutterian Brethren and placed them against the back premiums for those six years, at a time when the Hutterian Brethren had clearly been given to understand that no future collection action would be taken against them by the government without prior consultation. There was no prior consultation, yet this action was taken during a year when the Hutterian Brethren had been exempted by the government from paying premiums.

● (2210)

In conclusion, I ask the Minister of National Health and Welfare and the Minister of National Revenue to undertake a re-examination of this problem with the result that this inequity, in my view, can be removed in respect of the Hutterian Brethren.

Hon. Marc Lalonde (Minister of National Health and Welfare): Mr. Speaker, I should like to join the hon. member for Provencher (Mr. Epp) in paying tribute to the Hutterian Brethren of Canada for the contribution they have made to this country. They stand very high in the religious groups of this country in terms of their contribution to Canadian life. They bring to us a unique way of life, and have been in all respects exemplary citizens.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Lalonde: The problem raised by the hon. member has also been raised by the hon. member for Kitchener (Mr. Hymmen) for quite a while, and by the hon. member for Wellington-Grey-Dufferin-Waterloo (Mr. Beatty) on various occasions. When I was assigned to my present portfolio, and my colleague the Minister of National Revenue (Mr. Stanbury) was assigned his portfolio last November, this was one issue drawn to our attention at that time. It has been decided that indeed we should do everything necessary to honour the commitment made by the former minister of national revenue. I have since been to the cabinet with my colleague, and I can tell the hon. member that this morning a bill was approved which I hope will be introduced in this House very shortly. I think it will remedy the situation raised by the hon. member to his satisfaction, and I hope we can receive unanimous support from all parties in the House in order that we might pass the bill in a very short time.

The bill includes four or five technical amendments to the Canada Pension Plan. The matter raised by the hon. member will be taken care of by these amendments. I hope the bill will be introduced within the next few days.

ENERGY—PROPOSED WEST COAST OIL TANKER ROUTE—ALLEGED LACK OF DEPARTMENTAL CO-ORDINATION OF OPPOSITION

Mr. Barry Mather (Surrey-White Rock): Mr. Speaker, the issue I raised in the form of a question to the hon. Minister of the Environment (Mr. Davis) appears at page 3131 of *Hansard* as follows:

> Having in mind the criticism in recent days by the head of the Science Council of Canada, Dr. McTaggart-Cowan, of what he calls the snail's pace progress being made by the Minister of Transport and the Minister of the Environment to protect the west coast of British Columbia from potential oil spillage along the tanker route to Cherry Point, which is within 18 miles of my riding, is the minister satisfied with the protection that exists, or will he pay heed to the warning issued by the head of the Science Council within the last four or five days?

The minister replied:

> Mr. Speaker, I do not think I will ever be completely satisfied with the measures that we are taking, but our performance recent-

ly on the west coast relative to the spill from the freighter *Irish Stardust* was much better than that with respect to the *Arrow* with which Dr. McTaggart-Cowan is familiar.

British Columbians disagree on a great many more matters than we agree on, but if there is one thing on which we have unity it is the fact that it is inconceivable to us that Canada will not protect us from the inevitable major oil spills and massive pollution along our coast and the islands that will follow the shipment by giant oil tankers of oil from Alaska down the coast to Cherry Point, a refinery in Washington state about 18 miles from my riding. It is estimated there will be one such oil spill every four years.

With this in mind, I have tried to raise this issue as have other members representing the various parties. We do not need recapitulation of the whole situation tonight and, of course, time does not permit this. There is greater pressure now that safeguards be applied quickly, particularly in light of the fact that the United States is concerned about the need for energy, than there was maybe a year or two ago. This pressure is from environmentalists who recently managed to stay a U.S. project to move oil from Alaska by shipment along our coast.

The danger involved here to Alaska, and particularly to British Columbia, the lower mainland and the Gulf islands, is tremendous. The danger is great particularly in respect of these vast vessels, some of which are 100,000-ton tankers that I am told take almost a mile to change direction. This is an indication of the perils involved in their passage through the intricate and sometimes foggy channels just off the lower mainland of British Columbia and the Gulf islands of British Columbia. Therefore, I felt it was right to raise the matter again tonight.

The United States refinery at Cherry Point, which as I say is about 18 miles south of my riding, is an ecological time-bomb ticking away, one which will continue to tick away as long as the threat exists of these oil tankers bringing oil from Alaska down that coast to the refinery. I raise the question concerning what is being done to protect us because of the statement made by Dr. McTaggart-Cowan, an oil expert in this country if ever we had one. He has had experience on the east coast. He was very critical concerning the amount of action and effort, as well as success, of our departments of industry, trade and commerce, and transport to at least supply sort of a fire-fighter service to meet the situation if an oil spill should come about off the coast of British Columbia.

Last year Dr. McTaggart-Cowan said—I think he meant this in line with the suggestion that we cannot stop the oil shipments coming down the coast—"We will have to police the hell out of the oil tanker transports". A great many million dollars are at the disposal of both the Department of Transport and the Department of the Environment to cope with the many problems with which these departments are faced. I think a very small amount of this money is actually being used to police our west coast against the threat of oil pollution which would certainly result from oil tanker shipments down that coast.

I had the pleasure of questioning Dr. McTaggart-Cowan, head of the Science Council of Canada, on May 24 at a committee meeting. I asked him about his opinion of defensive measures being taken by the federal departments concerned. He replied to me in this way:

> If you ask am I satisfied with the progress that has been made since Chedabucto Bay, the answer is no.

He went on to say:

> This is not to say that people are not doing their best under a difficult situation, but international marine law is hopelessly inadequate. Canada cannot solve these problems alone . . . Having had the job of trying to cope with a few million gallons, no I will not be satisfied until the problem is licked and the problem is not licked by any manner of means. So the honest answer is no. I am restless. I wish I could see more action.

Coming from the source it did, I think this statement made a few weeks ago on this very grave problem in British Columbia deserves to be quoted tonight to underline the reason for my raising the question again with the minister, whom I know in many respects is a good minister who means very well. But I doubt that the people of British Columbia are satisfied with the action and practical application of money, men and machines to defend our shores—this is what it amounts to—from the threat of oil spill pollution which confronts us on the B.C. coast in particular.

● (2220)

Hon. Jack Davis (Minister of the Environment): Mr. Speaker, if there is one thing that British Columbians can agree on, it is the necessity to protect our coasts from oil spills, particulary spills resulting from the movement of Alaskan oil down the west coast by supertanker. We must prevent the spills from occurring in the first place. We will, however, have some spills in our own waters simply because there oil and other products are moving in relatively small quantities up and down the coast to remote locations.

Therefore we must be ready to deal with emergency situation first in respect of the prevention of massive oil spills. For example, through the United Nations at Stockholm last June we managed to have resolutions passed—and, incidentally, the United States and a great majority of nations were with us—which were opposed to the shipment of oil in large quantities through inland areas, parts of the world in which ocean or waters were contained, parts of the world in which navigation would be difficult and parts of the world where the biological flora and fauna were unique or precious or where recreation and tourism were important. Certainly the waters between the mainland of B.C. and Vancouver Island fall within that category.

We have entered, with the United States, into a joint contingency plan to deal with spills should they occur, but our basic approach is to prevent large tankers from coming into those waters at all. Basically, the answer is to continue to supply refineries in the Seattle and Vancouver areas by pipeline from western Canada, and if Alaskan oil does move down the west coast of North America it should go to California, which is its principal destination in any case. In other words, we should keep the big trucks on the highways of the seas and not bring them in too close to parkland areas close to Vancouver. That must be the basic policy.

But we also have environmental emergency centres established across the country. In other words, there is a

phone number which can be called by anyone but especially by federal government departments and provincial administrations as well as by U.S. coastguards and others. We have worked out a co-operative agreement with the United States coastguard and we have been assembling a lot of equipment. We have a $5 million program to have sticklicks on hand and oil booms; we have the little *Pisces* submarine out there, and so on.

Dr. McTaggart-Cowan is a competent gentleman who has had a lot of experience with the *Arrow* oil spill. We welcome him back to take a look at our new organization, our new arrangements and our equipment on the west coast at any time. I think he will agree that we have made progress. But I must repeat what I said to the hon. member earlier. Personally, I am not satisfied we have reached the millennium—we have still quite a long way to go.

Motion agreed to and the House adjourned at 10.25 p.m.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Friday, June 1, 1973

The House met at 11 a.m.

[*English*]

PRIVILEGE

MR. HOWARD—COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION OF ESTIMATES OF CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER

Mr. Frank Howard (Skeena): Mr. Speaker, I rise on a question of privilege about which I gave Your Honour notice earlier this morning. My question of privilege relates to the manner in which the rights and privileges of Members of Parliament are being infringed, notwithstanding Standing Order 58(14), by the way in which some hon. members and some committees function under that Standing Order. As everyone knows, Standing Order 58(14) provides that the estimates shall be considered and reported by the various committees, with the deadline being yesterday. If by that date committees have not been able to report to the House on their consideration of the estimates, the estimates are to be deemed to have been reported regardless of whether or not committees have considered or voted on them. I realize there is a citation in Beauchesne which says that until the report of a committee and the evidence have been laid upon the table it is illegal to refer to activities and proceedings before standing committees, but I think Standing Order 58(14) has come into effect since that citation was written and colours the situation somewhat.

The Standing Committee on Privileges and Elections had referred to it the estimates of the Chief Electoral Officer and held some meetings on the Chief Electoral Officer's proposed expenditures. A few days ago, on Wednesday, because no steps were being taken by the committee to hold further meetings and as the estimates had not been voted upon, at my request to the chairman the steering committee met and called a meeting of the committee for Wednesday of this week. The committee waited half an hour for members to appear. During the course of that time only half a dozen members attended, two members of the Liberal party, two Conservatives and my colleague from Regina-Lake Centre and myself. As there was no quorum, the chairman agreed to call another meeting last evening. The committee assembled again in the committee room. Again we waited for a long period and again only two Liberal members, two Conservative members and my colleague from Regina-Lake Centre and myself appeared.

It seems to me there was, if nothing else, negligence on the part of certain members of that committee in not attending and providing a quorum so that the estimates of the Chief Electoral Officer could be considered and voted upon and the committee provided with an opportunity, if it so desired, to make some recommendation to the House with regard to these estimates of expenditure or on some other matter related to them. I feel that what was almost collusion on the part of the Liberals and Conservatives not to attend that committee meeting has resulted in the privileges and rights of members being infringed. Accordingly, if Your Honour finds I have a question of privilege I would like to move, seconded by the hon. member for Regina-Lake Centre (Mr. Benjamin):

That Standing Order 58(14) be amended by substituting for the date May 31 the date June 15 for the purpose of allowing the Standing Committee on Privileges and Elections to continue to consider the estimates of the Chief Electoral Officer for the fiscal year 1973-74.

Mr. Baldwin: Mr. Speaker—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. Perhaps we might hear the hon. member for Peace River briefly but, as hon. members know, there should be no debate on a question of this kind. The Chair should be given an opportunity to determine whether there is a prima facie case of privilege and a motion that should be proposed for the consideration of the House. However, I shall hear the hon. member for Peace River.

Mr. Baldwin: Mr. Speaker, I wish to raise a point of privilege arising out the hon. member's reference to collusion on the part of the Conservative and Liberal parties. I will not ask the hon. member to withdraw, but that is an improper statement which should not have been made. It is an incorrect statement. If there is collusion in this House it is certainly not between the Conservative party and the Liberal party.

• (1110)

Mr. Speaker: That is, of course, a different issue and perhaps a different question of privilege. I suggest to the hon. member for Skeena that he may have a grievance but I doubt very much whether the operation of a Standing Order accepted by the House can be brought into question under the cover of a question of privilege. The hon. member will admit, I am sure, that the motion he has proposed is a substantive motion and not a motion of privilege. In this respect I do not think the motion can be put at this time. I would hope that some other way could be found for the hon. member's grievance to be considered by the House or by one of its committees.

* * *

[*Translation*]

HOUSE OF COMMONS

PRESENCE IN GALLERY OF DELEGATION FROM NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF QUEBEC

Mr. Speaker: May I call the attention of the House to the presence in our gallery of a delegation of the Quebec National Assembly headed by its distinguished president, Mr. Jean-Noël Lavoie.

The delegation, representative of all political groups of the Assembly, is visiting Ottawa under the sponsorship of the International Association of French-speaking Parliamentarians. The House is happy to welcome its Quebec colleagues and their wives.

I hope our guests will gain a favourable impression from this one-day immersion in parliamentary usage of their federal colleagues. Hon. members of Ottawa and Quebec, we trust indeed that the discussions taking place in the framework of the association's activities will enhance already existing good relations between Ottawa and Quebec parliamentarians.

[*English*]

On behalf of every member of the House I extend to our distinguished visitors a very warm welcome.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

[*Translation*]

TABLING OF FIFTH REPORT OF PETITIONS

Mr. Speaker: I have the honour to inform the House that the Clerk of the House has tabled the fifth report of the Clerk of Petitions.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[*English*]

FINANCE

TABLING OF ANNUAL REVIEW OF GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTS

Hon. John N. Turner (Minister of Finance): Mr. Speaker, I should like to table, for the information of hon. members, the annual review of government accounts. I understand it is the practice of the House to seek unanimous consent to make the review an appendix to the day's *Hansard*.

Mr. Speaker: Is it agreed?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

[*Editor's Note: For text of above document, see appendix.*]

* * *

PENITENTIARIES

ANNOUNCEMENT BY SOLICITOR GENERAL OF NEW PAROLE AND TEMPORARY ABSENCE REGULATIONS

Hon. Warren Allmand (Solicitor General): Mr. Speaker, hon. members are well aware of public criticism stemming from the fact that some inmates, while on parole or temporary leave of absence, have committed offences. Additionally, there have been serious questions raised with respect to both inmate grievance procedures and staff morale within our penitentiaries.

I should therefore like to take this opportunity to outline to the House immediate measures which will help prevent abuses of our release programs, provide for a more adequate means of investigating inmate grievances, and describe steps which will improve working conditions and morale of employees working in penitentiaries.

In recent years, both parole and temporary absences have played an important role in the process of rehabilitating inmates. Parole is a procedure whereby an inmate of a penitentiary may be released before the expiration of his sentence so that he may serve the balance of his sentence in society, but under appropriate guidance and surveillance to help him lead a law-abiding life. It is a transitional step between close confinement in an institution and absolute freedom.

In recent years, day parole, requiring an inmate to return to prison periodically, or after a specified period of time, has been widely used. The National Parole Board has granted day paroles for the purpose of enabling inmates to pursue specified educational, cultural or job training activities which were not available within the institution and which, in the opinion of the Parole Board, would assist in the inmate's rehabilitation. When the Penitentiary Act was amended in 1961 parliament conferred upon the Commissioner of Penitentiaries and individual institution directors the authority to authorize temporary leaves of absence for inmates for three or 15 days. It was intended that such leaves of absence, either with or without escort, were to be granted for medical, humanitarian or rehabilitation reasons.

Since 1961, therefore, inmates could be released to the community both under the authority of the National Parole Board or the Canadian Penitentiary Service. Because the criteria for selection of inmates by these two agencies have not necessarily been the same, there has been some difficulty. The differences in criteria arise not only because of the different statutory authorities under which they operate but also because the considerations that apply in assessing an inmate for temporary absence differ from those applicable to parole. Inevitably this has led to confusion in the public mind. Moreover, there are certain legal complexities that bring into question the operation of a large portion of the temporary absence program. The most difficult problem concerns what are commonly called back-to-back temporary absences, a practice developed in recent years whereby inmates are released on successive leaves of absence over an extended period of time, generally for rehabilitative purposes. I have therefore made the following decisions:

1. In the future the Canadian Penitentiary Service will cease the practice of providing back-to-back temporary absences for inmates in federal penal institutions. This involves a change in the Canadian Penitentiary Service directives and does not require an amendment to the legislation. The Penitentiary Service will continue to operate a temporary absence program under section 26 of the Penitentiary Act to provide three and 15 day absences for

medical, humanitarian and rehabilitation purposes, with or without an escort.

2. For those inmates who are now on successful temporary back-to-back absences or where in the future extended absences are considered necessary or desirable by penitentiary authorities, provision will be made for a greater use of day parole under the Parole Act. This will enable inmates to continue their education, accept employment, and generally pursue their rehabilitation outside the institutions.

3. Legislation will be introduced at the earliest opportunity to amend the Parole Act to permit the appointment of ten additional ad hoc members of the Parole Board. These ten members will be assigned in teams of two to the five regions of Canada and will deal primarily with day parole and panel hearings in the institutions. This step will enable the National Parole Board to deal with a considerable backlog of cases that require detailed consideration, and simultaneously satisfy the new volume of decisions on day parole that will come before the members.

4. The appropriate regulations under the National Parole Act will be changed so that an inmate will be required to serve one-third of his sentence or seven years, whichever is the lesser, before he becomes eligible for parole. Previously inmates became eligible for parole after they had served one-third of their sentence of four years, whichever was the lesser. Concern has been expressed that the premature release of inmates on parole contributes to an unacceptably high rate of parole violations, and that those who violated their conditions of parole previously are permitted to become again eligible for parole at too early a date. This change in the parole eligibility period will affect primarily offenders serving long terms, that is, of more than 12 years.

5. The National Parole Act regulation will be changed so that those who have forfeited their parole will have to serve one-half of any new term of imprisonment or seven years before being again considered for parole. This will prevent an offender who has forfeited his parole by committing an indictable offence from being reconsidered for parole before he has completed a large part of his total sentence. Under the present regulation an inmate who has forfeited his parole and has his parole revoked is eligible for parole consideration after serving one-third of his total term of imprisonment or four years, whichever period is completed first.

• (1120)

The two above-mentioned changes apply to inmates currently in our institutions. I am mindful of the fact that some inmates who had been making good progress toward their rehabilitation in the community might feel aggrieved by these changes. Any such case could be favourably considered by the National Parole Board where justified because of special circumstances resulting from these modifications.

6. Steps have been taken to increase the number of classification, visiting and correspondence officers within the Canadian Penitentiary Service, as well as those members of the staff who are concerned with the social development of inmates. More visiting and correspondence officers will provide additional opportunity for family and friends to meet and communicate with inmates within institutions. Additional classification officers will ensure that individual inmates receive appropriate diagnostic and counselling service as well as providing for closer screening of applications for temporary absence, day parole and full parole. Social development and activity officers are required to enrich institutional programs of leisure-time activities. The steps that have been taken to improve programs within the penitentiary system have included, as I mentioned, the use of temporary absences and day parole to gain access to rehabilitative resources in the community for individual inmates.

7. Steps are being taken to provide additional staff facilities, such as conference rooms, libraries, lockers, lounge and shower facilities, to improve working conditions for employees in our penitentiaries.

Programs of inmate rehabilitation cannot be achieved without good relations between staff and inmates. A great deal of effort has been and will continue to be expended on establishing the best possible conditions for the reform of the inmate, but I fully realize that where staff, for one reason or another, are dissatisfied in terms of their working conditions, the prospects of useful staff-inmate relationships tend to diminish. While it is true that the penitentiary service is now unionized and a collective agreement exists, there are other areas not subject to negotiation where we could improve staff conditions.

8. To assure the impartial investigation of inmate complaints and grievances, I have received authority, under part II, section 6, of the Inquiries Act, to create the position of correctional investigator. Both the Archambault and the Swackhamer commissions recommend visiting committees to assist in the impartial consideration of inmate grievances. While I feel that this is a valuable suggestion, I am certain the creation of the correctional investigator's position will better accomplish these goals.

The appointee will assure that inmate grievances are dealt with at an early stage and on a basis that is satisfactory, generally speaking, to the inmate, the penitentiary staff, and to the Canadian public. The appointee will report directly to the Solicitor General. The correctional investigator's duties will be to investigate complaints of federal penitentiary inmates and to make recommendations concerning those complaints. The investigator will also be authorized to inquire on her own initiative but will be relieved of the necessity of making an investigation if she is satisfied that the complainant has not sought legal or administrative remedy. This official will be required to make an annual report to the Solicitor General who will table it in the House of Commons, subject to the deletion of any material that might adversely affect the security of Canada or any penitentiary, and the civil liberties or privacy of individuals.

9. Miss Inger Hansen has been appointed Canada's first correctional investigator. Miss Hansen has broad experience in both the field of criminal law and corrections generally and I believe that her distinguished background will assure her success as correctional investigator.

These are recommendations that are calculated to deal with some federal correctional problems on a short-term basis in the field of penitentiary services, temporary

absences and parole. For the long term, more profound changes may be necessary. I should remind the House that there is a report of the task force on the release of inmates under the chairmanship of Mr. Justice Hugessen to be made public shortly which requires detailed consideration because it raises a number of important issues that could only be dealt with by substantial changes in current legislation. Similarly, a committee of the other place is conducting inquiries into the entire question of the release of inmates, whether on parole or temporary absence. Finally, there is the Justice and Legal Affairs Committee of this House which just a few days ago has assumed the task of carrying out an inquiry into our penitentiary system, including parole and temporary absence. All of these reports will be considered in depth as part of an ever-expanding development of federal corrections in Canada.

As I stated above, I do not contend that the policies I have announced today are the long-term answers to our problems in the field of corrections. In due course, we will have to deal with some of the other more complex questions, but these measures I have discussed are designed to provide immediate solutions for some immediate problems. They will, I hope, help to assure the public and parliament that this government is determined to demand both security and rehabilitation from our release programs, while at the same time protecting the rights of inmates and creating better working conditions for our penitentiary employees.

Mr. Erik Nielsen (Yukon): Mr. Speaker, we have just heard another example of government by ad hocery. The minister has reacted to public outcry as have others of his colleagues, particularly the Minister of Manpower and Immigration (Mr. Andras) and the Secretary of State for External Affairs (Mr. Sharp). They have reacted with band-aid measures when they should be formulating cohesive and in-depth policies.

The minister cannot extract the penal system and the penitentiary system from the over-all problem of dealing with crime in this country, and that is exactly what he is attempting to do. He has made certain changes with respect to back-to-back leave and temporary absences. Does this mean that convicted wife murderers are no longer going to be able to obtain leave in order to marry their mistresses for whom murder was committed in the first place? Does this mean that criminals are not going to be permitted to visit such eminent institutions as la salon de la femme and then disappear? Does this mean that judges are no longer going to say at the conclusion of a criminal trial, I find you guilty and sentence you to two years, three years, five years, or whatever the case may be, but, instead, will be saying, I find you guilty and I have arranged for a reservation for you at the rehabilitation centre at such and such a place. Taking measures such as those that have been announced by the minister, instead of approaching the matter in a scientific fashion, in an in-depth fashion and considering the over-all fabric of crime and penal reform in the country, is no solution.

In my view, Sir, what the minister should have been announcing is a program aimed, first, at primary prevention; second, at early detection; third, at the problems of detention; fourth, at active treatment; fifth, at rehabilitation and follow-up and, last, at education and research. That is the whole scientific package that has to be considered. The penal system cannot be viewed in a vacuum and extracted and band-aid solutions applied in the expectation that they will solve all the problems that exist. Government policies such as I have suggested in order to deal with crime in accordance with the directives I have listed would be an immense step forward. Our knowledge of man and his behaviour could be utilized within such a unified policy to provide a scientific basis for developing that kind of policy. Surely the knowledge we have in the various disciplines impinging on criminal behaviour and the measures deemed appropriate to control it could thereby be co-ordinated.

In his announcement the minister also failed to outline to us, and thereby failed to allay public apprehension in this area, the criteria for temporary leaves of absence that are going to be granted without escort. What criteria are envisaged in the granting and greater use of day parole? The elimination of back to back leave implies that a greater use of day parole is very likely to cancel out the former. What assurance have the people of Canada that the enlargement of the day parole process is not going to be so great as to eliminate entirely whatever improvement may be derived from the cancellation of the policy of back to back leaves?

With respect to the announcement concerning the National Parole Board, we wonder whether the enlargement of the Parole Board will permit the reinstatement of the interview system. When will this legislation be introduced? The minister has said nothing about that, given the government's new set of priorities as leaked by a secret cabinet document the other day, which does not include penal reform, I might point out.

The minister referred to serving longer sentences prior to becoming eligible for parole. Is any consideration given to the type of crime in the granting of parole? He said nothing about that. For instance, what will the procedure be regarding sexual offenders, murderers, habitual criminals and so on? Is any account taken of the response of the prisoner to rehabilitation efforts? How much consultation exists or is planned with the judiciary? There is precious little today. It is the judge who must decide the length of the sentence, not the parole board. Liaison is necessary, for example, in cases where the judge does not recommend mercy.

• (1130)

It is one thing to view the almost complete erosion of the morale of the staff of the penal system and another to try to correct it by the measures announced by the minister. The increases in staff mentioned by the minister will not solve the problem. They sound good, but the proof of the pudding is in the eating. Is the Department of the Solicitor General having success in recruiting persons for these positions? What ratio of classification officers to inmates has been established as acceptable? These are the kinds of questions that arise in our minds.

The minister made an announcement with regard to additional staff facilities. We welcome this kind of announcement. Perhaps the staff will at least have the kind of luxurious facilities now available to inmates. Will

staff members be consulted on any new reform undertaken in the penal institution? Are there any plans for increased training facilities for penitentiary staff, an area which is crying out for reform?

With regard to the correctional investigator, I find no quarrel with the minister in so far as the appointment is concerned, if for no other reason than her racial background and the spelling of her name. Coming from the country which she does and settling in Canada, obviously she has to be of unusually high calibre as an individual. However, the announcement is woefully inadequate with regard to the terms of reference of this individual.

The status of the correctional investigator is not clear. She continues to be a public servant. Although the Solicitor General stated that the investigator is independent of any association with the Canadian Penitentiary Service, the investigator appears to remain a legal officer of the Department of Justice which is responsible for providing legal advisers to all government departments. The functions of these officers are under the Deputy Attorney General of Canada, another public official. Their duties are to furnish legal advice and obtain for officials opinions of the Deputy Attorney General for the government departments and agencies to which they are assigned.

It appears, therefore, that the correctional investigator, as a Department of Justice legal officer, always was and continues to be independent of the penitentiary service of the Solicitor General. Accordingly, the statement that she has been granted full independence is, in my view, rather meaningless. She has been and continues to be responsible to and under the direction of the Deputy Attorney General of Canada. She is not an investigator who is independent of the government and responsible to parliament and the public. Further, as a departmental official, all the reports of the investigator will be interdepartmental communications and subject to the rules of government secrecy as announced by the government in the House this session. In short, the correctional—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I must interrupt the hon. member. I would hope the hon. member is coming to the end of his remarks. I interrupted him just as he was saying "in short". I assume he was about to summarize what he had said, but I remind hon. members that the provisions of the Standing Order suggest that members who speak on behalf of parties in opposition should be brief. I always like to relate the length of their comments to the length of the statement by the minister. That is why I have been more lenient with regard to the comments being made by the hon. member for Yukon, but I thought it my duty to remind all hon. members of the provisions of the Standing Order.

Mr. Nielsen: I was watching the clock very carefully, Mr. Speaker. As the minister took 12 minutes and I have been speaking for 10, I was coming to the end of my remarks.

In short, the correctional investigator was and is an official of the Department of Justice assigned to the Solicitor General's Department. She now has authority as an inquiries commissioner to subpoena and swear witnesses. As most, if not all, the witnesses will be prison guards and prisoners, the granting of power to summon witnesses under penalty to punish for contempt appears to be in questionable taste. The fact that her reports are confidential memoranda between herself and her departmental superiors is really an insult to this House.

Mr. Frank Howard (Skeena): Mr. Speaker, I want first to express my thanks to the minister for having made available a copy of his statement some time before the House met, even though its social implications and effects on the penitentiary service are more than could be grasped in the time available to look at it. My reaction is that it is a statement responding to a situation out of desperation rather than a clear approach to a fair and just penal system in the nation. It is a political document, not one with any penological sense to it.

I wish to deal briefly with the points raised by the minister. The minister referred to the day parole system and the so-called back-to-back or successive 15 day temporary absences that can be granted by the Commissioner of Penitentiaries. The minister seeks to dispose of that and not have any more successive temporary absences. He thinks that abuses of the system will accordingly be lessened or curtailed. The minister is under a misapprehension or misunderstanding. The problem does not arise because an inmate has a three day, 15-day or a number of 15-day successive temporary absences. The problem arises in the assessment of the individual in the first place.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Howard: If the person who makes the assessment or selection of inmates eligible for temporary absence is incompetent or conned into it, there will be a continuation of abuses. Let me say that when it comes to conning, inmates have far more brains than most of the people in the penitentiary system.

The minister talked about expanding the Parole Board. I gather the purpose is that the additional members will permit the board to deal with the question of day parole and the great backlog of cases. One would think from this that the minister is curtailing day parole, but he is in fact seeking to expand and intensify it. This is fine, but the difficulty again arises with regard to the competency or otherwise of the person making the selection. There is also the problem of supervision in the after-care field and working with the inmate whether he is on temporary absence, day parole or full parole. In the absence of a concomitant community activity involving that individual, the prospects of failure will increase.

• (1140)

Again—and this points up the political impact of the document—the minister talks about establishing a seven year period instead of a four year period before a person will be eligible for parole. The minister seems, on the one hand, to wish to intensify the activities of the Parole Board and, on the other hand, to restrict and curtail those activities and to make sure that individuals stay in jail for a longer period of time. This is contrary to the idea of parole, contrary to the idea that an inmate should have an opportunity to live in a free society, in a free community to the fullest extent that it is possible to live in that way after he has been sentenced for a crime, in the hope that his activity within the community will lead him to the

point of rehabilitation. It flies in the face of the concept that there is no rehabilitation possible in a penitentiary. This is a point the minister seems to miss. The penitentiary is for purposes of custody; rehabilitation takes place outside and afterwards, and not within the penitentiary. The idea that if you keep a person inside for a longer period he will thereby become more amenable to rehabilitation is arrant nonsense.

The minister talks in terms of an additional expansion of the number of classification officers, visiting officers and corresponding officers. Generally—and this does not apply to every individual who falls within these categories—professional social workers who spend their time going through universities getting a degree in social work are not much help as classification officers or persons working as visiting or corresponding officers within penitentiaries because they do not know what life in a jail is all about, and they talk to inmates using a concept of language that differs from what the inmate understands. I think this step is doomed to be less than helpful, though it will no doubt build up the bureaucracy within the system.

Additional staff facilities, such as showers and lounge rooms, will not help build up the morale of the staff within the system. They are disenchanted for two reasons, basically. First, they are custodial officers who see their function being overridden by classification officers who, most of the time, do not know what they are doing anyway. Second, there is a conflict, a disenchantment, because staff custodial officers feel the people in the headquarters office do not know what they are doing either. In this regard, the first thing I think the minister should do is take some steps to replace the commissioner, Mr. Faguy. I have no complaint about Mr. Faguy's administrative competence. I am sure it is very great. But he has no idea about penological matters or prison systems. He is a professional civil servant, and his concern is with administrative structures without regard to the fact that people are within them. I would take him out of there and put somebody in who knows something about prisons and about human beings.

I have very grave doubts about the value of the correctional investigator, regardless of who fills the office, and her effectiveness in dealing with grievances by inmates. If the warden sends somebody to the hole, is the correctional officer to step into that picture and override the decision of warden's court? Certainly not. I hope not, in any event. What about the question of lost remission? What about the question of lost privileges? What about the question of discipline within a penitentiary? All we are likely to see here, following the appointment of this correctional investigator, is an advancing bureaucracy, the setting up of a further level of government structure to confuse inmates, confuse the staff, and create more general public confusion than exists at present.

The minister's statement indicates that he has not yet understood what is involved in a prison or penological system. He seeks to make the ideas contained in this statement available to all institutions. He seems to ignore the fact of life that programs applicable to one prison are not applicable in the same way to another. Surely the minister is not telling us that the program with respect to day parole should apply equally at Joyceville, which is a minimum security institution in Ontario, and at the special detention or special correctional unit just outside St. Vincent de Paul in Quebec. In our prison system what we need is not a furtherance of the so-called traditional or historic liberal approach—and I use a small "l" here, Mr. Speaker. We need one that is sensible, one that is just, one that is fair. And the two are not compatible. As long as he continues to ignore the fact that jail is for custody and that rehabilitation takes place only outside the jail and has its best opportunity for success when the citizenry are drawn into it, we shall continue to encounter difficulties, problems, abuses and, hopefully, a change of minister.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Adrien Lambert (Bellechasse): Mr. Speaker, in accordance with the recommendations that you have often made, I will be very brief.

I would like first to congratulate the hon. minister for being kind enough to respect the bilingual character of this House and give me a French copy of his statement. I am all the more pleased to say so as last night, in committee, such was not my opinion. As a matter of fact, I blamed the hon. minister who previously had not respected the bilingual character of this country.

As far as the minister's statement is concerned, I must say that at first sight it seems acceptable to me. Ever since I became a member of the House, I have heard discussions about problems of parole prison escapes. Several members have not only made suggestions but have proposed solutions designed to improve the living conditions of prisoners in penitentiaries and to make their rehabilitation easier so that, once they are back into society, they become good citizens and help it to improve their living conditions, in order to enable our country to take full advantage of all its human resources.

• (1150)

Every so often, officers, prison guards are blamed for not carrying out their supervisory duties, for not doing their job, and sometimes even for deliberately taking part in some of those escapes. Personally, I am convinced that it certainly must not be easy to be a guard in a penitentiary, to live in such difficult conditions, under constant pressure.

Therefore, according to the minister's statement, today, he wants to have better living conditions for our officers, and our prison guards, allowing them to live a more normal life while doing their duty, and accepting their responsibilities. I think that this will also enable them to create a more congenial atmosphere for our inmates who no doubt have not been locked up in the penitentiary just to have a good time. They cannot expect to lead a completely normal life. If they are in there, it is because they have done something wrong, because they have violated the law and also, because order must prevail in our society.

Therefore, it is not out of nastiness or revenge that the state decrees penalties but to make sure that law is respected in the land. If the action that the minister intends to take to correct this situation appears effective, and if it is actually implemented, I am convinced that there will be considerable improvements.

Another point on which I would like to draw the attention of the minister, and I regret that he did not mention it in his statement, is the drug problem in our penitentiaries. This does not help create a responsible climate among our inmates. On the contrary, it helps to make it worse, and supervision should be more rigid in that area so that those who violate the law and who find ways of introducing drugs into our penitentiaries, be made to join those who are inside the walls, and this would help our society correct a situation which is fast becoming alarming.

When inmates have the advantage of being paroled, our society should enable them to reintegrate it easily, welcome them generously, and facilitate their rehabilitation. We must do our share. And to do our share we must act. The government is now responsible in a large part for the situation in which we are.

There is an old proverb that says: Idleness is at the root of all evil. If it is true, let us manage so that there will be fewer idle people. Conversely, one can say that work is the remedy for all evil.

Let us therefore do our utmost so that there will be more jobs in our country, so that there will be more people at work; and when there will be more people at work every day, there will be fewer inmates in the prisons.

* * *

INDUSTRY

TABLING OF TEXTILE AND CLOTHING BOARD REPORT ON TOWELS

Mr. Herb Breau (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): Mr. Speaker, under Standing Order 41(2), I wish to table in both official languages the Textile and Clothing Board report on a study concerning towels and material for towels or sponge-cotton.

* * *

[*English*]

CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER

CONSIDERATION OF ESTIMATES BY STANDING COMMITTEE—REQUEST FOR UNANIMOUS CONSENT TO MOVE MOTION

Mr. Les Benjamin (Regina-Lake Centre): Mr. Speaker, I rise under the provisions of Standing Order 43 to request unanimous consent of the House to deal with a motion concerning a matter that is urgent and pressing, namely, the ability of at least two standing committees of the House of Commons to complete their work, and to put an end to the negligence of Members of Parliament who fail to attend these meetings. If I have the unanimous consent of the House I would move:

That Standing Order 58(14) be amended by substituting for the date May 31 the date June 15 for the purpose of allowing the Standing Committee on Privileges and Elections to continue to consider the estimates of the Chief Electoral Officer for the fiscal year 1973-74.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Speaker: The House has heard the motion proposed by the hon. member. Under Standing Order 43, this motion requires unanimous consent of the House. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

Mr. Speaker: There is not unanimity and the motion cannot be put.

* * *

CANADIAN CITIZENSHIP ACT

AMENDMENT TO REDUCE MINIMUM RESIDENCE REQUIREMENT

Mr. Marcel Prud'homme (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Regional Economic Expansion) moved for leave to introduce the bill entitled "An Act to amend the Canadian Citizenship Act (minimum residence requirement)".

Some hon. Members: Explain.

Mr. Prud'homme: Mr. Speaker, for the third year in a row I have the honour of introducing this very simple bill which, I hope, will be unanimously agreed to on second reading and deferred to the appropriate standing committee.

The purpose of this bill is to reduce from five to three years the minimal residence requirement for citizenship applicants.

[*English*]

I think I might have unanimous consent for second reading as the Leader of the Official Opposition said recently he would be in agreement with such a bill, and also members of other parties have—

[*Translation*]

Motion agreed to, bill read the first time and ordered to be printed.

Mr. Speaker: Order. When will this bill be read the second time?

Some hon. Members: Now.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The bill cannot be read the second time today without the unanimous consent of the House.

Mr. Prud'homme: Mr. Speaker, I think there is unanimous consent.

Mr. Speaker: Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

Mr. Speaker: There is no unanimous consent; the motion therefore cannot be put. The second reading is deferred until the next sitting of the House.

Oral Questions

ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

[*English*]

FINANCE

POSSIBILITY OF FURTHER DEVALUATION OF UNITED STATES DOLLAR—DISCUSSION WITH U.S. GOVERNMENT—EFFECT ON CANADIAN EXCHANGE FUND HOLDINGS

Mr. James Gillies (Don Valley): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Finance. Given the fact that the price of gold has risen quite remarkably on the free market in the last week and that there is continued speculation the United States dollar may be devalued again, can the minister tell us whether there has been any direct contact by his officials with officials of the United States government about the possibility of a further devaluation of the U.S. dollar?

Hon. John N. Turner (Minister of Finance): Mr. Speaker, if that were so it would not be something I would speculate on in the House.

Mr. Gillies: Mr. Speaker, if there has been no direct consultation about this matter, can the minister tell us whether the government has taken the position that it is willing to accept a devaluation in the purchasing power of reserves held in U.S. dollars by the Canadian exchange equalization fund rather than propose to the United States government some possible plan whereby the purchasing power of these dollars can be maintained at the present exchange rate?

Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton): The brunt of the hon. member's question is dulled a bit by the fact that most of these reserves are held in U.S. dollars in any event, and our dollar has remained at virtual parity with the U.S. dollar.

Mr. Gillies: Mr. Speaker, that is the very point. The fact is that as the U.S. dollar depreciates our dollar floats with it. The question is, what are we doing to protect the purchasing power of our reserves having regard to paying off debts such as the one to Germany paid today and having regard to the Japanese dollar and so on? The very fact that our dollar is floating with the U.S. dollar makes it imperative that we do something.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I suggest the question is not in order in that it is argumentative.

An hon. Member: Let's have an answer.

Some hon. Members: Order!

An hon. Member: Tell him you haven't got to that chapter of the book yet.

[Mr. Speaker.]

[*Translation*]

AIRPORTS

PICKERING—RESPECTING OF RIGHTS OF OWNERS OF EXPROPRIATED LAND—MINISTER'S POSITION

Mr. John Harney (Scarborough West): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct my question to the Minister of Public Works concerning the procedures for expropriating the lands required for the Pickering airport development project.

Would the minister tell the House whether he has given any guidelines to the officials and agents of his department to the effect that the rights of the people involved be not encroached upon as far as tenure of residence is concerned?

Hon. Jean-Eudes Dubé (Minister of Public Works): Yes, Mr. Speaker. Moreover, I intend to go personally to Pickering some time next week to explain to the people involved the very generous provisions of the Expropriation Act.

[*English*]

Mr. Harney: Mr. Speaker, in view of the fact that the Minister of Public Works intends to travel to Pickering to assure the persons expropriated of their rights, will he also look into the repeated reports to the effect that his agents, or agents working for his department, have entered homes without the knowledge or permission of the residents to make assessments, and in certain cases have effectively browbeaten residents into signing expropriation papers they did not have to sign, according to the undertaken given recently by the Minister of Transport?

Mr. Dubé: Mr. Speaker, these rumours are not correct. These assessments are not made by officials of my department; they are made by independent qualified assessors, and as far as we know there is no veracity in these false claims.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The Chair will recognize the hon. member for Scarborough West on one last supplementary and then complete the first round of questioning by recognizing the hon. member for Champlain.

• (1200)

Mr. Harney: When the minister is in the area next week, does he intend to explain to the people involved and affected exactly what the difference is between officials of his department and agents working on behalf of his department?

Mr. Dubé: We will tell the people concerned the true facts, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Baldwin: That will be a change.

[*Translation*]

BILINGUALISM

REQUEST FOR TABLING OF COULOMBE REPORT

Mr. René Matte (Champlain): Mr. Speaker, I should like to put a question to the President of the Treasury Board.

Since we are discussing bilingualism within the Public Service, could the minister tell us if he will make the Coulombe report available to the House so that the discussion on the Prime Minister's resolution will be more relevant and effective?

Hon. C. M. Drury (President of the Treasury Board): Mr. Speaker, I think that I have already said that the Coulombe report was not intended to be made public. This report was prepared by an official of the Treasury Board for the information of Treasury Board officials themselves, for the Secretariat. Thus, it is not intended to publish it or make it public. But if there are facts related to this report, I would like to make them known to the hon. member.

Mr. Matte: A supplementary, Mr. Speaker.

Could the President of the Treasury Board tell us whether he intends to base the statement he will make during the debate on the official languages on facts taken from the Beaudet report or the Coulombe report, in order to further enlighten the House?

Mr. Speaker: The member will recognize that he is now anticipating on the debate which will continue later on today.

* * *

[*English*]

AIR CANADA

POSSIBILITY OF ROTATING STRIKES—GOVERNMENT ACTION TO AVERT

Hon. Robert L. Stanfield (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Labour with regard to the announcement I understand has been made that rotating strikes will take place affecting the operations of Air Canada. Can the minister tell the House if he proposes to undertake any new measures to head off this thing? I realize that yesterday he appointed a mediator.

Hon. John C. Munro (Minister of Labour): Yes, Mr. Speaker. I would advise the Leader of the Opposition that, from whatever information I have been able to glean, if rotating strikes are a possibility as indeed overall strike action is, the indication has been couched in those terms. I do not think there has been any decision yet to have rotating strikes on the part of the labour leaders involved. Mediation is going on right now with Mr. Gallagher. I believe they are meeting this afternoon in Montreal. I take it that the parties are meeting with him in good faith to endeavour to find a solution to this matter. I hope to have further particulars during the course of the weekend.

Mr. Stanfield: In view of the indication of rotating strikes, which I understood was more definite than the minister seems to believe, I would ask the minister to inquire concerning what the situation actually is, and would he consider taking a hand himself with a view to trying to bring the parties together in order to avoid rotating strikes in view of the very serious disruption that would be caused to our economy and to many individual Canadians?

Mr. Munro (Hamilton East): Yes, Mr. Speaker. I think Mr. Gallagher should be given an opportunity to see what he can do in terms of resolving this dispute. Because of the inconvenience caused by rotating strikes, if this should turn out to be a reality instead of what I consider at the moment to be a possibility, my intervention is always under consideration. If it can indeed be helpful to the situation, it will, of course, be entertained.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Prince Edward-Hastings on a supplementary.

Mr. Hees: Mine is not a supplementary, Mr. Speaker.

POSSIBILITY OF ROTATING STRIKES—DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND PRESIDENT OF COMPANY TO PREVENT INCONVENIENCE TO TRAVELLERS

Mr. James A. McGrath (St. John's East): Mr. Speaker, may I ask the Minister of Transport a question. In view of the fact the union announced a short while ago that they will commence rotating strikes by giving two hours notice to whatever airports they are going to strike, has the minister had discussions with the president of Air Canada to see what steps can be taken to prevent this tremendous inconvenience to the Canadian travelling public at this peak travelling period?

[*Translation*]

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, I think that government members are at least as interested as the hon. member by what is now going on at Air Canada. I think that to indicate what action might be taken in every possible case would not help the parties involved and would not contribute at all to the settlement of the conflict.

[*English*]

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Prince Edward-Hastings, after which I will recognize the right hon. member for Prince Albert.

* * *

NATIONAL DEFENCE

REQUEST THAT FUNDS BE MADE AVAILABLE TO HIRE PERSONNEL TO OPERATE FOUR DECOMMISSIONED DESTROYERS

Hon. George Hees (Prince Edward-Hastings): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of National Defence. In view of the statement by the Commander of Maritime Command that an alternative to selling or put-

ting in mothballs the four destroyers that cannot be manned because of lack of manpower in the department, would be for the government to allot to the navy sufficient funds to hire personnel necessary to operate these ships, is the government considering taking this very excellent advice of the Commander of Maritime Command, thereby making it possible for these four destroyers, which cost the Canadian taxpayers $120 million, are in first class shape and were designed to carry out this maritime role—

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

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Hon. James Richardson (Minister of National Defence): Mr. Speaker, the department and the government have not received that advice.

Mr. Hees: I have a supplementary for the Prime Minister, Mr. Speaker. Is the government considering transferring some of the funds which are allotted to the OFY and LIP to the Department of National Defence to make it possible for young men who wish to go into the navy as a permanent career to be employed permanently in this role—

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Hees: —and by so doing make it possible for these warships to operate and stop the continuation of the scandalous waste of $120 million of the taxpayers money?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The right hon. member for Prince Albert.

Mr. Hees: Let us have an answer.

Some hon. Members: Order!

An hon. Member: Put George into drydock.

* * *

NATIONAL SECURITY

PLANNING AND ANALYSIS RESEARCH GROUP—POSSIBLE ABOLITION OR MADE SUBJECT TO REPORTING TO PARLIAMENT

Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Prince Albert): Mr. Speaker, I do not want to become involved in any controversy and therefore I will wait until the controversy is over before asking my question.

My question is directed to the Solicitor General. I should like to ask him whether or not consideration is being given to abolishing or demobilizing the police and security planning and analysis research group. I have to look at my notes because the name has changed. What is his answer to that?

Hon. Warren Allmand (Solicitor General): No, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Diefenbaker: Then, Mr. Speaker, has the minister read the evidence that has been given in the Watergate case in the Senate of the United States, which indicates what happens when a group of powerful men is responsible not to Congress but only to the President and to the cabinet and the effect this can have on individual rights? In view of the fact that this government group that has been set up is secret, silent, but equally effective when it comes to interfering with human rights, should it not be subject, if not to abolition, to reporting to parliament on its conduct?

Mr. Allmand: Mr. Speaker, I have not been able to read all the evidence in the Watergate affair, but I wish to assure the right hon. member there is no resemblance whatsoever between it and this group. We have answered all questions about this group in the House. This group is to protect civil rights against such things as Watergate rather than to impinge on them.

Mr. Diefenbaker: May I suggest to the minister that he shows he has not read any of the evidence, for this body was set up with the identical purpose he now defines as the one for his own group.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The Chair will recognize the hon. member for Yukon on a supplementary and then the hon. member for Selkirk.

REQUEST FOR CONTINUATION OF IN-CAMERA BRIEFINGS OF COMMITTEE ON JUSTICE AND LEGAL AFFAIRS

Mr. Erik Nielsen (Yukon): In view of the in-camera briefing the Standing Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs has had while considering estimates of the Department of the Solicitor General, and in view of the minister's assurance that further such briefings would be available to committee members and because that reference is out of the hands of the committee by reason of its reporting to the House, will the Solicitor General, in consultation with the government House leader, make arrangements for a further reference to that committee so that these very useful in the one case, and could be useful in the other, in-camera meetings might be continued because otherwise they are terminated?

• (1210)

Hon. Warren Allmand (Solicitor General): Mr. Speaker, I intend to live up to that commitment and I will see to it that arrangements are made. I might say that this group—and I have said it several times before—is to deal with security matters and police matters, not with spying on the political opposition. It is to deal with questions such as the possible threat of the Black September Organization and FLQ threats. If the opposition wants to do away with that, they can take the responsibility.

NATIONAL DEFENCE

SUGGESTED RECOMMISSIONING OF CERTAIN DESTROYERS FOR USE IN PROTECTING FISHERMEN—GOVERNMENT POSITION

Mr. Doug Rowland (Selkirk): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of National Defence and it is supplementary to those asked earlier by the hon. member for Prince Edward-Hastings. In view of the fact that it would cost about $1.6 million a year to put the four destroyers to sea—we are talking about a total investment in those ships lying alongside amounting to $160 million, so here we are talking about one per cent of that investment—and in light of the fact we could probably draw 700 men from the national defence headquarters and never feel it—

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Rowland: —will the minister reconsider his decision to let the ships lie alongside and put them back to sea where they could at least assist our fishermen in avoiding the kind of harassment they sometimes experience from larger ships of other nations?

Hon. James Richardson (Minister of National Defence): Mr. Speaker, I am certain the hon. member knows that we have recently commissioned three new DDH destroyers which have a much greater capability than the ones to which he is referring.

* * *

[*Translation*]

MANPOWER

LOCAL INITIATIVES PROGRAM—AMENDMENT OF CRITERIA RESPECTING EXTENSION OF PROJECTS

Mr. Adrien Lambert (Bellechasse): Mr. Speaker, in the absence of the Minister of Manpower and Immigration, I should like to put a question to his Parliamentary Secretary.

In view of the growing importance of local initiatives projects because of the new economic blood that has been injected for the coming months, can the Parliamentary Secretary tell us whether, in addition to the criteria referred to in the letter sent by the minister to members of the House at the end of May, other standards will be applied to the Department in order to guide the officials responsible for the selection of local initiatives projects to see whether they can be extended?

[*English*]

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, there are no other standards, but of course there is always the problem of interpreting rules and criteria.

[*Translation*]

LOCAL INITIATIVES PROGRAM—ELIGIBILITY OF CERTAIN PROJECTS

Mr. Lambert (Bellechasse): Mr. Speaker, I realize that there is an interpretation of the rules.

My supplementary question is as follows: Are any local initiatives projects concerning the building of reservoirs, the restoration of old furniture or still the building of recreational facilities, playgrounds, being considered in the standards set up by the minister in his letter of May 19?

[*English*]

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, I would not be able to answer that question without further information from the hon. member, and I will be glad to have that information from him subsequently.

* * *

[*Translation*]

LABOUR RELATIONS

ST. LAWRENCE SEAWAY DISPUTE WITH PILOTS—GOVERNMENT MEASURES

Mr. Claude Wagner (Saint-Hyacinthe): Mr. Speaker, I should like to put a question to the Minister of Transport.

Could he tell the House and the public about the steps which he has taken and the activities of his officials in the conflict which is constantly deteriorating on the St. Lawrence Seaway?

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, a meeting of the pilots of the St. Lawrence Seaway is now underway. This meeting should end today. Normally, the activities should resume tomorrow. However, even if the pilots decide to return to work today—an accident unrelated to the meeting having occurred, the Snell lock in the U.S. has been damaged—unfortunately they would be unable to do so due to that accident.

[*English*]

POSSIBLE STRIKE OF RAILWAY EMPLOYEES—INQUIRY AS TO CONCILIATION BOARD REPORT AND CONTINGENCY PLAN

Mr. Duncan M. Beattie (Hamilton Mountain): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Labour. In light of growing unrest and imperilled rail service because of slow contract negotiations between the railways and the unions, would the minister tell the House whether he has any indication of when the conciliation report will be completed and whether the government has prepared a contingency plan and a firm policy in the event of the suspension of rail services?

Hon. John C. Munro (Minister of Labour): Mr. Speaker, a conciliation board has been constituted and I announced approximately a week ago the appointment of the conciliation board chairman, Mr. Justice Craig Munro. They will be holding their meetings in British Columbia—

An hon. Member: Any relation?

Mr. Munro (Hamilton East): No, no relation. They will be holding their meetings in Vancouver starting next week.

Oral Questions

POSSIBLE ESTABLISHMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES TRIBUNAL

Mr. Harvie Andre (Calgary Centre): Mr. Speaker, my supplementary question is to the Minister of Labour. In view of the admitted lack of plans and economic analyses regarding potential air and rail strikes at this time, is the government now going to set up an industrial disputes tribunal to undertake this kind of work and prepare rational and responsible measures to protect essential public interests?

Hon. John C. Munro (Minister of Labour): Despite what I consider to be the rather overblown rhetoric of the hon. member in the first part of his question, I think any parliamentarian in the House or in the country is well aware of the serious economic consequences that would visit a country like Canada if there were a rail strike. So we are going to do everything in our power to try to avoid that.

* * *

[*Translation*]

REGIONAL ECONOMIC EXPANSION

POLICY RESPECTING SPECIAL AREAS—RESULTS OF DISCUSSION WITH QUEBEC

Mr. Roch La Salle (Joliette): Mr. Speaker, I wish to put another question to the Minister of Regional Economic Expansion.

Following the discussion that took place recently between Quebec and Ottawa, the Quebec government stated yesterday that it was in favour of eliminating special areas since the minister Mr. Lévesque stated that he would like to see in the terms of those agreements, the province of Quebec free to set its own priorities. Can the minister say if he will favour such freedom for the province of Quebec?

[*English*]

Hon. Donald C. Jamieson (Minister of Regional Economic Expansion): Basically, yes, Mr. Speaker. I think that was the gist of the meetings that were held with the province of Quebec and with other provinces, that rather than maintain the so-called special areas it would be better to bring to bear as much help as we can on industrial opportunities wherever they happen to exist in a particular province.

* * *

ENERGY

FARM FUELS—REQUEST FOR GUARANTEE OF SUPPLY AT NO INCREASE IN PRICE

Mr. Lorne Nystrom (Yorkton-Melville): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources. In view of the increased export of energy and the fact that farm costs have gone up by 6.1 per cent in the first three months of this year which, if it continues, would mean an increase of 25 per cent this year, can the minister assure us that the price of farm fuels will not be going up further this year, and can he guarantee to farmers any security of supply of fuels for their farms?

[Mr. Munro (Hamilton East).]

Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): Mr. Speaker, I do not know of any control the federal government has over the price at the retail level.

FARM FUELS—POSSIBLE USE OF TWO-PRICE SYSTEM AND EXPORT CONTROLS

Mr. Lorne Nystrom (Yorkton-Melville): In view of the drastic increase in farm costs, can the minister say whether or not he would consider now a two-price system so far as farm fuels are concerned as well as the extension of export controls to gasoline and other farm fuels?

Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): I think that the question of a two-price system which the hon. gentleman has mentioned, while it might be effective in the farm area, would undoubtedly produce higher prices for other Canadian consumers. Obviously these two considerations would have to be weighed.

Mr. Speaker: The Chair will recognize the hon. member for St. John's West who has a supplementary to a previous question, I believe, and then the hon. member for Fundy-Royal.

* * *

NATIONAL DEFENCE

POSSIBILITY OF MAKING FOUR DESTROYERS AVAILABLE TO DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES—GOVERNMENT POSITION

Mr. Walter C. Carter (St. John's West): Mr. Speaker, my question is supplementary to the one asked of the Minister of National Defence by the hon. member for Prince Edward-Hastings. In view of the fact that Canada is providing inadequate protection for our fishermen against the encroachment of foreign fishing ships, would the minister consider making these four destroyers available to his colleague, the Minister of the Environment and Fisheries, to provide protection for our fishermen on Canada's east coast?

Hon. James Richardson (Minister of National Defence): The protection we provide is by no means inadequate. The Minister of the Environment has recently confirmed the increased surveillance that we provide from the air. We also provide protection from the sea. We do not need those reserve destroyers in order to protect the fishing fleets.

• (1220)

Mr. Lloyd R. Crouse (South Shore): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a further supplementary question to the right hon. Prime Minister. In order to protect against an even greater financial fiasco than the *Bonaventure* fiasco by the sale or scrapping of ships that are less than 20 years old and have a shelf life of at least 40 years if they are properly maintained, will the Prime Minister give consid-

eration to undertaking consultations with the Minister of National Defence and the Minister of the Environment toward the end of utilizing these four destroyer escorts for beefing up our coast guard service and utilizing these ships for protection of our fishing industry, especially in light of the statement by the Minister of the Environment that we intend to extend our fisheries management control limit to 200 miles, or to the edge of Canada's continental shelf?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, the government understands the importance of giving the greatest protection to our country, the greatest protection to our coastlines, and as much surveillance as possible. The difficulty, of course, is the size of the defence budget. The government has to keep that budget within a rate of escalation which is considered to be reasonable. We are not able to do everything we would like to do in every area of government. This is one example of an area where the government has to curtail expenditures and choose other areas of expenditures where, if funds were not available, certain social services would be prevented from being delivered to the Canadian people. It is this kind of decision the government has had to reach in deciding the size of its defence expenditures.

Mr. T. C. Douglas (Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands): Mr. Speaker, may I ask the Minister of National Defence whether, in view of the fact the reason the four destroyers are idle is the inability to man them, he has given any thought to solving this problem by establishing a ratio of one sailor to one admiral in order to supply sufficient sailors to man the ships?

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

REQUEST FOR INCREASED SURVEILLANCE OF COASTAL AREA TO PROTECT FISHERMEN

Mr. John Lundrigan (Gander-Twillingate): Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the Minister of National Defence if he is aware that Canada's present effort in surveillance of the continental shelf consists of the *Cape Freels,* which has just about enough capacity to maintain surveillance over the Rideau Canal? Further, would he seriously take under advisement the recommendations made by members on this side of the House in view of the fact that the proposed plan put forward by the Minister of the Environment for beefing up our surveillance capability cannot be implemented until seven years from the present date?

Hon. James Richardson (Minister of National Defence): Yes, I will do that, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: The Chair will recognize the hon. member for Esquimalt-Saanich for one last supplementary on this subject followed by the hon. member for Calgary North and the hon. member for Peel South. I would like to assure the latter that he will be recognized before the end of the question period.

MANNING OF DDH DESTROYERS

Mr. Donald W. Munro (Esquimalt-Saanich): Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the Minister of National Defence if he can explain how construction plans for the DDH series of four vessels can be carried forward without, at the same time, developing plans to man those vessels and the vessels that were still in service?

Hon. James Richardson (Minister of National Defence): Mr. Speaker, there has never been any question about being able to man the four new DDH vessels. They are being manned now. They are at sea.

* * *

PENITENTIARIES

APPOINTMENT OF CORRECTIONAL INVESTIGATOR—INQUIRY AS TO INDEPENDENCE OF OPERATION

Mr. R. Gordon L. Fairweather (Fundy-Royal): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Solicitor General arising out of his statement earlier this morning. Is the correctional investigator to be part of the minister's departmental staff? If so, how can inmates be assured of independence of consideration of their grievances, and how can the investigator be considered as any substitute for such procedures as recommended in 1938 by Archambault and in 1972 by Swackhamer?

Hon. Warren Allmand (Solicitor General): Mr. Speaker, the correctional ombudsman or investigator is in no way at all to be connected with the department. I do not know how the hon. member for Yukon could interpret my statement that way.

Mr. Fairweather: I am asking the question.

Mr. Allmand: The investigator is to be completely independent, operating under the Inquiries Act with all the powers of the Inquiries Act, and she will be able to initiate inquiries on her own or at the request of families and friends of inmates. I repeat that she will have all the powers provided under Part II of the Inquiries Act.

TEMPORARY RELEASE PROGRAM—APPLICATION TO THOSE UNDER LIFE SENTENCE FOR MURDER

Mr. Eldon M. Woolliams (Calgary North): Mr. Speaker, I want to ask the Solicitor General this question. In light of the fact your statement suggests you are going to continue the temporary release program—I am not arguing about that—and in light of the fact that the bill with respect to the abolition of capital punishment has gone to committee and there is serious concern in reference to weighing what kind of penalty should be handed out to a person convicted of murder, will the temporary release program apply as in the past to any person given a life sentence for murder, or will you act in accordance with that section of the Criminal Code which says that no one serving a life sentence will be released from a prison without passage of an order in council? Which act are you going to follow?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member should have directed his question to the Chair, but we will assume he did that.

Hon. Warren Allmand (Solicitor General): Mr. Speaker, the rules for release relating to people who have been convicted of murder have special provisions. As the hon. member knows, there is a ten-year minimum period before a person who has been convicted of murder can be considered for parole. We will consider special arrangements for parole and temporary absence for convicted murderers, and these will be discussed in the committee in connection with the bill dealing with capital punishment. The measures I announced this morning apply to all other inmates but not to convicted murderers.

Mr. Speaker: The Chair will recognize the hon. member for Calgary North on a supplementary and then see the hon. member for Rimouski and the hon. member for Skeena.

Mr. Woolliams: So there will be no misunderstanding, will the temporary release program apply to people who have been convicted of murder and given life sentences?

Mr. Allmand: Yes, it can apply in certain cases. For example, section 26 of the Penitentiaries Act provides for release for medical reasons, with escort. We would have to be very explicit. If a man is in prison having been convicted of murder and he has to go to hospital he would be released on temporary absence, with escort, and would probably be there for some time. There are other cases we will have to deal with separately, especially temporary absence for rehabilitation reasons without escort. They will be dealt with in the committee when we deal with the capital punishment bill.

* * *

[*Translation*]

REGIONAL ECONOMIC EXPANSION

AVAILABILITY TO MEMBERS OF REPORT ON QUEBEC'S ECONOMY

Mr. Eudore Allard (Rimouski): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Minister of Regional Economic Expansion.

Following the publication of articles in some Quebec newspapers, particularly *La Presse* and *Le Soleil*, with respect to a report on regional development in the province of Quebec, Mr. Minister, is it your intention to release copies of that report to hon. members so they will know before the newspapers what is the situation with respect to the economy?

Mr. Speaker: May I be permitted once more to remind the hon. member, as I did the hon. member for Calgary North a while ago, that questions should be put through the Chair rather than directly to the minister.

Having made that procedural remark I suggest that the minister might reply to the hon. member's question.

[Mr. Woolliams.]

[*English*]

Hon. Donald C. Jamieson (Minister of Regional Economic Expansion): Mr. Speaker, the documents to which the hon. gentleman referred are not, in fact, the papers that were submitted to the province. They are merely a set of working papers within the department. When the process of consultation with all ten provinces has been completed it is my intention to make the contents of our papers available.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member rises on a supplementary and he will be recognized, but we must try to limit supplementaries because we are reaching the end of the question period and I am still anxious to recognize the hon. member for Peel South.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Allard: Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question for the Minister of Regional Economic Expansion.

As we are deeply interested in the department's policy with regard to the Quebec economy, would the minister assure us that he will enlighten the House, on motions, to clear up the confusion that exists in Quebec in this regard?

* * *

[*English*]

PENITENTIARIES

APPOINTMENT OF CORRECTIONAL INVESTIGATOR—REQUEST FOR REFERENCE TO STANDING COMMITTEE

Mr. Frank Howard (Skeena): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a supplementary question to the Solicitor General. With respect to the appointment of a correctional investigator, would he be prepared to bring a motion before the House, which I am sure could be dealt with without debate, to refer that office and appointment to the Justice and Legal Affairs Committee so that the members of that committee can have an opportunity to pass on the question?

• (1230)

Hon. Warren Allmand (Solicitor General): Well, I do not know, Mr. Speaker. I would consider that, but I do not really think that is necessary at this time. We have discussed the nature of ombudsmen offices in this country for years. This is a correctional ombudsman. I am willing to table the terms of reference, the order in council and so on, but I do not know whether we would accomplish very much by having further discussions in committee.

POSSIBILITY PROVINCIAL PAROLE BOARDS SHOULD BE GIVEN RESPONSIBILITY FOR INMATES IN PROVINCIAL INSTITUTIONS

Miss Flora MacDonald (Kingston and the Islands): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Solicitor General. In addition to the measures announced today, would the minister give immediate consideration to having provincial parole boards assume responsibility for paroles to inmates in provincial institutions, thereby reducing the backlog of cases before the National Parole Board?

Hon. Warren Allmand (Solicitor General): That is being considered, Mr. Speaker, and it is a possible agenda item for the federal-provincial conference on corrections in the fall. I might say if we get consent to the bill to add ten members to the board to serve in five regions of Canada, that will do a lot to prevent a backlog of cases before the Parole Board. It will also lead to the resumption of panel hearings and dealing with the increased workload for day paroles.

* * *

[*Translation*]

SPORTS

MONTREAL OLYMPIC GAMES, 1976—DATE OF PRESENTATION OF BILL RESPECTING FINANCING—POSSIBILITY OF LIMITING DEBATE

Mr. Fernand E. Leblanc (Laurier): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the right hon. Prime Minister.

Various authorities of the City of Montreal and the province of Quebec are concerned about the priority given by the government to the bill concerning the financing of the 1976 Olympic Games in Montreal. Could the right hon. Prime Minister tell the House on what date this bill will be introduced?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I cannot give the hon. member a specific date, but I can tell him that the cabinet has actually approved the final drafting of the bill. The bill is already drafted. There are a few printing and production problems to settle, but I think I am not far off in saying that we hope to have the first reading of this bill next week.

Mr. Leblanc (Laurier): A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker.

To your knowledge, Mr. Prime Minister—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I would ask the hon. member not to follow the example set earlier this afternoon by other hon. members who put questions directly to ministers. It is a rule easy enough to follow and I beg the hon. members to direct their questions directly to the Chair.

Mr. Leblanc (Laurier): Could the right hon. Prime Minister tell the House whether there has been agreement between the House leaders as to the time limit for the debate, so that this bill may be passed as soon as possible?

Mr. Trudeau: Not to my knowledge, Mr. Speaker. I hope that when the bill is introduced in the House, there will be discussions between the various party leaders so as to reach an agreement with respect to the time limit for this debate, in order to pass the bill as soon as possible.

[*English*]

HOUSING

COST OF SERVICED LAND AS FACTOR IN COST OF HOUSING—POSSIBLE USE OF LAND BANK FUNDS TO PROVIDE SERVICES

Mr. Don Blenkarn (Peel South): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of State for Urban Affairs. Would the minister confirm his statement in Toronto last week when he said it was not the cost of land that is pricing housing out of the market but the cost or shortage of serviced land?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. We have had sufficient difficulty recently in connection with asking questions in this way. Perhaps the hon. member might put the question more directly rather than asking the minister to confirm whether a statement was made.

Mr. Blenkarn: Rephrasing the question, Mr. Speaker, may I ask if it is the minister's view now that it is not the price of land but the shortage of services that is driving up the price of houses?

Hon. Ron Basford (Minister of State for Urban Affairs): Mr. Speaker, I take it the hon. member is referring to a statement I made at the Peterborough tri-level meeting, which statement was very well received by the mayor and others from Toronto.

Mr. Baldwin: You have been misinformed on that; more deception.

Mr. Basford: I will be happy to send the text of the statement to the hon. member. As I recall the text, my statement was that obviously the cost of servicing land is one of the contributing factors to the increase in the price of housing and land, and that is why we have initiated a number of policies in this government to help deal with this problem.

Mr. Blenkarn: Is the minister proposing to use money set aside for land banking now to get at the real problem, servicing, as set out by our party in debate on this matter throughout this session?

Mr. Basford: No, Mr. Speaker, I think we should be land banking as fast as the provinces are willing to take it up and use the very substantial budget we have established at the federal level. I have also indicated that I would like to explore additional ways of accelerating the laying down of trunk sewer services where land costs are a major problem.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The Chair will recognize the hon. member for Coast Chilcotin, then the hon. member for Edmonton Centre and then call orders of the day.

Oral Questions

TRANSPORT

SHORTAGE OF BOXCARS IN BRITISH COLUMBIA—STATUS OF NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN CANADIAN NATIONAL AND BRITISH COLUMBIA RAILWAY

Mr. Harry Olaussen (Coast Chilcotin): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Transport. Can the minister inform the House if any progress has been made in talks with the government of British Columbia with regard to the railroad system in that province, with particular emphasis on the shortage of boxcars and the need for a railway interchange in the Lillooet area?

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, negotiations have been going on for months now between the CNR and the British Columbia railway and the government of British Columbia. I think they came to an understanding as far as the shortage of boxcars is concerned. As you know, there is an imbalance between Canadian cars in the United States and American cars in Canada. The railway companies are working hard on this so that we can recover our boxcars, but there is certainly a shortage and a serious problem.

* * *

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

POSSIBLE LOAN TO TUNISIA—GOVERNMENT POSITION

Mr. Steven E. Paproski (Edmonton Centre): Mr. Speaker, my question was for the Secretary of State for External Affairs, but in his absence may I direct it to the Prime Minister. In view of the fact that the Minister of Finance for Tunisia has been in Canada to negotiate a loan, would the Prime Minister advise the House whether the loan to Tunisia has been completed and, if so, in what amount?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I must confess that I cannot give an answer to the question. I am meeting the Minister of Trade and Commerce for Algeria if I can leave the House in a few minutes and it may be that I will meet some other gentleman, but we are obviously talking of different countries.

Mr. Paproski: I would just like to know if the Prime Minister can sign a cheque for over a million dollars?

Mr. Trudeau: Mr. Speaker, I am not sure that the hon. member is talking about the right country. There is a matter of a loan being discussed—but Algeria, Tunisia; who cares.

Mr. Speaker: Orders of the day.

[Mr. Speaker.]

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

[*English*]

OFFICIAL LANGUAGES

DECLARATION OF CERTAIN PRINCIPLES RESPECTING EMPLOYMENT IN PUBLIC SERVICE OF CANADA

The House resumed, from Thursday May 31, consideration of the motion of Mr. Trudeau:

That this House,

(i) aware that, as provided in the Official Languages Act, the English and French languages possess and enjoy equality of status and equal rights and privileges as to their use in all the institutions of the Parliament and Government of Canada;

cognizant that it is the duty of departments and agencies of the Government of Canada to ensure, in accordance with that Act, that members of the public can obtain available services from and communicate with them in both official languages; while

recognizing that public servants should, as a general proposition and subject to the requirements of the Official Languages Act respecting the provision of services to the public, be able to carry out their duties in the Public Service of Canada in the official language of their choice;

do hereby recognize and approve the following Principles for achieving the foregoing:

(1) that positions which are seen, under present circumstances, as requiring the knowledge and use of both the French and English languages will be first identified, and then designated, as bilingual in the course of the period ending December 31, 1978;
(2) that positions will also be identified where English is an essential requirement of the job, where French is essential, or whether either French or English may be used;
(3) that a knowledge of English and French is one of the elements of merit in the selection of candidates for bilingual positions;
(4) that competitions for bilingual positions will be open both to bilingual candidates and unilingual candidates who have formally indicated their willingness to become bilingual;
(5) that competitions for unilingual positions will continue to be open to unilingual or bilingual candidates who meet the language requirements of the job;
(6) that unilingual incumbents of bilingual positions may elect to become bilingual and undertake language training, or transfer to another job having the same salary maximum, or, if they were to decline such a transfer, to remain in their position even though the posts have been designated as bilingual;
(7) that employees who, as of April 6, 1966, had at least ten years of continuous service and who, since that date, have been employed continuously in the federal Public Service, will be entitled to apply for any job that has been identified for future designation as bilingual without having to indicate their willingess to become bilingual;
(8) that unilingual French-speaking and English-speaking persons from outside the Public Service who are willing to become bilingual may apply for bilingual positions open to public competition;
(9) that language training, at public expense, will be provided to unilingual public servants as well as to persons who are appointed to the Public Service to bilingual positions;

do further approve the Government of Canada, and, in particular, the Treasury Board and the Public Service Commission, taking the measures required to give effect to the aforementioned Principles; and

(ii) do further approve the taking of measures, after consultation with employee representatives, designed to produce a greater use of the French language at all levels in the Public Service, through increasing, where practical, the number of French Language Units, through further recruitment efforts by the Public Service Commission, through training programs offered in the French language and by developing proposals, in conjunction with the Governments of the Provinces of Ontario and Quebec, to enhanced the bilingual character of the National Capital region, thus helping to realize the objective of achieving, within the merit principle, full participation in the Public Service by members of both the anglophone and the francophone communities.

And on the proposed amendment thereto of Mr. Stanfield, seconded by Mr. Baker,—That the motion be amended by adding to paragraph (i) thereof, next after the words, "taking the measures required to give effect to the aforementioned Principles", the following:

"and the Government of Canada, as a priority measure, introducing legislation to incorporate the aforementioned Principles in the Official Languages Act, the Public Service Employment Act and other appropriate statutes;"

Hon. C. M. Drury (President of the Treasury Board): Mr. Speaker, the right hon. Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau), in moving this resolution, outlined the approach that this government is proposing to solve the problems that linguistic pluralism poses to Canada.

Canada is not, of course, the only country faced with the challenge of ensuring that two official languages do enjoy equality of status and equal rights and privileges as to their use in all government institutions. In Canada, Mr. Speaker, the passage of the Official Languages Act made this the law. It is part of this law that Canadians should be able to receive services from, and communicate with, their government in the official language of their choice. Why is this required? Quite simply to allow the 18 million Canadians who are unilingual to remain unilingual. That is the right of every Canadian. And that is why the Public Service which serves all Canadians must be able to provide its services in both English and French.

Faced with this responsibility, it is encouraging that most Canadians understand this need and the government, public servants and the staff associations which represent most employees are prepared to adopt the traditionally reasonable Canadian approach to solving this complex linguistic issue—an approach exemplified by the late respected former prime minister of Canada, Lester Pearson, who laid the foundations for bilingualism within the public service.

Mr. Peters: It sure got screwed up.

• (1240)

Mr. Drury: Simply stated, Mr. Speaker, if the government and the Public Service of Canada cannot meet the needs of the country by providing services in both languages and, if the public service can not be a place where both language groups can work together, both in the language of their choice, then we will have indeed failed to find a solution to the problems that linguistic pluralism poses to Canada. The price of failure for Canada is too high and is one that, I am sure all members of this House will join me in saying, is unacceptable.

[*Translation*]

That is my concern as President of the Treasury Board and as the minister responsible for implementing bilingualism in the Public Service.

What is involved in the first part of the resolution under study dates back to December 14, 1972 when I made a statement setting forth the government policy on bilingualism in the Public Service of Canada, the principles underlying the implementation of that policy and its effects on all Canadian citizens whether they are public servants or not.

As I said before, the principles set forth in today's resolution follow from the government policy on official languages which, even if it is well known by some, might have been forgotten or misunderstood by others.

[*English*]

A public service for all Canadians whether they are members of the public or public servants: that short phrase summarizes the goal of the resolution. However, without a more sustained effort to produce a greater use of the French language at all levels in the public service, without good will and a conscious, constructive effort to achieve this objective, this country will find itself with a central institution, its public service, that has little or no meaning for a large number of its citizens. To ensure that the public service has the same meaning for French speaking Canadians as it has for English speaking Canadians, Mr. Speaker, is the objective of the second part of the resolution.

Unfortunately, the government's language policies have often been misunderstood. Misunderstanding seems to be endemic to this complex and often emotionally charged subject. This resolution apparently is no exception to the rule. Various interpretations have already been read into it by some members of the House and some members of the press. Before discussing in greater detail the substance of the resolution, I would like to make clear two points.

First, it is not the government's intention to increase the use of French—or English for that matter—at all levels in the public service in all parts of Canada. Mr. Speaker, I underline the words "in all parts of Canada". In the statement that I made in December, it will be seen that the development of a functionally bilingual public service that is providing equality of opportunity for public servants at all levels to work within the public service in either English or French—will essentially be limited to the national capital region, and other such areas where both official languages are in relatively common use, both in government offices and in the surrounding communities. Given today's geographical distribution of English and French speaking Canadians, these areas would presently include such places as Montreal, certain other parts of Quebec, parts of eastern and northern Ontario, and parts of northern and eastern New Brunswick. For most of Ontario, many areas in Quebec and in most of eastern and western Canada bilingualism will only be required to meet the provisions of the Official Languages Act; but in these areas it will not be required throughout the hierarchy of the public service. I want to make this quite clear.

[*Translation*]

I would like to make a few remarks about another matter. It concerns the realization, in the Public Service and within the scope of the merit concept, of the full participation of members of the anglophone and francophone communities. Certain people have seen in this objective the appearance of a quota system designed to increase the number of francophone public servants to about 28 per cent, which would represent the approximate percentage of French-speaking Canadians compared with the population of Canada. That is not the case.

The government intends to ensure wider use of French in the Public Service by increasing the number of French language units, by improving the recruiting effort of the Public Service Commission, by increasing the number of professional training and administration programs offered in French and, finally, through co-operation with the provinces of Ontario and Quebec, to enhance the bilingual aspect of the national capital area. I am convinced that when all those objectives will be realized, francophones will experience more satisfaction working in the Public Service of Canada, and that their number will increase. Thus, we will have attained our objective, which is to obtain the full participation of the English- and French-speaking communities.

[*English*]

If then one objective is to increase the use of French within the public service, the public service must in itself become functionally bilingual. Functional bilingualism is the expression best suited to describe the aims of the nine principles, Mr. Speaker. However, to avoid these words being misunderstood, I would like to outline for the House exactly what they mean.

More precisely, functional bilingualism in the public service means that the structures of the public service should provide those in it, and those who aspire to join it, with the opportunity of choosing freely to remain unilingual while still enjoying satisfying carriers or, in cases where bilingualism is required, by offering unilinguals the opportunity of becoming bilingual, not only, Mr. Speaker, to meet their job requirements but to provide them with the means to expand their personal horizons and appreciate more fully the bilingual nature of Canada. The main points of the plan are now in front of us. Their implementation requires the good will of individuals, the talents of managers, the support of staff associations, and, the approval of this parliament.

The policy of developing a functionally bilingual public service has been supported, I am sure, by most Canadians. But at the same time, apprehensions have been aroused, individually as well as collectively. Many Canadians, and particularly public servants, were concerned about the policy because the details as to how it would be implemented had not been developed and explained clearly enough. It was not that they disagreed with the policy, but each further step appeared to them to be nearing the moment when they would have to become bilingual. Such a misunderstanding gives rise to a fear that individuals' rights would be infringed, in the name of bilingualism; of a fear, also, that measures to achieve bilingualism would jeopardize the security of employment of many conscientious and dedicated public servants. These fears, shared by many English-speaking Canadians, should now be allayed.

[*Translation*]

If it is true that English-speaking Canadians felt somewhat apprehensive, the majority of French-speaking Canadians for their part had come to mistrust the bilingualism program because progress was slow, especially in the part of the program that consisted in making the higher echelons of the Public Service capable of efficiently supervising those who wanted to work in French. Each new measure gave them the impression of becoming increasingly involved in a situation which was strange to them. They feared that the use of French would be limited to bilingual positions, even if this was contrary to the principle of equal status and rights provided for in the Official Languages Act. To them, a bilingual person is first of all a French-speaking Canadian who can work in English! To them, the concept of functional bilingualism has been created to calm this fear and mistrust by increasing the use of French as a working language to the same extent as English in the Public Service. This, Mr. Speaker,—I repeat once again—in some regions of Canada where the two language groups are significantly represented.

• (1250)

[*English*]

The government looks to the principles on bilingualism in the public service as an important milestone in the implementation of the policy on official languages; in direct continuity with the statement by the late Prime Minister, Lester B. Pearson in 1966; with the Official Languages Act of 1969, which received the support of all parties in this House and with the statement of the Prime Minister in 1970 relating to Book III of the Report of the Royal Commission on Bilingualism and Biculturalism. Nevertheless, as indicated in the Speech from the Throne at the opening of the present session, the government feels that the House should be given the opportunity of expressing its views with the purpose of achieving a consensus on the principles.

I am pleased to inform the House that the staff associations of the public service were continuously consulted from the date of my announcement of the principles with regard to the development of the Treasury Board guidelines that give administrative application to the principles.

I would like to make special mention of the forum in which these consultations took place, the National Joint Council. The achievements of this unique organization are too numerous to enumerate here. Members of both sides of this House interested in the subject of staff relations in the public service are well acquainted with them. I would merely wish for the record to state my own satisfaction with the manner in which the National Joint Council rose to the occasion of ensuring effective consultation on this most complex and potentially divisive subject. A permanent committee of the National Joint Council will be established to provide a continuing forum for consultation on official language matters.

The guidelines on the language requirements of positions, as they now stand ready to be circulated by the Secretary of the Treasury Board, bring to the principles

only greater precision of detail with regard to the timetable of their implementation, the sectors and areas of application, the specific procedures protecting the jobs and careers of unilingual employees, the necessary mechanism of on-going consultation with the parties concerned and the setting of priorities for access to language training.

The first two principles cover the identification of the language requirements of all jobs in the public service. Principles three, four and five relate to the procedures for staffing positions in the public service with respect to language requirements. The last four principles cover the entitlement of individuals.

No one principle in those nine is more important than another, Mr. Speaker, and all are inseparable from the notion of a public service for all Canadians. In the resolution before you, the principles are derived from two fundamentals: first, Canadians should be able to receive service from, and to communicate with, the federal government in either English or French, whichever is the language of their choice. Second, Canadians who work for the Government of Canada should be able, as a general rule, to work in the language of their choice.

[*Translation*]

It is interesting to note that although most Canadians have supported these proposals there was a clearly divided reaction to implementation policies. Some French-speaking Canadians considered those policies as slowing down efforts to create a functionally bilingual Public Service; although many English-speaking Canadians reacted favourably in view of the fact that the proposals supplied the clarification and the guarantees they wanted, some felt that implementation of bilingualism should be postponed for some three years. I believe that all those who felt that the policies would slow down or delay creation of a bilingual Public Service were mistaken since instead of considering the policies as a whole they considered them in isolation. Let me clarify this point.

[*English*]

I would like to make a clear distinction in the difference between the 1975 target percentages for bilingual employees for each occupational category, first proposed by the Public Service Commission and subsequently confirmed in the management objectives for bilingualism in the public service which I announced before the Standing Committee on Miscellaneous Estimates in March 1971, and the 1978 deadline for designation of bilingual positions. Far from being one other change, this process will mark an important turning point; accelerating previous efforts to achieve a proper form of functional bilingualism in the Public Service of Canada.

The 1975 figure refers to numbers of people in each occupational category who should be bilingual by 1975, irrespective of whether they are in positions that require bilingualism. The 1978 date refers to positions that require knowledge of both official languages and that should generally be filled by that date by bilingual persons. Using the executive category as an example, the 1975 target called for 60 per cent of those in that category to become bilingual; the 1978 deadline will require 90 per cent of the positions to be occupied by bilinguals, a somewhat different picture and hardly a slowing down of our efforts. I should add, however, that the same increase in the number of those who will be required to become bilingual will not occur in other categories. The effect on the executive category is strongly influenced by the fact that most of these positions are in Ottawa. Why then the 1978 target date for the designation of bilingual positions? The answer is critical to the issue in point.

The 1975 targets aimed at achieving a pool of bilingual individuals, irrespective of the language requirement of their jobs. This posed a management problem in so far as it made it difficult to evaluate the benefit language training was bringing the public service in its day-to-day bilingual profile. After two years of closely monitoring bilingualism, the conclusion became clear. The successful achievement of the targets for 1975 would not induce or guarantee the realization of the complete list of all 11 objectives for bilingualism in the public service which I outlined to the Standing Committee on Miscellaneous Estimates in March 1971. The successful development of bilingual skills in individuals does not lead to the achievement of a functionally bilingual public service. This development must be related to jobs where these skills are required and can be used.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, please. It being one o'clock, I do now leave the chair until two o'clock.

At one o'clock the House took recess.

AFTER RECESS

The House met at 2 p.m.

Mr. Drury: Before we adjourned for lunch, Mr. Speaker, I was outlining the problem caused as a result of the earlier endeavour to introduce bilingualism by looking at groups of people rather than at institutions. Having discerned the difficulties into which this approach led us, I am now prepared to suggest that a more effective approach has been to identify precisely the positions in which bilingualism is required and the date by which these positions will be filled by bilingual persons, always recognizing, of course, the entitlement offered to employees under the nine principles. This is why the government looks upon these arrangements as a furthering of established policies rather than as a departure from them.

[*Translation*]

Although some French-speaking Canadians felt at first that the nine principles benefited English-speaking Canadians more, their apprehension is understandable. English-speaking Canadians have only been considering the establishment of a bilingual public service for a few years; French-speaking Canadians have been aware of its lack for more than 100 years. Some French Canadians aimed their criticism at the protection enjoyed by unilingual civil servants, stating that our decision to that effect would impede the implementation of bilingualism.

Such an attitude, Mr. Speaker, ignores too many essential factors. It takes for granted that the unilinguals involved are exclusively English-speaking; that they systematically reject the possibility of acquiring second-lan-

guage skills; that if they could not or would not become bilingual they would refuse a transfer to another position. That is completely false, Mr. Speaker, and I believe that such an attitude only creates dissent. The principles announced, including principle No. 6, were developed for all Canadians, for all public servants, whether English- or French-speaking.

Of course the number of unilingual public servants who are Anglophones is by far greater than the number of those who are Francophones. But such a disproportion is drastically reduced when considering only those areas of the Public Service where bilingualism is a foreseeable or established need. The government feels that members of both groups are entitled to job security in case of inability or refusal to become bilingual in recognition of newly recognized linguistic requirements for the position they occupy.

Furthermore, I for one am not prepared to question the integrity or the good will of public servants, or to presume, as some have done, that a majority or even a substantial number of unilinguals will reject the possibility offered them of becoming bilingual under the most favourable conditions. When such situations occur, departments and agencies will receive the required funds from the Treasury Board to take alternative administrative action in order to satisfy linguistic requirements.

[*English*]

In certain cases, the price of ensuring linguistic equality in the public service may indeed result in some additional positions being provided. However, I expect more often than not in such cases the option of a job transfer will be satisfying or even attractive to the employees, thus eliminating the need for alternative administrative arrangements.

• (1410)

We are determined that the development of bilingualism in the public service will be the product of evolution. The government acknowledges that such evolution is achieved at the cost of considerable outlays, of goodwill and of individual effort. The tempo of change we seek is based on our readiness to rely on the goodwill of the men and women who make up the public service of Canada, the staff associations, this government and members of parliament.

I should like to say that the support of the Chairman of the Public Service Commission to these principles and guidelines was indispensable to their successful development. The Public Service Commission has taken on a demanding task ranging from the determination of language proficiency levels required for individual positions, the administration of the merit principle in respect of appointments as required by the Public Service Employment Act, the reorganization of language schools so as to provide for continuous language training, to the hearing of appeals against the improper determination of the language requirements of positions.

The most notable development, however, touches on the subject of competitions for the minority of public service jobs which will be designated as bilingual. In order not to prevent Canadians from getting into the service of their country through lack of a language skill, which they may not have had the opportunity to acquire, unilingual English or French-speaking Canadians will be allowed to compete for bilingual positions if they have indicated their willingness to become bilingual. The Public Service Commission has extended such an advantage to present employees of the government as well as to new entrants, Mr. Speaker. Such candidates judged successful in respect of job requirements other than second-language skills will be given immediate access to continuous language training, at the completion of which they will be confirmed in their positions. Candidates unsuccessful in language training will also be provided with an opportunity for a review of their ability in the second language. In the event that they are unable to acquire the necessary level of bilingual ability, they will be given an equivalent unilingual job with no loss of earnings.

The Treasury Board's contribution with regard to these procedures will be to provide the parties with the means to replace those on language training and to ensure that positions are available for those who may be unsuccessful in language training. The Treasury Board will also be responsible for co-ordinating and monitoring the complex administrative task of implementing the guidelines.

The resolution before you, Mr. Speaker, does not spell out the timetable for the implementation of the nine principles; and I would like to explain this further.

The first step, known as the identification of positions requiring the knowledge and use of both French and English, will be completed by December 31 of this year, although we will be pressed to achieve this. The list of those positions, to be prepared by the departments and agencies, will be reviewed by the Treasury Board and with the staff associations.

The formal designation of positions as "bilingual" will follow the identification step by 15 months, and thus be effected progressively from April 1, 1975 to the end of 1978. Employees, will, therefore, have at least 15 months notice of the effective date of designation of the positions they occupy. Prior to the designation taking effect, unilingual persons in these positions will be able to take language training of up to 12 months at public expense.

After the identification of bilingual positions, the language requirements of all other positions in the public service will be listed on the following basis: English essential, French essential, or optional use of French or English.

I would like to draw the attention of the House to the principle that entitled long-service employees, those with 10 years continuous service in 1966 when Mr. Pearson addressed this House on the same issue, to have access without second-language skills to positions identified as bilingual. The Prime Minister in his address, has commented at length on the fulfilling of the commitments made to public servants by Mr. Pearson.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, I should also point out that the Public Service Commission has for some time been hearing appeals against the language requirements of any position at the time that a selection process is taking place to fill vacant positions; whether unilingual or bilingual. This appeal route will be an added preventative to incorrect identification of the language requirements of the

position as well as against the incorrect assignment of the level of language competence required.

One element absent from the government's program on official languages is compulsion; its only excess, in the eyes of some, is compassion. If these are faults, Mr. Speaker, the government is prepared to bear with them. For no person now in the employment of the Public Service of Canada will be compelled to become bilingual. On the contrary, as I have previously emphasized, the government's policy is intended to allow those who wish to remain unilingual to do so. I am sure, however, that the opportunities given to become bilingual will commend themselves to public servants and all Canadians.

The implementation of these principles and the adoption of this resolution is an invitation; an invitation to public servants, an invitation to staff associations, an invitation to all Canadians and, Sir, an invitation to the representatives of all Canadians in this House, to give unqualified support to the implementation of a policy first put to this House by Prime Minister Pearson, and so heartily endorsed by the leaders of all parties in this House.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

• (1420)

[*Translation*]

Mr. Claude Wagner (Saint-Hyacinthe): Mr. Speaker, deep down I am convinced that we are now writing a page in history of which our fellow-citizens and future generations will either be critical or proud, depending on whether we have acted with prejudice or foresight.

I shall support wholeheartedly the amendment of the Leader of the Official Opposition (Mr. Stanfield) and the motion before the House, all the more so because the last part of it deals with the crying need to attract more Francophones to the Public Service and give them more recognition.

I sincerely hope that the present debate will continue in the same non partisan vein as the first interventions of the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau), the Leader of the Official Opposition and the leader of the New Democratic Party (Mr. Lewis).

The linguistic challenge made by Canada, I accept and, like so many others, I intend to act upon it actively.

I want to place myself well above emotional considerations, on the level of facts and needs.

Even now in 1973, the situation of bilingualism in the Public Service, statistics on the subject, everything prompts us to speak on this motion in terms of justice.

As eloquent, I was about to say sadly eloquent as those figures maybe which were conveyed to us in answer to the relevant questions asked by our colleagues of the Social Credit Party, or again following the publication of the second annual report of the official languages commissioner, how much more specific and more striking, Mr. Speaker, would they not be if we could refer today to the famed and long awaited Coulombe report on the efficiency of the bilingualism programs in the Public Service.

By the way, I should like to urge all my colleagues in this House to join me in requesting the publication of that report without delay.

This synthetic report should not be reserved for the sole use of the government. That this tool cannot be used as a source of information during our proceedings is surely inexplicable and therefore shameful.

I hope that the Fox report on the creation of bilingual districts, whose publication is scheduled for the fall of 1973, will be make public sooner.

If there is an area where we must not fear to face the facts, however hard they may seem to some people, it is that of our two official languages, in other words, linguistic justice.

Some recent data—I shall mention two for the consideration of my colleagues—show that in 1971, out of 66,675 positions "called" by the Public Service Commission and by federal departments, only about 8 per cent required a unilingual French-speaking incumbent, while approximately 80 per cent, that is ten times more, required English only.

Here is now another statistics, one among many which discloses the unfair situation in which French-speaking Canadians find themselves: in 1972, contrary to the recommendations of the 1962 Dion report, only 12 per cent of high officials were French-speaking and half of them only were from Quebec.

Therefore it is on the basis of those facts and many others and in view of the challenge that Parliament, I insist Parliament, accepted in July 1969 with the adoption of the Official Languages Act, that all fair-minded people should talk about bilingualism in Public Service.

Yet in all fairness and realistically, we must be concerned with the only and real purpose of the law, namely the equality of the French and English languages in the federal government with the specific purpose of providing the Canadian public whenever possible and the need warrants it with federal services in both official languages; moreover, we must as much as possible allow all federal employees to work with language of their choice, usually their mother tongue.

Then we can talk about institutional bilingualism relations with the public, and working language in federal institutions.

Consequently, if we want the words justice, equity and equality to mean something, all of us we must take effective steps in the recruiting and promotion of federal employees particularly those who are likely to deal with the public. For the same reasons, and if need be in other ciecumstances and places, we will also have to make sure that many of the recommendations and suggestions of the official languages Commissioner will be followed up.

Mr. Speaker, I say to my colleagues, in our studies and even when dealing with legislation, let us keep these considerations in mind. Let us not be distracted by untruths, by false pretences or still by extremes in our way or the other.

In order to do useful work in this essential field so urgent for the future of Canada, let us not, for pity's sake,

get all confused and mislead the Canadian public, plunging it also into confusion.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I am referring to the reality of multiculturalism. It is desirable no doubt to encourage and preserve the various cultures which make our Canadian society more valuable. But let us not get confused making them all equal. Canada will and must continue to have two prevailing cultures, and we know which ones; they are part and parcel of our Canadian heritage. And along with my colleagues, here, I have regard for the culture of each of the ethnic groups in this country. I say what a rich cultural contribution to the real Canadian mosaic that is ours! And a moral and financial endeavour on the part of the state should recognize that situation without altering for all that the already precarious balance of the Canadian challenge.

Mr. Speaker, I am all the more at ease to say so since the first member for the constituency of Saint-Hyacinthe in this House was a Polish immigrant, the Hon. Edward Kierzkowsi. It was an almost wholly French-Canadian population that elected him as their member as early as 1867, and one can see that long before today Saint-Hyacinthe was proud of accepting people from outside who soon sank their roots deep into Canadian soil.

Mr. Speaker, the resolution before the House, in the name of justice itself, should arouse and command unanimous assent.

That being said, I shall repeat my words of last December 15, on the day after the Treasury Board communiqué was published, dealing with nine new official language policy principles in the Public Service.

The position announced then was—and I am well aware of the terms I am using—a step backward from the objectives of the legislation passed in 1969, a backward movement that others have more justly described as strategic withdrawal. It was a backward movement first as to the expiring date. The expiring date of the identification of bilingual positions was the end of December 1973. As to the period for appointments to such positions, it was to extend until December 1978. It was a withdrawal also as to the territory concerned. We are not thinking anymore of Canada as a whole but of Quebec and certain areas in Ontario and New Brunswick. Moreover, they did not want to give the exact percentage or the number of public servants who could hold senior positions or others of bilingual character. And especially, a consequence that could lead some people to cynicism, they did little to encourage Quebecers, far from it, to contribute in a greater number to the enrichment of the federal Public Service.

In fact, however, one must admit that the administrative measures of December 14 last—perhaps because they have been made more complete in the resolution before the House by specific clauses in respect to French-speaking people—serve—and such may be their advantage—as a criterion for measuring the extent, the depth of the problem, and the seriousness of the real challenge facing us.

Mr. Speaker, although I appreciate here the impatience of our colleagues of the Social Credit Party, I cannot agree with their approach to this problem. By its very nature, the amendment they have proposed but which has not yet been adopted, deviates from the legislator's original design and distorts and by-passes the true objective of the Official Languages Act in Canada. To concur with this amendment would be to go against what they had in mind and transform, through a parallel public service, French-Canadians into second class citizens.

I, for one, believe that this motion as a whole, in its present form, exemplifies the challenge facing us. It is very significant and reflects, as it should, the philosophy and the strategy of the intended bilingualism; and this is the purpose of our amendment once incorporated into the Official Languages Act, to enforce this legislation and ensure the protection of all civil servants' rights and the possible recourse to the courts, in cases of infringements of the act; because, if certain resolutions may leave some hon. members unmoved, no one, and no government, is above the law. Our respect for linguistic rights urges us to engrave them in an authentical legal instrument.

• (1430)

[*English*]

Mr. Speaker, I spoke earlier of the differentiation that must be made between the philosophy of bilingualism and a bilingual strategy for a public service. There are few in this House who would differ on the issue of the principle of bilingualism and its desirability. Where the differences emerge is on the question of strategy. From the point of view of either the English or French Canadians, it is clear that the strategy of the existing government has simply not been successful. The Language Commissioner has said that progress in the area of opening up access to the public service to French Canadians has not been rapid enough. Figures put before the standing committee of this House a couple of weeks ago by the Language Commissioner indicate that more than 70 per cent of those complaints looked into by the Commissioner came from public servants who have French as their mother tongue.

It is clear that both English and French public servants have had ample cause for dissatisfaction and unease. That is why my party takes the view that, as a parliament, we must move to enshrine in law the nine points put forward in the Prime Minister's (Mr. Trudeau) resolution as well as that portion of the resolution that is a firm commitment to rectifying the imbalance in the public service and recruiting where possible public servants from our Francophone community.

The initial speaker for the Creditistes said that we should deal with the realities of Canada and see things as they are. I imagine that the fundamental reality of Canada is that there are in our society, as in any other, those who have little patience and no tolerance. Whether we speak of a mayor in one province or a party leader in another, intolerance supported from a public office is a sin of unmentionable magnitude.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Wagner: It was my privilege to serve in the government of a province where the minority happen to be English speaking. Having been involved in the administration of justice at all levels, I might say that I am particularly hurt and shocked by the views expressed by one

political leader to the effect that only French should be used in the courts of Quebec. That is the type of suggestion that flies in the face of everything this land is supposed to stand for, and it is the type of suggestion that indicates how important this debate is and can be. Yet, to be frank, many provinces with French speaking minorities have not progressed as far as Quebec with reference to its attitude toward its English speaking population.

I say quite candidly that the report issued by the French Canadian Association here in Ontario must be disturbing to all men and women of decency. In a nutshell, the reports indicate that earning opportunity is limited for Franco-Ontarian families when compared with other Ontario citizens. Surely if this were true, this would be the type of *de facto* economic discrimination that Canada could do without. If bilingualism is to work, it must be the product of not only faith, of which the Prime Minister spoke, but also of trust. The resolution proposed by the government relates to the issue of faith. Indeed, it constitutes an affirmation of faith by this House. The amendment put forward by my leader makes this resolution an instrument of trust. I beseech my colleagues on all sides of the House to make use of that instrument.

• (1440)

[*Translation*]

This position being established, Mr. Speaker, I sincerely wish with so many others that by the end of this debate, the primary intention of the 1969 Parliamentarians will come out clearly, firmly and neatly. Let the whole federal Public service and the 150 federal agencies realize the urgency of making bilingualism a reality within the federal Public Service. Let all Parliamentarians—all of us—realize the importance of their role before the Canadian public in this respect. All of us, from all political parties, must buy 100 per cent in order to sell 100 per cent the objective of the Official Languages Act. Let provincial governments, various agencies throughout the country, private firms, be more and more aware of their social role, as Mr. Keith Spicer so rightly put it, and let them follow suit. The final solution to the problem of bilingualism—and this will never be said enough—cannot come from the Parliament of Canada alone.

As for myself, further to the remarks that I am making today, I intend actually to become the apostle of bilingualism. More specifically, I shall see to it that in this Parliament the objective of the Act is respected.

As a Quebecker, I shall also see to it that Quebeckers, and generally French-speaking Canadians, be served in good French. Along with others, I do not want, for instance, that our French-speaking farmers be wronged—even only temporarily—in their rights and their dues, because of badly filled out forms, which were worded in poor French;

Furthermore, in due time, I intend to deal with, the comments made by the Commissioner to the official languages, concerning bilingualism within the External Affairs Department. The image of Canada as a bilingual country, must stand out throughout the world.

Finally, within my party if need be, I intend to be consistent as my remarks will show. And at this point, Mr. Speaker, I would like once again to a pay another tribute to Leader of the Official Opposition for his stand concerning this motion, and for his commendable efforts, which are already paying off, to master the French language.

In closing, I join with Mr. Keith Spicer is saying:

> Plainly, departments and agencies must find more room for unilingual French-speaking Canadians, or the vicious circle of low French-language recruitment and few federal opportunities to work in French will go on forever. Easy slogans can neither solve nor disguise this problem. The Commissioner hopes that the Government will move quickly to find policies on linguistic work rights, on administrative settings where French-speaking Canadians feel at home, and on more balanced opportunities in recruitment. All these, and nothing less, can make the Official Languages Act the instrument of full linguistic equality which Parliament intended.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to borrow these words from the founder of the Jeunesse ouvrière catholique canadienne, and say to you, by changing his words a little: Canada will end in triumph or in disaster.

It depends on you, it depends on me, but you and I, can change the course of history.

[*English*]

Mr. John Harney (Scarborough West): Mr. Speaker, it was only a few weeks ago that we were debating a resolution on this question presented by the members of the Social Credit party. Those of us who spoke at that time will find ourselves more or less forced to repeat some of the things we said then. I used to worry about this matter of repeating one's self. As a matter of fact, I come from a profession where repeating one's self was a necessity, but now I discover I am in one where repeating one's self is a virtue, and so I will not hesitate to go over a few of the points I made at that time and to add a few new ones, particularly on matters that have come to light and to consideration under this particular resolution.

The other week I made some point about the importance of making distinctions in this very important question, and I am glad to report what I am sure many members have noticed over the past few years, that we have all learned more about the matter that is before us as the years have gone by and as our deliberations have become more informed and more searching. I would ask members of the House to remember the days in 1963-64 when the debate on bilingualism and biculturalism, as it was called then, began in earnest, and to recall some of the terminology we used to try to describe for our own understanding the state of affairs that existed in Canada, and to try to describe the goals we would seek to achieve. If we were to go back to those documents, indeed to the statement Prime Minister Pearson made on the day he announced the establishment of the Royal Commission on Bilingualism and Biculturalism, we would see that we have come a long way. Some of the terminology we used in the past we would now find totally inadequate. Indeed, in this process we may note that our learning process had accelerated in the past four or five years.

I could not help but listen yesterday to the remarks made by the right hon. Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) and compare them with the remarks he made a few years ago. I listened to his use of the terms that are so important in this great national debate. In his speech yesterday, he was very careful to limit the debate on this point to the application and working out of the Official Languages

Act in the Public Service of Canada. I would quote a phrase or two referring to this resolution and its status among other matters facing this House. The Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) said:

• (1450)

The throne speech has proposed measures to improve urban life, and to widen opportunities for western Canadians; to deal with many economic and regional expansion problems; and with what some call "the language problem". They are all on our agenda for this session; we will deal with them all with equal vigour.

In a later passage, making more or less the same point the Prime Minister said:

Mr. Speaker, language policy is not an idée fixe with this government; it is one of the means toward our two pre-eminent goals, national unity, and equality of opportunity.

Here, I stress the Prime Minister's words:

... it is one of the means toward our two pre-eminent goals, national unity, and equality of opportunity.

"one of the means", Mr. Speaker. A few years ago the intimation might have been different. It might have been that it was the primordial means, and not only the primordial means, but a sufficient means toward the goal of national unity. I continue to quote from the Prime Minister's address:

To a Quebecker a more desirable Canada may vitally depend on respect for language rights. To a westerner more interest may currently attach to whether this government and their own provincial premiers make real progress at the Western Economic Opportunities Conference. In many parts of the country millions of Canadians will judge their government less by the language it speaks than by whether it provides equity and compassion in our social welfare system, or new ideas and resources to help keep urban life liveable and urban government workable.

Can all these needs be understood and tackled together, Mr. Speaker? I think they can—

That is the end of the citation from the Prime Minister's address. I have gone over these two passages very carefully because to me they signal an important change in attitude and outlook. I will not venture to say a change of mind or change of idea, but a change of attitude which allows the Prime Minister and his government to place the Official Languages Act and its application in its proper context.

Let me continue on this matter of distinctions. It is now realized that we are not to equate the Official Languages Act and its provisions and its carrying out, with bilingualism in this country; they are not the same thing. Nor should we equate the Official Languages Act and its provisions with the establishment, maintenance and preservation of national unity in this country; they are not the same thing. To use a classical, logical distinction, Mr. Speaker, which I think is very important in this case, I believe we could say that the proper application, the generous application of the Official Languages Act and its provisions ensures a necessary condition, but not a sufficient condition, for the maintenance of national unity.

This distinction is an extremely important one because in the past many Canadians both inside this House and outside this House have heard remarks to the effect that the application of the Official Languages Act, essentially the *sine qua non* for national unity, is the approach which would establish and develop national unity. There was always a suggested corollary to this kind of statement, and it was that any criticisms of the Official Languages Act and its application was tantamount to disloyalty—not disloyalty to a party or disloyalty to a government but disloyalty to an idea, the idea of Canada. We have come a long way, Mr. Speaker, since those days of 1968, a very long way because now, as members of this House, we can feel that we can stand up and criticize the specific application of the Official Languages Act, criticize the progress or lack of progress of bilingualism and language opportunity in the civil service, criticize the very proposals put forward by the government this day without feeling we are in any way disloyal. I repeat, Mr. Speaker, that is a very large measure of progress.

I feel that is important for myself, among many others, because in many ways I am not satisfied with the state of affairs in the public service, with the state of bilingualism in Canada, with the Official Languages Act or with its application. Later in my remarks I propose to make some very specific comments to that end. Let me repeat that I, as a Canadian, appreciate the fact that I can finally stand up and state my case without there being any intimation whatsoever that I am somehow being disloyal because I do not agree with an act proposed by a specific government at a specific time in the history of my nation.

Basically, my feeling about the Official Languages Act, Mr. Speaker, a feeling which is shared by many of my party and many people out in the country, is that this act is the least we can do with respect to the bilingual nature of our country. If we did less we would lapse into insensitivity and niggardliness. There may be defects in the act, and there may be defects in the application of the act, but at the very least it provides us with an earnest of our intention and this intention is to bring about language equality in the public service. Note, Mr. Speaker, I do not say equality of opportunity for language equality in the public service because I certainly distinguish my position and that of my party. I hope, from that of the Prime Minister on that point. The Prime Minister is after all, and he has not been hiding the fact these last several years, a liberal. I use that word with the small "l", Mr. Speaker; he is even a big "L" Liberal but I am now talking about the fact that he is a small "l" liberal and, therefore, it should not be surprising to any of us that he should speak as a liberal.

I come back to the phrase I repeated a short time ago—"our two pre-eminent goals, national unity and equality of opportunity". These are not my goals, Mr. Speaker. My goals would ring a little more like those of national unity or, preferably, national solidarity but I will not quibble over those two words today—national unity and equality of condition. The words "equality of opportunity" make the Prime Minister a liberal and the words "equality of condition" make me a socialist. That is fine; we understand the distinction. It is clear. I appreciate, of course, the Liberal position. I think I even understand it. As a matter of fact, I understand it so well that I understand its internal contradictions. I remember that a few years ago, in 1968, there was a contest for the leadership of the Liberal party. The person who is now Minister of Finance (Mr. Turner) was one of the candidates. He epitomized the Liberal position in his address to the convention when he said, "We Liberals do not believe that everybody should

end the same, but we believe that everybody should start the same."

• (1500)

He got a huge round of applause, as well he should from the Liberal crowd because he was speaking the very essence of Liberal philosophy—equality of opportunity. Of course, neither he nor anybody else in that room seemed aware of the obvious contradiction inherent in that statement, which was this: how can everybody start the same—we all start as children—unless everybody else more or less ends the same? After all, the people who have children are parents. I do not think you could ever sort it out, but more people are beginning to ponder this assertion.

At any rate, it should not surprise us that the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) should translate this touchstone of Liberal philosophy into the whole question of language equality in Canada and, specifically, language opportunity in Canada. All the measures that flow from this basic premise, this basic outlook are founded on this approach which is based on opportunity. That is why, of course, I find them insufficient. I will come back to that later.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I should like to bring to the attention of the House other distinctions because there are, as I said before, extremely important distinctions to be made here.

[*Translation*]

When I looked a little closer at what was suggested in the resolution before us, I found it wanting in some respects. In a sense, I agree with this resolution, but in another I say not only that such a resolution is a step backward, as it is claimed in certain parts of the country, but that it is ill-timed. How? Inasmuch as it fails to suggest any aims, objectives which will eventually give us what this resolution is striving for, namely linguistic equality in the public service.

From experience, I know very well, Mr. Speaker, that it is possible for us to urge people to do this and that, to act in a certain way but if we keep on urging without acting, we remain at a standstill; like preachers in the pulpit, we are urging the faithful to behave in a certain way, because at the end there is the eternal paradise, and not the alternative which I shall not mention here today.

I am coming to this, Mr. Speaker:

[*English*]

Somebody said, "The other place". I am referring to the other other place, Mr. Speaker.

[*Translation*]

I am coming back to this: If we want to establish on a sound basis equal language rights in the Public Service, we will have to tackle directly and eagerly the problem of recruiting, because if we simply play with the rules before us, we will never achieve anything, or it will be too late.

I would like to talk again about this issue of recruiting in a moment, when I deal with other differences, as I promised a few moments ago.

However, first of all, I would like to touch on another aspect of this issue of bilingualism. Although the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) said yesterday that we would deal specifically with the resolution on official languages today, we should never ignore the fact that because we are here in Ottawa, in this parliament or in the public service of Canada, we are not separated from the rest of the country. There are certain facts to be recognized, to say the least, Mr. Speaker, that are a little disturbing. I have already acknowledged them, but I think it is important to reiterate them and draw the attention of parliamentarians to them.

• (1510)

It may be possible for us today to promote bilingualism gradually within the public service, but the fact is that in Canada, we are going backwards.

A few years ago, our fellow citizens were proposed this objective of a bilingual country, of a country where not only everybody could feel at home, where not only every citizen would be entitled to live and act in the language of his or her choice and only in that language, if he or she only spoke one, if, as the Right Hon. Mr. Pearson and the Prime Minister had suggested strongly in their statements, we had established an objective in order to come one of these days to a situation in which a large number of Canadians might be personally bilingual. And I do not speak of institutional bilingualism but I say "personally bilingual".

I myself have always believed that this is a real objective, but I must admit that we do not take throughout this country measures which will enable us to achieve it. On the contrary, we are moving backwards. I quoted a few figures recently and I will quote them again because they are very important.

Throughout Canada, especially in English Canada, one can see that the number of students learning a second language in our schools is gradually decreasing and there are reasons for it, Mr. Speaker. A few years ago, university authorities decided that it was no longer necessary for students requesting admission to universities, to be able to speak, read or write a second language. And all universities, one after the other, dropped this requirement. Finally, high schools, Departments of Education in most provinces also dropped this requirement at the secondary level.

Let us see what is happening in Canada! In 1970-71, of all the young people who could have taken courses in French or another language except English, in English Canadian schools, only 55.7 per cent took such courses. And now, in 1972-73, that percentage has gone down to 47 per cent. Mr. Speaker, that percentage will still be more dreadful next year, because I know that in my province of Ontario, now there is a rule that says that no student needs to take a second language to graduate from a secondary school.

In a sense, Mr. Speaker, "the Ship of State" is becoming bilingual. The process is slow but sure, and our ship is moving landwards rather than seawards.

And although it ploughs through the waters, it is slipping back, running a ground. We are not going forward, Mr. Speaker, but backwards. First, it is important to know that if we are to consider this resolution, we must not debate it apart from the facts existing in our country.

[*English*]

I made this point before. I said at the beginning of my remarks that it was necessary to repeat, so I will make the point again. Even with proper and total discussion of this act, and proper and total application of the rules, or even amending to the best possible extent all the items coming under this act, we will not solve the problem that is facing our nation.

Two centuries ago the famous author, Jonathan Swift, wrote a book entitled "Gulliver's Travels." In the third volume of that book he described the island of Laputa. I recommend the reading of that book by hon. members. On the island of Laputa there were some disinterested, extremely rational beings who debated at great length, in the most logical fashion, what they thought was the order of reality. However, these beings, who were supposed to be the rulers or governors of the country below, were floating out of sight and out of mind. This is why I stress the importance of the related issue before us. This is why I ask members of the government as well as the other members of this House to reconsider certain policies or lack of policy.

I ask the members of the government, particularly those who have to deal with post-secondary financing, to address themselves to the problem of second language requirement for university entrance. After all, this used to exist universally in Canada some ten years ago and it should be possible for the federal authorities, sitting in consultation with the provincial authorities and in confrontation—I use that word advisedly—with the university authorities in this country to say to them, "we wish to restore this requirement. We wish to see inscribed in the rules for admission to our universities the fact that a student should be able to present evidence of achievement in a second language."

I am not even going to suggest a specific language. Let us just leave it at a second language. I believe—indeed, I happen to know—that in English Canada the second language for most students would be French. They are not fools. They know the importance of French in this country. They know the value and importance of the French language in literature and history. They will choose French. However, if you insist that they choose French you will run into the impossible argument of somebody saying, "Why not Italian?"—and you will spend the next ten years discussing that; the country will have run another ten years toward the other place I referred to a while ago.

When the ministers of this government who are in charge of the policies that have to do with the provision of funds to the provinces for the encouragement of bilingualism—and we have been spending quite a bit of money in this area over the past couple of years, and propose to spend more—consult the provinces, they should insist that these moneys indeed go for the purposes of furthering bilingualism, innovation in teaching the second language, and not simply for the purpose of supporting programs which already exist. Otherwise we will have figures like the ones I am now going to quote back to haunt us every year.

In Ontario, in 1970-71, out of the total number of students enrolled in high schools and capable of studying French, 47.5 per cent were studying French. I do not mean studying French in every year of high school. These figures tell us they studied it once, took one course. This figure of 47.5 per cent is good compared to the figure for 1972-73: it has now dropped to 39.4 per cent. What we are looking at here is part of an accelerated downward progression.

If I cannot get my point across by quoting figures, perhaps I can symbolize it by referring to something which has struck me over the years. We live in a bilingual country. One institution in this country is the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation. It has two parts: in English Canada we know it as the CBC, and in French Canada as Radio Canada. I have admired and respected this corporation over the years, but one thing that burns me is the simple fact that on the news programs even the most highly qualified announcers can rarely pronounce a French Canadian name correctly.

It may seem like a small point, but I have seen the CBC pay a lot of attention to the accurate pronunciation of names of people from very far away. I have admired them. I could never pronounce those names accurately. I say to myself that somebody must be doing research. More important, there is somebody who is concerned. However, when I listen to the horrible mangling of names of people who live in this country, I say to myself that there cannot be anybody there who is concerned. You can have theoretical concern, but if it has no practical consequence you might as well not have it. I do not mean to single out the CBC for criticism; I just use them to underline a point.

I will end this part of my remarks with a brief quotation from the report of the Commissioner of Official Languages. He states in his report:

• (1520)

From our observation post we definitely do not have the impression that the cause of bilingualism is advancing with giant steps.

The statement drips with irony. It is a very serious accusation. How can we advance the progress of biculturalism or language equality, in the civil service at least? I began my remarks by dealing specifically with the resolution before us and advancing some considerations which should be brought to its application. A while ago I was thinking about the important difference between equality of opportunity and equality of condition. I happen to believe we shall only achieve language equality in the civil service when we adopt the second statement, equality of condition, as our fundamental working premise. The first speaker for the Social Credit party said the principle ought to be "celle de la participation."

[*Translation*]

—that of participation. As I stated two weeks ago, I disagree with the policy which he specifically advocates, but I recognize the importance of the principle he lends to that policy which is the following. As long as we do not give full support to the idea of participation which will make us concentrate on recruitment, we will never attain linguistic equality in the Civil Service.

I would like to recall, Mr. Speaker, the promise made by the Right Hon. Lester B. Pearson in 1966 and I quote:

In the recruitment and training of its members, the Civil Service must reflect the cultural and linguistic values of English-speaking and French-speaking Canadians.

I know quite well that it is a rather comprehensive statement, but still it contains a very important principle.

We note that he is trying to stress two ideas, two things: recruitment and training of civil servants.

[*English*]

So until we come to a full realization that we need to establish something like quotas, and pursue these quotas actively, we shall find ourselves snared year after year by the task of trying to work out linguistic equality using means which simply will not work: means, moreover, which will greatly exacerbate feelings on both sides. We were given an indication yesterday by the Prime Minister, that we do not have all the time in the world in which to solve this problem. So let us proceed as quickly as we can to a reconsideration of the whole approach.

In sum, I should like to stress the two main points I have been making. First, the Official Languages Act and the resolution before us are not concerned with national unity but with linguistic justice in the public service. They are also concerned about the ability of Canadians to address their public servants in the language of their choice, a most important consideration. Second, if we wish to bring about bilingualism in Canada we need to search for other methods rather than the correct application of the Official Languages Act.

It is about time we in Ottawa took our heads out of the sand and began to realize that there is a vast country outside the gates in front of Parliament Hill. We had better start talking to the provinces about these matters which concern us, and not assume that the residents of the provinces are not citizens of Canada. Sometimes, in order to make distinctions between governments we begin to split our country up into parts which have nothing to do with reality.

Third, I should like to urge, for the consideration of the House and the government, that in approaching this whole question of language rights in the civil service in the future it is much more practical to seek to establish quotas than merely to designate certain roles in the public service as being bilingual. Such an approach has a far better chance of success.

• (1530)

[*Translation*]

Mr. Henry Latulippe (Compton): Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to participate in this debate on the motion introduced by the right hon. Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) on the issue of languages and the unity in Canada.

Mr. Speaker, if we really want to maintain unity in Canada, this Parliament will necessarily have to take sound and positive action to bring about a final settlement of this issue and also achieve the goal which is to give equal opportunities to all Canadians in this country, irrespective of their language, colour, race or religion. Indeed the Canadian Constitution says that all Canadians must be treated on an equal basis.

What we have to do, Mr. Speaker, is to implement the constitution. It is not a question of changing it or changing its terms and conditions because I think we have a sound Constitution. It is rather a matter of enforcing it. The time has come when the Constitution must be truly implemented.

Then if the Constitution says that both races and other ethnic groups must be treated on an equal basis that equality must be made quite clear to all Canadians concerned.

Mr. Speaker, if we are to have the Constitution respected in Canada, everyone must be free to speak the language of his choice. That it what the Constitution says by and large and that is what we want, that is what Canadians want. At present, there are shortcomings in that respect.

The Constitution also says that everyone should have the right in Canada to be served and administered in one of the two official languages. That is a principle we must enforce because in Canada, we have ethnic groups who are not dealt with in their own language, and which is not respected as it should. We still have a long way to go in that respect.

Unilingualism cannot prevent a public servant from being promoted to a higher position. Therefore, we must set up, and the Parliament must set up and work out parallel administrations: one French and one English, within the federal departments. That is what is provided for in the Constitution, and that is what Canadians of every nationality are asking for.

And we also require tht all departments have two sections: one French and one English. The size of those sections would be according to the respective administrative needs. This means that the departments would not necessarily have the same number of employees, and they would form self-contained units with equal responsibilities up to the deputy minister level. It is at this price, Mr. Speaker, that we will settle that matter once and for all in Canada, and it is at this price that we will provide this unity that our country needs.

Each minister should therefore have one French-speaking and one English-speaking deputy minister, both having the same powers and the same responsibilities.

All the administrative fields coming under the provincial jurisdiction, according to the Constitution, would be turned back to the provincial authorities, provided it is agreed with each particular province. This will reduce to a minimum the number of public servants employed by some departments such as the Department of National Health and Social Welfare. Promotions would be exclusively based on merit in all departments.

As the hon. member for Champlain (Mr. Matte) pointed out yesterday, the English and French networks of the CBC are a fairly good example of administration. That corporation has two parallel administrations, well structured and therefore well protected.

The parallel administration we advocate would not be more costly than the expensive integral bilingualism the government is now striving for. In any event, Mr. Speaker, that is the cost we will have to pay to maintain Canadian unity.

Official Languages

Mr. Speaker, a study made by the Treasury Board reveals that the representation of Francophones and bilingual civil servants is not adequate. Bilingualism programs are neither effective nor adequate. Recruitment for top jobs still encourages a greater number of unilingual Anglophones.

National unity must be strengthened through equality of rights and opportunity for all Canadians, whether they speak English, French or another language. We maintain, Mr. Speaker, that the problem in this country is not a language problem but a problem of participation. Even if the whole federal administration were bilingual, nothing would be solved because French Canadians would not feel at home.

Mr. Speaker, we cannot solve the problem only through bilingualism. It is most important that the structures and the members of the administration be really distributed according to a fair percentage in relation to the relative importance of the ethnic elements which make up this country.

For a long time, Mr. Speaker, we have been living on hope; in 1969, when the Official Languages Act was passed, a great hope was born because we thought then that we would be offered something tangible to solve the problems of bilingualism. And that hope, we felt it and we thought that the Laurendeau-Dunton Commission, which cost a great deal of money, would make suitable suggestions and find suitable solutions to really solve the problem. But such was not the case. This royal commission simply taught us that there were in Canada a certain number of French Canadians, a certain number of English Canadians and a certain number of Germans, Ukrainians, Polish and many other nationalities, and we were given percentages and numbers and this commission cost as we all know close to $9,500,000.

Mr. Speaker, this has cost a lot of money and it has not solved the problem. Many Canadians were disappointed, English speaking as well as French speaking. We were disappointed because this commission did not produce such great results.

But as statistics show, there has been no progress but a stagnation, and in certain areas, a regression. I would like to see us achieve an atmosphere of objectivity, of realism, devoid of any animosity akin to a struggle between two ethnic groups.

Mr. Speaker, we could quote figures. Several hon. members have already done so; we now know that the participation of ethnic groups is decreasing in the Public Service when it should be increasing; yes, it should have gone up considerably, but it has diminished. We therefore feel, Mr. Speaker, that we have lost ground on that score. We must therefore update, put back in evidence all facts, concretize them and act according to reality, to the logical and justified requests which are being made by various personalities, by those who have a vast knowledge of biculturalism, multiculturalism, etc.

• (1540)

Mr. Speaker, in order to establish a true system of equality here, they say and I quote:

[Mr. Latulippe.]

Excerpt from the conclusion of the report written on behalf of the task force on bilingualism of the Treasury Board by Mr. Gilbert Langelier. This report is entitled: French Language Units: machinery for implanting a system of equality in the Public Service. The sub-titles are those of *Le Devoir*.

The study may appear to some as being very critical of the present experiment.

We are aware of the possibility of such an interpretation. We would like here to clarify the grounds of our approach. We strongly believe that the implementation of true bilingualism in the Public Service implies that French must occupy an important place as a true language of work.

The government must take action to implement the principle of equality between French-speaking and English-speaking employees, a principle which is essential as long as the fact of working in French will be a disadvantage.

The government has started to implement a policy in that sense but it appears at this time to be too timid and weak to achieve the principle of equality. Obviously, it is only an experiment to better inform the government on the possibility of institutionalizing French Language Units as an element of organization and management.

However, thought must be already given to the components to be considered in the formulation of a policy of over-all bilingualism aimed at achieving the principle of equality between French-speaking and English-speaking employees in the Public Service. The implementation of such a policy will require co-operation and planning at the level of those responsible for bilingualism and will require available human and financial resources to bring about the necessary changes.

The study underway has clarified the nature of the necessary changes and stated ways of achieving them. We are aware of the amount of work that will be required to implement those changes but we firmly believe that their importance warrants perseverance and the necessary resources to carry them out. So, objective No. 4, which reads as follows:

"Secure gradually the place French deserves besides English as a language of work in the federal Public Service" should be made the priority objective of the new Bilingualism Division of the Treasury Board and grant the necessary recources to achieve it. Once this objective has been achieved, all the others will be much more easy to reach.

We hope finally that the point of view we have adopted will be properly understood and that people will recognize the FLU is the main agent for the realization of institutional bilingualism.

Mr. Speaker, I shall not read the findings of the report any further: the rest is more of the same. But, Mr. Speaker, we are in complete agreement with the clause dealing with equality and with the Spicer report which also deals with equality and the opportunity of participation.

We entirely agree on that and we also agree, Mr. Speaker, on the preamble to the resolution of the right hon. Prime Minister. But we disagree with him on the methods he is proposing to apply those reforms.

Consequently, Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to propose an amendment to the amendment of the hon. Leader of the Official Opposition (Mr. Stanfield). Therefore I move, seconded by the hon. member for Champlain (Mr. Matte):

That the amendment moved by Mr. Stanfield be amended by adding, next after the words "and other appropriate statutes", the following words: "and the government studying the possibility of setting up, organizing and implementing a parallel administration, one English-speaking, the other French-speaking, in all departments of the federal government;

(a) each department shall have two sections, one English, the other French; the size of these sections shall be proportional to the requirements of their respective administrative needs, which means that the departments shall not necessarily have the same number of employees;

(b) these departments shall be autonomous entities with equal responsibilities up to the deputy minister level, both the English-speaking and the French-speaking deputy ministers having similar authority and similar responsibilities;

(c) promotions in each department shall be based exclusively on merit.

Mr. Speaker, that is the motion I wish to propose.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Boulanger): Would the hon. member for Compton have something to say?

Mr. Latulippe: Yes, Mr. Speaker. Again, we request earnestly that this motion be adopted. We would like that this motion be accepted, we would like that the feelings be a little unanimous, if I may say so.

Mr. Speaker, we are confident that we can give Canadians unity, that we can reinforce national unity to the extent that we give Canadians equal opportunities that are coming to them. This is the purpose of this motion: that there be equality in every respect within the government departments and that the participation of Canadians whatever their language, race or colour, be proportionate to their number.

Mr. Speaker, if we adhere to this principle, we will be on the way to unity and we will have, if we can achieve this unity, a great Canada, a united country, and thanks to some economic reforms, we will also have a prosperous nation.

• (1550)

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Boulanger): Order. Does the Minister of Communications (Mr. Pelletier) wish to speak to the subamendment on which I was about to give a ruling or ask for the assistance of hon. members?

[*English*]

As I have said, I am ready to render a decision on the subamendment. However, if any hon. member wishes to express an opinion I will listen to it.

[*Translation*]

Mr. René Matte (Champlain): Mr. Speaker, I should merely like to point out that I moved an amendment yesterday after the hon. leader of the opposition (Mr. Stanfield) moved his; I know the debate may be limited which is why we return to the charge today and my colleague for Compton (Mr. Latulippe) has moved a subamendment to the amendment of the leader of the official opposition.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Boulanger): Order. With regard to the sub-amendment just moved by the hon. member for Compton, I certainly have doubts about its being in order, specifically about its having a bearing on the subject. May I refer to the 4th edition of Beauchesnes' Parliamentary Rules and Forms, before going into further details, and quote citation 202(3) on page 173 of the French version:

Since the purpose of a sub-amendment is to alter the amendment, it should not enlarge upon the scope of the amendment but it should deal with matters that are not covered by the amendment; if it is intended to bring up matters foreign to the amendment, the member should wait until the amendment is disposed of and move a new amendment.

On that basis, I would like to explain to the hon. member that under that standing order, he will be able, after all, to move his motion later on during the debate. After the House has dealt with the amendment of the Leader of the Opposition—whether it is defeated or passed—the member could always move another amendment in accordance with the standing orders or move an amendment such as the one he moved yesterday.

Now, for the above reasons, especially the standing order which I have just quoted, and since it is possible that the hon. member will move an amendment later on during this debate, I have to declare the sub-amendment out of order.

Hon. Gérard Pelletier (Minister of Communications): Mr. Speaker, I have been sitting in this House for nearly 8 years now and one thing has always struck me. With the accumulation of words and the series of speeches on a given topic after a while we always end up forgetting about the basic issue of any debate.

This is why, I would like first to reiterate this afternoon the position that the government has defined as its own right at the opening of this debate, a position which will force us to refuse both the amendment introduced by the official opposition and a potential sub-amendment, which the chair has just indicated as possible.

First of all, let us explain how the government looks upon the present situation concerning the official languages. Everyone, except for a few dinosaurs—and if the term is not parliamentary, Mr. Speaker, I am willing to substitute brontosaurus or diplodocus,—everyone, except in a very few cases, accepts the principles which have been enshrined in the Official Languages Act.

This is why this resolution does not bring forth these principles. On the contrary, it is most practical, since it concerns the implementation of these principles. With this resolution, we are out of the realm of theory and concerned exclusively with implementation.

The time had come to leave theory behind and I say that it was time for everyone to get out of it. To support generally accepted principles is relatively easy. It hurts when it becomes more complex, when one has to implement these same principles.

I must tell you, Mr. Speaker, that I myself had such an experience when I was Secretary of State and was responsible to the government for the official languages policy.

At that time, everybody, except a few "dinosaurs" had already approved the Official Languages Act. And yet, I often had to answer members who repeatedly asked questions and questioned principles to which they actually had only paid lip service.

For instance, as soon as an unilingual public servant had to be transferred, even without a loss of salary or any other inconvenience to him, some hon. members who had welcomed the passage of the Official Languages Act started to cry out and denounce the injustice, without any evidence whatsoever. What is even more serious, these very people generally condemned the implementation of the act without ever giving one specific, possible and documented example, without even taking the trouble of proving anything, being satisfied, on the contrary, with

spreading rumours that they had not checked or giving examples of dissatisfaction, the causes of which they had not even taken the trouble to establish.

I remember in particular the case of a public servant who was ineligible for a promotion in the city of Montreal and who claimed that after living 10 years in Montreal, he never, and I quote:

had the chance to learn French.

When I was asked myself on a television program what I thought of this public servant's comment, I answered to the reporter who was questioning me: I am going to answer by a question. If, after living 10 years in Toronto or even in Ottawa, I was to claim that I never had the chance to learn English, who would believe me? The reporters told me: You are not supposed to ask questions, we are. One of them then said: By refusing to answer, you gave me an eloquent answer.

It is really to put an end to such practices, which are extremely detrimental to the cause of the official languages in Canada, that the government introduced the resolution now before us, so that after the principles are approved, nobody afterwards can undermine the efforts at implementation on the pretext that he was not consulted on their application or that he disagrees with the terms and that he was never given the chance to say so.

• (1600)

Thanks to this resolution, hon. members now have the opportunity—and they should take advantage of it—to say where they stand in respect to the application of what they have already accepted in principle. The resolution proposes reasonable, sound, practical and realistic measures, as the President of the Treasury Board (Mr. Drury) has shown very well during debate.

So far, what is the basis for the opposition's objections on this matter? Except for the Social Credit Party—I shall come to that later—the opposition has made known its intention—

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Boulanger): Order, please. I am sorry to interrupt the minister, but it being four o'clock . . . Is the hon. Minister of Justice (Mr. Lang) rising on a point of order?

[*English*]

Mr. Lang: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. The hon. member of the Conservative Party whose motion would ordinarily be dealt with during the next hour is, I understand, agreeable to forgoing private members' hour on the understanding that his motion retains its place. We could therefore continue with the present item of business for the next hour.

Mr. Baldwin: That is correct, Mr. Speaker; the hon. member for Peel South (Mr. Blenkarn) is willing to make that sacrifice at this time in light of the subject which is being discussed.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): We agree, Mr. Speaker.

[Mr. Pelletier (Hochelaga).]

[*Translation*]

Mr. Matte: Mr. Speaker, we agree.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Boulanger): Then, since there is unanimity to forego the private members' hour, the hon. Minister of Communications has the floor again.

Mr. Pelletier (Hochelaga): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the House and more particularly the hon. member for Peel South (Mr. Blenkarn).

So, I was going to say that, except for the Social Credit Party of Canada, to which I shall return in a moment, the opposition has stated its intent to support the resolution, for which I commend it and I rejoice like, doubtless, the overwhelming majority of members.

However, I would like to note as briefly as possible some points of disagreement which have been expressed by the Leader of the Official Opposition, last night, by the hon. member for York South (Mr. Lewis) and finally by the spokesman for the Social Credit Party of Canada (Mr. Matte).

First, I would like to comment the amendment introduced by the official opposition and say that it is rather amusing for anyone who in 1969 took part in the debate previous to the passing of the Official Languages Act. In the course of that debate, and I was re-reading it this morning in *Hansard*, the position of the opposition was to the effect that it was useless—that was the word—to pass a bill concerning the official languages. That position was to the effect that the government had but to issue directives, take decisions at the executive level, and not to go through all the ceremonial of the passing of an act. That was a viewpoint, and I would not like by recalling it to take any credit from the opposition for having finally supported the Official Languages Act.

We were told that after all, as far as principles were concerned, we did not need a law. I cannot but be surprised to hear today that we have to legislate at the implementation level.

The reason why the government decided not to legislate in this case, was best explained by the Leader of the Opposition himself last night when he said, and I quote:

. . . that these guidelines have to be, and should be flexible, and that they have to be subject to change . . .

Obviously. But he asked afterwards:

. . . why are we being asked to endorse them in this House?

I believe I have just said why we are asking this House to approve them.

Why not enshrine them in a piece of legislation? Precisely because they have to be, to use the very words of the Leader of the Opposition: "flexible and subject to change".

Now, we all know from experience, Mr. Speaker—and I am sure the Leader of the Opposition will admit it—that even to bring a very light change in the way of applying principles on which we have agreed, it is extremely costly to go through the legislative process which is quite painstaking, as everybody knows.

However, having established the precedent of submitting to the House for its approval the guiding principles of its endeavour as to a better balance concerning official

languages in the public service, the government will want I am sure, every time there will be an opportunity to change those methods, to consult the House again but perhaps not, and certainly not each time, through the passing of an amendment to an existing legislation, which would be a loss of time.

The Leader of the Opposition—

[*English*]

Mr. Stanfield: Mr. Speaker, would the minister permit a question?

Mr. Pelletier (Hochelaga): Of course.

Mr. Stanfield: I ask the minister whether he is giving an assurance that the government will bring a resolution before the House each time before there is any change made in its guidelines.

Mr. Pelletier (Hochelaga): I suppose, Mr. Speaker, that I can give this assurance if what the hon. member has in mind is any change in the principles that are submitted to the House in this resolution.

[*Translation*]

I would also emphasize that the Leader of the Official Opposition was generous enough—and I commend him for it—to say that even if his amendment were not passed he would vote for the main resolution and I think that in this debate he contributed to creating a climate that, as far as I am concerned, I would not disrupt.

If I had time, I would tease him on the way he introduced monarchy into the bilingualism issue, but it would be only to tease him. However, he said in his speech—realizing that it was difficult to accept a relation between the two—that there were people who had compared the erosion—whatever that is—of anarchic institutions with bilingualism. I think on the contrary that in a certain "integrism" that he knows as well as I do, people tend to see in bilingualism an attack against monarchy. In fact, for those people almost everything is an attack against monarchy. I admit that I expected that kind of comment from the right hon. member for Prince Albert (Mr. Diefenbaker), but not from the Leader of the Official Opposition himself.

To come back to serious things, the Leader of the Official Opposition expressed criticism. He said at the outset:

[*English*]

Let's discuss this frankly and openly.

[*Translation*]

I would have liked him to add another adverb and to put it into practice: the adverb "specifically". I find that his numerous objections directed against the government do not constitute a well-founded criticism or at least not the substantial criticism I was expecting. I think that the Leader of the Opposition merely pointed out minor details and I could not help thinking that it is really very hard for the Leader of the Opposition or for the leader of any opposition party in this House, to make a realistic criticism. Because, after all, who criticizes the action of the government in this area? People who never had to face the extremely complex problems created by the balance of the official languages in the Civil Service, problems that are so complex that they would discourage any government without optimism or deep faith in this country of ours, problems the difficulty of which one can hardly imagine before tackling them. And if I credit the opposition leader for waiting to deal with these problems, it is because he recognized himself last night that in the past positions he held, time had not yet come—I have to admit it considering the province where he was premier—to make this revolution and he never had the opportunity to undertake it. I would almost wish that he could one day take office, if no other inconveniences were related to that, so that he could finally realize how difficult efforts are in this very complex field.

I should like, Mr. Speaker, to comment briefly on one of the remarks of the hon. member for York South (Mr. Lewis), a remark that he had already made in this House, at the beginning of this session, which, at that time, had shocked me and which shocked me once again last night. When I say "shocked", I mean "distressed", not "offended".

The hon. member for York South said yesterday, and I quote:

> I regret that this resolution has been brought before the House, not for some of the reasons I have heard but for another and perhaps deeper reason. I have learned that in life, particularly in collective life, there are matters with respect to which repeated argument produces confrontation and repeated confrontation pollutes rather than clears the air.

The hon. member for York South had already adopted that attitude with respect to a speech by the right hon. Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) and again, with respect to a speech by the Minister of Transport (Mr. Marchand) on the same subject as the one we are discussing this afternoon. This attitude, coming from a man like the hon. member for York South, had confounded me, all the more that he is ready, as are all the other members of his party, to discuss the most delicate problems in this House. He is willing at any time to discuss the death penalty, the status of women, abortion, the situation of our native peoples. Those are issues which are, as the hon. member for York South puts it, most controversial.

Why does he feel sorry only when it comes to the language problem? Would the language question in Canada be of an obscene, shameful or pornographic nature that would forbid us to discuss it or is it to be considered as so extraordinary or explosive that it should be ignored? Mr. Speaker, I think it has been ignored for too long, and I am surprised to see this kind of resistance from a man like the hon. member for York South who, as I said a while ago, does not lack daring.

The hon. member for Scarborough West (Mr. Harney) just spoke, with a smile, about certain contradictions that might exist in our party. I think I could amuse myself in calling attention to a contradiction between him and his own leader.

Indeed, when a few months ago the member for York South had just said what more or less I have just reported, but in another context, the member for Scarborough West contradicted him in a television program. He had said that a speech by the Minister of Transport was "an emotional speech". And he said, and I quote:

• (1610)

[*English*]

An emotional speech? I do not agree. It was an intense speech, but perfectly logical.

[*Translation*]

The hon. member for Scarborough West, added during this television broadcast, and I quote:

[*English*]

I think it is a good thing that such speeches are made in a place like the House of Commons, where they belong.

[*Translation*]

In this internal conflict, I am against such a dissension within the New Democratic Party and on the side of the hon. member for Scarborough West.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, if the House has the patience to listen to me for another three or four minutes, I would like to say why I cannot accept the Social Credit Party proposal. I am referring to the proposal in general and not to the subamendments which were rejected. I think the Standing Orders allow me to comment on some remarks which were made and the idea which was voiced.

I think that the Social Credit Party proposal corresponds exactly to the definition which that party tried to attach to the government's resolution during a debate held on an allotted day, a few weeks ago. It was said at that time that the resolution was neither positive, nor factual nor practical.

I could repeat exactly the same thing.

Sure enough, the hon. member for Champlain and this afternoon the hon. member for Compton (Mr. Latulippe) put forward those two parallel administrations as being worthy, first, from the economic point of view. I took time since last night to ask people who are more knowledgeable than I am about the administrative problems. They told me that compared with what the bilingualism program of this government may cost, the implementation of those parallel structures put forward by members of the Social Credit Party would probably reach in the billions of dollars. Even if it were economical I would like to try and prove that it is not practical. When to promote national unity or solidarity you split the public service from top to bottom I think that you go against those same purposes you are pursuing.

I think that even with parallel structures—because I cannot deny that French Languages Units are to a certain extent parallel structures—the program put forward in the resolution presently before the House should nevertheless be implemented because why should a number of public servants have to become bilingual? The President of the Treasury Board (Mr. Drury) explained it this morning: if public servants are to be able to work in the official language of their choice we necessarily need to have people in supervisory positions able to communicate in both French and English, that is to say that the same person in that case must know both French and English. This also means that more members of both linguistic communities in Canada will have to become bilingual as the application of that policy is gradually increased.

I would like to point out to the hon. member for Champlain that even Belgium, which faces a linguistic problem similar to ours, has established those parallel structures only in a minimum of departments. And why? Because it is a unitary state. We understand, for instance, that in Belgium they have a Department of Dutch Education and a Department of French Education. We understand also that they have a Department of Dutch Cultural Affairs and a Department of French Cultural Affairs and that they have two ministers for the two departments. But, precisely, we are not in a unitary country and the federal system has been established in our country to find a solution to such problems and tensions.

We have provincial departments of education and within those departments in provinces where there are large minorities using another official language, they have developed different structures.

Yesterday, the hon. member for Champlain had a slip of the tongue and that sometimes reflects unconsciousness. He said: Who could blame me for having nursed my mother! All of us have these slips of the tongue and I do not laugh at the hon. member for Champlain when I recall this one but his system seems as impossible to realize as it is surely impossible for the member for Champlain to have nursed his own mother.

To conclude, I would like to say two things. First, that we are about to conclude one phase. I already told the hon. member for Champlain and I say it again, as the non. member for Saint-Hyacinthe (Mr. Wagner) noted himself: being French-speaking it is impossible for us not to feel very impatient.

The Leader of the Official Opposition talked yesterday about the scars he gained in his efforts for the French language. But what is threatening us as French-speaking Canadians in this country, is not some scars; but we should fear being flayed alive if we do not have the necessary optimism.

But I think that realism and common sense consist in telling ourselves, about this century of guilty negligence and of injustice as the member for Saint-Hyacinthe called it, that this year we cannot make up for the consequences all of a sudden, that there must be gradual stages. I am also impatient, I have already said it and I will repeat it.

Only if this whole House becomes impatient will we really end up with a fair system. But we must control our legitimate impatience and tell ourselves that in any political matter such objectives are always reached gradually.

Mr. Speaker, I also submit that the step taken with this resolution is an extremely important one. Personally, this is th realistic objective to seek and this is why I think that all members of this House will wish to vote for the resolution, some with minor reservations, and I cannot blame them, I have some myself, others perhaps with serious reservations, and I cannot blame them either because maybe they perceive difficulties to which I am not sensitive myself but I feel that a climate, not of understanding which is an abused word, but of realism and healthy optimism, should preside over the whole remainder of this debate and also the final vote and that this vote should be unanimous to enable us to start working in a climate of trust and, I repeat, unanimity.

• (1620)

[*English*]

Mr. J. H. Horner (Crowfoot): Mr. Speaker, I cannot help thinking of the last words of the speech of the hon. member for Hochelaga (Mr. Pelletier), who suggested that perhaps he should ask for good will and reasonableness for the sake of reasonableness. To my mind he did not start out as well as he ended. He referred to certain members of this House being of the age of the dinosaur and being like dinosaurs in their objections to the official languages bill in 1969. That to my mind did not indicate a desire for good will on his part. I regretted having to sit here and hear those words.

The minister suggested that members should stand up in this House and speak about these problems. I agree. I have wrestled with this problem since 1969. I spoke at length on it when it was debated. I urged the government at that time to be careful and not to go too fast, because they would create enemies in certain parts of the country while thinking they were healing wounds in other parts. They did not pay much attention to my remarks.

Many Members of Parliament at that time sat in their seats and would not voice their opinions in parliament. They would not voice the opinions of their constituents on the official languages bill. Liberal, Conservative and New Democratic members would not voice their opinion. They were afraid to do so because the party leaders were telling them that they had to support the bill. I take part in the workings of this democratic institution and the exercise of representative government, and I wrestled with the problem. I asked myself, should we speak frankly and tell this House what our constituents feel, or was the lesson they taught us on October 30 clear enough? If we are to be part of a democracy and governed by representative government, then I think one must speak as a representative. Certainly a member can lead his constituents, but a government that gets too far out in front of the people is not returned; it is defeated in the next election.

Some say it was the anti-Trudeau feeling in the last election that nearly led to the defeat of the Liberal government. Some say that the way western Canada felt about the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) was terrible. I spoke to a Liberal candidate who was defeated in Alberta. I said, "What was the thing that beat you?" He said, "The animosity toward Mr. Trudeau defeated me in the last election." Whether you like it or not, and whether the country likes it or not I am certain that hundreds of thousands of people in western Canada realize this is true. I am certain, having watched television on election night and seeing the Prime Minister shortly after the election results were in, that the Prime Minister recognized that fact.

Whether we like it or not—and we cannot sweep the question under the rug—the Prime Minister has brought in this resolution. Personally, I question whether he really means it. I was certainly pleased when the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Stanfield) moved his amendment because it puts the test right to the Prime Minister. On October 30 many people across Canada outside Quebec rejected the Prime Minister and his party. Whether you like it or not, that is the fact: they rejected the Prime Minister and the Liberal party.

Why was that party rejected? Every person can give his reason. Certainly in some areas the languages bill was a factor, although it was not in western Canada and it was not in my constituency. Some mention was made of newspaper ads that I had run in my constituency during my election campaign in which I complained about money from western Canada being spent in too many places other than western Canada, and I mentioned Quebec and Ontario.

Constituents have complained over the years about Ontario milking the cow, but you cannot mention Quebec. The attitude of the hon. member who just sat down was: Let us mention this. Let us get it out in the open. I did so in my election campaign and was accused of being racist. Well, I am not. I am not afraid to represent my people in our democracy. When a country fails to produce people with enough courage to represent other people, there is something wrong with that country, and if it is a democracy one can say that their democracy has been severely eroded.

What does the Prime Minister mean by this resolution? Now that we hear the government will not accept the amendment, I suggest it means very little.

An hon. Member: It doesn't mean a damn thing.

Mr. Horner (Crowfoot): Thank you for that vivid explanation. I have come to the same conclusion. I should like to believe in my heart that the Prime Minister really means it, because it closely parallels an amendment I moved when the languages bill was being debated. The Prime Minister has brought in the resolution in the hope that he can get a unanimous vote of support from the House of Commons so that once and for all the language question will be settled. He said that. I quote from an article by Peter Desbarats. According to him, the Prime Minister said:

> The struggle for the recognition of the "French fact" from sea to sea is not over, the battle is not won, and I propose to make certain that the question is well debated in the next election.

I think if he does that he will be taking a pretty dangerous gamble. He has brought this resolution in to try to shore up confidence in the government in areas outside Quebec. He is asking those areas to trust him in his application of the language question. Yet he really does not mean it.

Whether you like it or not, Canada started out as a nation after three constitutional conferences. Anyone who reads history can read the reports of those constitutional conferences. Language was not the important question in those days. Perhaps it should have been, but apparently it was not. Some provinces had already existed for some time. At the time of the constitutional conference of 1867, Nova Scotia, for example, was 109 years old. True, western Canada really had not been born. Some have said that this country is a marriage between the French and the English. We in the west wonder what we are. Are we a child of that marriage? We are not. We want to feel that we can play a full and equal part in this country of ours as an equal offspring of that marriage.

The Prime Minister has said that less than 10 per cent of the civil service is bilingual. He said it was 25,000 people out of 370,000, I think. The sad part today is that they are all at the top. Whether you like it or not, you will find, as I have found from my research, that instead of more French being taught in western Canada, less is taught. I said in the languages debate four years ago that if we want to make Canada a bilingual country we are going about it the wrong way. Otherwise, I said, we would create bitterness. I said the way to do it was through education. Education must come first, not afterwards.

The Prime Minister said yesterday that he is not going to force any Canadian to learn French or English; on the other hand, Canadians can learn either language if they want to. Why did he do this by bringing in a resolution first and then saying the government would spend money to educate people—after the fact, so to speak? Whether you like it or not, he is forcing people to learn; many people in the civil service feel they are being forced. The hon. member for Hochelaga suggested that that is just a feeling and that somehow we have put forward a myth. It is not a myth.

• (1630)

Hon. members can read the second annual report of the Commissioner of Official Languages. It is not the best of reading because this very serious matter is treated in a very light vein. However, even he recognized the fact that we should not proceed with bilingual districts. This resolution does not touch on the matter of bilingual districts. That is the problem we are confronted with today: should we go ahead and establish bilingual districts across this country, or not? The Prime Minister has not decided what to do about this issue. Quebec does not want bilingual districts, and I do not suppose any other province is very fussy about them.

Where do we go from here? Why do I believe that without the resolution being written into the act it will not be any good? We have all heard of the pledge which the late Mr. Pearson made in this House on April 6, 1966. The Prime Minister made a similar pledge on October 17, 1968. What was wrong with those pledges? Is it going to be any better than this dictatorship where the leader makes a speech, the bureau agrees and it is endorsed and followed by all civil servants and those who have the obligation of administering the act? It will not work that way. Mr. Carson said that. I quote from an article which appeared in the Ottawa *Citizen* of November 20, 1972. It reads:

—Public Service Commission Chairman John Carson explicity repudiated this pledge, stating he was guided by the law—

Mr. Carson has to administer much of the languages legislation. What has he said in committee? What has he said about appeals made to his commission? I quote from page 29 of the proceedings of the miscellaneous estimates committee of June 13, 1972:

The commissioner conceded that the public service staff associations were right in their contention that assurances by Prime Ministers Trudeau and Pearson that no unilingual civil servants would suffer in career terms because of the bilingual program, just didn't hold up in practice.

Will this resolution be any better? It will not hold up in practice. It may, while the spirit and intent is fresh in the minds of the Public Service Commission and the President of the Treasury Board (Mr. Drury) who has to battle with this problem and has accepted the fact that he must accept these points. The fourth point is interesting. It reads:

that competitions for bilingual positions will be open both to bilingual candidates and unilingual candidates who have formally indicated their willingness to become bilingual—

On July 4, 1969, I moved an amendment that parallelled this point almost to the word. Many people in my constituency do not think an opposition member can find his words in legislation. This is not legislation but my words are there. My amendment read:

Notwithstanding anything in this act, no person shall be refused employment or promotion within the Public Service of Canada on grounds alone of inadequate acquaintance with either of the official languages mentioned in this act, provided that the applicant has declared his intention and willingness to learn the other language.

Those are nearly the same words as in item 4. What did the former minister of justice, now Minister of Finance (Mr. Turner) say when piloting this bill through the House? What has caused him to change his mind? He thinks this resolution can be enforced. In reply to a remark which I made, the minister said, as recorded at page 10819 of *Hansard* for July 3, 1969:

We deny that categorically, and I say that through you, Mr. Speaker, to the hon. member for Crowfoot. We contend that the hon. member's solution would be impracticable, one not capable of realization.

That is why I distrust this resolution and say that it will not mean anything to the public servants. The former minister of justice said it was impracticable. If point 4 is impracticable, what about point 6? The minister, in the same speech, dealt with the meaning of willingness. The hon. member for Greenwood (Mr. Brewin) also spoke on that amendment. He, too, was in difficulty about the real meaning of willingness. Anyone who reads *Hansard* for July 3, 1969, will see whether the government wants to put any teeth into this act.

One can read the Ottawa newspapers to see what two former representatives from the Ottawa area had to say. They both complained bitterly, after the fact, that Mr. Carson was administering the act in the wrong way. Mr. Carson was doing his duty and obeying the law. If a public servant administers any legislation contrary to the law, he gets into trouble. An article in the June 9, 1972, Ottawa *Citizen* about Mr. Gordon Blair, the former member for Grenville-Carleton, reads in part:

He is confident that some of the programs implemented by John Carson, PSC chairman, do not truly reflect government attitudes and desires.

The attitudes and desires of this government have a tendency to change; they flip around a little from time to time. In July, 1972, they did not want anything to do with the question of willingness of people to learn the other official language. They said it was impracticable and could not be implemented. Something has happened since then and they have changed their desire. People in western Canada are saying that the Prime Minister is nice, he has done a lot of things, but can we trust him? My standard reply is, "You tell me." They fear that if the government gets back with a majority of seats, the Prime Minister will return to his old ways. They fear his desires and intentions will change after the next election. That is why I say that if the Prime Minister means what he says in this resolution, it should be incorporated in the act.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Horner (Crowfoot): Some members questioned my good faith last December 14 when the President of the Treasury Board made his announcement. I immediately contacted the press and said that I supported the nine points announced at that time. However, we are now asked to debate this resolution, bow down and say this is a bilingual country. I can say that; it is not difficult: everyone in this House can say it. However, if the country is not prepared to accept it at this time, what is the use of saying it?

No government can move any faster than those governed want it to move. If they do, they are rejected. The Prime Minister found that out. Some members his cabinet were very bitter after the last election, as were some Liberal backbenchers. This is the irony of democracy; the people are always right. The government is the servant of the people, not the master. The Prime Minister would love to be the master and absolute ruler. Before the last elec-

tion many people said that the Prime Minister would never call another election because he thought himself the master.

I am sorry to say that this resolution will not build faith and confidence in the government. I have listened to the speeches that have been made to date on this subject and I have not been convinced that the government means what it says. I may not be a very easy person to convince. Certainly, if I am convinced I will get out and try to sell the idea. I will try to sell the good faith of the government as I did back in December when I issued a press release saying I supported the President of Treasury Board in issuing the nine points.

• (1640)

But now they are trotting this issue out in an effort to hoodwink and pacify certain areas of the country. To my mind, the lesson was clearly given on October 30. The government has understood that lesson and is trying to prepare itself to go to the people again. This is one of the ways in which it is trying to prepare itself. It is trying to cover up this issue.

I firmly believe the resolution before us will be closely adhered to until the next election, but I have no confidence it will be adhered to afterward. How can I think otherwise when even a prominent member of the cabinet indulges in name-calling? The Prime Minister calling the premier of a western province a bigot does not help. The languages commissioner saying the English-speaking people in Westmount are Westmount Rhodesians does not help. This does not help to build good faith. If we want to build good faith, we have to mean it in our hearts. And the government has to legislate upon a basis of good faith. Nowhere in Canada will the people be fooled by this attempted hoax.

Mr. Lang: I rise on a point of order, Mr. Speaker, concerning the timing of the vote on this motion. There have been discussions and I think there may be general agreement in the House that all questions required to dispose of the motion now before us be put at 9.30 Tuesday evening.

Mr. Diefenbaker: No.

Mr. Lang: If the debate came to a conclusion earlier, it would be understood that we would move on to other business. In particular, it would be our intention to call the National Housing Act.

Mr. Diefenbaker: Mr. Speaker, any fixing of a date or of an hour like that is not acceptable to me. This is a matter which the people of Canada want to know something about, and to rush it through without full discussion is not in keeping with the responsibilities of this House. Letters are starting to come in from everywhere concerning this debate. I have never raised objection before to the fixing of hours, but I am absolutely opposed to a fixed hour being set for the termination of a debate as important as this. To do so might well deprive the Canadian people of an opportunity of knowing the facts.

If there are no other speakers to carry on the debate when we arrive at that point, or prior to Tuesday evening, a vote will take place. But I cannot agree to a suggestion that we be shackled when we are dealing with a matter in connection with which the Canadian people expressed themselves so strongly everywhere in the country last fall. Behind many of the votes lay the fact that people were disgusted with the administration of this act. So I take the strongest objection to the proposal put forward by the hon. gentleman.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Boulanger): In these circumstances I need not inquire whether there is agreement; I will merely call upon the next speaker, the hon. member for Rocky Mountain (Mr. Clark).

Mr. Joe Clark (Rocky Mountain): Mr. Speaker, I rise as a new member taking part in this debate, one of 57 new members of this party in the House. I think it is probable that each Parliament reflects the times in which particular groups of individuals are sent to this chamber. While within our party there is an established tradition of individual members acting as individuals, most of us came here, I think I can say, on the assumption that the basic principles of the Official Languages Act were established and that the issue of that legislation would not dominate the present parliament.

We came here with a mandate from our electors to deal with other issues, issues which were regarded by them as being highly important. For that reason, in my case at least, I was most surprised when it became evident, as it did before the first week of debate was concluded, that the government was apparently preoccupied with questions related to language. I regretted to find new evidence of this preoccupation today in the speech of the Minister of Communications (Mr. Pelletier).

To a certain extent this preoccupation is understandable. It relates to problems encountered in the public service. I am not so much surprised by the concern shown as by the strength of the comments made by the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) on January 8 and by the Minister of Transport (Mr. Marchand) shortly afterward. A charitable explanation is that the principal reason the Prime Minister and the Minister of Transport came into parliament was to try to contribute in a positive way to questions related to cultural equality. I respect them for that. I go beyond that: I thank them for coming here to serve their country for that reason.

I recall hearing the Prime Minister speak in my own constituency in Alberta. He went there for purposes which are not at all related to my being here—quite the opposite—and answered questions put by audience in the town of Edson having to do with the government's position on the official languages bill. He spoke then, as he and others have spoken since, about the grave difficulties which had been encountered by many people in the province of Quebec in dealing with a government, which they had every right to regard as their government, in a language which was not their own. He made the point that this was the cause of grievous concern. This was accepted by the people of that community, as it had been accepted earlier by those of us who had been given an opportunity to hear it from the Prime Minister and from others.

There is no question of the importance of making the case which the Prime Minister made at that time as well as on other occasions. It is also natural that, since this was to such a great extent the personal motive of the Prime Minister and of other senior ministers for entering public life at the federal level, they should assume that since this question had provided such an important personal motive for their coming it might, indeed, have been the motive in the minds of some Canadians when voting for opponents of their party. In my opinion, this is simply not true. It is not an accurate analysis of the voting behaviour of electors, at least in my part of the country, in rural western Canada.

I think the government recognizes that it is not true, because they have begun to change their approach in a number of fields which had been the subject of criticism before the last election. Some of us feel that this change is more apparent than real. They have indicated that there are questions of taxation and unemployment insurance to be dealt with. These questions have been recognized in

western Canada to the extent of calling a conference there to consider the very legitimate criticisms of the administration of these matters for reasons that have nothing to do with the language matter question.

• (1650)

I have to say, Sir, with some regret, that charity is not the only quality which influences members of this House as we come to some of our conclusions. We are also, all of us, subject to certain suspicion regarding the motives of those in other parties for some of the things they do. I believe it is fair to state that some of us believe that this issue is being raised deliberately now in a considered effort by the Liberal party to find an issue on which it might be able to win an election. That is a suspicion, in short, that national unity is being used for partisan purposes.

We in this party are sensitive about the weakness of our representation in the province of Quebec, although certainly we are proud of our members from that province and their quality. We are also pleased by the size of the vote we received and hope to be able to translate this into seats. But we recognize that we need strength in that province and in the rest of Canada, not simply to win an election but to govern effectively. We have to earn not just votes in Quebec but also the confidence of French Canadians, and we believe we are well on the way to that goal.

We are aware, also, that if a concerted attempt were made to try to divide this party on the question, it could have serious consequences, not simply to us as a party competing in national affairs but also ultimately perhaps to the country. I very much regret having to express my suspicion that this might very well be part of the reason we are dealing with this matter now.

For the record, I want to state my own belief as a new member here—that there can be no question at all about the commitment of this party to the principles of the Official Languages Act and, indeed, to the principles of a bilingual and multicultural nation. That commitment was reiterated last night in the speech of the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Stanfield). As I have said before, the Leader of the Opposition came to this House and to national politics expressly to help unite Canada. Most of us who came here as new members on this side came to parliament expressly to support our leader and to work with him in the job of uniting Canada.

Against that background it was alarming for me and my colleagues to begin our careers in the House of Commons by hearing the Prime Minister of Canada accuse us, by unmistakable implication, of a kind of bigotry. I can say quite frankly, and this is no surprise to anyone here, that in my campaign in a rural riding of Alberta there were opportunities for bigotry. There were opportunities to condemn the people of a distant part of Canada. We undoubtedly faced more opportunities to make political gain in that way than people in other parts of the country. The point is that we turned down these opportunities because we did not want to associate ourselves with any action that would help to disunite our nation. That is why so many of us reacted with such heat and felt such a sense of unfairness about the implications of accusation made by members of the government.

We are faced again with wondering about the motives of the government when we have before us a resolution which has no effect in law and which, while it is being defended here and now as an expression of moral approval, was inspired by a determination to have members of this House, in the words of the Prime Minister which appear in *Hansard* for January 8, "stand up and be counted". Those are words that have a connotation that is unmistakable, and that connotation was not reduced by the suggestion of the Minister of Communications who said not long ago, as I understood him, that new members must have an opportunity to express their own support for these principles, because if we do not do that we might be asking questions which would be unfortunate or embarrassing.

That seems to me a novel principle to be embarking upon. I would think that in fact, if I heard the Minister of Communications correctly and if that precedent is to be established, we will face a multitude of resolutions in this House to ensure that members who were not here before are committed in some personal way to every piece of legislation that has been passed here hitherto. Indeed, that would make by-elections a very dangerous occupation in the country. What is dangerous and particularly regrettable about the comments of the Prime Minister, the Minister of Transport, and the Minister of Communications in a muted way today, is the suggestion and the implication that some of us are acting out of mean or narrow instincts.

There are obviously some people in some regions who are more reluctant than others to embrace this particular act. That is so with every piece of legislation. What is different about matters relating to the Official Languages Act is that the differences here can inspire deep antagonism. The point I want to make as the representative of a western Canadian constituency who is concerned about the unity of my nation is that it need not have that effect.

When we talk about questions of this sort we move inevitably into the precincts of prejudices on both sides. There are people who think that any particular act, whatever it says, goes too far. There are those on the other side who think it does not go far enough. I think in that kind of area of legislation it is well for us to proceed very cautiously, not to act when we do not have to act and not to act when all we are doing is expressing an opinion.

Some commentators have suggested that this issue and related issues should be fought out once and for all. I suggest that is a piece of advice for the crusades or for religious wars, but not for politics. we are not engaged here in a holy war. This is not an issue on which every citizen should, to use the Prime Minister's words, "stand up and be counted". Rather, this is a question in my view of ensuring that rights are defined and respected. In my part of the country people will accept that. They might do it reluctantly in some cases, but they will accept it virtually everywhere in the sense that it is going to happen and it will not hurt them particularly. Many of them, like myself, are much more enthusiastic; but with others—there is no point in masking the fact—this issue is an irritant which will pass but which can, if it is agitated, become an open wound.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to call it five o'clock.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Boulanger): It being five o'clock, this House stands adjourned until 2 o'clock p.m. next Monday. I wish all hon. members a happy weekend.

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): The same to you, Sir.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

At 5 p.m. the House adjourned, without question put, pursuant to Standing Order.

REVIEW OF GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 1972-73

presented by
the Honourable J. Turner, M.P.
Minister of Finance
for the information of Parliament

Table of Contents

	PAGE
Introduction	5
Highlights of the government's financial operations during 1972-73	5
Budgetary transactions during 1972-73	9
Revenue	9
Expenditure	16
Assets and liabilities as at March 31, 1973	33
Summary	34
Asset accounts	34
Liability accounts	41
Net debt	41
The cash position	48
The public debt	51
Supplementary detailed tables	55

REVIEW OF GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTS

1972-73

INTRODUCTION

is review presents in summary form the financial tions of the Government of Canada for the fiscal year 73. The fiscal year of the government ends on March t the books must remain open for some time after date to record adjusting entries and to take into nt section 30 of the Financial Administration Act permits payments made up to April 30 to discharge incurred before March 31 to be included in the nts for the fiscal year. The figures used in this review based on eleven months actual and one month ated.

financial operations of the government include the of tax and other revenues and departmental and other expenditures; such operations are provided for in its annual administrative budget. In addition, the government undertakes other transactions which do not enter into the calculation of its budget surplus or deficit. These transactions include all receipts and payments leading to changes in the assets or liabilities of the government. Among such receipts and payments are those arising from debt operations which are undertaken to finance the government's cash requirements. Any deficit or surplus arising from all operations of the government, whether budgetary or non-budgetary, is reflected in the Receiver General bank balances. Accordingly, in what follows, debt operations and changes in the bank balances of the Receiver General are distinguished from other non-budgetary transactions.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE GOVERNMENT'S FINANCIAL OPERATIONS DURING 1972-73

section outlines the financial operations of the nment in 1972-73 giving in Table 1 a brief summary e budgetary and non-budgetary transactions, unmatured debt transactions and changes in the cash position and the debt position during the fiscal year. More detailed explanations are given in subsequent sections of this review.

TABLE 1

THE FINANCIAL OPERATIONS OF THE GOVERNMENT
1971-72 and 1972-73
(in millions of dollars)

	Fiscal year ended March 31			
	1972		1973 (preliminary)	
Budgetary transactions–				
Revenue–				
Tax	12,562		14,715	
Non-Tax	1,665		1,885	
	14,227		16,600	
Expenditure	14,841		16,155	
Surplus or deficit (–)		**–614**		**445**
Non-budgetary transactions–				
Social security accounts–				
Old age security account	–87		–300	
Canada pension plan	25		44	
Unemployment insurance account	–172		–1,331	
	–234		*–1,587*	
Other annuity, insurance and pension accounts	914		859	
Loans, investments and advances–				
To crown corporations	–1,243		–790	
To others	–425		–673	
	–1,668		*–1,463*	
Foreign exchange reserves	–698		–73	
Provincial tax collection agreements account	130		–5	
Other transactions	443		441	
Net amount available from or required for (–) non-budgetary transactions		–1,113		–1,828
Overall cash requirement to be financed by increase in unmatured debt or decrease in cash balances		**–1,727**		**–1,383**
Unmatured debt transactions–				
Marketable bonds	354		42	
Treasury bills	95		460	
Canada savings bonds	1,908		1,276	
Canada pension plan bonds	7		7	
Unemployment insurance bonds	–315			
Increase or decrease		**2,049**		**1,785**
Net increase or decrease (–) in Receiver General bank balances		**322**		**402**
Receiver General bank balances at beginning of year		**1,278**		**1,600**
Receiver General bank balances at close of year		**1,600**		**2,002**

Budgetary transactions

Revenue estimated at $16,600 million for 1972-73 is $2,373 million or about 17 per cent more than 1971-72 revenue of $14,227 million. The increase is the result of a rise of $2,153 million in tax revenue and an expansion of $220 million in non-tax revenue. The yield from personal income taxes (including the social development tax) is $1,205 million higher, from corporation income tax $437 million higher and from all other taxes and duties $511 million higher than in 1971-72.

Expenditure estimated at $16,155 million for 1972-73 is $1,314 million or 9 per cent higher than in 1971-72. The major changes between 1971-72 and 1972-73 expenditures are increases of $167 million in public debt charges, $37 million in fiscal transfer payments to provinces, $54 million in payments in respect of the Medical Care Act, $106 million in outlays under Hospital Insurance and Diagnostic Services Act, $33 million under the Canada Assistance Plan and $103 million for development and utilization of manpower.

With revenue of $16,600 million and expenditure of $16,155 million, the budgetary surplus is $445 million as compared with a deficit of $614 million in 1971-72.

Non-budgetary transactions (excluding unmatured debt transactions)

The three social security accounts are those for the Old Age Security Fund, the Canada Pension Plan and the Unemployment Insurance Account. Summaries of the transactions in these accounts for 1971-72 and 1972-73 are given in table 2.

TABLE 2

SOCIAL SECURITY ACCOUNTS
(in millions of dollars)

Receipts	1971-72	1972-73 (preliminary)	Disbursements	1971-72	1972-73 (preliminary)
			OLD AGE SECURITY FUND		
Income tax	1,450	1,456	Old age pensions	1,679	1,787
Sales tax	668	770	Guaranteed income supplement	526	739
	2,118	2,226		2,205	2,526
			Surplus of receipts	−87	−300
			CANADA PENSION PLAN		
Contributions	826	897	Pensions	144	206
Investment income	275	354	Administration costs	23	23
Other	1	1	Investments	910	979
	1,102	1,252		1,077	1,208
			Surplus of receipts	25	44
			UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE ACCOUNT		
Contributions	663	763	Benefits	1,123	2,020
Investment income	16		Administration costs	26	128
Investments realized	326		Other	28	
Advance from government	184	1,305			
Other		53		1,177	2,148
	1,189	2,121	Surplus of receipts	12	−27

26314—59

The Old Age Security Fund is financed by tax receipts. These receipts are $2,226 million, an increase of 5 per cent over their level in 1971-72. Payments of $2,526 million in 1972-73 are $300 million more than receipts. In 1971-72, payments of $2,205 million exceeded receipts by $87 million.

Canada Pension Plan receipts of $1,252 million in 1972-73 exceed disbursements of $229 million. The greater part of the excess of $1,023 million is invested in purchasing $979 million of provincial and federal government bonds.

Unemployment Insurance Account receipts at $2,122 million are $27 million less than disbursements resulting in a balance of $10 million in the account at March 31, 1973 compared with a balance of $37 million at March 31, 1972. Included in the receipts are advances of $1,305 million by the government.

Other annuity, insurance and pension accounts include the superannuation accounts of the public service, the Canadian Forces and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, the government annuities account and certain other accounts of a similar nature. Net receipts from these accounts at $859 million are $55 million less than in 1971-72.

The greater part of loans, investments and advances are made to crown corporations and the remainder made to provincial governments, governments outside Canada, international organizations, private businesses and individuals. In 1972-73 net loans and investments of $790 million to crown corporations are $453 million less than in 1971-72; other loans, investments and advances in the net amount of $673 million are $248 million more than in 1971-72.

Foreign exchange operations to finance increases in Canada's international reserves include receipts from Special Drawing Rights (SDR's) issued by the International Monetary Fund and payments arising from subscriptions of capital to the International Monetary Fund, advances to the Exchange Fund and the redemption of non-interest-bearing notes payable to the International Monetary Fund. During 1972-73 net disbursements arising from these operations in the amount of $73 million include net disbursements of $125 million in transactions in the Exchange Fund Account and net receipts of $52 million from transactions in respect of the International Monetary Fund. In 1971-72 net disbursements were $698 million, $938 million in net disbursements in Exchange Fund account partly offset by net receipts of $240 million in the International Monetary Fund.

Collections of provincial income taxes amount to $2,448 million and payments to the provinces total $2,453 million. In 1971-72 collections were $2,153 million and payments were $2,023 million. Net receipts from other non-budgetary transactions are $441 million compared with net receipts of $443 million in 1971-72.

Unmatured debt transactions

The net cash requirement of $1,828 million arising from budget transactions, operations of social security funds and other operations was met by net issues of marketable bonds, treasury bills and Canada savings bonds. In 1972-73 there was a net issue of $42 million of marketable bonds compared with $354 million in 1971-72, a net issue of $460 million in treasury bills compared with $95 million in 1971-72 and a net issue of $1,276 million in Canada savings bonds compared with $1,908 million in 1971-72. Other borrowing produced a net receipt of $7 million compared with a net payment of $308 million in 1971-72.

Change in cash position

A summary of all these operations is given in table 1 which shows that their net effect was to increase the bank balances of the Receiver General, including those in foreign currencies, by $402 million from $1,600 million at March 31, 1972 to $2,002 million at March 31, 1973.

Change in debt position

As a result of all operations just described, the gross public debt increased by $4,017 million to $51,740 million at March 31, 1973, net recorded assets increased by $4,462 million to $34,248 million and the net debt decreased by $445 million to $17,492 million.

TABLE 3

(in millions of dollars)

DEBT POSITION	Balance at March 31		Increase or decrease (–)
	1972	1973 (preliminary)	
Gross liabilities	47,723	51,740	4,017
Less recorded net assets	29,786	34,248	4,462
Net debt	17,937	17.492	–445

BUDGETARY TRANSACTIONS

Total budgetary revenue for 1972-73 is estimated at $16,600 million, total budgetary expenditure at $16,155 million and the budgetary surplus at $445 million.

TABLE 4

BUDGETARY REVENUE, EXPENDITURE AND SURPLUS OR DEFICIT
(in millions of dollars)

Fiscal year ended March 31	Revenue		Expenditure		Surplus or deficit (–)	
	Amount	Per cent change	Amount	Per cent change	Amount	As a percentage of expenditure
1964	6,253.2	6.39	6,872.4	4.60	–619.2	9.01
1965	7,180.3	14.83	7,218.3	5.03	–38.0	0.53
1966	7,695.8	7.18	7,734.8	7.16	–39.0	0.51
1967	8,376.2	8.58	8,797.7	13.74	–421.5	4.79
1968	9,076.6	8.36	9,871.4	12.20	–794.8	8.05
1969	10,191.1	12.28	10,767.2	9.07	–576.1	5.35
1970	12,323.9	20.93	11,931.3	10.81	392.6	3.21
1971	12,803.0	3.88	13,182.1	10.48	–379.1	2.88
1972	14,226.6	11.12	14,840.9	12.58	–614.3	4.14
1973 (preliminary)	16,600.0	16.68	16,155.0	8.85	445.0	2.75

REVENUE

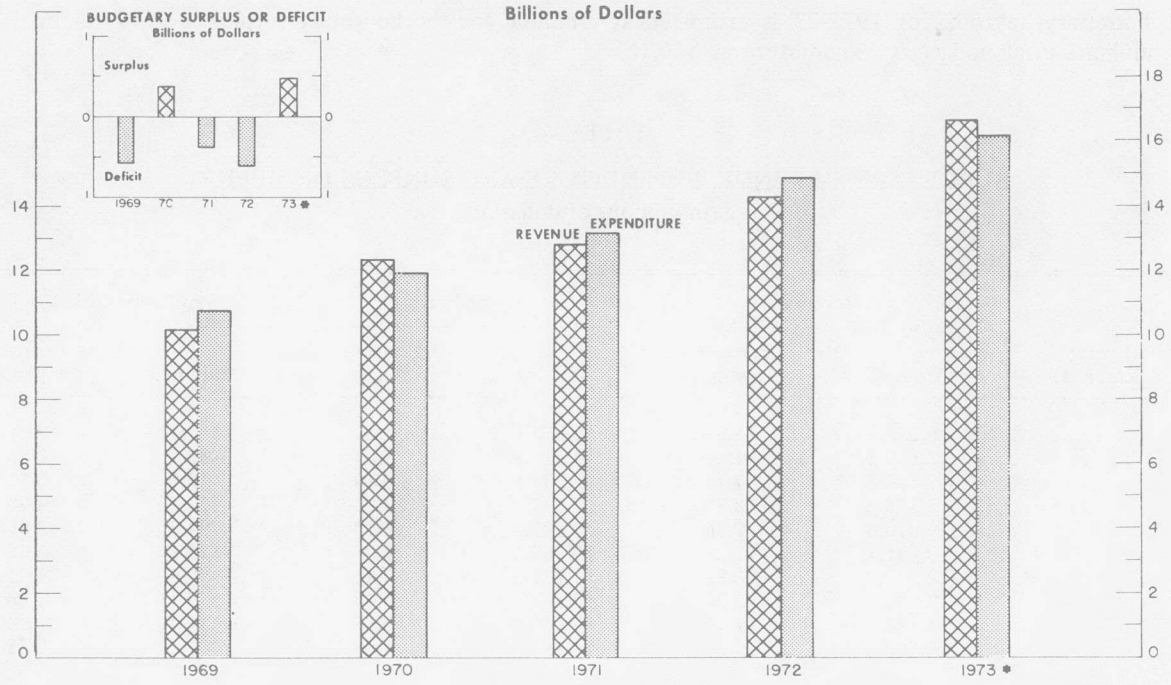
Budgetary revenue at $16,600 million is estimated at $2,373 million or 17 per cent higher than the total received in 1971-72. Tax revenue of $14,715 million accounts for 89 per cent and non-tax revenue of $1,885 million accounts for 11 per cent. The main changes are increases of $1,608 million in personal income taxes, $437 million in corporation taxes, $320 million in sales tax, $211 million in customs import duties and $142 million in return on investments.

26314—59½

BUDGETARY REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE

Fiscal Years Ended March 31

Billions of Dollars



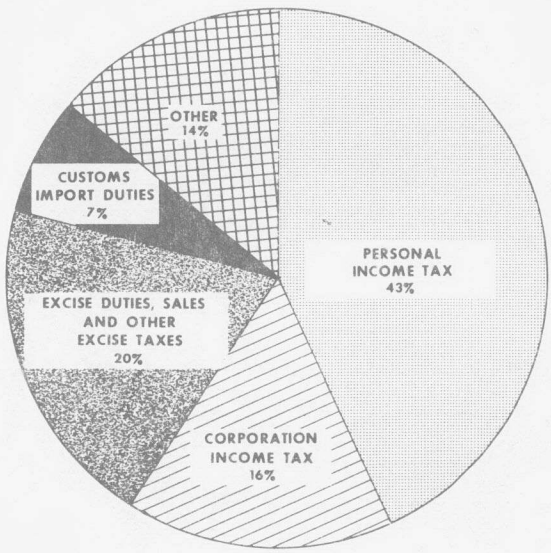
* Preliminary.

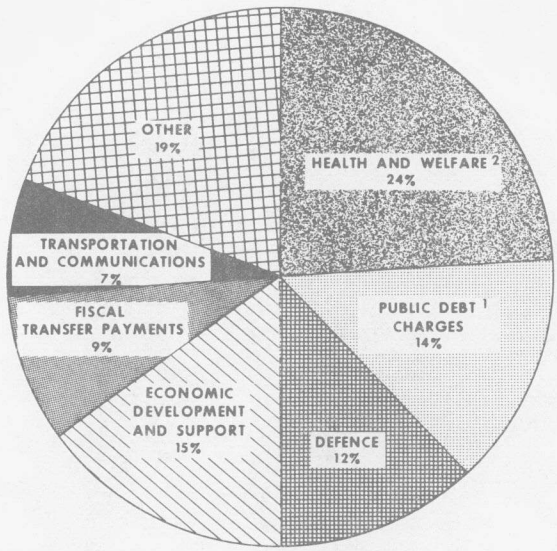
BUDGETARY REVENUE BY MAJOR SOURCE

BUDGETARY EXPENDITURE BY MAJOR FUNCTION

For Fiscal Year Ended March 31, 1973

Preliminary.





1. Includes additional interest in respect of the Public Service, the Canadian Forces and the R.C.M.P. superannuation accounts.
2. Does not include payments out of old age security fund.

TABLE 5

(in millions of dollars)

SOURCE	Fiscal year ended March 31					
	1972		1973 (preliminary)		Increase or decrease (–)	
	Amount	Per cent	Amount	Per cent	Amount	Per cent
Tax revenue–						
Income tax–						
Personal[1]	5,582.0	39.2	7,190.0	43.3	1,608.0	28.8
Corporation[1]	2,183.1	15.4	2,620.0	15.8	436.9	20.0
On dividends, interest, etc. going abroad	287.7	2.0	289.4	1.7	1.7	0.6
Social development tax	408.4	2.9	5.6		–402.8	–98.6
Excise taxes–						
Sales[1]	1,984.7	14.0	2,305.0	13.9	320.3	16.1
Other	388.4	2.7	410.0	2.5	21.6	5.6
Customs import duties	988.6	6.9	1,200.0	7.2	211.4	21.4
Excise duties	606.6	4.3	635.0	3.8	28.4	4.7
Estate tax	132.0	0.9	59.6	0.4	–72.4	–54.8
Other taxes	0.4		0.4			
	12,561.9	*88.3*	*14,715.0*	*88.6*	*2,153.1*	*17.1*
Non-tax revenue–						
Return on investments	1,133.3	8.0	1,275.0	7.7	141.7	12.5
Post office–net postal revenue	403.8	2.8	475.0	2.9	71.2	17.6
Other non-tax revenue	127.6	0.9	135.0	0.8	7.4	5.8
	1,664.7	*11.7*	*1,885.0*	*11.4*	*220.3*	*13.2*
	14,226.6	100.0	16,600.0	100.0	2,373.4	16.7

All amounts are net after deduction of refunds and drawbacks

[1]Excluding credits to the old age security fund–	1971-72	1972-73(preliminary)
Personal income tax	1,237.0	1,190.0
Corporation income tax	212.5	266.0
Sales tax	668.5	770.0
	2,118.0	2,226.0

TAX REVENUE

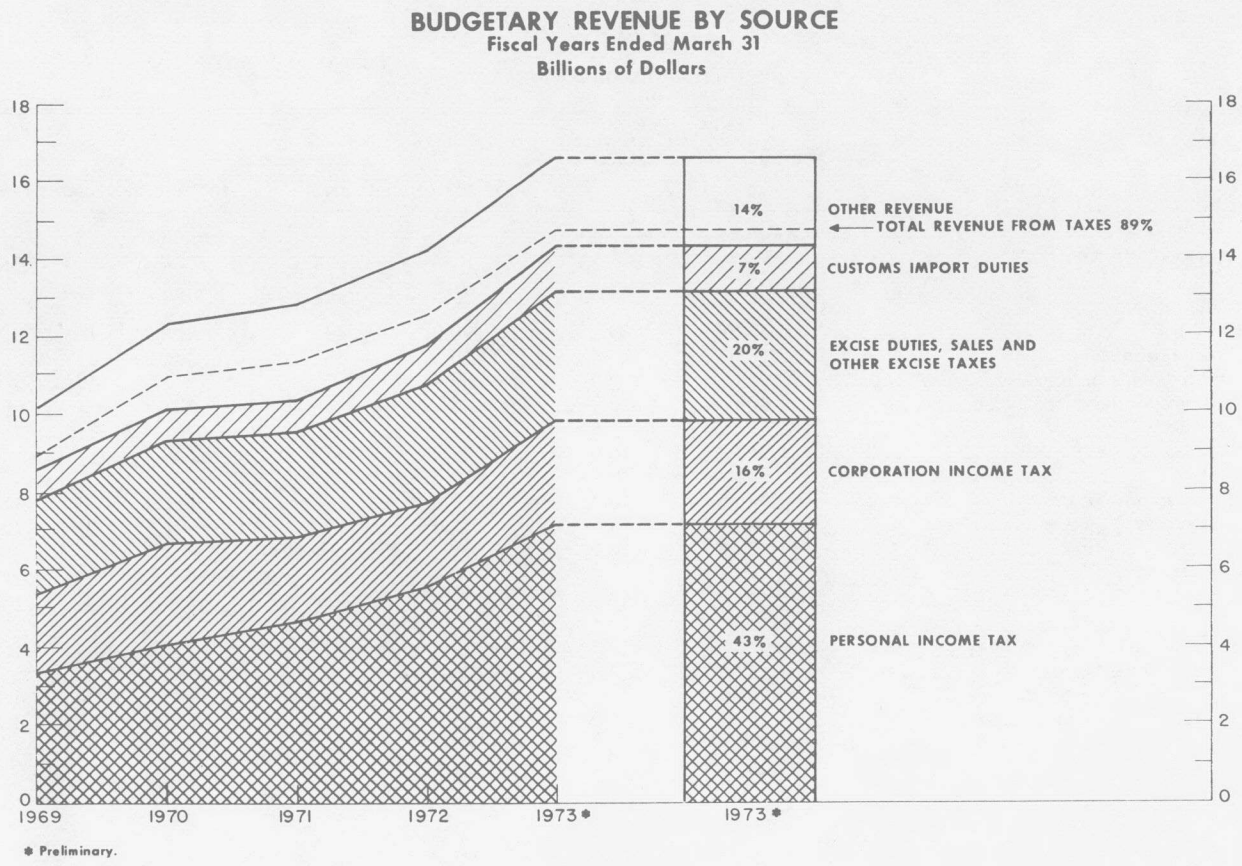
The effect of the tax changes announced in May 1972 and January 1973 was to moderate the growth in revenue which ordinarily would accompany a period of rapid growth in the economy.

Under fiscal arrangements, that became operative in 1962, the federal government withdrew in part from the field of direct taxation and left the vacated area to the provinces. The federal government has entered into tax-collection agreements under which it collects the provincial personal income taxes of all provinces except Quebec and the provincial corporation income taxes of all provinces except Ontario and Quebec.

During the year collections are expected to be $2,448 million and payments to the provinces $2,453 million. These sums are not included in federal tax revenue shown in Table 5.

Tax on personal incomes

As is shown in table 5, personal income tax is again the largest source of government budgetary revenue. The yield (excluding the old age security tax) is $7,190 million or 43 per cent of total budgetary revenue. In 1971-72 the yield was $5,582 million or 39 per cent of total revenue. The increase is due mainly to a higher level of personal incomes during the fiscal year. The tax on personal incomes credited to the old age security fund is estimated to be $1,190 million compared with $1,237 million in 1971-72.



Corporation income tax

Corporation income tax is the second largest source of budgetary revenue. The yield (excluding the old age security tax) is $2,620 million or 16 per cent of total budgetary revenue compared with $2,183 million or 15 per cent in 1971-72. The increase of $437 million is due mainly to the strength of the economy during the fiscal year. The tax on incomes of corporations credited to the old age security fund is estimated to be $266 million compared with $213 million in 1971-72.

Taxes on dividends, interest, etc., going abroad

Revenue in this category is derived from taxes withheld from dividends, interest, rents, royalties, alimony and income from estates and trusts paid to non-residents. Collections of $289 million in 1972-73 are $2 million more than in 1971-72.

Social development tax

This tax first took effect for the taxation year 1969 and was discontinued effective January 1, 1972 under the new income tax provisions. The tax, which was imposed on individuals, was originally the lesser of 2 per cent of taxable income or $120. For 1971 the maximum was $100. During 1972-73 the yield is $6 million compared with $409 million in 1971-72.

Excise taxes

Excise taxes including the sales tax total $2,715 million or 16 per cent of total budgetary revenue compared with $2,373 million or 17 per cent in 1971-72.

From a revenue standpoint the general sales tax is the most important tax levied under the Excise Tax Act. Receipts (excluding the amount credited to the old age security fund) of $2,305 million are $320 million more than in 1971-72.

The sales tax credited to the old age security fund is $770 million compared with $669 million in 1971-72.

The yield from other excise taxes is $410 million of which $354 million is in respect of tobacco products. In 1971-72 the yield was $388 million of which $330 million was in respect of tobacco products.

Customs import duties

Receipts of $1,200 million from this source are $211 million more than in 1971-72.

Excise duties

Excise duties are levied on alcoholic beverages (other than wines) and tobacco products. (Additional taxes on tobacco products are levied under the Excise Tax Act.) Net receipts of $635 million are $28 million more than in 1971-72.

Gross receipts of $414 million from duties on alcoholic beverages consist of $245 million in respect of spirits and $169 million in respect of beer and are $18 million higher than receipts of $396 million in 1971-72 of which $235 million was in respect of spirits and $161 million in respect of beer. Gross receipts of $233 million in respect of tobacco products are $12 million higher than in 1971-72.

Refunds and drawbacks of $12 million are $1 million more than in 1971-72.

Estate tax

Revenues in this category are derived under the Estate Tax Act. This Act does not apply in the case of any death after 1971. Net receipts of $60 million are $72 million less than in 1971-72.

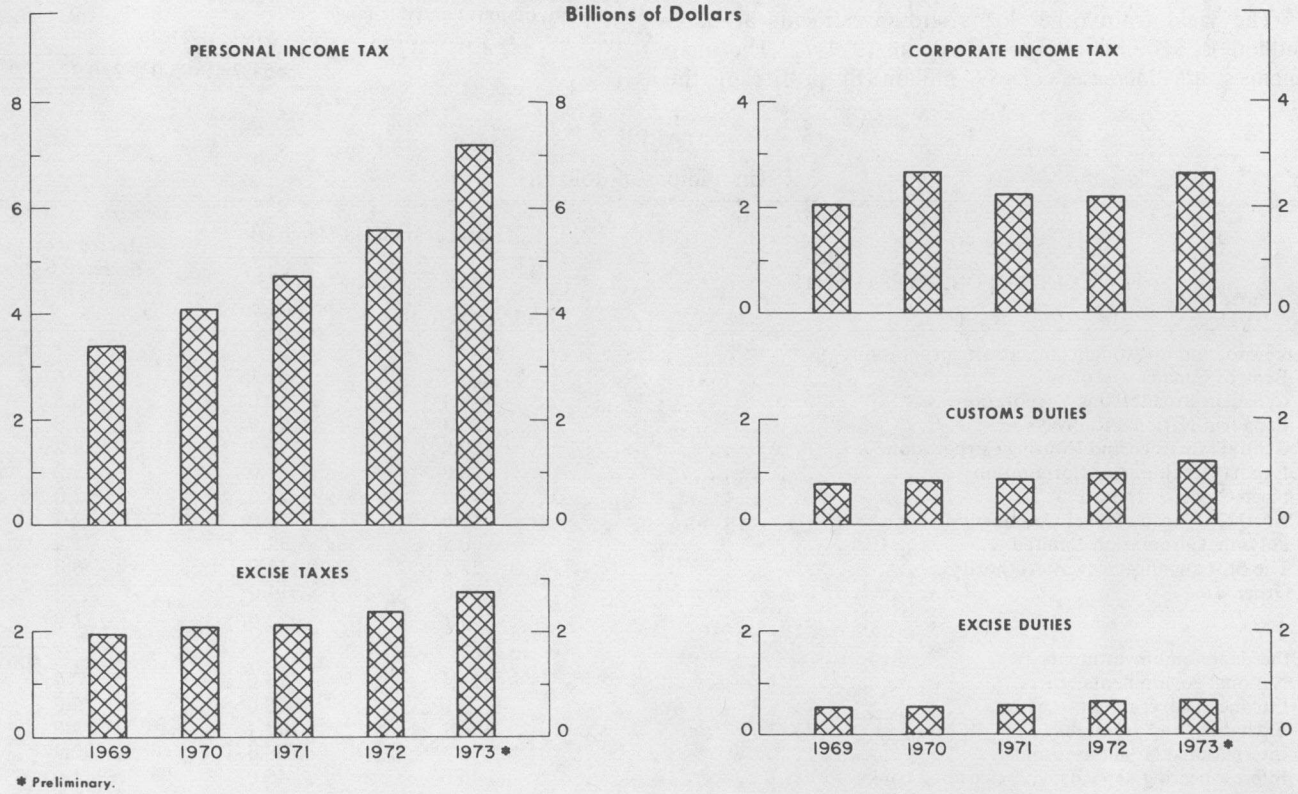
Other taxes

Revenue under this heading of $400,000 is approximately the same amount as in 1971-72.

PRINCIPAL SOURCES OF TAX REVENUE

Fiscal Years Ended March 31

Billions of Dollars



* Preliminary.

NON-TAX REVENUE

Non-tax revenue in the amount of $1,885 million is $220 million more than in 1971-72. The main changes are increases of $142 million in return on investments and $71 million in net postal revenue.

Return on investments

These receipts amounting to $1,275 million consist of income derived from loans and advances made by the government and from investments by the government in productive or earning assets. In 1971-72 receipts were $1,133 million.

Receipts from crown corporations at $922 million are $132 million more than in 1971-72 due mainly to increases of $36 million in Bank of Canada profits paid to the government and $49 million in payments by the Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation and the crediting to revenue of $32 million resulting from the sale of Polymer Corporation to the Canada Development Corporation.

The yield from other loans and investments at $353 million is $10 million more than in 1971-72. The main changes are increases of $9 million in profits of the exchange fund account and $5 million in interest on loans to provincial governments.

TABLE 6

(in millions of dollars)

NON-TAX REVENUE	Fiscal year ended March 31		Increase or decrease (–)	
	1972	1973 (preliminary)	Amount	Per cent
Return on investments	1,133.3	1,275.0	141.7	12.5
Post Office – net postal revenue	403.8	475.0	71.2	17.6
Refunds of previous years' expenditure	21.5	23.0	1.5	0.7
Services and service fees	17.9	19.0	1.1	0.6
Proceeds from sales	15.7	16.0	0.3	0.2
Privileges, licences and permits	28.3	30.0	1.7	0.6
Bullion and coinage	23.5	25.0	1.5	0.6
Premium, discount and exchange		1.0	1.0	
Other	20.7	21.0	0.3	0.1
	1,664.7	1,885.0	220.3	13.2

TABLE 7

(in millions of dollars)

RETURN ON INVESTMENTS	Fiscal year ended March 31		Increase or decrease (–)
	1972	1973 (preliminary)	
Loans to, and investments in, crown corporations–			
Bank of Canada – profits	265.5	301.1	35.6
Canadian Broadcasting Corporation	8.4	9.0	0.6
Canadian National Railways	50.3	54.9	4.6
Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation	320.8	370.0	49.2
Export Development Corporation	18.8	24.0	5.2
Farm Credit Corporation	72.0	74.0	2.0
Northern Canada Power Commission	17.6	20.0	2.4
Polymer Corporation Limited	0.5	32.0	31.5
The St. Lawrence Seaway Authority	22.2	23.0	0.8
Other	14.0	14.0	
	790.1	*922.0*	*131.9*
Other loans and investments–			
National governments	23.4	23.0	–0.4
Provincial governments	3.0	8.0	5.0
Exchange fund account	194.1	203.1	9.0
International Monetary Fund	5.2	8.0	2.8
Interest-bearing deposits with chartered banks	46.0	45.0	–1.0
Municipal Development and Loan Board	14.2	15.0	0.8
Soldier and general land settlement loans and veterans land act advances	23.7	27.0	3.3
Investments in United States dollar securities issued by other than the Government of Canada	1.0		–1.0
Airport capital loans	7.1	9.0	1.9
Miscellaneous	25.5	14.9	–10.6
	343.2	*353.0*	*9.8*
	1,133.3	1,275.0	141.7

Post Office revenue

Gross receipts from Post Office operations are $562 million but authorized disbursements from revenue for salaries and rent allowances, other allowances and commissions at semi-staff and revenue offices, commissions at sub-offices, transit charges on Canadian mail forwarded through and delivered in foreign countries, etc., in the amount of $59 million and revenue credits of $28 million to expenditure result in net revenue of $475 million. In 1971-72 comparable amounts were gross receipts of $487 million, authorized disbursements of $56 million, credits of $27 million to expenditure and net revenue of $404 million.

As is shown in the section on budgetary expenditure the net costs of operating the Post Office during 1972-73 (excluding the $87 million charged to revenue) are $474 million. Given net revenue of $475 million, there is an operating surplus of $1 million. In 1971-72 net costs of $413 million and net revenue of $404 million resulted in an operating deficit of $9 million.

TABLE 8

(in millions of dollars)

POST OFFICE REVENUE	Fiscal year ended March 31 1972	1973 (preliminary)	Increase or decrease (–)
Postage–			
In Canada	461.8	537.0	75.2
From foreign countries	8.4	7.0	–1.4
Money orders	10.6	11.0	0.4
Rental of post office boxes	5.2	5.6	0.4
Other	0.6	1.3	0.7
	486.6	*561.9*	*75.3*
Less–			
Expenditure charged directly to revenue–			
Salaries and allowances–			
Revenue post offices	–12.5	–13.7	–1.2
Semi-staff post offices	–31.1	–32.0	–0.9
Sub-post offices	–6.8	–7.0	–0.2
Postage and transit charges to or through foreign countries	–4.1	–4.9	–0.8
Other	–1.3	–1.3	
	–55.8	*–58.9*	*–3.1*
	430.8	503.0	72.2
Credited to appropriations	–27.0	–28.0	–1.0
	403.8	475.0	71.2

Refunds of previous years' expenditure

Refunds of $23 million include $3 million in receipts by the Department of National Defence (mainly from adjustments to cost audits and contracts with the United States government) and $3 million in receipts by the Department of Veterans Affairs (mainly from refunds of veterans pensions, allowances and re-establishment credits). In 1971-72 refunds totalled $22 million.

Services and service fees

Revenue of $19 million from this source includes $9 million received by the Department of Agriculture (mainly for services for the inspection, weighing, storage and elevation of grain) and $3 million received by the Department of Consumer and Corporate Affairs (mainly from inspection fees in respect of weights and measures, and electricity and gas). In 1971-72 revenue totalled $18 million.

Proceeds from sales

Revenue of $16 million includes receipts of $5 million by the Department of Supply and Services from the sale of surplus crown assets and $3 million from sales of publications by Information Canada. In 1971-72 revenue totalled $16 million.

Privileges, licences and permits

Revenue from this source in the amount of $30 million includes $10 million in receipts by the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development (mainly in respect of oil, gas and gold), $5 million in receipts by the Department of Public Works (mainly from rentals) and $7 million in receipts by the Department of Consumer and Corporate Affairs in respect of patents, trade marks, charters, etc. In 1971-72 revenue from this source was $28 million.

Bullion and coinage

This revenue, which is derived from transactions in the bullion and coinage working capital advance, is $25 million compared with $23 million in 1971-72.

Premium, discount and exchange

These transactions reflect net revenue of $1 million compared with a net expenditure of $2 million in 1971-72.

Miscellaneous non-tax revenue

Miscellaneous revenue is $21 million approximately the same as the previous year.

26314—60

EXPENDITURE

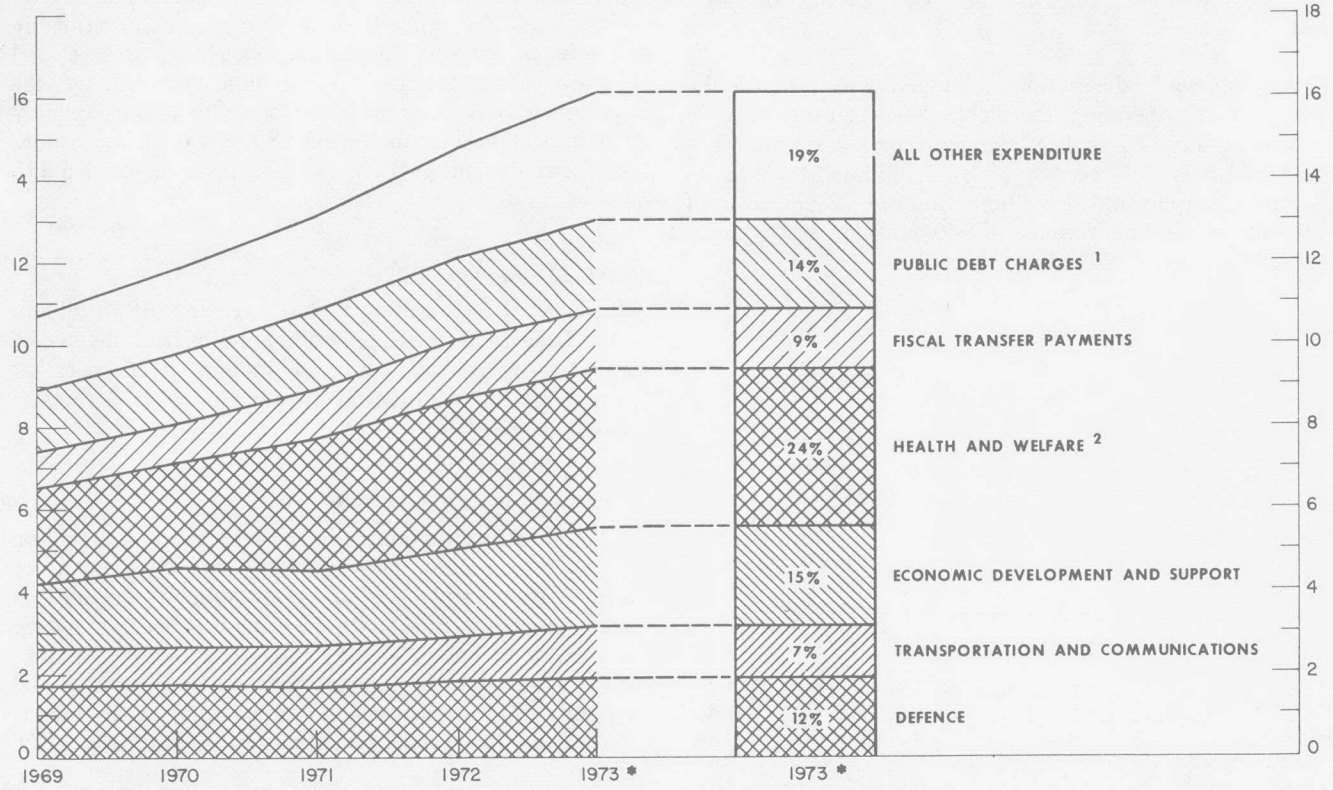
Budgetary expenditure for 1972-73 is estimated at $16,155 million, $1,314 million more than the 1971-72 total of $14,841 million.

The main changes are increases of $233 million in expenditures of the Department of Finance, $211 million in those of the Department of National Health and Welfare and $106 million in those of the Department of the Secretary of State.

BUDGETARY EXPENDITURE, CLASSIFIED BY FUNCTION

Fiscal Years Ended March 31

Billions of Dollars



* Preliminary.

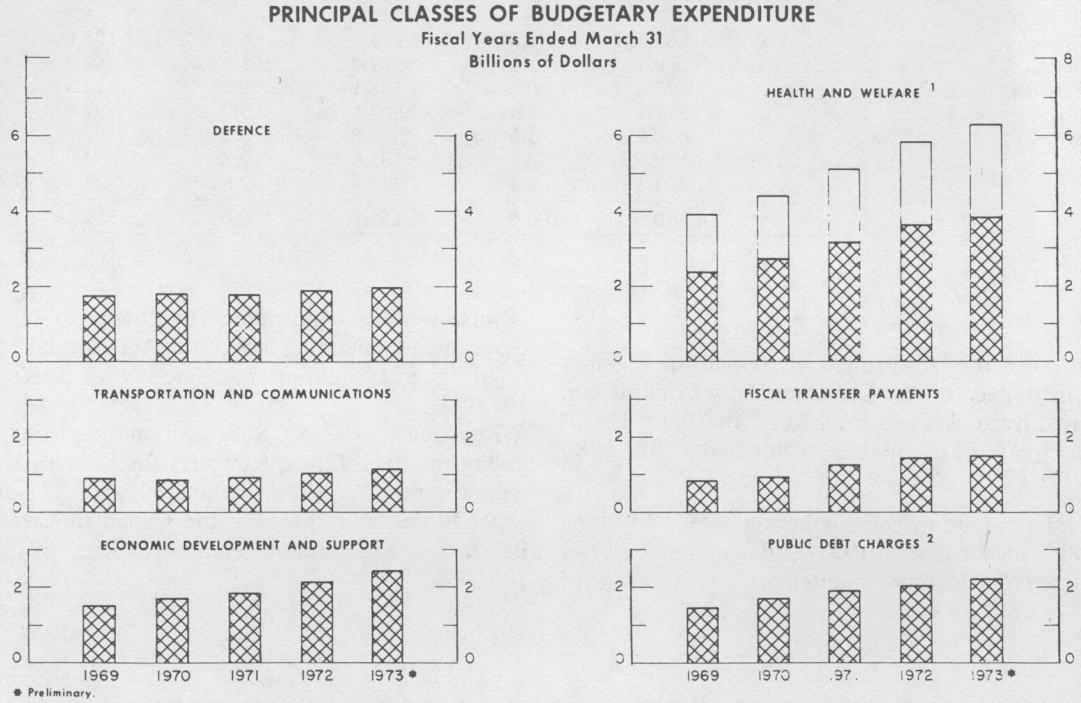
1. Includes additional interest in respect of the Public Services, the Canadian Forces and the R.C.M.P. superannuation accounts.
2. Does not include payments out of old age security fund.

TABLE 9

Budgetary Expenditure Classified by Function
(in millions of dollars)

	Fiscal year ended March 31									
	1969		1970		1971		1972		1973 (preliminary)	
	Amount	per cent	Amount	per cent	Amount	per cent	Amount	per cent	Amount	per cent
General government services	411	4	505	4	579	4	630	5	814	5
Foreign affairs	227	2	243	2	282	2	314	2	369	2
Defence	1,763	17	1,791	15	1,773	14	1,839	13	1,899	12
Transportation and communications	910	8	893	8	940	7	1,023	7	1,155	7
Economic development and support	1,527	14	1,776	15	1,857	14	2,167	15	2,452	15
Health and welfare (1)	2,378	22	2,734	23	3,191	24	3,633	24	3,831	24
Education assistance	287	3	315	3	463	3	561	4	588	4
Culture and recreation	244	2	376(2)	3	263	2	348	2	392	2
Fiscal transfer payments	867	8	932	8	1,229	9	1,426	9	1,462	9
Public debt	1,480	14	1,717	14	1,920(3)	15	2,137(3)	14	2,362(3)	14
Internal overhead expenses	644	6	639	5	685	6	763	5	831	6
	10,738	100	11,921	100	13,182	100	14,841	100	16,155	100

(1) Payments out of the Old Age Security Fund, the Canada Pension Plan and the Unemployment Insurance Fund are not included.
(2) Includes write-off of EXPO deficit.
(3) Includes additional interest in respect of the Public Service, the Canadian Forces and the R.C.M.P. superannuation accounts.



* Preliminary.
1. The unshaded areas of the columns in the chart for health and welfare represent payments out of old age security fund not charged to budgetary expenditure.
2. Includes additional interest in respect of the Public Service, the Canadian Forces and the R.C.M.P. superannuation accounts.

26314—60½

TABLE 10

Statement of Budgetary Expenditure by Departments
(in millions of dollars)

DEPARTMENT	Fiscal year ended March 31					
	1972		1973 (preliminary)		Increase or decrease (–)	
	Amount	per cent	Amount	per cent	Amount	per cent
Agriculture	286.1	1.9	318.5	2.0	32.4	11.3
Communications	21.7	0.1	33.9	0.2	12.2	56.2
Consumer and Corporate Affairs	23.9	0.2	30.0	0.2	6.1	25.5
Energy, Mines and Resources	175.6	1.2	171.4	1.1	–4.2	2.4
Environment	200.7	1.4	239.3	1.6	38.6	19.2
External Affairs	314.6	2.1	381.0	2.3	66.4	21.1
Finance	3,542.1	23.9	3,774.6	23.4	232.5	6.6
Governor General and Lieutenant-Governors	1.2		1.3		0.1	8.3
Indian Affairs and Northern Development	426.6	2.9	480.4	3.1	53.8	12.6
Industry, Trade and Commerce	362.6	2.4	414.0	2.6	51.4	14.2
Justice	28.7	0.2	36.4	0.2	7.7	26.8
Labour	25.4	0.1	28.7	0.2	3.3	13.0
Manpower and Immigration	792.9	5.3	749.2	4.6	–43.7	–5.5
National Defence	1,895.2	12.7	1,984.0	12.3	88.8	4.7
National Health and Welfare	2,706.1	18.2	2,916.8	18.1	210.7	7.8
National Revenue	185.3	1.2	220.7	1.4	35.4	19.1
Parliament	32.6	0.2	34.7	0.2	2.1	6.4
Post Office	413.3	2.8	474.1	2.9	60.8	14.7
Privy Council	13.1	0.1	39.0	0.1	25.9	198.0
Public Works	338.2	2.3	376.0	2.3	37.8	10.7
Regional Economic Expansion	346.4	2.3	373.6	2.3	27.2	7.9
Science and Technology	2.4		4.3		1.9	91.7
Secretary of State	867.5	5.8	973.1	6.0	105.6	12.2
Solicitor General	260.1	1.8	309.0	1.9	48.9	18.8
Supply and Services	75.6	0.6	88.1	0.5	12.5	16.5
Transport	511.1	3.5	603.1	3.7	92.0	18.0
Treasury Board	438.7	3.0	518.8	3.2	80.1	18.2
Urban Affairs	129.9	0.9	133.6	0.8	3.7	2.8
Veterans Affairs	423.3	2.9	447.4	2.8	24.1	5.7
	14,840.9	100.0	16,155.0	100.0	1,314.1	8.9

Agriculture

Expenditures of the Department of Agriculture together with those in respect of the Canadian Dairy Commission, the Canadian Livestock Feed Board and the Farm Credit Corporation total $318 million compared with $286 million in 1971-72.

Outlays for production and marketing at $167 million are $17 million higher than in 1971-72 due mainly to larger payments for farm income maintenance as a result of adverse weather conditions. The charge to expenditure to cover the net operating loss of the Agricultural Stabilization Board is $119 million compared with $122 million in 1971-72.

Research costs are $55 million compared with $51 million in 1971-72; expenditures for the health of animals program are $30 million compared with $27 million; and expenditures in respect of the Canadian Livestock Feed Board are $22 million compared with $21 million in 1971-72.

TABLE 11

(in million of dollars)

AGRICULTURE	Fiscal year ended March 31 1972	1973 (preliminary)	Increase or decrease (–)
Department–			
Production and marketing–			
Agricultural Stabilization Board	122.0	118.6	–3.4
Other	28.0	48.0	20.0
	150.0	*166.6*	*16.6*
Research program	50.7	54.7	4.0
Health of animals	27.3	30.2	2.9
Canadian Grain Commission	13.1	16.4	3.3
Administration and general	15.0	19.3	4.3
	256.1	287.2	31.1
Canadian Dairy Commission	0.5	0.7	0.2
Canadian Livestock Feed Board	20.6	22.0	1.4
Farm Credit Corporation–net operating loss	8.9	8.6	–0.3
	286.1	318.5	32.4

Communications

Expenditures for the Department of Communications are $34 million compared with $22 million in 1971-72. The increase is due mainly to higher outlays for communications and space applications which are $23 million compared with $13 million.

TABLE 12

(in millions of dollars)

COMMUNICATIONS	Fiscal year ended March 31 1972	1973 (preliminary)	Increase or decrease (–)
Communications and space applications research and development	12.7	22.5	9.8
Management of the radio frequency spectrum	2.5	2.4	–0.1
Administration and development	6.5	9.0	2.5
	21.7	33.9	12.2

Consumer and Corporate Affairs

Expenditures of the Department of Consumer and Corporate Affairs are $30 million, $6 million more than in 1971-72, due mainly to higher outlays in all programs with the exception of that for the Prices and Incomes Commission, which ceased on August 31, 1972.

TABLE 13

(in millions of dollars)

CONSUMER AND CORPORATE AFFAIRS	Fiscal year ended March 31 1972	1973 (preliminary)	Increase or decrease (–)
Consumer affairs	8.8	10.8	2.0
Corporate affairs	8.7	10.0	1.3
Combines investigations and competition policy	2.1	2.9	0.8
Prices and Incomes Commission	1.6	0.5	–1.1
Administration and general	2.7	5.8	3.1
	23.9	30.0	6.1

Energy, Mines and Resources

Expenditures of the Department of Energy, Mines and Resources including those in respect of Atomic Energy of Canada Limited, the Atomic Energy Control Board and the National Energy Board total $171 million compared with $176 million in 1971-72.

Outlays of $32 million for the earth sciences program are $1 million higher, outlays of $40 million for the mineral and energy resources program are $5 million lower and outlays of $88 million in respect of atomic energy are $1 million lower than in 1971-72.

TABLE 14

(in millions of dollars)

ENERGY, MINES AND RESOURCES	Fiscal year ended March 31 1972	1973 (preliminary)	Increase or decrease (–)
Mineral and energy resources–			
Energy development	6.3	7.6	1.3
Mineral development	14.8	3.8	–11.0
Mining and metallurgical investigations and research	10.6	12.6	2.0
Geological research and surveys	13.5	16.4	2.9
	45.2	*40.4*	*–4.8*
Earth sciences–			
Field and air surveys	14.1	15.5	1.4
Geological research	2.1	2.2	0.1
Research in geophysics	4.3	4.6	0.3
Other	9.8	9.3	–0.5
	30.3	*31.6*	*1.3*
Administration and general	7.8	7.9	0.1
	83.3	79.9	–3.4
Atomic Energy Control Board	12.4	8.9	–3.5
Atomic Energy of Canada Limited	77.0	79.0	2.0
National Energy Board	2.9	3.6	0.7
	175.6	171.4	–4.2

Environment

Expenditures for the Department of Environment are $239 million compared with $201 million in 1971-72.

Expenditures of $112 million for the environmental quality program include $60 million for water management services, $37 million for meteorological services, $11 million for environmental protection services and $5 million for land inventory. In 1971-72 expenditures of $109 million included $61 million for water resources, $19 million for fisheries and forestry, $26 million for meteorological services and $3 million for environmental protection services.

Expenditures of $115 million for the renewable resources program include $73 million in respect of fisheries, $30 million in respect of forestry and $11 million for Canadian wildlife service. In 1971-72 expenditures of $84 million included $54 million for fisheries, $24 million for forestry and $7 million for Canadian wildlife service.

TABLE 15

(in millions of dollars)

ENVIRONMENT	Fiscal year ended March 31 1972	1973 (preliminary)	Increase or decrease (–)
Environmental quality–			
Fisheries and forestry	19.0		–19.0
Environmental protection service	3.2	10.8	7.6
Water management service	61.0	60.1	–0.9
Atmospheric environment service	25.6	36.5	10.9
Land inventory		4.6	4.6
	108.8	*112.0*	*3.2*
Renewable resources–			
Fisheries management and research	53.7	73.0	19.3
Forestry research and services	23.5	30.1	6.6
Canadian wildlife service	7.1	11.4	4.3
	84.3	*114.5*	*30.2*
Administration	7.6	12.8	5.2
	200.7	239.3	38.6

External Affairs

Expenditures of the Department of External Affairs, including the Canadian International Development Agency and the International Joint Commission, total $381 million compared with $315 million in 1971-72.

Expenditures of the department in the amount of $109 million are $14 million higher than in the previous year and include $71 million for foreign operations ($62 million in 1971-72) and $21 million for membership and support of international organizations ($18 million in 1971-72).

Expenditures of the Canadian International Development Agency of $271 million are $52 million higher than in 1971-72. Economic assistance at $145 million is $34 million more than in the previous year, technical assistance at $45 million is $5 million more, grants to multilateral assistance programs at $33 million is $3 million more and contributions to development assistance projects at $16 million is $4 million more while international emergency relief at $9 million is $4 million less than in 1971-72.

TABLE 16

(in millions of dollars)

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS	Fiscal year ended March 31 1972	1973 (preliminary)	Increase or decrease (–)
Department–			
Headquarters operations	7.0	8.1	1.1
Foreign operations	62.4	71.1	8.7
Membership in and support of international organizations	17.6	20.6	3.0
World exhibitions	0.1	0.1	
Administration	8.3	9.4	1.1
	95.4	*109.3*	*13.9*
Canadian International Development Agency–			
Economic assistance	111.2	145.0	33.8
Technical assistance	40.2	45.0	4.8
Grants to multilateral international assistance programs	29.9	32.7	2.8
Contributions to development assistance projects of Canadian organizations	11.9	16.5	4.6
International emergency relief	13.8	9.4	–4.4
Other	11.7	22.6	10.9
	218.7	*271.2*	*52.5*
International Joint Commission	0.5	0.5	
	314.6	381.0	66.4

Finance

Expenditures of the Department of Finance including those of the Auditor General, the Department of Insurance and the Tariff Board total $3,775 million compared with $3,542 million in 1971-72.

The main changes are increases of $37 million in fiscal transfer payments to provinces and $167 million in public debt charges.

TABLE 17

(in millions of dollars)

FINANCE	Fiscal year ended March 31 1972	1973 (prelimi-nary)	Increase or decrease (–)
Public debt charges	2,009.6	2,176.8	167.2
Fiscal transfer payments	1,425.5	1,462.2	36.7
Municipal grants	57.2	62.0	4.8
Guaranteed loans	32.6	34.6	2.0
Forgiveness of indebtedness, Federal-Provincial Loans Program, 1971		10.0	10.0
Administration and general	11.7	22.9	11.2
	3,536.6	3,768.5	231.9
Auditor General	3.9	4.3	0.4
Insurance	1.1	1.3	0.2
Tariff Board	0.5	0.5	
	3,542.1	3,774.6	232.5

Public debt charges

Public debt charges consist of interest on public debt, the annual amortization of bond discounts and commissions, the cost of issuing new loans and other costs incurred in servicing the public debt. These charges in the amount of $2,177 million include interest of $2,131 million of which $1,707 million is in respect of unmatured debt and $424 million in respect of other liabilities.

The increase of $167 million mainly reflects an increase in unmatured debt.

When considering the magnitude of these public debt charges and the burden they place upon the public treasury, it must be borne in mind that a substantial portion of the debt is attributable to, or is invested in, productive or earning assets. Therefore, in calculating the *net* burden of the government's annual interest charges, the income derived from loans, investments and other productive assets must be taken into account. For 1972-73 this income is $1,275 million as shown in the non-tax revenue section under "return on investments". This amount deducted from the gross total of $2,316 million as shown in table 19 leaves a net amount of $1,041 million compared with a net of $957 million in 1971-72. Measured as a percentage of net debt, the burden of the net annual interest charges is 5.95 per cent in 1972-73 compared with 5.34 per cent in 1971-72. As a percentage of the gross national product for the calendar year ending within the fiscal year, the relative burden is 1.01 per cent compared with 1.04 per cent in 1971-72.

TABLE 18

(in millions of dollars)

INTEREST AND OTHER PUBLIC DEBT CHARGES	Fiscal year ended March 31 1972	1973 (prelimi-nary)	Increase or decrease (–)
Interest on public debt–			
Unmatured debt including treasury bills–			
Payable in Canadian dollars	1,560.4	1,689.4	129.0
Payable in foreign currencies	17.4	17.4	
	1,577.8	*1,706.8*	*129.0*
Other liabilities–			
Annuity, insurance and pension accounts	377.9	414.9	37.0
Deposit and trust accounts	7.9	9.1	1.2
	385.8	*424.0*	*38.2*
Total interest on public debt(1)	1,963.6	2,130.8	167.2
Other public debt charges–			
Annual amortization of bond discounts and commissions	41.5	41.5	
Cost of issuing new loans	3.4	3.4	
Servicing of public debt	1.1	1.1	
	46.0	*46.0*	
	2,009.6	2,176.8	167.2

(1)Additional interest of $58.7 million in 1971-72 and $78.5 million in 1972-73 is included in National Defence expenditures; $65.3 million in 1971-72 and $102.0 million in 1972-73 in Treasury Board expenditures; and $3.3 million in 1971-72 and $4.5 million in 1972-73 in Royal Canadian Mounted Police expenditures.

TABLE 19

(in millions of dollars)

NET BURDEN OF ANNUAL INTEREST CHARGES	Fiscal year ending March 31 1972	1973 (prelimi-nary)	Increase or decrease (–)
Total interest on public debt(1)	2,090.9	2,315.8	224.9
Less return on investments	1,133.5	1,275.0	141.5
Net interest cost	957.4	1,040.8	83.4
Net interest cost as a percentage of net debt	5.34	5.95	

(1)Includes additional interest referred to in table 18.

Fiscal transfer payments to provinces

These payments total $1,462 million, $37 million more than in 1971-72.

Payments of $1,160 million under the Federal-Provincial Fiscal Arrangements Act are $42 million higher than in 1971-72.

Payments of $226 million under the Established Programs (Interim Arrangements) Act to the Province of Quebec are in respect of compensation to that province for its opting out of the following programs: hospital insurance and diagnostic services, old age assistance, disabled persons allowances, blind persons allowances, unemployment assistance, and the Canada Assistance Plan; and, in part, the general health grants program. Payments were $281 million in 1971-72.

Subsidies to provinces payable under the British North America Acts and other statutory authority are $34 million, the same as in 1971-72.

The transfer of certain public utility tax receipts in the amount of $81 million are $56 million more than in 1971-72 and represent the transferable portion of income tax received from corporations whose main business is the distribution to, or generation for distribution to, the public of electrical energy, gas and steam.

The Federal-Provincial Fiscal Revision Act, 1964, provides that where, in any fiscal year commencing on or after April 1, 1964, the federal savings in respect of a province providing schooling allowances exceeds the federal revenue abatement in respect of that province for the taxation year ending in that fiscal year, the Minister of Finance may, out of the consolidated revenue fund, pay to that province in respect of that fiscal year an amount equal to the excess. Moreover, where for a taxation year ending in any fiscal year commencing on or after April 1, 1964 the federal revenue abatement in respect of a province providing schooling allowances exceeds the federal savings in that fiscal year in respect of that province, the amount of the excess may be deducted from any payment to that province under the Federal-Provincial Fiscal Arrangements Act or under any subsequent Act of the Parliament of Canada substituted therefore, or may be otherwise recovered as a debt due to Canada by that province. The abatement for the taxation year 1972 and the revised abatement for the taxation year 1971 in respect of the Province of Quebec exceeded the federal savings by $38 million which has been recovered from payments to that province under the Established Programs (Interim Arrangements) Act. In 1971-72 abatements exceeded the federal savings by $32 million and was recovered.

TABLE 20

(in millions of dollars)

FISCAL TRANSFER PAYMENTS TO PROVINCES	Fiscal year ended March 31		Increase or decrease (–)
	1972	1973 (prelimi-nary)	
Payments under the Federal-Provincial Fiscal Arrangements Act	1,118.4	1,160.2	41.8
Payments under the Established Programs (Interim Arrangements) Act	280.7	225.5	–55.2
Statutory subsidies	33.8	33.8	
Transfer of certain public utility tax receipts	24.6	80.9	56.3
Federal-Provincial Fiscal Revision Act (youth allowances)	–32.0	–38.2	–6.2
	1,425.5	1,462.2	36.7

TABLE 21

(in millions of dollars)

FISCAL TRANSFER PAYMENTS	Fiscal year ended March 31, 1973 (preliminary)					
	Payments Under Fiscal Arrangements	Payments Under Interim Arrangements Act	Statutory subsidies	Recovery under the Provincial Fiscal Revision Act (youth allowances)	Transfer of certain public utilities tax receipts	Total
Newfoundland	114.0		9.7		3.3	127.0
Nova Scotia	147.0		2.2		3.7	152.9
Prince Edward Island	25.5		0.7		1.5	27.7
New Brunswick	125.2		1.8			127.0
Quebec	473.7	225.5	4.5	–38.2	12.1	677.6
Ontario	7.9		5.5		36.0	49.4
Manitoba	91.3		2.1		1.1	94.5
Saskatchewan	174.7		2.1		0.1	176.9
Alberta	0.9		3.1		18.9	22.9
British Columbia			2.1		3.3	5.4
Yukon and Northwest Territories					0.9	0.9
	1,160.2	225.5	33.8	–38.2	80.9	1,462.2

Governor General

Included in these expenditures are the salaries of the Governor General of Canada and the Lieutenant-Governors of the provinces and other expenses of these offices. Expenditures of $1 million are approximately the same as in 1971-72.

Indian Affairs and Northern Development

Expenditures of this department at $480 million are $54 million more than in 1971-72.

Expenditures of $272 million for Indian and Eskimo affairs include $118 million for education, $116 million for community affairs and $17 million for economic development. In 1971-72 expenditures of $262 million included $120 million for education, $110 million for community affairs and $14 million for economic development.

TABLE 22

(in millions of dollars)

INDIAN AFFAIRS AND NORTHERN DEVELOPMENT	Fiscal year ended March 31 1972	1973 (preliminary)	Increase or decrease (–)
Indian and Eskimo affairs–			
Education	120.0	118.0	–2.0
Community affairs	109.8	116.4	6.6
Economic development	13.9	16.6	2.7
Consultation and negotiation	2.0	5.3	3.3
Other	16.0	15.2	–0.8
	261.7	*271.5*	*9.8*
Northern development–			
Resource management and development	12.7	18.2	5.5
Territorial affairs	73.7	80.5	6.8
Northern roads and airstrips	18.2	31.5	13.3
Other	1.8	2.2	0.4
	106.4	*132.4*	*26.0*
Conservation–			
National parks	32.0	38.7	6.7
Historic sites	12.3	21.5	9.2
Other	5.0	4.9	–0.1
	49.3	*65.1*	*15.8*
Administration	9.2	11.4	2.2
	426.6	480.4	53.8

Expenditures of $132 million for northern development include $81 million for territorial affairs, $18 million for resource management and development and $31 million for northern roads and airstrips. In 1971-72 expenditures of $106 million included $74 million for territorial affairs, $13 million for resource management and development and $18 million for northern roads and airstrips.

Expenditures of $65 million for the conservation program include $39 million in respect of national parks and $22 million in respect of historic sites. In 1971-72 expenditures of $49 million included $32 million for national parks and $12 million for historic sites.

Industry, Trade and Commerce

Expenditures of the Department of Industry, Trade and Commerce including those of Statistics Canada and the Standards Council of Canada total $414 million compared with $363 million in 1970-71.

Outlays of $193 million for the trade-industrial program are $12 million higher than in 1971-72 and include $79 million for technological capability ($76 million in 1971-72), $31 million for general incentives to industry ($31 million in 1971-72) and $31 million for capital subsidies for the construction of commercial and fishing vessels ($10 million in 1971-72).

Costs of the grains program of $144 million are $44 million higher than in 1971-72 and Statistics Canada expenditures of $59 million are $10 million less than those of the previous year which included the costs of the 1971 census.

TABLE 23

(in millions of dollars)

INDUSTRY, TRADE AND COMMERCE	Fiscal year ended March 31 1972	1973 (preliminary)	Increase or decrease (–)
Trade-industrial program–			
Technological capability (defence)	48.8	48.3	–0.5
Technological capability (non-defence)	27.4	31.0	3.6
Capital subsidies for the construction of commercial and fishing vessels	10.2	31.0	20.8
General incentives to industry	31.3	31.3	
Administration and general	63.6	51.8	–11.8
	181.3	*193.4*	*12.1*
Tourism program	11.6	17.1	5.5
Grains and oilseeds program	100.0	144.0	44.0
	292.9	354.5	61.6
Standards Council of Canada	0.5	0.5	
Statistics Canada	69.2	59.0	–10.2
	362.6	414.0	51.4

Justice

Expenditures of the Department of Justice including those of the Law Reform Commission of Canada and the Tax Review Board are $36 million compared with $29 million in 1971-72. Judges' salaries and allowances are $19 million compared with $17 million and outlays for legal services are $12 million compared with $8 million in the previous year.

TABLE 24

(in millions of dollars)

JUSTICE	Fiscal year ended March 31 1972	1973 (preliminary)	Increase or decrease (–)
Legal services	7.8	12.0	4.2
Judges' salaries and allowances	16.7	18.9	2.2
Administration and general	3.8	4.0	0.2
	28.3	34.9	6.6
Law Reform Commission of Canada		1.0	1.0
Tax Review Board	0.4	0.5	0.1
	28.7	36.4	7.7

Labour

Expenditures of the Department of Labour including those in respect of Information Canada (previously reported under the Department of Supply and Services) are $29 million, $3 million more than in 1971-72.

TABLE 25

(in millions of dollars)

LABOUR	Fiscal year ended March 31 1972	1973 (preliminary)	Increase or decrease (–)
Program expenditures	11.9	13.0	1.1
Payments of compensation respecting public service employees and merchant seamen	5.4	5.5	0.1
Information Canada	8.1	10.2	2.1
	25.4	28.7	3.3

Manpower and Immigration

Included under this heading are the Department of Manpower and Immigration, the Immigration Appeal Board, and the Unemployment Insurance Commission.

Expenditures of the department of $734 million are $115 million more than in 1971-72. Development and utilization of manpower costs of $679 million are $103 million more and costs of immigration services at $32 million are $9 million more than in the previous year.

There are no comparable expenditures in 1972-73 to those made in 1971-72 for the government's contribution to the Unemployment Insurance Account or for the costs of operations of the Commission; these costs of operations are now a direct charge to the account and under the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1971 the government is not required to make a contribution to the account until April 1, 1973. Expenditures of $1 million for the government annuities program are approximately the same amount as in 1971-72.

TABLE 26

(in millions of dollars)

MANPOWER AND IMMIGRATION	Fiscal year ended March 31 1972	1973 (preliminary)	Increase or decrease (–)
Development and utilization of manpower–			
Employment and training services	564.9	667.8	102.9
Administration and general	11.0	11.0	
	575.9	*678.8*	*102.9*
Immigration–			
Recruitment selection	10.4	17.4	7.0
Enforcement and control	8.5	11.0	2.5
Administration	3.8	3.5	–0.3
	22.7	*31.9*	*9.2*
Program development	6.3	7.3	1.0
Administration and general	13.7	15.9	2.2
	618.6	733.9	115.3
Immigration Appeal Board	0.9	1.2	0.3
Unemployment Insurance Commission–			
Government's contribution to the unemployment insurance account	92.1		–92.1
Annuities program	1.3	1.1	–0.2
Administration and general	80.0	13.0	–67.0
	173.4	*14.1*	*–159.3*
	792.9	749.2	–43.7

National Defence

Expenditures of the Department of National Defence, including those for Defence Construction (1951) Limited, in the amount of $1,984 million are $89 million more than in 1971-72.

Expenditures of $1,903 million for the Canadian Armed Forces program include $1,487 million for operating expenses, $148 million for capital outlays and $268 million in respect of military pensions and other benefits. In 1971-72 expenditures were $1,818 million and included $1,392 million for operating, $206 million for capital and $220 million in respect of pensions.

TABLE 27

(in millions of dollars)

NATIONAL DEFENCE	Fiscal year ended March 31 1972	1973 (prelimi-nary)	Increase or decrease (–)
Canadian armed forces–			
Operating expenditures	1,392.0	1,487.4	95.4
Capital expenditures	206.2	147.6	–58.6
Military pensions, pension contributions and other benefits–			
Superannuation account–			
Government's contribution	73.8	79.0	5.2
Amortization of deferred charges	66.3	89.2	22.9
Additional interest	58.7	78.5	19.8
	198.8	*246.7*	*47.9*
Other pensions, contributions and benefits	20.7	20.9	0.2
	1,817.7	1,902.6	84.9
Defence research	47.0	47.5	0.5
Mutual aid to NATO countries including contributions towards military costs of NATO	13.8	14.4	0.6
Civil emergency measures	4.9	5.6	0.7
Defence Construction (1951) Limited	2.7	3.0	0.3
Administration and general	9.1	10.9	1.8
	1.895.2	1,984.0	88.8

Outlays in respect of military pensions, pension contributions and other benefits include $79 million for the government's contribution to the Canadian forces superannuation account, $89 million for amortization of deferred charges and $79 million for additional interest in respect of the superannuation account. In 1971-72 the government's contribution was $74 million, amortization of deferred charges was $66 million and additional interest was $59 million.

Defence research costs of $48 million are $1 million more than in 1971-72.

National Health and Welfare

Expenditures of the Department of National Health and Welfare including those of the Medical Research Council are $2,917 million compared with $2,706 million in 1971-72.

Outlays for income security and social assistance are $1,134 million compared with $1,100 million in 1971-72; for health insurance and resources $1,633 million compared with $1,476 million; for medical services $53 million compared with $50 million; and for the Medical Research Council $38 million compared with $36 million.

Family allowances, family assistance and youth allowances

These expenditures total $610 million of which $549 million is family allowances, $59 million is youth allowances and $2 million is family assistance. In 1971-72 the total was $616 million of which $554 million was family allowances, $60 million was youth allowances and $2 million was family assistance.

Family allowances are payable in respect of all children under 16 years of age, resident in Canada, with minor exceptions such as children of immigrants who must reside in Canada one year before family allowance is payable. The monthly allowance is $6 if the child is under 10 years of age and $8 in the age group 10 to 15.

Family assistance is payable at the same rates on behalf of children of immigrants and settlers during their first year of residence in Canada.

Youth allowances are payable at the rate of $10 per month in respect of persons resident in Canada who have attained the age of 16 years and have not attained the age of 18 years and who are in full-time attendance at a school or university or are by reasons of mental or physical infirmity precluded from attending school or university. No payments were made in respect of persons resident in the Province of Quebec. However, under authority of the Federal-Provincial Fiscal Revision Act, abatements in federal income tax otherwise payable by individuals resident in that province were allowed in compensation of the fact that the payment of youth allowances had been assumed by the province and to allow for the imposition of the required provincial income taxes.

TABLE 28

(in millions of dollars)

NATIONAL HEALTH AND WELFARE	Fiscal year ended March 31 1972	1973 (preliminary)	Increase or decrease (–)
Health insurance and resources–			
Government's contributions under the Hospital Insurance and Diagnostic Services Act	844.6	950.8	106.2
Health resources fund	37.0	37.0	
Medical Care Act	576.5	630.8	54.3
Health grants to provinces	15.2	11.3	–3.9
Other	2.6	3.5	0.9
	1,475.9	*1,633.4*	*157.5*
Income security and social assistance–			
Family allowances	554.4	548.9	–5.5
Youth allowances	59.7	59.4	–0.3
Canada assistance plans–payments to provinces	457.1	489.6	32.5
Other	28.0	36.2	8.2
	1,099.2	*1,134.1*	*34.9*
Medical services	50.0	52.7	2.7
Health protection	24.3	30.0	5.7
Fitness and amateur sport	8.5	10.1	1.6
Administration and general	12.1	18.5	6.4
	2,670.0	2,878.8	208.8
Medical Research Council–			
Scholarships and grants in aid of research	35.6	37.4	1.8
Administration	0.5	0.6	0.1
	36.1	*38.0*	*1.9*
	2,706.1	2,916.8	210.7

TABLE 29

(in millions of dollars)

FAMILY AND YOUTH ALLOWANCES AND ASSISTANCE	Fiscal year ended March 31 1973 (preliminary) Family allowances	Youth allowances	Family assistance	Total
Newfoundland	16.9	2.1		19.0
Nova Scotia	20.7	3.2		23.9
Prince Edward Island	3.1	0.5		3.6
New Brunswick	17.5	2.8		20.3
Quebec	152.7		0.3	153.0
Ontario	190.4	28.8	1.1	220.3
Manitoba	24.5	3.7	0.1	28.3
Saskatchewan	23.6	3.8		27.4
Alberta	44.2	6.4	0.1	50.7
British Columbia	53.4	8.0	0.4	61.8
Yukon and Northwest Territories	1.9	0.1		2.0
	548.9	59.4	2.0	610.3

Canada Assistance Plan

Payments to the provinces under the Canada Assistance Plan are $490 million compared with $457 million in 1971-72. The Canada Assistance Plan Act which was enacted in 1966 authorizes the federal government to enter into agreements with the provinces for sharing the costs of assistance and welfare services provided by the provinces, territories and municipalities to persons in need. The rate of the federal contribution is 50 per cent of the shareable costs; the rates of assistance granted and the specific conditions of eligibility applied are determined by the provinces and their municipalities and take into account the budgetary requirements as well as the income and resources of the applicants. Contributions under this plan have replaced certain contributions which formerly had been made under the Old Age Assistance Act, the Disabled Persons Act, the Blind Persons Act and the Unemployment Assistance Act. Under a federal-provincial agreement the Province of Quebec has opted out of a major portion of this program.

TABLE 30

(in millions of dollars)

CANADA ASSISTANCE PLAN	Fiscal year ended March 31 1972	1973 (preliminary)	Increase or decrease (–)
Newfoundland	25.6	26.3	0.7
Nova Scotia	21.8	21.3	–0.5
Prince Edward Island	4.0	4.6	0.6
New Brunswick	20.2	20.1	–0.1
Quebec	(1)	0.4	0.4
Ontario	211.1	223.6	12.5
Manitoba	36.3	37.8	1.5
Saskatchewan	25.3	26.4	1.1
Alberta	42.9	46.7	3.8
British Columbia	68.6	80.1	11.5
Yukon and Northwest Territories	1.3	2.3	1.0
	457.1	489.6	32.5

(1)Less than $50,000.

Hospital Insurance and Diagnostic Services Act

Contributions of $951 million to the provinces in 1972-73 under this Act are $106 million more than in 1971-72. Under federal-provincial agreement the Province of Quebec has opted out of this program.

TABLE 31

(in millions of dollars)

GOVERNMENT'S CONTRIBUTIONS UNDER THE HOSPITAL INSURANCE AND DIAGNOSTIC SERVICES ACT	Fiscal year ended March 31 1972	1973 (preliminary)	Increase or decrease (–)
Newfoundland	27.1	30.2	3.1
Nova Scotia	42.8	46.7	3.9
Prince Edward Island	5.2	5.9	0.7
New Brunswick	34.8	39.8	5.0
Ontario	427.5	479.8	52.3
Manitoba	53.5	63.3	9.8
Saskatchewan	49.5	54.4	4.9
Alberta	94.8	105.3	10.5
British Columbia	107.1	122.0	14.9
Yukon and Northwest Territories	2.3	3.4	1.1
	844.6	950.8	106.2

Medical Care Act

The Medical Care Act authorizes the payment of contributions by Canada towards the cost of insured medical services incurred by provinces pursuant to provincial medical care insurance plans.

The Provinces of Saskatchewan and British Columbia became participating provinces effective July 1, 1968; Nova Scotia, Newfoundland and Manitoba effective April 1, 1969; Alberta effective July 1, 1969; Ontario effective October 1, 1969; Quebec effective November 1, 1970; Prince Edward Island effective December 1, 1970; New Brunswick effective January 1, 1971 and Northwest Territories effective April 1, 1971.

Payments of $630 million are $54 million higher than in 1971-72.

TABLE 32

(in millions of dollars)

CONTRIBUTIONS TO PROVINCES UNDER THE MEDICAL CARE ACT	Fiscal year ended March 31 1972	1973 (preliminary)	Increase or decrease (–)
Newfoundland	14.4	15.3	0.9
Nova Scotia	20.7	22.6	1.9
Prince Edward Island	2.9	3.2	0.3
New Brunswick	16.2	18.5	2.3
Quebec	159.8	175.2	15.4
Ontario	203.7	225.0	21.3
Manitoba	27.5	30.2	2.7
Saskatchewan	25.4	26.6	1.2
Alberta	45.0	48.0	3.0
British Columbia	60.0	64.7	4.7
Northwest Territories	0.9	1.5	0.6
	576.5	630.8	54.3

Health Resources Fund

The Health Resources Act provides for the establishment of a health resources fund to assist provinces in the acquisition, construction and renovation of health training facilities and research institutes.

Expenditures are $37 million, the same amount as in 1971-72.

TABLE 33

(in millions of dollars)

CONTRIBUTIONS TO PROVINCES UNDER THE HEALTH RESOURCES FUND ACT	Fiscal year ended March 31 1972	1973 (preliminary)	Increase or decrease (–)
Newfoundland	0.7	5.2	4.5
Nova Scotia	1.2	1.8	0.6
Prince Edward Island	(1)	0.1	0.1
New Brunswick		1.0	1.0
Quebec	7.2	1.0	–6.2
Ontario	17.4	16.2	–1.2
Manitoba	0.7	4.1	3.4
Saskatchewan	2.9	2.8	–0.1
Alberta	4.6	4.1	–0.5
British Columbia	2.3	0.6	–1.7
Northwest Territories		0.1	0.1
	37.0	37.0	

(1)Less than $50,000.

National Revenue

Expenditures of the Department of National Revenue are $221 million compared with $185 million in 1971-72.

Outlays of $95 million in respect of the collection of customs import duties, excise taxes and excise duties are $10 million higher and outlays of $126 million in respect of taxation are $26 million more than in 1971-72.

TABLE 34

(in millions of dollars)

NATIONAL REVENUE	Fiscal year ended March 31 1972	1973 (preliminary)	Increase or decrease (–)
Customs and Excise	84.9	94.8	9.9
Taxation	100.4	125.9	25.5
	185.3	220.7	35.4

Parliament

Costs of Parliament at $35 million are $2 million more than in 1971-72.

TABLE 35

(in millions of dollars)

PARLIAMENT	Fiscal year ended March 31 1972	1973 (preliminary)	Increase or decrease (–)
House of Commons	25.7	27.3	1.6
The Senate	5.7	5.8	0.1
Library of Parliament	1.2	1.6	0.4
	32.6	34.7	2.1

Post Office

Gross expenditures of the Post Office department total $561 million in 1972-73 compared with $496 million in 1971-72.

Salaries and allowances are $431 million, $59 million higher than in 1971-72 and costs of transportation of mail are $92 million, $4 million less than in 1971-72.

However, as authorized by the Post Office Act, remuneration of postmasters and staffs at revenue and semi-staff offices and certain other disbursements are paid from revenue. These payments amount to $59 million in 1972-73 ($56 million in 1971-72). Also, Post Office vote 1 authorized that revenue arising from services provided thereunder be credited thereto; this amounts to $28 million compared with $27 million in 1971-72.

Consequently net expenditures charged to budgetary appropriations are $474 million compared to $413 million in 1971-72.

As net Post Office receipts total $475 million as shown in the revenue section of this report and net expenditures are $474 million there is a net operating surplus of $1 million for 1972-73. In 1971-72 net receipts of $404 million and net expenditures of $413 million resulted in a net operating deficit of $9 million.

However, it is to be noted that post office expenditures do not reflect any charges for premises occupied by the Post Office nor for certain accounting and miscellaneous services provided by other departments, nor does post office revenue reflect any receipts from the franking privilege covering parliamentary mail or other miscellaneous services provided for other departments and agencies.

TABLE 36

(in millions of dollars)

POST OFFICE	Fiscal year ended March 31 1972	1973 (preliminary)	Increase or decrease (–)
Operating expenditures–			
Salaries and allowances–			
Headquarters, regional and district offices, staff post offices and railway mail services	321.9	378.2	56.3
Postmaster and staff–			
Revenue offices	12.5	13.6	1.1
Semi-staff offices	31.1	32.3	1.2
Sub postmasters	6.8	7.3	0.5
	372.3	*431.4*	*59.1*
Transportation of mail–			
Rail	10.8	11.0	0.2
Land	52.0	44.4	–7.6
Air	28.2	30.5	2.3
Water	1.3	1.2	–0.1
Payments to foreign postal administrations	4.1	4.9	0.8
	96.4	*92.0*	*–4.4*
Other	19.6	27.0	7.4
	488.3	550.4	62.1
Capital expenditures	7.7	10.5	2.8
Grants and contributions	0.1	0.1	
Gross expenditure	496.1	561.0	64.9
Less:			
Expenditure charges directly to revenue under the Post Office Act	–55.8	–58.9	–3.1
	440.3	502.1	61.8
Revenue credited to approriations	–27.0	–28.0	–1.0
Net expenditure	413.3	474.1	60.8

Privy Council

Expenditures for the Privy Council, including those for the Chief Electoral Officer, the Commissioner of Official Languages, the Economic Council of Canada and the Public Service Staff Relations Board total $39 million, $26 million more than in 1971-72. The increase is due mainly to the costs of the 1972 federal election. Expenditures in respect of the Science Council of Canada and the Science Secretariat which were reported under Privy Council in 1971-72 are now reported under the Department of Science and Technology.

TABLE 37

(in millions of dollars)

PRIVY COUNCIL	Fiscal year ended March 31 1972	1973 (preliminary)	Increase or decrease (–)
Privy Council	7.4	10.0	2.6
Chief Electoral Officer	1.2	23.6	22.4
Commissioner of Official Languages	0.9	1.0	0.1
Economic Council of Canada	2.1	2.6	0.5
Public Service Staff Relations Board	1.5	1.8	0.3
	13.1	39.0	25.9

Public Works

Expenditures of the department total $376 million compared with $338 million in 1971-72. Expenditures for the accommodation program at $298 million are $40 million more than in the previous year and account for most of the increase.

TABLE 38

(in millions of dollars)

PUBLIC WORKS	Fiscal year ended March 31 1972	1973 (preliminary)	Increase or decrease (–)
Accommodation services–			
General purpose buildings	171.5	191.6	20.1
Single purpose buildings	76.2	95.6	19.4
Other	10.5	10.8	0.3
	258.2	*298.0*	*39.8*
Transportation and other engineering services–			
Contributions to provinces under terms of the Trans-Canada Highway Act	2.3		–2.3
Other	12.9	16.0	3.1
	15.2	*16.0*	*0.8*
Marine services	34.4	28.4	–6.0
Professional and technical services	16.6	17.6	1.0
Administration and general	13.8	16.0	2.2
	338.2	376.0	37.8

Regional Economic Expansion

Expenditures for the Department of Regional Economic Expansion, including those for the Cape Breton Development Corporation, total $374 million compared with $346 million in 1971-72. Departmental expenditures are $321 million compared with $309 million in 1971-72 and include $92 million for industrial incentives ($106 million in 1971-72), $118 million for social adjustment and rural economic development ($88 million in 1971-72), $89 million for infrastructure assistance ($96 million in 1971-72) and $22 million for development planning ($19 million in 1971-72).

Payments to the Cape Breton Development Corporation total $53 million compared with $38 million in 1971-72.

TABLE 39

(in millions of dollars)

REGIONAL ECONOMIC EXPANSION	Fiscal year ended March 31 1972	1973 (preliminary)	Increase or decrease (–)
Department–			
Development planning	18.8	22.2	3.4
Industrial incentives	105.5	91.8	–13.7
Infrastructure assistance	96.1	89.0	–7.1
Social adjustment and rural economic development	88.2	117.9	29.7
	308.6	*320.9*	*12.3*
Cape Breton Development Corporation–			
Payment to the corporation covering mining losses	28.9	32.6	3.7
Payment to the corporation for capital expenditures		9.4	9.4
Payment to the corporation under sections 22 and 23 of the Act		1.5	1.5
Payment to the corporation under sections 19 and 24 of the Act	8.9	9.2	0.3
	37.8	*52.7*	*14.9*
	346.4	373.6	27.2

Science and Technology

This is a new ministry and includes the Science Secretariat which in 1971-72 was reported under Privy Council; also included under this heading are expenditures of the Science Council of Canada.

Expenditures in 1972-73 are $4 million compared with $2 million in 1971-72.

TABLE 40
(in millions of dollars)

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY	Fiscal year ended March 31 1972	1973 (preliminary)	Increase or decrease (–)
Science Council of Canada	1.3	1.4	0.1
Department	1.1	2.9	1.8
	2.4	4.3	1.9

Secretary of State

Included under this heading are expenditures of the Department of the Secretary of State and those in respect of the Canada Council, the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, the Canadian Film Development Corporation, the Canadian Radio-Television Commission, the Company of Young Canadians, the National Arts Centre Corporation, the National Film Board, the National Library, the National Museums of Canada, the Public Archives, the Public Service Commission and the Representation Commissioner.

Expenditures total $973 million compared with $868 million in 1971-72.

TABLE 41
(in million of dollars)

SECRETARY OF STATE	Fiscal year ended March 31 1972	1973 (preliminary)	Increase or decrease (–)
Department–			
Post-secondary education payments to provinces	450.5	480.6	30.1
Bilingualism development	78.1	83.3	5.2
Citizenship	43.0	59.9	16.9
Translation bureau	11.1	13.8	2.7
Arts and culture	12.1	8.3	–3.8
Administration and general	3.9	5.2	1.3
	598.7	*651.1*	*52.4*
Canada Council	26.3	34.0	7.7
Canadian Broadcasting Corporation	181.0	205.0	24.0
Canadian Film Development Corporation	1.8	0.4	–1.4
Canadian Radio-Television Commission	4.7	5.4	0.7
Company of Young Canadians	1.9	2.0	0.1
National Arts Centre Corporation	3.0	3.7	0.7
National Film Board	12.0	14.5	2.5
National Library	3.7	5.0	1.3
National Museums of Canada	11.2	19.9	8.7
Public Archives	3.7	5.7	2.0
Public Service Commission	19.4	25.2	5.8
Representation Commissioner	0.1	1.2	1.1
	867.5	973.1	105.6

Expenditures for the development of bilingualism in the public service, which were included under Secretary of State in 1971-72 are now included under Treasury Board. Prior year figures have been adjusted for comparative purposes.

Post-secondary education payments to provinces of $481 million are $30 million higher than in 1971-72, expenditures for the bilingualism development of $83 million are $5 million higher and expenditures for citizenship of $60 million are $17 million higher than in 1971-72.

Solicitor General

Expenditures of the Department of the Solicitor General including net exepnditures for the Royal Canadian Mounted Police total $309 million, $49 million more than the 1971-72 total.

TABLE 42
(in millions of dollars)

SOLICITOR GENERAL	Fiscal year ended March 31 1972	1973 (preliminary)	Increased or decreased (–)
Royal Canadian Mounted Police–			
Law enforcement–			
Police services under contract	89.2	110.9	21.7
Enforcement of federal statutes and executive orders	50.5	65.2	14.7
Administration	22.8	26.2	3.4
Support services	14.6	14.0	–0.6
National police services	12.8	17.4	4.6
	189.9	*233.7*	*43.8*
Pensions and other benefits–			
Pensions	7.6	8.0	0.4
Royal Canadian Mounted Police superannuation account–			
Government's contribution	11.1	12.5	1.4
Amortization of deferred charges	7.9	8.2	0.3
Additional interest	3.3	4.5	1.2
Other	2.1	2.6	0.5
	32.0	*35.8*	*3.8*
	221.9	269.5	47.6
Less: receipts and revenue credited to the vote	–49.2	–57.6	–8.4
	172.7	211.9	39.2
Correctional services–			
Care of inmates	58.0	60.0	2.0
Rehabilitation of inmates	15.4	19.9	4.5
Parole and community services	5.7	7.4	1.7
Administration	6.4	7.4	1.0
	85.5	*94.7*	*9.2*
Departmental administration	1.9	2.4	0.5
	260.1	309.0	48.9

Gross expenditures of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police are $270 million but receipts of $58 million arising mainly from policing services provided to certain provinces, territories and municipalities result in net expenditures of $212 million. In 1971-72 gross expenditures were $222 million, receipts were $49 million resulting in net expenditures of $173 million.

Expenditures of $95 million for correctional services are $9 million higher than in 1971-72.

Supply and Services

Expenditures under this heading, which include those for the Department of Supply and Services, the Canadian Commercial Corporation and the Canadian Arsenals Limited, total $88 million compared with $76 million in 1971-72.

Expenditures of the Supply Administration of the department are $25 million, $2 million more than in 1971-72 and for the Services Administration $51 million compared with $43 million.

TABLE 43
(in millions of dollars)

SUPPLY AND SERVICES	Fiscal year ended March 31 1972	1973 (preliminary)	Increase or decrease (–)
Supply–			
Commercial supply	11.8	10.8	–1.0
Engineering procurement	9.8	12.9	3.1
Program administration	0.7	0.8	0.1
Other	0.7	0.7	
	23.0	*25.2*	*2.2*
Services–			
Public services compensation administration	15.3	18.0	2.7
Social and economic assistance program administration	9.3	11.3	2.0
Accounts payable and other payments administration	5.6	5.6	–
Management, financial and other services	5.9	7.3	1.4
Computer Services Bureau revolving fund–deficit		1.3	1.3
Accounts of Canada and reporting services	5.6	6.6	1.0
Other	0.9	1.0	0.1
	42.6	*51.1*	*8.5*
Administration	4.2	5.4	1.2
	69.8	81.7	11.9
Canadian Arsenals Limited	1.9	2.2	0.3
Canadian Commercial Corporation	3.9	4.2	0.3
	75.6	88.1	12.5

Transport

Expenditures of the Department of Transport, including those in respect of the Canadian National Railways, the Canadian Transport Commission, the National Harbours Board, The St. Lawrence Seaway Authority, the Atlantic Pilotage Authority, the Great Lakes Pilotage Authority, the Laurentian Pilotage Authority and the Pacific Pilotage Authority, total $603 million compared with $511 million in 1971-72. Outlays in respect of real estate operations which were previously included in the Ministry of Transport expenditures are now included in expenditures of the Department of Public Works.

Department

Expenditures of $125 million for marine services are $22 million higher than in 1971-72, $171 million for air services are $12 million higher, and $66 million for surface transportation are $6 million less.

Canadian National Railways

The 1972 deficit of the Canadian National Railways at $18 million, to be charged to budgetary expenditure, is $6 million less than the 1971 deficit of $24 million which was charged to budgetary expenditure in 1971-72.

Canadian Transport Commission

Expenditures of the Commission in 1972-73 in the amount of $186 million are $64 million more than in 1971-72. Payments under the National Transportation Act are $122 million ($65 million in 1971-72), contributions to the railway grade crossing fund are $20 million ($20 million in 1971-72) and payments under the Maritime Freight Rates Act are $13 million ($13 million in 1971-72).

National Harbours Board

Non-active advances to the Board to be charged to budgetary expenditure are $2 million, $1 million less than in 1971-72.

The St. Lawrence Seaway Authority

Budgetary expenditures in respect of the Authority are $13 million, approximately the same as in the previous fiscal year. The 1972 operating deficit of the Welland Canal of $10 million, charged to budgetary expenditure, is $1 million more than the 1971 deficit charged in 1971-72 and other expenditures of $3 million are $1 million less than in 1971-72.

TABLE 44

(in millions of dollars)

TRANSPORT	Fiscal year ending March 31 1972	1973 (preliminary)	Increase or decrease (–)
Marine transportation program–			
Way facilities	95.7	114.7	19.0
Marine regulations	4.6	5.0	0.4
Other	2.7	4.8	2.1
	103.0	*124.5*	*21.5*
Air transportation program–			
Airports and associated ground services	36.1	39.1	3.0
Air navigational services	93.9	100.8	6.9
Regulatory services	11.5	12.8	1.3
Construction services	8.5	8.8	0.3
Other	9.4	9.4	
	159.4	*170.9*	*11.5*
Surface transportation program–			
Ferry services	61.0	51.2	–9.8
Supplementary pensions	7.7	8.0	0.3
Other	3.1	6.5	3.4
	71.8	*65.7*	*–6.1*
Transportation development agency	4.5	10.2	5.7
Administration	8.5	9.4	0.9
	347.2	380.7	33.5
Canadian National Railways operating deficit	24.3	17.8	–6.5
Canadian Transport Commission–			
Payments under the National Transportation Act	65.5	122.0	56.5
Contributions to the railway grade crossing fund	20.0	20.0	
Steamship subventions for coastal services	6.3	7.0	0.7
Maritime Freight Rates Act	13.1	13.0	–0.1
Subsidies to regional air carriers	1.4	2.0	0.6
Atlantic region freight assistance	6.9	12.0	5.1
Other	8.5	9.7	1.2
	121.7	*185.7*	*64.0*
National Harbours Board	3.7	2.3	–1.4
Pilotage Authorities	0.7	3.4	2.7
The St. Lawrence Seaway Authority–			
Welland canal deficit	8.9	10.3	1.4
Other	4.6	2.9	–1.7
	13.5	*13.2*	*–0.3*
	511.1	603.1	92.0

Treasury Board

Expenditures of the Treasury Board, including those in respect of the National Research Council, are $519 million compared with $438 million in 1971-72.

The government's outlays in respect of the public service pension accounts are $320 million, $47 million more than in 1971-72. Contributions to the public service superannuation account, in an amount equal to the estimated current and prior service payments of individuals, are $109 million compared with $93 million in 1971-72. A further amount of $81 million, to cover the annual amortization charge in respect to actuarial deficiences arising out of salary increases and the actuarial deficiency revealed by the quinquennial evaluation made as at December 31, 1967, is included in budgetary expenditures. In 1971-72 amortization charges were $87 million. Also included in 1972-73 expenditures is $102 million for additional interest in respect of the superannuation account; in 1971-72 additional interest was $65 million.

Expenditures in respect of the Canada and Quebec pension plans total $24 million, the same as in 1971-72.

Contributions of $44 million in respect of public service social insurance are $20 million higher than in 1971-72.

National Research Council

Expenditures of the National Research Council are $142 million compared with $131 million in 1971-72.

TABLE 45

(in millions of dollars)

TREASURY BOARD	Fiscal year ended March 31 1972	1973 (preliminary)	Increase or decrease (–)
Public service pensions–			
Superannuation account–			
Government's contribution	93.0	109.1	16.1
Amortization of deferred charges	87.4	81.0	–6.4
Additional interest	65.3	102.0	36.7
	245.7	*292.1*	*46.4*
Government's contributions to Canada and Quebec pension plans	24.1	24.4	0.3
Other	3.6	3.8	0.2
	27.7	*28.2*	*0.5*
	273.4	320.3	46.9
Public service social insurance	23.4	43.7	20.3
Administration and general	11.1	12.8	1.7
	307.9	376.8	68.9
National Research Council of Canada–			
Operating expenditures	48.7	55.1	6.4
Capital expenditures	6.1	9.6	3.5
Grants and contributions	76.0	77.3	1.3
	130.8	*142.0*	*11.2*
	438.7	518.8	80.1

Outlays for scholarships and grants and assistance towards research in industry total $77 million, $1 million more than in 1971-72.

Urban Affairs

Expenditures of $134 million under this heading include budgetary expenditures in respect of Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation and the National Capital Commission.

Expenditures in respect of Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation at $92 million are $10 million more than in 1971-72 and expenditures in respect of the National Capital Commission at $31 million are $15 million less than in 1971-72.

TABLE 46

(in millions of dollars)

URBAN AFFAIRS	Fiscal year ended March 31 1972	1973 (preliminary)	Increase or decrease (–)
Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation–			
Housing research and community planning	6.7	9.1	2.4
Public housing projects and land development	34.8	29.0	–5.8
Municipal sewage treatment assistance	14.3	21.1	6.8
Urban renewal assistance	24.4	23.0	–1.4
Loss on mortgage sales	2.0	10.0	8.0
	82.2	*92.2*	*10.0*
National Capital Commission–			
Operating expenditures	12.3	13.1	0.8
Payment to the national capital fund	33.5	18.1	–15.4
	45.8	*31.2*	*–14.6*
Department	1.9	10.2	8.3
	129.9	133.6	3.7

Veterans Affairs

Expenditures of the Department of Veterans Affairs total $447 million compared with $423 million in 1971-72.

Costs of the pensions program at $246 million are $11 million higher than in 1971-72, outlays for welfare services at $110 million are $11 million more, and outlays for treatment services at $73 million are $2 million higher than in 1971-72.

TABLE 47

(in millions of dollars)

VETERANS AFFAIRS	Fiscal year ended March 31 1972	1973 (preliminary)	Increase or decrease (–)
Pensions–			
Grants and contributions	231.4	241.5	10.1
Operating expenditures	3.9	4.8	0.9
	235.3	*246.3*	*11.0*
Welfare services–			
War veterans allowances	77.2	87.0	9.8
Other	22.0	23.0	1.0
	99.2	*110.0*	*10.8*
Treatment services	70.8	73.0	2.2
Veterans land administration	11.3	11.3	
Bureau of Pensions Advocates	5.7	5.7	
Administration	1.0	1.1	0.1
	423.3	447.4	24.1

ASSET AND LIABILITY ACCOUNTS

The government's asset and liability account balances at March 31, 1973 as now estimated, the balances at March 31, 1972 and the net increases or decreases during 1972-73 are summarized in the following table:

TABLE 48

(in millions of dollars)

	Balance at March 31, 1972	Net transactions 1972-73 (preliminary)	Balance at March 31, 1973 (preliminary)
LIABILITIES			
Current and demand liabilities	2,681.1	519.7	3,200.8
Foreign exchange reserve accounts	1,120.3	103.0	1,223.3
Deposit and trust accounts	600.2	–10.5	589.7
Annuity, insurance and pension accounts–			
Social security accounts	5,456.5	696.6	6,153.1
Superannuation accounts	8,672.3	860.4	9,532.7
Other	1,447.5	–1.7	1,445.8
	15,576.3	*1,555.3*	*17,131.6*
Undisbursed balances of appropriations	190.7	–4.7	186.0
Refundable corporation tax	1.9	–1.2	0.7
Provision for compound interest on Canada savings bonds	56.9	44.8	101.7
Deferred credits	231.7	31.1	262.8
Suspense accounts	6.0		6.0
Unmatured debt	27,258.5	1,779.0	29,037.5
	47,723.6	4,016.5	51,740.1

TABLE 48 (Cont'd)

(in millions of dollars)

	Balance at March 31, 1972	Net transactions 1972-73 (preliminary)	Balance at March 31, 1973 (preliminary)
ASSETS			
Current assets–			
Cash accounts	1,903.9	519.5	2,423.4
Other	56.0	9.5	65.5
	1,959.9	*529.0*	*2,488.9*
Departmental working capital advances	172.0	8.7	180.7
Foreign exchange reserve accounts–			
Advances to the Exchange Fund Account	5,516.3	125.0	5,641.3
Canada's subscription to the International Monetary Fund	1,141.3	50.9	1,192.2
	6,657.6	*175.9*	*6,833.5*
Social security accounts–			
Canada Pension plan investment fund	4,611.3	978.7	5,590.0
Unemployment insurance account–advances	183.6	1,305.0	1,488.6
	4,794.9	*2,283.7*	*7,078.6*
Investment held for retirement of unmatured debt	15.4	–15.4	
Advances, loans and investments–			
Domestic	13,749.7	1,248.7	14,998.4
External	1,838.9	212.9	2,051.8
	15,588.6	*1,461.6*	*17,050.2*
Securities held in trust	128.6	–4.0	124.6
Deferred charges	921.5	22.0	943.5
Capital Assets	(1)		
Inactive loans and investments	94.8		94.8
Total recorded assets	30,333.3	4,461.5	34,794.8
Less: Reserve for losses on realization of assets	–546.4		–546.4
Net recorded assets	29,786.9	4,461.5	34,248.4
Net debt represented by excess of liabilities over net recorded assets	17,936.7	–445.0	17,491.7

(1)Shown at nominal value of $1.

SUMMARY

The gross liabilities of the government are estimated at $51,740 million at March 31, 1973 compared with $47,723 million at March 31, 1972. The increase of $4,017 million is due mainly to increases of $1,779 million in unmatured debt and $1,555 million in annuity, insurance and pension accounts.

Net recorded assets estimated at $34,248 million are $4,462 million higher than at March 31, 1972 due mainly to increases of $1,462 million in advances, loans and investments, $979 million in the Canada pension plan investment fund and $1,305 million in loans and advances to the Unemployment Insurance Account.

The net debt of Canada, or the excess of liabilities over net recorded assets, is $17,492 million at March 31, 1973 compared with $17,937 million at March 31, 1972. The decrease of $445 million reflects the estimated surplus for 1972-73.

ASSET ACCOUNTS

Current assets:

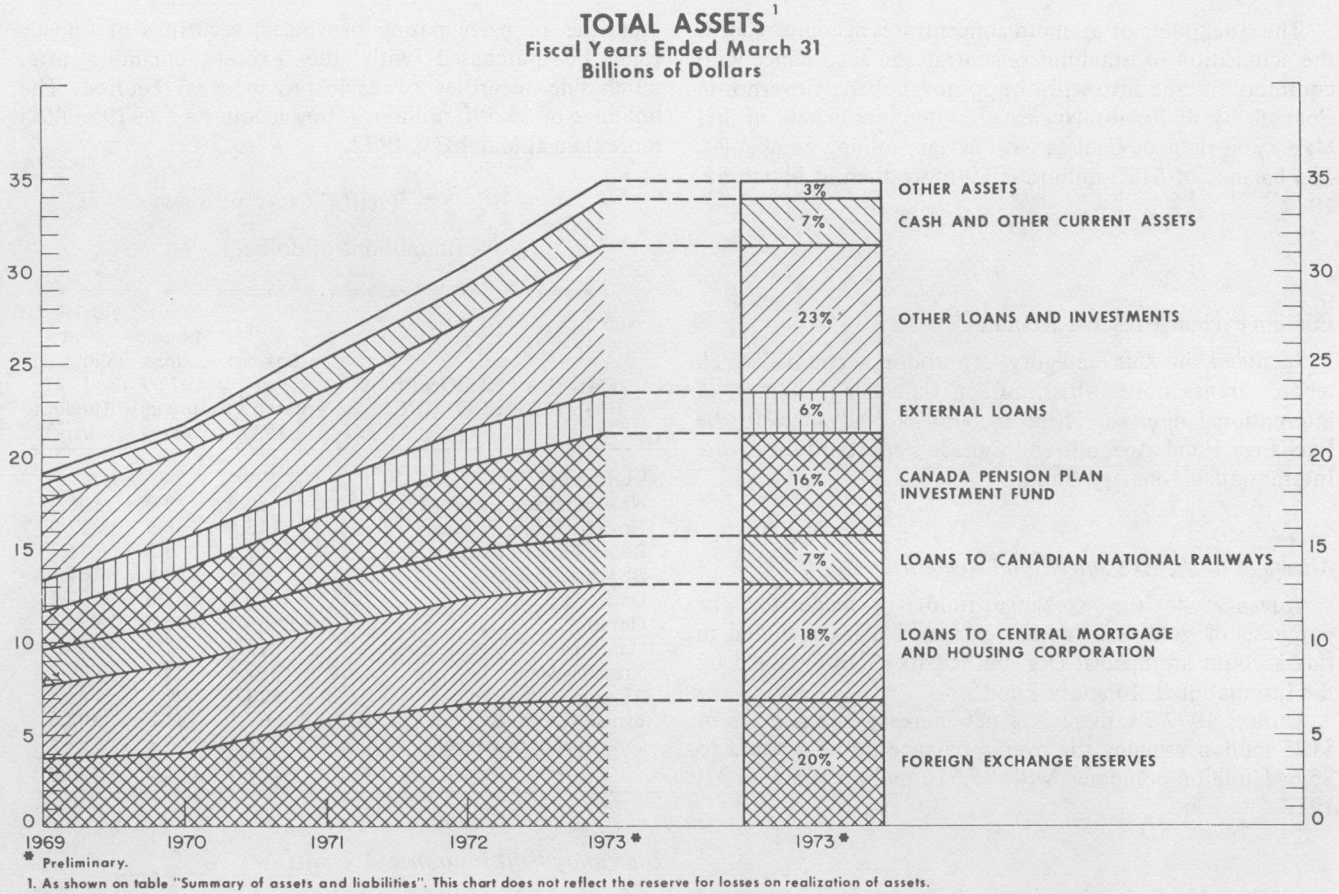
These accounts consist of various cash accounts and the securities investment account.

Total current assets at $2,489 million are $529 million more than at March 31, 1972. The main changes are an increase of $390 million in Receiver General current deposits and an increase of $100 million in cash in hands of collectors and in transit.

TABLE 49

(in millions of dollars)

CURRENT ASSETS	Balance at March 31, 1972	Net transactions 1972-73 (preliminary)	Balance at March 31, 1973 (preliminary)
Cash accounts–			
Receiver General current deposits–			
Canada	1,550.1	390.3	1,940.4
Foreign countries	17.8	–0.6	17.2
	1,567.9	*389.7*	*1,957.6*
Receiver General special deposits–			
Canada	32.1	12.3	44.4
Foreign countries	0.2		0.2
	32.3	*12.3*	*44.6*
Other cash accounts–			
Cash in hands of collectors and in transit	222.8	100.0	322.8
Moneys received after March 31 but applicable to current year	59.8	15.6	75.4
Post Office–cash on hand and in transit	20.2	1.8	22.0
Miscellaneous	0.9	0.1	1.0
	1,903.9	519.5	2,423.4
Securities investment account	56.0	9.5	65.5
	1,959.9	529.0	2,488.9



1. As shown on table "Summary of assets and liabilities". This chart does not reflect the reserve for losses on realization of assets.

Departmental Working Capital Advances

These accounts record advances outstanding at the close of the fiscal year for working funds for certain departmental activities. The balance of $181 million is $9 million higher than at March 31, 1972.

Bullion and coinage consists of separate accounts for bronze, gold, nickel and silver in which are recorded transactions in respect of purchases and sales. Debits include the cost of all coin and bullion purchased from the Royal Canadian Mint. Credits represent the face value of all coin issued to, and gold bullion transferred to the Bank of Canada, and sales of silver bullion. The balances at March 31, 1973 total $10 million compared with $8 million at March 31, 1972.

The defence production revolving fund records the cost of materials procured for use in the manufacture of defence equipment until such time as they are billed to the Department of National Defence or sold to defence contractors for use in the manufacture of defence equipment, as well as working capital loans and advances for their production. The balance at March 31, 1973 is $10 million, $4 million less than at March 31, 1972.

TABLE 50
(in millions of dollars)

DEPARTMENTAL WORKING CAPITAL ADVANCES	Balance at March 31, 1972	Net transactions 1972-73 (preliminary)	Balance at March 31, 1973 (preliminary)
Bullion and coinage	8.0	2.0	10.0
Defence production revolving fund	14.2	−4.0	10.2
Miscellaneous departmental imprest and standing advances	14.0	1.0	15.0
Miscellaneous departmental accountable advances	9.2	0.8	10.0
Stockpiling of uranium concentrates	101.2	8.8	110.0
Transport stores account	7.3	−2.3	5.0
Other	18.1	2.4	20.5
	172.0	8.7	180.7

The stockpiling of uranium concentrates account records the acquisition of uranium concentrates in accordance with contracts entered into with the approval of the Governor in Council by Eldorado Nuclear Limited on behalf of her Majesty in right of Canada with certain mining companies. The balance of $110 million is $9 more than at March 31, 1972.

Foreign exchange reserve accounts

Included in this category are those accounts which record transactions which affect Canada's holdings of international reserves. These accounts are advances to the Exchange Fund Account and Canada's subscription to the International Monetary Fund.

Advances to the Exchange Fund Account

Advances to the exchange fund are made for the purchase of gold and foreign exchange. Also included in this account are Special Drawing Rights (SDR's) issued by the International Monetary Fund.

During 1972-73 there is a net increase in advances of $125 million bringing the overall balance in the account to $5,641 million compared with $5,516 million at March 31, 1972.

Canada's subscription to the capital of the International Monetary Fund

This subscription is Canada's quota in the International Monetary Fund. In this organization, member's quotas are set in SDR units of account and are normally paid in gold (25 per cent) and the remainder (75 per cent) in the member's currency. If the fund does not require a currency, this portion of a member's quota may be paid in the form of non-interest-bearing notes payable on demand. These notes are recorded in the government's liabilities. The balance at March 31, 1973 is $1,192 million compared with $1,141 million at March 31, 1972.

Social Security accounts

Canada Pension Plan Investment Fund

This investment fund records securities purchased under the Canada Pension Plan and the sale of these securities. The amount by which the operating balance of the Canada Pension Plan Fund in any month exceeds the estimated amount required to meet all payments in the following three-month period is available for the purchase of securities of participating provinces; securities of Canada shall be purchased with the excess remaining after purchasing securities of each province as required. The holdings of $5,590 million in this account are $979 million more than at March 31, 1972.

TABLE 51

(in millions of dollars)

CANADA PENSION PLAN INVESTMENT FUND	Balance at March 31, 1972	Net transactions 1972-73 (preliminary)	Balance at March 31, 1973 (preliminary)
Securities of–			
Newfoundland	87.9	19.0	106.9
Nova Scotia	178.5	38.5	217.0
Prince Edward Island	17.5	3.8	21.3
New Brunswick	135.6	28.8	164.4
Quebec	19.4	8.0	27.4
Ontario	2,560.7	536.8	3,097.5
Manitoba	271.5	57.4	328.9
Saskatchewan	217.4	43.3	260.7
Alberta	428.3	94.5	522.8
British Columbia	667.1	141.5	808.6
Government of Canada	27.4	7.1	34.5
	4,611.3	978.7	5,590.0

Unemployment Insurance Account

Section 137 of the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1971 authorizes the Minister of Finance to make advances to the Unemployment Insurance account for the purpose of meeting payments required to be made in the operation of the act.

Advances at March 31, 1973 total $1,489 million, compared with $184 million at March 31, 1972.

Investments held for retirement of unmatured debt

Recorded herein were the government's holdings of the 5½ per cent loan issued August 1, 1962 and maturing August 1, 1980. During 1972-73 these were liquidated resulting in a nil balance in this account at March 31, 1973.

Advances, loans and investments–Domestic

Balances in this category at March 31, 1973 total $14,998 million of which $12,788 million is in respect of crown corporations. At March 31, 1972 balances totalled $13,750 million of which $11,998 million were in respect of crown corporations.

TABLE 52
(in millions of dollars)

ADVANCES, LOANS AND INVESTMENTS–DOMESTIC	Balance at March 31, 1972	Net transactions 1972-73 (preliminary)	Balance at March 31, 1973 (preliminary)
Loans to, and investment in, crown corporations–			
Canadian National Railways	2,323.8	–4.9	2,318.9
Air Canada	268.0	–14.4	253.6
Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation	5,694.0	507.0	6,201.0
Farm Credit Corporation	1,207.2	45.0	1,252.2
Polymer Corporation Limited	30.0	–30.0	
The St. Lawrence Seaway Authority	679.7	34.0	713.7
Atomic Energy of Canada Limited	616.5	76.0	692.5
Export Development Corporation	472.4	122.0	594.4
National Harbours Board	273.5		273.5
National Capital Commission (excluding Greenbelt)	23.4		23.4
Canadian Broadcasting Corporation	9.6		9.6
Other	224.4	30.0	254.4
	11,822.5	*764.7*	*12,587.2*
Recovery likely to require parliamentary appropriations–			
Canadian Broadcasting Corporation	137.5	22.0	159.5
National Capital Commission (Greenbelt)	37.8	3.0	40.8
	175.3	*25.0*	*200.3*
	11,997.8	789.7	12,787.5
Loans to provincial governments	504.9	193.0	697.9
Veterans Land Act Fund	502.8		502.8
Municipal Development and Loan Board–advances	254.1	–10.0	244.1
Canada Development Corporation	25.0	163.0	188.0
Airport capital loans	136.8	55.0	191.8
Miscellaneous	328.3	58.0	386.3
	13,749.7	1,248.7	14,998.4

Canadian National Railways and Air Canada

Outstanding advances and loans of $2,572 million to the Canadian National Railways and Air Canada are $19 million less than at March 31, 1972.

During 1972-73 the government made available $4 million to the Canadian National Railways and received payments of $9 million from the C.N.R. and $14 million from Air Canada.

At March 31, 1972 temporary loans of $9 million were outstanding to the C.N.R. in respect of its 1972 deficit. These were repaid during the year.

At March 31, 1972 temporary loans of $14 million were outstanding to Air Canada in respect of its 1972 operations and have been repaid by the company.

TABLE 53
(in millions of dollars)

ADVANCES TO CANADIAN NATIONAL RAILWAYS AND AIR CANADA	Balance at March 31, 1972	Net transactions 1972-73 (preliminary)	Balance at March 31, 1973 (preliminary)
Canadian National Railways–			
Capital Revision Act, 1952–			
Preferred stock	1,235.2		1,235.2
Refunding Act, 1955	819.5		819.5
Financing and Guarantee Acts	197.4		197.4
Interim financing of income deficit	9.0	–9.0	
Loans for maintenance repair and acquisition of passenger equipment	1.4	–0.2	1.2
Temporary loans–acquisition of bonds	44.3	4.3	48.6
Canadian government railways	17.0		17.0
	2,323.8	*–4.9*	*2,318.9*
Air Canada–			
Financing and Guarantee Acts	253.6		253.6
Interim financing	14.4	–14.4	
	268.0	*–14.4*	*253.6*
	2,591.8	–19.3	2,572.5

TABLE 54
(in millions of dollars)

ADVANCES TO AND REPAYMENTS BY, CANADIAN NATIONAL RAILWAYS AND AIR CANADA	Fiscal year ended March 31		Increase or decrease (–)
	1972	1973 (preliminary)	
Advances–			
Purchase of C.N.R. preferred stock	31.1		–31.1
Temporary loans to C.N.R.	3.5	4.3	0.8
Refunding of debt (C.N.R.)	278.5		–278.5
Financing and Guarantee Acts (Air Canada)	14.0		–14.0
Interim financing–			
Air Canada	14.4		–14.4
	341.5	4.3	–337.2
Repayments–			
Maintenance repair and acquisition of passenger equipment	–0.2	–0.2	
Interim financing–			
Air Canada	–1.1	–14.4	–13.3
Canadian National Railways	–11.0	–9.0	2.0
Financing and Guarantee Acts (Air Canada)	–0.2		0.2
Capital Revision Act 1952 20 year Obligation	–100.0		100.0
	–112.5	*–23.6*	*88.9*
	229.0	–19.3	–248.3

Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation

The balance of $6,201 million at March 31, 1973 is $507 million more than at March 31, 1972. Loans and advances of $801 million are partly offset by repayments of $294 million.

TABLE 55

(in millions of dollars)

ADVANCES TO CENTRAL MORTGAGE AND HOUSING CORPORATION	Balance at March 31, 1972	Net transactions 1972-73 (preliminary)	Balance at March 31, 1973 (preliminary)
Direct lending, limited dividend and public housing	4,676.7	397.4	5,074.1
Federal-provincial projects–housing	254.2	29.2	283.4
Loan and mortgage fund	4.4	–0.8	3.6
Municipal sewage treatment	280.3	47.6	327.9
University housing	373.2	24.6	397.8
Housing projects	58.2	–2.3	55.9
Urban renewal	22.0	11.3	33.3
Capital stock	25.0		25.0
	5,694.0	507.0	6,201.0

TABLE 56

(in millions of dollars)

ADVANCES TO, AND REPAYMENTS BY, CENTRAL MORTGAGE AND HOUSING CORPORATION	Fiscal year ended March 31		Increase or decrease (–)
	1972	1973 (preliminary)	
Advances–			
Direct lending, limited dividend and public housing	719.8	638.5	–81.3
University housing projects	35.5	29.0	–6.5
Federal-provincial projects–housing	31.5	35.5	4.0
Urban renewal	8.0	12.5	4.5
Municipal sewage treatment	66.4	85.0	18.6
	861.2	*800.5*	*–60.7*
Repayments–			
Direct lending, limited dividend and public housing	–172.2	–241.1	–68.9
University housing projects	–1.4	–4.4	–3.0
Federal-provincial projects–housing	–6.1	–6.3	–0.2
Urban renewal	–0.8	–1.2	–0.4
Housing projects	–2.3	–2.3	
Municipal sewage treatment	–22.3	–37.4	–15.1
Loan and mortgage purchase fund	–0.2	–0.8	–0.6
	–205.3	*–293.5*	*–88.2*
	655.9	507.0	–148.9

Advances include $639 million for direct lending, limited dividend and public housing, $85 million for sewage treatment projects, $29 million for university housing projects, $36 million for federal-provincial projects and $12 million for urban renewal.

Repayments include $241 million for direct lending, limited dividend and public housing, $37 million for sewage treatment, $6 million for federal-provincial projects and $4 million for university housing projects.

Farm Credit Corporation

The government provides loans to the corporation which makes loans on farm property. The balance of $1,252 million consists of the crown's investment of $48 million in the corporation and $1,204 million in loans. At March 31, 1972 the balance of $1,207 million consisted of $46 million capital and $1,161 million in loans.

The St. Lawrence Seaway Authority

Outstanding obligations of $714 million in this account consist of $520 million in interest-bearing loans, $72 million in interest-free loans and $122 million in deferred interest. At March 31, 1972 outstanding obligations were $680 million and consisted of $513 million in interest-bearing loans, $75 million in interest-free loans and $92 million in deferred interest.

Atomic Energy of Canada Limited

The balance of $693 million compared with $617 million at March 31, 1972. Included in these balances is $15 million in capital stock.

Export Development Corporation

The outstanding balance of $594 million in this account includes $25 million in capital stock, $25 million for working capital and $544 million for loans under section 29A of the Export Development Act. Comparable amounts at March 31, 1972 were $20 million in capital stock, $20 million in working capital and $432 million for loans.

National Harbours Board

Expenditures for capital purposes at harbour sites under the jurisdiction of the National Harbours Board fall into two general categories: (a) non-active loans charged to the net debt of Canada, and (b) investments included in the active assets of the Government of Canada.

At March 31, 1973 active assets of $274 million are the same as at March 31, 1972.

National Capital Commission

Outstanding loans to the Commission to acquire property total $64 million, of which $41 million is in respect of the "Greenbelt" section of the National Capital Area. These latter loans which are likely to require parliamentary appropriations in subsequent fiscal years increased by $3 million during the year.

Canadian Broadcasting Corporation

There is no change in the working capital, the balance remaining at $10 million. Loans to the Corporation for capital purposes total $160 million compared with $138 million at March 31, 1972. Recovery of these loans is likely to require parliamentary appropriations in subsequent fiscal years.

Other domestic loans

Loans to provincial governments in the amount of $698 million are $193 million higher than the March 31, 1972 balance. The increase is due mainly to the Federal-Provincial Loans Program, 1971 for the purpose of assisting in the creation of employment. Advances under the Veterans Land Act at $503 million are the same as at March 31, 1972, advances under the Municipal Development and Loan Act at $244 million are $10 million less than at March 31, 1972, advances of $188 million to the Canada Development Corporation are $163 million more than at March 31, 1972 and Airport Capital Loans of $192 million are $55 million more.

TABLE 57

(in millions of dollars)

ADVANCES, LOANS AND INVESTMENTS–EXTERNAL	Balance at March 31, 1972	Net transactions 1972-73 (preliminary)	Balance at March 31, 1973 (preliminary)
Loans to national governments–			
United Kingdom	996.9	–21.3	975.6
France	50.7	–8.4	42.3
The Netherlands	23.0	–4.5	18.5
Belgium	11.5	–2.3	9.2
Special loan assistance to developing countries	430.8	164.9	595.7
Other	0.3		0.3
	1,513.2	*128.4*	*1,641.6*
Canada's subscription to capital of–			
Asian Development Bank	13.4		13.4
Caribbean Development Bank	2.6	0.6	3.2
Inter-American Development Bank		14.2	14.2
International Bank for Reconstruction and Development	85.0	16.1	101.1
International Development Association	214.8	53.6	268.4
International Finance Corporation	3.5		3.5
	319.3	*84.5*	*403.8*
Working capital advances and loans to international organizations	6.4		6.4
	1,838.9	212.9	2,051.8

Advances, loans and investments–External

Balances in this category total $2,052 million compared with $1,839 million at March 31, 1972.

The United Kingdom repaid $21 million of the $1,185 million loan made under the United Kingdom Financial Agreement Act, 1946, reducing the principal to $976 million at March 31, 1973.

Advances under Part II of the Export Credits Insurance Act to Belgium, France and The Netherlands to assist them in the purchasing of goods in Canada are reduced by payments of $2 million by Belgium, $8 million by France and $5 million by the Netherlands, bringing the balance to $70 million at March 31, 1973.

Special loan assistance to developing countries increased by $165 million during the year to $596 million and Canada's subscription to the capital of international organizations increased by $85 million to $404 million.

Securities held in trust

Recorded herein are the security holdings in connection with various deposit and trust, and annuity, insurance and pension accounts. The balance at March 31, 1973, is $125 million compared with $129 million at March 31, 1972.

Deferred charges

These consist of the unamortized balances of actuarial deficiencies in the superannuation accounts and unamortized loan flotation costs. The balances in these accounts total $944 million compared with $921 million at March 31, 1972.

Unamortized portions of actuarial deficiencies

These accounts record the unamortized portions of the actuarial deficiencies in the superannuation accounts in respect of the public service, the Canadian forces and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. Actuarial evaluations are

26314—61

made quinquennially, the next of which is being made as at December 31, 1970 for the Canadian forces superannuation account, as at December 31, 1972 for the public service superannuation account and as at December 31, 1969 for the RCMP superannuation account. Any actuarial deficiencies revealed when the evaluation is made will be credited to the superannuation account and charged to unamortized actuarial deficiencies and amortized to budgetary expenditure in five equal annual instalments commencing in the fiscal year in which the credit has been made to the superannuation account. Also, the cost for benefits payable under the superannuation acts as a result of the authorization of salary increases is credited to the superannuation accounts and charged to unamortized actuarial deficiencies and amortized over a period of five years commencing in the year in which the increase is authorized.

The unamortized portion of the actuarial deficiency in the public service superannuation account is $388 million compared with $403 million at March 31, 1972. During the year $170 million was charged thereto as a result of salary increases and $185 million was amortized as a charge to budgetary expenditure of which $104 million was charged to interest on public debt.

The unamortized portion of the actuarial deficiency in the Canadian forces superannuation account is $377 million compared with $331 million at March 31, 1972. During the year $214 million was charged thereto as a result of salary increases and $168 million was amortized to budgetary expenditure of which $79 million was charged to interest on public debt.

The unamortized portion of the actuarial deficiency in the RCMP superannuation account is $24 million compared with $19 million at March 31, 1972. During the year $18 million was charged thereto as a result of salary increases and $13 million was amortized to budgetary expenditure of which $5 million was charged to interest on public debt.

TABLE 58

(in millions of dollars)

DEFERRED CHARGES	Balance at March 31, 1972	Net transactions 1972-73 (preliminary)	Balance at March 31, 1973 (preliminary)
Unamortized portions of actuarial deficiencies–			
Superannuation accounts–			
Public service	402.7	−15.1	387.6
Canadian forces	331.1	45.8	376.9
Royal Canadian Mounted Police	18.8	4.7	23.5
	752.6	*35.4*	*788.0*
Unamortized loan flotation costs	168.9	−13.4	155.5
	921.5	22.0	943.5

Unamortized loan flotation costs

This account records the residual balances of discounts, commissions, redemption bonuses and conversion premiums on loan flotations that have not been charged to budgetary expenditure. The balance of $156 million is $13 million less than at March 31, 1972.

TABLE 59

(in millions of dollars)

	Fiscal year ended March 31			
	1972		1973 (preliminary)	
Balance at beginning of year		175.1		168.9
5% April 1, 1971–April 1, 1974	1.4			
5½% April 1, 1971–Oct. 1, 1976	5.2			
6¼% April 1, 1971–April 1, 1980	2.9			
5¾% June 1, 1971–June 1, 1976	1.7			
6½% June 1, 1971–June 1, 1979	1.4			
6¼% August 1, 1971–August 1, 1976	1.0			
5½% August 1, 1971–December 1, 1974	1.3			
5¼% August 1, 1971–December 15, 1972	0.1			
5¼% October 1, 1971–December 1, 1973	0.1			
4¼% December 15, 1971–December 1, 1974	0.5			
5¾% December 15, 1971–December 15, 1979	2.4			
Treasury bills discount	29.1		33.8	
Canada savings bonds	22.7		17.9	
5¼% April 1, 1972–December 1, 1973			0.9	
6½% April 1, 1972–April 1, 1977			0.4	
5¾% July 1, 1972–February 1, 1974			0.3	
7% July 1, 1972–July 1, 1977			2.0	
6½% December 15, 1972–June 1, 1979			1.9	
	69.8		*57.2*	
Less –				
Amortization charges – Canada savings bonds and general loans	−41.5		−41.5	
Discounts on treasury bills charged to interest on public debt	−34.5		−29.1	
	−76.0		*−70.6*	
Increase or decrease (−) during year		−6.2		−13.4
Balance at end of fiscal year		168.9		155.5

Cost of new loans issued during 1972-73 and charged to the account total $57 million, of which $34 million in respect of treasury bills discounts will be charged to interest on public debt in 1973-74. Credits to the account were $70 million, of which $41 million is a charge to the budgetary expenditure category "annual amortization costs" and $29 million (representing discount applicable to 1972-73 on treasury bills issued in 1971-72) is a charge to the budgetary expenditure category "interest on public debt".

Capital assets

Assets of the government such as land, buildings, works and equipment, etc., that are charged to budgetary expenditure at the time of acquisition or construction, are included in this category and are shown on the statement of assets and liabilities at a nominal value of $1.

Inactive loans and investments

Such loans and investments which are recorded herein are not currently revenue-producing or realizable. Included are the loans of $49 million to China under the Export Credits Insurance Act, loans totalling $24 million and $7 million made to Roumania and Greece, respectively, in 1919-20 and 1920-21 and advances of $15 million in respect of the implementation of guarantees (Ming Sung Industrial Company Limited).

Reserve for losses on realization of assets

There has been no change in this reserve since the fiscal year 1956-57. The balance is $546 million.

NET DEBT

The net debt of Canada, or the excess of liabilities over net recorded assets, is estimated at $17,492 million as at March 31, 1973 compared with $17,937 million at March 31, 1972. The decrease of $445 million reflects the 1972-73 budgetary surplus.

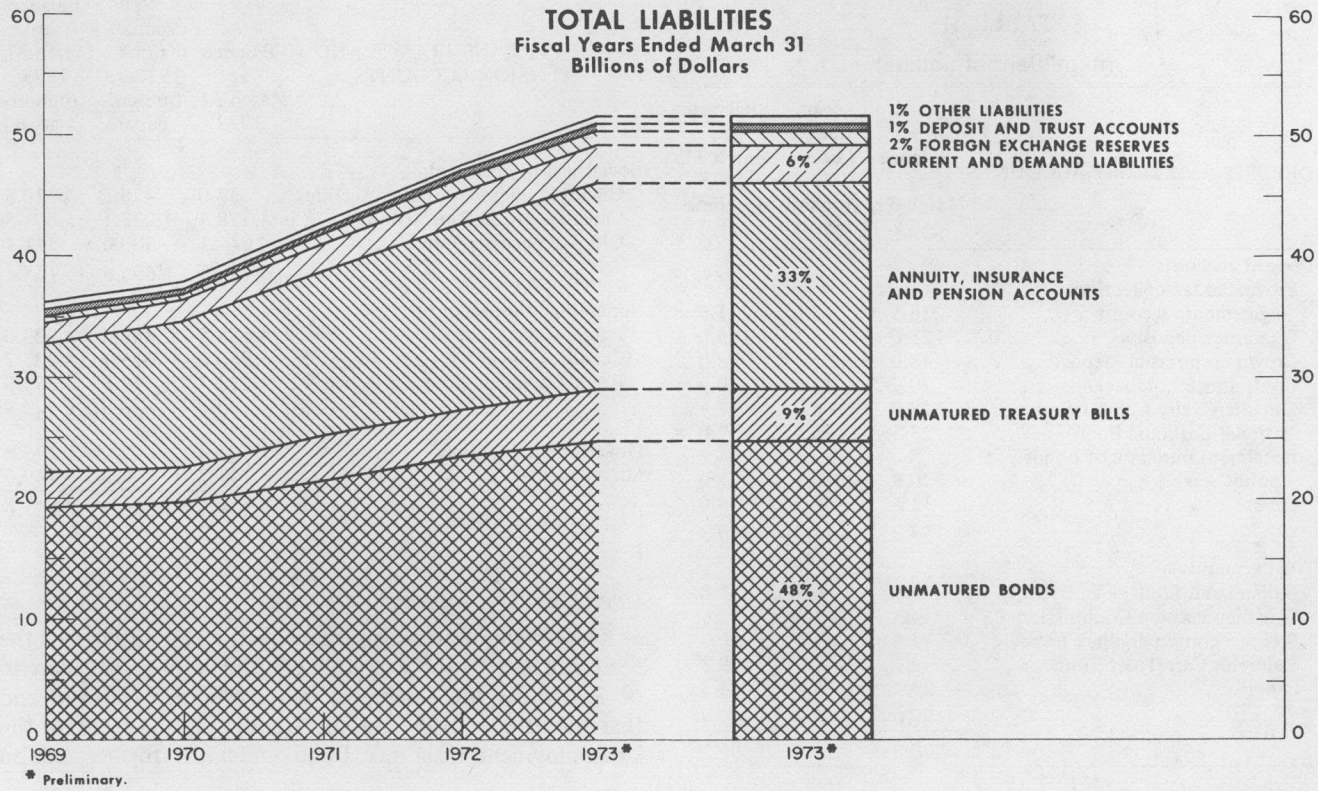
LIABILITY ACCOUNTS

Current and demand liabilities

Those liabilities, which consist of obligations of the government payable currently or on demand, total $3,201 million compared with $2,681 million at March 31, 1972.

Outstanding cheques at $777 million are $40 million more than at March 31, 1972 and accounts payable at $682 million are $33 million more than at the previous fiscal year-end.

Interest due and outstanding at $870 million is $311 million higher and interest accrued at $592 million is $52 million higher than at March 31, 1972.



26314—61½

TABLE 60

(in millions of dollars)

CURRENT AND DEMAND LIABILITIES	Balance at March 31, 1972	Net transactions 1972-73 (preliminary)	Balance at March 31, 1973 (preliminary)
Outstanding cheques	737.1	40.3	777.4
Accounts payable	649.7	32.5	682.2
Non-interest-bearing notes payable to international organizations	32.6	51.0	83.6
Interest accrued	539.8	52.0	591.8
Interest due and outstanding	559.2	310.9	870.1
Matured debt outstanding	30.9	27.0	57.9
Other	131.8	6.0	137.8
	2,681.1	519.7	3,200.8

Foreign exchange reserve accounts

Included herein are $853 million in non-interest-bearing notes issued to the International Monetary Fund to cover that portion of the government's subscription to the IMF not required in cash, and $370 million to cover Canada's liability for Special Drawing Rights issued by the IMF. At March 31, 1972 comparative figures were $750 million in notes and $370 million in respect of SDR's.

TABLE 61

(in millions of dollars)

DEPOSIT AND TRUST ACCOUNTS	Balance at March 31, 1972	Net transactions 1972-73 (preliminary)	Balance at March 31, 1973 (preliminary)
Deposit accounts –			
Provincial tax collection agreements account	216.5	–5.0	211.5
Guarantee deposits	121.6	3.4	125.0
Crown corporation deposits	48.0		48.0
Contractor's holdbacks	20.9		20.9
Canadian Dairy Commission	18.9	–6.0	12.9
National Harbours Board	23.3	–6.3	17.0
Instalment purchase of bonds, public service	20.9	0.1	21.0
Other	33.1	0.9	34.0
	503.2	*–12.9*	*490.3*
Trust accounts –			
Indian band funds	29.9	0.1	30.0
Canadian Pension Commission	14.3	1.3	15.6
Prairie Farm Emergency Fund	14.4	–4.4	10.0
Veteran's Care Trust Fund	9.3		9.3
Other	29.1	5.4	34.5
	97.0	*2.4*	*99.4*
	600.2	–10.5	589.7

Deposit and trust accounts

Sundry funds deposited with, or held in trust by, the Receiver General for Canada for various purposes are recorded in these accounts. Total balances of $590 million are $11 million less than at March 31, 1972.

During the year collections of provincial income tax credited to the provincial tax collection agreements account totalled $2,448 million and payments to provinces charged to the account were $2,453 million bringing the balance in the account to $212 million at March 31, 1973.

Annuity, insurance and pension accounts

This category records the government's liability in respect of various annuity, insurance and pension accounts. These fall into two classes: social security accounts, which are the Canada Pension Plan Fund, the Old Age Security Fund and the Unemployment Insurance Account; and other accounts which include the superannuation accounts, the government annuities account and sundry insurance accounts.

TABLE 62

(in millions of dollars)

ANNUITY, INSURANCE AND PENSION ACCOUNTS	Balance at March 31, 1972	Net transactions 1972-73 (preliminary)	Balance at March 31, 1973 (preliminary)
Social security accounts –			
Unemployment Insurance Account	37.0	–26.5	10.5
Canada Pension Plan Account	4,778.4	1,023.1	5,801.5
Old Age Security Fund	641.1	–300.0	341.1
	5,456.5	*696.6*	*6,153.1*
Superannuation accounts –			
Public service	4,488.5	440.5	4,929.0
Canadian forces	3,960.1	375.1	4,335.2
Royal Canadian Mounted Police	223.7	44.8	268.5
	8,672.3	*860.4*	*9,532.7*
Government annuities	1,303.8	–7.0	1,296.8
Miscellaneous	143.7	5.3	149.0
	15,576.3	1,555.3	17,131.6

Unemployment Insurance Account

The Unemployment Insurance Act, 1971, authorized the establishment in the accounts of Canada of an account to be known as the Unemployment Insurance Account and that the balance of the amount standing to the credit of the Unemployment Insurance Fund under the former Act on

June 27, 1971, together with interest accrued thereon to that day, be credited thereto.

The Act also provides that all amounts received under the Act as or on account of premiums, fines, penalties, interest and repayment of overpayments of benefits, and all amounts collected by the Commission for services rendered to other government departments or agencies or the public, shall be paid into the Consolidated Revenue Fund and shall be credited to the Unemployment Insurance Account; that any other amounts provided out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund for any purpose related to unemployment insurance that is authorized by an appropriation by Parliament and the administration of which falls to the Commission shall be credited to the Unemployment Insurance Account; that the Minister of Finance may authorize, in accordance with such terms and conditions and at such rates as he may prescribe, the payment of interest on the balance in the Unemployment Insurance Account, and such interest shall be credited to the account; and that there shall be charged to the account all amounts paid as or on account of benefits under this Act and the costs of administration of the Act.

During 1972-73 receipts totalled $2,122 million of which $1,305 million were advances by the government and disbursements were $2,148 million resulting in a balance of $10 million at March 31, 1973.

TABLE 63

(in millions of dollars)

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE ACCOUNT[1]	Fiscal year ended March 31				
	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973 (preliminary)
Receipts–					
Contributions–					
Employees and employers	433.1	491.8	495.2	570.6	763.1
Government	86.6	98.4	99.0	92.1	
Net income from investments	18.9	27.5	29.2	15.7	
Advance from government				183.6	1,305.0
Other income	–0.9	5.3	6.2	0.1	53.4
	537.7	623.0	629.6	862.1	2,121.5
Disbursements–					
Benefit payments	–459.1	–542.1	–758.1	–1,122.8	–2,020.0
Administration costs				–26.0	–128.0
Outstanding warrants as at March 31, 1971				–27.6	
Excess of receipts or disbursements (–)	78.6	80.9	–128.5	–314.3	–26.5
Balance at beginning of year	320.3	398.9	479.8	351.3	37.0
Balance at end of year	398.9	479.8	351.3	37.0	10.5
Investments in bonds and accrued interest	–386.8	–468.0	–326.3		
Balance on deposit with the Receiver General	12.1	11.8	25.0	37.0	10.5

[1]Formerly the Unemployment Insurance Fund. (until June 27, 1971)

Canada Pension Plan Account

The balance of $5,802 million is $1,023 million higher than the March 31, 1972 balance of $4,778 million.

Credits of $1,252 million to the account include $897 million in contributions under the Act, $350 million in interest from investments and $4 million in interest on the operating balance on deposit with the Receiver General. Disbursements of $229 million include $206 million in benefit payments. In 1971-72 receipts were $1,102 million and disbursements were $167 million of which $144 million were benefit payments.

The amount by which the operating balance in the account in any month exceeds the estimated amount required to meet all payments in the following three-month period is available for the purchase of securities of participating provinces. Securities of Canada shall be purchased with the excess remaining after purchasing securities of each province as required. It is estimated that securities totalling $979 million will have been purchased bringing the balance to $5,590 million at March 31, 1973.

TABLE 64

(in millions of dollars)

CANADA PENSION PLAN ACCOUNT	Fiscal year ended March 31				
	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973 (preliminary)
Receipts–					
Contributions	698.0	745.7	812.4	826.0	897.0
Interest on investments	84.4	139.7	206.9	272.6	350.0
Interest on operating balance	2.4	3.8	4.0	3.0	4.0
Other	0.2	0.4	0.4	0.6	1.0
	785.0	889.6	1,023.7	1,102.2	1,252.0
Disbursements–					
Benefit payments	−15.6	−47.4	−91.9	−144.4	−206.0
Administration expenses	−14.4	−17.7	−20.5	−22.9	−23.0
	−30.0	−65.1	−112.4	−167.3	−229.0
Excess of receipts over payments	755.0	824.5	911.3	934.9	1,023.0
Balance in account brought forward	1,352.8	2,107.8	2,932.3	3,843.6	4,778.5
Balance at credit of account	2,107.8	2,932.3	3,843.6	4,778.5	5,801.5
Less investments in securities held in the Canada Pension Plan investment fund	−2,023.0	−2,832.8	−3,701.3	−4,611.3	−5,590.0
Operating balance on deposit with the Receiver General	84.8	99.5	142.3	167.2	211.5

Old Age Security Fund

The Old Age Security Act, 1951, directed that this fund be established and that credits to the fund should consist of a 2 per cent sales tax, a 2 per cent (maximum tax $60) on individual incomes and a 2 per cent tax on corporation incomes, and that pension payments of $40 per month be paid to all eligible persons over 70 years of age. Payments were effective from January 1952.

Amendments to the Act have increased these tax rates: on individual incomes to 4 per cent effective January 1, 1964 (maximum tax $120 increased to $240 effective January 1, 1967); on corporation incomes to 3 per cent effective January 1, 1959; and on sales to 3 per cent effective April 10, 1959.

The Old Age Security Act was amended effective January 1, 1972 to provide for the repeal of these taxes and for the crediting to the fund of an amount estimated to be equal to what would have been credited to the fund had those taxes not been repealed.

Pension rates also have increased by amendments to the Act to $75 per month effective October 1, 1963, to $76.50 per month effective January 1, 1968, to $78 per month effective January 1, 1969, to $79.58 effective January 1, 1970 and to $80 effective January 1, 1971. A subsequent amendment in May 1972 provided that the basic pension be escalated effective January 1973 to reflect changes in the consumer price index and resulted in monthly payments of $82.88 effective January 1973.

The Act was furtner amended to authorize pension payments effective January 1966 to all persons who had satisfied the residence requirements of the Act who had attained the age of 69 years on or before January 1, 1966; the age limit being reduced by one year on January 1st of each subsequent year until 1970. A further amendment in 1966-67 authorized the payment of a monthly guaranteed income supplement to eligible pensioners. The amount of the supplement that may be paid to a pensioner for a month was 40 per cent of the amount of the old age security pension. An amendment in 1970 fixed the maximum basic supplement at $55 per month and the amendment to the old age security program in May 1972 provided for the escalation of the basic old age pension and the guaranteed income supplement to the extent of the full annual increase in the consumer price index which brought the guaranteed income supplement to $67.12 per month effective January 1973.

During 1972-73 pension payments of $2,526 million exceed receipts of $2,226 million by $300 million reducing the balance in the account to $341 million at March 31, 1973. Receipts consist of $770 million from sales tax,

TABLE 65

(in millions of dollars)

OLD AGE SECURITY FUND	Fiscal year ended March 31				
	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973 (preliminary)
Receipts–					
Sales tax	528.1	577.4	573.8	668.5	770.0
Personal income tax	915.0	1,026.5	1,132.5	1,237.0	1,190.0
Corporation income tax	183.0	227.1	207.9	212.5	266.0
	1,626.1	1,831.0	1,914.2	2,118.0	2,226.0
Disbursements–					
Pension payments	–1,296.8	–1,467.0	–1,634.2	–1,679.2	–1,787.0
Guaranteed income supplement	–244.5	–263.5	–273.0	–526.1	–739.0
	–1,541.3	–1,730.5	–1,907.2	–2,205.3	–2,526.0
Excess of receipts over disbursements	84.8	100.5	7.0	–87.3	–300.0
Balance in fund brought forward	536.1	620.9	721.4	728.4	641.1
Balance at credit of fund	620.9	721.4	728.4	641.1	341.1

TABLE 66

(in millions of dollars)

OLD AGE SECURITY PAYMENTS[1]	Fiscal year ended March 31		
	1972	1973 (preliminary)	Increase or decrease (–)
Newfoundland	47.2	54.5	7.3
Nova Scotia	97.1	110.7	13.6
Prince Edward Island	17.2	19.7	2.5
New Brunswick	73.2	84.0	10.8
Quebec	543.8	628.6	84.8
Ontario	775.9	882.0	106.1
Manitoba	123.5	141.3	17.8
Saskatchewan	121.9	139.0	17.1
Alberta	150.8	174.0	23.2
British Columbia	252.7	289.9	37.2
Northwest and Yukon Territories	2.0	2.3	0.3
	2,205.3	2,526.0	320.7

[1]Includes $739 million in 1972-73 and $526 million in 1971-72 for guaranteed income supplement.

$1,190 million from the tax on personal incomes and $266 million from the tax on corporation income. In 1971-72 payments of $2,205 million exceeded receipts of $2,118 million.

The Public Service Superannuation Account

The balance of $4,929 million in this account is $441 million higher than at March 31, 1972. Receipts of $567 million include employees contributions of $111 million, the government's contribution of $109 million, interest of $165 million, $170 million to provide for additional liabilities arising from salary increases and contributions of $4 million by crown corporations. Contributions by the government and crown corporations are equal to the estimated current and prior service payments by individuals in 1971-72. Disbursements of $127 million include $114 million for payment of annuities and $13 million for withdrawal of contributions.

TABLE 67
(in millions of dollars)

PUBLIC SERVICE SUPERANNUATION ACCOUNT	Fiscal year ended March 31				
	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973 (preliminary)
Receipts–					
Contributions–					
Employees–					
Government	71.6	84.9	88.0	103.8	105.0
Crown corporations	5.1	5.3	7.4	7.9	6.2
Government	66.0	73.5	85.6	88.8	109.1
Crown Corporations	4.8	5.3	6.6	7.1	4.3
Interest	118.0	131.0	147.7	163.7	165.0
Actuarial liability	121.0	215.1	161.8	244.2	170.0
Other	3.0	1.8	1.1	1.7	7.8
	389.5	516.9	498.2	617.2	567.4
Disbursements–					
Annuities	−74.7	−83.3	−95.0	−106.2	−111.0
Withdrawals of contributions	−10.3	−10.5	−11.4	−10.4	−13.0
Other	−1.9	−2.1	−1.3	−2.0	−2.9
	−86.9	−95.9	−107.7	−118.6	−126.9
Excess of receipts over disbursements	302.6	421.0	390.5	498.6	440.5
Balance in account brought forward	2,875.8	3,178.4	3,599.4	3,989.9	4,488.5
Balance at credit of account	3,178.4	3,599.4	3,989.9	4,488.5	4,929.0

Canadian Forces Superannuation Account

The balance of $4,335 million in this account reflects an increase of $375 million during 1972-73.

Receipts of $499 million include $44 million in contributions by personnel, $79 million in contributions by the government, $163 million in interest and $213 million to provide for additional liabilities arising from salary increases. Government contributions are made at the rate of 1 4/5 times the current and prior service contributions by personnel.

Disbursements of $124 million include $118 million in pensions and retiring allowances and $6 million in cash termination allowances and return of contributions.

In 1971-72 receipts totalled $492 million and disbursements totalled $102 million.

TABLE 68
(in millions of dollars)

CANADIAN FORCES SUPERANNUATION ACCOUNT	Fiscal year ended March 31				
	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973 (preliminary)
Receipts–					
Contributions–					
Personnel	33.9	38.7	39.2	41.5	43.9
Government	57.0	65.6	70.4	73.8	79.0
Interest	112.1	124.4	135.6	147.5	163.0
Actuarial liability	159.6	129.0	107.5	228.9	213.5
Other		0.1	0.1	(1)	(1)
	362.6	357.8	352.8	491.7	499.4
Disbursements–					
Pensions and retiring allowances	−55.2	−67.4	−81.3	−97.3	−118.0
Cash termination allowances and return of contributions	−7.0	−7.5	−7.2	−4.7	−6.0
Other	−0.1	−0.1	−0.1	−0.2	−0.3
	−62.3	−75.0	−88.6	−102.2	−124.3
Excess of receipts over disbursements	300.3	282.8	264.2	389.5	375.1
Balance in account brought forward	2,723.3	3,023.6	3,306.4	3,570.6	3,960.1
Balance at credit of account	3,023.6	3,306.4	3,570.6	3,960.1	4,335.2

(1) Less than $50,000.

Royal Canadian Mounted Police Superannuation Account

The balance of $269 million in this account is $45 million higher than at March 31, 1972. Receipts of $47 million include $8 million in contributions by personnel, $9 million in interest, and $13 million in government's contribution. Government contributions are made at the rate of 1 4/5 times the current and prior service contributions by personnel.

Disbursements of $3 million consisted of annuities, allowances, cash termination allowances and return of contributions.

TABLE 69

(in millions of dollars)

ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE SUPERANNUATION ACCOUNT	Fiscal year ended March 31				
	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973 (preliminary)
Receipts–					
Contributions–					
Personnel	3.4	4.2	5.2	6.3	7.5
Government	6.6	7.4	9.1	11.1	13.2
Interest	4.5	5.5	6.9	8.3	9.2
Actuarial liability	12.7	19.2	14.2		17.5
	27.2	36.3	35.4	25.7	47.4
Disbursements–					
Annuities and allowances	−0.9	−1.0	−1.2	−1.4	−2.0
Cash termination allowances and return of contributions	−0.2	−0.3	−0.3	−0.3	−0.6
	−1.1	−1.3	−1.5	−1.7	−2.6
Excess of receipts over disbursements	26.1	35.0	33.9	24.0	44.8
Balance in account brought forward	104.7	130.8	165.8	199.7	223.7
Balance at credit of account	130.8	165.8	199.7	223.7	268.5

Government Annuities Account

The balance of $1,297 million is $7 million less than the balance of $1,304 million at March 31, 1972.

Undisbursed balances of appropriations to special accounts

This category records the undisbursed balances of appropriations to special accounts from which disbursements may be made in the current and future years for authorized purposes. They fall into two classes. The first of these, comprising the majority of the accounts, consists of cases where parliament has appropriated moneys for specific purposes. The other class consists of accounts to which is credited moneys received from the sale of materials, supplies, equipment, land, works and buildings and which are available in the current and future years with the authority of parliament, for purposes of the Department of National Defence.

The balance of $186 million is $5 million less than at March 31, 1972.

The main changes are a decrease of $17 million in the reserve for wheat inventory reduction payments and an increase of $10 million in the international assistance account.

TABLE 70

(in millions of dollars)

UNDISBURSED BALANCES OF APPROPRIATIONS TO SPECIAL ACCOUNTS	Balance at March 31, 1972	Net transactions 1972-73 (preliminary)	Balance at March 31, 1973 (preliminary)
Reserve for wheat inventory payments	26.9	−16.8	10.1
Reserve for salary revisions	37.6	−2.6	35.0
International assistance account	91.2	9.7	100.9
Surplus crown assets	12.7	1.0	13.7
Railway grade crossing fund	6.4	3.0	9.4
National capital fund	12.0		12.0
Other	3.9	1.0	4.9
	190.7	−4.7	186.0

Refundable corporation tax

This account recorded the refundable corporation tax on cash profits of businesses paid by all corporations not exempt from tax under section 62 of the Income Tax Act and by certain types of trusts on specified types of income.

The balance of $1 million at March 31, 1973 is $1 million less than the balance at March 31, 1972.

26314—62

Provision for compound interest on Canada savings bonds

This account records the estimated amount for the prorated provision for the special compound interest feature applicable to certain Canada savings bonds. The balance of $102 million is $45 million higher than at March 31, 1972.

Deferred credits

Recorded in these accounts are amounts due to the government in respect of which payment is deferred. These are contra accounts to corresponding items under the asset categories "advances, loans and investments".

The balance of $263 million is $31 million more than at March 31, 1972.

TABLE 71

(in millions of dollars)

DEFERRED CREDITS	Balance at March 31, 1972	Net transactions 1972-73 (preliminary)	Balance at March 31, 1973 (preliminary)
Deferred interest–			
United Kingdom Financial Agreement Act	101.1		101.1
The St. Lawrence Seaway Authority	91.6	30.9	122.5
Northern Canada Power Commission	18.1		18.1
Atomic Energy of Canada Limited	0.1		0.1
	210.9	*30.9*	*241.8*
Balances receivable under agreements of sale of crown assets	0.2		0.2
Crown Assets Disposal Corporation	19.0		19.0
Unamortized premium on loans	1.6	0.2	1.8
	231.7	31.1	262.8

Suspense accounts

These consist of balances where some uncertainty as to disposition exists. The balance of $6 million is the same as at March 31, 1972.

Unmatured debt

The unmatured debt of Canada at $29,038 million as at March 31, 1973 is comprised of $28,704 million payable in Canadian dollars, $260 million payable in U.S. dollars and $74 million payable in German deutsche marks.

At March 31, 1972 unmatured debt was $27,259 million and was comprised of $26,923 million payable in Canadian dollars, $262 million payable in United States dollars and $74 million payable in German deutsche marks.

TABLE 72

(in millions of dollars)

UNMATURED DEBT	Balance at March 31, 1972	Net transactions 1972-73 (preliminary)	Balance at March 31, 1973 (preliminary)
Payable in Canadian dollars–			
Marketable bonds	13,353.6	37.4	13,391.0
Non-marketable bonds–			
Canada savings bonds	9,712.1	1,276.1	10,988.2
Canada pension plan	27.3	7.2	34.5
Treasury bills	3,830.0	460.0	4,290.0
	26,923.0	1,780.7	28,703.7
Payable in United States dollars[1]	261.6	–1.7	259.9
Payable in Deutsche Marks[1]	73.9		73.9
	27,258.5	1,779.0	29,037.5

[1]Marketable bonds payable in U.S. dollars are converted at U.S. $1.00 = CAN. $1.08108 and those payable in Deutsche Marks are converted at D.M. 3.66 = CAN. $1.08108.

THE CASH POSITION OF THE GOVERNMENT

The government's cash account represents balances of current and special deposits to the credit of the Receiver General for Canada in the Bank of Canada, chartered banks in Canada and certain banks in London, New York, Brussels, Bonn, Frankfurt and Rome.

The cash position of the government is affected not only by budgetary transactions but also by changes in the government's unmatured debt and other non-budgetary transactions. Non-budgetary transactions are those which affect the government's asset and liability accounts and must be taken into account when considering the full scope of the government's financial operations.

On the asset side, the non-budgetary transactions consist, for the most part, of loans and advances to, and repayment by crown corporations and other government agencies and funds, national, provincial and municipal governments, international organizations and other borrowers. On the liability side they relate mainly to

receipts and payments in connection with the many deposit and trust accounts, and annuity, insurance and pension funds held or administered by the government.

The following statement summarizes both the budgetary and non-budgetary transactions in 1972-73 and indicates how they affected the government's cash position. For purposes of comparison the corresponding figures for 1971-72 are also shown.

TABLE 73

(in millions of dollars)

CHANGE IN CASH POSITION	Fiscal year ended March 31			
	1971-72		1972-73 (preliminary)	
Budgetary transactions–				
Revenue	14,227		16,600	
Expenditure	−14,841		−16,155	
		−614		445
Non-budgetary transactions (excluding unmatured debt transactions) (net)				
Receipts and credits	1,232		1,478	
Disbursements and charges	−2,345		−3,306	
		−1,113		−1,828
Overall cash requirement to be financed by increase in unmatured debt or decrease in cash balances		−1,727		−1,383
Unmatured debt transactions–				
Marketable bonds	362		36	
Canada savings bonds	1,908		1,276	
Canada pension plan	7		7	
Unemployment Insurance Account	−315			
Treasury bills	95		460	
Securities investment account	1		−9	
Investments held for retirement of debt	−9		15	
		2,049		1,785
Net increase or decrease (−) in Receiver General bank balances		322		402
Receiver General bank balance at beginning of year		1,278		1,600
Receiver General bank balances		1,600		2,002

In 1972-73 an estimated surplus of $445 million in budgetary transactions and an estimated net requirement of $1,828 million for non-budgetary transactions (excluding unmatured debt transactions) will result in an overall requirement of $1,383 million. As outstanding unmatured debt is expected to result in an increase of $1,785 million during the year, Receiver General bank balances will increase by $402 million. In 1971-72 the budgetary deficit of $614 million and net requirements of $1,113 million for non-budgetary purposes resulted in an overall requirement of $1,727 million. As there was an increase of $2,049 million in outstanding unmatured debt, Receiver General bank balances rose by $322 million.

TABLE 74

GOVERNMENT OF CANADA
CANADIAN CASH BALANCES
(in millions of dollars)

AT END OF MONTH	Fiscal year ended March 31				
	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973
April	609.7	713.0	527.0	1,217.0	1,477.5
May	458.4	804.1	540.0	1,476.3	1,288.5
June	328.6	879.8	311.8	1,373.2	857.9
July	248.4	874.4	345.9	1,378.7	1,075.6
August	381.2	841.9	433.8	1,242.5	816.8
September	190.8	636.4	296.0	1,021.0	626.2
October	391.8	479.0	262.3	927.8	628.2
November	995.0	1,537.0	1,345.5	2,825.8	2,251.4
December	706.6	1,377.0	1,446.6	2,286.5	2,403.5
January	853.5	1,440.7	1,629.9	2,506.0	2,625.1
February	761.2	1,366.7	1,723.3	2,279.4	2,463.6
March	599.1	820.1	1,255.8	1,582.8	1,984.8

TABLE 75

GOVERNMENT OF CANADA
FOREIGN CASH BALANCES
(Converted to Canadian Dollar Values)
(in millions of dollars)

AT END OF MONTH	Fiscal year ended March 31				
	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973
April	13.1	22.7	25.6	6.1	14.5
May	14.6	23.5	32.7	9.3	18.7
June	19.3	22.2	33.3	8.9	19.3
July	20.4	23.3	30.6	1.5	30.7
August	22.9	20.4	27.6	19.3	18.9
September	26.8	16.8	23.1	23.5	21.4
October	18.2	24.8	28.0	24.9	18.8
November	24.6	25.2	24.7	23.5	11.9
December	14.4	24.8	30.0	26.5	15.0
January	18.1	23.8	24.5	23.9	18.9
February	20.7	20.8	27.0	20.3	14.2
March	14.5	24.8	21.9	17.4	17.4

26314—62½

Non-budgetary receipts and credits (excluding unmatured debt transactions)

Non-budgetary receipts and credits of $1,478 million include net receipts of $860 million in respect of superannuation accounts, $59 million in repayments of loans and $558 million from other accounts.

TABLE 76

(in millions of dollars)

Receipts and Credits (net)	Fiscal year ended March 31 1972	1973 (preliminary)
Repayments of loans, investments and advances–		
Canadian National Railways (including Air Canada)	–228.9	19.3
Municipal Development and Loan Board	9.4	10.0
Polymer Corporation Limited		30.0
Investments in United States securities issued by other than the Government of Canada	25.8	
	–193.7	*59.3*
Superannuation accounts–		
Public service	498.5	440.5
Canadian forces	389.5	375.1
Royal Canadian Mounted Police	23.9	44.8
	911.9	*860.4*
Other receipts and credits–		
Outstanding cheques	106.7	40.3
Accounts payable	67.4	32.5
Interest accrued	44.2	52.0
Interest due and outstanding	233.6	310.9
Matured debt	–1.7	27.0
Non-interest-bearing notes payable to international organizations	25.1	51.0
Compound interest on Canada savings bonds	38.3	44.8
	513.6	*558.5*
	1,231.8	1,478.2

Non-budgetary disbursements and charges (excluding unmatured debt transactions)

Non-budgetary disbursements and charges total $3,306 million and include $1,500 million for loans, investments and advances, $73 million in respect of foreign exchange reserve accounts, $1,587 million in respect of social security accounts and $147 million for other accounts.

TABLE 77

(in millions of dollars)

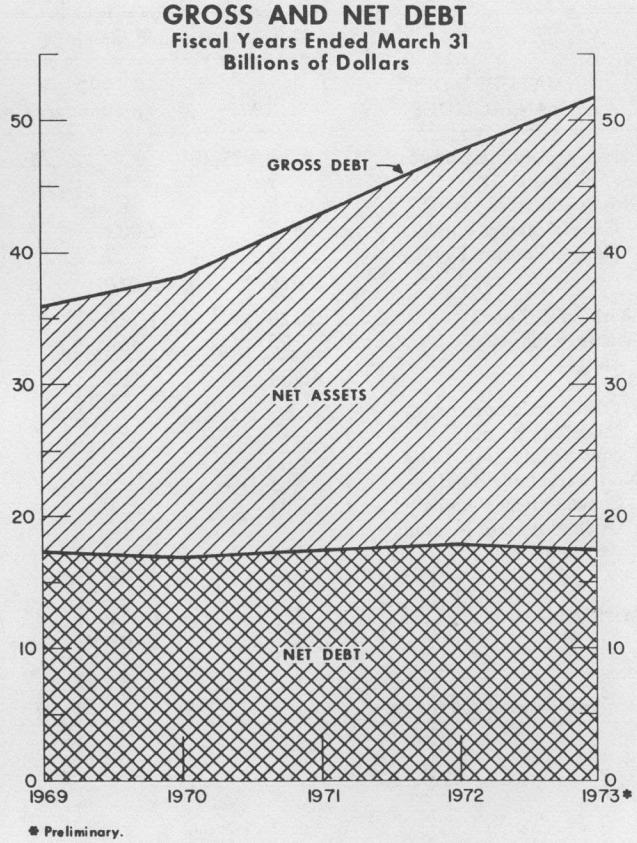
Disbursements and Charges (Net)	Fiscal year ended March 31 1972	1973 (preliminary)
Loans, investments and advances–		
Atomic Energy of Canada Limited	112.2	76.0
Canadian Broadcasting Corporation	26.5	22.0
Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation	655.9	507.0
Farm Credit Corporation	30.4	45.0
Export Development Corporation	118.0	122.0
National Capital Commission	–0.3	3.0
National Harbours Board	3.3	
The St. Lawrence Seaway Authority	61.1	34.0
Provincial governments	145.0	193.0
Yukon and Northwest Territories	21.5	29.0
National governments	107.1	128.4
International organizations	50.7	84.5
Airport Capital loans	90.4	55.0
Canada Development Corporation	25.0	163.0
Telesat Canada	20.0	15.0
Working capital advances	–22.3	8.7
Other	10.5	14.0
	1,455.0	*1,499.6*
Social security funds–		
Canada Pension Plan Account	–934.9	–1,023.1
Canada Pension Plan Investment Fund	910.0	978.7
Old Age Security Fund	87.3	300.0
Unemployment Insurance Account	–39.5	26.5
Advances to Unemployment Insurance Account	183.6	1,305.0
	206.5	*1,587.1*
Foreign exchange reserve accounts–		
Exchange Fund Account–		
Advances	821.0	125.0
Special Drawing Rights in the International Monetary Fund	116.9	
International Monetary Fund–		
Government equity	–7.6	50.9
Allocation of Special Drawing Rights	–116.9	
Non-interest bearing notes	–115.0	–103.0
	698.4	*72.9*
Other disbursements and charges–		
Cash in hands of collectors and in transit	–97.9	100.0
Deferred charges	177.9	22.0
Deposit and trust accounts	–161.0	10.5
Other	65.9	14.0
	–15.1	*146.5*
	2,344.8	3,306.1

Gross debt, net recorded assets and net debt

The gross debt of Canada, or the total of liabilities as recorded on the statement of assets and liabilities, is estimated to be $51,740 million at March 31, 1973, an increase of $4,017 million over the total at March 31, 1972. The main changes are increases of $1,779 million in unmatured debt and $1,555 million annuity, insurance and pension accounts. Unmatured debt at $29,038 million represents 56 per cent and annuity, insurance and pension accounts at $17,131 million represents 33 per cent of the total. At March 31, 1972 unmatured debt at $27,259 million was 57 per cent and annuity, insurance and pension accounts at $15,576 million were 33 per cent of total liabilities.

The government's net recorded assets are estimated to be $34,248 million at March 31, 1973, an increase of $4,462 million over the total at March 31, 1972. The main changes are increases of $1,462 million in advances, loans and investments, $979 million in the Canada Pension Plan investment fund and $1,305 million in advances to the Unemployment Insurance Account. Advances, loans and investments at $17,050 million represent 50 per cent, foreign exchange reserve accounts at $6,834 million represent 20 per cent and the Canada Pension Plan investment fund at $5,590 million represent 16 per cent of the total. At March 31, 1972 advances, loans and investments at $15,589 million were 52 per cent, foreign exchange reserve accounts at $6,658 million were 22 per cent and the Canada Pension Plan investment fund at $4,611 million was 15 per cent of the total.

Based on the above figures the net debt of Canada will be $17,492 million at March 31, 1973 compared with $17,937 million at March 31, 1972. The decrease of $445 million is equivalent to the 1972-73 estimated budgetary surplus.



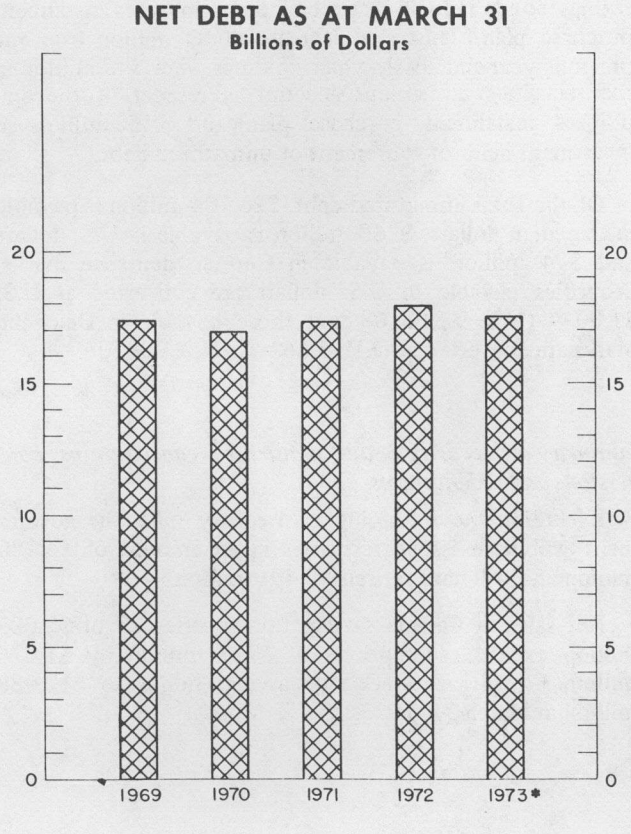


TABLE 78

STATEMENT OF PUBLIC DEBT, UNMATURED DEBT, NET RECORDED ASSETS AND NET DEBT OF CANADA

(in millions of dollars)

As at March 31	Gross public debt		Total	Less net recorded assets	Net debt	Increase in net debt during fiscal year
	Unmatured debt	Other liabilities				
1969	22,101.0	13,818.3	35,919.3	18,583.4	17,335.9	576.1
1970	22,637.2	15,512.9	38,150.1	21,206.8	16,943.3	−392.6
1971	25,201.2	17,774.6	42,975.8	25,653.4	17,322.4	379.1
1972	27,258.5	20,465.1	47,723.6	29,786.9	17,936.7	614.3
1973 (preliminary)	29,037.5	22,702.6	51,740.1	34,248.4	17,491.7	−445.0

Unmatured debt

Total unmatured debt of $29,038 million is $1,779 million more than at March 31, 1972.

The government's holdings of its own securities as at March 31, 1973 are comprised of $56 million in the securities investment account, which represent Canada savings bonds held in respect of the employees instalment purchase plan. This is a decrease of $4 million over the previous year-end total, when holdings were $45 million in the securities investment account in respect of the employees instalment purchase plan and $15 million in investment held for retirement of unmatured debt.

Of the total unmatured debt, $28,704 million is payable in Canadian dollars, $260 million is payable in U.S. dollars and $74 million is payable in German deutsche marks. Securities payable in U.S. dollars are converted at U.S. $1.00 = CAN. $1.08108 and those payable in Deutsche Marks are converted at D.M. 3.66 = CAN. $1.08108.

Summary of security issues, maturities, cancellations, conversions and redemptions

Excluding the refunding of treasury bills, the government will have issued securities in an amount of $4,180 million and will have retired $2,401 million.

Net sales of Canada savings bonds series 27 of $2,003 million exceed redemptions of $727 million by $1,276 million bringing total Canada savings bonds to $10,988 million at March 31, 1973.

Treasury bills of $4,290 million are $460 million more than at March 31, 1972 and consist of $2,795 million in three-month bills, $1,095 million in six-month bills and $400 million in special bills.

TABLE 79

(in millions of dollars)

UNMATURED DEBT TRANSACTIONS	Fiscal year ended March 31			
	1972		1973 (preliminary)	
Balance at beginning of year		25,201		27,259
New issues –				
Non-marketable bonds–				
Canada savings bonds	2,612		2,003	
Canada Pension Plan bonds	7		7	
	2,619		*2,010*	
Marketable bonds	2,220		1,710	
Treasury bills (net)	95		460	
	4,934		4,180	
Maturities, redemptions, cancellations and conversions–				
Non-marketable bonds–				
Canada savings bonds	704		727	
Unemployment Insurance Commission	315			
	1,019		*727*	
Marketable bonds	1,857		1,674	
	2,876		2,401	
Increase		2,058		1,779
Balance at close of fiscal year		27,259		29,038

TABLE 80

DEBT MATURED, REDEEMED, OR CANCELLED DURING THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 1973 (preliminary)

(in millions of dollars)

	Matured	Re-deemed	Can-celled	Total
Marketable bonds –				
T28	455		262	717
AT14			7	7
F37	235			235
CT26			13	13
F43	110			110
F50	150			150
F53	215			215
F59	225			225
5% 1962-87 N.Y.		2		2
	1,390	*2*	*282*	*1,674*
Non-marketable bonds – Canada savings bonds (S13-26)		727		727
	1,390	729	282	2,401

Interest rates

The average interest rate on the government's unmatured debt as at March 31, 1973 is estimated at 6.06 per cent compared with 5.89 per cent at March 31, 1972. The average yield on three-month treasury bills was 4.46 per cent at tender on March 29, 1973 compared with 3.57 per cent at tender on March 29, 1972; on six-month bills it was 4.79 per cent at tender on March 29, 1973 compared with 3.86 per cent at tender on March 29, 1972; and on special bills it was 4.77 per cent at tender on February 8, 1973 compared with 4.39 per cent on February 10, 1972.

TABLE 81

NEW SECURITIES ISSUED DURING FISCAL YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 1973

(in millions of dollars)

		Total Amount Issued
Marketable bonds–		
6½% 1971-79	F 66	485
5¼% 1971-73	F 69	150
6½% 1972-77	F 72	225
5¾% 1972-74	F 73	200
7% 1972-77	F 74	650
		1,710
Non-marketable bonds–		
Canada savings bonds–		
Nov. 1, 1972 – Nov. 1, 1984	S 27	2,003
Canada Pension Plan		7
Treasury bills (net)		460
		4,180

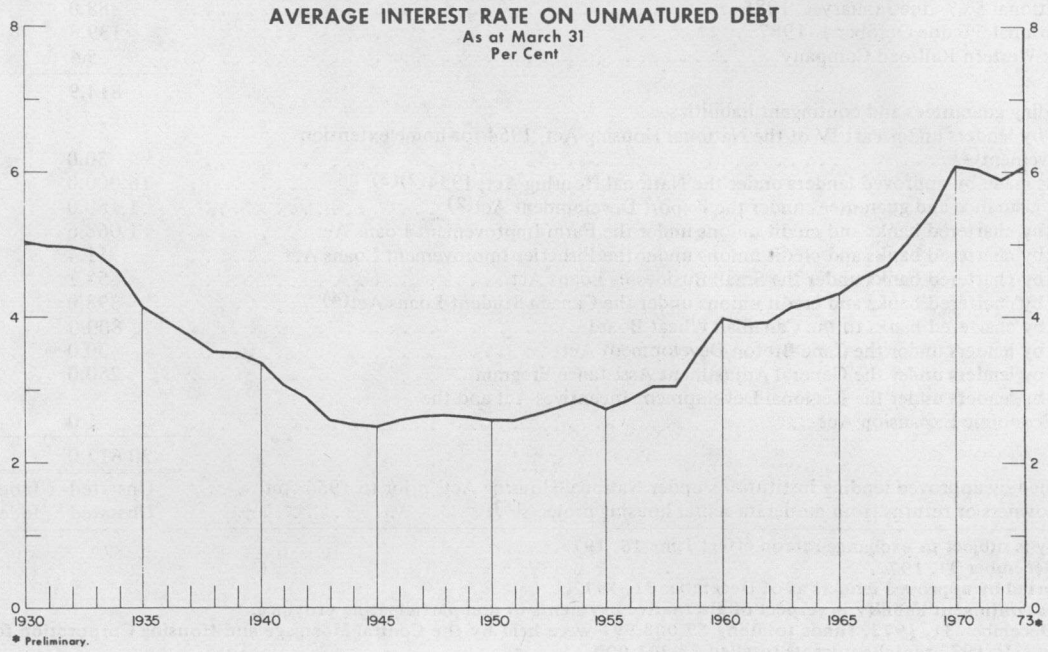


TABLE 82

TREASURY BILLS AVERAGE YIELDS AT TENDER

FISCAL YEAR ENDED MARCH 31	High	Low	Last issue
	per cent	per cent	per cent
Three-month bills–			
1969	7.00	5.48	6.58
1970	7.83	6.54	7.00
1971	7.02	2.99	3.02
1972	4.06	2.96	3.57
1973	4.46	3.42	4.46
Six-month bills–			
1969	7.01	5.43	6.80
1970	7.93	6.74	6.76
1971	6.82	3.08	3.08
1972	4.27	3.13	3.86
1973	4.79	3.72	4.79
Special bills–			
1969	6.53	5.90	5.90
1970	8.01	7.46	8.01
1971	6.80	4.77	4.98
1972	4.39	3.60	4.39
1973	4.77	4.36	4.77

Indirect debt or contingent liabilities

In addition to the direct debt set out in the statement of assets and liabilities, the government has assumed certain indirect or contingent liabilities. These consist of securities of the Canadian National Railways guaranteed as to principal and interest, and a number of miscellaneous guarantees, the chief of which are the guarantee of insured loans made by chartered banks and other approved lending institutions under the National Housing Act, advances under the Export Development Act, bank loans under the Canada Student Loans Act and the Farm Improvements Loans Act and bank loans to the Canadian Wheat Board.

TABLE 83

CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

(in millions of dollars)

	Amount of Guarantee	Amount Outstanding
Railway securities guaranteed as to principal and interest–		
Canadian National 3¾% due February 1, 1974	200.0	200.0
Canadian National 2¾% due June 15, 1975, U.S. $6,000,000[1]	6.0	6.0
Canadian National 5% due May 15, 1977	75.7	75.7
Canadian National 4% due February 1, 1981	300.0	300.0
Canadian National 5¾% due January 1, 1985	88.0	88.0
Canadian National 5% due October 1, 1987	139.8	139.8
Grand Trunk Western Railroad Company	5.4	5.4
	814.9	814.9
Other outstanding guarantees and contingent liabilities–		
Loans made by lenders under Part IV of the National Housing Act, 1954 for home extension and improvement[2]	30.0	23.5
Insured loans made by approved lenders under the National Housing Act, 1954[2][3]	16,000.0	10,056.0
Liability for insurance and guarantees under the Export Development Act[2]	1,150.0	654.8
Loans made by chartered banks and credit unions under the Farm Improvement Loans Act	1,068.6	272.1
Loans made by chartered banks and credit unions under the Fisheries Improvement Loans Act	11.4	2.4
Loans made by chartered banks under the Small Businesses Loans Act	58.1	20.7
Loans made by chartered banks and credit unions under the Canada Student Loans Act[4]	398.0	398.0
Loans made by chartered banks to the Canadian Wheat Board	800.0	436.5
Loans made by lenders under the Cape Breton Development Act	30.0	28.5
Loans made by lenders under the General Adjustment Assistance Program	250.0	24.9
Loans made by lenders under the Regional Development Incentives Act and the Regional Economic Expansion Act	1.0	1.0
	20,612.0	12,733.3
Loans maintained by approved lending institutions under National Housing Acts prior to 1954 Act	Unstated	Indeterminate
Guarantees to owners of returns from moderate rental housing projects[5]	Unstated	Indeterminate

(1) Liability is subject to exchange rate in effect June 15, 1975.
(2) As of December 31, 1972.
(3) As reported by approved lenders as of December 31, 1972.
(4) Includes contingent liability in respect of alternative payments to non-participating province.
(5) As of December 31, 1972, funds totalling $7,003,991 were held by the Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation for the purpose of settling claims. In 1972 rental contracts totalled $3,301,000.

SUPPLEMENTARY DETAILED TABLES

REVENUE

EXPENDITURE

ANNUAL CHANGES IN LOANS AND INVESTMENTS

UNMATURED DEBT

STATEMENT OF REVENUE FOR THE LAST FIVE FISCAL YEARS

(in millions of dollars)

	1968-69	1969-70	1970-71	1971-72	1972-73 (preliminary)
Tax revenue–					
Income tax–					
Personal[1][2]	3,356.4	4,085.1	4,696.5	5,582.0	7,190.0
Corporation[1][2]	2,030.0	2,612.0	2,218.5	2,183.1	2,620.0
On dividends, interest, etc., going abroad	205.6	248.5	258.2	287.7	289.4
	5,592.0	*6,945.6*	*7,173.2*	*8,052.8*	*10,099.4*
Social development tax	63.0	476.5	566.3	408.4	5.6
Excise taxes–					
Sales tax[1][2]	1,569.8	1,716.9	1,707.5	1,984.7	2,305.0
Other taxes–					
Cigarettes, tobacco and cigars	304.2	295.8	319.4	330.1	354.3
Jewellery, watches, ornaments, etc.	9.5	10.4	10.2	11.2	12.4
Matches and lighters	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.2	1.2
Television sets, radios and phonographs	35.3	40.8	38.6	10.2	0.1
Toilet preparations	18.6	19.7	21.4	22.0	27.0
Wines	5.9	7.0	8.1	9.4	10.8
Sundry commodities	1.7	2.6	4.0	1.9	1.5
Interest and penalties	2.4	2.2	2.1	3.4	3.0
Less refunds	−0.8	−1.2	−1.7	−1.0	−0.3
	377.9	*378.4*	*403.2*	*388.4*	*410.0*
Customs import duties	761.7	818.3	814.5	988.6	1,200.0
Excise duties–					
Spirits	185.4	194.7	209.4	235.3	245.0
Beer	135.0	139.4	149.1	160.6	169.0
Cigarettes, tobacco and cigars	196.6	193.8	212.2	221.4	233.0
Less refunds	−7.7	−9.1	−9.7	−10.7	−12.0
	509.3	*518.8*	*561.0*	*606.6*	*635.0*
Estate tax	112.4	100.6	119.9	132.0	59.6
Miscellaneous tax revenue	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.4
Total tax revenue	8,986.4	10,955.4	11,345.9	12,561.9	14,715.0
Non-tax revenue–					
Return on investments	697.2	860.0	1,000.2	1,133.3	1,275.0
Post office–net postal revenue	288.4	354.8	337.6	403.8	475.0
Other	182.0	144.0	119.3	127.6	135.0
Total non-tax revenue	1,167.6	1,358.8	1,457.1	1,664.7	1,885.0
Total revenue	10,154.0	12,314.2	12,803.0	14,226.6	16,600.0

[1] Excluding credits to old age security fund–

	1968-69	1969-70	1970-71	1971-72	1972-73 (preliminary)
Personal income tax	915.0	1,026.5	1,132.5	1,237.0	1,190.0
Corporation income tax	183.0	227.1	207.9	212.5	266.0
Sales tax	528.1	577.4	573.8	668.5	770.0

[2] Net after deduction of refunds and drawbacks as well as transfers to the old age security fund.

STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURES BY DEPARTMENTS AND MAJOR CATEGORIES FOR THE LAST FIVE FISCAL YEARS

(in millions of dollars)

	1968-69	1969-70	1970-71	1971-72	1972-73 (preliminary)
AGRICULTURE–					
Administration and general	115.5	114.7	120.8	134.1	168.6
Agricultural commodities stabilization account–net operating loss	145.4	136.3	126.4	122.0	118.6
Wheat inventory reduction payments		100.0			
Canadian Livestock Feed Board	18.2	22.2	20.8	20.6	22.0
Farm Credit Corporation–net operating loss	6.0	8.7	8.6	8.9	8.6
Canadian Dairy Commission	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.7
	285.4	*382.3*	*277.0*	*286.1*	*318.5*
COMMUNICATIONS	12.9	13.4	13.9	21.7	33.9
CONSUMER AND CORPORATE AFFAIRS–					
Administration and general	13.8	16.1	18.1	22.3	29.5
Prices and Incomes Commission		0.6	2.1	1.6	0.5
	13.8	*16.7*	*20.2*	*23.9*	*30.0*
ENERGY, MINES AND RESOURCES–					
Administration and general	4.9	6.5	7.7	7.8	7.9
Atomic energy	72.6	74.9	76.7	89.4	87.9
Dominion Coal Board	7.2	8.8	6.0		
Minerals, energy and earth sciences	54.8	56.7	56.7	75.5	72.0
National Energy Board	1.5	1.9	2.4	2.9	3.6
	141.0	*148.8*	*149.5*	*175.6*	*171.4*
ENVIRONMENT	159.2	164.8	156.7	200.7	239.3
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS–					
Administration and general	53.7	59.7	58.6	77.8	88.7
Assessments, contributions and other payments to international organizations and international multilateral economic and special programs	15.3	13.3	15.5	17.6	20.6
Canadian International Development Agency	156.8	168.7	209.9	218.7	271.2
International Joint Commission	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5
	226.2	*242.2*	*284.5*	*314.6*	*381.0*
FINANCE–					
Administration and general	23.7	19.3	29.2	44.3	67.5
EXPO 1967–deficit		122.9			
Grants to municipalities and provinces in lieu of taxes	45.1	49.5	54.1	57.2	62.0
Public debt charges	1,480.0	1,716.9	1,822.8	2,009.6	2,176.8
Fiscal transfer payments to provinces	867.1	932.4	1,228.9	1,425.5	1,462.2
Tariff Board	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.5
Auditor General	2.4	2.9	3.1	3.9	4.3
Insurance	0.4	0.6	0.9	1.1	1.3
	2,419.1	*2,844.9*	*3,139.5*	*3,542.1*	*3,774.6*
GOVERNOR GENERAL AND LIEUTENANT-GOVERNORS	1.0	1.1	1.2	1.2	1.3
INDIAN AFFAIRS AND NORTHERN DEVELOPMENT–					
Administration and general	5.8	7.5	8.2	9.2	11.4
Conservation program	30.6	32.2	33.5	49.3	65.1
Indian and Eskimo affairs	165.2	204.1	222.0	261.7	271.5
Northern development	55.0	57.5	86.9	106.4	132.4
	256.6	*301.3*	*350.6*	*426.6*	*480.4*
INDUSTRY, TRADE AND COMMERCE	179.2	263.7	208.7	293.4	355.0
Statistics Canada	24.0	32.4	39.0	69.2	59.0
	203.2	*296.1*	*247.7*	*362.6*	*414.0*

STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURES BY DEPARTMENTS AND MAJOR CATEGORIES FOR THE LAST FIVE FISCAL YEARS

(in millions of dollars)

	1968-69	1969-70	1970-71	1971-72	1972-73 (preliminary)
JUSTICE	17.2	20.0	23.1	28.7	36.4
LABOUR	11.1	12.1	13.5	17.3	18.5
Information Canada		1.5	7.0	8.1	10.2
	11.1	*13.6*	*20.5*	*25.4*	*28.7*
MANPOWER AND IMMIGRATION–					
Administration and general	23.4	10.0	12.4	14.6	17.1
Development and utilization of manpower	337.4	399.4	529.5	575.9	678.8
Immigration	29.4	24.3	22.8	22.7	31.9
Municipal winter works incentive program	21.5	0.4			
Program development	4.4	5.4	6.1	6.3	7.3
Unemployment Insurance Commission–					
Administration and general	38.8	45.0	79.0	81.3	14.1
Government's contribution to the fund	86.6	98.4	99.0	92.1	
	541.5	*582.9*	*748.8*	*792.9*	*749.2*
NATIONAL DEFENCE–					
Administration and general	24.9	26.8	29.9	32.6	34.8
Canadian forces superannuation account–					
Government's contribution	57.0	65.6	70.4	73.8	79.0
Amortization of deferred charges	104.5	92.2	89.4	66.3	89.2
Additional interest			45.7	58.7	78.5
Defence services	1,507.7	1,540.6	1,517.2	1,598.1	1,635.0
Defence research	44.1	44.1	45.9	47.0	47.5
Mutual aid to NATO countries	15.3	14.1	14.4	13.8	14.4
Civil emergency measures organization	6.3	5.0	5.0	4.9	5.6
	1,759.8	*1,788.4*	*1,817.9*	*1,895.2*	*1,984.0*
NATIONAL HEALTH AND WELFARE–					
Administration and general	4.2	11.0	12.3	20.6	28.6
Health insurance and resources–					
Health grants to provinces	44.0	69.1	19.6	15.2	11.3
Government's contributions under the Hospital Insurance and Diagnostic Services Act	561.9	635.9	734.3	844.6	950.8
Health resources fund	33.9	34.4	37.5	37.0	37.0
Medical Care Act	33.0	181.0	400.5	576.5	630.8
Other	1.6	1.2	1.4	2.6	3.5
Health services	15.8	19.2	22.1	24.3	30.0
Medical services	39.2	40.6	45.4	50.0	52.7
Welfare services–					
Family allowances	560.2	560.1	557.9	554.4	548.9
Youth allowances	52.4	55.1	58.0	59.7	59.4
Unemployment assistance	1.1	0.7			
Canada assistance plan	256.8	293.6	391.6	457.1	489.6
Other	30.2	22.6	23.0	28.0	36.2
Medical Research Council	27.2	31.2	34.4	36.1	38.0
	1,661.5	*1,955.7*	*2,338.0*	*2,706.1*	*2,916.8*
NATIONAL REVENUE–					
Customs and excise	59.5	70.1	74.4	84.9	94.8
Taxation	60.2	74.2	84.1	100.4	125.9
	119.7	*144.3*	*158.5*	*185.3*	*220.7*
PARLIAMENT–					
House of Commons	14.3	17.6	21.0	25.7	27.3
The Senate	3.6	4.6	5.1	5.7	5.8
Library of Parliament	0.7	0.8	1.1	1.2	1.6
	18.6	*23.0*	*27.2*	*32.6*	*34.7*

STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURES BY DEPARTMENTS AND MAJOR CATEGORIES FOR THE LAST FIVE FISCAL YEARS

(in millions of dollars)

	1968-69	1969-70	1970-71	1971-72	1972-73 (preliminary)
POST OFFICE	319.5	340.5	368.6	413.3	474.1
PRIVY COUNCIL–					
Privy Council	6.3	6.9	7.2	7.4	10.0
Economic Council of Canada	1.5	1.6	1.7	2.1	2.6
Chief Electoral Officer	13.5	0.3	1.2	1.2	23.6
Commissioner of Official Languages		0.4	0.4	0.9	1.0
Public Service Staff Relations Board	1.1	1.2	1.3	1.5	1.8
	22.4	*10.4*	*11.8*	*13.1*	*39.0*
PUBLIC WORKS–					
Administration and general	43.4	38.2	38.1	42.1	49.6
Accommodation services	172.0	190.5	218.4	259.4	298.0
Marine services	32.1	31.3	34.6	34.4	28.4
Trans-Canada highway–contributions to provinces	37.3	26.8	39.6	2.3	
	284.8	*286.8*	*330.7*	*338.2*	*376.0*
REGIONAL ECONOMIC EXPANSION	125.7	179.4	260.5	308.6	320.9
Cape Breton Development Corporation	30.1	32.7	37.3	37.8	52.7
	155.8	*212.1*	*297.8*	*346.4*	*373.6*
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY	0.4	1.2	1.2	2.4	4.3
SECRETARY OF STATE–					
Administration and general	24.5	16.4	26.6	70.1	87.2
Bilingualism development program		1.7	53.4	78.1	83.3
Education support program	276.6	301.4	388.2	450.5	480.6
Canada Council	20.6	23.7	24.2	26.3	34.0
Canadian Broadcasting Corporation	148.3	166.0	166.0	181.0	205.0
Canadian Film Development Corporation	0.2	0.4	1.0	1.8	0.4
Canadian Radio-Television Commission	1.9	2.8	3.3	4.7	5.4
Company of Young Canadians	1.9	1.9	1.9	1.9	2.0
National Arts Centre Corporation	1.1	2.5	2.6	3.0	3.7
National Film Board	10.0	10.5	10.4	12.0	14.5
National Library	1.7	2.0	2.5	3.7	5.0
National Museums of Canada	7.1	7.3	8.2	11.2	19.9
Representation Commissioner	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	1.2
Public Archives	2.2	2.4	3.7	3.7	5.7
Public Service Commission	12.9	14.1	15.8	19.4	25.2
	509.1	*553.2*	*707.9*	*867.5*	*973.1*
SOLICITOR GENERAL–					
Administration and general	0.5	0.9	1.4	1.9	2.4
Correctional services	63.6	70.0	75.1	85.5	94.7
Royal Canadian Mounted Police	101.8	113.2	146.3	172.7	211.9
	165.9	*184.1*	*222.8*	*260.1*	*309.0*
SUPPLY AND SERVICES–					
Administration and general	4.3	4.0	4.2	4.2	5.4
Services	34.6	40.7	36.5	42.6	51.1
Supply	21.6	28.2	21.6	23.0	25.2
Public Printing and Stationery	3.5	4.0			
Canadian Arsenals Limited	0.3	0.5	1.5	1.9	2.2
Canadian Commercial Corporation	2.1	3.4	3.8	3.9	4.2
	66.4	*80.8*	*67.6*	*75.6*	*88.1*

STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURES BY DEPARTMENTS AND MAJOR CATEGORIES FOR THE LAST FIVE FISCAL YEARS

(in millions of dollars)

	1968-69	1969-70	1970-71	1971-72	1972-73 (preliminary)
TRANSPORT–					
Administration and general	7.9	7.4	8.5	13.7	23.0
Air transportation program	115.4	109.0	139.2	159.4	170.9
Marine transportation program	91.5	95.6	92.5	103.0	124.5
Surface transportation program	41.1	47.3	49.6	71.8	65.7
Canadian National Railways–deficit	29.2	24.6	29.7	24.3	17.8
Canadian Transport Commission–					
Administration and general	4.2	10.3	10.5	15.4	21.7
Payments under the National Transportation Act	93.7	79.6	65.7	65.5	122.0
Contributions to the railway grade crossing fund	15.0	15.0	20.0	20.0	20.0
Maritime Freight Rates Act	13.9	14.6	14.0	13.1	13.0
Steamship subventions	12.2	6.0	6.0	6.3	7.0
Subsidies to air carriers	1.3	3.4	1.8	1.4	2.0
National Harbours Board	6.6	8.6	2.5	3.7	2.3
The St. Lawrence Seaway Authority	11.4	10.5	10.1	13.5	13.2
	443.4	*431.9*	*450.1*	*511.1*	*603.1*
TREASURY BOARD–					
Administration and general	43.2	45.4	55.6	62.2	84.7
Reserve for salary revisions	120.5	58.7	65.0		
Public Service superannuation account–					
Government's contribution	66.0	73.5	85.6	93.0	109.1
Amortization of deferred charges	84.8	91.8	84.8	87.4	81.0
Additional interest			49.5	65.3	102.0
National Research Council	117.8	121.7	122.9	130.8	142.0
	432.3	*391.1*	*463.4*	*438.7*	*518.8*
URBAN AFFAIRS–					
Ministry				1.9	10.2
Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation	29.7	43.6	47.0	82.2	92.2
National Capital Commission	25.0	24.0	28.4	45.8	31.2
	54.7	*67.6*	*75.4*	*129.9*	*133.6*
VETERANS AFFAIRS–					
Administration and general	10.1	4.7	8.6	6.7	6.8
Welfare services	112.9	112.6	108.5	99.2	110.0
Pensions	223.3	222.3	216.4	235.3	246.3
Treatment services	71.6	72.1	66.4	70.8	73.0
Veterans land administration	9.7	10.7	10.1	11.3	11.3
	427.6	*422.4*	*410.0*	*423.3*	*447.4*
	10,730.1	11,921.6	13,182.1	14,840.9	16,155.0

UNMATURED DEBT INCLUDING TREASURY BILLS AS AT MARCH 31, 1973 AND THE ANNUAL INTEREST THEREON (PRELIMINARY)

		Date of maturity	Rate per cent	Amount of loan	Annual interest
				$	$
Payable in Canadian dollars–					
Loan of 1936	P	1 Perpetual	3	55,000,000	1,650,000
Loan of 1968	F	25 1973 Apr. 1	7	475,000,000	33,250,000
Loan of 1970	F	54 July 1	6 1/2	150,000,000	9,750,000
Loan of 1970	F	58 July 1	6 3/4	200,000,000	13,500,000
Loan of 1965	CT	17 Oct. 1	5	275,000,000	13,750,000
Loan of 1967	F	11 Oct. 1	5	200,000,000	10,000,000
Canada savings bonds, 1958	S	13 Nov. 1	4 1/4	12,805,000	544,212
Loan of 1967	F	22 Dec. 1	6 1/4	224,875,000	14,054,688
Loan of 1971 and 1972	F	69 Dec. 1	5 1/4	300,000,000	15,750,000
Loan of 1972	F	73 1974 Feb. 1	5 3/4	200,000,000	11,500,000
Loan of 1969	F	38 Apr. 1	7 1/4	125,000,000	9,062,500
Loan of 1971	F	62 Apr. 1	5	350,000,000	17,500,000
Loan of 1968	F	28 June 15	7	250,000,000	17,500,000
Loan of 1970	F	60 June 15	6	200,000,000	12,000,000
Loan of 1969 and 1970	F	46 Oct. 1	8	424,457,000	33,956,560
Canada savings bonds, 1964	S	19 Nov. 1	5 1/2	43,386,000	2,386,230
Loan of 1967 and 1971	F	14 Dec. 1	5 1/2	175,000,000	9,625,000
Loan of 1971	F	70 Dec. 1	4 1/4	125,000,000	5,312,500
Loan of 1968	F	32 1975 Apr. 1	6 1/2	200,000,000	13,000,000
Loan of 1970	F	51 Apr. 1	7 1/4	225,000,000	16,312,500
Loan of 1975	F	55 July 1	7 1/4	260,000,000	18,850,000
Loan of 1959	T	36 Oct. 1	5 1/2	310,361,000	17,069,855
Loan of 1965	CT	24 1975 Oct. 1	5 1/2	50,000,000	2,750,000
Loan of 1967	F	9 Oct. 1	5 1/2	70,000,000	3,850,000
Canada savings bonds, 1963	S	18 Nov. 1	5 1/2	46,106,000	2,535,830
Loan of 1970	F	56 Dec. 15	7 1/4	450,000,000	32,625,000
Loan of 1960	T	38 1976 Apr. 1	5 1/2	436,198,000	23,990,890
Loan of 1954	T	11 June 1	3 1/4	247,046,500	8,029,011
Loan of 1971	F	65 June 1	5 3/4	125,000,000	7,187,500
Loan of 1971	F	67 Aug. 1	6 1/4	350,000,000	21,875,000
Loan of 1971	F	63 Oct. 1	5 1/2	395,000,000	21,725,000
Canada savings bonds, 1962	S	17 Nov. 1	5 1/2	72,044,000	3,962,420
Loan of 1972	F	72 1977 Apr. 1	6 1/2	225,000,000	14,625,000
Loan of 1972	F	74 July 1	7	650,000,000	45,500,000
Loan of 1970	F	52 Sept. 1	7	500,000,000	35,000,000
Canada savings bonds, 1965	S	20 1977 Nov. 1	5	40,961,000	2,048,050
Loan of 1953 and 1958	T	5 1978 Jan. 15	3 3/4	207,911,500	7,796,681
Loan of 1969	F	41 July 1	8	125,000,000	10,000,000
Special replacement series, 1968	SRS	Oct. 1	7	202,229,000	14,156,030
Canada savings bonds, 1969	S	24 Nov. 1	8 1/4	4,105,235,000	338,681,888
Loan of 1971	F	66 1979 June 1	6 1/2	585,000,000	38,025,000
Loan of 1954	T	13 Oct. 1	3 1/4	343,246,500	11,155,511
Canada savings bonds, 1966	C	3 Nov. 1	5 1/2	199,598,000	10,977,890
Loan of 1971	F	71 Dec. 15	5 3/4	225,000,000	12,937,500
Loan of 1971	F	64 1980 Apr. 1	6 1/4	200,000,000	12,500,000
Loan of 1962	AT	14 Aug. 1	5 1/2	97,546,000	5,365,030
Loan of 1966	CT	26 Aug. 1	5 1/2	60,848,500	3,346,668
Loan of 1966 and 1967	F	3 Aug. 1	5 1/2	158,271,000	8,704,905
Canada savings bonds, 1967	S	22 Nov. 1	5 1/4	103,743,000	5,446,508
Canada savings bonds, 1971	S	26 1980 Nov. 1	6 3/4	2,068,621,000	139,631,918
Canada savings bonds, 1970	S	25 1981 Nov. 1	7 3/4	1,644,688,000	127,463,320
Canada savings bonds, 1968	S	23 1982 Nov. 1	6 3/4	438,427,000	29,593,823
Conversion loan, 1958	T	29 1983 Sept. 1	4 1/2	1,992,679,450	89,670,575
Canada savings bonds, 1972	S	27 1984 Nov. 1	5 1/2	2,010,395,000	110,571,725
Loan of 1969 and 1970	F	47 1986 Oct. 1	8	543,000	43,440
Loan of 1963	AT	21 1988 June 1	5	100,000,000	5,000,000
Loan of 1964	CT	9 June 1	5	50,000,000	2,500,000

UNMATURED DEBT INCLUDING TREASURY BILLS AS AT MARCH 31, 1973 AND THE ANNUAL INTEREST THEREON (PRELIMINARY)

		Date of maturity	Rate per cent	Amount of loan	Annual interest
				$	$
Loan of 1971	F	61 1989 Feb. 15	6 3/4	150,000,000	10,125,000
Loan of 1964 and 1965	CT	12 1990 May 1	5 1/4	225,000,000	11,812,500
Loan of 1967	F	12 May 1	5 1/4	125,000,000	6,562,500
Loan of 1966 and 1967	F	6 1992 Sept. 1	5 3/4	225,000,000	12,937,500
Loan of 1967	F	23 1994 Dec. 1	6 1/4	125,000	7,813
Loan of 1968	F	33 1995 Oct. 1	6 1/2	100,000,000	6,500,000
Conversion loan, 1956	T	15 1998 Mar. 15	3 3/4	197,045,000	7,389,188
Three-month treasury bills			3.99	2,795,000,000	111,520,500
Six-month treasury bills			4.30	1,095,000,000	47,085,000
Special treasury bills			4.77	400,000,000	19,080,000
Canada Pension Plan bonds			various	34,473,000	2,492,398
				28,703,864,450	1,741,108,557
Payable in United States dollars–					
Loan of 1949		1974 Sept. 1	2 3/4	48,755,627	1,340,780
Loan of 1950		1975 Sept. 15	2 3/4	30,301,591	833,294
Loan of 1962		1987 Oct. 15	5	72,648,576	3,632,429
Loan of 1968		1988 June 1	6 7/8	108,108,000	7,432,425
				259,813,794	13,238,928
Payable in German deutsche marks		1973 June 1	6 3/4	73,844,250	4,984,487
				29,037,522,494	1,759,331,972

The interest shown is a projection for one year on the principal amounts outstanding at March 31, 1973. Where various rates of interest are applicable during the term of a loan the interest rate in effect at March 31, 1973 has been used. Bonds payable in foreign currencies have been converted at official parity rates.

ANNUAL CHARGES IN LOANS AND ADVANCES FOR THE LAST FIVE FISCAL YEARS

(in millions of dollars)

	1968-69	1969-70	1970-71	1971-72	1972-73 (preliminary)
Domestic–					
Loans to, and investments in, crown corporations–					
Air Canada	50.1	71.3	111.3	27.2	–14.4
Atomic Energy of Canada Limited	68.5	136.0	160.9	112.2	76.0
Canada Deposit Insurance Corporation	–5.9	7.0	–19.1	–1.4	
Canadian Arsenals Limited		–0.5		–0.5	
Canadian Broadcasting Corporation	18.3	19.6	–1.0	26.5	22.0
Canadian Commercial Corporation	–1.0				
Canadian Corporation for the 1967 World Exhibition	–57.0	–148.0			
Canadian Dairy Commission	19.8	3.2	–21.8	–23.4	14.0
Canadian National Railways	150.3	102.0	92.6	201.8	–4.9
Canadian Overseas Telecommunication Corporation	–3.1	–3.4	–3.6	–2.3	–2.0
Cape Breton Development Corporation	4.8	–2.0	–4.0	4.0	7.0
Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation	385.2	481.2	596.3	655.9	507.0
Eldorado Nuclear Limited		17.2	9.8	9.0	13.0
Export Development Corporation	32.5	41.9	80.9	118.0	122.0
Farm Credit Corporation	128.2	77.8	49.1	30.4	45.0
Freshwater Fish Marketing Corporation		2.2	2.6	5.2	–1.0
National Capital Commission	–9.2	1.3	–5.6	–0.3	3.0
National Harbours Board	11.1	4.5	4.6	3.3	
Northern Canada Power Commission	8.5	2.6	4.7	3.0	2.6
Northern Transportation Company Limited	2.0	8.0	6.1	0.8	
Polymer Corporation Limited					–30.0
Royal Canadian Mint		2.0	–1.0		1.0
St. Lawrence Seaway Authority(1)	28.8	41.5	55.9	61.1	34.0
Uranium Canada Limited				11.4	
Other	0.3	1.3	2.0	0.6	–4.6
	832.2	*866.7*	*1,120.7*	*1,242.5*	*789.7*
Other loans and investments–					
Loans to provincial governments	82.6	49.3	40.3	144.9	193.0
Municipal Development and Loan Board	1.6	–8.5	–9.2	–9.5	–10.0
Veterans Land Act advances	38.7	50.4	20.2	10.5	
Advances to Unemployment Insurance Commission				183.6	1,305.0
Airports–capital loans		5.1	41.2	90.5	55.0
Canada Development Corporation				25.0	163.0
Development of space and terrestrial communications		9.9	–9.9	20.0	15.0
Investment in shares of Panarctic Oils Ltd.		13.6	6.8	8.0	6.0
Loans to manufacturers of automotive parts in Canada	1.1	12.1	6.5	–2.4	
Other	15.6	39.4	53.7	28.8	37.0
	139.6	*171.3*	*149.6*	*499.4*	*1,764.0*
	971.8	1,038.0	1,270.3	1,741.9	2,553.7
External–					
Loans to national governments–					
United Kingdom	(2)18.1	–20.0	–20.4	–20.8	–21.3
Export Credits Insurance Act	–2.3	–2.3	–15.3	–15.4	–15.2
Loans to India for the purchase in Canada of aircraft and associated spare parts and equipment	–1.3				
Special loan assistance–developing countries	48.5	81.1	114.0	143.1	164.9
Other	0.1	–0.1	–0.1	0.2	
	63.1	*58.7*	*78.2*	*107.1*	*128.4*
Subscriptions to capital of, and working capital advances and loans to, international organizations–					
Canada's subscription to capital of–					
Asian Development Bank	2.7	2.7	2.6		
Caribbean Regional Development Bank		1.1	0.7	0.8	0.6
Inter-American Development Bank					14.2
International Bank for Reconstruction and Development					16.1
International Development Association	27.1	27.0	24.9	50.1	53.6
Working capital advances and loans to international organizations	–0.3	–0.2	–0.2	–0.2	
	29.5	*30.6*	*28.0*	*50.7*	*84.5*
	92.6	89.3	106.2	157.8	212.9
Net total of changes in loans and investments	1,064.4	1,127.3	1,376.5	1,899.7	2,766.6

(1)Includes deferred interest.
(2)Deferred interest.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Monday, June 4, 1973

The House met at 2 p.m.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[*English*]

VETERANS AFFAIRS

DISABILITY PENSIONS—REQUEST FOR UNANIMOUS CONSENT TO MOVE MOTION

Mr. Jack Marshall (Humber-St. George's-St. Barbe): Mr. Speaker, I wish to seek unanimous consent to move a motion under Standing Order 43. Having regard to the persistent delays in applications for veterans disability pensions being dealt with by the Pension Commission, and as the entitlement and review board work load has reached emergency proportions, and consideration must be given to a means of speeding up the process, particularly for those veterans who are in their late years, I therefore move, seconded by the hon. member for Peel-Dufferin-Simcoe (Mr. Madill):

That the matter be immediately referred to the Standing Committee on Veterans Affairs to review those clauses in the legislation, and particularly the benefit of the doubt clause and as well the shortage of administrative personnel, to relieve the excessive waiting period which is causing hardship to many thousands of veterans.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member's motion proposed under the terms of Standing Order 43 requires unanimous consent. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

Mr. Speaker: There is not unanimity. The motion cannot be put.

* * *

REGIONAL ECONOMIC EXPANSION

POLICY REVIEW STUDIES—REQUEST FOR UNANIMOUS CONSENT TO MOVE MOTION

Mr. Bill Knight (Assiniboia): Mr. Speaker, I am rising under the provisions of Standing Order 43 on a matter of urgent and pressing necessity arising from the recent indiscretions committed by the *Globe and Mail* and *Le Soleil* in respect of confidential studies of the Department of Regional Economic Expansion. I move, seconded by the hon. member for Sault Ste. Marie (Mr. Symes):

That the House recommend to the Minister of Regional Economic Expansion to consider prompt release of the complete set of recently prepared studies in his department dealing with policy review of the Atlantic region, the prairie region and the Pacific region before the daily press gets its hands on these reports, thus ripping off the taxpayers of Canada by publishing the government's confidential documents.

Mr. Speaker: Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

Mr. Speaker: There is not unanimity.

* * *

CUSTOMS ACT

AMENDMENT TO MAKE ALL GOODS APPEARING ON SHIP'S INWARD REPORT DUTIABLE EVEN IF NOT LANDED

Hon. Robert Stanbury (Minister of National Revenue) moved for leave to introduce Bill C-189, to amend the Customs Act.

Motion agreed to, bill read the first time and ordered to be printed.

* * *

[*Translation*]

CANADA PENSION PLAN

CONTRIBUTIONS BY MEMBERS OF CERTAIN RELIGIOUS SECTS, INTEREST RATE ON LATE REMITTANCES, LEGAL EXPENSES

Hon. Marc Lalonde (Minister of National Health and Welfare) moved for leave to introduce Bill C-190, to amend the Canada Pension Plan.

Motion agreed to, bill read the first time and ordered to be printed.

QUESTIONS ON THE ORDER PAPER

(Questions answered orally are indicated by an asterisk.)

[*Text*]

CANADIAN COMMERCIAL CORPORATION—SALE OF AIRCRAFT

Question No. 832—**Mr. Stevens:**

1. Has the Canadian Commercial Corporation paid into the Consolidated Revenue Fund the $17,111,554 ($2,651,000 in accounts payable and $14,460,554 in advances from customers) received by

that Corporation in partial payment for the sale of aircraft to a foreign government on behalf of the Department of National Defence as the Auditor General in his last audit report for the Corporation dated June, 1972 said should have been done by the Corporation and (a) if not, for what reason (b) if so, for what reason was the amount not initially paid into the special accounts in the Consolidated Revenue Fund established by Section 11 of the National Defence Act for proceeds from the sale of material which is not surplus to requirements, and Vote 48, Appropriation Act No. 2, 1966, for proceeds from the sale of surplus materials?

2. Has the $44,818 accrued interest earned on these funds as of March 31, 1972 and subsequent accrued interest been remitted to the Receiver General as revenue of Canada?

Hon. Jean-Pierre Goyer (Minister of Supply and Services): The transaction involves the sale of surplus and non-surplus materiel to a foreign government with the proceeds of the sale to be used to purchase further supplies for National Defence. At the direction of the Governor in Council and the Minister of Supply and Services, both facets are being handled by the Canadian Commercial Corporation. The financial aspects of the transaction are being administered in accordance with the provisions of relevant legislation and have been approved by Treasury Board on the advice of their legal advisers, the Department of Justice, as follows: 1. (a) Proceeds received from the sale of surplus material are being retained by the Canadian Commercial Corporation as it is authorized to do by the CCC Act, and are being used to purchase materiel for the Department of National Defence; (b) proceeds received from the sale of non-surplus materiel are being administered in accordance with Section 11 of the National Defence Act.

2. No, they are being retained and administered by the Canadian Commercial Corporation in accordance with Sections 3 and 5 of the CCC Act in furthering the corporation's purposes; in this instance, the purchase of defence materiel.

AIR CANADA—STATISTICS ON INTERNATIONAL PASSENGERS

Question No. 1,182—**Mr. Orlikow:**

1. In the past three years, how many passengers, travelling on Air Canada planes to foreign countries, have departed from (a) Toronto (b) Montreal?

2. In the past three years, how many passengers, travelling on Air Canada planes from foreign countries, have arrived in (a) Toronto (b) Montreal?

3. Has Air Canada any figures showing the number of international passengers arriving in and departing from Toronto and Montreal who are travelling on other airlines?

4. Does Air Canada consider that the center of further operations in Canada for International Airlines will be increasingly in Toronto and, if so, has Air Canada reconsidered its policy of expanding its overhaul facilities at Dorval and replacing it by a policy of de-centralizing its overhaul facilities in cities such as Toronto, Winnipeg, Vancouver, etc.?

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): Air Canada management advises as follows: 1, 2 and 3.

International Passenger Traffic Arriving and Departing at Montreal and Toronto on Air Canada and All Other Carriers, 1970—1972

	Passengers at Montreal on all International Flights of:			Passengers at Toronto on all International Flights of:		
	1970	1971	1972	1970	1971	1972
Air Canada (1)						
Arriving	387,752	385,874	437,072	635,895	627,574	692,027
Departing	384,253	395,900	438,312	602,053	596,254	661,391
Other Carriers (2)						
Arriving	842,976	945,186	N.A.	829,679	884,790	N.A.
Departing	818,072	925,773	N.A.	825,812	886,089	N.A.

Source (1) Air Canada Reports.
(2) Aviation Statistics Centre Service Bulletins Cat. 51-004, Vol. 4, No. 21, Asc-5B-2-3 minus Air Canada passengers.

4. Air Canada considers that Toronto is, and will continue to be, one of the major centers of International air transportation, and its policy on facilities is governed accordingly.

AIR CANADA—HEADQUARTERS ACCOMMODATION

Question No. 1,183—**Mr. Orlikow:**

1. How many Air Canada employees work in space rented by Air Canada in Place Ville Marie in Montreal?

2. Except for secretarial help, what classifications of employees, aside from senior executives, are housed in Place Ville Marie?

3. Has Air Canada studied the question of whether it would be more economical to rent or build its own office to provide working space for the majority of its headquarters' employees in less expensive accommodation as Place Ville Marie?

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): Air Canada management advises as follows: 1. Approximately 920 employees of Air Canada are located in rented office space in Place Ville Marie.

[Mr. Stevens.]

2. Management, professional and clerical personnel engaged in marketing, transportation services, finance, personnel, law, public relations, secretary and supporting organizations.

3. This possibility is under review. Prior examinations have shown, however, that existing lease arrangements are relatively advantageous.

AIR CANADA—IN-FLIGHT FOOD SERVICE

Question No. 1,184—**Mr. Orlikow:**

1. How many complaints has Air Canada received about the food served to passengers, particularly those travelling in the economy class, in the past two years?

2. How many complaints has Air Canada received that the food service has deteriorated and that it compares unfavourably with the food served to other major carriers in Canada and other countries?

3. Has Air Canada discussed complaints it has received of its present caterer, with a view to obtaining an improvement in the food service?

4. For how long does the contract to supply food for Air Canada passengers run with the present supplier?

5. Is Air Canada discussing the supplying of meals with other caterers with a view to improving food service?

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): Air Canada management advises as follows: 1. 1971, 1 complaint per 3,854 passengers; 1972, 1 complaint per 4,347 passengers.

2. Complaints are not classified according to how many deal with how Air Canada's food service compares with those of other domestic and foreign airlines. As an indication, however, in the past two years the Company has received well over 2,000 commendations on the quality of its food service from satisfied customers.

3. The food service is constantly monitored and reviewed with the Company's caterers to ensure quality standards are met.

4 and 5. Air Canada deals with 30 contractors for in-flight meals across its system. Term of these arrangements varies. Generally, Air Canada reserves the right to terminate for failure to meet quality specifications.

AIR CANADA—BILINGUALISM AMONG STEWARDESSES AND SENIOR PERSONNEL

Question No. 1,185—**Mr. Orlikow:**

1. (a) Are unilingual girls who are well-qualified in every respect, except the fact that they are not bilingual, able to become stewardesses for Air Canada (b) is knowledge of more than one language required of stewardesses and, if so, is this fact made known to applicants for positions?

2. Are most senior positions at Air Canada Headquarters in Montreal reserved for bilingual employees?

3. How many unilingual (English or French) employees have been appointed to senior positions in Montreal by Air Canada since 1970 (a) from within Air Canada (b) from outside Air Canada?

4. Which senior positions in Montreal has Air Canada clearly identified as requiring a bilingual occupant and are all employees fully aware of this requirement?

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): Air Canada management advises as follows: 1 (a) and (b), Unilingual English-speaking persons are hired as Flight Attendants. Fluency in both of Canada's official languages, as well as in German, Russian, Czech, Danish, Flemish or other languages improves the candidate's competitive position. This information is made known through brochures and advertising.

2. No.

3. Since 1970, eight unilingual people were appointed to senior management positions, of which (a) seven were promoted from within the Company, and (b) one was recruited from outside.

4. Senior positions are not classified in this way, but many are occupied by bilingual persons.

Order Paper Questions

AIR CANADA—APPOINTMENT OF McKINSEY AND COMPANY AS CONSULTANTS

Question No. 1,187—**Mr. Orlikow:**

1. What were the circumstances which led Air Canada to employ a USA-based firm—McKinsey and Company—to advise in the major reorganization which took place in 1970?

2. How much did McKinsey and Company receive in consulting fees during its full period of advisory service with Air Canada?

3. What significant changes have been made in the organization pattern of Air Canada as a result of the Report, adopted in 1970, during the past two years?

4. Were other management consulting firms involved in these further changes and, if so (a) what were their names (b) what did it cost the Company in each case?

5. (a) Did McKinsey and Company recommend the establishment of a key Vice-President position (b) was this position eliminated in 1972 and, if so, what was the reason for this decision?

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): Air Canada management advises as follows: 1. Several consultant companies, including Canada-based firms, were asked to submit applications. McKinsey and Company Inc. was selected because it best met the Corporation's requirements.

2. The Corporation considers this proprietary information.

3. The essential changes have been to create a strong marketing branch and a regional organization with clear lines of authority over the stations within that region.

4. Air Canada has used a number of management consultants in the last two years in the ordinary course of business. Their purpose has not been primarily concerned with corporate organization.

5. (a) McKinsey recommended a complete organization for Air Canada with the notable changes as set out in 3 above; (b) the management structure has evolved in various ways since 1970. In particular there has been insistence on direct reporting by regional vice presidents to the president.

LIP—APPLICATION FOR GRANT RELATING TO PROJECT No. H-5718

Question No. 1,396—**Mr. Allard:**

1. On what date did the government receive an application for a grant under LIP concerning project No. H-5718?

2. On what date was the application either approved or refused?

3. What were the reasons set forth by the government for its refusal or approval of said project?

4. If the project was accepted, what was the amount granted by the government to finance it?

5. How many jobs were created by the implementation of this project?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. January 5, 1973.

2. Rejected on February 20, 1973.

3. The Department received a far greater number of applications than funds were available for. All applications were carefully assessed and many difficult decisions not to approve had to be made.

4. N/A.

5. N/A.

LIP—APPLICATION FOR GRANT RELATING TO PROJECT No. H-5678

Question No. 1,397—**Mr. Allard:**

1. On what date did the government receive an application for a grant under LIP concerning project No. H-5678?

2. On what date was the application either approved or refused?

3. What were the reasons set forth by the government for its refusal or approval of said project?

4. If the project was accepted, what was the amount granted by the government to finance it?

5. How many jobs were created by the implementation of this project?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. January 5, 1973.

2. Rejected on February 20, 1973.

3. The Department received a far greater number of applications than funds were available for. All applications were carefully assessed and many difficult decisions not to approve had to be made.

4. N/A.

5. N/A.

LIP—APPLICATION FOR GRANT RELATING TO PROJECT No. H-5829

Question No. 1,398—**Mr. Allard:**

1. On what date did the government receive an application for a grant under LIP concerning project No. H-5829?

2. On what date was the application either approved or refused?

3. What were the reasons set forth by the government for its refusal or approval of said project?

4. If the project was accepted, what was the amount granted by the government to finance it?

5. How many jobs were created by the implementation of this project?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. January 8, 1973.

2. Rejected on February 19, 1973.

3. The Department received a far greater number of applications than funds were available for. All applications were carefully assessed and many difficult decisions not to approve had to be made.

4. N/A.

5. N/A.

LIP—APPLICATION FOR GRANT RELATING TO PROJECT No. H-5329

Question No. 1,399—**Mr. Allard:**

1. On what date did the government receive an application for a grant under LIP concerning project No. H-5329?

2. On what date was the application either approved or refused?

[Mr. MacGuigan.]

3. What were the reasons set forth by the government for its refusal or approval of said project?

4. If the project was accepted, what was the amount granted by the government to finance it?

5. How many jobs were created by the implementation of this project?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. January 2, 1973.

2. Rejected on February 22, 1973.

3. The Department received a far greater number of applications than funds were available for. All applications were carefully assessed and many difficult decisions not to approve had to be made.

4. N/A.

5. N/A.

LIP—APPLICATION FOR GRANT RELATING TO PROJECT No. H-5328

Question No. 1,400—**Mr. Allard:**

1. On what date did the government receive an application for a grant under LIP concerning project No. H-5328?

2. On what date was the application either approved or refused?

3. What were the reasons set forth by the government for its refusal or approval of said project?

4. If the project was accepted, what was the amount granted by the government to finance it?

5. How many jobs were created by the implementation of this project?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. January 2, 1973.

2. Rejected on February 19, 1973.

3. The Department received a far greater number of applications than funds were available for. All applications were carefully assessed and many difficult decisions not to approve had to be made.

4. N/A.

5. N/A.

LIP—APPLICATION FOR GRANT RELATING TO PROJECT No. H-5361

Question No. 1,401—**Mr. Allard:**

1. On what date did the government receive an application for a grant under LIP concerning project No. H-5361?

2. On what date was the application either approved or refused?

3. What were the reasons set forth by the government for its refusal or approval of said project?

4. If the project was accepted, what was the amount granted by the government to finance it?

5. How many jobs were created by the implementation of this project?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. January 2, 1973.

2. Rejected on February 19, 1973.

3. The Department received a far greater number of applications that funds were available for. All applications were carefully assessed and many difficult decisions not to approve had to be made.

4. N/A.

5. N/A.

LIP—APPLICATION FOR GRANT RELATING TO PROJECT No. H-5315

Question No. 1,402—**Mr. Allard:**

1. On what date did the government receive an application for a grant under LIP concerning project No. H-5315?

2. On what date was the application either approved or refused?

3. What were the reasons set forth by the government for its refusal or approval of said project?

4. If the project was accepted, what was the amount granted by the government to finance it?

5. How many jobs were created by the implementation of this project?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. December 29, 1972.

2. Rejected on February 14, 1973.

3. The Department received a far greater number of applications than funds were available for. All applications were carefully assessed and many difficult decisions not to approve had to be made.

4. N/A.

5. N/A.

LIP—APPLICATION FOR GRANT RELATING TO PROJECT No. H-5377

Question No. 1,403—**Mr. Allard:**

1. On what date did the government receive an application for a grant under LIP concerning project No. H-5377?

2. On what date was the application either approved or refused?

3. What were the reasons set forth by the government for its refusal or approval of said project?

4. If the project was accepted, what was the amount granted by the government to finance it?

5. How many jobs were created by the implementation of this project?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. January 2, 1973.

2. Rejected on February 22, 1973.

3. The Department received a far greater number of applications than funds were available for. All applications were carefully assessed and many difficult decisions not to approve had to be made.

4. N/A.

5. N/A.

LIP—APPLICATION FOR GRANT RELATING TO PROJECT No. H-5247

Question No. 1,404—**Mr. Allard:**

1. On what date did the government receive an application for a grant under LIP concerning project No. H-5247?

2. On what date was the application either approved or refused?

3. What were the reasons set forth by the government for its refusal or approval of said project?

4. If the project was accepted, what was the amount granted by the government to finance it?

5. How many jobs were created by the implementation of this project?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. December 28, 1972.

2. Rejected on February 20, 1973.

3. The Department received a far greater number of applications than funds were available for. All applications were carefully assessed and many difficult decisions not to approve had to be made.

4. N/A.

5. N/A.

LIP—APPLICATION FOR GRANT RELATING TO PROJECT No. H-5249

Question No. 1,405—**Mr. Allard:**

1. On what date did the government receive an application for a grant under LIP concerning project No. H-5249?

2. On what date was the application either approved or refused?

3. What were the reasons set forth by the government for its refusal or approval of said project?

4. If the project was accepted, what was the amount granted by the government to finance it?

5. How many jobs were created by the implementation of this project?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. December 29, 1972.

2. Rejected on February 20, 1973.

3. The Department received a far greater number of applications than funds were available for. All applications were carefully assessed and many difficult decisions not to approve had to be made.

4. N/A.

5. N/A.

LIP—APPLICATION FOR GRANT RELATING TO PROJECT No. H-5248

Question No. 1,406—**Mr. Allard:**

1. On what date did the government receive an application for a grant under LIP concerning project No. H-5248?

2. On what date was the application either approved or refused?

3. What were the reasons set forth by the government for its refusal or approval of said project?

4. If the project was accepted, what was the amount granted by the government to finance it?

5. How many jobs were created by the implementation of this project?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. December 29, 1972.

2. Rejected on February 20, 1973.

3. The Department received a far greater number of applications than funds were available for. All applications were carefully assessed and many difficult decisions not to approve had to be made.

4. N/A.

5. N/A.

LIP—APPLICATION FOR GRANT RELATING TO PROJECT No. H-5246

Question No. 1,407—**Mr. Allard:**

1. On what date did the government receive an application for a grant under LIP concerning project No. H-5246?

2. On what date was the application either approved or refused?

3. What were the reasons set forth by the government for its refusal or approval of said project?

4. If the project was accepted, what was the amount granted by the government to finance it?

5. How many jobs were created by the implementation of this project?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. December 28, 1972.

2. Rejected on February 20, 1973.

3. The Department received a far greater number of applications than funds were available for. All applications were carefully assessed and many difficult decisions not to approve had to be made.

4. N/A.

5. N/A.

LIP—APPLICATION FOR GRANT RELATING TO PROJECT No. H-5611

Question No. 1,408—**Mr. Allard:**

1. On what date did the government receive an application for a grant under LIP concerning project No. H-5611?

2. On what date was the application either approved or refused?

3. What were the reasons set forth by the government for its refusal or approval of said project?

4. If the project was accepted, what was the amount granted by the government to finance it?

5. How many jobs were created by the implementation of this project?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. January 4, 1973.

2. Rejected on February 16, 1973.

3. The Department received a far greater number of applications than funds were available for. All applications were carefully assessed and many difficult decisions not to approve had to be made.

4. N/A.

5. N/A.

LIP—APPLICATION FOR GRANT RELATING TO PROJECT No. H-5481

Question No. 1,409—**Mr. Allard:**

1. On what date did the government receive an application for a grant under LIP concerning project No. H-5481?

2. On what date was the application either approved or refused?

3. What were the reasons set forth by the government for its refusal or approval of said project?

4. If the project was accepted, what was the amount granted by the government to finance it?

5. How many jobs were created by the implementation of this project?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. January 3, 1973.

2. Rejected on January 31, 1973.

3. The Department received a far greater number of applications than funds were available for. All applications were carefully assessed and many difficult decisions not to approve had to be made.

4. N/A.

5. N/A.

LIP—APPLICATION FOR GRANT RELATING TO PROJECT No. H-5477

Question No. 1,410—**Mr. Allard:**

1. On what date did the government receive an application for a grant under LIP concerning project No. H-5477?

2. On what date was the application either approved or refused?

3. What were the reasons set forth by the government for its refusal or approval of said project?

4. If the project was accepted, what was the amount granted by the government to finance it?

5. How many jobs were created by the implementation of this project?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. January 3, 1973.

2. Rejected on January 24, 1973.

3. The Department received a far greater number of applications than funds were available for. All applications were carefully assessed and many difficult decisions not to approve had to be made.

4. N/A.

5. N/A.

LIP—APPLICATION FOR GRANT RELATING TO PROJECT No. H-5475

Question No. 1,411—**Mr. Allard:**

1. On what date did the government receive an application for a grant under LIP concerning project No. H-5475?

2. On what date was the application either approved or refused?

3. What were the reasons set forth by the government for its refusal or approval of said project?

4. If the project was accepted, what was the amount granted by the government to finance it?

5. How many jobs were created by the implementation of this project?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. January 3, 1973.

2. Rejected on February 19, 1973.

3. The Department received a far greater number of applications than funds were available for. All applications were carefully assessed and many difficult decisions not to approve had to be made.

4. N/A.

5. N/A.

LIP—APPLICATION FOR GRANT RELATING TO PROJECT No. H-5231

Question No. 1,412—**Mr. Allard:**

1. On what date did the government receive an application for a grant under LIP concerning project No. H-5231?

2. On what date was the application either approved or refused?

3. What were the reasons set forth by the government for its refusal or approval of said project?

4. If the project was accepted, what was the amount granted by the government to finance it?

5. How many jobs were created by the implementation of this project?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. December 28, 1972.

2. Rejected on February 19, 1973.

3. The Department received a far greater number of applications than funds were available for. All applications were carefully assessed and many difficult decisions not to approve had to be made.

4. N/A.

5. N/A.

HOG PRODUCTION AND SUBSIDY TO PRODUCERS

Question No. 1,717—**Mr. Lambert (Bellechasse):**

1. What was the total hog production in 1972 in Canada?

2. What was the percentage by province?

3. What was the percentage of the special subsidy paid to producers in each province?

Hon. E. F. Whelan (Minister of Agriculture): 1. Total hogs produced and marketed, 9,436,179.

2.

Province	Number	Per cent of Total
British Columbia	57,447	0.6
Alberta	1,897,609	20.1
Saskatchewan	1,103,403	11.7
Manitoba	1,237,510	13.1
Ontario	2,937,620	31.1
Quebec	1,881,262	19.9
New Brunswick	61,652	0.7
Nova Scotia	108,851	1.2
Prince Edward Island	131,737	1.4
Newfoundland	19,088	0.2
Total	9,436,179	100.0

3.

Province	Per cent Breakdown
British Columbia	0.5
Alberta	22.9
Saskatchewan	14.2
Manitoba	12.0
Ontario	31.4
Quebec	15.8
New Brunswick	0.7
Nova Scotia	0.8
Prince Edward Island	1.6
Newfoundland	0.1
	100.0

NOTE: Deficiency payment was made on the 1971 hog production, was paid on hogs having an index of 100 or over and was limited to a maximum of 200 hogs per producer.

LOAN TO LIGHT-SERVICOS DE ELECTRICIDADE SA, RIO DE JANEIRO

Question No. 1,720—**Mr. Reynolds:**

1. Did the government make a $26 million dollar loan in December 1972 to Light-Servicos De Electricidade SA, Rio de Janeiro, a private Brazilian Utility company and, if so, what were the terms of the loan and what security was put up by the Company?

2. Is Light-Servicos De Electricidade SA, Rio de Janeiro, owned in any part by Brascan and, if so, for what percentage?

3. Was Brascan formerly called Brazilian Traction Light and Power Company and were Messrs. Mitchell Sharp, Robert Winters and Jack Nicholson at one time officers in this company?

4. Does the government plan to acquire a share in Brascan similar to the negotiations of the British Columbia Government to purchase interest in a Brascan coal venture (Sukunica, in the Peace River vicinity)?

Mr. Herb Breau (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): 1. No.

2. Information not available.

3. Information not available.

4. Information not available.

DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL DEFENCE—EXPENDITURES IN QUEBEC, 1969-72

Question No. 1,846—**Mr. Matte:**

What was the amount of money spent in Quebec by the Department of National Defence and the Canadian Armed Forces in the years 1968, 1969, 1970, 1971 and 1972?

Hon. James Richardson (Minister of National Defence): For the fiscal year 1971-72 it is estimated that the Department of National Defence spent $376,733,266.00 in the Province of Quebec. This estimate is based on a calculation of a distribution of all DND budgetary expenditures. Prior to 1971-72 the Department used a different

base to estimate the distribution of DND expenditure; therefore any comparison with earlier estimates covering the period 1968-1971 would not be valid.

MILITARY EQUIPMENT AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE BETWEEN CANADA AND COUNTRIES OF THE BRITISH COMMONWEALTH

Question No. 1,874—**Mr. Laprise:**

1. Since 1950, has Canada supplied military equipment or technical assistance to countries of the British Commonwealth and, if so, what countries benefited and in what amounts?

2. Did Canada receive military equipment or technical aid from countries of the British Commonwealth and, if so, from what countries and in what amounts?

Hon. James Richardson (Minister of National Defence): 1. In so far as the Department of National Defence is concerned, the following British Commonwealth countries have received military equipment and/or technical assistance since 1950: Barbados, Ghana, India, Jamaica, Kenya, Malaysia, Nigeria, Singapore, Tanzania, Trinidad and Tobago, Uganda, United Kingdom, Zambia. Due to the period covering the question, the value of the equipment and assistance cannot be accurately determined from records now available, with the exception of the United Kingdom where the amount was contained in reply to Question 1,875, 9 May 73, page 3563 of *Hansard.*

2. No.

IMPORTS OF EXOTIC CATTLE

Question No. 1,889—**Mr. Schellenberger:**

1. How many federal permits were given out for import of exotic cattle in (a) 1971 (b) 1972 (c) 1973?

2. What criteria are used to determine the number of permits issued for such imports and to whom they shall be given?

3. For 1972, how many permits were given for import into each province?

4. How many have been granted so far for import into each province during 1973?

5. Is the current government policy on such importation under review and, if so, on what date will the new policy or criteria for importation be announced?

6. Has the government received criticism of the present policy and, if so (a) how many (b) were they from organizations or individuals?

Hon. E. F. Whelan (Minister of Agriculture): 1. (a) 1971, 608 permits for the importation year 1971-72; (b) 1972, 639 permits for the importation year 1972-73; (c) Permits have not, as yet, been issued for the importation year 1973-74.

———

NOTE: The importation of exotic cattle is dealt with by "importation year". Within this year, a shipment enters quarantine on Grosse Ile in October and shipments enter quarantine on St. Pierre in November and the following May.

2. Applicants provide written "project proposals" outlining their proposed breeding program utilizing the cattle for which they are making application to import and provide an inventory of their present cattle herd with particular reference to those cattle of European breeding. A departmental officer visits and interviews each applicant to verify the cattle inventory, and provide an assessment as to his capabilities and the likelihood of his achieving a viable breeding program. These project proposals and interview reports are then submitted anonymously to a technical review committee composed for four geneticists, two of whom are from this Department and two of whom are from universities. The committee assesses and rates the project proposals on the likelihood of the project proposal leading to a viable herd development of general improvement to the livestock industry in Canada, and the likelihood of the breeding proposal being achieved. The permits are then allocated to those importers whose proposals receive the higher ratings until such time as the limits of the quarantine stations are reached. The number of cattle awarded to each applicant is dependent upon the priorities recommended by the technical review committee and the rating awarded the proposal.

3.

Province	Permits Issued
Newfoundland	Nil
Prince Edward Island	1
Nova Scotia	3
New Brunswick	5
Quebec	13
Ontario	51
Manitoba	76
Saskatchewan	135
Alberta	324
British Columbia	31
Total	639

4. Permits have not, as yet, been issued for the 1973-74 importation year.

5. The policy has been reviewed and the decision made and announced to continue the project proposal system for at least this year.

6. The department has received 26 critical letters, all of which were from or on behalf of individuals who had been unsuccessful in obtaining permits. No criticism has been received from the breed associations.

CONTRACT FOR POLAR ICEBREAKER—RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

Question No. 1,902—**Mr. Forrestall:**

1. With respect to the answer to Question No. 751(1)(b)(ii), who is carrying out the research and development program?

2. How was the decision made to allocate this project to its recipient?

3. Were there any other bids or tenders called for it and, if so, by whom and in what amounts were they made?

4. What budgetary items, specifically, does or did the funding for this program come under?

5. On what date was the decision made to expand the program?

6. What public announcements other than response to Question No. 751 have noted the existence of these programs?

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): 1. There will be no one contractor for the whole project but several

individual contracts let. The contractors have not yet been selected.

2. The contractors will be selected through normal bidding procedures.

3. Not applicable.

4. This is listed in the Marine Transportation capital budget as item R1. Arctic Navigation Studies, Polar Icebreaker.

5. December, 1972.

6. There have been no specific public announcements.

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY, MINES AND RESOURCES—OVERTIME PAYMENTS

Question No. 1,960—**Mr. Andre:**

During the months of January, February and March 1973, respectively, what were the total amounts paid in overtime pay to employees of the Department of Energy, Mines and Resources?

Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): The total amounts paid in overtime pay to employees of the Department of Energy, Mines and Resources in January, February and March 1973 are indicated below: January, $178,766.59; February, $68,929.78; March, $51,008.08.

DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRY, TRADE AND COMMERCE—OVERTIME PAYMENTS

Question No. 1,961—**Mr. Andre:**

During the months of January, February and March 1973, respectively, what were the total amounts paid in overtime pay to employees of the Department of Industry, Trade and Commerce?

Mr. Herb Breau (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): During the months of January, February and March 1973, employees received overtime payments as follows: January, $13,707.76; February, $13,125.78; March, $25,148.59.

1973 SEALIFT

Question No. 1,977—**Mr. Forrestall:**

Does the government intend to take steps towards upgrading existing standards for safety and vessel construction of ships employed in the Sealift 1973 specifically, or Arctic cargo haulage generally, with a view to phasing out the use of ships built and designed for use in other seas and (a) if so, of what nature, and on what date may they be expected (b) if not, for what reason?

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): Standards of safety and vessel construction of ships used in Arctic waters north of 60° latitude have recently been upgraded by the Arctic Shipping Pollution Prevention regulations which came into force on October 5, 1972. These regulations were made pursuant to Sections 4(3), 5(2), 12(1) and 12(3) of the Arctic Waters Pollution Prevention Act which was proclaimed on August 2, 1972. They set various standards of ship construction for entry into specified zones in the Arctic and require navigational and other equipment, all of which are in excess of those required for ships navigating in other seas.

NORTHWEST TERRITORIES—ISSUANCE OF PROSPECTING PERMITS

Question No. 2,009—**Mr. Hamilton (Qu'Appelle-Moose Mountain):**

In regard to the 19 mineral prospecting permits issued for 1973 in the Northwest Territories, what are (a) the names of permittees (b) the location of each permit?

Hon. Jean Chrétien (Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development):

1. (a) Permittee	(b) Map Area
Canadian Superior Exploration Ltd.	58G-2
Canadian Superior Exploration Ltd.	58G-3
Canadian Superior Exploration Ltd.	58G-4
Canadian Superior Exploration Ltd.	58G-6
Canadian Superior Exploration Ltd.	68H-1
Giant Yellowknife Mines Limited	95O-5
Giant Yellowknife Mines Limited	95O-6
Ecstall Mining Limited	86I-2
Aquitaine Company of Canada Limited	55E-9
Aquitaine Company of Canada Limited	55E-10
Aquitaine Company of Canada Limited	55E-14
Aquitaine Company of Canada Limited	55F-13
Aquitaine Company of Canada Limited	47A-13
Noranda Exploration Co. Ltd.	65H-15
Union Oil Company of Canada Ltd.	95F-9
Union Oil Company of Canada Ltd.	95J-4
Union Oil Company of Canada Ltd.	95J-12
Union Oil Company of Canada Ltd.	95J-13
Union Oil Company of Canada Ltd.	95K-7

CONTRACT FOR CAN OPENERS

Question No. 2,020—**Mr. Hales:**

1. Was a contract, GM.2542008-1-2, for can openers in the amount of $29,122, awarded to E.D.M. Tool Inc., Montreal, Quebec?

2. Were tenders called and, if so (a) what are the names and addresses of those who tendered (b) was the lowest tender accepted?

3. Were there any extra charges over and above the above figure and, if so, what were they?

4. Where were the goods used and by what department of government?

5. How were suppliers notified of government requirements?

Hon. Jean-Pierre Goyer (Minister of Supply and Services): 1. Yes.

2. Yes; (a) E.D.M. Tool Inc., 10830 Racette Street, Montreal, N. 460, Quebec. ETF Tools Limited, Box 128, St. Catharines, Ontario; (b) yes.

3. No.

4. The can openers were for inclusion in Individual Ration Packs and were shipped to No. 25 Canadian Forces

Supply Depot in Montreal, Quebec. The Department of National Defence.

5. By Invitation to Tender.

CONTRACT FOR RENTAL OF FORK LIFT TRUCK AT ARMED FORCES BASE, VALCARTIER, QUEBEC

Question No. 2,021—**Mr. Hales:**

1. Was a contract, QUE2-5666/1, for rental of a fork lift truck at Canadian Forces Base Valcartier, Courcelette, Quebec, during period February 21, 1973 to May 31, 1973, in the amount of $10,000, awarded to Entreprises Raymond Bédard Ltée, Loretteville, Québec?

2. Were tenders called and, if so (a) what are the names and addresses of those who tendered (b) was the lowest tender accepted?

3. Were there any extra charges over and above the above figure and, if so, what were they?

4. Where were the goods used and by what department of government?

5. How were suppliers notified of government requirements?

Hon. Jean-Pierre Goyer (Minister of Supply and Services): 1. Yes.

2. Yes; (a) Les Entreprises Raymond Bédard Ltée, 490 rue Racine, Loretteville, Québec; Nova Inc., 2700 Watt, Ste. Foy, Quebec; (b) Yes. Nova Inc. was rejected as they tendered on a 4,000 lbs. forklift only, in lieu of 16,000 lbs. as required.

3. No.

4. Canadian Forces Base, Valcartier, Quebec, Department of National Defence.

5. By Invitation to Tender.

CONTRACT FOR PLASTIC BAGS

Question No. 2,022—**Mr. Hales:**

1. Was a contract, GO.2552412, for plastic bags in the amount of $13,805, awarded to Mir-Pak Inc., Montreal, Quebec?

2. Were tenders called and, if so (a) what are the names and addresses of those who tendered (b) was the lowest tender accepted?

3. Were there any extra charges over and above the above figure and, if so, what were they?

4. Where were the goods used and by what department of government?

5. How were suppliers notified of government requirements?

Hon. Jean-Pierre Goyer (Minister of Supply and Services): 1. Yes.

2. Yes; (a) Mir-Pak Inc., Montreal, Quebec; Jos. T. Beaudoin Ltée., Thetford Mines, Quebec; Clear View Packaging, Scarborough, Ontario; Canam Manufacturing & Packaging Ltd., Brantford, Ontario; Cello Bags Limited, Toronto, Ontario; Allied Paper Products Limited, Ottawa, Ontario; St. Johns Paper Products Co., St. Jean, Quebec; Bonar & Bemis Limited, Burlington, Ontario; Eastern Canada Packaging Limited, Bramptonville, Quebec; (b) yes.

3. No.

4. CFB, Toronto, Downsview, Ontario; CFB Moncton, New Brunswick; CFB Edmonton, Lancaster Park, Alberta; CFSD, Montreal, Quebec—Department of National Defence.

5. Competitive Invitation to Tender.

CONTRACT FOR FORK LIFT TRUCK TO HYSTER CANADA LTD., MALTON, ONTARIO

Question No. 2,023—**Mr. Hales:**

1. Was a contract, MY.3632188, for fork lift truck in the amount of $12,827, awarded to Hyster Canada Ltd., Malton, Ontario?

2. Were tenders called and, if so (a) what are the names and addresses of those who tendered (b) was the lowest tender accepted?

3. Were there any extra charges over and above the above figure and, if so, what were they?

4. Where were the goods used and by what department of government?

5. How were suppliers notified of government requirements?

Hon. Jean-Pierre Goyer (Minister of Supply and Services): 1. Yes.

2. Yes; (a) Hyster Canada Ltd., 6325 Northam Drive, Malton (Toronto); National Lift Truck Ltd., 110 Ronald Drive, Montreal West; Allis Chalmers Rumely Ltd., 155 Dawson Road, Guelph; Auto-Lift Ltd/Ltée, 6650 Côte de Liesse, Montreal; (b) yes.

3. No.

4. Canadian Forces Base, DND Gagetown, New Brunswick.

5. By Invitations to Tender.

CONTRACT FOR PLASTIC BAGS AWARDED TO POLYWRAP PRODUCTS OF CANADA LTD.

Question No. 2,024—**Mr. Hales:**

1. Was a contract, GO.2552405, for plastic bags in the amount of $52,678, awarded to Polywrap Products of Canada Ltd., Montreal, Quebec?

2. Were tenders called and, if so (a) what are the names and addresses of those who tendered (b) was the lowest tender accepted?

3. Were there any extra charges over and above the above figure and, if so, what were they?

4. Where were the goods used and by what department of government?

5. How were suppliers notified of government requirements?

Hon. Jean-Pierre Goyer (Minister of Supply and Services): 1. Contract GO.2552405 in the amount of $52,678 was awarded to Polywrap Products of Canada Ltd., Montreal, Que. for the supply of burlap jute sand bags.

2. Yes; (a) Polywrap Products of Canada Ltd., Montreal, Quebec; Thomas Bonar & Co. (Canada) Ltd., Montreal, Quebec; The Workman Bag Co. Ltd., Montreal, Quebec; Industrial Bags, Division of Canada Packers, Ltd., Montreal, Quebec; Burnstein Bag Ltd., Toronto, Ontario; (b) yes.

3. No.

4. CFB, Toronto, Downsview, Ontario; CFB Moncton, New Brunswick, CFB Edmonton, Lancaster Park, Alberta;

CFSD, Montreal, Quebec, Department of National Defence.

5. Competitive Invitation to Tender.

CONTRACT FOR WATCHES AWARDED TO P. G. STANLEY LTD., MONTREAL

Question No. 2,025—**Mr. Hales:**

1. Was a contract, GY.2772433, for watches in the amount of $68,306, awarded to P. G. Stanley Ltd., Montreal, Quebec?

2. Were tenders called and, if so (a) what are the names and addresses of those who tendered (b) was the lowest tender accepted?

3. Were there any extra charges over and above the above figure and, if so, what were they?

4. Where were the goods used and by what department of government?

5. How were suppliers notified of government requirements?

Hon. Jean-Pierre Goyer (Minister of Supply and Services): 1. Yes.

2. Yes; (a) Ingraham Industries, A div. of McGraw-Edison of Canada Ltd., 95 Grand Ave., Toronto 560, Ontario; Marathon Watch Co., Fifth Floor, 286 St. Paul St. W., Montreal 125, Quebec; P. G. Stanley Ltd., Suite 303, 1500 Stanley St., Montreal 110, Quebec; Mondaine Watch Co. (Canada) Ltd., 500 King Street West, Toronto, Ontario; Candino Watch Co. (Canada) Ltd., 310 Victoria Ave., Westmount, Montreal 215, Quebec; Gruen Watch Company of Canada Limited, 315 Bering St., Toronto 18, Ontario; (b) yes.

3. No.

4. Canadian Forces Base: Downsview, Ontario; Montreal, Quebec; Moncton, New Brunswick; Lancaster Park, Edmonton, Alberta; Department of National Defence.

5. By competitive Invitation to Tender.

CONTRACT FOR PURCHASE OF TUG AWARDED TO DOMTAR LTD., MONTREAL

Question No. 2,026—**Mr. Hales:**

1. Was a contract, LC.E0213-3-0513, for purchase of a used tug in the amount of $95,000, awarded to Domtar Ltd., Montreal, Quebec?

2. Were tenders called and, if so (a) what are the names and addresses of those who tendered (b) was the lowest tender accepted?

3. Were there any extra charges over and above the above figure and, if so, what were they?

4. Where were the goods used and by what department of government?

5. How were suppliers notified of government requirements?

Hon. Jean-Pierre Goyer (Minister of Supply and Services): 1. Yes.

2. No; (a) not applicable; (b) not applicable.

3. Yes, $74,900, covering a firm price competitive contract to Riverton Boat Works Ltd., Riverton, Manitoba, to dismantle the tug at Lake Nipigon, Ontario, transport it to and re-assemble it at Selkirk, Manitoba.

4. The tug will be used on the Red River and Lake Winnipeg by the Department of Public Works.

5. Selection was made as a result of an earlier market survey conducted by the Department of Supply and Services which indicated the availability of this tug at a fair and reasonable price. The Department of Public Works requested the Department of Supply and Services to arrange for the purchase of the vessel.

CONTRACT FOR LAUNDRY SERVICES AWARDED TO INUVIK LAUNDRY AND DRY CLEANING SERVICE

Question No. 2,027—**Mr. Hales:**

1. Was a contract, EDM2-7628/1, for laundry services at Inuvik in the amount of $48,000 awarded to Inuvik Laundry and Dry Cleaning Service, Inuvik, N.W.T.?

2. Were tenders called and, if so (a) what are the names and addresses of those who tendered (b) was the lowest tender accepted?

3. Were there any extra charges over and above the above figure and, if so, what were they?

4. Where were the goods used and by what department of government?

5. How were suppliers notified of government requirements?

Hon. Jean-Pierre Goyer (Minister of Supply and Services): 1. Yes.

2. No. A regional Individual Standing Offer was negotiated with the only available source of supply in Inuvik, Inuvik Laundry and Dry Cleaning Services.

3. No.

4. Inuvik General Hospital, Department of National Health and Welfare.

5. By Invitation to Tender.

DISCUSSIONS WITH GOVERNMENT OF GERMANY REGARDING ARCTIC RESOURCE EXTRACTION

Question No. 2,028—**Mr. Forrestall:**

Is the government still involved with the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany with respect to Arctic resource extraction and, if so, what is the nature of the negotiations and what is their present status?

Hon. Jean Chrétien (Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development): Exploratory discussions have taken place between Canadian officials and German representatives interested in the possibilities of resource development and shipping in the Canadian Arctic. These discussions have been preliminary in nature and no commitments of any kind have been made. It is understood that the Germans may submit a proposal for co-operation with Canada in the research and development of an ice breaking cargo ship. No such proposal has yet been received and no negotiations have taken place.

PROFITS OF CN AND CP HOTEL CHAINS

Question No. 2,039—**Mr. Boisvert:**

What is the difference in profits between CP and CN hotel chains?

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): The Canadian Transport Commission advises as follows: The jurisdiction of the Parliament of Canada does not extend

to regulation of the hotel operations of railways. The information is, therefore, not available.

NATIONAL DEFENCE—CANADIAN AND BRITISH DEFENCE POLICY

Question No. 2,045—**Mr. McKinnon:**

Will British troops be using a training area near Suffield, Alberta, in 1973 and, if so (a) how many acres are involved (b) how many British troops will there be (c) how much rent is being paid by the British?

Hon. James Richardson (Minister of National Defence): Yes; (a), (b) and (c) See reply to question 579 by Mrs. MacInnis (Vancouver-Kingsway), as recorded at page 2928 in *Hansard*, dated June 7, 1972.

POST OFFICE, LYNDHURST, ONTARIO

Question No. 2,051—**Mr. Cossitt:**

1. Has the Post Office at Lyndhurst, Ontario been moved recently and, if so, for what reason?

2. Is the new location temporary or permanent and where is it?

3. Is the government giving consideration to the construction of a new Post Office in Lyndhurst, Ontario?

Hon. André Ouellet (Postmaster General): 1. Yes, on 21 May 1973. Larger premises were required.

2. The premises were leased for five years and the terms of the lease contain a renewal option. They are located at the corner of Charles and Jonas Streets.

3. No.

APPOINTMENT OF HON. PATRICK MAHONEY

Question No. 2,141—**Mr. Cossitt:**

1. Has Mr. Patrick Mahoney received any appointment from the government since October 30, 1972 and, if so (a) on what date was this appointment made (b) what was the nature of the appointment (c) what is the salary being received?

2. What were the considerations involved in making any appointment and was one of these considerations that Mr. Mahoney was a former Liberal Member of Parliament and a former member of the Cabinet?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): 1. Hon. Patrick Mahoney is on a contract for the period 1 February, 1973-31 August, 1973 to provide assistance in preparation for the Conference on Western Economic Opportunities at a monthly fee of $2,500 to $3,000.

2. Consideration involved the overall suitability of the individual's professional, academic and personal qualifications in relation to the job requirement.

[Mr. Marchand (Langelier).]

QUESTIONS PASSED AS ORDERS FOR RETURNS

REVENUE RECEIVED FROM CANADA-RUSSIA HOCKEY SERIES

Question No. 228—**Mr. Mazankowski:**

1. What was the total revenue received from the communications media for the Canada-Russia hockey series (a) in Canada (b) in Russia?

2. What was the total revenue received from all other sources for the Canada-Russia hockey series (a) in Canada (b) in Russia?

3. What is the itemized distribution of such revenue?

4. What is the itemized total government expenditure concerning the Canada-Russia series?

Return tabled.

OVERTIME PAY TO MEMBERS OF MINISTERIAL STAFF, 1972

Question No. 926—**Mr. Knight:**

1. What were the names of employees on the ministerial staff (including the Office of the Prime Minister) who, in the calendar year 1972, received over-time pay in excess of $1,000?

2. What were the amounts of over-time pay in each case and what were the salary ranges of each of these employees?

Return tabled.

DEPARTMENT OF SUPPLY AND SERVICES—TENDERING

Question No. 997—**Mr. McKinnon:**

1. By year, how many contracts have been let to German & Milne (G&M) Montreal during the past ten years?

2. How many contracts listed in Part 1 were let without tendering procedures?

3. How many firms are now listed in the Department of Supply and Services' source list as acceptable ship designers and what are their names?

Return tabled.

FISHING ON PACIFIC COAST

Question No. 1,047—**Mr. Barnett:**

1. Since September 1, 1968 (a) for how many fishing vessels on the Pacific Coast has a construction subsidy been paid (b) to whom were subsidies paid, for which vessels, and in what amounts?

2. How many owners of fishing vessels on the Pacific Coast who sold to the "Buy-Back Program" (a) now hold a commercial salmon fishing licence (b) have received a construction subsidy for a new fishing vessel?

3. How many Indians held commercial salmon fishing licences in (a) 1968 (b) 1972?

Return tabled.

FISHING BAN AS A RESULT OF MERCURY POLLUTION

Question No. 1,656—**Mr. Harding:**

1. What rivers and lakes have been banned for fishing due to mercury pollution and, in each case, for what period of time?

2. What is the estimated loss in employment and fishing revenue due to the above ban?

3. In each case, what has been the source of the mercury pollution?

4. What steps have been taken to clean up the mercury pollution in the areas affected?

Return tabled.

MEMBER OF SOCIAL WORKERS EMPLOYED BY FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

Question No. 1,693—**Mr. Stewart (Okanagan-Kootenay):**

1. How many social workers are employed by the government (a) in each department (b) in each province?

2. How many social workers employed are qualified as follows (a) Diploma in Social Work (b) Bachelor of Social Work (c) Master of Social Work (d) extension courses (e) on-job training (f) other qualifications?

3. How many social workers are engaged in (a) medical social work (b) psychiatric social work (c) community organization?

4. How many social workers employed by the government are qualified as (a) case workers (b) group workers (c) community organization workers?

Return tabled.

EMPLOYEES OF GOVERNMENTS OF CANADA AND NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

Question No. 1,742—**Mr. Nielsen:**

1. How many persons are employed (a) by the Government of the North West Territories (b) by the Government of Canada in (i) Yellowknife, North West Territories (ii) the remainder of the North West Territories?

2. What is the total amount paid in wages and allowances to those in (a) and (b) in (i) and (ii)?

Return tabled.

DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRY, TRADE AND COMMERCE—ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS

Question No. 1,904—**Mr. Lambert (Bellechasse):**

What are the names and professions of each of the 40 members of the Advisory Board attached to the Department of Industry, Trade and Commerce (a) on what date was each appointed (b) what are their terms of office (c) what specific role do they perform (d) are they paid any fees and, if so (i) how much (ii) how are such fees determined (e) what is the mother tongue of each (f) how many are bilingual?

Return tabled.

● (1410)

ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

[*English*]

FINANCE

REASONS FOR PREDICTING BALANCED BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 1973, IN LIGHT OF ACTUAL SURPLUS

Hon. Robert L. Stanfield (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct a question to the Minister of Finance. Has he any explanation as to how, as recently as six weeks ago, he could have predicted a balanced budget for the fiscal year that expired on March 31 last whereas in fact a surplus of almost half a billion dollars was actually the result? Has the minister any explanation at all as to how he and his officials could be as much as half a billion dollars out six weeks before the end of the fiscal year?

Hon. John N. Turner (Minister of Finance): Yes, Sir. That discrepancy is well within the range of 1 per cent or 2 per cent—

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton): —found in the national accounts. As a matter of fact, this morning Statistics Canada released a revision of the national accounts for the year 1972 moving up the gross national product from 5.5 per cent to 5.8 per cent. But in the accounts to which the hon. gentleman refers a good deal of it has to do with the inability of parliament to deal with some of the legislative items that were forecasted as being part of the accounts. I refer to the enactment of the Canadian National-Air Canada guarantees bill, and personal income tax refunds were much lower in the first quarter because the income tax measures for 1972 were still pending, and many corporations had to maintain—

Mr. Baldwin: Mr. Speaker, on a point of order—

Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton): —their existing rate—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member for Peace River on a point of order.

Mr. Baldwin: Mr. Speaker, there must be a specific place in the rules of the House and a specific time when the minister can make apologies, but not now.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton): On that point of order, Mr. Speaker, if the Leader of the Opposition presents me with a question in debating form, surely I am entitled under the rules to reply to him in debating form.

Mr. Stanfield: Mr. Speaker, I simply asked the minister if he had any explanation of the discrepancy of half a billion dollars and obviously he has not. In view of the minister and his department being half a billion dollars out in their prediction as recently as six weeks before the end of the fiscal year, and in view of the impossibility of running a country on that basis, I ask the minister whether he has any intention of establishing a more effective forecasting arrangement?

Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton): Mr. Speaker, I will deal with that in debate, but I should say to the hon. gentleman that he and his colleagues were calling for a deficit twice as large as the deficit I predicted for that fiscal year, and yet the real gross national product in this country for the first quarter increased 2.9 per cent which is an annual rate of 10 to 12 per cent.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton): If the hon. gentleman is talking about a deficit that did not come closer to his

expectations, he and his colleagues have grossly underestimated the expansion of the economy.

Mr. Stanfield: Mr. Speaker, I am afraid that response is just about as irrelevant as the forecast was.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Stanfield: I should like to ask the minister whether in fact he and his officials were trying to make an accurate forecast or were simply predicting a balanced budget for the current fiscal year for the purpose of creating an uncertain atmosphere with regard to the budget he was presenting?

Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton): Mr. Speaker, as I said, the forecast was based on an anticipation of what parliament might be able to accomplish. That has not been the case. There is certain legislation upon which that forecast was based which has not been passed. The economy is reflecting a growth that has boosted sales and import taxes and the increase in employment is even stronger than we forecast, so that revenues were stronger than those we forecast.

Mr. G. W. Baldwin (Peace River): Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask the minister if this serious miscalculation of government finances and accounts is in any way related to the 180 degree change in government planning and priorities contained in the cabinet document which the Prime Minister refused to table the other day, and will the minister explain or rationalize this change in direction which, if taken in civilian life, would come perilously close to obtaining by false pretences?

Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton): Mr. Speaker, I do not recall the Prime Minister commenting upon that alleged document to any extent at all.

* * *

INDUSTRY

MEETING OF CABINET MINISTERS AND REPRESENTATIVES OF BUSINESS ORGANIZATIONS—REPORTED MEETING OF MINDS

Mr. Max Saltsman (Waterloo-Cambridge): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce. In view of reports that several cabinet ministers met last Friday with representatives of 13 business organizations and that it was a real meeting of the minds on the important question of our economic development, would the minister, who was present at that meeting, be good enough to indicate what this meeting of minds consisted of and whether this meeting of minds means that the multimillion dollar grants from the federal treasury, and especially from the minister's department, to private enterprise will continue in the same haphazard fashion and in the same over-generous amounts?

Hon. Alastair Gillespie (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): Mr. Speaker, the meeting that took place on Friday was a meeting to hear and consider the views of industry with respect to the question of an industrial strategy for Canada. The basis of the discussion was a compendium of views of over 200 pages. There was discussion by various industrial associations as to their approach to the industrial strategy question, and discussion by myself and my colleagues as to our approach. The phrase "meeting of minds" I think reflected the view of the businessmen present and our approach to development of an industrial strategy. In other words, their objectives and strategies for the industrial development of Canada are very much on the same wavelength.

[Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton).]

MEETING OF CABINET MINISTERS AND REPRESENTATIVES OF BUSINESS ORGANIZATIONS—INQUIRY AS TO DISCUSSION OF FURTHER GRANTS TO BELL CANADA AND TELEPHONE RATES

Mr. Max Saltsman (Waterloo-Cambridge): Given that the chief spokesmen for the business community were Messrs. Wolff and Marquez, chief executive officers of Bell Canada subsidiaries, would the minister indicate to the House whether federal grants additional to the $40-odd million granted so far to Bell Telephone and its subsidiaries were discussed at the meeting and could the minister tell the House whether there was any meeting of minds on the matter of Bell Telephone rates? Also, can the minister announce that Bell Canada rates are going to be rolled back?

● (1420)

Hon. Alastair Gillespie (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): Mr. Speaker, there was no consideration of questions such as grants or rates, but there was a consideration of long-term objectives for Canada. They were spelled out in a paper which was presented for purposes of discussion, and I think there was a genuine meeting of minds as to what the long-term objectives of "an industrial strategy" for Canada might be and how industry might play its part in meeting those objectives.

Mr. Saltsman: In view of the non-answers we are getting from the minister, would the minister please be kind enough to make available to the House the text of his speech so we can interpret what he said to that meeting?

Mr. Gillespie: Mr. Speaker, I would be very pleased to submit a copy of my notes to the hon. member on another occasion.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The Chair will recognize the hon. member for Oshawa-Whitby on a supplementary, and then the hon. member for St. John's East.

CHANGES IN AUTOMOTIVE POLICY AS PART OF INDUSTRIAL STRATEGY—RESUMPTION OF TRADE TALKS WITH UNITED STATES

Mr. Edward Broadbent (Oshawa-Whitby): Mr. Speaker, may I direct a supplementary question to the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce. As one part of an industrial strategy for the country includes the automobile industry, I wonder whether the minister is in a position now to say when the government will be announcing its changes in the automotive policy. Related to that, may I ask whether the minister is in a position to announce

when trade talks on that subject are going to resume between Canada and the United States?

Hon. Alastair Gillespie (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): Mr. Speaker, I have indicated on earlier occasions that, although the automobile industry is a very important industry from the point of view of the whole strategies approach, I am not in a position at this stage to indicate when those talks will resume, but I hope it will be very shortly.

* * *

[*Translation*]

REGIONAL ECONOMIC EXPANSION

LOWER ST. LAWRENCE AREA—INQUIRY RESPECTING STATEMENT BY MINISTER OF NATIONAL HEALTH AND WELFARE

Mr. Léonel Beaudoin (Richmond): Mr. Speaker, I should like to put a question to the hon. Minister of National Health and Welfare.

In view of the statements the minister made at Matane over the weekend to the effect that the Lower St. Lawrence region should get more assistance from the central government, can he tell us whether he intends to formulate or to have the government formulate a new investment policy for that area?

Hon. Marc Lalonde (Minister of National Health and Welfare): Mr. Speaker, I would ask the hon. member to refer to what I said: he will then realize that he is not quoting me exactly.

* * *

[*English*]

AIR CANADA

ROTATING STRIKES BY MACHINISTS—GOVERNMENT INVOLVEMENT—REQUEST FOR REPORT ON STATE OF NEGOTIATIONS

Mr. James A. McGrath (St. John's East): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Prime Minister in the absence of the Minister of Labour. Does the absence of the Minister of Labour indicate that the government is now involving itself directly in the Air Canada machinists dispute which is crippling the system and which has struck Montreal today?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): No, not necessarily, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Gallagher is acting in his proper capacity. The minister himself is having meetings at this time with his officials on the subject of the strike.

Mr. McGrath: In view of the fact the federal mediator has met today separately with both sides to the dispute, is the Prime Minister able to report on those meetings and tell us whether the situation is any closer to settlement at this time?

Mr. Trudeau: Mr. Speaker, at this time we find it preferable not to make any public statement on the state of the negotiations. As the Minister of Transport said late last week, it is not helpful to negotiations to make them public at each stage.

STRIKE BY FINANCIAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE EMPLOYEES AT WINNIPEG—REQUEST FOR STATEMENT

Mr. Stanley Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, may I ask the Prime Minister a supplementary, or at least a parallel question. Is the government in a position to make any statement regarding the dispute between Air Canada and the Canadian Airline Employees Association? I am referring to the difficulties between the company and the finance branch employees.

Mr. Charles Turner (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Labour): Mr. Speaker, the question is under advisement in the Department of Labour and officials are working on it now.

ROTATING STRIKES BY MACHINISTS—MAINTENANCE OF ADEQUATE SAFETY STANDARDS

Mr. Harvie Andre (Calgary Centre): Mr. Speaker, may I direct a supplementary question to the Minister of Transport. Can the minister inform the House what, if any, special precautions are being taken by his department to ensure that adequate safety standards are being maintained during these rotating strikes?

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): Yes, Mr. Speaker, definitely.

Mr. Baldwin: That was a truly bilingual answer.

STRIKE BY FINANCIAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE EMPLOYEES AT WINNIPEG—PROCEDURE FOR COLLECTING SHARE OF TICKET MONEY FROM OTHER AIRLINES

Mr. Dan McKenzie (Winnipeg South Centre): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Minister of Transport with regard to the strike. With the Canadian Airline Employees Association on strike and the finance department in Winnipeg closed, how is Air Canada billing and collecting its share of ticket moneys from other airlines? I understand there are deadlines as to when these moneys, amounting to hundreds of thousands of dollars, can be collected.

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, I will inquire of Air Canada and inform the hon. member as to how they are proceeding.

Mr. McKenzie: Mr. Speaker, I wish to ask a supplementary with regard to the question of safety. Is the flight performance quality control recording for Air Canada aircraft being properly reviewed with the Winnipeg office closed?

Mr. Marchand (Langelier): I think so, Mr. Speaker.

Oral Questions

THE CANADIAN ECONOMY

FORTHCOMING WESTERN ECONOMIC CONFERENCE—REQUEST FOR PARTICIPATION BY OPPOSITION MEMBERS IN PLANNING AND MEETINGS

Mr. Douglas Roche (Edmonton-Strathcona): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Prime Minister. It concerns an issue I raised on April 12. In view of the Prime Minister's consultation with the four provincial leaders of British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba, will the Prime Minister arrange ways for western members of parliament who are not Liberals to participate in the planning and holding of this historic western economic opportunities conference?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, this question has been referred to the committee arranging the conference. At this stage I cannot answer the hon. member in the affirmative. It seems that each government will have its own group of officials and advisers. There will, of course, be room at the open meetings for observers. I can tell the hon. member we will want to make sure that members of parliament and members of the provincial legislatures will be given priority in the observers' seats.

Mr. Roche: If I understand the Prime Minister correctly, the meetings will be open. Will he clarify whether all the meetings will be open or only some? Also, will there be a way in which western members of parliament can participate in planning the input into the conference as well as the actual conference?

Mr. Trudeau: Mr. Speaker, some of these meetings will be open, some will be in camera. I do not believe the final decision has been reached on what parts of the agenda will be open and what parts will be closed. As far as input is concerned, we as a government have welcomed input from all sources, including members of parliament from other parties. I have also written to boards of trade and other representative groups in the west to ensure that any input they want to make will arrive at my office fairly soon. I would certainly welcome representations and briefs from other parties.

* * *

VETERANS AFFAIRS

DISABILITY PENSIONS—REQUEST FOR ADJUSTMENT IN ACCORDANCE WITH PUBLIC SERVICE SALARIES—CABINET DECISION ON BASIC RATE

Mr. Jack Marshall (Humber-St. George's-St. Barbe): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Prime Minister. In view of the representation by the National Council of Veterans Associations and four provincial commands directly to the Prime Minister suggesting that veterans disability pensions be adjusted in accordance with public service salaries and not the cost of living as at present, will the Prime Minister advise the House what action the government is taking to comply with this request and whether a decision has been made by cabinet to accept the recommendation of the joint study report on the basic rate of pension?

[Mr. Marchand (Langelier).]

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, this question has been considered by cabinet. When the Minister of Veterans Affairs returns from Europe where he is presently representing Canada at the D-Day ceremonies he will probably want to contact the representative organizations of the veterans and in due course inform the House when a decision is finalized.

D-DAY CEREMONIES IN FRANCE—REASON NO OPPOSITION PARTY MEMBERS INVITED TO PARTICIPATE

Mr. Duncan M. Beattie (Hamilton Mountain): Mr. Speaker, in view of the fact the Minister of Veterans Affairs is in France participating in D-Day observances, can the Prime Minister inform the House why no members of opposition parties were invited to participate in these ceremonies?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): I cannot, Mr. Speaker, but it is certainly the custom of the government to ensure that delegations are composed of members of parliament who can find their way clear to be absent at any particular time. I do not have the precise answer in this case. I see that the acting minister does not have it either, but I will inquire.

* * *

[*Translation*]

HARBOURS

PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION OF OIL TANKER PORT ON ST. LAWRENCE RIVER—LETTER BY ENVIRONMENT MINISTER TO "GLOBE AND MAIL"

Mr. Marcel Prud'homme (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Regional Economic Expansion): Mr. Speaker, I should like to put a question to the Prime Minister.

I would like to ask him whether the Minister of the Environment and the Minister of Fisheries was stating government policy in his letter to the *Globe and Mail* rejecting any project for the construction of a tanker port on the St. Lawrence?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I have not seen that letter; I have therefore nothing specific to say against its contents. As for the government policy, no negative decision has been taken about the construction of a tanker port on the St. Lawrence; on the contrary, I think that the discussions are still open.

● (1430)

[*English*]

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Sault Ste. Marie. Order, please. I apologize to the hon. member. The hon. member for Lanark-Renfrew-Carleton rises on a point of order.

Mr. Dick: Mr. Speaker, the hon. member for Yukon is not here, but I have shared his point of view on numerous occasions. I believe Your Honour has frequently mentioned that you do not believe it is proper for parliamen-

tary secretaries to address questions to cabinet ministers. I notice that we are again reverting to that habit.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Speaker: That point has been raised before and I have commented on it before. If the hon. member would refer to earlier statements I have made he would find I have never indicated that parliamentary secretaries should not ask questions.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

* * *

REGIONAL ECONOMIC EXPANSION

NORTHERN ONTARIO—JOINT ACTION WITH PROVINCE TO FORMULATE CO-ORDINATED DEVELOPMENT PLAN

Mr. Cyril Symes (Sault Ste. Marie): Mr. Speaker, in the absence of the Minister of Regional Economic Expansion I address my question to his parliamentary secretary or to the Prime Minister. In view of the fact the Ontario government has recognized the need for special economic programs to assist northern Ontario, can the hon. gentleman inform the House what action his department has taken in conjunction with the province to formulate a co-ordinated plan of development for northern Ontario?

[*Translation*]

Mr. Marcel Prud'homme (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Regional Economic Expansion): Mr. Speaker, I was absent-minded for a moment and I would greatly appreciate it if the hon. member would repeat the beginning of his question.

[*English*]

Mr. Symes: With the situation in northern Ontario it is obvious that not only the parliamentary secretary but also the department is dozing. In view of the fact that the Ontario government has recognized the need for special economic programs to assist northern Ontario, can the parliamentary secretary inform the House what action the department has taken in conjunction with the province to formulate a co-ordinated plan of development for northern Ontario?

[*Translation*]

Mr. Prud'homme: Mr. Speaker, the Minister of Regional Economic Expansion has met with the provincial premiers and held extensive conversations on the co-ordination which should exist between the federal department and the various provincial governments; the policy on this is being elaborated. On the other hand, I must recognize that, when he appeared before the committee, the minister dwelt at great length on what ought to be accomplished in northern Ontario. The hon. member should know that, if there have been problems in the past, they resulted mostly from lack of interest on the part of the Ontario government which, for many years, had neglected the northern area.

[*English*]

Mr. Symes: I have a supplementary question for the Prime Minister. Bearing in mind a confidential DREE report which I released to the House last Thursday, stating that 6,000 jobs may become redundant in northern Ontario within the next two or three years, what immediate steps will the Prime Minister take to see that such an economic upheaval does not occur?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): There is little I can add to what the parliamentary secretary has just said, except to say that there is to be a meeting with the responsible minister of the Ontario government, Mr. White, I believe, within a week.

* * *

ENERGY

NATURE OF DISCUSSIONS BY MINISTER WITH VISITING UNITED STATES SENATORS AND OFFICIALS—INQUIRY AS TO AGREEMENT ON GAS PIPELINE CONSTRUCTION

Mr. Eldon M. Woolliams (Calgary North): Mr. Speaker, I should like to address a question to the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources arising from the fact that a number of United States senators and officials were in Ottawa over the weekend, apparently making inquiries about the federal government's position with reference to energy. Did the minister hold any discussions with these people?

Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): Yes, Sir.

Mr. Woolliams: If I understood the minister's shotgun answer, he said "Yes, Sir". Are you now in a position to tell the House of Commons—

Some hon. Members: Order!

Mr. Woolliams: —through you, Mr. Speaker—the nature of your discussions with regard to this subject which is so important to the country, particularly to western Canada?

Mr. Macdonald (Rosedale): Yes, Sir. We discussed, among other things, the possibility of the Mackenzie Valley route for a pipeline from Prudhoe Bay to the United States markets. I indicated, as I have told the House on a number of occasions, that the government was prepared to consider a Mackenzie Valley route as an alternative to the Alyeska proposal as one way of protecting the west coast of Canada from the tanker risk.

Mr. Woolliams: Would the minister go as far as to tell the House and the country whether an agreement was reached between the United States and Canada on the construction of a pipeline to transport natural gas and, eventually, petroleum crude?

Mr. Macdonald (Rosedale): No, Sir. There was no agreement. They were not here to seek agreement; they were here to discuss some of the issues involved in the alternatives for bringing Arctic reserves to the market.

Oral Questions

CAPABILITY OF ENERGY BOARD TO JUDGE APPLICATION TO TRANSPORT NATURAL GAS IN OTHER THAN VAPOUR FORM

Mr. Doug Rowland (Selkirk): Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary for the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources. The minister has informed us on a number of occasions that the department is studying alternative methods of transporting natural gas from the north, methods alternative to transporting it in the vapour state. Is the National Energy Board, should it be seized with this information officially, capable of rejecting an application to transport it in the vapour state—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I have the impression that the hon. member is asking the minister to express an opinion, in the sense that he might be asked to interpret a statute. In these terms the question would be out of order.

Mr. Rowland: May I rephrase it, then?

Mr. Speaker: Perhaps the hon. member might be allowed to do that. But we are running short of time. I suggest that hon. members should limit the number of supplementaries and make them as brief as possible.

Mr. Rowland: I believe the gist of my question was understood. I would therefore ask the minister whether the National Energy Board is capable of making that kind of judgment?

Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): From its membership, plus additional advice which has been and will be obtained, the board has the competence to make that kind of judgment.

* * *

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

INCREASE IN ADMINISTRATION COSTS—INQUIRY AS TO ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORT ON RELATED MATTERS

Mr. Lincoln M. Alexander (Hamilton West): Mr. Speaker, I would like to address a question to the minister responsible for the Unemployment Insurance Commission. In light of the fact that administration costs have increased from $26 million in 1971-72 to $128 million in 1972-73, an increase of some 400 per cent, and in view of the fact that the budget for 1973-74 is set at $144 million, can the minister advise the House whether he has pushed the advisory committee to the UIC with a view to getting its report on related matters dealing with a proposed new act as soon as possible in order that it might be possible to bring in legislation which would save the taxpayers $100 million as stipulated by the minister earlier?

Hon. Robert K. Andras (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): I am asking the advisory committee on every possible occasion to report on those matters placed before it. I must say I suspect that the $100 million to which the hon. member has referred is not related to the administrative costs which he mentioned earlier. There is quite a difference.

[Mr. Macdonald (Rosedale).]

Mr. Alexander: In view of the rapidly rising cost, can the minister say whether he is keeping in mind the advice he received from his colleagues on the front benches and whether, in fact, the administrative cost has reached its peak, having in mind the policies of the government in relation to employment and so on?

Mr. Andras: I would hope the administrative cost has reached its peak. As I explained recently in another place, about half the increase in administrative costs compared with 1972 is due to increases in wages reflecting the general increases which are taking place in the public service. A further $10 million to $12 million is related to expansion and to decentralization of the service, something which I understand has been applauded or looked forward to by all hon. members.

* * *

● (1440)

GRAIN

REDUCTION IN FREE TIME ALLOWANCE FOR LOADING—REQUEST FOR ASSURANCE OF SUFFICIENT BOXCARS AND NO ADDITIONAL CHARGES TO FARMERS

Mr. Doug Neil (Moose Jaw): Mr. Speaker, I have a question I should like to address to the minister in charge of the Canadian Wheat Board. In view of the fact the Canadian railways intend reducing the free time allowance for loading from 48 hours to 24 hours on July 1, 1973, and in view of the fact that this reduction arises from an apparent shortage of boxcars, would the minister assure the House, first, that an adequate number of cars will be made available to transport grain to export positions so it is available for loading when ships are available and there will be no additional costs or demurrage charges and, second, that there will be no additional charges levied against the farmer at local points resulting from the reduction in loading time?

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Justice): Mr. Speaker, the obvious purpose of such a change is to assure that cars are used as effectively and efficiently as possible by allowing them to turn round very quickly. The hon. member's concern about movement of grain should be met by the figures indicating that the record movement is continuing. Even in the month of May, notwithstanding that two bridges on the CNR line were out for a while and a slowdown on the CNR, another all-time record month of loadings onto ships was set.

* * *

FISHERIES

REQUEST THAT CERTAIN DESTROYERS BE TURNED OVER TO DEPARTMENT FOR FISHERIES PROTECTION PURPOSES

Mr. Lloyd R. Crouse (South Shore): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the right hon. Prime Minister. In view of the Prime Minister's reply to my question on Friday in which he stated that the government has to keep the budget within a rate of escalation that is considered to be reasonable, and the statement of the Minister of the Envi-

ronment and Fisheries that he is considering employing charter vessels as an immediate step to beef up our protection capability, would the Prime Minister take steps immediately to turn over to the Department of the Environment and Fisheries the destroyer escorts *St. Laurent, Fraser* and *Ottawa* presently at Halifax, and the *St. Croix* on the west coast?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I will have the matter looked into and will take the question as notice in order to see whether it offers any constructive alternatives.

* * *

[*Translation*]

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

ALLEGED DISCOVERY OF HIDEOUT OF NORMAN LEBLANC—ACTION TO EXTRADITE FROM COSTA RICA—REPRESENTATIONS BY UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Mr. Claude Wagner (Saint-Hyacinthe): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the hon. Secretary of State for External Affairs.

In view of the discovery yesterday in Costa Rica of the hide-out of Norman Leblanc, who is wanted here in connection with a fraud amounting to $107 million, is it the intention of his department to have discussions or institute proceedings with the government of Costa Rica President Figueres aiming at the extradition of Leblanc and his surrendering to Canada, and more specifically to Quebec?

[*English*]

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, may I have the privilege of taking that question as notice.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Wagner: Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask a supplementary question.

Did the United States government make representations to the minister concerning Norman Leblanc following the latter's allegations about the Watergate affair?

[*English*]

Mr. Sharp: Not to me personally, Mr. Speaker, but I will make inquiries in my department.

* * *

GRAIN

REPORTED DROP IN FLOUR SALES TO GREAT BRITAIN—REPRESENTATIONS TO BRITISH GOVERNMENT

Mr. A. P. Gleave (Saskatoon-Biggar): Mr. Speaker, may I direct a question to the minister in charge of the Wheat Board. In view of recent reports that sales of flour to Great Britain, which has been a traditional market for Canada, have dropped to zero in 1973, can the minister say whether the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce or his own department is making any representations to the British government in view of their entry into the Common Market?

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Justice): Mr. Speaker, a very short time ago the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce had discussions with the British in connection with their entry, and agricultural and grain matters were very high on his list. I will attempt to keep the hon. member informed about current figures on sales.

Mr. Gleave: Do the recent reported statements by Mr. Gifford, chief of the agricultural trade policy division, that Canada is not making any final policy decisions for the coming trade negotiations under GATT until the United States has decided on its approach and stated it, mean that this represents the government's position and policy?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. A question asked in those terms is not in order.

* * *

AIR TRANSPORT

POSITION OF BILATERAL AGREEMENT NEGOTIATIONS WITH UNITED STATES

Hon. Marcel Lambert (Edmonton West): Mr. Speaker, my question is to the Secretary of State for External Affairs. Would the hon. gentleman kindly advise the House whether the bilateral air agreement meetings scheduled to take place last week and this week between Canada and the United States were terminated on Friday? If so, at whose instance were they terminated and what were the grounds for such termination?

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, my understanding is that the negotiations are continuing.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): Would the minister kindly advise the House how it is that according to reports the negotiations or discussions have been suspended?

Mr. Sharp: Mr. Speaker, I cannot explain that. All I know is that they have been very difficult and it may be that there has been an adjournment for a few days for the two sides to consider their respective positions. But the negotiations continue.

* * *

AIR CANADA

ROTATING STRIKES BY MACHINISTS—CONSIDERATION BY GOVERNMENT OF LEGISLATION TO ENFORCE RETURN TO WORK

Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Prince Albert): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Transport. Having regard to the fact that airline strikes seem to be becoming an annual event, to the discomfiture of the travelling public of Canada and the upsetting of our entire economy, is consideration being given on the part of the minister and the government to bringing in legislation to the effect that those employed by the airline should be required to return to work with negotiations then to continue?

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, hon. members know that this is within the power of the House and it has so decided in the past on a few occasions. But to my knowledge it is not in the government's program to deprive any group of workers of their right to strike.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Diefenbaker: Mr. Speaker, that was not the answer given on previous occasions when measures were brought into this House. I ask the minister how long this strike is going to be permitted to continue before the government does something more than simply snooze?

Mr. Marchand (Langelier): Mr. Speaker, I do not think we can have it both ways. If the House gives the right to strike to a particular group, as soon as that group goes on strike we cannot say: Don't go on strike because it is creating embarrassment.

* * *

NATIONAL REVENUE

OFFSETTING OF ONTARIO PROPERTY TAX CREDITS AGAINST ARREARS OF FEDERAL INCOME TAX

Mr. A. D. Hales (Wellington): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of National Revenue. In view of the fact that the government, through the Department of National Revenue, is acting as agent, I would ask the minister on what authority he is acting when he claims payments made under the Ontario property tax credit scheme to senior citizens and uses this money to pay off federal tax arrears?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The Chair has serious doubts about a question asked in those terms. It seems to me the hon. member is asking for a legal interpretation. Perhaps I am wrong in this interpretation of the rule. The minister might be allowed to reply briefly.

Hon. Robert Stanbury (Minister of National Revenue): Mr. Speaker, without attempting a legal interpretation I think I can say as a matter of fact that there is provision in the agreements for administering the tax credit schemes of Ontario and Manitoba for such offsetting. This provision was drawn to the attention of provincial negotiators, who responded to the effect that this was a deliberate decision taken by Ontario. I understand it has been communicated in two brochures sent by the province of Ontario to persons who might be entitled to the property tax credit.

Mr. Hales: In drafting the agreements with the provinces, was this stipulation laid down by the federal government that they would collect this money provided they could divert it to pay off old debts?

Mr. Stanbury: Not to my knowledge, Mr. Speaker. As I say, this point was specifically drawn to the attention of the Ontario authorities, and they responded that this decision had been deliberately taken by them and that this was the way they wished the matter to be dealt with.

[Mr. Diefenbaker.]

CONSIDERATION OF DISCONTINUANCE OF TAX COLLECTION FOR PROVINCES

Mr. Joseph-Philippe Guay (St. Boniface): Mr. Speaker, may I address a supplementary question to the same minister. Has any consideration been given to the possibility of discontinuing the practice of collecting taxes for the provinces and of allowing them to collect their own taxes so the people of Canada will know where the money goes?

Hon. Robert Stanbury (Minister of National Revenue): Mr. Speaker, I suppose this would be a matter for discussion between the Minister of Finance and the finance ministers of the provinces, but I can tell the hon. member that it is no joy for the Department of National Revenue to spend up to half its time in the days before returns are filed answering questions about provincial taxes.

* * *

● (1450)

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

INQUIRY AS TO DISCUSSIONS WITH WEST GERMANY CONCERNING CANADA'S EXTRACTIVE INDUSTRIES

Mr. John Lundrigan (Gander-Twillingate): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Prime Minister. Have any discussions taken place between Canada and the Federal Republic of Germany regarding Canada's extractive industries and, if so, have we arrived at any firm conclusion or agreement?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): I know of no such discussion, Mr. Speaker, but I will inquire and see if there is any such matter under discussion.

INQUIRY RESPECTING PROPOSAL BY WEST GERMANY FOR DEVELOPMENT OF SHIP TO CARRY CANADIAN MINERALS THROUGH NORTHERN ICE

Mr. J. M. Forrestall (Dartmouth-Halifax East): Mr. Speaker, this question should almost be raised as a point of order because of its importance. May I ask the Minister of Transport and/or the Ministry of Industry, Trade and Commerce whether or not in fact negotiations are going on with the Germans and whether or not it is a fact that the government of Canada expects that the Federal Republic of Germany will submit a proposal for the joint development of a polar ice cargo carrying ship for the extraction of mineral resources in our north?

Hon. Alastair Gillespie (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): Mr. Speaker, I know of no formal negotiations going on between Canada and the German Federal Republic. The hon. member may be referring to the fact that there is a very important delegation of German businessmen in Ottawa today. They are moving on to Toronto and Montreal. It is a return visit to that by Canadian businessmen to Germany a few years ago headed by my predecessor.

Mr. Forrestall: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, I think it is incumbent upon members of the government to pro-

vide members in written answers with accurate information. I can understand that one specific minister or the Prime Minister might not be aware of information that has the significance this question has, but I think the House is entitled to some explanation of why there is a direct conflict between the oral answers of the Prime Minister and the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce and a written answer given me today. I shall not take the time of the House to cite the written answer today, but in light of the importance of the matter I think the ministers over there had better supply the House with consistent and accurate information.

* * *

TAXATION

REQUEST BY TORONTO TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION THAT FEDERAL SALES TAX NOT APPLY TO PUBLIC TRANSIT VEHICLES

Hon. Paul Hellyer (Trinity): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Finance. Has the Prime Minister passed on to the Minister of Finance the request of the Toronto Transportation Commission that the federal sales tax not apply to public transit vehicles and, if so, is the minister prepared to introduce the necessary change in the law?

Hon. John N. Turner (Minister of Finance): Mr. Speaker, this is a matter that we are, of course, reviewing. We have had similar requests from other municipalities. If any action is taken on this matter we will announce it in the House.

Mr. Hellyer: Would the minister give urgent consideration to this request as the federal contribution to urban transportation and to pollution control to the end that he could introduce a resolution this year when the tax laws are before the House?

Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton): Mr. Speaker, the very fact that the hon. gentleman brings it to my attention makes it an urgent matter.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

* * *

AGRICULTURE

SHIPMENT OF HORSES TO EUROPE FOR SLAUGHTER—REQUEST FOR ACTION TO ELIMINATE

Mr. Barry Mather (Surrey-White Rock): Mr. Speaker, I have a question I should like to direct to the Minister of Agriculture. Having in mind the fact that the cruel trade involving the shipment of Canadian horses by sea for slaughter in Europe, has started again in the face of strong representations against it by all the humane societies in Canada, will the minister look into this situation with a view to stopping this unfortunate situation?

Hon. E. F. Whelan (Minister of Agriculture): Mr. Speaker, I have asked the department to carry out a lengthy study. I have received some of the reports. I can say, so far as we are concerned, that in respect of any shipments of horses they must be preconditioned, their age must be known and it must be known whether or not they are pregnant before they are loaded on a ship. If more than 25 are put on a ship they must be escorted by a veterinarian all the way across the ocean.

Mr. Mather: Mr. Speaker, I want to ask the minister whether he and his department are aware of the fact that many of the horses which die during shipment are rolled overboard and also that the European people by whom they are received ridicule the requirements of his department?

Mr. Whelan: The records show that the health standards are that high because of the restrictions we are placing on them that the number of horses requested for shipment is away down. If there are signs that a horse is likely to die the veterinarian has orders to give an anaesthetic in order to put it out of its misery on board the ship. Every humane aspect is being looked at.

* * *

PENITENTIARIES

REPORTED MEMORANDUM CHANGING SOME MEDIUM SECURITY INSTITUTIONS TO MAXIMUM—REQUEST FOR TABLING

Mr. Sean O'Sullivan (Hamilton-Wentworth): Mr. Speaker, in the absence of the Solicitor General I should like to direct a question to the Prime Minister. In view of published reports of a memorandum from the Commissioner of Penitentiaries to the prison directors, can the right hon. gentleman advise if it is now government policy to change some medium security institutions to maximum security institutions, and would the Prime Minister have this document tabled in the House so that we might understand the reasons behind the memorandum?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): I would be pleased to take notice of the question on behalf of the Solicitor General.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. We are about reaching the end of the question period. I was hoping we could see two or three questioners. However, if there are supplementaries we will just have to call orders of the day.

* * *

AIR TRANSPORT

NAMING OF CANADIAN CARRIER TO LAND AT MILAN, ITALY—INQUIRY AS TO DECISION

Mr. Terry O'Connor (Halton): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Transport, once again with regard to the awarding of reciprocal landing rights to a Canadian air carrier in Milan, Italy. In view of the fact the minister has on five separate occasions since last October indicated that the decision would be made very soon, is he in a position yet to advise the House when the decision will be made?

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): It will still be soon, Mr. Speaker.

* * *

FINANCE

REQUEST THAT SURPLUS FUNDS BE USED FOR HARBOUR AND WHARF IMPROVEMENTS IN ATLANTIC PROVINCES

Mr. Charles E. Haliburton (South Western Nova): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Finance and is perhaps supplementary to one asked very early in the question period. In view of the surplus the minister has recently discovered in the Department of Finance, would he discuss with the President of the Treasury Board the possibility of earmarking even one-tenth of those unbudgeted funds for Atlantic harbour and wharf improvements? In particular, Mr. Speaker, I would make a plea in respect of the wharves in the constituency of Restigouche where I understand the member has been having great difficulty—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. That, of course, is a representation.

* * *

[*Translation*]

REGIONAL ECONOMIC EXPANSION

POLICY RESPECTING SPECIAL AREAS—RESULTS OF DISCUSSION BETWEEN OTTAWA AND QUEBEC

Mr. Irénée Pelletier (Sherbrooke): Mr. Speaker, I want to direct a question to the Minister of Regional Economic Expansion, but in his absence, I will direct it to his parliamentary secretary.

Does the minister intend to publish the results from his negotiations with—

Mr. Speaker: I am sorry to interrupt the hon. member, but—

[*English*]

the hon. member for Cape Breton-East Richmond rises an a point of order.

Mr. MacInnis (Cape Breton-East Richmond): Mr. Speaker, my point of order reflects somewhat on the point raised earlier about parliamentary secretaries asking questions, but I would draw your attention to the fact that it is certainly in violation of the rules for questions to be put to other than ministers of the Crown.

Mr. Speaker: Perhaps the hon. member might ask his question. I am not too sure whether the hon. member is right in respect of his point of order. I assume a question ought to be asked of a minister, but if the minister is not here someone might reply on his behalf. The hon. member might ask the question on this basis. He has been very patient for the last 45 minutes waiting for a chance to ask his question.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

[Mr. O'Connor.]

[*Translation*]

Mr. Irénée Pelletier (Sherbrooke): Mr. Speaker, I resume my question.

I would like to ask the Minister of Regional Economic Expansion and, in his absence, his parliamentary secretary when the minister intends to publish the results from his negotiations with the Quebec provincial government, and whether the present special areas and the possibility of designation of others have been mentioned during those negotiations?

Mr. Marcel Prud'homme (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Regional Economic Expansion): Mr. Speaker, the minister—

Mr. Speaker: Again I apologize to the hon. member.

[*English*]

The hon. member rises on a point of order.

Mr. MacInnis (Cape Breton-East Richmond): Mr. Speaker, I will continue rising on a point of order until these set-ups are stopped in the House. Again I insist. I believe rule 39(5) states—get out your book and read it—that there is no allowance in the rules for parliamentary secretaries to be taking questions. If the Prime Minister cannot indicate an acting minister, then let them wait with their questions.

● (1500)

Mr. Speaker: This point has been raised before and the Chair has indicated that there was a point of contention as to whether parliamentary secretaries should be allowed to ask questions when they answer questions as well. I have indicated before that I felt there appeared to be some measure of contradiction there. There was agreement at the time among hon. members that perhaps this was the kind of difficulty to which the House might apply its collective wisdom. But I think there is an established practice, which may be right or wrong, for parliamentary secretaries to answer questions. Perhaps that practice should be changed; perhaps it is wrong and questions should be answered by the Prime Minister or an acting minister. But certainly hon. members who have been here for some years know that on a number of occasions in the past parliamentary secretaries have replied on behalf of their ministers.

Mr. MacInnis (Cape Breton-East Richmond): Mr. Speaker, may I draw your attention to Standing Order 39(5) on page 36, chapter V. It is specifically spelled out in the rules that questions are to be put to a minister of the Crown, and if the Prime Minister cannot indicate who is the acting minister, then I say it is time that the House stopped these set-up questions passed back and forth between Liberal backbenchers and parliamentary secretaries.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Speaker: The point of order raised by the hon. member finds a degree of sympathy with me. As I said before, according to my interpretation of the rules, they do not prohibit a parliamentary secretary from asking a question or from replying to one. Again, we have had the

practice for some years in both instances. I am in sympathy with the point raised by the hon. member. I hope that it will be solved one day. But, as hon. members know, the Standing Orders are interpreted according to the practice of the House and there obviously has been a practice established in this respect. Perhaps for the moment the House might allow the parliamentary secretary to reply briefly on behalf of the minister, and then we will call orders of the day.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Prud'homme: Mr. Speaker, I thank the hon. member for Cape Breton-East Richmond—

[*English*]

for his encouragement in helping me to get an appointment some day.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Speaker, I wish to inform the hon. member that the minister will be concluding this week his discussions with the various premiers of all Canadian provinces and the various departments in each of those provinces—today he is in the Maritimes—and if any reports are to be released, it will be when the consultations are all concluded between governments.

As to the last part of the question put by the hon. member for Sherbrooke, without divulging the discussions which took place in Quebec City and which I attended, I wish to inform him that there are grounds to hope that those numerous representations, among which those from the community of Sherbrooke, to ensure that the provincial government recognizes the urgent nature of—

[*English*]

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

Mr. MacInnis (Cape Breton-East Richmond): Mr. Speaker—

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Cape Breton-East Richmond rises on a point of order.

Mr. MacInnis (Cape Breton-East Richmond): Yes, Mr. Speaker, on the same point. I wish to draw Your Honour's attention to the fact that this precedent was started at the time the government was following the roster system and members of the House had no opportunity to ask questions even of acting ministers. Now that the Prime Minister has seen fit to do away with the roster system, I think he should at least establish acting ministers in this House when ministers are absent. I am not criticizing the necessity for ministers being away, but I say that the Prime Minister has an obligation to provide for members of the House acting ministers so that this nonsense can stop once and for all, because objections have been made to it since the first day it was started.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I hope we will not get involved again in an interminable point of order and a series of questions of privilege. I would hope we might go on to the business of the day. However, the parliamentary secretary wishes to pursue the matter and I have no alternative but to listen to him.

Mr. Reid: Mr. Speaker, I just wish to make one comment. It has been the practice of the House to have members on the other side address questions to members on this side who are not ministers, including chairmen of committees and parliamentary secretaries. I see no reason why the rules should be interpreted in such a restrictive fashion as the hon. member for Cape Breton-East Richmond has suggested.

Mr. Diefenbaker: Nonsense!

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. Before we hear the hon. member's point of order, I might point out that there seems to be a disposition on the part of hon. members, including the parliamentary secretary, to pursue the matter. I will listen to all hon. members who wish to make a contribution.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Pelletier (Sherbrooke): Mr. Speaker, I rise on a question of privilege.

I think that the hon. member for Cape Breton-East Richmond is not the only one who has been elected by the Canadian people; I too have been elected by the people and I am entitled to obtain answers.

[*English*]

Mr. MacInnis (Cape Breton-East Richmond): Mr. Speaker, I rise on a question of privilege. It is not my intention to take away from the hon. member his right to represent his people, but I would suggest to him that he represent his people in the right way.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. MacInnis (Cape Breton-East Richmond): If by chance a precedent is established in the House whereby the rules themselves can be violated, then I will turn up some very interesting precedents which involve the use of unparliamentary language in the House. A precedent has already been established on a question which was brought up last week which was ruled out of order owing to the use of unparliamentary language, but a few moments later someone on that side of the House used unparliamentary words. I say that if a precedent is going to be established, let us throw out the rule book and start all over again.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. If hon. members feel that this point has been resolved, we might now return to the business of the House.

Official Languages

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

[*English*]

OFFICIAL LANGUAGES

DECLARATION OF CERTAIN PRINCIPLES RESPECTING EMPLOYMENT IN PUBLIC SERVICE OF CANADA

The House resumed, from Friday June 1, consideration of the motion of Mr. Trudeau; and the amendment thereto of Mr. Stanfield (p. 4318).

That this House,

(i) aware that, as provided in the Official Languages Act, the English and French languages possess and enjoy equality of status and equal rights and privileges as to their use in all the institutions of the Parliament and Government of Canada;

cognizant that it is the duty of departments and agencies of the Government of Canada to ensure, in accordance with that Act, that members of the public can obtain available services from and communicate with them in both official languages; while

recognizing that public servants should, as a general proposition and subject to the requirements of the Official Languages Act respecting the provision of services to the public, be able to carry out their duties in the Public Service of Canada in the official language of their choice;

do hereby recognize and approve the following Principles for achieving the foregoing:

(1) that positions which are seen, under present circumstances, as requiring the knowledge and use of both the French and English languages will be first identified, and then designated, as bilingual in the course of the period ending December 31, 1978;

(2) that positions will also be identified where English is an essential requirement of the job, where French is essential, or whether either French or English may be used;

(3) that a knowledge of English and French is one of the elements of merit in the selection of candidates for bilingual positions;

(4) that competitions for bilingual positions will be open both to bilingual candidates and unilingual candidates who have formally indicated their willingness to become bilingual;

(5) that competitions for unilingual positions will continue to be open to unilingual or bilingual candidates who meet the language requirements of the job;

(6) that unilingual incumbents of bilingual positions may elect to become bilingual and undertake language training, or transfer to another job having the same salary maximum, or, if they were to decline such a transfer, to remain in their positions even though the posts have been designated as bilingual;

(7) that employees who, as of April 6, 1966, had at least ten years of continuous service and who, since that date, have been employed continuously in the federal Public Service, will be entitled to apply for any job that has been identified for future designation as bilingual without having to indicate their willingness to become bilingual;

(8) that unilingual French-speaking and English-speaking persons from outside the Public Service who are willing to become bilingual may apply for bilingual positions open to public competition;

(9) that language training, at public expense, will be provided to unilingual public servants as well as to persons who are appointed to the Public Service to bilingual positions;

do further approve the Government of Canada, and, in particular, the Treasury Board and the Public Service Commission, taking the measures required to give effect to the aforementioned Principles; and

(ii) do further approve the taking of measures, after consultation with employee representatives, designed to produce a greater use of the French language at all levels in the Public Service, through increasing, where practical, the number of French Language Units, through further recruitment efforts by the Public Service Commission, through training programs offered in the French language and by developing proposals, in conjunction with the Governments of the Provinces of Ontario and Quebec, to enhance the bilingual character of the National Capital region, thus helping to realize the objective of achieving, within the merit principle, full participation in the Public Service by members of both the anglophone and the francophone communities.

[Mr. Speaker.]

Mr. Joe Clark (Rocky Mountain): Mr. Speaker, I want to take this opportunity to conclude the remarks I began on Friday. I regret the absence from the House of the Minister of Communications (Mr. Pelletier) who spoke the other day, because I wanted to refer in part to some of the statements he made in this debate.

If I understood the minister correctly, he indicated some sort of opposition to the amendment proposed by the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Stanfield) because he seemed to be concerned about the fact that that amendment will make the declaration of these principles too firm. If I may use the exact language which was adopted by the Minister of Communications, he said that the principles would then not be "flexible and subject to change". That is the point. The substantive purpose of these principles is to provide some guarantee of application, a guarantee both to persons who are already in the public service and, just as important, a guarantee to persons who might contemplate joining the public service. That is necessary precisely because there is a widespread apprehension that previously the rules either were not known or were not applied in a satisfactory or fair way.

The minister now asks for flexibility. But it is fair for us to ask: flexibility in what direction? Flexibility for whom? The very reason that we face this substantive issue now is precisely that there was a kind of flexibility which seemed unfair to many people. The amendment proposed by the Leader of the Opposition would guard against that kind of flexibility. It would provide some guarantees. The resolution without it would be mere opinion.

It might be claimed that it is influential opinion. But may I remind you and the House that influential opinion also changes. For a public servant, or for a young constituent of mine who might contemplate becoming a public servant, there would be cold comfort if an election or some other event caused this opinion to change or to be ignored, because there is no doubt at all that in law the opinion expressed in a resolution has no force. That is the clear result of the case of Roman Corporation versus Hudson's Bay which was decided in the Ontario Court of Appeal and upheld in the Supreme Court of Canada this May. It made the point firmly that proceedings in this parliament have no force in law. It is clear from the advice of the Chairman of the Public Service Commission that, in his actions, he was bound only by the language of the act of parliament and not by the language of the so-called Pearson pledge which had no force in law.

● (1510)

It is clear even in the recent statement of the Secretary of State for External Affairs (Mr. Sharp) who explicitly advised the House that his government did not intend to be bound by a mere resolution of the House concerning Viet Nam. The precedents of law, indeed the very practices of ministers of the government this session, affirm

the fact that in terms of law the opinion of this parliament is as incidental as a cough in the night. There is no doubt about that. There is no guarantee in this resolution without the amendment, no protection over a period of time, and it has no more force than the statement of the President of the Treasury Board (Mr. Drury) in December or the pledge of the late prime minister years before.

The minister asks for flexibility. If that is a serious request, it raises important questions indeed about what other matters the government might excuse from legislation with the argument that flexibility is needed. What matter before this parliament is so fixed and firm that it does not require flexibility? That, Sir, is what the process of amendment is all about. The extra advantage of the amendment is the requirement that any changes, any flexibility, must be accomplished in the light of day, with the knowledge and deliberate consent of the parliament and people involved. And until that consent is achieved, the people concerned have guarantees. I ask you, Sir, what is so special about this matter that the normal practices cannot apply?

The minister suggested that this matter is very difficult to be definite about, involving as it does staff relations and subjective judgments. He went on to suggest—he didn't come right out and say it, but the implication was clear—that the application of language guidelines is so complex that only the people who actually apply them know enough to criticize. There is an argument with possibilities. If we accept that view, then this parliament would be mute. There would be no criticism or scrutiny of anything, and no control.

The government will have to find a better defence than to suggest that matters are so complex that only it can deal with them. Of course they are complex, but either you are going to have guidelines or you are not, and if we have a situation where an administration or an administrator is able to modify a guideline because it is too difficult to enforce, then again we have no guarantees at all.

The minister pointed out that spokesmen for this party had argued, when the Languages Act was first before parliament, for an approach by resolution because that would allow flexibility. That, Sir, is a mere debating point, and matters relating to official bilingualism are too important to be dealt with by debating points. In any event, the government rejected then the approach it proposes now, and the practice was established of proceeding by law, not by resolution, on this question. If the substance of the matter is important enough to be enshrined in law, so are the principles which guide the application of bilingualism in the public service. The government just cannot have it both ways.

But if the minister is serious, and if we grant his request for flexibility, we will again create conditions in which public servants or prospective public servants will fear that regulations will be interpreted against their interests. That is the very fear this resolution purports to redress, yet if we reject this amendment we run the risk of reviving the fear instead of reducing it. In light of all that I have said I assume the minister was not serious in his suggestion on Friday. He was not stating the government's response so much as he was testing the wind. Certainly, if he is interested in allaying fears, achieving bilingualism and getting on with the business of Canada, he and his colleagues will support the amendment and give force to what they propose.

As the House knows, this matter of bilingualism is not without contention. In my own region of western Canada there are some who, as a matter of what they see as principle, would oppose virtually any measure designed to make bilingualism work. In my view they are the voices of a small minority, and are no more representative of that region than the voices of separatism are representative of Quebec.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Clark (Rocky Mountain): Indeed, Sir, they are probably less so. But I say with seriousness that there are other western Canadians, many in number, who have reservations about the application of official bilingualism but who will go along with it as part of the price they pay for the other benefits of their country. With time and with encouragement, many of the sons and daughters of this group will become bilingual, and some of the group themselves will, because that will be part of being Canadian, like learning to pronounce Mahavolich, or learning to live with snow. But if instead of being encouraged to accept bilingualism these people are encouraged to suspect it, there is the danger that they will become stubborn; that is the danger directly aroused by this debate. The problem is not the nine principles. It is not even the DeBané addendum or amendment. The problem is the public tone and the suggested motives for the introduction of the resolution.

When I began my remarks on Friday, I referred to my own regret at the innuendo in the remarks in January of the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) and of the Minister of Transport (Mr. Marchand). That, Sir, was an insult to me and to many other members who deliberately faced down the temptation to embrace prejudice on this question. But more than an insult, these insinuations set poison in the system. A predictable response has come from that small minority which actively opposes bilingualism. But the poison could spread to other and more tolerant parts of the body politic, particularly if the innuendos continue and if the government rejects an amendment which merely gives the binding force of law to what it proposes.

I do not give this warning lightly. As I listened to the Minister of Cummunications (Mr. Pelletier) on Friday with his talk of dinosaurs and his playing with the monarchy, I wondered what effort he has made to understand my part of the country. I have tried to understand his, and so have several of my colleagues here as well as my neighbours at home.

[*Translation*]

It was not easy for us who came from cities and towns where there were no French Canadians, from areas far from Quebec, and who attended schools where French is not properly taught. That problem still exists.

[*English*]

But we are doing the positive things we can. Sir, we have a right to expect not patience but reciprocity, at least from a minister of the Crown, some fairness, and some

sensitivity to matters which might cause us special problems. National unity is not a one-way street.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Clark (Rocky Mountain): Sir, we in western Canada are not a region like the others. No region in this country, is, but one of our characteristics is a cultural and linguistic tradition different from that of the longer settled regions of the country. A great many of our citizens are of an origin other than English or French, and to many of them bilingualism appeared as a threat, particularly when the government delayed so long its recognition of multiculturalism. Many more of us, my age and older, were raised in a kind of regional insularity in which we just did not know that Canada, in practice, was a bilingual country. Indeed, I was out of high school before that fact came home to me. So bilingualism was, quite literally, a world we did not know, and the adjustment to the Languages Act was not as natural in Alberta as it might have been in Montreal.

There are still some special fears. One is that western Canada's young men and women of talent might not enjoy an equal chance in Canada's public service simply because they were born where the French language was inadequately taught. Whether it is paranoia or perceptiveness, many western Canadians feel at a disadvantage anyway, in competition for position against the old school, old boy network of central Canada, and that sense is sharpened by the knowledge that some public service positions require a level of bilingualism it is often difficult for prairie candidates to acquire. The amendment of the Leader of the Opposition would provide some guarantees against that fear, but it is symptomatic of a western sensitivity which the program of bilingualism must recognize if it is to succeed. Sir, that sensitivity is not quieted, but aroused, by insinuations of the kind in which too many ministers have indulged.

● (1520)

When I began to speak on Friday, I expressed my surprise at the insistence of the government on bringing this matter back and expressed by regretful conclusion that their motive in so doing must have been to seek some means to divide my party, even if, in the attempt, they divided the country, too. That might not be their motive. Perhaps, in fact, they seek only to extend guarantees to the public service. If that is so, they will support the amendment because only the amendment contains guarantees. If their interest instead is division, they will oppose the amendment. But even if they do that, there is no way they will reduce or muddy the clear commitment of this party to a united and bilingual Canada.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Clark (Rocky Mountain): That commitment is not only clear upon the record. It has been proven in the heat of campaigns and in the face of provocation.

In closing today I want to repeat that I, and most of my colleagues, came here with the expectation that the issue of language was essentially settled in Canada, and that we could turn to the urgent concerns of this year and of years to come. We came here to deal with the issues of the seventies and beyond, and not to strike old poses or fight old wars. That is clearly the desire of the millions of Canadians who grew into adulthood in the fifties and the sixties. It is clearly my mandate from my constituents. We are a new parliament in a new decade with enough contemporary challenges that we need not look back. The best proof the government can offer that it shares this spirit too, that it is more interested in the future than the past, is to support this amendment, which accords with and confirms all the high ideals the Prime Minister spoke of, and then let parliament get on with the other urgent work of 1973.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Hon. John N. Turner (Minister of Finance): Mr. Speaker, I think all of us on both sides of the House have listened to an extremely good speech given by the hon. member for Rocky Mountain (Mr. Clark).

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton): I want to say at the outset, Mr. Speaker, that it is not the purpose of the motion before the House to reopen an old question.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton): I suppose, as long as we have the type of country we have, and the complexities we have, these issues will continually have to be revised and revalued. The purpose of the motion before Your Honour is not to give the House an opportunity to express a new view or a further view on the Official Languages Act.

Mr. Diefenbaker: The Prime Minister said that was the purpose.

Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton): That was dealt with in a debate four or five years ago. The purpose is to express a view upon the application of that act, in practice, to the public service of this country. I want to take issue with the interjection of the right hon. gentleman. The purpose is to review the basis on which the Official Languages Act is to apply to the public service of this country. The object is to give the House of Commons an occasion to pronounce itself upon institutional bilingualism as it is meant to work in practice. The principles set forth by my colleague the President of the Treasury Board (Mr. Drury) outline the blueprint which the government and the Chairman of the Public Service Commission of Canada intend to apply in co-operation with the staff associations. It has also as its purpose the endorsement of those principles by this House and, by reason of this resolution, to take them beyond the dictates of ministerial discretion. I will deal with the argument of the hon. member who preceded me in a few moments but if I may, I should like to deal first with a few general points.

First of all, what do we mean when we talk about bilingualism in the public service? Many of us have said this before but I believe it will bear repeating because the thrust of the policy has been misunderstood in many parts of the country. We are not talking about individual bilingualism, Mr. Speaker; we are not talking about the ability of any Canadian to speak both languages; we are not

talking about any type of compulsion to force Canadians to speak the other official language, to speak other than the language that is his mother tongue or his choice. We are talking about what we have called earlier institutional bilingualism. My colleague, the President of the Treasury Board, called it functional bilingualism or the availability of a federal government service to Canadians in either of the two official languages of this country, French or English. In a reciprocal fashion it is the right of every Canadian to work in the public service in either French or English. In other words, it is an institutional fabric by which we hope that the national unity of this country can be cemented—namely the right of any Canadian from any part of Canada to deal with his or her federal government or agencies of the federal government in the language of his or her choice and to allow any Canadian to be involved and to work in the public service in either French or English. As my colleague put it, in a very detailed speech to this House on Friday, it thereby preserves the right of any Canadian to remain unilingual if he wants in his dealings with the Public Service of Canada and unilingual in his service to his country.

What is the purpose of the bilingualism policy? I think every member of the House is highly cognizant of it. Certainly, I was impressed by the speeches of the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) and the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Stanfield) and their appraisal of the situation. National unity is consecrated by the ability of all Canadians to deal with the federal government or work for the federal government in either French or English. National unity in the sense of cultivating a feeling of consecrating the reality, particularly, and let us admit it, among French speaking Canadians, that they have an equal opportunity in this country and that they can be made to feel at home in this country and to feel at home at work or at play in the national capital. It is only in this way that I believe this parliament can undercut one of the arguments of the separatists, namely that only within his own nation state can the French speaking Canadian find his true home, fulfil his true personality, find his complete acceptance.

I believe that if this resolution, which has the support of the House, is applied by the Public Service Commission and by the Treasury Board in co-operation with the staff associations with understanding and humanity and recognition of the human careers that are involved, then the temptation of French speaking Canadians to opt for their own state will not be nearly as attractive. If French speaking Canadians are made to feel at home in reality, in appearance and in psychology within the bosom of a country we call Canada.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

● (1530)

Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton): Mr. Speaker, I think in terms of fundamental human rights one could say, too, that the use of language is essential to the exercise of a full personality.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Speaker, as regards language as psychological extension of character, I am entitled to describe my own experience in the province of Quebec. I belong to the Bar of the province of Quebec, one of the most bilingual institutions of the country, as the hon. member for Saint-Hyacinthe (Mr. Wagner) knows, and every lawyer and every witness had the right to speak in the language of his choice.

During my first years of practice, of course I had to plead before judges and to cross-examine witnesses in French all day long. It was physically and mentally tiresome for me, especially when inquiries lasted for two, three or four days. I was absolutely exhausted—

Mr. Wagner: Worn out.

Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton): Yes, worn out, Mr. Speaker.

Therefore, thanks to my experience I can understand how difficult it is for a French Canadian to live in English in North America, in Canada, where he must do the same thing as I, speak my language and make efforts in a language which is not his mother tongue.

I suggest that a country cannot survive unless every citizen is able to express himself in the official language of his choice, otherwise he cannot feel well and at home in his own country. And this is even more important when considering the atmosphere of the national capital.

This is a psychological matter; this is a matter of basic rights, of human rights. The problem of languages is a psychological matter; therefore, it is a key issue because most important and basic matters in the life of nations are those associated to unity, which is a matter of subjectivity.

Therefore, how does one feel in a given country? This is why I think that the problem of languages becomes a subjective matter, and if so, it is even more important for the unity of our country.

[*English*]

I listened to the Leader of the Opposition and to the hon. member for York South (Mr. Lewis), who leads the New Democratic Party, criticizing the government for the delay in bringing forth these particular principles. I can say to them and to the House that no one has been more anxious than the government, and certainly, the members sitting on the Liberal side of the House, to have these principles clarified. A good many of us have lived with the problem, and with the problems of our constituents. I can only say in answer to those hon. members and to you, Your Honour, that the application of a policy of bilingualism is an incredibly difficult and delicate procedure. Why? Because human careers are involved, that is why. As I said before, we had no prior experience upon which to call. Our particular situation in Canada is distinctly different from that of other countries with a bilingual nature, because of the makeup of our own country. There were no charts, no guidelines, and no well trodden paths for us to follow, as I said before. No one, Sir, should underestimate the difficulty of moving forward with speed and determination, and yet with a sense of equity and justice with respect to the human problems involved.

Let me say a word about the analysis of the nine principles and the supplementary resolution. These were developed in consultation with the staff associations. I want to take the opportunity to say to the House how much the government has appreciated and how much I, personally,

have appreciated the good will, understanding and co-operation of the executive and members of the staff associations and, particularly, those who sit on the National Joint Council.

Looking through the principles, one can see clarification and protection in a number of distinct areas. There is a new procedure of prior identification and designation of bilingual positions. This gives members of the public service advance notice on which to exercise various career options. There is guaranteed protection for acquired rights of unilingual public servants having ten years of service at the date of Mr. Pearson's original statement in the House. There is a new flexibility in the definition of bilingualism, as it may be required for particular positions. The ability to qualify for a position that may be designated as bilingual is now enshrined in advance of acquiring the second language. In other words, the public servant does not necessarily have to have a capacity in both languages at the time he stands and qualifies for a bilingual position. Once having achieved that position, he is given the opportunity to establish that bilingual qualification. As a result, and this is another point, there is now a wider availability of language training, and it becomes incumbent now on the government to ensure that anyone seeking admission to the public service or seeking promotion within the public service has available to him as of right, no matter what his standing in the hierarchy of the system may be, the necessary language training. Finally, there are wider avenues of appeal respecting the implementation of this policy.

I want to deal briefly, if I may, with the amendment put before the House by the Leader of the Opposition. I appreciated the reasoned calm of his argument and the fact that he put it forward for the consideration of the House but said, however, that it was not a condition precedent to his support of the main resolution. I believe that spirit was appreciated on my side of the House.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton): Despite the arguments put forward effectively today by the hon. member for Rocky Mountain (Mr. Clark), the government has decided that it must reject the amendment put to the House by the Leader of the Opposition.

An hon. Member: You don't know what you are saying.

Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton): The reasons, and I will state them as calmly as I can to the House, are that the principles set forth in the resolution and their administrative application have been developed as the result of extensive consultations between the government and the staff associations.

Mr. Grafftey: Speak from your heart.

Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton): The government has undertaken to continue such negotiations through the medium of the National Joint Council. It is our submission, Mr. Speaker, and I believe also the view of the staff associations, that it would be unwise to put into law at this time administrative arrangements that have been agreed to through these consultations and which might be subject, after further consultation, to amplification by both parties at a later date.

[Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton).]

An hon. Member: You can always change the law.

Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton): Therefore, it is most important at this stage, both for the people of Canada as employer and for the staff associations representing the employees, that there be sufficient flexibility in the policy that I feel, would be a distinct advantage at this stage of the process.

Let me say this to the House about the implementation of the principles. The implementation of the principles can take effect without legislative action. Section 39 of the Public Service Employment Act provides:

> In any case where the Commission decides that it is not practicable nor in the best interests of the public service to apply this Act or any provision thereof to any position or person or class of positions or persons, the Commission may, with the approval of the Governor in Council exclude such position or person or class of positions or persons in whole or in part from the operation of this Act; and the Commission may, with the approval of the Governor in Council, re-apply any of the provisions of this Act to any position or person so excluded.

Thus, I submit parliament has already anticipated a possible need for excluding from certain portions of the Public Service Employment Act certain positions or persons. Legislation is, therefore, unnecessary, as the existing laws provide for the implementation of the principle, either by means of the Public Service Employment Act, the Financial Administration Act or the Official Languages Act.

In the past, Mr. Speaker, the Public Service Commission has been reluctant to seek such exclusions under Section 39, but with the approval of this resolution the Chairman of the Public Service Commission and the Commission will interpret this approval as parliament's direction that Section 39 of the Public Service Employment Act be invoked. The Chairman of the Public Service Commission has already advised the staff side of the National Joint Council to this effect and the Public Service Commission will be requesting the Governor in Council to pass regulations under Section 39 to give effect to the principles.

● (1540)

A permanent committee of the National Joint Council, representing the people of Canada and parliament as employer and the staff associations as employees, has been established to keep under constant review matters related to the principles and measures contained in the resolution. It is safe to say that the staff side, recognizing the dynamic nature of this issue, has not pressed for inclusion of the principles in legislation. They believe and we believe that legislation at this time would be inappropriate as the consultation process is working effectively and is responsive to the dynamic nature of the complex issues involved.

The purpose of putting the resolution before the House was not only to re-affirm the government's intention and commitment to the contents of the principles and measures contained in the resolution, but also to seek similar affirmation and commitment from all parties of the House so that the House would support what has already been jointly agreed to between the employer and the staff

associations. Through the vehicle of the National Joint Commission, it will remain under continual scrutiny.

I have had a personal commitment for some time to the principles of bilingualism in this country. I had the responsibility for negotiating the Official Languages Act with the attorneys general of the provinces, particularly the provinces in western Canada and Quebec. I had some responsibility for negotiating its passage through parliament. I spoke during the Speech from the Throne debate on January 9, and have tried to give voice to my feelings on this crucial subject on every occasion when I found it legitimate to do so.

I believe that the resolution enshrines a series of principles in the application of the Official Languages Act that are fundamental to national unity. I believe the English speaking majority in this country must try to understand the hopes and feelings of the minority in terms of the future of this country. The French speaking minority must try, on their part, to understand the intense tolerance of the English speaking majority and the considerable progress that has been made in order to equalize opportunities within the Public Service of Canada.

I do not for a moment underestimate the human difficulties encountered in trying to make this policy work. It must work and it must work fairly. It must work because the future of this country is at stake. It must work fairly because we are dealing with men and women who are dedicating their lives to the public service of their country. In terms of the constituency and region I represent, nowhere is it more important that these principles be made to work. As I have said to my constituents on several occasions, without national unity, without a country, the city of Ottawa does not make any sense at all. We in the capital have a special burden, and yet a unique challenge to make it happen and make it work.

Re-affirmation in this House of Commons of these specific principles to convert the theory of the Official Languages Act into practice and working rules will, in my submission, go far toward re-assuring both those who fear bilingualism in the public service is going ahead too fast and those who are concerned that it is not going ahead fast enough. No one has ever claimed that the implementation of this policy would be easy nor that it would not arouse apprehension. The purpose of this resolution is to attempt to relieve that apprehension. Nor has it been claimed that it would not add to the cost of government. It is one of the prices we pay for being Canadian. I believe it is a price well worth paying against the limitless prospects of a united country.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Prince Albert): Mr. Speaker, I intend to place before the House and the country my views in respect of this matter clearly and unequivocally. Throughout the years I have been in public life I have devoted myself to the unity of our country.

And long before many of those sitting in this House were born, in 1922, when it was unpopular to do so, I took an appeal on behalf of the French school trustees in the province of Saskatchewan. One always remembers the cases he has won. That case is reported. Through the years I have devoted myself to assuring in this country an exemplification of the meaning of national unity.

I shall be referring a little later to the remarks of the Minister of Finance (Mr. Turner). Before doing that, I want to deal with a speech I delivered in this House on February 4, 1963. A portion of it was quoted by the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) the other day. In that speech I quoted the words uttered by Sir John A. Macdonald in this House in 1890. I quote:

> I have no accord with the desire expressed in some quarters that, by any mode whatever, there should be an attempt made to oppress the one language or to render it inferior to the other. I believe that would be impossible if it were tried, and it would be foolish and wicked if it were possible.

I quoted that with approval. That was the attitude of the government I had the honour to lead in this country. That was the attitude throughout. At that time I said, and I quote:

> Today we proudly call courselves Canadian citizens enjoying every attribute of freedom and sovereignty.
>
> Confederation was achieved by a partnership of English speaking and French speaking men who believed that the destiny of the north half of this continent might be achieved in unity but not in uniformity. But for the fundamental agreements expressed in section 133 of the British North America Act, with its assurance of the rights of language in this country, and section 91 and 92 assuring to the provinces their jurisdiction over education and culture, there never would have been a Canada . . .
>
> Canada, under confederation, has prospered and grown. There have, however, arisen from time to time—periodically it takes place—questions as to whether Canada, as she approaches the close of the first century of confederation, has achieved the full measure of the vision of the fathers of confederation. It is with this thought in mind that the government has decided to propose the calling of a federal-provincial conference, and invitations to such a conference will be dispatched to the governments of the ten provinces at once.
>
> The scope of the conference will be of the fullest breadth. It will be asked to study ways and means of repatriating the constitution, the problem of adequate representation in the public service, Crown corporations and other government agencies; the recommendations in the Therrien report; the choice of a national flag and other symbols of our national sovereignty. In brief, the conference will be asked to examine biculturalism and bilingualism in a comprehensive manner.

I then went on to say it had been suggested a royal commission could do that. I opposed a royal commission. In light of events, I leave it to the country to conclude who was right. The royal commission cost $10 million. The result of that royal commission has been divisions in this country unequalled in all the years since confederation.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Diefenbaker: I then went on to say:

> In correcting any injustices that might be found we shall destroy prejudice and misunderstanding. We are ready to take action to deal firmly and positively with any danger which confronts the basis of the Canadian confederation.
>
> This is a task to which all Canadians can give their willing allegiance . . .
>
> To the original French and English strains in the Canadian population there have now been added many Canadians of other origins. They have come of their own choice to this country and have become members of the Canadian family, bringing with them their traditions and rich heritages of culture. By their contributions they have enriched, deepened and diversified the cultures of this nation.

By their contributions they have enriched, deepened and diversified the cultures of this nation.

● (1550)

And I saw a Canada—and this has been my life's work—which would bring an end to the division of this nation on the basis of origins, while maintaining the basic principle of confederation, an end to hyphenated Canadianism where each of us would take up the racial origin of our respective made forebears, with the rights of French Canada maintained inviolate as they were provided for in the British North America Act. Such a Canada I said was destined to play an ever greater and beneficent role in the world as an example of cultures and peoples residing together in unity.

Sir, I have been in a minority before. I was in a minority at the convention of the National Conservative Party. I had no idea of standing for the leadership. None. But I warned the Conservative party then that the idea of deux nations—two nations—was, as a policy, the negation of everything for which Macdonald and each succeeding prime minister from the Conservative party had stood. They said I was wrong. I need not go into detail concerning what happened. This party could not survive on the basis of a policy like that. Yet it was passed by the sub-committee of the party and by the committee on policy. I dared to speak. Having spoken, the next morning I had to allow my name to be put in nomination because of the fact that nominations had to be in by ten a.m. Otherwise, people would have said: He voices his opinions but he dare not stand.

French Canada? Well, I have always had a wonderful welcome there. In my own province, those of French origin voted for me. They voted for me when it was most unpopular for anyone to do so. They did it because I stood for their rights; I stood for their constitutional rights when it was unpopular to do so. Members opposite say: We are going to get support in Quebec, if we propose this. Mr. Speaker, the Quebec people are no different from others in every part of Canada in this respect: they are not deluded by soft-spoken, soporific phraseology.

When I was leader of this party we secured support in Quebec. Let me point this out, because it is sometimes forgotten. In 1940, with an outstanding leader in French-Canadian life, Dr. Mannion, we elected not one in Quebec though we did elect one independent. Then, John Bracken became leader of this party. He had, in Manitoba, supported Canadians of French origin over the school question of 1896, and they stood with him. In 1945, we elected one member. Then Mr. Drew came in. He had strong claims in French Canada, and he elected two. And in 1953, we in this party elected four. They tell me I know nothing about the feeling of French Canada. That may be so, but at the worst of times, when I was leader, we in this party elected more than three leaders had done in four successive election campaigns. And when I go to Montreal, when I go to Quebec, the welcome I receive today is as heartfelt as anyone could wish.

I am sorry I have never been able to learn the French language so as to make a speech in French. I have read Racine, Molière and Corneille. And I read French today with almost the same facility as I read English. But I do not have an ear for sound. I am not like the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Stanfield)—

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Diefenbaker: —who has a capacity of intonation which I lack. But I would remind you, Mr. Speaker, that the Right Hon. W. L. Mackenzie King, who was my member for years, only made two speeches in French in his entire life. Once he said "Oui", and the second time he said "Oui, oui."

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Diefenbaker: But he swept the Province of Quebec.

What did we do during my time as leader? The first thing I said we should do was to make the House of Commons bilingual. And we brought in simultaneous translation. Next, I got in touch with the administrative departments of government and pointed out that French Canada was not receiving its fair share of the upper echelon appointments. In the Department of External Affairs it was preposterous the degree to which these people did not get any kind of reasonable support when it came to appointments. It was upon my recommendation, and no one else's, that for the first time in history, the first time since Vaudreuil, one of French origin became the Governor General of Canada. The Queen accepted that recommendation. And it was in my time that bilingual cheques and the like were brought in.

This was a matter which was deeply in the hearts and minds of Canadians of French origin. So don't tell me I know nothing about the requirements of French Canada. You cannot fool the people in the Province of Quebec by taking up the position: the government brings something in and we are for it, and therefore we will get support. Nobody ever got support by tying themselves to the tail of a comet—and I think the description "comet" just fits the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau). He flashed, and he is gradually disappearing.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Diefenbaker: Why was this motion brought up? The Minister of Finance (Mr. Turner) is a man of whom I have always spoken in the warmest terms. I don't think he has always reciprocated. I seem to remember a campaign in which caricatures of me—and I caricature well—were exhibited. But I do not mind attacks in politics as long as they are not against integrity. I listened to him today with the same interest as I always do. He did not tell the House why it is that at a time when critical national issues confront us, parliament is being asked by the Prime Minister to masticate material already digested.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

● (1600)

Mr. Diefenbaker: Is this resolution before the House to bring about Canadian unity?

Some hon. Members: Yes.

Some hon. Members: No.

Mr. Diefenbaker: I heard a tiny squeak of "yes" from one corner. The resolution was designed to becloud national issues today, issues with which the government has been aimlessly dealing. The Minister of Finance said: "We moved with speed and determination"; they were his very words today. Even the finest of slow motion cameras would be unable to take a picture of this government moving with speed and determination.

What has the Prime Minister brought before this House? It is his contribution to Canadian unity. The Prime Minister has brought forward to the House a prettied up, curry-combed version of a policy in order to give himself a new image. This is to be a tranquilizer. I shall mention the election results in a moment because they were not tranquilizers to the government of the right hon. gentleman.

At every hand in this country there is division and disunity, the responsibility for which rests with the present government and nowhere else. The Prime Minister said he was bringing this resolution before the House so we could stand up and be counted. I shall stand, Mr. Speaker, and I shall be counted. For I will not become the hand-maiden of a government which in the last several years, as a result of the mental gymnastics of the Prime Minister, has divided this country to an extent that I only hope years to come will efface.

The minister who has just spoken referred to being able to communicate in both languages. In the city of Victoria I am told that the Department of National Health and Welfare is listed in the telephone book in French, and there are three numbers for those who want to communicate with the department in French.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

An hon. Member: That is progress.

Mr. Diefenbaker: Hon. members applaud, but let me give them the rest of this. If you call the numbers they will answer you in English, and not one of them knows the French language.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Diefenbaker: That little item came to me this morning. I miss some of these observations that are made, and I am sure I miss a great deal.

Imagine the speciousness of the arguments that are advanced by the minister. The reason that he will not accept the amendment is that he believes in "flexible rigidity". I have heard the minister make explanations before, but never on other occasions have I heard him approach the school men of the Middle Ages. Just imagine the argument, Mr. Speaker. The minister maintained that the amendment moved by the Leader of the Opposition, even though not incorporated in an act, can be carried out by order of Council. What sham and hypocrisy is this?

The Leader of the Opposition was slapped in the face by the former secretary of state, who since the election has been demoted to Minister of Communications (Mr. Pelletier). The hon. gentleman brushed the amendment aside facetiously, but I never expected the Minister of Finance to give his support. The facetious and sneering answers to the proposition advanced by the Leader of the Opposition which were given by the Minister of Communications reveals that this resolution is nothing but eyewash. It will not be legally binding whatsoever.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Diefenbaker: If perchance the Liberal party should win the next election, what would happen to the promises made in an unenforceable declaration by parliament? The government do not have to follow such a declaration; they can do as they please. Preambles and that sort of thing have no efficacy in a court of law. Why does the government endeavour to deceive the Canadian people into believing that something is going to be done? Do you know, Mr. Speaker, why the government is doing this? It is doing it to ensure that there will be votes in the province of Quebec. And in other parts of Canada the government will be able to say: "We are just devoting ourselves to national unity".

I did not like the suggestion of the Minister of Finance that those who disagree with this resolution are in the category of separatists.

Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton): That is not what I said.

Mr. Diefenbaker: It may not have been his words but that was his inference.

Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton): That is your inference, sir.

Mr. Diefenbaker: I am glad the minister does not hold that view. All I have to say is that this is a sham and a delusion. Hon. members opposite are going to ask the Tory party to line up and say "Me too". "Me too" was never the slogan on a standard that would make for a fighting opposition when the government is wrong in what it is doing.

What manner of thing is this? This resolution is designed to wash away the tears the government shed over the many defeats that they had in the last election. I look around me and ask hon. members, if they believe the Minister of . . . What is Marchand now?

Some hon. Members: No one knows.

Mr. Diefenbaker: Mr. Speaker, in this game of political musical chairs it is difficult to identify the Minister of Transport (Mr. Marchand). But what did he say a few days after the election? He said that the trouble was that those who voted for the Conservatives were fanatics. He also had in the chorus with him the former solicitor general, the present Postmaster General (Mr. Ouellet), and the former secretary of state, now demoted. That was the song that they sang. If what they said is correct, then all of the new members representing the Conservative party today owe thousands and thousands of votes to those who were designated by these ministers as "fanatics."

What happened in Ottawa, Mr. Speaker? I shall come to that in a moment, but I have never known anything to equal the transfiguration that has taken place in the Prime Minister since October 30. What a transformation it has been. In the twinkling of an eye he has pretended to be transformed and transfigured, and he now asks the

Canadian people to forget and forgive. Where was this policy regarding civil servants during those dark days? The minister, himself, I think had a considerably reduced majority. After all, there was no possibility of defeating him. That is what the augurs said about these other members, the two in Ottawa. Did they get any votes from the civil servants because of the damnable treatment that was handed them? Look at the record; look at the majorities here in the city of Ottawa; look at the majority in the neighbouring seat, Lanark. What happened? Men and women, whatever their Liberal past might have been, were determined that the Trudeau government must go.

● (1610)

What did the Prime Minister say at one time in 1972 while enunciating his basic principle? He said that you don't determine your timing, it is events that determine it for you. Was it the election result, where constituency after constituency across Canada was lost, which suddenly brought about that tremendous influence that produced the resolution in question? Sir, ever since the election the Prime Minister has exemplified Napoleon's retreat from Moscow. He could not understand what happened—"after all I am right". That was the attitude. Then this little coterie, or triumvirate, started in to recite that the reason for this resolution is the fact that the people did not understand. It was the harshness under the Language Act and the way it was administered that lost these seats.

Sir, this is brought before the House as a political dodge, a deliberate hoax. What are we to stand up and be counted on? Perhaps the Minister of Finance will tell me when in Canadian history, or in British parliamentary history either, a government ever asked the House of Commons to pass a resolution which is so totally ineffective concerning a statute that is a law of the country. There is not another example. After all, Machiavelli has become a must study in the circles of the upper echelons of the civil service.

Sir, the Prime Minister is asking us to give him absolution for the sins he has committed against the civil servants of this country. He is asking for that. The change has been tremendous. How do we account for it? Well, one time he explained—and I will use his exact words—"I always do the reverse of what others do". Some of you gentlemen who sit in opposition here were designated in 1968 as bums. Parliament was trampled on by that system of having ministers here one at a time, like cuckoos appearing in a cuckoo-clock. But suddenly reform came to him after the election. This reform was all across the board. Am I overstating it when I remember what Mr. Francis said after his majority of 7,300 votes in 1968 turned into a minority of 3,700? Who did he blame?

An hon. Member: The cuckoo.

Mr. Diefenbaker: Spontaneity is the essense of truthfulness. He blamed the government. What about the member for Grenville-Carleton, Mr. Gordon Blair? He had won by 2,468 votes and went down by 10,800 votes. Who did he blame? Well, he blamed him even before the election. Then, if you really want the gospel get in touch with Mr. Murray McBride. What he said about the people of his constituency ensured that he ought to have another place other than the pulpit or parliament. Now, he is in the Post Office Department. That may account for some of the slowness in the mail. He got himself a position after condemning the government and also castigating his constituents. Virtue has its own reward. Even the present Minister of Finance began to express his doubts in July, 1970 about the language bill. He, Mr. Francis and Mr. Blair suddenly came to the conclusion that there was something that ought to be improved in the bilingualism program. One or other of them stated that it hurt many civil servants, but the Prime Minister stood firm and the election took place.

What a change; what a transfiguration! The monarchy damned, not only by him but by two or three other ministers—ridiculed. The Solicitor General introduced a motion in this House whereby the oath of allegiance to the Crown would be done away with for those who took Canadian citizenship. That was only a few months ago. Sir, watch them when Her Majesty comes. The Prime Minister will virtually be able to strut sitting down.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Diefenbaker: What about the flag? We had two flags, according to Pickersgill. He also has a big pension now. When a motion was moved in the House that the Union Jack, as the second flag for the Commonwealth, should be placed alongside the Speaker's Throne who prevented it? The no's came from ministers of the Crown opposite.

Some hon. Members: No.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

● (1620)

Mr. Diefenbaker: We are now asked to trust this government.

As to the Commonwealth, I can just see the Prime Minister in the month of August when the various members of the Commonwealth gather here. He will embrace the institution. In Singapore two years ago, when he was condemning Britain for her attitude in shipping arms under an agreement to South Africa, he said that Canada may find itself in the position of having to withdraw from the Commonwealth, as if he had any right to do such a thing. On wheat meat does Caesar feed? You would think that he could take the country out of the Commonwealth. But wait until August. "Already I have seen signs that the Commonwealth is a fairly good institution" he said. His words in New Delhi in January of 1971 were:

> If enough nations withdraw from the Commonwealth over the South African arms issue a chain reaction will start that might force others to quit,—including Canada.

He comes to parliament with this innocuous piece of legislation. I guess you can describe it as nothing else but a piece of legislation. He says he trusts parliament. What happened when the Conservative members in 1968 joined in a Hallelujah chorus about the change of rules? We fought him on rule 16, and he withdrew it at the last moment, and then the day after he said that the Tories walked into a trap, and ever since then this parliament has been innocuous. "We are the masters of this chamber"—you remember the words?

What about this legislation? The opposition tried to improve it. We had certain objections, one of which regarded its constitutionality. Other amendments were moved, but I will not detail them. They can be found in *Hansard* of July, 1969. But here is the one that shows the utter hypocrisy now before parliament. An amendment was moved by the hon. member for Crowfoot (Mr. Horner), and that amendment was:

That Bill C-120 . . . the following subclause 5:

(5) Notwithstanding anything in this Act, no person shall be refused employment or promotion within the Public Service of Canada on grounds alone of inadequate acquaintance with either of the official languages mentioned in this Act, provided that the applicant has declared his intention and willingness to learn the other official language.

Is that not what it says? The Minister of Finance, then minister of justice, brushed it aside. "It is worthless", he said. The Liberal members lined up and said "you are so right".

Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton): The right hon. gentleman should read the argument.

Mr. Diefenbaker: I did not get that.

An hon. Member: You did not miss much.

Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton): I think the right hon. gentleman should read the argument.

Mr. Diefenbaker: I read it and I found it to be the most indigestible collection of nonsense.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Diefenbaker: We said that the constitutionality should be tested. The then minister of justice said "it is constitutional. I tell you it is, and the Prime Minister says it is". I said that we should allow the Supreme Court of Canada the opportunity to test it, and the then minister of justice said, "we are not afraid of that". Anybody can object. Then, Mr. Justice Thorson raised an objection and the Department of Justice appointed lawyers who fought inch by inch against Mr. Justice Thorson having the opportunity to even start the action. The matter will come before the Supreme Court of Canada within the next few days.

What about the constitutionality? Nothing has been decided yet. There is a case coming here, but it will not be decided before the fall.

The best argument advanced was by the hon. member for Cumberland-Colchester North (Mr. Coates). He spoke in July of 1969. He went into detail and then said:

When a jurist of the stature of J. T. Thorson places before the Canadian people his concern about the constitutionality of the bill, I would think the government would be quick to make a reference to the Supreme Court—

Then, later that day, he went on to say:

It is the lack of reference to the Supreme Court that has created my greatest problem regarding this bill. Had the government taken steps to make such a reference to the Supreme Court of Canada . . . or had it indicated there was agreement by all the provinces to amend the BNA Act, requiring action to obtain passage of an act by the parliament of the United Kingdom, I might have been willing to support the bill.

His position today cannot be changed—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. Perhaps I might be allowed at this moment to interrupt the right hon. gentleman to bring to the attention of the House that his time has expired. But of course he may continue with the consent of the House.

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Mr. Diefenbaker: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The House has always been considerate, except on one occasion when the present Postmaster General (Mr. Ouellet) was the only person in the House to say "no". If he were here, I would read him some interesting things.

That was one of our arguments. The other was that the Commissioner of Languages has powers that were too great. Lo and behold, some of the Liberal members have since concluded that his powers were too great. He was given greater powers than any person in Canadian history. I heard him yesterday on "Cross Country Checkup". If you really want to check up on what he said yesterday you will have an opportunity of doing that on a later occasion, as I am now speaking on the amendment. He is the one who spoke about the Westmount Rhodesians. That was a classic phrase. He went to the United States to make that statement before a learned society. When he was questioned, he said "I was joking". Joking! Yesterday he was not joking when he was asked questions. He said to one person "garbage" when that person took some issue with the act. He used some other language too that indicated he is completely comtemptuous of the rights that he has and he has come to the position where he believes that anything he does is humorous, regardless of the wrong that has been done to the public service of our country.

We said that the despotic powers of the commissioner should be reduced. We said that there should be protection of the rights of English speaking civil servants who have been in the civil service for years, who could not meet the provisions of the Languages Act and therefore would be denied advancement. I said that bill created an injustice to the people of other racial origins and made them second class citizens. And it did. They were in a lower category, Now, along comes the government and suddenly the Prime Minister has seen the light again, and about $10 million is going to be made available. Some 5 per cent of what is going to be spent on biculturalism and bilingualism is going to be doled out from the rich man's table to all the six million people of racial origins other than English and French.

• (1630)

Sir, I can never get over the observation that the Prime Minister made when somebody asked, "What is going to happen if any civil servant refuses to learn French?" And he replied, "Unwilling? That would be fine. We would keep him running elevators where there are no French Canadians." There is the attitude, Mr. Speaker. And Her Majesty's Loyal Opposition is to say by its vote that we do appreciate the way in which this act has been administered, the way in which discrimination has been practised under it. Sir, I shall not participate in giving to the government the appreciation of one who has tried through the years to bring about an end to discrimination within this nation, and in saying to the Prime Minister and to the

government, "We know that you have become transfigured, and that all now is well. You are forgiven."

I opposed the bill. I oppose this resolution on the ground that it will give explicit approval and an expression of confidence to the Prime Minister for doing that which he has not done. Never before has a government ever asked to receive a vote of confidence for what it hasn't done because it has decided since an election to change its mind. I ask hon. members behind me, are you going to be made dupes? I can look at one of you, act one and another who were elected just because of the Languages Act, at least according to the Minister of Transport, and according to two or three other ministers.

This resolution shows a contempt for parliament, for parliament is only consulted when given an opportunity to afford a mechanism for political expediency to the Prime Minister. And he hopes for support of the public. It is not a very subtle plan. The ruse is far too transparent. I, for one, have not that confidence in this government that I will give it support for what it has not done. I shall not support such political trickery.

The purpose is to accomplish the unique feat of conveying to French Canada the idea that absolute bilingualism will prevail. That will be the interpretation. When the Conservative party supports this, French Canada may simply say, "Why should we support that party? Just because it agreed with the action taken by the government?"

On the one hand, government ministers are trying to fool French Canadians, and on the other hand they are pretending to the rest of Canada that they have changed their attitude. I have tried, Sir, with the appreciation that I have for this House, to remove the verbal veneer with which the Prime Minister has endeavoured to clothe this act of expediency. When this Opposition votes for the resolution, every last one of you, according to the Minister of Transport, according to the Minister of Communications, and according to the Postmaster General, will have voted for the Act. None of you will be able to go to your constituencies and meet that. That will be the Liberal argument in every part of this country.

The Conservative party tried to improve the Official Languages Act. They were spurned. I am not going to ask hon. members to read the Official Languages Act but I venture an opinion, even without benefit of a Gallup Poll, that it has not been read by very many. It has never been my custom—and at my age I live from day to day—to tailor my principles to political expediency. I do not intent to cower before false gods. This is a transparent trick.

Sir, I spent a lifetime trying to bring about equality for all Canadians of all racial origins. Now, this will be swept aside. Because I was of mixed origin I felt for others who were too. My people had been in Canada since the early 1800's, but because of my name I was not a Canadian. I was not accepted as a Canadian. I put an end to that. I said we were Canadians all.

And what have we got today? We have Anglophones, Francophones, multiculturalphones, all kinds. Everything I have striven for I see now being swept aside, and an end to that Canadianism which, above everything else, has been my devotion throughout a long life. It could be the last time I will speak on this subject when this debate is over, but my last words will be: God help Canada from the disunity in which it now finds itself.

We shall never build the nation which our potential resources make possible by dividing ourselves into Anglophones, Francophones, multiculturalphones, or whatever kind of phoneys you choose. I say: Canadians, first, last, and always!

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Hon. Bryce Mackasey (Verdun): Mr. Speaker, I say God help Canada were the attitude of the right hon. gentleman to prevail in this House.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Mackasey: Mr. Speaker, I have been a great admirer of the right hon. gentleman. I think this is an open secret in the House of Commons. I still am. I think that the right hon. gentleman has earned his place in the history books of this country by his contribution to parliament, by his production of the Bill of Rights, by his undeniable concern for the rights of individuals. Parliament would be a poorer place without the right hon. gentleman. His ability as a debater is second to none and his ability to talk around the subject at hand is second to none. Very rarely this afternoon did the right hon. gentleman speak about the issue at hand. His concept of equality is something that is hard for me to follow. Equality for Canadians, obviously in the opinion of the right hon. gentleman, means a unilingual English-speaking Canadian, a Canada in which Ottawa and the public service is out of bounds to millions of Canadians who happen to live in one particular section of the country called the province of Quebec.

● (1640)

The hon. gentleman has done many things to advance the cause of French speaking Canadians. He did, indeed, name the first French speaking Governor General in Canadian history, following the first English speaking Canadian Governor General in Canadian history which I think was obviously a very logical thing to do. But when we get down to an issue as sensitive as language, when we get down to the question of unity, I try very hard to follow the logic of the right hon. gentleman. For many years I have attempted to be in the House on each and every occasion when he debates because I have learned a great deal from his style and his ability to make speeches without reading a text, something which should be enforced in this House. Nevertheless, I was puzzled and found it difficult to understand how his concept of Canadianism could possibly be acceptable to the people who are resident of the province of Quebec, who are Canadian, whose mother tongue happens to be French and who are told "There is room for you in Ottawa but under the following condition—that you learn to speak English because that is the language of the majority in this country."

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Mackasey: The hon. gentleman, subtlely and astutely, dragged in the two nations concept, the associate state concept, the third force, people of other cultures and things that had nothing at all to do with the issue at hand,

which is the application of the Official Languages Act in an appropriate manner. There are many people who feel that this act has not been applied with enough vigour and who feel that the progress has been slow. I do not share that opinion. I came here in 1962 when members of the Créditiste Party speaking against were the statement of the President of the Canadian National Railways to the effect that the French speaking Canadians were not capable of being directors of a Canadian corporation called the CNR.

I lived in Quebec when we went through the evaluation of the 60's and the two nations concept as the hon. member for Saint-Hyacinthe (Mr. Wagner) knows. I used to stand in this House in 1962, 1963 and 1964 and fight against those very principles and I used to be told "You are stupid—as a politician you won't get re-elected in your constituency which is 80 per cent French by denying the two nations concept". I used to say "Be damned on re-election" and fight it and I accused the provincial government of the day of fostering separatism under different titles and under different slogans. So, I bow not even to the right hon. gentleman when it comes to my concern for this country, to my appreciation of the French speaking Canadians of Canada. If I were a French speaking Canadian, I would have been a separatist when I was young and I would have been a separatist in 1962 when I came here. At that time I was appalled to find that the only gesture of friendship in the House of Commons was that of simultaneous translation. Beyond that I can remember the days when *Hansard* was not even printed in the French language, when the reports of committee hearings in French were tabled weeks later and when we spent day after day apologizing for the lack of linguistic capabilities in the House of Commons.

Last Wednesday and Thursday, with the hon. member for Saint-Hyacinthe and the hon. member for Drummond (Mr. Boisvert), I met a group of young French speaking Canadians from my riding out on the lawn and they asked all sorts of questions about Ottawa and about parliament. One said to the hon. member for Saint-Hyacinthe, "How is it that when I come to Ottawa to visit parliament I am greeted in French?" I can remember the day when it was not so, when we could not find enough bilingual people at the front door to take the tours from Quebec around the House of Commons. That was not too many years ago.

Mr. Speaker, what are we asking French speaking Canadians to do? What is the Prime Minister suggesting? Nothing more than that Canadians whose mother tongue happens to be French should be able to participate in the public service of the country, to realize that there is room for them in the public service of this country, to realize that there is opportunity for them to be promoted, to make them realize that their language is welcome and enriching rather than a hindrance when they come to this place. We are asking them, I hope, one of these days to stop comparing the affluence of Ottawa with the drudgery and slum conditions of Hull across the river which is what they were expected to do when they came here 20 years ago. They were expected to live across the river, work all day in the English language in Ottawa and then go back home across the river where they could at least be exposed to their own culture. This is not good enough, Mr. Speaker, for the French Canadian federalists of the province of Quebec who want to participate in everyday life.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Mackasey: I say that I take off my hat to, that I am proud of and that I support the leader of the official opposition in his encouraging, dynamic and courageous stand on this particular issue. The other day he said that he bore scars for being progressive on this subject. I think the Progressive Conservative party is lucky to have as their leader a man who is prepared to take that stand.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Mackasey: The right hon. gentleman from Prince Albert said something that is very true. He said Quebec people are not different; of course, they are not. The French Canadian that I have known for 52 years is no different from the English speaking friend down the street. In time of need, I have been able to turn to my neighbour who happens to be French. Our children play together on the same hockey and baseball teams; we want essentially the same things for ourselves and our children, a country that provides jobs, a degree of prosperity and a degree of security. The French speaking Canadian demands equality of opportunity. How can you get equality of opportunity in the federal public service if there is no room for the French language? That has been the problem for too long. One would think from the speech of the right hon. member for Prince Albert that what we are suggesting in the resolution or what was suggested in the Official Languages Act—

An hon. Member: He voted against it.

Mr. Mackasey: Well, I do not want to get into a rereading of the 1968 speeches. I can still remember some of the speeches on the flag debate that were sickening. The hon. gentleman dragged in the flag, dragged in the Union Jack. I am afraid the hon. gentleman has got an Achilles heel in that he has never been able to understand the French people of the province of Quebec. We came forward with a flag that bore no symbol of the French speaking Canadians, no symbol of the English speaking Canadians, but a simple maple leaf that was as acceptable to those who traced their ancestry to Ireland, to Poland, to the Ukraine, to Italy or any other country. His children or grandchildren have made this such a wonderful country in which to live.

● (1650)

But, Mr. Speaker, if we, and I mean not only the Liberal Party but all federalists in the House of Commons and in Quebec, are to beat back the separatist movement and continue beating it back, and if we are to win our fight for the minds and hearts of the youngsters in the province of Quebec, we must prevent them from turning inward and show them that there are opportunities in Ottawa if they should wish to participate in the development and formation of this country by serving in the public service. Such service is impossible if the penalty they must pay is being denied promotion because their mother tongue is French rather than English.

I travelled across this country in 1964 and 1965, and visited Saskatchewan, Manitoba and Alberta. I can say, as the Leader of the New Democratic Party (Mr. Lewis) said, that I rarely ran into anybody bigoted or biased in those places. I visited every constituency, I think, in Saskatchewan, including Prince Albert, and in pretty well every riding, people would come up to me and say, "I originated in Quebec" or tell me that the parents or grandparents had come from that province and that they had been able to hang on to their language and culture to varying degrees. Are these people not entitled to be served, at least by their own government, in their own language, regardless of where they live in Canada, if they need to be so served? How else will you persuade French speaking Canadians to leave Quebec and move to Ontario, Alberta, Manitoba, or British Columbia?

It is not too many years ago that one of my closest friends, a French speaking Canadian, turned down a tremendous promotion outside Quebec only three months after leaving the province, because he could not find schooling for his children or cultural outlets, and could not even deal with the federal government in his own language. That is not what we want or what the Canadian people want. Those who happen to be bigoted or biased in their approach, and I am talking about Members of Parliament, and display bias or bigotry in order to be elected, are wrong. What is right eventually becomes politically right. A new generation is growing up, and this type of bigoted approach is fast disappearing.

Mr. Hueglin: Not in Quebec, with Ouellet calling us royalist fanatics.

Mr. Mackasey: At the same time, we must apply the Official Languages Act in a gentlemanlike manner, in a sensitive manner, and not in brusque way, because people, quite logically, fear change. English speaking Quebecers fear change. They are afraid of the working language in their own province being French and of the possibility that new Canadians will be forced to speak another language rather than the one of their own choice. So, the province of Quebec has a stake in this, too, and must make certain that its policies are fair and not discriminatory.

As so many others have said before me, this is the greatest country in the world. We all agree. Even though we are suffering from troubles and are suffering from so-called disunity, there is less trouble of that kind now than there was even ten years ago. Former prime minister Lester Pearson spoke very little French but had the vision to unite this country, to set up the B & B Commission, to take steps needed for the new Canadian flag, and to do the things that were needed with respect to the public service. Our present Prime Minister is carrying on that tradition. The Leader of the Opposition and other members have supported him, because that is only right and fair and is the price we must pay for the continuation of this country. It is a very small price, I might add.

Any country with two official languages and enjoying a multicultural society is rich. Such a country is a contrast to other countries which have eliminated all but one language and assimilated all cultures into one. It is paradoxical, perhaps, that Canadians of Italian, Ukrainian, Russian or Polish descent are better able to cling to their own languages and cultures by reason of the fact that we have been able to resist being assimilated culturally by the United States. That resistance has been possible because of the existence of several million people in Quebec who do not necessarily share a common language with our neighbour. So, we are all richer because in this country we speak two languages and follow many, many cultures.

In 1973, as we look around the world and see the miseries of other countries, it is gratifying to know that the only thing dividing us is the medium of communication. Why, young people in Europe learn three, four or five languages under their educational curriculum. I hope from now on that this debate will centre on the Official Languages Act, that we do not accuse each other of fostering disharmony and that the Prime Minister will not be accused of being a divisive force, as he was just accused. There is no political gain in this type of approach, nor can anybody gain much by being bigoted or biased in approaching the whole question of language. If any gain results from such an approach, it will be very, very temporary.

Let me say in conclusion that I could have lived with the amendment of the hon. gentleman of the opposition, although, perhaps, it would have introduced some degree of inflexibility. Perhaps the suggestion contained in the motion should remain vested in regulations which can be adjusted periodically.

Let me say a word about the constitutionality of this whole approach, and whether there are or ought to be two official languages in Canada. Mr. Justice Thorson has made his views on this subject known. I have discussed this subject with the learned judge and read his reasons for his stand, his books and his articles. Frankly, whether this act is constitutional is relatively unimportant. The facts of the case do not stand on the constitution; they stand on reality, on the fact that in Quebec there are millions of Canadians whose mother tongue happens to be French, who want to remain federalist and who want to see this country remain together. In several provincial elections they have rejected the separatist parties. If they are given a significant opportunity, they will become one of the real forces for unity in this country because they are realistic. If we deny them the right to work in their own language, to be promoted in the federal public service or to see the national capital, as it should exist on both sides of the river, as a reflection of our dual nationality and multicultural society, we will play a self-defeating and self-annihilating role. I support the Official Languages Act and commend it to all members of the House of Commons.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, please. When the debate resumes, the hon. member for Sault Ste. Marie (Mr. Symes) will be recognized by the Chair.

PROCEEDINGS ON ADJOURNMENT MOTION

[*English*]

SUBJECT MATTER OF QUESTIONS TO BE DEBATED

Mr. Deputy Speaker: It is my duty, pursuant to Standing Order 40, to inform the House that the questions to be raised tonight at the time of adjournment are as follows: the hon. member for St. John's West (Mr. Carter)—Harbours—Atlantic area—Request for improved facilities for fishermen; the hon. member for Scarborough West (Mr. Harney)—Energy—Possible establishment of refinery at Gros Cacouna—Federal government participation with Quebec in discussions with Saudi Arabia; the hon. member for Burnaby-Richmond-Delta (Mr. Reynolds)—Harbours—Ladner, B.C.—Request for dredging to assist fishermen.

It being five o'clock, the House will now proceed to the consideration of private members' business.

Mr. Reid: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, in view of the progress we are making in the debate, I wonder if there might be agreement in the House to forgo private members' hour and proceed with the debate. Your Honour could recognize the hon. member for Sault Ste. Marie immediately, if there is agreement.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: The parliamentary secretary asks if the House agrees to postpone private members' hour and return to the debate that was interrupted a few minutes ago. Is it the wish of the House to agree to his suggestion?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: As that appears to be agreeable, the Chair will recognize the hon. member for Sault Ste. Marie.

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

[*English*]

OFFICIAL LANGUAGES

DECLARATION OF CERTAIN PRINCIPLES RESPECTING EMPLOYMENT IN PUBLIC SERVICE OF CANADA

The House resumed consideration of the motion of Mr. Trudeau:

That this House,

(i) aware that, as provided in the Official Languages Act, the English and French languages possess and enjoy equality of status and equal rights and privileges as to their use in all the institutions of the Parliament and Government of Canada;

cognizant that it is the duty of departments and agencies of the Government of Canada to ensure, in accordance with that Act, that members of the public can obtain available services from and communicate with them in both official languages; while

recognizing that public servants should, as a general proposition and subject to the requirements of the Official Languages Act respecting the provision of services to the public, be able to carry out their duties in the Public Service of Canada in the official language of their choice;

do hereby recognize and approve the following Principles for achieving the foregoing:

(1) that positions which are seen, under present circumstances, as requiring the knowledge and use of both the French and English languages will be first identified, and then designates, as bilingual in the course of the period ending December 31, 1978;

(2) that positions will also be identified where English is an essential requirement of the job, where French is essential, or whether either French or English may be used;

(3) that a knowledge of English and French is one of the elements of merit in the selection of candidates for bilingual positions;

(4) that competitions for bilingual positions will be open both to bilingual candidates and unilingual candidates who have formally indicated their willingness to become bilingual;

(5) that competitions for unilingual positions will continue to be open to unilingual or bilingual candidates who meet the language requirements of the job;

(6) that unilingual incumbents of bilingual positions may elect to become bilingual and undertake language training, or transfer to another job having the same salary maximum, or, if they were to decline such a transfer, to remain in their position even though the posts have been designated as bilingual;

(7) that employees who, as of April 6, 1966, had at least ten years of continuous service and who, since that date, have been employed continuously in the federal Public Service, will be entitled to apply for any job that has been identified for future designation as bilingual without having to indicate their willingness to become bilingual;

(8) that unilingual French-speaking and English-speaking persons from outside the Public Service who are willing to become bilingual may apply for bilingual positions open to public competition;

(9) that language training, at public expense, will be provided to unilingual public servants as well as to persons who are appointed to the Public Service to bilingual positions;

do further approve the Government of Canada, and, in particular, the Treasury Board and the Public Service Commission, taking the measures required to give effect to the aforementioned Principles; and

(ii) do further approve the taking of measures, after consultation with employee representatives, designed to produce a greater use of the French language at all levels in the Public Service, through increasing, where practical, the number of French Language Units, through further recruitment efforts by the Public Service Commission, through training programs offered in the French language and by developing proposals, in conjunction with the Governments of the Provinces of Ontario and Quebec, to enhanced the bilingual character of the National Capital region, thus helping to realize the objective of achieving, within the merit principle, full participation in the Public Service by members of both the anglophone and the francophone communities, and of the amendment thereto of Mr. Stanfield (p. 4318).

Mr. Cyril Symes (Sault Ste. Marie): Mr. Speaker, I would like to express myself fluently in French, but I regret that my French is not good enough for me to do so. I rely on the goodwill and the wisdom of my French-speaking colleagues in asking them to understand why I must continue my comments in English.

I listened with interest to the comments of the hon. member for Verdun (Mr. Mackasey). I would like to say that I agree with the points he made and express my disappointment with the remarks of the right hon. member for Prince Albert (Mr. Diefenbaker) who accused the government of political trickery in this resolution.

● (1700)

The right hon. member for Prince Albert said the resolution was designed to fool French Canadians into thinking the resolution was significant and a trick to convince English speaking Canadians that the government had really changed its attitude. I am disappointed that the debate is being continued on that level because there is a problem in Canada in the public service and with the Official Languages Act. I hope this resolution, to some small degree, will be a positive step forward towards correcting the shortcomings of the policy. If the Liberal government had followed the suggestions of my party when the Official Languages Act was first introduced and had consulted with the public service, perhaps we would not have a need for this resolution at this time. I hope this resolution will alleviate some of the problems.

I represent a constituency which is 6 per cent French speaking in the sense the people can trace their origin to French ancestry. This is compared with 40 per cent in the whole of Canada. In this debate, we must not lose sight of the realities of Canadian history and the reality of the situation as it now exists in this country. To those who want a unilingual Canada or to keep Quebec French only, I say they are sadly mistaken about the realities of our times.

If we look at Canadian history, we see there were two founding races. Throughout our history, since the time of the conquest in 1760, the English rulers tried on numerous occasions to assimilate the French Canadians, to make them into English speaking British subjects. They have failed. They failed in 1763 with the proclamation of that date. They failed with the Act of Union in 1840. One thing is clear from the reading of Canadian history. There is within the French Canadians a distinct desire to preserve their culture and identity. We call it "le fait français". I think this is a lesson all of us must heed.

I speak of the reality of today. Today, there are six million French speaking Canadians, the majority of whom do not speak any English. I refuse to get into the argument of majority-minority. The fact is that French Canadians are the majority in the province of Quebec and, therefore, have rights. Because they belong to this confederation, to this country, they have rights outside that province, just as English Canadians should have rights within that province.

When we debate this resolution, we must make a distinction between bilingualism and biculturalism and the Official Languages Act. The Official Languages Act, to which this resolution has reference, is but one facet of implementing bilingualism in this country. The Official Languages Act is concerned with linguistic equality in the public service. Bilingualism is a term of much broader scope. The objective of bilingualism is to allow Canadians of either language background to feel at home in the country so that they may truly say "I am a Canadian", not just in the province of Quebec or in English speaking Canada. In order to make them feel at home throughout Canada, we have to do more than is outlined in the Official Languages Act. If this is to be truly a country where people of either language group can feel at home, we have to look to not only government offices throughout Canada being able to serve people in both languages, but government run transportation facilities as well.

We talk about bilingualism in the hope of achieving much in this country, yet when we look at the situation in our schools, we see there is a backward trend, a decline in the teaching of the French language in English-Canadian schools. In 1971, 55 per cent of the students in English Canada studied French. Today, in 1973, it has declined to 47 per cent and seems to be going down. When I look at those figures, I worry about what the future has in store for Canada and the opportunities for our young people to become familiar with both languages.

I am also concerned about present day attitudes toward the issue of bilingualism, particularly the Official languages Act and the way the government has tried to implement it. In January, I sent a questionnaire to my constituents. I included a question on bilingualism. The question read "In your opinion, is the federal government's policy on bilingualism (a) essential to foster Canadian unity, (b) doing more harm than good." Of those who answered whether they thought bilingualism as being carried out by the government is essential to foster Canadian unity, 30 per cent said yes and 32 per cent said no, almost tied. On the question of whether they thought the present government's policy of bilingualism was doing more harm than good, 55 per cent said yes and 10 per cent said no. The figures do not add up to 100 per cent because many who replied only answered one part of the question.

There definitely seems to be a concern among English speaking Canadians about just what this policy is doing. Based on the replies I received and comments I have heard, there seems to be a great deal of misunderstanding about bilingualism and the Official Languages Act. The responsibility for this misunderstanding must be placed at the door of the government for its failure to convince and explain to English Canadians the necessity of this approach.

Today, we have a backlash among English speaking Canadians and a skepticism among French speaking Canadians as to the worth of the whole measure. I wonder why the implementation of the Official Languages Act is responsible for this unfavourable attitude among many English speaking Canadians. The Official Languages Act is concerned with institutional bilingualism. Its application is limited to those places where it is needed. Each federal department must have enough employees and written materials to provide service to the public in both official languages.

We hear many reasons from English speaking Canadians as to why they object to this act. I think many of them are unfounded. Many people argue that this policy is costly to the taxpayer. The figure of $54 million is bandied about. I do not know whether that figure is accurate. Stories are told by English speaking public servants about not being promoted because they are not bilingual. This goes from neighbour to neighbour and stereotyping begins. What may have been one incident is generalized beyond all proportions. What are the facts? We hear about the cost to the taxpayers. Well, Mr. Speaker, I pose the question: What price Canadian unity? We have many examples of misspending by this government and we have had such examples for years. I don't propose to try to

categorize them all, but I merely mention the case of the *Bonaventure*. To be niggardly and to argue that it costs government money to provide services in both official languages is not only myopic, it is deceiving and it is not worthy for people to argue in this context.

● (1710)

What about the idea that civil servants are being discriminated against because they speak only one language? We in English Canada often get the impression that it is English speaking Canadians who are being discriminated against. Well, I read through the official report of the Commissioner of Official Languages and there are some very interesting statistics in that report of which I hope the public will be made aware. When one looks at the language used by the complainants under the Official Languages Act for the year 1972, one finds that 15 per cent of the complainants are English speaking and 85 per cent are French speaking Canadians. If one looks at the number of admissible complaints under the Act, the vast majority of them are from French speaking Canadians and their complaints have been found to be justified.

In 1971, there were 59,000 civil service jobs filled. Of those 59,000 jobs, 80 per cent required English only. Those requiring French only numbered 8 per cent, and 9 per cent required the use of both languages. In other words, it is ten times harder for French Canadians to get jobs in the civil service. So I say to English speaking Canadians who, through maybe personal experience, although I suspect mostly through hearsay evidence, say that the Official Languages Act is discriminatory, that they should read the statistics and they will then know that it is French Canadians who really have the problem trying to find equality in the civil service. I ask them to try to understand the frustration undergone by the French speaking Canadians who face these circumstances.

At the same time, I must once again—and how often this seems to be the request of English speaking Canadians of French speaking Canadians—ask French speaking Canadians to try to understand and be patient with English speaking civil servants. God knows there have been hundreds of years of injustice done to French speaking Canadians and it cannot be righted overnight. But I sincerely believe that English-speaking Canadians are now beginning to realize that something must be done. If we can only get the facts across to them, then I think they will understand, because the English-speaking civil servants I have talked to are not the bigoted stereotyped civil servants we hear on the media or whom we hear in conversations. I have talked to civil servants in Sault Ste. Marie who do not object to the principle of the Official Languages Act. What they object to is the way it was implemented. I was really impressed by the positive tone they had, the positive outlook they displayed. They saw the need for bilingualism in the civil service and they were willing to take the extra steps to accommodate the policy. But they objected to some bureaucrat saying: This is the way its got to be done. Or someone not explaining fully to them. As a result they were disturbed. They were not angry; they were not bigoted; they were just disturbed and they wanted to see the situation corrected. I find there is a lot of good faith and it is up to the government to do something about explaining and implementing the policy of bilingualism in the civil service.

Therefore, I welcome these nine points of the resolution as my party welcomes them. I think they will go part way at least towards correcting some of the wrongs which have existed in the implementation of the Official Languages Act. I support the principles. But I do not support the Conservative amendment nor does my party. The Conservative party in its amendment to the resolution argues that the nine principles outlined should be made into several different statutes. As I say we do support the principles. But to try to believe they can be put into statutes will only complicate the problem and result in a backward step. The problem is that in trying to implement a policy one has to take into account particular local circumstances and situations as they develop. But this must be an on-going process. You cannot legislate fixed rules and say that they apply in Sault Ste. Marie and in every other community in exactly the same way. So these principles, if they are not made into statutes, will enable us to have some flexibility.

That there is need for flexibility was recognized by the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Stanfield) himself when he said, and I quote: "These guidelines have to be and should be flexible and they have to be subject to change". We believe in that principle, Mr. Speaker, and not only our party but the men who have to work under these principles believe this. The Public Service Alliance of Canada has stated clearly that it supports the idea of the resolution not being made into a statute, as does, too, the Professional Institute of Canada. Because the employees' groups do not support the Conservative amendment and because, as I have explained, it would mean rigidity instead of flexibility, our party will not support the Conservative motion.

The road to bilingualism in the country as a whole is a difficult one. But it is worth it. The road to bilingualism in the civil service is equally difficult but equally worth taking. It will take time, it will take tolerance and it will take understanding. But despite our quarrels and our frustrations, I believe Canadians are basically a tolerant people. Because of bilingualism we are a richer country. Indeed, the leader of our party pointed out the other day that if we did not have an official policy of bilingualism in this country we would not have a policy of multiculturalism either. Together, both linguistic groups can build Canada for greater things. Together we can promote unity but still maintain our diversity.

Last January, Mr. Speaker, when I made my maiden speech, I devoted part of it to the issue of bilingualism. At that time I quoted the late Governor General Georges P. Vanier. I would like to do so again, because I think his words have much meaning for us in Canada when we talk about bilingualism and biculturalism. He gave this address on New Year's Eve, 1967, shortly before his death. He said:

> The measure of our unity has been the measure of our success in the past . . .
>
> If we imagine that we can now go our separate ways within our country, if we think that selfish interests can now take precedence over the national good, if we exaggerate our differences or revel in contention, if we do any of these things we will promote our own destruction.

Canada owes it to the world to remain united because no lesson is more badly needed than the one our unity can provide—the lesson that diversity need not be a cause for conflict, but, on the contrary may lead to richer and nobler living.

He went on:

Let us open the windows and doors of the provinces. Let us look over the walls and see what is on the other side. Let us know one another, and that will lead to understanding.

● (1720)

I pray God that we may all go forward hand in hand. We can't run the risk of this great country falling into pieces.

All I can say to that is: Amen.

Mr. Heward Grafftey (Brome-Missisquoi): Mr. Speaker, most of the problems with which we deal in this House of Commons are political in the truest and best sense of the word. Honest differences underline most of our debates here in this chamber. This idea is, perhaps, central to the fundamental workings of our parliament. Sometimes I become slightly suspicious when members of parliament, individually or collectively, cry out for a bipartisan approach to this or that issue being discussed on the floor of this chamber.

Having said that, I am as sure of one thing as never before: if we as parliamentarians let this debate on bilingualism fall into the partisan political arena, the damage to Canada, and to this parliament as an institution, will be incalculable. In my view, this is no exaggeration. Call it a cliché, call it a motherhood statement, but I approach this debate today in a spirit of seriousness that I have approached no other debate in this House previously.

[*Translation*]

I am sure of one thing, Mr. Speaker. When—

Mr. Langlois: You should have spoken before the right hon. member for Prince Albert (Mr. Diefenbaker).

Mr. Gratttey: I beg your pardon.

Mr. Langlois: You should have spoken before the right hon. member for Prince Albert.

[*English*]

An hon. Member: You should have spoken before Dief.

Mr. Grafftey: Perhaps I should. But let me say to the hon. member that I do not think it is helpful when the hon. member for Hochelaga (Mr. Pelletier) calls us dinosaurs, or when Mr. Pickersgill says that all the bigots are on this side of the House. I hope the hon. member will contain himself and attempt to ascertain what I am trying to do in this debate.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Speaker, I am quite sure of one thing: it rests with each hon. member to see to it that politics is excluded from the debate on bilingualism.

[*English*]

With questions relating to national unity in the truest sense—bilingualism, multiculturalism and language rights—in spite of what I said at the opening of my remarks, special considerations surely exist which should invoke a bipartisan approach on the part of each and every member of this House. I think most of us realize that this is the first time in the history of the western world that a country has attempted to, let us say, superimpose the parliamentary system on a young federal union which at the same time is multicultural and has certain language rights, as we in Canada have today. Surely, this demands the highest kind of leadership and statesmanship by each and every member of this House. If I sound as though I am preaching a little, I make no apologies. The question of language rights in a young federal union such as Canada should never become the subject matter of partisan political debate, and in this regard I underline again and again the leadership role expected of us in this regard by every Canadian.

If I may digress for a moment, Mr. Speaker, if I deal with general propositions in this House today it is because I deeply feel and believe that they are propositions that must be discussed before we give this resolution, or a bill or amended bill, our approval and clause by clause consideration. All four parties in this House must approach this subject as national parties. To do otherwise would be to abandon the trust that, in my view, the Canadian people have placed in our hands.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Speaker, as this debate goes on with other hon. members in the House, I think—and this is not an overstatement—of Canada but also of my constituency of Brome-Missisquoi whose population is 70 per cent French-speaking and 30 per cent English-speaking.

In my own riding, as well as in several other ridings, national unity exists in the true sense of the word. I will remember to my dying day that when I started my political life 15 years ago in Ottawa—I must admit it—I spoke broken French; it was even worse than now. I will remember to my dying day the warm and courteous welcome I received from my constituents, my French-speaking fellow citizens. Like the previous speakers, I have pleasant memories of my first years in Ottawa.

For example, a French-speaking constituent from Farnham in my riding wanted to tender with the Department of National Defence. Immediately after I received his request on the phone and then his letter, the papers from the Public Service in Ottawa arrived at my office written entirely in English. My constituent had to submit his tender within three or four days, and the officials here in Ottawa told me: Mr. Grafftey, you have to wait three or four weeks for a French translation. Mr. Speaker, I found that quite ridiculous 15 years ago, and I hope I finally settled the matter not through an act of Parliament or a regulation, but with a simple phone call.

Let us look now at the other side of the picture, Mr. Speaker. Unfortunately, I am aware of what is going on today, and I do not want, as I said earlier, to make a political issue out of this question, but I remember something that happened a few weeks ago with regard to the government of the province of Quebec. Unfortunately, as I said a while ago—the population is 30 per cent English-speaking in Brome-Missisquoi—too often I write in English to my fellow citizens and to the provincial government and too often I receive letters written entirely in French. That is the opposite of what was happening 15 years ago in Ottawa.

There is one thing I want to make quite clear, Mr. Speaker: As a Canadian, not as a Tory in the Progressive Conservative party, I am going to fight to the last to secure the same language rights for my French-speaking fellow-countrymen throughout Canada, as I have always done for English-speaking Quebecers. One must respect the same language rights and grant the same protection to Anglophones and Francophones.

● (1730)

[*English*]

Let us put our cards on the table right now, Mr. Speaker. In my constituency of Brome-Missisquoi we have bigots on both sides of the picture. But, Sir, I am sure of one thing: I have no mandate from anybody in my riding to give them the time of day in this House of Commons. I, along with every other member of this House, have no mandate either—and I repeat this time and time again—to allow the issue of bilingualism to become a partisan political issue. The mandate I do have in this debate and in this House of Commons is to reach out across the floor of this House, and to my left in this chamber, to unite Canada—not as a Progressive Conservative, but as a Canadian first.

Only when we work as Canadians first to settle this question, in the spirit of the hon. member for Rocky Mountain (Mr. Clark) who spoke so well last Friday in this chamber, only in that spirit—especially those of us of the contemporary generation; and I do not say that in respect of any difference in chronological age but, rather, in respect of those especially who perhaps view national unity in a contemporary, outgoing way—and only by adopting this attitude and acting as Canadians first and settling this issue once and for all, can we get on with the real and true task of nation-building.

However, I must say that in my view the present parliament has a very special obligation toward the people of Canada in relation to language rights. Let us put our cards on the table now and briefly and objectively state what they are. I fully realize I am only one of two members in my party from the province of Quebec. At the same time, Sir, within my party there is great strength and representation from western Canada where the creative and positive forces of multiculturalism are so often and so well expressed. Partisan debate in the past on the subject of language rights has given far too many Canadians the feeling of having been left out and ignored in what should be a non-partisan, family debate. There is no use mincing words: this approach that has been followed in the past must stop, and stop immediately.

At this point I should like to speak very frankly—I am not exchanging accusations across the floor of this House—with the Minister of Transport (Mr. Marchand) about an important consideration which in my view touches both directly and indirectly on any discussion of language rights.

[*Translation*]

—language rights in general or language rights in the Public Service of Canada, Mr. Speaker.

Since he came to Ottawa, the hon. Minister of Transport pointed out on many occasions that the Progressive Conservative party is not a national party. I regret Mr. Speaker that my party has only two members from Quebec in the House of Commons, but I am sure the hon. Minister of Transport also regrets to see only one Liberal member in Alberta.

[*English*]

The fact is that both the Minister of Transport and myself are members of great national parties. To say otherwise is to play partisan politics with the very fabric of national unity. I well remember the time between 1958 and 1962 when the Liberal opposition of the day was not much more than a corporals' guard in this House of Commons, with more than half their members coming from the province of Quebec. Was it ever suggested in the press, or was it ever suggested from this side of the House of Commons that it had ceased to be a national party? The answer definitely is no, it was never suggested.

If the Minister of Transport persists in the theory that only his party is the party of national unity, or the indispensable force for Canadian unity, the result would be catastrophic: it would mean that the only political parties which Quebec citizens, or Canadians living in the province of Quebec would have would be the Liberal party or the Parti Quebecois. We all know what that would mean eventually.

[*Translation*]

Anyway, I remain ever convinced of the common sense of the Canadian population in the province of Quebec as well as in the other provinces.

[*English*]

While I have never agreed with the Prime Minister's (Mr. Trudeau) interpretation of the constitution, especially as it affects federal-provincial relations, I have never attacked his federalist credentials either within or outside this chamber, nor have I ever suggested since my entry into political life that his party has ceased or will cease to be a national party. I ask members opposite, including the Minister of Transport, to re-examine their theories concerning what is and what is not a national party at the present time.

Sir, in relation to the question of bilingualism I repeat that this Parliament has an awesome responsibility. Primarily, we must not confuse language rights with cultural rights and cultural identity. I was particularly impressed by some of the remarks of the Prime Minister when he opened the debate on this resolution. He said that whatever the historical facts vis-à-vis language rights were in 1867, 100 years ago, 100 years later we are faced with other political and social considerations.

What are these? I have already alluded to them. The first thing that comes to my mind is that the vast majority of members from my province find themselves sitting on the government side of the House, while the vast majority of members representing the dynamic, creative forces of multiculturalism sit with my party on this side of the House and, I should say, with the NDP, the hon. members to my left. Need I say any more? Surely, these facts alone call for the highest kind of statesmanship to be practised by all parties and all hon. members in this domain. The Canadian people expect nothing less from us. They have given us a mandate to play our part in uniting Canada.

● (1740)

[*Translation*]

It must be admitted, Mr. Speaker, that I have some difficulty to follow the speech of the right hon. member for Prince Albert (Mr. Diefenbaker).

[*English*]

I repeat that it is with some trepidation, and at the risk of sounding somewhat presumptuous, that I wish to address a few words especially to the Prime Minister. Considering the fact that he feels this resolution standing in his name to be so important, and he had so much to say about it—I have never said this before, but at least I think I know some of the awesome responsibilities that a prime minister must shoulder—and in view of the importance which most hon. members attach to this debate, it is regrettable that he has not seen fit to be present in the House.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Grafftey: However, I wish to address a few words especially to him as prime minister of my country, my prime minister, and to the prime minister of another day, the right hon. member for Prince Albert (Mr. Diefenbaker).

The Prime Minister came to office not only with a national mandate but with a special knowledge of the political forces at play in his native province in the late 1960s. He came to make Ottawa a meaningful capital and to make federal Canada a viable option for millions of Canadians living in the province of Quebec. It constituted a large part of his mandate. Who, in all honesty, could question the sincerity of this mission? The right hon. gentleman from Prince Albert, the first prime minister of Canada with other than French or British origin as he said today, gave with pride particular expression to the forces of multiculturalism so often—as we have heard and as we are going to hear in the House—to be found within the context of western Canada.

I do not think I will be giving away any caucus secrets when I say that in 1962 and 1963, both inside and outside our caucus the right hon. member for Prince Albert, who was then prime minister, had articulated his desire for an all-party conference which would be non-partisan in nature and which would involve legislators from all parties at all levels of government, and Canadians other than legislators from many walks of life. Such a great conference was to update many constitutional considerations, such as language rights and the rest, as we approached our centennial. I, frankly, think that the fact it was never held is to be regretted. I do not know what kind of progress we would have made, but the fact it was never held is to be regretted.

[*Translation*]

But unfortunately, since 1962—and I do not want to throw all the blame on one party or another, because both sides are perhaps responsible and as far as I am concerned maybe I would accept the blame—the matter of language rights has too often been mixed up with politics.

[Mr. Grafftey.]

[*English*]

As I said at the outset that if we continue to do this only Canada and only this institution of Parliament will suffer because we will not be getting on with the real and fundamental issues of nation-building.

Past misunderstandings and wounds must be buried and forgotten. Members on both sides of the House have awesome responsibilities in this regard. If there is currently misunderstanding between the positive Canadianism to be found in the French fact and the positive pride in Canadianism to be found in the creative forces of multiculturalism, I plead with the two right hon. gentlemen in the House to show imagination and leadership, as I know they can, to lessen the suspicion and misunderstanding. I plead with the present prime minister and the past prime minister. Everyone knows what I am talking about here. It could be argued that both of them lost working majorities because of misunderstanding in this regard. I do not believe that, but there is perhaps misunderstanding, bitterness and suspicion in this respect. I plead, as I have never pleaded with the House before, for those two right hon. gentlemen to show what I know is their capacity for leadership and imagination and to water down the suspicion and misunderstanding that exists.

People like ourselves who have seen national unity work, where the English and the French work side by side, such as in my little village, might find it very difficult to emphasize with this misunderstanding and suspicion. But it does exist somewhere, and surely national leadership by both the present and the past prime minister is something that younger, contemporary-thinking members of this House may ask for if we are to have a decent Canada in which to live.

There is a common denominator of pride in Canada to be found in the French fact and in the multicultural mosaic. Every time I travel west I sense this pride in Canada in the west, as in all other parts of Canada. Both sides of the House owe it to Canada and to Canadians to join forces to strengthen this common bond of feeling.

I plead as I have never pleaded before that this House accept the amendment put forward by the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Stanfield). Why the resolution was put forward in the first place, not as an amendment to the Official Languages Act but in this form, escapes me. I say this without any partisan intentions whatsoever. It seems to me that if what I hear in the House is correct, by voting for the amendment we will allay those fears, perhaps unjustified, that this resolution was purely a political ploy.

Members on the government side have stated that we should have enough flexibility to permit change as the situation evolves. What kind of change? What kind of flexibility? Change by administrative decree and ordinance that has already created confusion and misunderstanding? Change in the intention of this resolution without reference to parliament? That is just what we shall have if the resolution before the House is not amended so that its provisions become an amendment to the Official Languages Act.

I say to members of all parties, as a first act in climbing onto bipartisan ground: For the good of Canada, accept this amendment. We are not trying to shove it down

anyone's throat. It might not be the be all and end all, but surely the Minister of Finance (Mr. Turner) knows what I mean when I say, and will continue to say: For the good of Canada, accept this amendment. There is no trickery involved.

My leader is in the House, and I say that if there was one reason he came into national politics it was to play his part in uniting this country. Do hon. members think he put the amendment forward as political trickery? No. You can read between the lines when I say: In the name of Canada, accept this amendment and take this issue out of the political arena once and for all. It would be the first act we could all do together as we climbed onto bipartisan ground, without accusing each other and pointing to where the bigots are. Who knows where they are? Let us not give them the time of day in this place, Mr. Speaker.

● (1750)

If future changes are needed, let parliament, in good faith, do the amending. No resolution, be it ever so pious, will serve us well. Matters of this import cannot be left to administrative whim: surely we have learned that lesson. For some years now the Official Languages Act has been administered without real reference to parliament. The results, no matter what we feel they should be, are far from satisfactory. They are there for all to see. Surely government members have come to distrust a purely administrative approach to directing language matters.

Parliament must be consulted when basic changes are involved. Is there any doubt about that, when this is something that goes to the very fabric of our national unity? I have seen too many agencies of government, including Radio Canada, fly in the teeth of resolutions which had all-party support. Sir, this resolution must become an amendment to the Official Languages Act. I ask members of the party opposite to get hold of the Prime Minister tonight, have him join hands with my leader, and in a spirit of bipartisanship accept this amendment once and for all.

[*Translation*]

But we would have several things to add particularly if my proposals have been considered seriously. But, Mr. Speaker, it is not necessarily in the House of Commons—even with a piece of legislation or an amendment—that are settled matters concerning linguistic rights within the Public Service of Canada or even outside, without a true sense of understanding and goodwill and, I am sure that most members are such minded. But, Mr. Speaker, provinces must also play their part as far as the teaching of a second language is concerned.

[*English*]

I suppose we all know that we can do what we want by fooling around with acts, by amending acts, by looking at clauses and subclauses. But we will only succeed if there is a positive spirit of good will as we approach this subject. I am glad somebody is extremely sincere and progressive in his attitude to this problem; I refer to the Secretary of State (Mr. Faulkner). We have had many private conversations. I know he shares my view that the provinces can fulfil a much stronger role in teaching a second language, and if they do our job of uniting the country will be made somewhat easier. I feel that many of the programs he has initiated will help in this regard. I can do nothing but encourage him and give him support from this side of the House. We should implore the provinces to do this, not only the province of Quebec but our other provinces.

[*Translation*]

—to improve what is being done, Mr. Speaker, to that effect.

[*English*]

In conclusion, Mr. Speaker, let me simply state that we do not know our strength if we do not know our history. Confederation was an act of faith. Liberals and Conservatives joined hands to bring Canada and Canadians together. There was no indispensable man; there was no indispensable party. The Fathers of Confederation acted as Canadians first. Confederation was an act of national unity; there was no room for partisan debate.

Today, over 100 years later, a few things have changed. We now have four parties represented in a minority situation in the House of Commons. Millions of people have since come to Canada from many lands other than the United Kingdom and France, a fact which the right hon. gentleman from Prince Albert articulated so well today. Yet, Sir, one thing has not changed; that is the necessity for each Member of Parliament to adopt the spirit of the Fathers of Confederation as we discuss the question of language rights.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Herbert: Mr. Speaker, may I suggest that we call it six o'clock?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: It being agreed that it is six o'clock, I do now leave the chair until eight o'clock p.m.

At six o'clock the House took recess.

AFTER RECESS

The House resumed at 8 p.m.

[*Translation*]

Mr. H. T. Herbert (Vaudreuil): Mr. Speaker, we members are often accused of talking in the House to our constituents. Today I am addressing myself to every Canadian of English mother tongue. I am using the other official language to speak to you to emphasize the instant translation facilities available to us here in Ottawa and that these remarks will appear in *Hansard*, printed in both official languages. Easy communication is maintained though the majority of the English mother tongue members of this House have little or no fluency in their country's other language.

This last statement is not a criticism. We must accept as a well illustrated truth, that persons that have passed the half way point in their lives are not likely to have either the ability or the desire to become fluent in another language.

Very few persons are fortunate enough to live in bilingual households. Outside the province of Quebec there is only a negligable amount of business that is not conducted in the English language. In nine provinces, the opportunity rarely exists where a person can be immersed in a French-speaking environment.

We must also realize in our assessment of our current situation that the standard of second language instruction across the country leaves much to be desired. Far less attention has been paid to language instruction than other subjects. In many countries of Europe, a second language rates equally with other school subjects and a pass mark is a prerequisite for graduation.

In Canada, whether we be of English or French mother tongue, we have tended to build a resistance to school instruction in the second language that has lowered teaching standards and encouraged antipathy in our young people. In a communication vaccum, people tend to become emotional and sometimes afraid. American visitors enjoy Quebec because of its French language and distinctive atmosphere. The same attitude is found in English speaking vacationers in Quebec. This enjoyment is enhanced by the realization that they will not be lost or embarrassed because they speak one language. The unilingual English person demands the right to the protection afforded by the use of his or her own language. Why, then, is there English resistance to the establishment of minimal rights for unilingual French-speaking persons? Why is this motion necessary when we already have the Official Languages Act?

As it states in the initial paragraphs of the motion, it is necessary to recognize and approve the principles for the achievement of the objectives of the Official Languages Act.

Separatism is not unique to the province of Quebec. Here in this capital city, groups actively work for a unilingual English-speaking Canada. Many English-speaking persons refuse to accept the way of life of several millions of their fellow Canadians. This English separatism is just as deadly as the French variety, just as short sighted, just as bigoted and just as detrimental to the future prosperity and well being of every citizen of this country.

What then are we asking? Not that all English speak French, not that all the French speak English. But only that anyone communicating with their federal government be at ease and easily understood in the official language of their choice. That a unilingual French person have an opportunity to work for his government in his own language. That is all.

I am not going to repeat lengthy statistics. The inbalance is abundently self evident: 3.6 per cent of the appointments to the public service in 1971 were unilingual French. 81.7 per cent were unilingual English.

The last paragraph in the motion before us deals with the National Capital region and the desire to enhance its bilingual character. We have a long way to go. Here, at the Parliament of Canada it should hardly be necessary to stress that visitors should be able to address all officials in either of our official languages.

[Mr. Herbert.]

That this condition does not exist one hundred and six years after the birth of our nation is no credit to this House.

Language was a factor in the last election and no discussion of degree will alter that fact. It is an unfortunate truism that many persons will say one thing and do another. This is a particular weakness amongst politicians.

I am appealing to you as men and women who fight for Indian rights, for Eskimo rights, for the right to worship God in your own way and as men and women who respect the rights of others in a free society. I am not worried about the vote on this motion. I am concerned about our individual actions today and tomorrow.

To members who stress the merits of the official languages act, but suggest that we are moving too fast, I would ask to change sides just long enough to face the reality of the situation as it exists today.

Those of you that actively support Indian rights have cultivated an appreciation of the different way of life of the Indian.

Our two official languages also represent two different ways of life. A recognition of that fact will put an end to fence sitting.

If you have to wrestle with your conscience, before you recognize the right to equality of service and opportunity of our French language citizens, then I suggest that voter consideration is overriding human consideration.

I am extremely fortunate in being able to enjoy each day our very special Canadian way of life. Let us all actively work to improve it.

● (2010)

[*English*]

Mr. Walter Baker (Grenville-Carleton): Mr. Speaker, during the course of this debate we have heard a great deal of important rhetoric which I could not hope to emulate in speaking of the involvement of this question of language in the whole concept of national unity in our country. I say at the outset that I would not quarrel with anyone who says that the issue is an important one from the point of view of the future of our country and the relationship between our two great races which just over 100 years ago started as a partnership to develop a nation through agreement, understanding and compromise. I want to put my position with respect to this resolution in a somewhat different light from the positions which have been expressed thus far in this debate.

Although the debate seems to have centered on national unity, I want to remind all my colleagues in this House of certain facts. I ask the government not to forget that there is a very important human element involved in this debate. Thousands of public servants, the majority of whom live in the national capital area, have their eyes on the actions of this government and their ears on the debate taking place in parliament. So I rise to speak in this debate, Mr. Speaker, conscious that I have the honour to represent in parliament a large number of public servants and their families who at one time or another have been bumped and buffeted and have found themselves in the eye of what I said on a previous occasion was a

"bilingual hurricane". It is to this aspect of the matter that I wish to address myself.

I have found that for public servants the issue is not the Official Languages Act as such. The act was debated and its principles were examined by another parliament. The result of the examination was that all parties in the House at that time endorsed the principles of the Official Languages Act. For those public servants to whom I have referred the big question is not the act; the question is, what is the real and true intention of the government in advancing this resolution at this time?

I listened to the Minister of Finance (Mr. Turner) who represents my neighbouring riding, Ottawa-Carleton, and who represents, as I do, a large number of public servants. He said this afternoon that the purpose of the resolution is not to reopen an old debate. One could be forgiven if one doubted that, in view of the utterances made in this House. I say that we should close the debate. The minister said that the purpose of the resolution is to review the principles under which the act is to be applied and under which implementation of the program is to take place in the public service.

Mr. Speaker, I think this question goes far beyond a mere matter of review. I think it comes down to this: we must enshrine within the law of this country certain principles which are designed to protect the interests of public servants, particularly unilingual public servants, in every part of Canada. The minister said the purpose of this resolution is to undercut the arguments of separatism. I say that we should go further and this House should make a pronouncement that will pull the rug from under the separatist element in this country.

When I have spoken to public servants about this matter, they have reminded me that this is the same government that has refused consistently to bring forth long overdue amendments to the Public Service Employment Act with respect to broadening the bargaining rights of public servants. This is the same government, Mr. Speaker, that has paid lip service to the principle of full escalation of public service pensions, a principle which we support, but has used what I call shabby legal arguments to avoid bringing the question before this House. This government has not taken in these areas any steps which are really meaningful to public servants.

● (2020)

Is it any wonder that public servants view with skepticism the resolution before the House? I hasten to add they are not skeptical about the words they read; their skepticism is centred around the real intention of this government. They are asking me and others how there can be any assurance that the important nine points now enunciated, and so long overdue, will have an effect on the day to day operations of the Public Service of Canada and will continue to have such an effect in the offices of individual public servants.

The fact is, as has been stated before, that this government has dangerously neglected to give the Canadian public a candid and comprehensive explanation of the Official Languages Act and their bilingual policy. They have failed to explain to Canadians, particularly public servants, in down to earth, practical terms the real meaning of the statute and that which flows from it. There is no doubt that whatever steps they have failed to take, must be taken now so that misunderstandings can be corrected, so that misinterpretations that exist in the national capital can be eliminated, and so that all Canadians, not just public servants, will understand the true effect and meaning of the statute and the government's policy.

I met thousands of public servants in the fall of 1972. I say to this House, it is to their everlasting credit that the public servants of Canada generally supported the principles of the Official Languages Act.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Baker: That was their position. They recognized that the purpose of the act was to give equal status in the public service and in the Government of Canada to the two official languages. The act states that the two languages—

—shall possess and enjoy equality of status and equal rights and privileges as to their use in all the institutions of the Parliament and Government of Canada.

Parliament enacted that statute. The government that brought it forward was vested with the duty to ensure that every public servant, and those contemplating entry into the public service, should possess and enjoy equality of status. It is, therefore, the duty of all members of this House, particularly those on the government side, to ensure that in the process of implementating the bilingual program in the public service, equality is assured for all public servants.

The problem is very serious. If we can solve the problems of the public servants employed during this period of transition, a period when we are trying to remake 105 years of history within a relatively short time, we will have gone a long way toward fostering and promoting the spirit of the legislation and the principles set forth in the Official Languages Act.

I have said before, and I say again, that the policy of bilingualism means that within the limits of practicability Canadians should have the right to federal government service in either official language. We should continue to search for equality. There ought to be a commitment to equality. We must not forget that entering the public service and advancing within it must be based on equality of opportunity for all Canadians. Every Member of Parliament has a duty to ensure that the public service is a place where Canadians can work together. All members, not just those who represent public service ridings, must ensure that the public service is a place where justice is not only done to every public servant but where it is seen to be done.

We must never forget that bilingualism involves the right to be unilingual, and that that right applies to both English- and French-speaking Canadians. There was on this government a very heavy burden with regard to the public service of Canada. It is a matter of history and record that this government failed with respect to that burden.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Baker: As a result of the way in which this policy was implemented, doubts, fears and apprehensions arose. Public servants came to the conclusion that the guarantees of a prime minister now dead were not being observed or honoured by those in the bureaucracy charged with the responsibility. During the past few years some unfortunate pages have been written into Canadian history. The circumstances to which I refer make it doubly important and of even greater urgency that what is done in the future will begin to wipe away what has been held to be injustice in the past.

As a result of the election in which one of the issues was certainly implementation of its policy, the government's record was so bad, so haphazard and felt to be so unfair and suspect that my Liberal opponent in Grenville-Carleton denounced the government's and his party's stand on the issue. It was after the election campaign during which the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) said, "If you don't like the public service you can get out," that new guidelines were produced. The timing was important. Is it any wonder that among public servants there is great suspicion as to the true intentions of the government and its good faith, and concern as to the motives which prompted it to bring forth principles which my party and its leader have been calling for since 1969? I hope I will be forgiven if I say that I do not trust this government.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Baker: I listened carefully to the speech of the Prime Minister, as well as to the speech of the President of the Treasury Board (Mr. Drury). Like many public servants, I fear guidelines; they have the habit of wavering from place to place to suit the convenience of the moment. Even in the short time that I have been here I have seen a great number of guidelines waver. I share the feeling of suspicion and distrust of the government with respect to principles that are couched in a mere resolution.

I view this resolution as a statement of first principles. Having said that, I ask this government for once to go the second mile with the public servants and put the nine principles contained in the amendment into the statutes which affect the employment of public servants, so that all persons, whether they are in the public service, employed on boards, commissions or Crown corporations, will for the first time be given some real assurance in this regard.

● (2030)

Let the individual public servant know that at long last there is a new day in this whole unfortunate business. Give him the comfort of access to an independent tribunal. Give more than lip service to his cause. Every member of this House who has a real concern for public servants will support the amendment advanced by the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Stanfield). This amendment goes no further than to give certain legal right to unilingual public servants in every part of Canada, and extends those rights to persons who are contemplating entering the public service. If the government does not accept the amendment as a matter of principle, I will doubt its sincerity with respect to this issue—so will the public servant.

It is unfortunate, but true, that if this resolution is passed in its present form it will have no force in law and the well-intentioned statement of a former prime minister now deceased will not be butteressed by anything which offers protection to public servants. I ask the government to breath some life into this resolution and make it a real guarantee, as it ought to be. I ask the government to take the position that never again shall public servants hear a prime minister say how things ought to be, and then hear a bureaucrat say the prime minister's words do not bind him.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Baker: Moreover, it is no argument to say that this amendment is right and proper and then to avoid it by suggesting that to embody protection in the law would cause inflexibility. That is an argument of sophistry. Lack of flexibility is one the surest guarantees of rights. Then again, this resolution is not the end of consideration of this matter by parliament. I see no reason why as the years go by our ongoing consideration should not result in amendments to a statute rather than to a mere resolution. The Public Service Staff Association has agreed to the principle of the amendment, I read in a statement by the Public Service Alliance tonight. They are concerned about flexibility, of course. But parliament is not an inflexible body; it is a place where these matters can always be weighed and judged. There is now too much legislation in Canada by way of order in council regulation beyond the scrutiny of parliament and the people.

The argument advanced against the amendment by my neighbour the Minister of Finance, the hon. member for Ottawa-Carleton who represents a public service constituency, can only be described—I say this with regret—as the shabbiest legalism I have yet heard in the House of Commons. I ask the government to reconsider its position and accept the amendment which the Leader of the Opposition proposed and which I seconded. I ask it to begin again a process which has thus far brought misunderstanding and mistrust, and I hope that the second kick at the cat, with respect to implementation, will be better than the first.

I join my leader in all the suggestions he made to improve the lot of public servants. I intend to vote for the resolution, but I would much prefer to be joined in an overwhelming vote for the amendment. I will support the resolution because it states principles for which I fought during an election, but I want it clearly understood that those principles designed for the protection of unilingual public servants deserve to be part of the law of Canada. And they would be, Mr. Speaker, if our party formed the government.

I realize that two ministers of the Crown have taken a position against the amendment we have put forward, and that in the minds of some hon. members this may be a hurdle over which they feel they cannot vault. I urge government supporters to confront this hurdle and jump it, so that from this day forward we may not have to go through what we have gone through in the last few years with respect to bilingualism in the public service. I do not want to go out on the campaign trail again and encounter that sort of atmosphere. I would much prefer to meet happy public servants than discontented ones. I ask the government to set the record straight so that every public

servant or prospective public servant, no matter from what part of the country he comes, can look upon the public service as a place for advancement, a service in which he feels trust, knowing that in his employment he is protected by the law.

● (2040)

[*Translation*]

Mr. Ovide Laflamme (Montmorency): Mr. Speaker, invited to give my opinion on the resolution concerning the application of bilingualism within the civil service, I will certainly take this opportunity to express my views and, perhaps also, allay the anxieties of some hon. members who consider that the subject is raised much too often in the House.

Mr. Speaker, in my opinion, this resolution concerns a highly political subject which virtually affects the future of the whole Canadian people, and the members of all parties are certainly not wasting the time of the House when they publicly proclaim their opinion on one of the official languages in Canada.

We have adopted the Official Languages Act which was supported by most hon. members, by all party leaders and, of course, by all liberal members. In fact, not to admit it would be lying to one's self.

Moreover, over the past years, several interpretations have been made of the Official Languages Act and particularly of the respective roles that the French and English languages should play within the public service. Let us not deny it: Some fears have been expressed by many citizens and maybe also certain views were circulated through the public service which had nothing to do with reality.

Of course, the principles of the resolution may seem elementary but in view of the past confusion I think it is important to repeat these principles and to allow the most important political body of this country, namely the House of Commons, to state its position on those principles so that those responsible for the public administration may implement them with the knowledge that they have the Commons' confidence. Finally, basic principles will be implemented within the public service towards the essential objective which is to communicate in the language of one's choice at all federal levels.

I think I can make this statement without anyone being able to charge this government with politicking on bilingualism and, on the other hand, without charging the other hon. members and mainly the Leader of the Official Opposition (Mr. Stanfield) or the leader of the New Democratic Party (Mr. Lewis) to try and play politics with this debate, which is basic if we are to understand that in the public service there exists a system by which opportunities and chances are equal for all Canadians. And I am rather convinced that the application of this resolution can better serve the causes of French- than English-speaking people because in the past, a certain group of French Canadians have rather been disinterested towards the federal public service, for reasons that can very easily be understood. There is also something that could be called not discrimination but a tendency to place people on a side line, because it is easier to understand each other when you are using the same language; it is also normal to deal with an assistant, a helper speaking your own language, because that very important vehicle is essential to communicate with human beings.

Generally speaking, I think that this confirmation of principles by the House of Commons is timely; Mr. Speaker, if the resolution accepted by the House had no result other than to clear up the confusion in the mind of a number of civil servants and if the population could understand that we are trying to provide all Canadians with basic services they are entitled to when we are talking about the language of communication, either French or English, we would have reached an important point and at the same time, we would have insured better understanding between all Canadians be they from Vancouver, Quebec or the Maritimes.

Mr. Speaker, I think I am right when I say, without claiming that Canada is the country which is doing most for the French language, that we must realize that we are the most privileged persons in the world with the best means of communication to be able to use equally English or French which are both world wide communication languages. We must take better advantage of that asset in the federal public service where some gaps still remain to be filled. It is important and imperative for the government and for the House of Commons, because it it the higher political body in the country, to provide guidelines for those who will have the responsibility to apply them in order to ensure services in both official languages.

I was saying, Mr. Speaker, that our country is one of the most privileged countries because it has the opportunity to enjoy both English and French, which are two universal languages. Furthermore, with our means of communication, radio and television for instance, we are perhaps the country which contributes the most for the progress of both languages and particularly French, because I think that French-speaking Canadians, those who have a French Canadian origin in Canada, have a right to wonder.

All hon. members who speak French are members of an international association of parliamentarians. In 1971 we had the pleasure and good fortune of welcoming the representatives of 28 states. They were parliamentarians of French-speaking countries. I think, Mr. Speaker, that these natural relations between states, through the vehicle of thought which is language, are a considerable enrichment.

I think there is no need to recall that at the United Nations as well French is one of the official languages of communication.

But in a country like ours, Mr. Speaker, where a third of the population speaks French and where important steps have been taken by youth to learn one of the official languages a considerable improvement took place these last few years. I think it is important that hon. members make a decision on this question and state openly that some positions must be recognized as essentially bilingual to ensure the citizen the possibility of communicating in the language of his choice when dealing with the government.

One can say of course, once again, that it is elementary; previous years have shown that we had to come back to the subject, talk about it again and that the House of

Commons has to make a decision on the matter. If most hon. members can accept this essential point, we will have taken a giant step forward or we will have accomplished significant progress towards national unity, towards well understood Canadian unity and we will have ensured the basic elements of a healthier understanding between Canadians, whatever their province.

● (2050)

I have received open letters and I know quite well that it is the same for several other members. Frankly, I cannot understand how Canadians can now speak of a possible unilingual country, of having one single language and one culture. These people, however, make an effort to write in excellent English. Yet, I believe that these people are not dishonest, but they really lack information. And perhaps their leaders have failed to fulfill the duty incumbent upon them, that is to describe really the nature of our country, how it was constituted, and finally, that there were at least six million French-speaking people in Canada and that bilingualism was not too important in some parts of our country.

I know that in my riding, 99.9 per cent of the people speak French; speaking bilingualism has some importance because it opens the doors of the public service to French-speaking people, which was very difficult in the past since there was some reluctance to do it. To be able to understand and speak to one another, I think that this is one of the most important aspects of the resolution now before us, which recognizes that public servants should be able, under the provisions of the Official Languages Act, to fulfill their duties within the government in the official language of their choice.

I come back to the theme of the resolution which, in a country which was established in 1867, must be considered by people like me as entirely elementary. But, in my opinion, it had to be said in order to secure a better understanding and give public servants who will be responsible for the implementation of these principles the authority to ensure, once and for all, that the individual who will write a letter in French will be able to get an answer in French and that he who will write in English will get an answer in English.

Mr. Speaker, in closing I will say a few words concerning those who maintain that those administrative criteria should be incorporated in the Official Languages Act. Administrative criteria, or principles, which are somehow the guidelines in the implementation of the Official Languages Act in the public service, could very well be called regulations.

But regulations are not part of the legislation, and to answer the hon. member who proceded me, I will simply state that he does not have to get impatient, that if the House agrees to that motion, as I have a feeling it will, the government, which has always moved forward in the implementation of a genuine policy on bilingualism, both within the public service and in connection with the official languages and all the federal institutions, is still really the one which can offer the greatest possible pledge that the rights of individuals will be respected. It will however be necessary to make sure that the language of the citizen can be used as a basis and can likewise be used in the public service, and that the official positions will be duly filled.

Indeed, Mr. Speaker, when the Leader of the Opposition suggests or recommends that that resolution be made an integral part of the Official Languages Act, I for one do not question his sincerity.

However, at the political level—it may be a very clever suggestion or proposal—I would like to suggest to him that he will have to secure the support of the majority or the totality of the members of his party. The Leader of the Official Opposition is one of the leaders—and I say this with a very open mind, Mr. Speaker—who for the first time as leader of the Progressive Conservative party really sets himself on basic issues at the level of a head of a national party.

However, Mr. Speaker, that is a lot. I know that the House gave him an ovation when he rose to officially support the Official Languages Act against the will of a group of members of his party. He showed real courage.

Mr. Speaker, to those members who are concerned about the fact that this issue comes back very often before the House, I merely say that when voluntarily and with good faith those criteria will be allowed to be applied and become the policy followed within the public service, that is a question which will disappear at the national level and at the same time we will have set the cornerstone to really ensure a well-understood national unity among all Canadians for they will be able to talk to and understand each other.

[*English*]

Mr. Tom Cossitt (Leeds): Mr. Speaker, at the outset of my remarks I should like to emphasize very strongly that I have never quarrelled with the provisions and the spirit of the Official Languages Act. In my view, the problems which have arisen in this country in connection with bilingualism are the direct result of the methods this government has used in the course of implementing that act.

It is my opinion that the government has followed a path filled with unnecessary and unfair actions which scarcely do anything but bring a sea of trouble following behind them. I find no reason to believe this situation would necessarily undergo any change for the better by the passage of the resolution now before this House. Indeed, I believe this government has performed a great disservice to the cause of Canadian unity by pursuing policies of confrontation rather than policies of co-operation in respect of its method of instituting bilingualism in Canada.

I do not hesitate to say there are those who have been, and still are, dividing this country by using the issue of bilingualism for political purposes. Indeed, they have been using the whole subject of national unity for political purposes. The people doing that most certainly are not sitting on this side of the House.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Cossitt: Since the passage of the Official Languages Act I believe it has become quite clear that the government has hoped to characterize probably all Canadians

into two basic groups in so far as attitude toward bilingualism is concerned. The first category is composed of all those who agree with every single thing this government has done in connection with the implementation of the bilingual program. It is almost as if we are expected to believe these are the only people who stand for national unity and that these are the people who are good Canadians because they are prepared to accept without question the supposed rightness of the government's bilingual policies.

In the second category I believe the government has sought to place all persons who would in any way whatsoever criticize or find any fault in respect of the methods of instituting bilingualism. These, therefore, are the people who are against national unity and are the bad Canadians because they are the people who have committed the supposedly shocking crime of being unwilling to accept without question the divine rightness of the government's method of instituting bilingualism in this country.

I submit, however, there is a third category of people in this country which this government has conveniently overlooked. I suggest it is the largest category of Canadians by far. It is composed of thousands and thousands of people across the land who have never quarrelled with the principles of bilingualism but who have been shocked and utterly appalled at the methods used by this government to institute its bilingual program. This third group is made up of Canadians who love their country too much to allow it to be torn apart by a government that has been, and is, playing politics with bilingualism and national unity, a government that gives unctuous lip service to national unity while at the same time indulging in actions and following methods that, in short, will do more to disunite this country than even avowed separatists could hope to accomplish. And, with regret, I suggest that the motives behind the presentation of this resolution do not improve the situation at all; but I will come to that aspect of the matter a little later in my remarks.

This resolution is not legislation. It is not an amendment to the Official Languages Act. It is merely a resolution of this House which, if passed, might well not last beyond the life of this parliament. In short, it means no more than the "Pearson pledge". It is an exercise in futility. Why should we pass a resolution which would have no validity in law?

● (2100)

If this government was really sincere, if it was doing anything more than playing politics with this most important and most serious subject, if this government really wanted such guarantees and assurances to public servants to mean something of real substance, then it would have proposed without hesitation that the contents of this resolution be written into the Official Languages Act in the form of an amendment. But this it did not do. It remained for the leader of this party to move such an amendment.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Cossitt: We witnessed the refusal of the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) to move an amendment when he replied to a question raised by the hon. member for Crowfoot (Mr. Horner) a few days or a week or two ago. I suggest that the answer given by the Prime Minister at that time revealed this government resolution in all its naked reality. It is a cheap political ploy, an insincere political gimmick, an attempt to play with the unity of Canada for political purposes.

Some hon. Members: Shame!

Mr. Cossitt: I find such actions by this government contemptible, to say the least. But no one should find this government's actions surprising. When we look back to the throne speech debate in the early days of this session, and when we recall some of the remarks made at that time by the Prime Minister, we can only conclude that we were being given a preview of the kind of thinking that lies behind the drafting of this resolution. Indeed, at that time in the Prime Minister's ill-tempered remarks we were being provided with a setting of the stage for what was to come and for what is now before us for consideration. This resolution, in reality, is worthless because it will have no legal validity, because its life expectancy would be very limited if passed. We should well be asking ourselves why this House is being put through this whole exercise.

The preamble of this resolution is more or less a reaffirmation of the principles of the Official Languages Act. Is it necessary to reaffirm by resolution an act that is already the law of this land? What kind of nonsense is this? If the sun is shining on Parliament Hill, should this House be called together for purposes of passing a resolution that the sun is really shining? Is it necessary that parliament should consider pious, periodic reaffirmations of all legislation that passes? Why do we not have resolutions reaffirming the importance of old age security? Surely, we should rush right away into immediate consideration of a resolution reaffirming our belief in the value and importance of family allowances.

What else does this resolution contain other than pious reaffirmations? Supposedly, it sets forth certain guarantees for public servants. But we should ask ourselves: What does it really do? What does it really mean? For example, paragraph 3 of the resolution says that the knowledge of English and French is one of the elements of merit in the selection of candidates for bilingual positions. How on earth could this be otherwise? Would we fill a position requiring English and French with a person speaking Arabic and Afghan? The truth, I suggest, is very sad. It is a very sad truth indeed. This resolution is not at all what the government would have us believe it to be. It is, in reality, yet another example of how this government will play with the subject of bilingualism for political purposes.

Judging by the tone of his remarks on this subject in recent months, I believe it is obvious that the Prime Minister and the government wanted only one thing, namely, to introduce a motion on bilingualism that would divide the House, and therefore at the same time a motion that they hoped would enable them to sit back and say in effect, "Look at us; we are for national unity and the others are not. We alone can save this country." The unfortunate reality of it all is that the kind of twisted thinking that lies behind this resolution could ultimately destroy this country.

The government would have Canadians swallow the utter myth that only it is capable of maintaining national

unity. By this resolution, in my opinion, the government expected turmoil to be stirred up in this country, and then when the pot is nicely boiling the scenario calls for the Prime Minister and his associates to come riding in on their white horses, posing as the ones who will be the saviours of Canada as a nation from those who are painted as the advocates of disunity simply because we object to gross government errors in implementing bilingualism.

Some may say that the easiest way to put an end to such cheap melodrama on the part of this government would be to quietly vote for this resolution, to make no objections, to deny St. George his dragon, to leave this sick government tilting at its windmills. Perhaps that approach has some merit, but to follow it would make it necessary to vote for a farce—and this resolution is a farce, this government knows it is a farce, and it is essential that it be shown to Canadians for exactly what it is.

Mr. Speaker, if this government was really sincere we would not be faced with this resolution. We would have been faced, instead, at the outset with amendments to the Official Languages Act making specific guarantees to public servants the law of this land. Only, as I said previously and as I say again, the amendment proposed by the leader of this party would accomplish that fact.

But the government has shown by its past actions that it is not sincere on many things, particularly on the methods of implementing bilingualism. There has been ample time since the passing of the Official Languages Act to clearly illustrate this fact. If this government has failed to approach the subject of bilingualism according to the spirit of the Official Languages Act, according to the spirit and intention of the "Pearson pledge", is there any reason to believe now that this resolution will make things any different? I suggest there is no reason whatsoever.

Over the past few years the people of my riding have had the opportunity of witnessing at first hand the methods used by this government to implement bilingualism in Canada. We have very clearly seen the hypocrisy, the insincerity and the duplicity of the course followed by this government. The people in my constituency of Leeds saw the incredibly nonsensical and stupid actions of this government in attempting to create instant bilingualism at Canada Customs offices, with no regard for common sense, with no regard for unilingual public servants of long-standing or for the merit principle; in short, with complete disrespect for the so-called "Pearson pledge" in regard to the implementation of bilingualism. But that is a fantastic story in itself, filled with unfairness, filled with hypocrisy and, I regret to say, filled with downright dishonesty—a case well documented and completely provable in all its aspects and a case which I am prepared to stand upon firmly before any persons who wish to judge it impartially, anywhere and at any time.

At the height of the nonsense in my area I was president of the constituency Liberal association. At that time I received a letter which I believe describes the actions of the government very well indeed in regard to its methods of implementing bilingualism. The letter is dated March 2, 1970. I would like to read into the record this particular paragraph which it contains:

● (2110)

I am sure there are many cases of essentially good legislation being ruined by ham-handed implementation. This appears to be a good example.

That letter was written by Senator Richard J. Stanbury, president of the Liberal Party of Canada. Truer words were never written. I agree with Senator Stanbury's sentiments completely. But subsequently the ringmaster of the circus opposite cracked his whip and the trained seals all sprang into line.

Mr. Speaker, I hear questions from the opposite side of the chamber asking, "Who is your writer?" I am proud to say I write my own speeches, something which I do not think many members on that side do. The methods used by the government up until now to institute its bilingual program have been in many cases ill-conceived, thoughtless and unfair. In addition, the program has suffered greatly from the antics of that bumbling bureaucrat, John Carson, and from the ridiculous and foolish utterances of the Commissioner of Official Languages who flits hither and yon to his little soirées and tête-à-têtes mouthing such nonsense as "Westmount Rhodesians."

We must seriously ask ourselves these questions: If the government has failed in the past to implement fairly the Official Languages Act, is there any reason whatsoever to believe that things will be different in the future? And even if the substance of section 1 of the resolution is incorporated by amendment into the Official Languages Act, as the leader of this party has suggested, is there any reason to believe that the government will honour such provisions with sincerity—something it has utterly failed to show in the past toward implementation of the act itself? I am forced to conclude that anything the government does here and now is mere hollow window-dressing brought on by the near defeat of last October 30, and not in any way the result of a change of heart. Anything the government does now must be regarded as suspect against the background of its past actions.

Speaking in this House last Friday, the Minister of Communications (Mr. Pelletier) said that he was amused at the amendment introduced by the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Stanfield) and he tried to justify his amusement by going back to quotations from *Hansard* of 1969. But a lot has happened since 1969. Perhaps the most important lesson we have learned since 1969 is the fact that the record of the government in implementing bilingualism is such that the most definite and specific legal safeguards are required—required in order to be certain that bilingualism will be fairly and properly instituted in Canada for all concerned, required if for no other reason than the bumbling record of the government since 1969 in implementing bilingualism. Indeed, Mr. Speaker, when it comes to expressing amusement I say to the Minister of Communications that there is nothing at all amusing about the government's record.

I do not believe it is exaggeration or inaccuracy to say that the government does not want an amendment to the Official Languages Act for a very good reason from its own point of view. That reason is not, as the Minister of Communications would have us believe, so that the government will be free to follow flexible guidelines to meet changing conditions. It is far more likely that the govern-

ment does not want an amendment because an amendment has legal permanency, whereas a resolution as proposed by the government, to put it charitably, can be easily modified or, to put it a little less charitably, easily ignored or disposed of. Many persons have discovered that their inevitable fate, when they disagree with the government on the methods of implementing bilingualism, is to be faced with an attempt to label them as bigots. This has been my own personal experience and I will not be surprised if it is my experience again after my remarks tonight.

But, Mr. Speaker, of French ancestry on both sides of my family, with a wife who comes from Holland, and as one who has always been an outspoken opponent of all forms of racism and bigotry, I totally reject such labels. I am proud that I can trace my ancestry back to René Cosset who came from the area of La Rochelle in France around 1700. I am equally proud of the fact, despite the childish and ridiculous interjections of the Minister of National Health and Welfare (Mr. Lalonde), that the French-speaking Cossettes of Quebec and the English-speaking Cositts of Canada and the United States share a common ancestry that dates back several centuries to France.

If the government continues it past methods of implementing bilingualism—and those of us who have experienced these methods have no justification to expect it will do anything else—then I suggest that when the history of our age is written it will be said that this government destroyed national unity while it posed as its champion. It will be said that the sensible approach of co-operation between the English-and French-speaking peoples of this nation was forsaken for the senseless approach of confrontation. It will be said that this nation of Canada was torn apart by the policies of a government that played nothing but politics with bilingualism and national unity.

As a former member of the Liberal party—

An hon. Member: Oh, no!

Mr. Cossitt: Yes, we all make mistakes. That was one of mine, but I can assure the hon. member opposite that it has been a pleasure and a joy to see the light and to be where there is no dictatorship.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Cossitt: As a former member of the Liberal party and as a Canadian I cherish the memory of association with the Right Hon. Louis St. Laurent, and as a former member of the Liberal party and as a Canadian I am proud of the record of Sir Wilfrid Laurier. But I find little in the record of this government to which any Canadian can point with pride. While it remains for history to pass the final verdict on what course was the right course—

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Cossitt: Mr. Speaker, the trained seals are chuckling as usual. While it remains for history to pass the final verdict on what course was the right one for this House to take at the present time, I am prepared to vote against this resolution with the certain feeling that I am following the course that is right for Canada.

Official Languages

[*Translation*]

Mr. Blais: Mr. Speaker, may I direct a question to the hon. member?

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Laniel): Order. The hon. member may ask a question if the hon. member who has the floor wants to accept it.

[*English*]

The hon. member is seeking the floor for the purpose of asking a question. Does the hon. member give consent?

Mr. Cossitt: I would be quite glad to listen to the question. I am sorry I did not hear it. Could it be repeated?

• (2120)

Mr. Beattie (Hamilton Mountain): Mr. Speaker, I should like to bring to the attention of the House that the mover of the motion, the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau), and the seconder, the President of the Treasury Board (Mr. Drury)—I notice he has just come into the chamber, but they have been absent during this very important debate. As a matter of fact, the Prime Minister has not had anyone in the House on his behalf.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Laniel): Order, please. I am sure the hon. member knows that this cannot be a point of order. This is the kind of argument that he can make in his speech.

Mr. J.-J. Blais (Nipissing): Mr. Speaker, my question to the hon. member for Leeds (Mr. Cossitt) is this. I have listened quite attentively to the whole content of his speech, and I wonder whether he would enlighten me as to whether he is in agreement with the principles announced in the resolution or the principles contained in an amendment to the act and, if so, would he please explain his position?

Mr. Cossitt: Mr. Speaker, it is a pleasure to answer the hon. member's question. He said he listened attentively to my remarks, but after listening to his question I am not sure how attentive he really was. I do believe that in my remarks I tried to draw attention to the points that have caused the leader of this party to propose such an amendment, and I said this is something that the government should have done. I think I made very clear the answer to his question. I am sorry that he was not as attentive as he thought he was.

Mr. Blais: Mr. Speaker, a supplementary question—

Some hon. Members: Order!

Mr. Blais: The question was very simple—

Some hon. Members: Order!

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Laniel): Order, please. I do not think we can accept supplementaries for the purpose of obtaining further explanation at the end of a speech.

Mr. Cossitt: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. The hon. member opposite rose and said he wished to ask a supplementary question. I assure him that although we on this side of the House are not over there yet, I do not think

he will have long to wait and then he can ask questions of this party.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Jack Cullen (Sarnia-Lambton): Mr. Speaker, it is great that the applause comes before my address rather than after.

An hon. Member: You won't get it then.

Mr. Cullen: I listened, as did my colleague the hon. member for Nipissing (Mr. Blais), to the hon. member for Leeds (Mr. Cossitt). One gets the impression that he spent too much of his youth at cowboy movies because in his mind everybody falls into the category of either a good guy or a bad guy. We find the hon. member for Leeds imputing motives to this party. I thought he learned when he was a Liberal that we do not do that kind of thing.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Cullen: One is tempted to think that if the hon. member had held more meetings of the Liberal party in his association, rather than one every two years when he was president, he might have taken some leadership or have done something to make some changes that he thought should be made.

An hon. Member: He made a change all right.

An hon. Member: He is all yours; you can keep him.

An hon. Member: You sure can.

Mr. Cullen: Mr. Speaker, I welcome this resolution and I am particularly delighted that it stands in the name of the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau). I am delighted because it highlights the importance of the language issue in maintaining Canadian unity. This is not the panacea for unity, nor has anyone suggested that this concept be true. Regional disparities, a feeling of remoteness from Ottawa and a myriad of other problems large and small all play their part and place their strain on Canada remaining one country.

Having said that, Mr. Speaker, we must realize that the language issue is an important one. This motion was necessary to highlight the importance of language and to say once again, as we did with the Official Languages Act, that this is not only the position of the government but it is the position of parliament. We are saying to the Canadian public that this is the way the Official Languages Act will be implemented; these are the principles that will be followed in so far as the civil service of Canada is concerned. This is the fulfilment of a promise made to civil servants by the late prime minister, Lester Pearson, and this is a writing down in motion form of the manner in which this parliament sees the principles being applied. The procedure followed in adopting these principles has been correct.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Laniel): Order, please. The hon. member for Palliser (Mr. Schumacher) is rising for the purpose of asking a question. This can only be done with the consent of the hon. member.

[Mr. Cossitt.]

Mr. Cullen: Yes, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Schumacher: Mr. Speaker, I was very interested in the attitude of the hon. member for Sarnia-Lambton (Mr. Cullen) on this issue. I was wondering whether this indicates a change since 1969, when he did not take the opportunity of voting on the Official Languages Act when it was before the House.

Mr. Cullen: Mr. Speaker, there are many ways of getting your point across. I propose to do it in my riding. I did it with newspaper articles; I did not go door-to-door knocking the Official Languages Act and misinterpreting its real meaning.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Cullen: Mr. Speaker, the procedure followed in adopting these principles has been correct. Consultation has taken place with the people most intimately involved. I am certain we were all pleased to note the acceptance by Mr. Barnes and Mr. Edwards of these principles. They do not satisfy everyone. It is typical of any proposition advanced in this delicate area of negotiation that it goes too far for some and not far enough or fast enough for others. This is, after all, an accommodation, and an accommodation that is acceptable to the people most vitally concerned—the civil servants of Canada. There is no abandonment of principle. Surely, any Canadian can accept that his fellow Canadian has a right to deal with his government in his own language.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Cullen: There is no suggestion that everyone in Canada must be bilingual as, unhappily, some have misinterpreted the meaning of the Official Languages Act. I believe it was the Leader of the New Democratic Party (Mr. Lewis) who last night indicated that a lot of English-speaking Canadians are of the opinion that most Quebeckers are bilingual because English-speaking Canadians have visited the metropolitan area of Montreal.

I can understand the frustration and the anger of the member for Champlain (Mr. Matte). He is well armed with statistics, and his statistics are honest. How do we change them, and how do we bring them more in line with the reality of Canada? The member for Fundy-Royal (Mr. Fairweather), when responding to the motion of the Minister of Labour (Mr. Munro) concerning the status of women, indicated that his party might be prepared to accept the quota system in the interests of getting more women into senior levels of the civil service. I have not heard, however, whether this party would back the quota system in the interests of placing more people whose native tongue is French in the civil service.

The quota system is not fair, and I think it would be difficult to apply the quota system whether it is in the interests of placing more women in the civil service or more unilingual French-speaking Canadians. It is unfair to those already in place who have warranted promotion and who might be bypassed. It is not fair if the standards have to be lowered in the interest of implementing a quota

system. So we know the pitfalls of the quota system and we know that they are not fair.

We also know it is not fair that the proportion of French-speaking civil servants is so low. I can sympathize with the hon. member for Champlain. Can we do it by some words in debate, or applying a quota system? I do not know, but it is something we have to consider. Although I cannot accept all his views or arguments, I know that they stem from a deep-seated feeling shared by many of my French-speaking colleagues in the Liberal caucus.

When I am talking on this subject in my riding or other English-speaking parts of this country, I ask my audience to imagine for the moment that Queen Victoria, rather than naming Ottawa as the capital of Canada had selected, let us say Lac St. Jean where I understand the majority of people speak French, and beautiful French. Imagine if, with Lac St. Jean as the capital, on visiting your capital you heard only French spoken. Would you feel at home? Would you be frustrated if you were endeavouring to deal with the Department of Industry, Trade and Commerce, finance, or external affairs only to find that there were very few people who could accommodate you in your own language? And how much greater would be the frustration if you were a unilingual, English-speaking Canadian!

● (2130)

That, then, is the dilemma and the problem faced by the French-speaking Canadian who comes to Ottawa and does not feel at home here. We have an obligation to make him feel at home in his country's capital. And where, as in my riding, there are pockets of French-speaking Canadians, I am pleased to see the Secretary of State (Mr. Faulkner) making provision for grants so that the language and culture of the French-speaking Canadian can be preserved. I was pleased to note that over the past two years grants have been made to the Club Joliet in my riding. It was one of the highlights of my short political career to date that when addressing the club I was able to speak to them totally in French.

Some think it would be appropriate if I were to speak French in the present debate. If I were to do so, I would in my view miss the point of this particular debate. We are not saying to Canadians that they must speak two official languages; we are saying, "You can speak in your own tongue and express yourself in your own language." This is something I feel very strongly about. In any event, I feel it would be appropriate if I were to continue speaking in English rather than to demonstrate my halting French. In this exercise we are saying over and over again that every Canadian need not be bilingual. We are saying, however, that we are entitled to express our views in our own language.

I have had the privilege and I have enjoyed the opportunity of studying the French language since my election in 1968. It may be necessary for the Prime Minister and the government to use another phrase to describe my use of the French language—not functional, but possibly mini-functional. But what a challenge, Mr. Speaker, and how exciting it is to try a phrase and to realize that you have been understood; and how gratifying to realize that you can understand someone who is speaking French.

It is easier for me to learn French, thanks to the enthusiasm of my daughter Katie. I am proud she is making and has been making a determined effort to become, not functionally bilingual but bilingual. When my spirits sagged and I felt frustration or incapable of mastering the French language, my 14-year old daughter charged, shamed, encouraged and challenged me. I will continue to study, to practise, to listen and to speak French as my recognition of the French fact and acceptance of bilingualism in Canada. To those who are contemplating the study of French I would say, "Do it. There are many more rewards than there are frustrations, trials and tribulations."

The Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Stanfield) asked in his remarks yesterday, "Why this resolution", and said it was not binding on the government. I say to the Leader of the Opposition that this resolution is put forward not only to show where the government stands but because the people of Canada must know where this parliament stands. It was encouraging to note that the Leader of the Opposition, speaking for his party, adopted and accepted the principles outlined. He would place them in legislation. I do not agree with that, because I think codifying these principles would make it extremely difficult to change them when changes should be made. I think there has to be some flexibility if there is to be fairness in the implementing of these principles. We are telling Canada and Canada's civil servants what will be the guiding principles in implementing the Official Languages Act in so far as they are concerned.

I compliment the Leader of the Opposition for the stand he has taken. I cannot argue too strongly against putting these principles into legislation. I think that might be too inflexible. He said he has received scars as a result of taking the stand he has taken. I say to him, they are honourable scars.

Mr. Arnold Peters (Timiskaming): Mr. Speaker, I was one of those who originally supported the Official Languages Act, mainly because of the conciliatory action and direction of the late prime minister, Lester B. Pearson. At that time we were assured that this concept would not be implemented in such a way as to cause serious concern either to the civil service or to the people of Canada in general. Most of us who so voted believe, I think, that the proposals put forward in this resolution are the basis on which the Official Languages Act was passed. Therefore, I think few who voted originally for the Offical Languages Act would change their minds today.

The Minister of Finance (Mr. Turner) made a speech today that interested me, more because of what he said and interpreted than any facts he enunciated. He indicated that the proposals in this resolution were always in the mind of the government, and that the flexibility that all members on the government side are talking about as being necessary is at present a fact, because changes will continually be involved in this matter. He forgot to tell everyone that these nine points were brought before parliament in the form of a resolution because of the result of the election of last October.

It must interest people like Mr. Francis, Mr. Blair and certain other former Members of Parliament, particularly those from the Ottawa valley, to find this resolution

before us today, because as sure as I am standing here they were defeated for being unable to convince the government that it was necessary to provide the safeguards we are discussing in this resolution. It is interesting to note that several days after the election the government announced, through the medium of a statement by the President of the Treasury Board (Mr. Drury), that civil servants were to be dealt with as this resolution proposes. It was to be directed in that direction.

For what happened in the past I fault not only the government but the civil service associations, and I include in that the professional associations. I fault, as well, the civil service and its agencies. Why? Because, Mr. Speaker, they were not able to solve some of the very simple problems which had arisen, and were not able to arrive at criteria that were acceptable either to the civil service authorities or to civil servants. I was therefore more impressed with the politics of this resolution than with the fact that parliament is being asked to endorse it. We are being asked to stand up and be counted again on a subject which we debated when the official languages bill was before the House.

As we are discussing this matter I think it behooves all members of the House to ascertain for themselves whether the flexibility that Liberal members are talking about is advantageous. I am of the opinion it is not advantageous. I am of the opinion that the principle put forward by Mr. Pearson and endorsed by most members of the House provided the civil service with a bill of rights which was to work in three ways. It protected those who were purely French-speaking in French communities; it protected those who were purely English-speaking in English communities, and it protected long-time civil servants who were in the never-never land in the middle, known as Ottawa.

The situation has not yet been resolved, for several good reasons. I come from an area where people are divided into several language groups. It includes French, English and many other nationalities. Approximately 30 to 35 per cent are French-speaking; the remainder are English-speaking. That district is to be designated under the act. Although the location of these bilingual districts has not been decided officially, in many instances such districts have been established. I use the example of Timmins. We had in Timmins for a number of years an acting postmaster. He was of Italian extraction, representing a large body of the population in Timmins. He also understood some English, having gone to school at his own expense. The Sisters in the community taught him some French. Therefore, he had some knowledge of three languages.

● (2140)

Because this is a bilingual district, although it has not yet been so designated, he was asked to appear before a board some two years after he had taken over as the acting postmaster in Timmins. When he appeared before the board the first question he was asked was whether he was bilingual. He said that he spoke English and had studied some French, although he was not fluent. I might say that although English has been his language for the past 35 or 40 years, he is not entirely fluent in that language either. He was told by the board, "If you are not bilingual, don't waste our time and we won't waste yours. Unless you are bilingual there is no point carrying on this interview." It is this kind of situation that neither the civil service not the Civil Service Association have been able to correct. This has created many anomalies in the province of Quebec. On an opposition day the Créditiste party raised this matter on behalf of people they represent who are also faced with inequality of opportunity. The real desire of Canadians is a language bill of rights for those employed in the Public Service of Canada.

I do not support the amendment moved by the Conservative party, for a very simple reason. If it were accepted we would be here all summer amending every act because of the language problem. We would have to amend acts respecting the armed forces, the public service, Crown corporations and many others. I am not particularly interested in that exercise.

Earlier today I spoke to the President of the Treasury Board. There is no one more familiar with the operation of the public service than he. If he remains President of the Treasury Board I believe this resolution can be implemented as is. In my opinion it is good to have some flexibility so that the legislation can be changed from time to time. This is also true of the Bill of Rights. The right to privacy should be included in the Canadian Bill of Rights. It should provide the right to use either official language as well as religion or lack of religion.

We should be able to make changes to something we believe to be fundamental. The development of bilingual or unilingual units throughout the country is very fundamental to every Canadian. I was very interested in the speech this afternoon by the right hon. member for Prince Albert (Mr. Diefenbaker). It amused me. When I first came here 15 years ago there was no simultaneous translation system. When a member from Quebec made a speech in French everybody went out and had a smoke. No one listened and no one cared. The member making the speech did not care either because when he had completed his speech he went back to Montreal or Quebec City and we did not hear from him until he wanted to make another speech. Following the installation of the simultaneous translation system there was an obligation to consider every argument that was made. Other changes have been made which have been advantageous in the development of this country.

I am not sure whether we will go ahead holus-bolus with bilingual districts across Canada. I am not sure whether in communities where only English is spoken it will be necessary to have bilingual services. I hope that unilingual people in English communities will not be denied opportunities because the community in which they live is in a designated bilingual district. I am not sure this will be avoided, because it has already begun to some extent. We do not want to see anyone demoted because they cannot pass an examination. We must be very careful about how this policy is implemented. The resolution must not be totally ignored.

I think this government has done a lot of window-dressing. The member who preceded me said that he had been studying French since 1968, but he did not even give us a sample of what he has learned. Perhaps he does not require a second language in Sarnia. It may not do him any good. Perhaps he is engaged in an exercise of futility.

A second language would be a decided asset to me. On several occasions I have tried to learn the French language. I have not taken an immersion course, but I did take lessons from a very nice, competent young lady in the West Block.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Peters: The classes lasted for two hours. After leaving a class to attend a committee meeting or a sitting of the House, you forgot all about French. You did not think of it again until you returned for another lesson two or three days later. Our teacher became very frustrated because it was necessary to start all over again. There is no way to learn a language or have any facility in it unless you speak it regularly. I am not very impressed with $45,000 a year deputy ministers who are able to answer one question per year in the second language. I suppose it cost $50,000 to train them. Who ran the shop while they were being trained? If an assistant deputy was running the shop, he should have had the job.

I suggest that to some extent this type of training is an exercise in futility. I am not opposed to everyone in this country being bilingual, and I am aware of some of the criticisms that members from the province of Quebec will make. I am prepared to vote reasonably large sums of money to create a bilingual nation. I am prepared to put that money into every kindergarten and primary school so that children may spend the first two or three years of their education totally within the climate of the other language.

● (2150)

Hon. members may wonder why this has not been done already. The reason is this, and my friends in the Social Credit party are well aware of it: a bilingual nation would quickly be created and the second generation would all be English-speaking, because on the North American continent English is the predominant language and, very likely, the second language would fall into disuse. If it fell into disuse and was no longer spoken in any normal business conduct, it would obviously no longer be accepted. I know that ability in the second language would make Canadians better people.

I am very proud that my father, my brother and other members of my family have always been able to speak French. I went to work at an early age and my job in the mines, apart from running the machines underground, was to train other people to speak the English language. That is why I murder it so badly—the result of the input from so many other languages! But I am very proud that my grandchildren speak French as their first language. I am sure they will grow up to be bilingual, because my son is not proficient in French.

These are all matters which will have to be considered carefully. The bigots on all sides must be convinced that the teaching of the second language is accompanied by very real rewards. I studied French in high school for four years. I was taught by a teacher who could not speak to any of the French people in the class or in the community. She went to Paris and learned a different type of French. It was like a person who had learned Latin trying to talk to Italians. She encountered a certain amount of difficulty. In schools in Ontario the authorities usually hire a teacher who has a degree in the French language, rather than someone who can speak French. As a result, the time spent by the children is totally wasted.

Most members of this House are biased. Most members of this House and most people in the country are prejudiced. Nevertheless, there is a tradition in Canada of tolerance toward other people, of tolerance when we embark upon a program intended to produce a bilingual nation.I think there will be a great deal of tolerance shown on the part of parents. But you cannot give Ontario a large sum of money and tell them to run their education system on these lines because, obviously, they would find they were short somewhere else and would use the money for another purpose, as they are now doing.

If we are serious about language education, we shall need to arrange for exchanges of our people from different regions. If we decide to educate civil servants and they are willing to spend months at the task of learning the second language, then at least we should make sure they do this in Quebec rather than in Calgary or Ottawa.

If we are really considering the development of a bilingual policy in this country, we should be prepared to spend some money on it. It is for this reason I object to the resolution which has been placed before us, somewhat in the same terms as resolutions put forward when we want the Americans to get out of Viet Nam or when we want the French to discontinue exploding nuclear devices in the South Pacific in their atomic energy tests. The resolution should have been put into a form which would embody the controls which are being suggested in a way which it would be difficult to change. It seems that the resolution is an attempt to encourage the people of Quebec to believe they are part of this nation. Mr. Speaker, we decided that a long time ago. It has never been questioned in this House. Since I have been here I have not heard any member question whether the country should exist in the form in which it now exists.

What we are discussing is our lack of ability to produce the bilingual character which is necessary. I was very impressed when listening to the hon. member for Crowfoot (Mr. Horner) speaking recently in this debate. I was impressed by the fact that he moved a motion very similar in tone to the solution now before us. A spokesman for the government took objection to it and declined to support him. Now we see it in the form of a resolution—

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Laniel): Order.

Mr. Peters: Mr. Speaker, may I call it ten o'clock?

Mr. MacEachen: I was wondering whether it might be possible, Mr. Speaker, to come to some agreement tonight as to the possible termination of this debate. I have held discussions with other House leaders, and it might be possible for us to agree to terminate the debate tomorrow night, in view of the number of speeches which have been made.

Mr. Baldwin: I have taken part in these discussions. I am fully aware there are those who feel the debate should not be ended until members who have a keen desire to intervene have had that opportunity. At first blush I

thought that Tuesday night would be acceptable, but it has just been brought to my attention that some members of our party will not be able to get here by tomorrow because of the strike. I was about to suggest, as an alternative, a set time on Wednesday. I think it highly desirable in a debate of this nature that there be a time certain appointed so that members who wish to vote may have that opportunity.

● (2200)

I also think we should take into account the fact that the Creditiste party, who sought to move a subamendment to our amendment which was declared out of order because of its non-relationship, might have an opportunity, as they are entitled to, after our amendment has been voted on, to have their amendment put and have the House divide on it. While I personally, as well as a great many members of my party, would be quite in favour of terminating the debate on Tuesday, in view of the fact that some members are anxious to be here perhaps the President of the Privy Council would be prepared to consider a time certain on Wednesday when the debate would be concluded.

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, as the government House leader has indicated, there have been certain discussions among us. Obviously, those discussions are still going on, and in that process I should like to support what has been suggested by the hon. member for Peace River. I gather he is suggesting that the debate on the present amendment, the one moved by the Leader of the Opposition, be concluded at ten o'clock tomorrow night, but that the vote not be put at that time; rather, that the vote be put at the beginning of government business on Wednesday. We would then agree to conclude all matters relating to this subject by a quarter to six on Wednesday.

Mr. Baldwin: Yes, allowing for a Creditiste amendment.

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): This would allow for an amendment to be moved by the Social Credit group on Wednesday afternoon and for it and the final vote to be put to the House by a quarter to six on Wednesday.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Léonel Beaudoin (Richmond): Mr. Speaker, we would agree to vote tomorrow night on the Progressive Conservative amendment, but we would like to have the opportunity to introduce our amendments Wednesday, since only two members of our party were heard on the matter and that we still have five or six who wish to take part in the debate. We would like to have the same opportunity to speak as other members.

[*English*]

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Laniel): Order, please. There does not quite seem to be agreement. Hon. members might sleep on this question and see how the debate goes tomorrow.

[*Translation*]

As there does not seem to be any specific agreement, I will then let hon. members continue the consideration of the matter this evening or tomorrow.

[Mr. Baldwin.]

PROCEEDINGS ON ADJOURNMENT MOTION

[*English*]

A motion to adjourn the House under Standing Order 40 deemed to have been moved.

HARBOURS—ATLANTIC AREA—REQUEST FOR IMPROVED FACILITIES FOR FISHERMEN

Mr. Walter C. Carter (St. John's West): Mr. Speaker, on March 15 I inquired of the Minister of the Environment and Fisheries (Mr. Davis) about the provision of fishing and harbour facilities in the Atlantic area, particularly in Newfoundland and my riding of St. John's West. My question to the minister was prompted by the fact that in the Atlantic area, and in my riding in particular, there is a very desperate need for more and better harbour and fish landing facilities. I find that in my riding the Department of Public Works of the federal government is completely derelict in its responsibility to provide decent harbour and fish landing facilities to enable fishermen to successfully prosecute the fisheries.

The situation is not made any better when one realizes that this year the Department of Public Works has estimated its total expenditure on capital projects, maintenance and operation of public buildings to be $386,209,000. The situation is, of course, even further aggravated by the fact that in Ontario, where unemployment is around 4 per cent or 4.5 per cent, the expenditure on capital projects is $109,696,000. For maintenance work and operation of public buildings there is an expenditure of $96,484,000, or a total in the province of Ontario of $206,180,000.

In the Atlantic area, where we have an unemployment figure of 7.9 per cent, we find there is a capital expenditure of $15.5 million, with something like $12 million for maintenance and operation of public buildings. Of course, speaking for my own province, where we have an unemployment rate of 16.2 per cent, we find that on capital projects there is an expenditure of $4 million and something like $3.5 million for maintenance and operation of public buildings, for a total of $7,749,000. These figures were submitted recently to the Standing Committee on Public Works by officials of the Department of Public Works, and substantiated by the Department of the Environment and Fisheries.

While this year in the Atlantic area there is an expenditure of $12 million on maintenance and public works, according to these people there should be an expenditure of $30 million. In the committee, these officials told us that in order to satisfy the needs of the Atlantic area and to bring it up to a level where fishermen would be able to fish successfully, with adequate facilities, there should be an expenditure of at least $100 million. We appreciate the need for more, and bigger and better buildings in Ottawa and in Ontario generally and in other parts of Canada, and we appreciate the need for bigger and better air-conditioning units, bigger and better cafeterias and bigger and better parking structures. We are not against these because we recognize that, this being the seat of government, certain amenities must be provided for our public servants.

But speaking for my riding, I think I am echoing the sentiments of most people in the Atlantic area when I say that we cannot accept the fact that this government and our present Minister of Public Works (Mr. Dubé), in conjunction with the Minister of the Environment and Fisheries, have obviously placed a greater priority on building office towers in Ottawa and the amenities to which I have just referred than providing facilities to enable our fishermen in the Atlantic area, especially in Newfoundland and my riding, to be able successfully to prosecute the fishery.

It is a little alarming to find we have a government which is more interested in spending, or at least in committing itself to an expenditure of $36 million on a new building for the Department of Finance, and Treasury Board in Ottawa than it is in providing these badly needed facilities in the Atlantic region or indeed in maintaining the present facilities. We have the Minister of Public Works presiding over a department which has permitted properties in eastern Canada, especially in Newfoundland, to deteriorate to a point where in many cases they have been marked as being unsafe for people to travel on or reside in.

● (2210)

Can you imagine parts of Newfoundland—and I have seen this—where fishing is so vital to the economy of the province, where it is the mainstay of the people who live in that area, where barriers are erected on public wharves advising people not to bring their vehicles there because it is unsafe? This is a government that pleads poverty when it comes to providing these facilities, but is able to spend this year in excess of $25 million on providing other facilities for the bureaucracy in Ottawa and upper Canada. This is hard to take. Of course, some of the blame, perhaps all of the blame should be placed on the shoulders of the Minister of the Environment and Fisheries because he is obviously now more concerned with imposing regulations and restrictions on fishermen than with helping them to increase their catches and their earnings.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Laniel): Order, please. I must interrupt the hon. member, but the time allotted to him has expired.

Hon. Jack Davis (Minister of Fisheries): Mr. Speaker, the hon. member for St. John's West (Mr. Carter) may not be aware of the fact that the federal taxpayer spends more money by far on the fishing industry, per dollar of profit per employee, than any other industry in Canada. This is the case today. It has been the case for a number of years. Therefore, as Minister of Fisheries I make no apology to him or anyone else for the level of federal assistance to fishermen.

In recent years a number of departments have been involved in assisting fisheries, the most notable of which is the Department of Regional Economic Expansion. In the last half dozen years there has been a fantastic growth of fish processing facilities. The hon. member knows that, the fishermen know that well, and the industry certainly is aware of it. Also, in the last three years there has been a remarkable increase in the number of new fishing boats built. At the moment there are far more fishing vessels in total being built in this country than at any time in the history of the industry. In that case, as well, there is a 35 per cent subsidy for practically all of those vessels.

So, one, in respect of processing and, two, in respect of vessels and gear there has been a remarkable expansion in the public effort in support of fishermen. We are now going into the third phase because bigger vessels are being built and we need different kinds of docks and wharves. I will be the first to admit that we have not put anything like the effort into looking after small craft harbours as we must do in the next few years to look after these new vessels and to make sure that fish flow efficiently from the boats to the plants.

The total budget of the Fisheries Service in Canada is now approaching $100 million. A very large proportion of that budget is spent in the province of Newfoundland. I wish the hon. member had referred to figures of that kind rather than to public buildings which are of little direct use to the fishermen of Newfoundland in any case.

ENERGY—POSSIBLE ESTABLISHMENT OF REFINERY AT GROS CACOUNA—FEDERAL GOVERNMENT PARTICIPATION WITH QUEBEC IN DISCUSSIONS WITH SAUDI ARABIA

Mr. John Harney (Scarborough West): Mr. Speaker, some time last week I began asking a series of questions of the Minister of the Environment (Mr. Davis) with regard to the proposed construction of a supertanker port in the Gros Cacouna-Ile Verte region in the St. Lawrence River region of Quebec. Needless to say, I was not thoroughly satisfied with the answers and that is why I am up again tonight to pursue the matter.

Particularly with regard to the question I asked on May 29, the minister said:

> Mr. Speaker, we have already completed an environmental impact assessment on the Lorneville project in New Brunswick, and a joint investigation regarding the Canso project is under way. We are happy to join with the provinces in these kinds of appraisals at any time.

The point, of course, is that although this was a satisfying answer to some, it was not an answer to the question I was asking, which was with regard to the proposed construction of a supertanker port at Gros Cacouna-Ile Verte. Obviously, this is not a very good area in which to build a supertanker port. At that point the St. Lawrence becomes quite narrow; the tidal currents are very strong and extremely variable. On both sides the river has shallow waters, and in the middle of the river there is a dangerous little island called Red Islet. Knowing that supertankers can take ten miles to come to a dead stop, one wonders whether putting a supertanker port in that area is an idea, or somebody's bad dream.

I have an indication that the minister may be worried about this project, from reading a letter of his which was printed in the *Globe and Mail* last Saturday in which he wrote, among many other things:

> So why run the danger of messing up our beautiful Gulf islands?

These are the west coast Gulf islands he was talking about.

> Why run the risk of polluting a scenic area which is many times

more valuable than the Thousand Islands on the St. Lawrence River?

How he compares the Gulf islands with the St. Lawrence Islands, I do not know. Further in his letter he wrote:

The idea of bringing 250,000 ton tankers into a narrow channel such as that approaching Eastport, Maine, is ridiculous, not only from an environmental but also from a navigational point of view. The same applies to ports well up the St. Lawrence River. We mustn't be stupid about these things.

He does not specify what "well up" is. I do not think he uses the term "well up" in the sense that Alice used it in "Alice in Wonderland." I would like to know if the minister is fearful of the project at Gros Cacouna-Ile Verte, and why he has been wary about answering questions put to him directly. Indeed, in the past some of the officials in his department have been more forthright. In an article printed in the Ottawa *Citizen* of December 6, 1972, Robert F. Shaw, deputy environment minister, said:

Ports for supertankers shouldn't be built without major studies into possible environmental effects.

In the article he went on to point out that there were considerable fears about building a port at Gros Cacouna-Ile Verte. We know there has been a certain amount of artful dodging, I am not saying here on the part of the minister, but between the federal government and the provincial government over this matter. The Minister of Industry and Commerce in Quebec has said, unsaid, and resaid on several occasions, in October, November and December, 1972, and again this year, that federal approval had been given for the building of this port. I have tried to find out on two occasions, once from the acting prime minister and once from the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau), whether federal approval had been given, and which department of government had given that approval. So far I have received no answer. I do not expect an answer on this particular point tonight from the Minister of the Environment, but I would not mind having an answer soon.

Just to end off my question, Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the minister specifically whether he intends to proceed with serious ecological studies of the lower St. Lawrence, particularly in view of two facts. The first is the immense danger posed to those extremely valuable and historic waters of ours if there were a major oil spill, and the second is with a view to using the St. Lawrence as a source of aquaculture. I did not say "agriculture," but "aquaculture". We all know that we are suffering a food shortage in the world and that the food shortage will become worse. One wonders whether it is wise to doom a source of food supply such as the St. Lawrence to complete sterility forever, rather than proceed to develop its natural capacity to produce food for us and for the world.

● (2220)

Hon. Jack Davis (Minister of the Environment): Mr. Speaker, as the hon. member for Scarborough West (Mr. Harney) knows, no port is absolutely safe and no development is absolutely safe from an environmental point of view; they vary a great deal, one compared with another. We have not carried out exhaustive environmental studies in the general area of Gros Cacouna-Ile Verte. The principal developer has begun to carry out the necessary investi-

[Mr. Harney.]

gations. The company has been in touch with our officials with a view to determining what criteria, what guidelines, what tests we would apply in assessing ports of that general character.

I understand that the developers will be completing some of these studies using basic data supplied by the Department of the Environment for Canada, and relevant Quebec government departments as well, within the next two or three months. This fits in very well with the approach we are taking generally—the developer must present his case showing the advantages of the development, must look at the environmental aspects of the development as well as its economic aspects, navigation, the risks inherent in sailing through those waters and the risks to surrounding industries including fisheries, tourism, and so on. We do not have an adequate report on tanker offloading and onloading development in the stretch of the St. Lawrence River in the vicinity of Ile Verte-Gros Cacouna. We are working with the developer and we will see what the results are.

HARBOURS—LADNER, B.C.—REQUEST FOR DREDGING TO ASSIST FISHERMEN

Mr. John Reynolds (Burnaby-Richmond-Delta): Mr. Speaker, when I first started asking questions about the Ladner harbour the hon. minister did not seem to know what the problem was, so I asked to be put on the ten o'clock debate. Better than telling the House in my own words what some of the problems are in the harbour, I should like to read into the record a letter from Mr. Edgar A. Birch, a fisherman in the area and a member of the United Fishermen and Allied Workers Union, local No. 4. It was a letter to the editor and it reads as follows:

Editor,

Once again we have seen stupidity carried out to its fullest by the Fraser River Harbour Commission—that body of people who are answerable to no one, except Ottawa, since they are appointed and not elected.

Three years ago, myself and Nick Spilchen, who are fishermen, and two aldermen, met with this commission at the Delta Municipal Hall.

We pointed out to the commissioner that it was useless to go on this way without a plan, as to what we are going to do with the harbour and where to put the sand when dredging is done.

They agreed that even a couple of fishermen could be right.

They went away and that was the last we saw of them. However, a year ago, an engineer from the Department of Public Works showed up in Ladner. We showed this man what we wanted done in Ladner, and we pointed out that the slough would have to be widened to 300 feet, twice its present width. He agreed and said it was no problem from an engineer's point of view.

Eight months ago we started asking for the slough to be dredged again as it was filled up at the mouth to the point where you couldn't get in at low tide with any boat that draws over four feet of water.

Just about each month they informed us they were too busy, until March when we took the Member of Parliament, John Reynolds, on a trip of the river. Two weeks later we were informed that Ladner slough would be dredged. It seems that Reynolds did his homework in Ottawa. However, all consultation ended there.

The dredge came into Ladner and no one consulted the fishermen or the council as to what should be done, and went ahead and dredged the sand up along the edge of the slough and left it there.

Now if we want the slough widened, as we proposed, we will have to move two weeks' of dredging to do so.

If they had put it another 300 yards further inland it would have come to good use later on.

This we are supposed to call an intelligent harbour commission which consults no one. It is time this body was elected and answerable to the public if we are ever going to get anywhere on the Fraser River.

The icing on the cake came when an official assured the fishermen that the channel was dredged enough and they were leaving. The dredge only went about 400 yards when it went aground and stayed there three and a half hours until the tide came in enough to float it.

This once again shows the stupidity of this commission.

Edgar A. Birch

Mr. Speaker, I went up to the slough again last week and took five Members of Parliament with me to show them what the area should be like. It should have better docks. Fishermen are told by the companies, "You can use our facilities for free". But they must give away sometimes 5 per cent or 10 per cent of their bonuses every year to pay for these dock facilities. That can amount to quite a bit more than their competitors to the south, across the border, pay. They can go to the finest port facilities and for $200 or $300 per year keep their boats there.

This government is spending in excess of $100 million in British Columbia on ports this year, and yet is not touching Ladner or sloughs or small fishing ports in the area. We want to know why. The fishermen in the area want to know why, because they are the mainstay of the economy of the area. We demand that some action be taken with respect to sloughs and docks in that area.

Mr. Len Marchand (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development): Mr. Speaker, the hon. member has raised this question on a number of occasions. Tonight he raised a few questions that he had not originally raised. With respect to those questions that were not raised originally, I hope to bring them to the minister's attention so that he can give the hon. member appropriate answers. This evening the hon. member referred to over-all harbour development, and so on. This is a much broader question than the one asked originally.

Mr. Reynolds: Mr. Speaker, on a point of order—

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Laniel): Order, please. In this special proceeding points of order cannot be raised. There is limited time for hon. members to ask questions, and the minister or his representative has three minutes to reply.

Mr. Marchand (Kamloops-Cariboo): The question that had been raised, as I recall, had to do mainly with the dredging of Ladner harbour. I have the following brief note: I have been informed that dredging at Ladner, B.C., was carried out by departmental dredges during the period April 16, 1973, to May 3, 1973. The dredging was done in the navigation channel only. The dredging was to provide for a grade depth of 12 feet, and the channel is 150 feet wide. The dredge spoil was deposited in an area designated by officials in the area. I am further advised that the dredged channel is considered quite adequate for the use of fishing vessels in that particular area.

Mr. Reynolds: How did the dredge get stuck?

Mr. MacEachen: Mr. Speaker, with your indulgence and with the consent of the House I should like to advise hon. members as to arrangements that have been considered and agreed upon by House leaders with respect to the debate on the official languages resolution. I think we can agree that the debate on the amendment now before the House, moved by the Leader of the Opposition, should terminate at the end of the day tomorrow and that the vote on that amendment should take place as the first item of government business on Wednesday. It then would be possible for the Social Credit party to move its amendment, and the vote on that question and on the resolution would take place at a quarter to six on Wednesday. I am tempted to go further and ask the House to endorse that arrangement, although probably we ought to do that tomorrow.

Mr. Baldwin: Mr. Speaker, that is satisfactory. We will give legality to it tomorrow. We hope that the House takes notice of this statement tonight. It comes within the ambit of Standing Order 40 (4), under which the time requirement for questions and answers with regard to the business of the House is now being discharged by the President of the Privy Council, myself and other House leaders. We are most anxious that the House be put on notice that this is imminent, so that hon. members can conduct themselves accordingly and make their plans.

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, we concur in what has been said and we would be willing to legalize this arrangement tomorrow.

• (2230)

[*Translation*]

Mr. Léonel Beaudoin (Richmond): Mr. Speaker, we agree with what the President of the Privy Council (Mr. MacEachen) has just said, because during our discussions he told us that four members of our party would have a chance to speak and we readily accept.

[*English*]

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Laniel): Order, please. I understand the good will and state of mind of the House leaders of the various parties. I think the President of the Privy Council suggested that it might be difficult to do this at the time of adjournment, when many hon. members have gone and when there might not be a quorum in the House. I think the suggestion is well taken, that the House should confirm this decision tomorrow at the earliest opportunity.

Motion agreed to and the House adjourned at 10.31 p.m.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Tuesday, June 5, 1973

The House met at 2 p.m.

[*English*]

HOUSE OF COMMONS

PRESENCE IN SPEAKER'S GALLERY OF DELEGATION FROM ALBERTA LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

Mr. Speaker: May I bring to the attention of the House the presence in the Speaker's Gallery of a delegation from the Legislative Assembly of the province of Alberta led by the Assembly's Deputy Speaker, Mr. William Diachuk.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Diachuk and his five colleagues are in Ottawa participating in a program of parliamentary visits and exchanges between federal and provincial legislatures sponsored by the Canadian branch of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association. It will be agreed, I am sure, that these exchange visits will be of benefit to Canadian legislators, to their respective parliaments, and to Canada as a whole. On behalf of all members I extend to our distinguished colleagues from the province of Alberta a most hearty welcome.

[*Translation*]

On behalf of all my colleagues in the House of Commons, I wish to call the attention to the presence of our parliamentary colleagues from Alberta and to extend to them a warm welcome both in Ottawa and in our parliament.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[*English*]

HOUSE OF COMMONS

SPEECH BY MEMBER FOR LEEDS ON JUNE 4, 1973—ERROR IN "HANSARD"

Mr. Tom Cossitt (Leeds): Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. Last night I spoke in the House in the debate on the resolution and amendment on bilingualism. In this connection I would like to draw the attention of the House to page 4417 of *Hansard* and, in particular, to a gross error that appears in paragraph No. 2. Ordinarily I would not rise to correct a printing error in *Hansard* but because this error is of such a serious nature I am left with absolutely no alternative but to do so on a point of order.

● (1410)

I fully realize that this *Hansard* error will no doubt please those sitting opposite and I expect that the trained seals will holler as usual.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I think the hon. member by his words is now putting himself out of court. If the hon. member wishes to make a correction to *Hansard* he should do so now without making a speech.

Mr. Cossitt: I am reported as stating that I have always been "an outspoken proponent of all forms of racism and bigotry."

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Cossitt: In reality, Mr. Speaker, I stated that I have always been "an outspoken opponent of racism and bigotry".

An hon. Member: When did you change?

Mr. Guay (St. Boniface): You can have him, Bob.

Mr. Cossitt: I should like to finish my point of order without replying to the seals. I have discussed this matter today with the editor of *Hansard* who informs me that it was an honest mistake by the *Hansard* staff. He further agrees that the *Hansard* error should have been spotted before it appeared in print. Naturally I accept this explanation, but the explanation in itself does not undo the most damaging nature of the error without my rising at this time to correct the matter.

At the same time, Mr. Speaker, I must state that I find this error rather incredible because all those sitting in this chamber at the time of my remarks know that I did not say what *Hansard* has attributed to me.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Cossitt: I think it is unfortunate that the action of someone on the *Hansard* staff made it appear otherwise. I should also state, Mr. Speaker, that I furnished *Hansard* with a text of my remarks which very clearly shows that they did not contain this very offensive phrase. I must also say that I do not believe—

Some hon. Members: Order!

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member got the floor for the purpose of making a correction to *Hansard*. He has already indicated what the correction is. I agree with him, and I am sure all hon. members also agree, that the hon. member for Leeds has a point in wanting to make the correction. It was important that he should rise at this time, but I do not think he should make remarks which at this point will provoke a debate.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

[*Translation*]

TRANSPORT

TABLING OF ANNUAL REPORTS OF AIR CANADA AND CANADIAN NATIONAL RAILWAYS

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): I have the honour to table copies, in both official languages, of the annual reports for Air Canada and the Canadian National Railways for the financial year which ended on December 31, 1972.

Mr. Speaker, neither of these reports has been certified by auditors. The auditors' reports will be tabled as soon as the bill on the financing and equity of the Canadian National Railways, which provides for the appointment of auditors, has been adopted. The annual reports are tabled now in order to conform as much as possible to the existing legislation and to give hon. members the opportunity to examine the activities of Air Canada and the Canadian National Railways for 1972.

[*English*]

Mr. Baldwin: Mr. Speaker, on a point of order—

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Peace River.

Mr. Baldwin: Mr. Speaker, I have raised this point before. No matter how fast the minister read, he was making a statement on motions. Reading it rapidly did not alter that fact and he has no right to do it.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

An hon. Member: Oh, come on!

Mr. Baldwin: As I understand it, the hon. gentleman stated that he was making application to table documents under Standing Order 41(2). I think that ministers should bear in mind the point I have raised and drawn to Your Honour's attention and to the attention of the House.

Mr. Speaker: The point made by the hon. member for Peace River is well taken.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Speaker: If a minister chooses to make remarks when he tables a document, certainly it changes the situation. The minister, of course, has the right to do this at any time and members in opposition also have a corresponding right if they wish to make comments by way of response to statements on motions.

* * *

WAYS AND MEANS

DESIGNATION OF ORDER OF THE DAY TO DEBATE WAYS AND MEANS MOTIONS

Hon. John N. Turner (Minister of Finance): Mr. Speaker, I want to read this one slowly. In accordance with Standing Order 60, subsection 2, I request that an order of the day be designated for consideration tomorrow of the notices of ways and means relating to income tax tabled on May 29 and those relating to the excise tax and customs tariff tabled on February 19.

Mr. Hales: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, before we leave motions I wonder whether I could ask the Secretary of State for External Affairs if he is prepared to make a statement on motions on the Zambian situation.

* * *

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

KILLING OF TWO CANADIAN GIRLS WHILE VISITING VICTORIA FALLS, RHODESIA—STATEMENT BY MINISTER

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, my statement will be very brief. The President of Zambia, President Kaunda, has apologized, both directly to us and in a public speech that he made in Lusaka yesterday, with respect to the murder or killing of the two Canadian girls. He has offered his sincere apologies to the Canadian people.

Mr. Hales: Was anything said about compensation?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. There should not be questioning at this time. The hon. member, if he wishes, can ask questions during the question period.

* * *

ELECTIONS

IMMEDIATE INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION TO CONTROL EXPENSES—REQUEST FOR UNANIMOUS CONSENT TO MOVE MOTION

Mr. Les Benjamin (Regina-Lake Centre): Mr. Speaker, I rise under the provisions of Standing Order 43 to move a motion if I may have the unanimous consent of the House. In view of the tragic events in the United States, in view of the recent statements by a former Liberal cabinet minister and in view of the numerous promises of the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau), I would move, seconded by the hon. member for Kootenay West (Mr. Harding):

> That this House requests the government to immediately introduce legislation to limit and control election expenses that would include provision for limitation on spending and full disclosure of sources of funds for both candidates and political parties.

Mr. Speaker: This motion requires unanimous consent. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

Mr. Speaker: There is not unanimous consent.

HOUSING

MORTGAGE INTEREST RATES—REQUEST FOR UNANIMOUS CONSENT TO MOVE MOTION

Mr. Edward Broadbent (Oshawa-Whitby): Mr. Speaker, I rise under the provisions of Standing Order 43 on a matter of urgent and pressing necessity. In view of the rapidly increasing mortgage rates which now have gone up to the disastrous level of 9½ per cent, and in view of the fact that at this rate a home owner with a 25-year mortgage of $20,000 will pay an outrageous $31,720 in interest charges alone, I would move, seconded by the hon. member for Toronto-Lakeshore (Mr. Grier):

That this House direct the government to implement forthwith a policy which would (a) set the NHA lending rate at a level not exceeding the prime lending rate and, (b) direct federally chartered financial institutions to set aside certain proportions of their annual investments for housing at this prime rate.

Mr. Speaker: Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

Mr. Speaker: There is not unanimous consent.

* * *

[*Translation*]

AGRICULTURE

FEED GRAIN SUPPLY—REQUEST FOR UNANIMOUS CONSENT TO MOVE MOTION

Mr. Adrien Lambert (Bellechasse): Mr. Speaker, pursuant to Standing Order 43, I wish to seek the unanimous consent of the House to discuss such an inportant and urgent matter that we should not run the risk of letting it deteriorate further and impede the Canadian economy.

I refer to the problem of feed grain concerning not only grain producers but also increasing the agricultural producers in eastern Canada.

I move, seconded by the member for Richmond (Mr. Beaudoin):

That the House adjourn to consider immediately the solutions to the problem of feed grain stocks for eastern producers in order to assure them fair prices and remove that difference of almost $1 per bushel between eastern and western Canada.

Mr. Speaker: I think that I should point out to the hon. member that his motion is essentially a motion to adjourn under Standing Order 26. This motion should be moved with prior notice, in accordance with the standing orders.

Since the hon. member has not given notice to the Chair, his motion is out of order.

PRICE PARITY FOR FEED GRAIN—REQUEST FOR UNANIMOUS CONSENT TO MOVE MOTION

Mr. Léonel Beaudoin (Richmond): Mr. Speaker, I ask the unanimous consent of the House to move a motion under Standing Order 43 in order to discuss a very urgent matter.

Since the Canadian Livestock Feed Board has proved its inability to find a short or long term solution likely to ensure that eastern farmers will obtain parity prices for feed grain, I move, seconded by the hon. member for Bellechasse (Mr. Lambert):

That the Standing Committee on Agriculture be instructed to review the estimates of the Canadian Livestock Feed Board and consider the possibility of recommending to the House that the powers of this Board be increased in order to make it more efficient, and failing this, that the estimates made available to this Board be withdrawn.

Mr. Speaker: The House has heard the hon. member's motion. Under Standing Order 43, this motion requires unanimous consent. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

Mr. Speaker: There is not unanimity. Therefore the motion cannot be put.

* * *

• (1420)

[*English*]

JUSTICE AND LEGAL AFFAIRS

CONCURRENCE IN FIFTH REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

Mr. J. A. Jerome (Sudbury) moved that the fifth report of the Standing Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs, presented to the House on Thursday, May 31, 1973, be concurred in.

Motion agreed to.

ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

FINANCE

INCREASE IN MORTGAGE INTEREST RATE ON HOUSING—GOVERNMENT POLICY—ACTION TO OFFSET

Hon. Robert L. Stanfield (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Finance. In view of the increase in the mortgage rate of one half of one per cent since April 1, which means an addition to the cost of an ordinary home of approximately $3,000 when projected over the normal life of a mortgage, will the minister inform the House whether the increase in the mortgage rate to this extent is consistent with the government's policy? If not, what action, if any, does the government propose to take to offset this increase in the cost of housing?

Hon. John N. Turner (Minister of Finance): Mr. Speaker, I have been advised by the banks, trust companies and life insurance companies that they are dedicating more funds to the housing and mortgage market in order to counteract and stabilize the trend toward higher inter-

est rates. Of course, this is part of an economic situation in which we are enjoying a very rapidly expanding economy with tremendous competition for credit. Over the past six months the economy has been expanding at an annual rate of 11.6 per cent.

BANK INTEREST RATE ON LOANS TO SMALL BUSINESSES, FISHERMEN AND FARMERS—MEASURES TO ENSURE SUFFICIENT FUNDS AVAILABLE

Hon. Robert L. Stanfield (Leader of the Opposition): When the increase in commercial bank rates followed the increase in the rate of the Bank of Canada an undertaking was given that the rate would not be increased on small business and similar loans up to $100,000 or $200,000. In view of the fact the minister made a great deal of this, and in view of the fact this seems to have been virtually abandoned by the banking system, does the minister have any comment to make?

Hon. John N. Turner (Minister of Finance): Mr. Speaker, I have looked at the rates being charged by the banks for general loans and small business loans. The five larger banks in particular are in effect charging a dual rate, giving a preference to smaller loans. I would be glad to send the hon. gentleman the rate structure which establishes what I have said.

Mr. Stanfield: This question arises from the increase in the number of bankruptcies in the first four months of 1973 compared with 1972. Is the minister actually taking any measures to ensure that sufficient funds are available to fishermen, farmers and small businessmen with a view to halting the escalation in the rate of bankruptcies that seems to be taking place?

Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton): As I have said before in the House, the monetary policy of the Bank of Canada is such that credit is available to meet the expansion in the economy. The governor of the bank and I have indicated to the chartered banks, which appear to be abiding by this policy, that in the allocation of credit preference is to be given to small business, particularly for loans under $200,000 or, in some cases, $100,000, to farmers, fishermen and businessmen in the slower growth areas of the country.

REQUEST THAT GOVERNMENT COMPEL LENDING INSTITUTIONS TO ALLOCATE CERTAIN PERCENTAGE OF INVESTMENT TO HOUSING WITH INTEREST NOT ABOVE PRIME RATE

Mr. Edward Broadbent (Oshawa-Whitby): I have a question for the Minister of Finance arising from the first answer he gave to the Leader of the Opposition. In view of the fact it is precisely the current economic situation which makes it more lucrative for banks and other financial institutions to invest in sectors of the economy other than housing, will the minister take steps to make it mandatory that the banks and other federally chartered lending institutions allocate a certain percentage of their annual investment to housing at rates that do not exceed the prime interest rate?

[Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton).]

Hon. John N. Turner (Minister of Finance): I do not have any authority under the Bank Act to do that.

Some hon. Members: Why?

Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton): But I would point out to the hon. gentleman that figures recently released by Statistics Canada show that our housing starts are still over 260,000 a year.

Mr. Hees: Nobody will be able to buy them when they are built.

Mr. Broadbent: I have a supplementary for the Prime Minister. Would the Prime Minister tell the House whether the Minister of State responsible for housing was expressing government policy when he stated over the weekend that lawyers are charging exorbitant fees in connection with mortgage transactions and other real estate deals?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Surely this is not a matter of government policy. It is an opinion expressed by a member of the House of Commons.

SUGGESTED REPRESENTATIONS TO BANKS TO ACCEPT LOWER INTEREST RATES ON HOUSING MORTGAGES

Mr. Eldon M. Woolliams (Calgary North): I should like to direct a question to the Minister of State for Urban Affairs in light of the fact he has agreed, on behalf of the government, to accept an amendment to the National Housing Act setting a ceiling on interest rates on direct loans by CMHC. Would he consider trying to reach an agreement with the chartered banks to bring interest rates down from 9¾ per cent to a reasonable rate so that people with ordinary incomes could afford homes?

Hon. Ron Basford (Minister of State for Urban Affairs): I shall be happy to discuss that suggestion with my colleague, the Minister of Finance, who is the person who should make any representations in this regard.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The Chair will recognize the hon. member for a last supplementary, after which I will recognize the hon. member for Témiscamingue. If hon. members wish to pursue this matter, we will return to it later.

Mr. Woolliams: In view of that reply by the Minister of State for Urban Affairs, may I direct a question to the Minister of Finance. Would he be prepared to discuss with the lending institutions, the banks and the insurance companies, the placing of a ceiling on interest rates under terms and conditions similar to those brought forward by us as an amendment on the order paper, and approved by the government, in order that people earning average incomes may afford homes?

Hon. John N. Turner (Minister of Finance): I must point out to the hon. member that the interest rates reflect the tremendous domestic expansion in the economy and international rate structures—

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton): —and those happen to be the facts.

Mr. Woolliams: That happens to be Liberal policy.

* * *

● (1430)

[*Translation*]

SOCIAL SECURITY

INCREASE IN FAMILY ALLOWANCES—INQUIRY RESPECTING METHOD OF PAYMENT—MAINTENANCE OF PRINCIPLE OF UNIVERSALITY

Mr. Réal Caouette (Témiscamingue): Mr. Speaker, I wanted to direct a question to the Minister of National Health and Welfare but in his absence, I will put my question—

An hon. Member: He is in the House.

Mr. Caouette (Témiscamingue): So he is here. He is moving closer to the Creditistes, Mr. Speaker, he will soon be with us.

Mr. Speaker, I will then direct my question to the Minister of National Health and Welfare.

Canadians are happy to know that family allowances will be paid at the rate of $20 a month as of January 1. Will those allowances be paid directly to Canadian families or will they be distributed by provincial bodies?

Hon. Marc Lalonde (Minister of National Health and Welfare): Mr. Speaker, those allowances will be paid directly by the federal government.

Mr. Caouette (Témiscamingue): I have a supplementary, Mr. Speaker.

Will those allowances be universal, will they be subject to certain restrictions or will they be distributed evenly to all young Canadians.

Mr. Lalonde: Mr. Speaker, those allowances will be universal and taxable, and a provision gives the provinces the possibility of introducing legislation to vary the amounts above a certain ceiling according to the age or the number of children in each family.

[*English*]

FAMILY ALLOWANCES—DATE OF INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION—CONSIDERATION OF FURTHER INCREASE

Mr. Stanley Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, may I direct a supplementary question to the Minister of National Health and Welfare. Will the family allowance legislation be introduced in the House of Commons during this month of June? May I also ask the minister whether, in view of the rising cost of living, the government is considering making the allowance an average of $25 a month rather than $20?

Hon. Marc Lalonde (Minister of National Health and Welfare): Mr. Speaker, to the first part of the question the answer is yes. As for the second part, may I say I am not surprised at the hon. member's suggestion.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member for Bellechasse has a supplementary after which the Chair will recognize the hon. member for York-Simcoe.

[*Translation*]

INQUIRY RESPECTING FAMILY ALLOWANCES PAID BY QUEBEC

Mr. Adrien Lambert (Bellechasse): Mr. Speaker, I wish to ask a supplementary question of the Minister of National Health and Welfare.

Following the discussions between the minister and the Quebec Social Affairs Minister, will the family allowances now paid by the province of Quebec to a certain group of children continue to be paid, or will those allowances be automatically discontinued under a possible agreement?

Hon. Marc Lalonde (Minister of National Health and Welfare): Mr. Speaker, this is an answer that will certainly be given by the Quebec government itself, which is responsible for the administration of its own allowances.

* * *

[*English*]

URBAN AFFAIRS

WILLINGNESS OF FEDERAL GOVERNMENT TO DISCUSS DISTRIBUTION OF TAX REVENUES WITH PROVINCES AND MUNICIPALITIES

Mr. Sinclair Stevens (York-Simcoe): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Prime Minister. In light of the declaration of the Minister of State for Urban Affairs to the Canadian Federation of Mayors and Municipalities yesterday that the federal government is not going to be restricted to the role of providing money to solve urban problems, is the government unwilling or unprepared to hold significant talks on the number one municipal problem, the imbalance in tax revenues among the three levels of government?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, this is a subject that we are prepared to talk about, though the forum is something that has to be agreed to by the three levels of government or administration meeting at the tri-level conferences. I believe it would be in order for this subject to be brought up at a tri-level meeting and if it were I am sure the minister would be prepared to deal with it.

Mr. Stevens: Mr. Speaker, may I put a supplementary question to the Prime Minister. Have you advised the provinces that you would be prepared—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. A question should not be asked directly but must be put through the Chair.

Mr. Stevens: I am sorry, Mr. Speaker, I will direct it through you. Would the Prime Minister inform the House whether he has in fact advised the provinces and municipalities that at either the October tri-level conference or elsewhere they may bring up this matter?

Mr. Trudeau: Mr. Speaker, this matter is on the agenda for the tri-level conference which I believe is to be held in October.

INQUIRY AS TO FEDERAL GOVERNMENT POLICY RESPECTING SIZE AND GROWTH OF URBAN AREAS

Mr. Steven E. Paproski (Edmonton Centre): Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question for the Prime Minister. In light of the remarks of the Minister of State for Urban Affairs about various growth problems of small, medium-sized and large urban areas, is the government preparing any over-all growth policy of its own with regard to the various sizes of urban areas? If so, which minister is responsible, and when will a detailed policy be outlined?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, the ministry of urban affairs and housing is responsible for co-ordinating government policies in these general areas. The minister, who is present in the House, is prepared to answer questions on this matter.

Mr. Paproski: Is the government designing over-all guidelines of its own with regard to small communities and large cities and, if so, when will these separate guidelines be made public?

Hon. Ron Basford (Minister of State for Urban Affairs): No, Mr. Speaker, but as I pointed out yesterday to the mayors there is a need for provincial growth strategies that federal policies can be supportive of.

* * *

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

KILLING OF TWO CANADIAN GIRLS WHILE VISITING VICTORIA FALLS, RHODESIA—INQUIRY AS TO PAYMENT OF COMPENSATION BY ZAMBIA

Mr. A. D. Hales (Wellington): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Secretary of State for External Affairs. Following the very brief announcement the minister made today, may I ask him whether the President of Zambia offered compensation to the families of the two Canadian girls who were killed by Zambian soldiers? If not, is it the intention of the minister to press Zambia for compensation?

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, the answer to the first question is no, the President of Zambia has not offered compensation. I can say to the hon. gentleman and to the House that the apology offered by the President of Zambia does indicate, I think, a greater awarness of the concern of the Canadian people at the death of these young women. I have also taken the rather extraordinary step of sending a special envoy to Zambia to underline the nature of the concern of the Canadian people, and I expect he will be there shortly.

[Mr. Stevens.]

ALLEGED BEATING OF TWO CANADIANS IN TANZANIA

Mr. A. D. Hales (Wellington): Mr. Speaker, I have a related supplementary question for the minister. It appears that two Canadians were beaten and held incommunicado for 30 hours in Tanzania because they strayed too close to the president's residence on April 29. Did our High Commission in Dar-es-Salaam file a report, were these Canadians in fact beaten, and did Tanzanian officials refuse to contact our High Commissioner?

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, my understanding of the incident is that the two Canadians in question relieved themselves on the lawn of the president's palace.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Fairweather: Did they get compensation?

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Prince Edward-Hastings.

Mr. Hees: That is a tough act to follow, Mr. Speaker.

* * *

PENITENTIARIES

COMMISSION OF SERIOUS OFFENCES BY LEONARD MIVILLE WHILE ON TEMPORARY ABSENCE—GOVERNMENT POSITION

Hon. George Hees (Prince Edward-Hastings): Mr. Speaker, may I address a question to the Solicitor General. In view of the latest incident of a sexual assault combined with injuring with intent to kill committed in Montreal by Leonard Miville, who is serving a life sentence and was out on a 12-hour pass, when does the government intend to stop allowing these dangerous criminals to go out on pass, particularly unattended, and thereby be able to continue their assaults against the rest of the population?

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Hon. Warren Allmand (Solicitor General): Mr. Speaker, the temporary absence in question took place in September, 1972, although the trial of the man only took place yesterday. I might say that since that time we have tightened up on temporary absence passes on two occasions, and I announced some arrangements last Friday to do just that.

* * *

● (1440)

ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

GOVERNMENT POSITION RESPECTING CLEAN-UP AND PROTECTION OF CANADIAN ENVIRONMENT

Mr. Randolph Harding (Kootenay West): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of the Environment. In view of the fact today is World Environment Day and the Minister of the Environment in a message has expressed Canada's commitment to the pollution clean-up

of the world's environment, as was also expressed at the Stockholm conference a year ago, will the minister inform the House on this historic day whether or not the government of Canada is committed in any serious way to the clean-up and protection of the environment in our own country and, specifically, does he plan to use the Canada Water Act to deal effectively with the urgent problems of pollution clean-up which are found in a number of rivers and lakes throughout our country?

Hon. Jack Davis (Minister of the Environment): Mr. Speaker, we are committed to cleaning up our own environment and looking after our neighbouring waters and air and we will, of course, use all our laws including the Canada Water Act, to do so.

Mr. Harding: Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a supplementary question to the Prime Minister. Will he enlighten the House and the concerned Canadian public of the intentions of his government respecting its environmental policy in view of the fact that as recently as two weeks ago the federal cabinet decided to assign the protection of our natural environment the lowest priority in its legislative and spending program?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, the hon. member's suggestions are not in accordance with the facts.

* * *

GRAIN

REMOVAL OF QUOTAS ON WHEAT AND BARLEY—POSSIBLE SHORTAGE OF SUPPLIES TO MEET CURRENT AND FUTURE CONTRACTS

Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Prince Albert): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Justice who reports for the Canadian Wheat Board. Does the fact that the quotas on wheat and barley have been removed entirely indicate that in the opinion of the Wheat Board there is a shortage of necessary grains to meet current or immediate future contractual responsibilities?

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Justice): No, Mr. Speaker, it does not. There are adequate supplies of grain to meet all the commitments on the Wheat Board. What the open quotas do indicate is that for the third year in a row we are having record sales of wheat and barley, and also that a certain number of farmers are holding back delivery because they feel a great deal of income tax will be assessed against them, so other farmers are being given a full opportunity to deliver all they want.

Mr. Diefenbaker: Stripped of the statistical misinformation given by the minister, having regard to the contractual responsibilities of the government of Canada I should like to ask whether there is any possibility that the government will find itself in the next two or three months in the position that it will have to purchase wheat from competing foreign countries?

Mr. Lang: No, Mr. Speaker, there is no chance of that.

CONTINUATION OF PROGRAMS ACTING AS ALLEGED DISINCENTIVES TO PRODUCTION

Mr. Paul Yewchuk (Athabasca): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a supplementary question to the minister responsible for the Wheat Board. In view of what appears to be a shortage of supply, can the minister indicate whether it is his intention to continue programs that act as disincentives to grain production?

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Justice): Mr. Speaker, the premise of the hon. member's question is clearly false. In the time of very heavy surpluses and very heavy supplies which were considered as an onerous and price-lowering factor in the world, there was a temporary curtailment in 1970 of the all-out effort to sell grain. Since that time we have been able to talk to the farmers about moving toward a position in which they can test their production capacity. This year, for the first time in many years, we are able to say to them: Go out and use fertilizer and sprays and produce grain in the most effective way you know.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I notice that a sufficient number of members are seeking recognition to ask supplementary questions on this very important subject that we could spend the rest of the question period on it. For the moment the Chair will recognize the hon. member for Athabasca on a supplementary question, followed by the hon. member for Assiniboia on a supplementary, and then the hon. member for Dartmouth-Halifax East and the hon. member for Portneuf.

PRESENT POSITION OF GRASSLANDS INCENTIVE PROGRAM

Mr. Paul Yewchuk (Athabasca): Mr. Speaker, can the minister clarify the position of the grasslands incentive program at the present time?

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Justice): Mr. Speaker, three years ago we developed the grasslands incentive program with the objective of assisting the movement of approximately four million acres of grain lands into grass because of the tremendous, clearcut, long-term and stable potential of the meat producing industry. This year, in order to complete the third year of the program, we added some additional money so that all farmers who apply can seed grass this year and be eligible in this the final year of the grasslands incentive program.

NUMBER OF CONTRACTS DELAYED BY WHEAT BOARD

Mr. Bill Knight (Assiniboia): Mr. Speaker, in view of the fact that the chairman of the Canadian Wheat Board pointed out to the Standing Committee on Agriculture that the board had been holding back on making agreements in terms of exporting grain because of the level of grain on hand as of July 31, and the need at the end of the crop year, can the minister in charge of the Wheat Board inform the House how many contracts have in fact been delayed by the Canadian Wheat Board?

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Justice): Mr. Speaker, I think the best way to describe this situation is to make it quite clear that the Wheat Board has been continuing to enter into contracts with our regular customers. However, in a mood of conservatism and caution, it has not been undertaking contracts with several potential new customers until it was assured that the capacity of our handling and transportation systems and our supplies would not be strained by the commitments we want to make with our regular customers. I know, of course, that all hon. members are happy that the moisture conditions now existing on the Prairies and the added number of acres that have been seeded will allow the Wheat Board to go all out and sell—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member for Dartmouth-Halifax East.

* * *

AIR TRANSPORT

INQUIRY AS TO PURCHASE OF USED "COSMOS" AIRCRAFT FROM UNITED STATES

Mr. J. M. Forrestall (Dartmouth-Halifax East): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct this question to the President of the Treasury Board and a supplementary question to one of his colleagues. Has the Treasury Board approved or is it giving consideration to the approval of funds for the purchase of a used "Cosmos" aircraft from the United States?

Hon. C. M. Drury (President of the Treasury Board): Mr. Speaker, the Treasury Board has no program for the purchase of aircraft, used or otherwise.

INQUIRY AS TO REQUEST BY DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY TO DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL DEFENCE FOR USED COSMOPOLITAN AIRCRAFT

Mr. J. M. Forrestall (Dartmouth-Halifax East): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct this question to the Minister of State for Science and Technology. I wonder if I might ask the charming minister whether her department has sought—

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Forrestall: Mr. Speaker, when I speak to a good looking woman I wish she would listen. I wonder if I might ask the minister whether it is a fact that her department has asked for a used Cosmopolitan aircraft, or one of the Cosmopolitan fleet, from the Department of National Defence and whether that request has been denied?

[*Translation*]

Hon. Jeanne Sauvé (Minister of State for Science and Technology): Not that I know of, Mr. Speaker.

[Mr. Knight.]

MANPOWER

QUEBEC—ALLEGED DISCRIMINATION IN APPLICATION OF REGULATIONS IN CERTAIN MANPOWER CENTRES—MINISTER'S POSITION

Mr. Roland Godin (Portneuf): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Manpower and Immigration.

Could the minister indicate under what regulations the two manpower centres in Quebec City are operating differently? Indeed, one of those centres is in a position to offer rather good jobs to the unemployed of the area involved, while the other is operating as a sub-agency with only left-overs or lowly paid jobs to offer the applicants?

Mr. Speaker: I think this question could have been placed on the order paper. If the minister can give a brief answer, the Chair will recognize him for that purpose.

[*English*]

The minister can reply briefly.

Hon. Robert K. Andras (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, this is the first time I have heard of the allegation, but I will certainly look into it and see if there is any substance to it.

[*Later:*]

[*Translation*]

Mr. Godin: Mr. Speaker, my supplementary is directed to the Minister of Manpower and Immigration.

Can the minister ensure the House that he will take advantage of the minor study he mentioned to consult those mostly responsible, namely the managers of the centres involved?

* * *

[*English*]

TRANSPORT

REFERENCE OF ANNUAL REPORTS OF CANADIAN NATIONAL RAILWAYS AND AIR CANADA TO STANDING COMMITTEE

Mr. J. R. Ellis (Hastings): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Transport. Does he intend to refer the reports of Canadian National Railways and Air Canada to the Standing Committee on Transport?

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): It is automatic, Mr. Speaker.

* * *

ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE

AUTOMOBILE ACCIDENTS AND INCREASED USE OF DRUGS—POSSIBLE INCLUSION OF ADDITIONAL TESTS IN CRIMINAL CODE

Mr. J. R. Holmes (Lambton-Kent): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Justice. In view of recent figures projecting over 2500 deaths, 90,000 injured

and an economic loss of $2 billion because of automobile accidents in Canada in 1973, and in view of the continued increase in the medical and non-medical use of drugs and the relationship of that use to many accidents, can the minister indicate whether he is considering additional tests to be included in the Criminal Code, particularly in those instances in respect of which breathalyzer tests are negative?

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Justice): Mr. Speaker, we have received representations along these lines from the Canada Safety Council and the matter was discussed with the provincial Attorneys General. So far as I could tell this was not a matter in respect of which there was any great feeling that steps were required at this stage, but we will be raising the matter further with the uniformity commissioners.

* * *

● (1450)

HEALTH

DRUG AND ALCOHOL ABUSE—INQUIRY AS TO POLICY STATEMENT

Mr. J. R. Holmes (Lambton-Kent): Mr. Speaker, my supplementary question is directed to the Minister of National Health and Welfare. In view of the growing problems of drug and alcohol abuse, will the minister table in the House or make a statement on motions in the near future on the long awaited government policy with respect to the problem of drug and alcohol abuse?

[*Translation*]

Hon. Marc Lalonde (Minister of National Health and Welfare): Mr. Speaker, I replied to this question before the Committee on Health, Welfare and Social Affairs when my estimates were being studied.

* * *

[*English*]

ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE

QUANTUM OF DAMAGES FOLLOWING DEATH BY ACT OF ANOTHER PERSON

Mr. Elmer M. MacKay (Central Nova): Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question for the Minister of Justice. Since at present the death of children or individuals without dependants imposes little liability from the civil law point of view, at least so far as the quantum of damages is concerned, has the minister considered bringing the situation to the attention of the Law Reform Commission or, in areas of federal responsibility, has the minister plans to attempt to fix a minimum value, even if it be symbolic, for a human life which is taken by the act of another person?

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Justice): Mr. Speaker, I have not brought this subject to the attention of the Law Reform Commission. So far as civil liability is concerned, this would be clearly within the jurisdiction of the provincial governments.

CONSUMER AFFAIRS

MONITORING OF SALES TAX AND TARIFF CUTS TO ENSURE BENEFITS REACH CONSUMERS—REQUEST FOR REPORT

Hon. Robert L. Stanfield (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs who, if he has a very long memory, will recall that he promised at the time of the budget to monitor the cuts in tariffs to see that they were passed on and to make a report to the House, as he said at that time, before the Easter recess. I should like to ask the minister when we may expect that report and whether he will make it during the lifetime of this parliament or in the next parliament?

Mr. Baldwin: Or in the minister's lifetime.

Hon. Herb Gray (Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs): During the lifetime of this parliament, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Stanfield: As we have waited since the middle of February for this report, can the minister now give us a firm date when we will receive the report?

Mr. Gray: No, I do not think I can do so yet, Mr. Speaker.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

* * *

[*Translation*]

REGIONAL ECONOMIC EXPANSION

LOWER ST. LAWRENCE AREA—POLICY RESPECTING DEVELOPMENT

Mr. Claude Wagner (Saint-Hyacinthe): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Prime Minister.

Following representations made by 3,000 citizens from the lower St. Lawrence area and Gaspé who met in Matane over the weekend, and in addition to having delegated the Minister of National Health and Welfare, would the Prime Minister inform the House of the government intentions with regard to the economic planning of this area, and more specifically of its strategy, in the light of the Quebec government's intentions for this area?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, obviously, this is not a question that I can answer during the question period. A statement should be made not only by myself but by several other ministers, either on motions or during the ensuing debate.

[*English*]

MEASURES TO IMPROVE GENERAL AND SPECIAL ARDA AGREEMENTS

Mr. Elias Nesdoly (Meadow Lake): Mr. Speaker, in the absence of the Minister of Regional Economic Expansion I should like to put this question to his parliamentary secretary. In light of the fact that the Native Council of Canada representing Metis and non-status Indians met the Minister of Regional Economic Expansion on April 11, at which

time the council members indicated measures that could be introduced by the government to improve the general ARDA and special ARDA agreements, is the minister taking any steps to correct some of the weaknesses in the general ARDA and special ARDA agreements?

[*Translation*]

Mr. Marcel Prud'homme (Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Regional Economic Expansion): Mr. Speaker, the minister did meet the delegation in his office, and the assurance he gave the association is such that we have reason to believe that they can expect some changes to be made following their representations.

[*English*]

Mr. Nesdoly: Can the parliamentary secretary tell me when his minister expects to make an announcement regarding changes in these agreements?

[*Translation*]

Mr. Prud'homme: As I said yesterday, Mr. Speaker, the hon. minister is currently visiting the province and is at present carrying out a study of the reforms to be made to regional development programs and ARDA agreements; I think it would be untimely to set a date today for the changes to be made following the hon. member's question and the representations that have been made.

* * *

[*English*]

FINANCE

REQUEST FOR STATEMENT IN LIGHT OF SITUATION OF UNITED STATES DOLLAR AND PRICE OF GOLD

Hon. Marcel Lambert (Edmonton West): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Finance. In light of the situation with regard to the United States dollar and the price of gold on the world market, would the minister kindly make a statement to the House explaining the situation as seen by the government and also explaining the decision of the government to ride along with the U.S. dollar? In this I would hope that the minister could observe a greater degree of accuracy than that displayed in the general financial review presented on Friday.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I am sure the hon. member is suggesting that the minister do this by way of a statement on motions rather than give information now.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): Will he do it?

* * *

CANADIAN BROADCASTING CORPORATION

DESTRUCTION OF TELEVISION TAPES OF CERTAIN PROGRAMS

Mr. R. Gordon L. Fairweather (Fundy-Royal): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Secretary of State. Has the minister's attention been drawn to the destruction by the CBC of some irreplaceable films, for example, some of the films of the Plouffe family, and will the minister obtain from the CBC an assurance that no more destruction will take place pending a decision on the preservation of important archival material?

Hon. James Hugh Faulkner (Secretary of State): Mr. Speaker, this matter has been brought to my attention by several people and I will undertake to discuss it with the corporation. As the hon. member knows, Public Archives are already doing a fair amount of important work in this area and I hope this will increase.

* * *

PENITENTIARIES

REASON FOR IMPRISONMENT OF INMATE BLANCHARD, CONVICTED OF SERIOUS CRIMES, IN WILLIAM HEAD MINIMUM SECURITY INSTITUTION

Mr. Donald W. Munro (Esquimalt-Saanich): Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask the Solicitor General a question about a criminal by the name of Blanchard who recently escaped from William Head and was subsequently recaptured. Would the Solicitor General inform the House how it came about that a criminal like Blanchard, convicted of vicious crimes including rape and inflicting grievous bodily harm, came to be held in a minimum security institution like William Head from which he escaped to commit other vicious crimes? I am wondering whether upon recapture he was returned to William Head.

Hon. Warren Allmand (Solicitor General): Mr. Speaker, I will have to look into the record of Blanchard. I was not aware that he had been convicted of rape. As far as I know, he is not presently being held at William Head—

Mr. Baldwin: Is he on leave?

Mr. Allmand: —but I will find out where he is at present and report to the hon. member.

COMMISSION OF SERIOUS OFFENCES BY LEONARD MIVILLE WHILE ON TEMPORARY ABSENCE— GOVERNMENT POSITION

Hon. Warren Allmand (Solicitor General): Mr. Speaker, I wonder if I could correct the answer I gave earlier to the hon. member for Prince Edward-Hastings. I said in my answer that Mr. Miville had committed his offence in September of 1972. On rechecking my records I find it was on March 13, 1973.

Mr. Hees: Mr. Speaker—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. Hon. members will appreciate that there are just a few minutes left before the end of the question period. I was hoping that before the end of the question period the distinguished frontbenchers might give the Chair an opportunity to recognize some hon. members in the back rows. It seems to me that just about each one of the frontbenchers has had an opportunity to ask questions today. Perhaps we might follow up this matter tomorrow.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Ottawa West.

INQUIRY AS TO RECLASSIFICATION OF CERTAIN MEDIUM SECURITY INSTITUTIONS AS MAXIMUM IN LIGHT OF ESCAPES

Mr. Sean O'Sullivan (Hamilton-Wentworth): Mr. Speaker, it is almost a question of privilege to be mistaken for the hon. member for Ottawa West.

I should like to direct a question to the Solicitor General and ask him whether, in view of the number of escapes referred to by other hon. members, there is now a change in government policy with regard to penitentiaries that would result in reclassifying certain medium security penitentiaries as maximum security penitentiaries, and if such a directive has gone out why we were not advised on motions of this change in policy?

Hon. Warren Allmand (Solicitor General): Mr. Speaker, there has been no directive changing medium security institutions to maximum security institutions. On the other hand, we have been upgrading the security on the perimeter of medium security institutions, but we have not changed the program or the internal security within medium security institutions.

* * *

AIR CANADA

CONSTRUCTION OF NEW COMPUTER CENTRE AT DORVAL—EFFECT ON WINNIPEG CENTRE

Mr. Dan McKenzie (Winnipeg South Centre): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Transport. Some four weeks ago I asked the minister if Air Canada computer centres would be moved from their present locations and consolidated at Dorval. Has the minister any information on my question?

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, I put the question to Air Canada at the first opportunity and I have not yet received their answer, but I will check again and give the answer to the hon. member.

* * *

TRANSPORT

REASON FOR INCREASE IN TONNAGE RATE CHARGED OCEAN GOING VESSELS AT PORT OF VANCOUVER

Mr. John Reynolds (Burnaby-Richmond-Delta): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Transport. In view of the fact that the government has increased the rates at the port of Vancouver from 3 cents a net ton to 3 cents a gross ton, which means an average cost of 60 per cent more for ocean vessels using that port, and in view of the fact that the port had a profit last year of $1.5 million, can the minister explain why the increase was necessary?

● (1500)

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. That kind of question is not in order. The hon. member is inviting the minister to give an explanation which normally ought to be given by way of a statement on motions.

HEALTH

PRESCRIPTION DRUGS—POSSIBLE STUDY TO DETERMINE EFFECT OF COST OF ADVERTISING ON PRICE

Mr. Cyril Symes (Sault Ste. Marie): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Minister of National Health and Welfare. In light of the minister's proposal that federal and provincial laws be changed to allow direct advertising of low cost prescription drugs, has the minister's department undertaken a study to determine the effect of the cost of advertising on the price of prescription drugs?

[*Translation*]

Hon. Marc Lalonde (Minister of National Health and Welfare): No, Mr. Speaker.

* * *

[*English*]

CANADA PENSION PLAN

ACTION TO SPEED UP PROCESSING OF APPEALS ON DISABILITY APPLICATIONS

Mr. W. C. Scott (Victoria-Haliburton): Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask the Minister of National Health and Welfare if his department has reached a formula to reduce the delay in processing appeals in regard to Canada Pension Plan disability applications?

[*Translation*]

Hon. Marc Lalonde (Minister of National Health and Welfare): Mr. Speaker, yesterday the House agreed to give first reading to a bill to help people wishing to appeal the minister's rulings in cases of total or partial disability. As for the hon. member's question I think that if he looks at the replies I already tabled in the House, he will see that delays are not now excessive.

[*Later:*]

[*English*]

REQUEST FOR REASSESSMENT OF DEFINITION OF WORDS "SEVERE AND PROLONGED DISABILITY"

Mr. W. C. Scott (Victoria-Haliburton): Mr. Speaker, my supplementary question is directed to the Minister of National Health and Welfare. In view of the great number of pending cases awaiting departmental decision will the minister consider making a reassessment of the definition of the words "severe and prolonged disability" with respect to the Canada Pension Plan?

[*Translation*]

Hon. Marc Lalonde (Minister of National Health and Welfare): Mr. Speaker, the existing legislation provides for disability and any change whatever would call for an amendment to it, a matter which anyhow is to be discussed with the provinces in the fall when we shall revise the whole situation pertaining to the operation of the Canada Pension Plan.

Oral Questions

[*English*]

FISHERIES

TRAWLERS—NEED FOR MODERNIZATION OF FLEET—DATE OF ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEW BUILDING PROGRAM AND FORM OF SUBSIDY

Mr. Lloyd R. Crouse (South Shore): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Minister of Fisheries. In view of the statement by representatives of Canada's leading fishing interests in Nova Scotia that our offshore trawler fleet is in need of major modernization, and that even ships built only ten years ago are in many cases virtually absolete, is the minister giving any consideration to establishing a meaningful trawler building program which will assist in replacing ships outdated by technical developments in both equipment and fishing techniques?

Hon. Jack Davis (Minister of Fisheries): Yes, Mr. Speaker. The hon. member and the House will be glad to know that we have the biggest trawler building program in Canadian history under way at the present time.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Crouse: Mr. Speaker,—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. We are reaching the end of the question period. However, the hon. member may ask a supplementary.

Mr. Crouse: Would the minister indicate when this policy was announced and what form of subsidy his expanded trawler program is taking?

Mr. Davis: The policy was announced in 1970.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

* * *

GRAIN

WHEAT—REQUEST FOR PUBLICATION OF TERMS OF CONTRACTS FOR EXPORT SALES

Mr. Jack Murta (Lisgar): Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct a question to the minister responsible for the Canadian Wheat Board in somewhat the same vein as a question he answered earlier. Since he has indicated that there will be a larger than normal final payment to wheat producers, could he make available the terms of grain contracts made many months ago, which would not prejudice any negotiations at the present time, with countries such as Russia, China, Brazil and India, to name a few, as these long-term contracts take up a big portion of our export wheat sales and would be of great benefit to grain producers?

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member is presenting an argument in support of his question. The minister might be allowed to reply briefly.

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Justice): Mr. Speaker, I do not think the hon. member is quoting accurately what I did say, although I am confident there is every reason to expect a substantial final payment on this year's pool. It is not the custom of the Canadian Wheat Board to make available actual prices in contracts for commercial reasons.

* * *

FISHERIES

REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE TO FISHERMEN IN VIEW OF ICE CONDITIONS

Mr. Walter C. Carter (St. John's West): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Minister of Fisheries. Is he now able to inform the House what action will be taken on the request of the Premier of Newfoundland for assistance for Atlantic area fishermen who are unable to fish because of ice conditions in the area?

Hon. Jack Davis (Minister of Fisheries): Mr. Speaker, this matter is under review and a submission will be made to cabinet shortly.

* * *

[*Translation*]

REGIONAL ECONOMIC EXPANSION

GASPÉ REGION—CONTINUATION OF CANADA-QUEBEC AGREEMENT

Mr. Albert Béchard (Bonaventure-Iles de la Madeleine): Mr. Speaker, I wish to ask the right hon. Prime Minister a question which is in a way supplementary to that which was asked by the leader of the Quebec wing of the Progressive Conservative party, namely the hon. member for Saint-Hyacinthe.

As a result of the Canada-Quebec development agreement for the Gaspé region, the Lower St. Lawrence and the Magdalen Islands in 1968, which was renewed in 1971, in view of the representations made by the "Operations-Dignity" whose members met on Sunday June 3 in Matane, does the government intend to renew this agreement when it expires in 1976.

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, this renewal would take place as a result of a recommendation from the Minister of Regional Economic Expansion, and I prefer to see it done following a statement by the minister or his distinguished parliamentary secretary.

* * *

[*English*]

INCOME TAX

PROPOSED TAX FOR MANUFACTURING AND PROCESSING INDUSTRIES—REQUEST FOR EXTENSION TO OTHER CORPORATIONS

Mr. Gordon Ritchie (Dauphin): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Finance. Has he had any representations from corporations, such as those that make up the Tourist Association, that the proposed corporation tax for manufacturing and processing companies

should be extended to all corporations and, if so, can he tell us what his reply was?

Hon. John N. Turner (Minister of Finance): Mr. Speaker, I have had all sorts of correspondence about the tax, and of course the response will have to be given on second reading when we debate this measure in the House.

* * *

AIRPORTS

PICKERING—ESTABLISHMENT OF BOARD OF REVIEW TERMS OF REFERENCE AND COMPOSITION—REQUEST FOR STATEMENT

Mr. John Harney (Scarborough West): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Transport. In view of the fact that the Prime Minister of Ontario, Mr. William Davis, declared in the Ontario legislature yesterday that the setting of the terms of reference for the board of review over the building of the Pickering Airport was pretty well a matter for the federal government, and that in setting the terms of reference the ball was in the federal government court, can we expect a statement from the minister fairly soon as to the terms of reference of that board of review and its composition?

[*Translation*]

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, I met last week with a minister from Mr. Davis' cabinet, Mr. Bennett, who asked me to arrange a meeting of main officers of the two governments interested in this issue in order to consider the mandate of the commission. If Mr. Davis changed his mind since then, we will act accordingly.

[*English*]

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The Chair will recognize the hon. member for Bellechasse and next the hon. member for Humber-St. George's-St. Barbe, and then call orders of the day.

* * *

[*Translation*]

AGRICULTURE

FEED GRAIN—MEASURES TO SOLVE SUPPLY PROBLEM

Mr. Adrien Lambert (Bellechasse): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Agriculture.

In view of the fact that the feed grain issue still remains unsolved and because the production of certain types of foodstuffs seems to be slowing down alarmingly in Eastern Canada, can the minister advise the House whether, in addition to subsidizing transportation at the rate of 40 cents a ton, he will announce very shortly further steps aimed at solving that problem to the satisfaction of Eastern Canada producers?

[*English*]

Hon. E. F. Whelan (Minister of Agriculture): Mr. Speaker, we are always studying ways and means of making sure that the people in dairy production and in other forms of agricultural production in Canada are treated in an equitable fashion.

* * *

SOCIAL SECURITY

FAMILY ALLOWANCES—REQUEST FOR ASSURANCE NO PROVINCE WILL PAY LESS THAN UNIVERSAL PAYMENT

Mr. Jack Marshall (Humber-St. George's-St. Barbe): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Minister of National Health and Welfare. It arises from the answers he gave earlier in the question period to the effect that family allowance payments would be universal and that the provinces could adjust them. Can he assure the House and the people of Canada that the provinces will not be able to absorb family allowance payments into other programs, so that children in all parts of Canada will not get any less than the universal payment?

[*Translation*]

Hon. Marc Lalonde (Minister of National Health and Welfare): Mr. Speaker, when the hon. member sees the legislation which we will be presenting to the House, within a few weeks, I hope, I believe he will be reassured in this regard.

[*English*]

Mr. Speaker: Orders of the day.

Mr. Reynolds: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, I wonder if it would be imposing on your good will to ask for unanimous consent of the House to return to motions so that we could give the minister an opportunity to make a statement on the increase in the tonnage rates charged at the port of Vancouver because this is a very important and controversial issue in that area, or maybe the minister would consent to make one tomorrow.

● (1510)

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member is seeking unanimous consent to revert to motions. As hon. members know, after the question period every day we could have questions from members who would want to use the return to motions for the purpose of having statements made. I would ask whether there is unanimous consent for the purpose of returning to motions.

Some hon. Members: No.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member will have recognized, as I have, that there was not unanimous consent for that purpose. Perhaps he could bring it on tomorrow.

Mr. Alexander: Mr. Speaker, a point of order.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Hamilton West rises on a point of order.

Mr. Alexander: Mr. Speaker, perhaps I can get the unanimous consent of the House to return to motions in order to ask the Secretary of State for External Affairs about a question that was posed in one of the communiqués from the Zambian authorities regarding the deaths of Zambians, I believe in the city of Hamilton. The

minister wanted to look into this to ascertain the problem. As I understand it, the government of Canada gave full co-operation at that time, as well as and in particular, the city of Hamilton. I wonder if the House will agree to return to motions in order to answer this very important question because it may have affected our diplomatic relations.

Mr. Speaker: I could inquire whether there is unanimous consent but my impression is that this point was inquired about yesterday or the day before by way of a question and a reply was given by the minister.

Orders of the day.

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

OFFICIAL LANGUAGES

DECLARATION OF CERTAIN PRINCIPLES RESPECTING EMPLOYMENT IN PUBLIC SERVICE OF CANADA

The House resumed, from Monday June 4, consideration of the motion of Mr. Trudeau; and the amendment thereto of Mr. Stanfield (p. 4318).

That this House,

(i) aware that, as provided in the Official Languages Act, the English and French languages possess and enjoy equality of status and equal rights and privileges as to their use in all the institutions of the Parliament and Government of Canada;

cognizant that it is the duty of departments and agencies of the Government of Canada to ensure, in accordance with that Act, that members of the public can obtain available services from and communicate with them in both official languages; while

recognizing that public servants should, as a general proposition and subject to the requirements of the Official Languages Act respecting the provision of services to the public, be able to carry out their duties in the Public Service of Canada in the official language of their choice;

do hereby recognize and approve the following Principles for achieving the foregoing:

(1) that positions which are seen, under present circumstances, as requiring the knowledge and use of both the French and English languages will be first identified, and then designated, as bilingual in the course of the period ending December 31, 1978;

(2) that positions will also be identified where English is an essential requirement of the job, where French is essential, or whether either French of English may be used;

(3) that a knowledge of English and French is one of the elements of merit in the selection of candidates for bilingual positions;

(4) that competitions for bilingual positions will be open both to bilingual candidates and unilingual candidates who have formally indicated their willingness to become bilingual;

(5) that competitions for unilingual positions will continue to be open to unilingual or bilingual candidates who meet the language requirements of the job;

(6) that unilingual incumbents of bilingual positions may elect to become bilingual and undertake language training, or transfer to another job having the same salary maximum, or, if they were to decline such a transfer, to remain in their positions even though the posts have been designated as bilingual;

(7) that employees who, as of April 6, 1966, had at least ten years of continuous service and who, since that date, have been employed continuously in the federal Public Service, will be entitled to apply for any job that has been indentified for future designation as bilingual without having to indicate their willingness to become bilingual;

(8) that unilingual French-speaking and English-speaking persons from outside the Public Service who are willing to become bilingual may apply for bilingual positions open to public competition;

(9) that language training, at public expense, will be provided to unilingual public servants as well as to persons who are appointed to the Public Service to bilingual positions;

do further approve the Government of Canada, and, in particular, the Treasury Board and the Public Service Commission, taking the measures required to give effect to the aforementioned Principles; and

(ii) do further approve the taking of measures, after consultation with employee representatives, designed to produce a greater use of the French language at all levels in the Public Service, through increasing, where practical, the number of French Language Units, through further recruitment efforts by the Public Service Commission, through training programs offered in the French language and by developing proposals, in conjunction with the Governments of the Provinces of Ontario and Quebec, to enhance the bilingual character of the National Capital region, thus helping to realize the objective of achieving, within the merit principle, full participation in the Public Service by members of both the anglophone and the francophone communities.

[Mr. Alexander.]

Mr. Arnold Peters (Timiskaming): Mr. Speaker, I am certain a lot of people in Canada are very concerned with these regulations and feel that we should get on by negotiating with the civil service associations of Canada—after an election which made a change in the direction—in order to provide some protection for those apparently not able to protect themselves.

Speaking on this subject yesterday, I said that I did not see how we would be able to enact a bill of rights on language and language protection. Since then, I have given some consideration to the type of legislation that we have used on other occasions. I am thinking of the type of legislation that was used when we amended the Criminal Code and a large number of acts in order to include a specific idea in those acts. This bill was put together in a form that would allow the various acts to be opened only for the purpose of providing the protection that was desired. I have also had the opportunity of reading several of the statements issued by the Civil Service Association to the effect that it was not interested in having these regulations put into legislation. The association thought amendments might be needed from time to time and was in the process of negotiating for amendments to the regulations.

If I had not been assured by the then Prime Minister, Mr. Pearson, that the terms of these regulations were being provided as a protection for all civil servants, I would not have voted for the Official Languages Act. Those assurances were given by the government of the day. They were given to parliament and I am just as firmly committed to this protection today as I was then. Mr. Speaker, I am not the least bit desirous of having parliament pass what I would consider to be a basic bill of rights for unilingual employees in the civil service, either French or English, or for those bilingual employees, which is going to destroy this protection.

I am not sure if the Civil Service Association believes it can negotiate bilingual districts. I am not sure if it thinks it is capable of making the decisions that will be necessary in determining those areas to which this resolution will apply to and those areas to which it will not. I have not found the Civil Service Association to be very strong, Mr. Speaker. I have found civil servants to be passive, to go along with almost anything that was decided as long as they got more money. I have known many civil servants who have fallen into the bad graces of the government. One of these later became a cabinet minister in this House, but he had sat for several years in an office with nothing on his desk because somebody had decided he was "in Coventry" and he just took it. I have not found civil servants to be strong willed, Mr. Speaker, and I do not think they are able to protect themselves. I am not of the opinion that either the Civil Service Association or the civil service is so strong in an advisory sense that they can protect themselves.

I am sure there are going to be amendments and changes; I am sure amendments will have to be negotiated but I am also sure, representing as I do a number of people of both French and English extraction who speak one of the official languages, and in many cases both the official languages, that those people agree with the terms of this resolution. They believe that we should have a bill of rights in respect of language in Canada in order to eliminate many of the problems that have developed over the last few years.

I have heard of very few cases that were pursued to arbitration, even when a person was told that he no longer had a job because it was now classified bilingual and he was not capable of taking bilingual training. I have seen jobs red circled. In many cases I am sure that the person took a position lower than the one to which he was entitled rather than make an issue. I am sure that is true of the association. However, it is possible the association will develop until it reaches a level of competence in the adversary system which will enable it to negotiate on behalf of those who are aggrieved or who feel they are aggrieved under the terms of the resolution.

Mr. Speaker, I was of the opinion that we could not put the terms of this resolution into legislative form, but after discussing the problem with several competent persons I think a general principle could be written into the various acts to give this protection. One bill could be formulated which would include the terms of the resolution as they affect a large number of acts. I am concerned that we might spend weeks and weeks discussing all the acts that would be involved to which this principle would apply, such as the Official Languages Act, the Public Service Act, the Armed Forces Act—you name it. The principle applies to almost every act that involves civil servants. If the government really wishes to make this a firm declaration, then I suggest it should be a firm declaration and the only way that can be ensured, Mr. Speaker, is to have it in written form.

It has been suggested by my leader that this protection should be written into the collective agreements and this is certainly worth considering. He says it is better than writing it into the law. That may be so. We argued that the bill of rights was not of much value, that its provisions should be written into the constitution. In fact, over the years the bill of rights has been used on a limited number of occasions with success in the courts because there has been an air of unreality in the way it has been applied by the courts. History might well prove that the same situation will apply in this case, and that legislation may be developed out of this resolution. But, Mr. Speaker, I do not think there is any member in this House who is not ashamed of his lack of ability to enforce the terms of this resolution as it applies to the civil service.

● (1520)

Members of this House who sat on the estimates committee actually considered the members of the parliamentary security staff one by one. They said, for instance, that such and such a man is French, and another is English; that such and such a man has a French name but does not speak French, and this one only speaks a little English. Mr. Speaker, we played the numbers game. We are not interested in equality of opportunity, but played the numbers game. The members wanted so many men to be on this side, and so many on that side. I am referring, of course, to the linguilistic capability of the men. There was nothing anybody on the committee could do about it, because that was the attitude of many members who support either side of this particular argument. The fact is that we started adding up numbers and the committee said, "We want so many in this group and so many in that group." There was no reference to whether or not we had introduced criteria on how to promote people who are competent, about whether we have given opportunities for people to learn a second language, if that is necessary, or how it would be possible to promote people in areas where a second language is not necessary. We did not do that at all. Instead, we played the numbers game. I think most members of that committee are ashamed that we played that game.

I think this resolution is only a pious resolution unless it really provides some protection for civil servants, and provides it without it being necessary for the civil servant to make a lot of fuss. We are well aware of the number of civil servants in Ottawa who have tried to make a case about their position. How has that benefited them, Mr. Speaker? In the long run it may benefit the country, because what they had to say was of value in the decision making process. But, Mr. Speaker, those proceedings did not do anything for the people involved. In every instance of which I know, the people concerned did not resign voluntarily; they were forced to leave the civil service, and nothing was done on their behalf by the associations. The associations did not protect them. So, I am not enamoured with the role the associations have played in the past. It may be that they will do better from now on. I suggest, however, that unless the government is really interested in providing the kind of protection of which I speak, the resolution before the House will turn out to be nothing more than a pious resolution. It will be nothing more than a pious exercise unless the government is willing to provide protection; otherwise, these principles will be changed, and changed very likely according to the fortunes of the political parties in this House.

At present, the members are being asked to endorse a program that was not introduced by a majority govern-

ment. It is a program that was introduced by a minority government led by Mr. Pearson. It introduced these proposals. They have already been applied in the government's operations, if one is to judge by a public release of the President of the Treasury Board (Mr. Drury). The civil service has had to abide by the terms of the program. That announcement has been made, but it was made two or three days after the election. That was not soon enough to save Mr. Blair or Mr. Francis. But, that announcement was made, and protection is being provided for the civil servants. Mr. Speaker, I do not want to see, after another election, another declaration made by the President of the Treasury Board, or whoever may be making the declaration, regarding a list of points that are to govern this issue. I should like to see the kind of protection of which I have spoken agreed to by most members of the House, in the same way as almost every member supported the official languages bill. On the other hand, if we leave this matter so that there is doubt, and leave it in such a way that the individual civil servant will not have the right to apply for the protection suggested in this resolution, it seems to me there will be a lot of monkeying around with these rules.

I agree with the Leader of the New Democratic Party who thinks there are going to be changes in this matter. I agree; I think there will be changes, but there will not be changes in the terms of this resolution. There are going to be changes in how the terms of this resolution will be applied in various departments. I am sure that there will be differences of opinion over whether a deputy minister, say, of a particular department, should be bilingual or not. However, I am sure, and I hope other members agree, that such matters can be negotiated by the associations of the civil service. However, Mr. Speaker, I hope that the government itself will indicate that this resolution is not the end of this matter, but that legislative action will be taken to implement the terms of the resolution.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I regret to interrupt the hon. member, but his time has expired. The hon. member for St. Paul's.

Mr. Peter Reilly (Ottawa West): Mr. Speaker, it is a distinct privilege for me to be confused with the hon. member for St. Paul's (Mr. Atkey) and the hon. member for Hamilton-Wentworth (Mr. O'Sullivan) on the same day, as both members are about 20 years my junior. I appreciate the honour you do me.

My hon. friend from Timiskaming (Mr. Peters), for whom I have great affection, left me in some doubt at the conclusion of his speech as to whether he would support the amendment proposed by the leader of my party or not. I can only conclude from his last few remarks that he will not support it. I will. If the amendment does not carry, I will support the original resolution. I say that so that members of the House and the people of this country can know right now that, despite the published reports in what pass for newspapers in this city, the overwhelming majority of my colleagues in the Progressive Conservative party will also support it.

I think we have to make clear at the outset of every address by every member of the House that we are not debating here the merits of the Official Languages Act or the merits of the bilingual policy of Canada. Those are matters of public policy and were decided upon four years ago. All the parties in this House supported that position, and it is now a fact. We are discussing here a resolution which, if its principles are honoured, will extend greater job security to as many as a quarter of a million Canadians. That is all we are discussing.

I believe the resolution needs the force of law to guarantee those rights because, as more than one speaker has said, a resolution can be ignored and amended, but you cannot do that so easily with a law. The point was made by a speaker last night on behalf of the Liberal party that that party does not wish to accept my leader's amendment because this program requires flexibility and the law is not flexible. That is perfectly true, Mr. Speaker. Not one of the laws on the statute books of this country is flexible. That is why the laws are there. Flexibility is marvelous for a careless or tyrannical government. I used to negotiate labour contracts, and every time the employer said to me he wanted flexibility in the application of the contract, or in the application of one set of standards or another, I knew precisely what he was talking about. He wanted power to do what he wanted, when he wanted and how he wanted to do it. So, I will not buy this need for flexibility. If a law is passed and is found to be a bad law, it can be brought back to this House for amendment. It happens every day of the week.

The hon. member for Timiskaming said twice during his speech, once today, I believe, and once last night, that he did not want to vote for my leader's amendment because he was afraid we would be here until July amending all companion pieces of legislation which would need to be amended in order to be in accord with the amendment proposed by my leader. I say to him that if it becomes a matter of legislating greater job security for a quarter of a million of my fellow Canadians, I will stay here until July, or until one year from July, if necessary. I do not think we can allow such considerations to get in the way of discussing this amendment.

Mr. Peters: But I made an alternative suggestion, too.

● (1530)

Mr. Reilly: There is a final point while I am discussing the amendment. It has been suggested by some people, both in this House and in the newspapers, that the motivation behind the submission of this amendment is far from what it seems. It has been suggested that the real reason for this resolution is to force division in the Progressive Conservative Party of Canada so that the Liberals can then go into Quebec and say this party cannot represent the people of that province. I would not like to believe that is the case. I have heard it said a great many times. I have resisted going along with the idea. However, I believe there is one way in which this government can demonstrate its good faith in a very palpable fashion. That is by giving this resolution the force of law by supporting the amendment proposed by the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Stanfield).

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Reilly: When it became necessary during the last election campaign to cope with the issue of bilingualism, I worked a long time before taking any position. I represent

Ottawa West, a constituency in which a great many families have connections with the Public Service of Canada. I consulted the Public Service Alliance, the Professional Institute of Public Servants and finally struck this position, that the Public Service Staff Relations Act, and all companion acts, should be amended to provide for impartial binding arbitration of all disputes including those which may center on bilingualism. As those acts now stand, public servants are not represented in massive areas of their employment. There can be no grievances and arbitration of hirings, firings, transfers or promotion, things which go to the very core of an employment relationship. I proposed that that be changed.

That was the only position I took in public on the matter of the public service. However, even when I pointed out my only objection was that public servants could get no representation of an effective kind, I was called a racist, bigot and many less complimentary things than that. This is the kind of misunderstanding and ill will among politicians in this country that has to stop if it is to stop among the public.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Reilly: This resolution should not be allowed to fall into the hands of those whose only purpose is to exacerbate in order to get attention in this country. This is not a call to arms for another replay of the battle on the Plains of Abraham.

When I saw the nine points outlined by the President of the Treasury Board (Mr. Drury) some months ago, I remarked that they paralleled in almost every regard the recommendations I had made during the election campaign. My colleague, the hon. member for Grenville-Carleton (Mr. Baker), said essentially the same thing. I believe the resolution ought to go into effect. I believe that not only the nine points, but the appendix that was added at the behest of some members of the Liberal caucus should pass because that, too, is fair and should be a matter of law. I invite members from the Ottawa area who are not of my political persuasion to scrutinize this proposal very carefully, see whether they can vote for it and try to influence some of their colleagues to do the same.

We must guarantee people in the Public Service of Canada the right to an effective appeal. There is no such right at the present time. Someone who feels he has been discriminated against on matters affecting his bilingual ability or lack of it may do one of two things. He may appeal to the Public Service Commission, which is not an effective right of appeal since that is his employer, or he may go to the man who has been described as the language ombudsman, a man for whom I have a good deal of regard. On the only occasion I asked him to investigate a case, he did so swiftly, courteously and effectively. I suggest that public servants should be forgiven if, on occasion, they question this man's dedication to the cause of perfect equality in the public service where language is concerned. Some of his phraseology is at best colourful. While I admire a man who speaks colourfully, in a delicate area like this, a man's credentials can very easily be called into question because of public utterances.

I suggest to Your Honour and my colleagues that there is a great deal of mischief being done in this country by people who invoke the constitution. They invoke it on both sides. We have not been able to find a way to even repatriate our constitution. In my submission, it is time wasting and mischievous to become involved in long drawn out disputes about whether a two language policy is constitutional. As the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) told us here last week in what I thought was an excellent speech, it is not matter of history, but a matter of hard political reality. We have to cope with it here and we have to cope with it responsibly.

I want to address myself to an issue the Prime Minister has raised many times, both in this House and outside, national unity. We were told on many occasions that it was necessary to maintain the Liberal government in office because they and they alone were concerned with national unity. I have a different concept of national unity than wanting to make sure that the Official Languages Act is enshrined for all time. It is an important issue and I do not wish to denigrate it. However, alongside some of the other pressing issues that face this country, it is relatively minor and elitist because it concerns a small number of people.

The danger to national unity does not reside in whether this or that resolution passes this House. The danger to national unity lies in the fact that this government and governments before it for 100 years have not cared enough about the problems that vex the daily lives of the people in this country. In Montreal a few years ago, a handful of dispossessed and disaffected people rebelled. What did the government do? Did it prevail on the old friend of the Prime Minister, the mayor of Montreal, to build some houses? Did it prevail upon the city of Montreal to provide more green space and clean up the water and air? Did it give its attention to the children in the slums which have been described by the late Saul Alinsky as the worst in North America? The government did not do any of those things. It busied itself by trying to throw as many citizens in this country in jail as it could.

We do not need secret police groups operating in the East Block. That will not help national unity. What we need is a government that will know every time a child grows up in a slum the government is responsible. What we need is a government that will know that every time a woman is mangled or killed at the hands of some unskilled abortionist because no legal way is open to her the government is responsible. What we need is a government that will know every time an old person rots away in a tenement with an insufficient amount of money at the end of his or her life that the government is responsible. The government, in order to deserve to continue to be the government, must address itself to these problems because these are the real problems to national unity in Canada.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Reilly: When the Prime Minister introduced this resolution, he favoured us with a quote from the father of this country, Sir John A. Macdonald. I want to return to him a quote by Sir Wilfred Laurier. It is this:

> Any policy which appeals to a class, to a creed, to a race, or which does not appeal to the better instincts to be found in all classes, in all creeds and in all races, is stamped with the stamp of inferiority. The French-Canadian who appeals to his fellow countrymen to stand by themselves, aloof from the rest of the conti-

nent; the English-Canadian who appeals to his fellow countrymen on grounds affecting them alone may, perhaps, win the applause of those whom they may be addressing, but impartial history will pronounce their work as vicious in conception as it is mischievous and wicked in its tendency.

● (1540)

I do not believe there is a member in this House who could not subscribe to these views. I hope enough goodwill prevails among all of us here today that we can dispose of this measure in a manner which befits the Canadian House of Commons.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

[*Translation*]

Mr. Jean-Robert Gauthier (Ottawa East): Mr. Speaker, as a Liberal, as a Franco-Ontarian, but foremost as a Canadian I thank the leader of the Progressive Conservative party (Mr. Stanfield) and the leader of the New Democratic Party (Mr. Lewis) for the support they showed this past Thursday for the motion we are now discussing. I sincerely hope that members of all parties similarly support it.

I sympathize with the views of the member for Champlain (Mr. Matte) that service in French from the federal public service is occasionally found wanting, and that there is need for greater participation by Francophones in this institution. However, I personally feel that our government's declaration attempts to deal with these problems in an orderly, humane, and responsible manner. Furthermore, I find unacceptable certain likely consequences of Mr. Matte's amendment, part of which proposes—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I hesitate to interrupt the hon. member but I would remind him at the outset of his remarks that he should refer to an other hon. member by his riding rather than by his name.

Mr. Gauthier (Ottawa East): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I was referring to the hon. member for Champlain. Therefore, I find unacceptable certain likely consequences of the amendment which proposes that all departments of the federal government—

Mr. André Fortin (Lotbinière): On a point of order, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Lotbinière on a point of order.

Mr. Fortin: Mr. Speaker, as far as I know, when the House is debating a motion we are supposed to talk about the motion, not about others which have been ruled out of order for having been moved at the wrong time. We are now discussing the progressive conservative amendment and it seems to me that is the amendment on the order paper.

Mr. Gauthier (Ottawa East): In any event, Mr. Speaker, the two-nation thesis has long been rejected.

This government has in the past been accused by some people as being overly preoccupied with the question of bilingualism, especially as it relates to the public service. Well, as long as there are instances when the public service does not whenever feasible and whenever there is the need, as was documented in the two annual reports of the Commissioner of Official Languages, deal with the public in English and in French according to the public's choice; and as long as the public service does not, as I shall illustrate, offer equal opportunities to French-speaking and English-speaking Canadians to work in the language of their choice, I maintain that this alleged preoccupation is warranted. Indeed, there are good grounds for arguing that it should probably be intensified.

While I will be speaking this afternoon primarily on how this declaration affects Francophones, let us not for a moment forget that it is directed at both major linguistic groups in Canada; that it offers certain guarantees, and certain rights to both English-speaking and to French-speaking public servants and to any Canadian who wishes to work for the public service.

Let us remember that the public service is the prime instrument through which federal laws and regulations are administered. It is the single largest employer in Canada. It is one of the sinews which binds together our geographically diverse country with its linguistically heterogeneous population. Thus, it is critically important that the public service reflect in its compositions the population of the country. Given the Canadian reality of 16 million English-speaking and 6 million French-speaking inhabitants, clearly it is essential for the sake of national unity and for the sake of rendering effective services to ensure that in all government departments there are sufficient materials and personnel to serve the public in English and in French according to its choice, and for English and French to enjoy equal status as languages of work within the public service so that everyone will feel at home.

Although this is neither the time nor the place to examine in detail the history of bilingualism in the public service, it is nevertheless appropriate to note that for many years, indeed for generations, Francophone Canadians have voiced their concern for the need to have a public service which could deal with them in French, and in which they could work in French. However, it is only since the early 1960's that governments at the federal level have taken a serious interest in attempting to realize these goals.

If it seems to some people that there is too much government activity on the question of bilingualism, this may appear to be the case to them because so little was done concerning this vital issue prior to the mid 1960's.

This past decade has witnessed a desire for épanouissement among many groups in Canadian society—certain injustices against minorities were certainly not willingly committed. We have a certain amount of catching up to do as regards minority rights and so it is that today we speak of the rights of women, the rights of natives and of ethnic groups. The French-speaking minority is now living through that catching up period. Francophone minorities look upon Canadian federalism as an economic union and also as an association, a socio-cultural and linguistic agreement which strives towards the same goal—a prosperous Canada, endowed with two official languages and several cultures.

The premise of my argument will be to establish that the existence of francophone minorities in Canada guaran-

tees the objective of the government's resolution, that is a functional, bilingual federal institution. If we are to avoid, Quebec becoming the only place where francophones can feel that they are able to live and work in French and becoming the homeland for all francophone Canadians, it is essential that the federal government take effective measures to implement institutional bilingualism and provide increased opportunity for francophones who desire to do so to work in French.

● (1550)

The motion that we are discussing today constitutes one of this government's attempts to realize these goals. Unless francophones can identify, to the extent that anglophones do, the federal public service as being their public service and the national capital as being their capital, the continued existence of a strongly united Canada from sea to sea is threatened. For a federation can exist only as long as its constituent parts feel that they are a vital part of the federation. History is replete with examples which substantiate this point.

That federal bilingual institution will be functional inasmuch as the supply of institutional bilingualism meets a firm demand throughout the country. However, in provinces where anglophones are in majority, the guarantee of that demand rests on francophone and bilingual minorities which have that responsibility and even that obligation.

In 1973 in Canada, there are 926,105 francophones living in provinces where anglophones are in majority. Those bilingual Canadians whose mother tongue is French fought for their rights since Confederation. Indeed they fought for their education rights to be recognized by the province. School being the extension of the family, it was a guarantee for the survival and development of their own entity. However, it is true that the French minorities outside Quebec have had to organize, to protect their rights, their mother tongue. They did so at their own expenses, at the cost of great sacrifices.

Mr. Speaker, I talked about that problem in this House last March 20, and I quote from page 2431 of *Hansard* where I said:

> All efforts made by the federal government will be of little use if we cannot maintain in all provinces a strong, lively, and dynamic French-speaking group which would lead the way and make a place for itself under the sun thanks to all sorts of provincial and public institutions designed to promote and encourage the French culture.

I continued later:

> Those efforts towards the establishment of bilingualism, Francophones have made them since our country was founded, but under present circumstances, the francophone minority can no longer oppose single-handed the anglophone giant of unilingualism. They must be given specific and efficient help if they are to continue living and fulfilling themselves in French.

The great majority of unilingual English-speaking people enjoyed a good education system which was tailored to their economic resources. For some of them in public service who make an application for a management job or who hold a position which eventually will be designated bilingual, they have merely to perfect their qualifications by becoming bilingual.

The principle of equal opportunities in public service is very important for us. Unhappily, because of a defective education system in their own language, the great majority of French-speaking minorities have no access to the middle or higher echelons of management. In 1965, in Ontario, where 500,000 French-speaking Canadians are now living, a very low percentage of bilingual French-speaking Canadians were continuing their secondary education beyond grade 10. The large majority were bilingual owing to the force of circumstances and the importance to express themselves in both languages. On the other hand, they were disadvantaged with respect to formal, academic, technical and vocational education because there were no French public schools.

Fortunately this situation has changed in recent years. Even if the battle will always be difficult, at least in Ontario—you just have to read the daily papers to realize it—the present school generation will eventually have opportunities of access to the public service with the same academic, technical and vocational ability as the English unilingual applicant.

The principle in the second part of the resolution under study has almost not been applied as regards bilingual French Canadians now in the public service. They did not have that adequate technical, vocational and administrative training that their English fellow-citizens had.

Joining the public service and staying there at a lower level cannot be considered as equal opportunity. To have equal opportunity means being able, depending on one's abilities and one's own merits, to reach the middle and top management levels. It is surprising and even ironic to note that the federal government in the fall of 1972 had sponsored 21,000 civil servants, especially among the intermediate and higher ranks, 80 per cent of whom are English-speaking, who had registered for French courses. The unilingual English Canadian was thus provided with the double qualification of bilingualism.

Do the sincere English-speaking groups, whose socio-economic classes had enabled them to acquire a higher education in their own language, appreciate that bilingual measure of the government and consider for a moment the unfairness done to French-speaking minorities too often disillusioned and frustrated?

Have such groups of right-minded and honest Canadians thought that to benefit really from equal opportunities the bilingual French-speaking Canadian would perhaps need a similar federal fund not to learn English but to enable them to better their own professional proficiency in the administrative and technical fields?

French-speaking and English-speaking Canadians do not enjoy equal opportunities to work in the public service in the language of their choice. It is the intention of the declaration to ensure that both English-speaking and French-speaking Canadians enjoy equal opportunity, when competing on the merit principle, to be appointed to the public service. Too often in discussions regarding this question the facts are neglected. I would now like to discuss some realities concerning this matter.

The 1971 annual report of the Public Service Commission states the language requirements of the 66,675 appointments made to the public Service during the year

1971. The figures include both appointments of former public servants and the appointments of new employees. The language requirements of these are as follows: 5,509 or 8.3 per cent required French-language capacity only, 6,047 or 9.1 per cent bilingual capacity and 52,821 or 79.2 per cent required English capacity only; the language requirements for 2,298 positions, 3.4 per cent, were not indicated.

In his appearance before the Miscellaneous Estimates Committee the Commissioner of Official Languages presented data regarding the language requirements for the appointments made to the public service in the year 1972-73. The figures indicate that 7.6 per cent of the positions required bilingual capacity, 11 per cent required French only and 75.6 per cent required English only.

Furthermore it is quite widely known the under-representation of francophones in the public service is more pronounced in the upper than in the lower level positions, and that the opportunity to work in French decreases as one moves up the hierarchy of occupational levels. Granted, this declaration is not a panacea to all problems involving bilingualism in the public service. However, panacea's just don't exist for complex problems of this nature.

That is why it is a resolution, not a statute. It spells out in specific terms the guidelines being used for implementing bilingualism in the public service and for identifying bilingual positions. Let us remember that not all positions but approximately one tenth or 25,000 are slated to become bilingual positions.

After carefully examining the content of the resolution, I feel that no one can in all honesty claim that it contains any elements of injustice. The formal commitment by the federal government toward institutional bilingualism in the public service is relatively recent; it dates from April 6, 1966, the day the right hon. Mr. Pearson presented the declaration to the House of Commons.

One of the principles stated in that historic declaration was, and I quote:

—the linguistic and cultural values of both English speaking and French speaking Canadians will be reflected through civil service recruitment and training.

This national representation, well balanced and satisfactory, will include in our public service 10 per cent of bilingual employees and ensure as well that all unilingual Canadians have the right to work in the public service in the language of their choice.

Major changes in complex organizations, such as the federal public service, are rarely achieved without some friction. Institutional bilingualism, if it is to be effectively realized, will likely require both changes of an organizational nature and some changes in values within sectors of Canadian society. As politicians, as the elected representatives we can reduce the amount of friction involved by examining objectively the actual content of the government's policy regarding bilingualism in the public service. I think that it is due time to invest in the "bilingualization" of our unilingual citizens and that it is also essential to invest in the improvement of those who are bilingual. If we use all available assets to that effect, we will succeed in reaching our objective, that is respect for and development of our two great languages and cultures as well as the citizens concerned.

[Mr. Gauthier (Ottawa East).]

• (1600)

[*English*]

Mr. Eudore Allard (Rimouski): Mr. Speaker, successive Canadian governments have been labouring for a decade to make it evident that the federal administration reflects the equal partnership of the French and English founding people. The constitution formally recognized both French and English in 1867 in the federal field and in the province of Quebec. However, it has become evident to us that this recognition was incomplete in many respects, and often disputed where the French language was concerned. The equal status of the two languages must be established without a shade of doubt. From now on, I will proceed in my mother tongue.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Speaker, the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) waited a long time before introducing in this House his resolution on bilingualism. When he finally introduced it on April 13 last, Canadians were expecting a realistic proposal that could snatch the government policy on bilingualism out of the stand-pattism that has characterized it since the passing of the Official Languages Act. On April 13 last, Canadians were disappointed. Of course, it was not the first time that this government disappointed them, far from it.

But after publication of the Spicer report, which pointed out the numerous inadequacies of the bilingualism program as administered by this government, the government was expected at least to go in the direction shown by the Commissioner of Official Languages and take steps to give a new start to faltering programs on bilingualism in the public service.

Not only are the April 13 proposals not heralding a new start of the faltering programs on bilingualism, but they clearly show this government's intention to confine itself to fine statements and good intentions.

Things have improved very much since 1962 in the federal public service, in federal institutions, as far as bilingualism is concerned, and the struggles led in this House by the Creditist members for the recognition of the French fact are historical.

It is true. There was much progress and improvements to enable a French-speaking member or a French-speaking Canadian to feel at home everywhere in Canada.

But since 1969, not only was there no improvement, but conditions deteriorated unceasingly. The Liberal government passed the Official Languages Act and then thought that the bilingualism problem had been solved. As if pronouncements of goodwill were enough to make French exist in the federal administration.

Some people said that the government was trying to run with the hare and hunt with the hounds by passing a law on bilingualism without taking any positive action. As a matter of fact, what the government is doing is much worse than that: it is trying to get the hare to run after the hounds! It takes advantage of the good faith and confidence of English- and French-speaking Canadians.

The Social Credit party intends to bring an amendment aimed at giving a concrete bearing to the meaningless proposal made by the government on April 13 last. The

Social Credit party proposes specific measures which, if they are implemented, will bring an end to the everlasting debate on the language question and finally allow the House to tackle the economic problems of the country.

It is the failure of the government to take realistic measures on bilingualism which gave rise to the uneasiness existing in the civil service and within the population on this matter. What the Social Credit party is proposing is simple, but someone had to think of it. Instead of spending millions of dollars to try and teach a second language to civil servants who are a few years away from retirement, and instead of favouring injustice by trying to implement a quota system which goes against the principles of merit promotion, the government should consider creating two parallel administrations, one English and one French. Why should we force a second language on those who do not want it? Why should we spend millions of dollars for language courses which are bound to fail miserably?

The parallel administrations proposed by the Social Credit party represent the final and ultimate solution to the bilingualism problem in the civil service.

Let the government create, according to geographic and population circumstances, a French section and an English section in all departments, according to their respective administrative needs. Then, we will all be served and administered in the official language of our choice.

The employees of the civil service will be promoted exclusively on the basis of their respective merits without fearing racial and unjust policies.

This is in short what we propose: the adoption of logical and realistic measures to solve the problem of bilingualism in the civil service. The government therefore must stop beating about the bush and decide on a course of action. Everybody is sick and tired of listening to the commonplace remarks from the government side. While English-speaking Canadians feel they are being victimized, French-speaking Canadians want a federal administration in which they can feel at home.

The government must therefore make up their mind and assume their responsibilities; they must abandon these declarations of principles which are as empty as useless, and cope with the task of establishing parallel administrations in order to satisfy the true needs of the Canadian people.

This is what we are asking for in the amendment submitted by the hon. member for Champlain (Mr. Matte); we request the support of all hon. members of good will so that this program which is in line with what all Canadians have been hoping for may be set in action.

[*English*]

Mr. Gordon Ritchie (Dauphin): Mr. Speaker, I rise to speak on this resolution as one who voted against the language bill in 1969. I should like to say that time has in no way changed my mind that the language bill has been and will continue to be a divisive factor in this country. Perhaps eventually the country will be divided, and it may well be that history will record the language bill as the final divisive force. I think any student of history would say that the relationship between the French province of Quebec and the balance of the country, mainly English-speaking, has made for a very difficult, unstable nation, but this country has given its people freedom, a reasonable standard of living, and in the final analysis those are the most important things for any individual.

One of the differences between this debate and the one that took place in 1969 is the indication that the Ralliement des Créditistes members, speaking for their voters in the province of Quebec, have indicated that bilingualism does not answer the objectives of those members who gained 30 per cent of the popular vote in Quebec. These views cannot be disregarded. These hon. members have indicated by this amendment that the present bilingual program will not solve our language difficulties in the civil service. There is much to be commended in respect of this amendment, but with the creation of French-language units we are already moving in the direction of a dual or parallel civil administration as suggested. I welcome that viewpoint and agree with it. It is timely at this stage in that it gets the bilingual problem out of the area of being untouchable and the suggestion that if it is not embraced in its entirety, Canada will fall to pieces. This debate is now placed in the political area where a decision can be made on the basis of what can be accomplished.

The stand taken by hon. members of the Creditiste party would indicate that a sizeable number of Francophones do not see in the bilingual concept a rational and reasonable approach to the idea of a bilingual civil service. Time at this stage will not allow a considered comment on this amendment, but I have long been of the opinion, in a general way, that the thrust proposed by hon. members of that party is reasonable, right, and will get around many of the difficulties in which we now find ourselves.

The attitude of the Liberal government that all those who oppose the bilingual program are to be found only amongst the Anglophone population of the country, and that all those people are bigots, must now be discarded, because in the Francophone segment of our country there are substantial numbers who are not happy and presumably must be classified also as bigots. The hon. member for Champlain (Mr. Matte) has stated in no uncertain terms that the present provision for bilingualism in the civil service will not in any way solve our problems. The sizeable number of voters in the province of Quebec who place their trust in the Social Credit party would indicate there is a large group of Quebecers who are looking for other means of satisfying their aspirations than the Official Languages Act, and I doubt that the Social Credit party at the last election numbered many Westmount Rhodesians among their supporters.

The attempt by the language bill to create a bilingual civil service to solve the French-English problem has created more difficulties than it has helped. Few would question the right of Canadians to receive federal government service in their official language, but it is an entirely different thing to make the civil service bilingual and to make all public servants speak both languages. This is an intellectual solution to a very difficult problem. It is a solution that the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau), being bilingual, has arrived at by the following process of reasoning: "We have a French-English problem . . . I am bilingual . . . others are bilingual; we will solve this problem by making everybody bilingual".

Having two official languages creates very great problems. This has been the case in all countries where there are a number of languages spoken. We only have to consider Belgium and South Africa to appreciate the great problems involved. The fundamental difficulty lies in the fact that no individual is bilingual. Everyone has a mother tongue and a working knowledge of a second language. Most people can say a few words in another language, but to be able to converse and work in the second language requires a high degree of proficiency in the language.

● (1610)

The measure of the bilingual ability of a person is of necessity an extremely subjective judgment and open to wide interpretation. For instance, a person may be grammatically correct in his use of the second language but his accent may make it impossible for anyone to understand him. I am sure that all members of the House would prefer that a witness in a committee who is making a valiant attempt to speak a second language, and often being grammatically correct, would speak in his first language and allow the interpreters to translate his remarks.

Functional bilingualism has always been present and would have served our needs adequately had we followed a sensible language policy. The present Official Languages Act allows for recruitment of civil servants on the basis of their linguistic abilities without regard for the merit of the candidates concerned. In view of the present structure of our civil service, we will shortly have a civil service whose prime aim will be language competence. It will be composed of an elite whose goal of excellence will be language training and who will be unaware of the fact that their primary function is to serve the public.

No one would deny that the civil service, as set up before the Official Languages Act, created a hardship for unilingual francophones. Remedial measures could have been introduced, and in fact were introduced in many cases and acted upon, to increase the percentage of francophones up to their census representation. Before the Official Languages Act was brought in it was difficult for unilingual francophones to enter the civil service, but anglophones from all over the country had an opportunity to obtain employment in the civil service in Ottawa. The principles of bilingualism slam the door shut to all unilingual Canadians, both francophones and anglophones, and make it impossible for them to participate in the federal civil service. If the civil service was previously biased against the French speaking minority, the present act is biased against unilingual Canadians, both francophones and anglophones. The present civil service is recruited from a small group of people in Canada who are bilingual by circumstance, and therefore it is not representative of the country at large.

The fact that Canada is made up of 16 million anglophones who speak little French and 6 million francophones, the majority of whom speak no English, means that that segment of the population which is bilingual is francophone by circumstance. It has been widely suggested that only 10 per cent of the civil servants will be required to be bilingual, but when one considers that this 10 per cent will be made up of civil servants in the top executive echelons—the people who make the decisions and carry on the daily business of the government—one realizes that an almost impossible situation will arise. Those people will have to be recruited from the small group of Canadians who are bilingual, and experience proves that these are francophones.

It is entirely unthinkable and unacceptable that this top 10 per cent of civil servants who are francophones should dominate the vast majority of civil servants who happen to be anglophones. Only if the top level of the civil service were to represent the numerical language ration of the country at large would the present bilingualism policy be acceptable. It is bad enough for the majority to dominate the minority, but for a minority to dominate the majority is intolerable.

We may well wonder why this resolution was not incorporated into the Language Act, because now it has no legal validity. The reason is that the people of Canada in the election of 1972 indicated their very grave concern about the language policy of this government. Language difficulties and unrest are increasing. Indeed, it is one of the major issues in the Air Canada strike. This unrest will certainly increase as time passes.

A much more practical solution to our language problem is available. So far as language is concerned, our country is divided, with Quebec being the main centre of the francophone population and most of the rest of the country being mainly anglophone. Western Canada especially is now becoming unilingual anglophone. The development of a dual civil service is an easy and practical way of bringing harmony to the language groups in Canada. There is no reason why a unilingual francophone should have to learn a second language to advance in the civil service, or vice-versa. The civil service could be structured in such a way as to recognize the basic principles of providing service in both languages. For those who say that a dual civil service would be too expensive, let me point out that we must recognize the enormous expense of providing language training in our attempt to make our civil service bilingual.

The resolution brought forward by the government makes no sense and carries no weight with anyone. At best, it can be said to be a moral directive to the President of the Treasury Board (Mr. Drury) so long as the present incumbent occupies this position. It is not binding on any of the selection committees of the civil service. The only logical reason for bringing forth the resolution, which is intended to reaffirm legislation already passed, is a political one. It is an attempt by the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) to ensure his political base in Quebec and to continue to humiliate anglophones in the rest of Canada. It is an attempt on his part to show his superiority as a bilingual person over unilingual Canadians. It certainly attempts to demonstrate that all unilingual Canadians are second class citizens in this country.

The indication which the government gave that it will not accept amendments from the opposition to put the resolution into law demonstrates that the government does not intend to abide by the resolution. If the principles of the resolution are not put into legislation, even lip service will not be given to the aims it attempts to achieve. Regardless of whether the guidelines in the resolution are incorporated in the act, they will not be very effective. Even the clause which makes it possible for a unilingual

person to apply for a position that is designated as bilingual means very little in fact because, practically speaking, the job will always have to be given to a bilingual person. A department head will be reluctant to allow a position to remain vacant for a year while the new employee is learning a second language.

To give an example of this let me quote an official who spoke in the Standing Committee on Labour, Manpower and Immigration on the staffing process. He had the following to say:

> Mr. Chairman, we have developed a process, a staffing process within the department, whereby positions that are considered to require bilingualism to fulfill the duties are open to all employees of the department. In the event that a unilingual person is considered to be the best person in a competition and that a properly qualified bilingual person does not qualify, under those circumstances, the unilingual person is awarded the appointment—

Does this not indicate that only in exceptional cases, where no suitable bilingual person is available, does a unilingual person have any chance of getting a job? In a practical way, one cannot quarrel with any department head who would want the position filled at the earliest opportunity.

The Official Languages Act has created a great deal of disunity and divisiveness. In this resolution we are concerned about the effect of the act on people already in the civil service. But I have always said that if we are to make everybody in the civil service bilingual, we could put everyone who is unilingual on pension and we would even then be farther ahead. It is slowly and surely coming home to unilingual Canadians that the civil service in Ottawa is closed to them. There is a realization in unilingual western Canada that there will be little chance for people from that area in the Ottawa scene. There are those who say that there should be a greater degree of second language teaching in schools across the country, but it is certain that in western Canada there is little point in learning French as the second language. In my area, for every person who goes to Quebec, 20 go to Mexico, so if there is any stimulus for learning a second language, the preference would be for Spanish. Internationally, French is used relatively little compared to Russian, German, and, I suppose eventually, the Oriental languages.

We can forecast that in western Canada there will be a steady decline in the teaching and use of French as the second language. This might be regrettable, but I do not think this trend can be reversed, and indeed it would make little sense to attempt to reverse it. The Official Languages Act makes the western Canadian feel more strange, more apart from Ottawa. Mr. Speaker, I would like to say that I support the amendment put forward by my party. I think it will improve the resolution and put some teeth in it. Otherwise, the resolution, as it now stands, is not worth the ink with which it was written.

● (1620)

Mr. Len Marchand (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development): Mr. Speaker, it is an honour to take part in the debate on this important resolution. The importance of our debate on this fundamental question of bilingualism in the public service cannot be overstated. There is nothing more and nothing less at stake than this country of ours, Canada. I am very pleased with the support that the various groups representing the public service have pledged to the principles embodied in this resolution. I cannot help but believe, too, that the well-being and good will of our political system in Canada will also be strengthened by the affirmation of this resolution.

I have followed the debate closely and with great interest, and would like to pay tribute to the hon. members who have spoken strongly in favour of the resolution, particularly the right hon. Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau), the Leader of the Official Opposition (Mr. Stanfield), the leader of the NDP, and many others. I know that questions were raised on the other side of the House by the hon. member for Rocky Mountain (Mr. Clark) and the hon. member for Ottawa West (Mr. Reilly) on why we introduced this resolution. One of the suggestions made by the hon. member for Rocky Mountain was that we were trying to divide his party, among other things. Mr. Speaker, this could not be farther from the truth.

I would like to say very sincerely that I have admired the way in which the Leader of the Official Opposition has conducted himself on this question. He has been unwavering in his stand. He has not varied one iota in the stand he has taken on the question of bilingualism, and I commend him for that.

In gathering together a few ideas for my remarks today, several thoughts crossed my mind. The first is that it is a well known fact that I am neither of French nor English ancestry, and therefore I have no particular axe to grind. I might also say I have some real questions about the theory of the two founding races as expressed by the hon. member for Rimouski (Mr. Allard), because my ancestors knew this land well before either of those groups arrived.

A second thought, and one that greatly disturbed me, was particularly relevant during the last election campaign and its immediate aftermath. We did not talk much about national unity, bilingualism, and the other ties that bind our diverse country together. We assumed, rather naïvely, that a great deal of the stress which had fostered disunity and misunderstanding in Canada had been alleviated over the years. We, as a government and as a parliament, failed to demonstrate the true spirit and the real facts behind bilingualism.

In my own campaign I talked about national unity as often as I could. At all-candidates-forums, coffee parties, townhall meetings and so on I, like the hon. member for York South (Mr. Lewis), encountered very few red necks whom one could call bigots for their stand on bilingualism. However, I did encounter a lot of misunderstanding about the application of bilingualism in the public service.

The last parliament gave nearly unanimous support to the Official Languages Act in 1969. However, in my view, as parliamentarians we failed to demonstrate the leadership that was necessary to explain the rationale of the act, as it was being implemented, to the people of Canada. We cannot permit a situation where misunderstandings like that can develop, with the racial tensions that such misunderstandings might heighten in the future.

Several other thoughts hit me. In addition to being of neither French nor English ancestry, I am a western Canadian and a former civil servant. From the way some

people have been ranting over the years one would assume that I have all the credentials to be one of the most anti-bilingualism people in the country. This is not so. I believe that the great majority of Canadians would support this resolution. But it is seldom that this group grab the headlines because, quite frankly and sadly, the positive beliefs that they hold just do not rate headlines.

No one can or will deny that there are certain forces in Canada which seek to subvert the unity of the nation. The Official Languages Act and its application are a target of this narrow, vindictive group. But Canadians are a tolerant people, and I am confident that they will continue to pay little attention to the small minority whose narrow outlook on life permits them to play to the basest of human emotions, fear, hatred and bigotry, emotions which result largely from a sad lack of knowledge and understanding.

From my point of view, a very important consideration with respect to this entire question centres squarely on my own ancestry. I feel very strongly that there is no way that Canada, as a nation, can recognize the rich heritage and diversity of the many groups that have joined together to build the great nation of Canada, and that will continue to work together in the future, if we do not give vital recognition to the principles and the application of bilingualism and multiculturalism. The eventual result of adopting a narrow approach would be for Canada to become a melting pot, like our neighbour to the south. This is directly contrary to the spirit and the vigour of Canada—a spirit of unity amidst diversity.

I believe that our government has committed itself to the right course for the cultural survival of Canada. I believe that our multiculturalism program, and its vigorous application, will help remove a lot of the misunderstanding which exists among several segments in Canada with respect to the bilingualism program. Multiculturalism and bilingualism and biculturalism go hand in hand in the recognition of human rights in this land of ours. These elements cannot be separated, nor can the spirit which underlies them.

We have heard several people say, particularly in western Canada, that the government is shoving French down our throats. They also complain about the cost of the bilingualism programs. Those two statements are probably the most common manifestation of the lack of knowledge of this program which exists in certain parts of the nation. It is our duty to do a better job of telling it the way it is. No one is forcing anyone to do or learn anything because of the act or this resolution, and I firmly believe that the cost of the program is small when one stops and considers what is at stake—Canada. Mr. Speaker, we may not all be able to speak to each other in either of the official languages but all of us, as Canadians, must be able to speak to each other with our hearts. When it comes to understanding what this whole issue is all about, it is heartfelt understanding that is all important.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Stanley Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, I enter this debate briefly for the purpose of saying a few words with respect to what I believe is the one and only issue before the House of Commons. Certainly, the issue that I wish to pinpoint in a moment is the only one that is now dividing us in this debate.

[Mr. Marchand (Kamloops-Cariboo).]

● (1630)

We do not have before us the question of the Official Languages Act or the question of bilingualism in Canada; we do not have before us an amendment relating to bilingual districts or to the activities of the Commissioner of Official Languages. All we have before us is a resolution that relates to employees in the Public Service of Canada in so far as the language question affects them.

I submit, Mr. Speaker, that even the resolution which is before us in the name of the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) and which contains nine main principles, is not now an issue. I realize that when the vote comes there may be some who will vote against it but it is clear that the vote for the resolution, whether it is amended or not, will be overwhelming. I realize that there are those who have argued that it was not necessary to bring this resolution before the House of Commons, but in any case now that it is here it does not divide us; we are agreed that the principles set out in the Prime Minister's resolution ought to be applied with regard to employment in the public service. Therefore, Mr. Speaker, that leaves us in this position; that the only issue—and it is the only one I am going to talk about—is whether those principles should simply be endorsed by a vote of the House of Commons in favour of the Prime Minister's motion or whether those principles should be written into the law, namely, into the Official Languages Act, the Public Service Employment Act, the Public Service Staff Relations Act and several others referred to as "appropriate statutes".

Sir, I do not fault the Leader of the Opposition or the seconder of this motion, who is my good friend and neighbour, the hon. member for Grenville-Carleton (Mr. Baker), for submitting their amendment and for making the case for it in terms of their wanting to get as much of a guarantee as is possible for the public servants in whom they are interested. If I may put it in the simplest terms, it just happens that I do not agree with them. I, too, happen to be concerned about the rights of public servants. As most if not all members are aware, I am concerned for them when they reach the point of retirement but I am also concerned about their rights as working public servants.

I am terribly aware, as is the hon. member for Grenville-Carleton who stated his position yesterday and as is the hon. member for Ottawa West (Mr. Reilly) who spoke today, of the agony and fear that were experienced by many public servants in the national capital region and other parts of Canada when the guidelines being applied by the Treasury Board and the government in general were less favourable to the rights of public servants than would be the case if these guidelines came into effect. Therefore, I readily understand their desire to see these better guidelines given as much force, as much guarantee as is possible.

Even so, Mr. Speaker, I suggest that the matter of the language question as it applies to employment in the public service is one that is still being sorted out. It is my information, not only from what I have read in the newspapers but from my talks with officials in the public

service unions, that they are tremendously satisfied with the measure of consultation that they had with the government in the drawing up of these guidelines. That satisfaction is not retroactive—it does not go back to some earlier circumstances but I understand that so far as the consultations that resulted in the drawing up of these guidelines were concerned, they were fully satisfactory. But the officials of those same public service unions I believe—and I say this to my good friends from Grenville-Carleton and Ottawa West—I believe that they speak for their members, I believe that they speak for the public servants of Canada generally and particularly for the public servants in the Ottawa area when they say that they do not want even these guidelines to be frozen into our statutes, to be given the rigidity of law. To use their own language, they say there are still some "bugs" to be worked out, there are still some points to be made clear. When one looks at the resolution one sees in it, for example, a couple of dates which may well have to be moved forward or backward and there are other points which, in the course of two or three years might well need to be changed.

I believe that the leaders of the Public Service Alliance of Canada and the Professional Institute of the Public Service Canada are quite right in their contention that they want the present situation to obtain, they want still to be able to engage in consultation with the Treasury Board and with the government to work out the best possible arrangements in this area. It may come, the other side of 1978, that it might be a good idea to put principles in this area into our law. I am not even sure of that. I am not one of those who say this would be all right for a few years from now but it just is not all right now; I am not even sure it would be right a few years from now.

Along with my tremendous respect for the force of law and living by the rule of law, I also have great respect for the principle of consultation and collective bargaining. Precisely because this whole matter is the sensitive one that it is, precisely because it is such a human situation calling for consultation, I call on my friends who have placed this amendment before the House not to press it to a vote. I am not expecting to persuade them to withdraw it, but I plead with them not to press it to a vote. I plead with them to listen to my argument and my appeal. I am trying to do this not in terms of a confrontation. Rather, I believe that the spokesmen for the public servants of Canada are right in their contention that the best way to work this out, to continue the process of arriving at an agreement, is to leave it on the basis of consultation and not to write it into the law with all of the rigidity that can result therefrom.

I am doing my best to refer to my Ottawa friends in the affectionate terms that we sometimes use in the House of Commons. I have already done so with respect to the two at the west end of the city, and I hope the hon. member for Ottawa West will not mind if I say that I smiled a bit this afternoon when he said that laws are not inflexible—we change them all the time. In fact, his words were "It happens every day of the week". Now, my good friend from Ottawa West knows better and if he does not I ask him to consult the public servants of Ottawa. They know, for example, that there are improvements they would like in the Public Service Employment Act and in the Public Service Staff Relations Act. Do we get amendments to those pieces of legislation every day of the week? We have not had an amendment to either of them since they were passed in 1967 or 1968. I remind him also of a piece of legislation of which all public servants in those constituencies and throughout Canada are aware, namely, the Public Service Superannuation Act. We scored a great victory here in 1969 and 1970 when we obtained the provision for the escalation of the pensions of retired public servants. However, there was written into the law on that occasion a provision that limits that escalation to 2 per cent per year, no matter how much the cost of living might rise in any one year. There have been recommendations galore, in fact, there are recommendations from advisory committees in this field, to the effect that that 2 per cent ceiling be removed.

• (1640)

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): I see my hon. friend for Grenville-Carleton and my hon. friend for Ottawa West applauding. And if there are any other members from the Ottawa area here, they will applaud, too. However, if my hon. friend from Ottawa West was correct in his statement, that we can get these statutes amended every day of the week, why has it not happened? No, Mr. Speaker, this goes on and on and on—

Mr. Reilly: On a question of privilege, Mr. Speaker; although I have great affection for the hon. member, I do not believe he has interpreted correctly what I said. I said that it was precisely because laws are not flexible that it is desirable, when enshrining the working rights of a quarter of a million Canadians, to do it in such a way as to remove the possibility of day to day amendment. I did say also that if a law was found, after a reasonable period, to be unworkable, it could be amended, and we do that here all the time. That is the business in which we are engaged. I did not mean to suggest that laws are flexible. They are certainly not, and it is the opposite meaning that I seek.

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, I do not quarrel with the hon. member's restatement of what he said earlier. I thought it was a correct restatement. There were two aspects to that comment, as he has now confirmed, namely, that one of the benefits of law is that it is inflexible, that it is there as a guarantee. But he also said the other thing, and it is the other thing on which I wish to comment. He suggested that when a law needs to be changed, it can be done easily. It happens every day of the week.

Mr. Baldwin: All you need to do is change priorities, as this government does.

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): If my hon. friend thinks it would be any different if his party sat on the other side of the House, I have news for him.

An hon. Member: It would be worse.

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): I have sat in this House when parties of both political stripes have been in control of the government and I remember how long it

took, with Liberals or Tories in power, to make headway in the area of superannuation to which I just referred. It is unfortunate right now that the 2 per cent ceiling in the Superannuation Act is there and, although there are recommendations galore for change, and although I think everybody is for that change, we have not been able to get that change, because the government is not willing to bring in the necessary bill.

I realize that we must have law, and we must have a firm law. We must know what it says. Yet, surely, in dealing with an area that is as sensitive as this, an area concerning the day to day lives of a quarter of a million Canadians, we should not put these principles into the form of a rigid law at least until we have got the bugs worked out, at least until those who are involved in the operation are satisfied that we have principles that can be put into law without doing damage to any of those 250,000 or 275,000 Canadians who work in the public service.

Speaking of law, Mr. Speaker, and I took a look at the act, in order to be sure of what I am saying, the Official Languages Act as it stands says almost nothing on this issue. There are no details in the Official Languages Act about employment in the public service. Indeed, the only reference to the subject is found in the very last subsection of the Official Languages Act where it is said that the public service must carry out the principles and aims of the Official Languages Act, subject always to the maintenance of the principles of selection of personnel according to merit as required by the Public Service Employment Act. There is some argument about that. Actually, a great deal of the trouble last year was over whether or not the merit principle had been set aside. I draw hon. member's attention to the suggestion that this be solved in the manner suggested in one of the paragraphs of the Prime Minister's resolution which reads:

that a knowledge of English and French is one of the elements of merit in the selection of candidates for bilingual positions;

I think it is a good idea that there be such a resolution, and I think it ought to be looked at, studied and worked on; but, until it has been tried and until it has been found that it is a proper way to interpret the merit principle, I do not think it would be a good idea to write it into the statute. So, one might go to the various other things that are in the resolution and one might comment on the Official Languages Act and the other statutes that apply in this field, such as the Public Service Employment Act and the Public Service Staff Relations Act.

We are dealing with a terribly important, terribly sensitive and real human situation, and I am glad that there are persons like the officials who speak for public servants through the staff associations and who are concerned about this. I think we should leave the matter in their hands, to be resolved by consultation between them and the Treasury Board. They are alert. If they are being exploited or led down the garden path or let down, we will hear from them. Moreover, we are here, ourselves, to hear directly from public servants if these rules are not being applied.

I submit, Mr. Speaker, that we would be buying more trouble, not less, if at this stage of the game we were to put these principles into law. They are good. Again, I do not fault my friends of the Progressive Conservative party for having gone all the way, for having accepted them and for having said that they are so good we should make them law. I suggest, however, that we are still dealing with a human situation and that the best way to take care of it is through the process of consultation. My belief that the consultation has been satisfactory is not based merely on what the Prime Minister or the President of the Treasury Board said; it is based upon what representatives of the public service unions themselves have said. They like the present setup. I think it should continue. I believe that when we pass this resolution in the form in which it is before us in the name of the Prime Minister, it will not be simply a case of our approving these nine points; it will be a case of our giving our moral support and endorsation to what the public servants themselves are doing to resolve this important issue. On that basis we are prepared to support the motion as it was introduced.

[Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre).]

Mr. Deputy Speaker: The President of the Privy Council rises on a point of order.

Mr. MacEachen: Mr. Speaker, I should like to draw the attention of the House to the comments that were made last night, as recorded at page 4425 of *Hansard*, in which are reflected the agreement that was reached by the representatives of the various parties on the continuation and conclusion of debate on Government Order No. 34. I understand that that agreement is still in place and that debate on the amendment moved by the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Stanfield) will terminate at the end of the sitting today, that the vote will be taken on that amendment when government orders are called tomorrow, which then would allow the Social Credit party to put its amendment, and that the vote on that amendment and on the resolution itself will take place at a quarter to six tomorrow. If that is agreeable, Mr. Speaker, we might consecrate it in the form of a House order.

Mr. Baldwin: Mr. Speaker, that is correct. A firm understanding was reached among the parties to that effect last night. We are now agreeable that it be made binding by an order of the House at this time.

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, I, too, confirm that that was the understanding we reached last night. I might say that one of my colleagues, the hon. member for Skeena (Mr. Howard), has raised one point with me, and I think I should bring it forward. It is this: That the government should undertake not to make two or three statements on motions tomorrow which would need to be responded to and which would waste up to an hour. On that understanding—although I do not ask that it be part of the agreement—that we will move to this item of government business as quickly as possible tomorrow, we agree to the proposed order of the House.

● (1650)

[*Translation*]

Mr. C.-A. Gauthier (Roberval): Mr. Speaker, I was present yesterday when the agreement was made. It was understood that the debate would be concluded tomorrow evening provided members from our party could take part in it. And since only one could speak today, there are still

five or six, and it will be up to the government to provide the opportunity for them to speak.

Mr. Roch La Salle (Joliette): Mr. Speaker, it is always somewhat embarrassing for me when there is an agreement between the political parties. From time to time I asked the government leader in the House to let me know the intention of the House. Now I have not been consulted. I have no delusions of grandeur, Mr. Speaker, but since the hon. member who preceded me said that his party wanted more of its members to have an opportunity to speak, and since I have not taken part in this debate, I am prepared to co-operate with the House to the extent that the Chair will, I hope, take into consideration my wish to speak before the end of the debate.

[*English*]

Mr. Baldwin: I think that can be done, Mr. Speaker. I can understand hon. members who have an irresistible urge to speak in this debate. They should not be denied that opportunity. This can be worked out. It is highly desirable to fix a certain time for ending this debate. If it is passed tomorrow, Thursday and Friday will be supply days. It will be extremely difficult for members who want to participate in the vote to know when it is going to be. We are trying to accommodate the hon. member so that he and those who want to speak will have that opportunity. If we do not do that, the date for the vote will be very indefinite. Under those conditions, I hope the order might go as suggested by the President of the Privy Council (Mr. MacEachen).

Mr. Deputy Speaker: There are two matters at issue; first, the agreement reached among the parties and, second, a request that the Chair recognize the suggestion of the hon. member for Roberval (Mr. Gauthier) and the hon. member for Joliette (Mr. La Salle). With regard to the second issue, it was my understanding that the party of which the hon. member for Roberval is a distinguished member wishes to have two speakers today and perhaps two tomorrow, although they may wish to have more. I think the Chair could take a direction within the spirit of the wish of various members that these members be allowed to have their opportunity to contribute. If that is the wish, and the Chair does have that discretion, perhaps I could put the question. Is there agreement to the suggestion?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Mr. Baldwin: In order to avoid interrupting another hon. member, it is my understanding that the hon. member for Fundy-Royal (Mr. Fairweather), who was to proceed with private members' hour, has agreed to forego his right. I understand there is no one else. We might at this stage agree to dispense with private members' hour. I know we have not reached five o'clock, but possibly Your Honour could put the question and we could then carry on with this debate.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Gauthier: Mr. Speaker, as has been suggested, we agree after consultation to have two members speak today and two tomorrow, if that is possible.

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

[*English*]

Mr. Deputy Speaker: A very happy ending has been reached for both the members and the Chair. I will now put the question that private members' hour not be held today and that we continue with the business currently being considered. Is this agreed?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

PROCEEDINGS ON ADJOURNMENT MOTION

SUBJECT MATTER OF QUESTIONS TO BE DEBATED

Mr. Deputy Speaker: It is my duty, pursuant to Standing Order 40, to inform the House that the questions to be raised at the time of adjournment are as follows: the hon. member for Central Nova (Mr. MacKay)—Fisheries—Request for action to alleviate problems caused by grey seals in certain areas of Atlantic; the hon. member for Comox-Alberni (Mr. Barnett)—Indian Affairs—Aboriginal rights—Validity of Royal Proclamation of 1763; the hon. member for St. Paul's (Mr. Atkey)—Airports—Pickering township site.

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

OFFICIAL LANGUAGES

DECLARATION OF CERTAIN PRINCIPLES RESPECTING EMPLOYMENT IN PUBLIC SERVICE OF CANADA

The House resumed consideration of the motion of Mr. Trudeau; and the amendment thereto of Mr. Stanfield (p.4318).

That this House,

(i) aware that, as provided in the Official Languages Act, the English and French languages possess and enjoy equality of status and equal rights and privileges as to their use in all the institutions of the Parliament and Government of Canada;

cognizant that it is the duty of departments and agencies of the Government of Canada to ensure, in accordance with that Act, that members of the public can obtain available services from and communicate with them in both official languages; while

recognizing that public servants should, as a general proposition and subject to the requirements of the Official Languages Act respecting the provision of services to the public, be able to carry out their duties in the Public Service of Canada in the official language of their choice;

do hereby recognize and approve the following Principles for achieving the foregoing:

(1) that positions which are seen, under present circumstances, as requiring the knowledge and use of both the

French and English languages will be first identified, and then designated, as bilingual in the course of the period ending December 31, 1978;

(2) that positions will also be identified where English is an essential requirement of the job, where French is essential, or whether either French or English may be used;

(3) that a knowledge of English and French is one of the elements of merit in the selection of candidates for bilingual positions;

(4) that competitions for bilingual positions will be open both to bilingual candidates and unilingual candidates who have formally indicated their willingness to become bilingual;

(5) that competitions for unilingual positions will continue to be open to unilingual or bilingual candidates who meet the language requirements of the job;

(6) that unilingual incumbents of bilingual positions may elect to become bilingual and undertake language training, or transfer to another job having the same salary maximum, or, if they were to decline such a transfer, to remain in their positions even though the posts have been designated as bilingual;

(7) that employees who, as of April 6, 1966, had at least ten years of continuous service and who, since that date, have been employed continuously in the federal Public Service, will be entitled to apply for any job that has been identified for future designation as bilingual without having to indicate their willingness to become bilingual;

(8) that unilingual French-speaking and English-speaking persons from outside the Public Service who are willing to become bilingual may apply for bilingual positions open to public competition;

(9) that language training, at public expense, will be provided to unilingual public servants as well as to persons who are appointed to the Public Service to bilingual positions;

do further approve the Government of Canada, and, in particular, the Treasury Board and the Public Service Commission, taking the measures required to give effect to the aforementioned Principles; and

(ii) do further approve the taking of measures, after consultation with employee representatives, designed to produce a greater use of the French language at all levels in the Public Service, through increasing, where practical, the number of French Language Units, through further recruitment efforts by the Public Service Commission, through training programs offered in the French language and by developing proposals, in conjunction with the Governments of the Provinces of Ontario and Quebec, to enhance the bilingual character of the National Capital region, thus helping to realize the objective of achieving, within the merit principle, full participation in the Public Service by members of both the anglophone and the francophone communities.

Mr. Ron Atkey (St. Paul's): Mr. Speaker, let me say at the outset that I support the contents of the resolution before us. More important, I support the amendment put forward by the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Stanfield). I am proud to associate myself with his very thoughtful and responsible remarks in this debate. Let me assure him that his scars will soon heal. As a close observer of the last parliament, I remember vividly the debate in 1969 on the Official Languages Act. It was an important debate. With the enactment of that act, an important milestone in Canada's history was achieved. Members of the 28th parliament can be justly proud of their work at that time.

One of the great surprises to me as a new member of this House has been to observe since January of this year the process by which this government determines the order and substance of the business of the House. One would think that legislation urgently required by the nation would have first priority. Certainly, such legislation might well bear some relationship to the promises and programs put forward in the previous election campaign and as a result of that campaign. Clearly, the economic issues were the principal issues discussed during the election campaign, at least in my part of the country, and one could hardly have faulted the government for introducing a series of economic measures following on the heels of that campaign.

Also, one would think that the order and substance of the business of the House might be determined by various events that suddenly occur, requiring immediate governmental action. The House, much to its credit, functioned along these lines last January with a resolution respecting the resumption of bombing in Viet Nam. In my view, this was a proper matter to be considered at that time. I was glad that Canada was able to speak forcefully and with one voice through the resolution put forward and adopted at that time.

But what have we here? Does the resolution before us represent a positive measure promised during an election campaign or a measure urgently required because of emergency circumstances? No. It involves essentially a matter dealt with in principle by the last parliament. It involves measures accepted by all parties in the House in the last parliament and enacted into law. I thought the principles of the Official Languages Act of 1969 were good. The principle of providing federal government services to Canadians in the official language of their choice is and was important. Also, the principle of providing access to the federal courts and all criminal courts in either official language was an important step forward. The office of Commissioner of Official Languages was created to be a sort of linguistic ombudsman. This has been, and will continue to be a most important and necessary function.

Why then do we need this resolution before us? It is not an amendment to the Public Service Employment Act or the Official Languages Act. It will have no force of law. It will not be binding on those administering the law. Perhaps we in this House can agree that there have been problems in administering the legislation. Even the government benches have conceded as much. Since 1969, it has been found that unilingual civil servants, both English and French, require special protection in the process of implementing this legislation. The nine points could provide this much needed protection if the government had chosen to give them the force of law. But it did not. It could have introduced the nine points as regulations under the act and thus given them legal effect, subject to scrutiny by the Statutory Instruments Committee. But it did not.

● (1700)

Instead, the government introduced a resolution designed to force all members of parliament to—to use the Prime Minister's (Mr. Trudeau) own words of January 8—"stand up and be counted". Yet the very form in which the matter was introduced negates any legal responsibility on the part of the government to see that the principles are adhered to, even if the resolution were unanimously adopted. It is playing politics with bilingualism in a way which can only be described as cowardly. At a time when diplomatic leadership is needed to assure Canadians, both French and English, that we can live together as a nation

under a strong government in Ottawa, we have a Machiavellian resolution politically designed to open old wounds and cause them to fester once again. What kind of contribution to national unity is this? Is it the only game the Prime Minister really knows how to play?

Obviously, there are two courses one can follow in response to a contrived scheme such as this. One is to vote against the resolution. I cannot do this because the principles and protection enunciated are too important to run the risk of my being misunderstood by a negative vote. The content of this resolution is sound and should be supported. The other course which is open is to give this resolution some teeth; to make the government, the President of Treasury Board (Mr. Drury), the Public Service Commission and the Commissioner of Official Languages legally responsible for its implementation once it is accepted by this House. This is what the amendment moved by the Leader of the Opposition seeks to do. It sseks to turn the nine principles into law. Mr. Speaker, this amendment puts the government to the test: does it really mean what it says? Can it be trusted? Is it prepared to accept legal responsibility, as well as partisan political gain from a resolution which is so ill-timed and badly motivated?

Lest I be accused of making a purely political speech, let me suggest some advantages which would flow from the adoption of the amendment to make the nine points law. First, it would represent a much firmer direction to the government, the Treasury Board and the Public Service Commission to see that the principles and protections in this resolution are in fact applied. It would amount to parliament saying to these bodies: We mean business. You must have the bilingual positions identified and designated by December 31, 1978. You must open all competitions to unilingual candidates, French or English, who have formally indicated their willingness to become bilingual. You must protect the jobs of unilingual incumbents, even if their jobs become designated as bilingual. You must protect the promotion rights of all those in the civil service before 1966 with ten years experience, even if they are unwilling to become bilingual. You must provide effective language training where required.

By putting these and other principles and protections into law, you avoid putting Mr. Carson, Mr. Spicer and the President of Treasury Board into the invidious position of deciding between the enforcement of a statute having judicial sanction and the implementation of a mere resolution of the House of Commons, not having the force of law. The present resolution has no sanction in its provisions. Standing alone, it is merely a passive approval of certain measures with no power of disapprobation. Put into legislation, these difficulties would be overcome.

Second, the many thousands of persons having rights and duties under this resolution have no source of interpretation such as the courts, with respect to statutes. Various authorities may interpret the motion differently from one another and from occasion to occasion. Technically, the House of Commons would be the interpreter of its own resolution, and a person aggrieved by a decision of the authorities would have a remedy only by way of a petition to the House. But how workable would this be, considering the thousands of civil servants to be affected by the provisions of the resolution? Surely it is better to put it into law, thus providing more certainty and uniformity in interpretation. This would apply particularly to decisions of the Public Service Staff Relations Board, arbitration tribunals and adjudicators hearing language grievances of federal employees under the relevant legislation.

Third, a final advantage relates to appeal rights. Last December, the President of Treasury Board promised the National Joint Council of the Public Service and Treasury Board that the government "was prepared to set up an appeal procedure if necessary". Yet the nine points contain nothing along these lines, and so far the government has not seen fit to make a specific proposal. By giving the nine points the force of law, as the amendment would do, we would increase the possibilities by which an aggrieved public servant, English or French, could pursue a remedy in the courts, whether by way of statutory appeal, right of review or prerogative writ.

An important new court, the Federal Court of Canada, was established by legislation in the last parliament. It permits easier access to a judicial remedy by persons aggrieved by decisions of federal boards, commissions or other tribunals. Regardless of the particular mode of access to the trial or appellate division of that court, which is now possible or would be possible under future amendments, it is certain that the principles and protections contained in the resolution before us will never represent a ground for going to court unless they are enacted into law. In their present state, however, they are impotent in the context of the judicial process.

What is the government's response to this amendment? The Minister of Communications (Mr. Pelletier) spoke last Friday and ventured these observations: First, he said it was "amusing" that the opposition should favour actual legislation in the light of comments made prior to the passage of the Official Languages Act. Well, Mr. Speaker, we accepted that act. The Leader of the Official Opposition has crossed this country to obtain a broader understanding and compassion toward the act—a task often made much more difficult by the excesses, insults and indignities of the Trudeau government. It was not an "amusing" commitment which the Leader of the Opposition made them; nor is it, now, when he calls on the government to give the force of law to what it says. It was a deadly serious commitment.

● (1710)

Second, the Minister of Communications says that it would be extremely costly to go through the legislative process because it is quite painstaking. Surely, that statement alone proves the political motivation behind the resolution. The government really does not care enough to give the principles of protection the dignity of becoming law as long as it can achieve its political purposes. What would be the cost that would be so high? One would have thought that the government would have gained a little more respect for the legislative process since last October. I hope that the legislative process will not be treated as lightly as it has been. To refer to a comment made by the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre (Mr. Knowles) that it is difficult to enact laws in this parliament; however, it may be easy to enact some important principles

into law and then have those principles implemented and applied through regulations, which are made, repealed, and then remade every day of the week.

Third, the Minister of Communications said that to amend the legislation would be a loss of time. A loss of time for what? The government is prepared to devote five days of House time at this point in our history to the discussion of a language resolution and to give it priority over housing legislation, tax legislation, family allowance legislation, much needed amendments to the Immigration Appeal Board Act—all matters of the utmost urgency. Yet it has the audacity to suggest to the House that the use of legislation to give added weight and certainty to the principles and protections would lead to a loss of time. This is hypocrisy of the highest order. The government wants the political benefits of the legislation but none of the responsibilities.

Yesterday the Minister of Finance (Mr. Turner) rejected the amendment on behalf of the government because, he said, there must be flexibility. It seems strange that the Minister of Finance should make this argument now when in 1969, as Minister of Justice piloting the original bill through the House, he did not see any necessity for flexibility in regard to certain detailed and complex provisions relating to judicial proceedings which were contained in the Official Languages Act. He guided that act through the House and protected it against the onslaught of some provincial attorneys general.

These important provisions to which I have referred related to language rights of witnesses, simultaneous translation in the courts, and the language of proceedings in federal courts and in criminal cases in provincial courts. These were important provisions and protections which the government saw fit to include in its legislation. I am glad that the then minister of justice fought to put those protections into the legislation, even though some provincial attorneys general ultimately insisted that the protections be conditional upon provincial laws providing such protections in civil proceedings. The minister fought for those principles then and I only wish he would fight for them now. The protection afforded witnesses in the courts went into the law; why not protections afforded to the civil service?

To turn to the arguments made by the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre, his reasons for not supporting the amendment are that the nine principles and related matters are still being sorted out. If they are still being sorted out, why does the government bring forward this resolution now? There are urgent items facing this House and the country, yet the government has seen fit to proceed with this resolution now. Surely, we have proceeded far enough and have sorted out sufficiently the principles and general statements now to go 100 per cent of the way.

The hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre said that really we do need flexibility, again reiterating the argument made by the minister of justice.

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): The Minister of Finance.

Mr. Atkey: Excuse me, the Minister of Finance. The hon. member said that the legislative process was a little too rigid for the task at hand. I do not need to tell the hon. member of some of the devices available in legislation to overcome rigidity. Legislation has been enacted in this House in which provision is made that automatically, as of a certain date, the House or a committee of the House will undertake a review of its provisions. One also has other means of automatic termination or automatic review, committee screening or committee scrutiny, of particular pieces of legislation. The legislative process can be and has been part of the on-going process of consultation to which the hon. member referred, and which I agree is very important. So the government has flexibility even though it proceeds with legislation. I suggest the flexibility is there through the vehicle of regulations. Then, we have an important new joint committee of this House and the Senate known as the statutory instruments committee. It really has not done very much yet but I suggest it could perform a valuable function by reviewing the regulations, which are the traditional instruments of flexibility, and that the government should seriously consider this in this particular context.

I honestly urge members of the government, particularly the Minister of Finance and the Minister of Communications who are not here at the moment, to reconsider their objections to the amendment put forward by the Leader of the Opposition. I suggest that those objections are what might be termed "knee-jerk" reactions—automatic responses whenever the opposition proposes something positive. I candidly admit that sometimes the opposition, or individual members of the opposition, have "knee-jerk" reactions to government proposals; this is the very nature of the institution in which we are all working. But I think it would be in the interests of this country for the members of the government, and indeed the members of the party to my left, to reconsider their position seriously, to examine the resolution before us and to ask themselves whether they agree with us that it should be given teeth by being incorporated into law.

Let me conclude by touching on broader items but within the context of the language question. I agree with others in this House who have said that this government has made a fundamental mistake in its approach to language rights. In my view, this fundamental mistake is that it sees protection of language rights as the only solution to problems in Canada. It is an approach which concentrates only upon institutional values and ignores more fundamental claims to economic and social equality which can only be achieved through more effective policies relating to prices, incomes, social services and regional disparities, policies certainly more effective than the government has provided to date.

This simple, straight-line approach of the present government ignores the fact that man's salvation, whether he be a francophone, an anglophone, or a member of a third linguistic group, is not merely to have services from his government in his own language; that is only part of the problem. Too often we look at the provision of government services as the cure-all. Surely, it is equally important, if not more important, to ensure that the individual has a climate of freedom—freedom to seek a job or vocation, freedom to travel, to join organizations, to read, to earn a decent living, to have decent housing, to develop himself spiritually and intellectually, and to gain the respect and admiration of his fellow man. These are some of the goals

[Mr. Atkey.]

of Canadians whatever their language. Language is important. But language claims often tend to be outward manifestations of more basic human claims made as a result of a wide range of social, economic and cultural deprivations. Let us get on with the task of meeting some of the problems faced by this country. The principles of the language resolution will help, but they are not the only solution to national unity. Most Canadians agree with these principles; let us pass them now. I would be happier to enact them into law, but regardless, let us pass them and get on to other things. There is so much to do; let us get on with the job.

● (1720)

I should like in this debate to associate myself with the thoughtful remarks of the Prime Minister, the Leader of the Official Opposition and even the leader of the NDP. These are the true leaders of this country, the people to whom the great majority of Canadians look for guidance, leadership and direction. Most important of all, these are the leaders of the young people of this country who have articulated their goals and their aspirations. Young Canadians want many things in relation to language; they want educational support to the provinces for second-language training. Sometimes they wish the government would do a better job of explaining its bilingual policy to their parents and grandparents, as this would mean their goals and aspirations might be easier met. Most of all, young Canadians will support this resolution and its contents, whatever its form, so let us get on with the job.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Pierre de Bané (Parliamentary Secretary to Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, I would like to begin my remarks with a quotation from the B and B Royal Commission report. Paragraph 243 read thus:

The possibility of national disintegration has forced a reexamination of the linguistic policies of the Public Service. The debate is no longer about efficiency, merit, patronage, and representation, but rather between thorough-going reform and schism.

"Reform or schism", that is indeed the subject of the debate we are holding these days. Some complain, and I understand them, about this matter being brought up, it is of course a subject which arouses passions and reveal plainly the prejudicies of a good part of our population.

However, in my opinion, we will have to settle this question once and for all because as a great historian said in a book entitled *Maple Leaf Forever* the story of this country has always been unstable and precarious precisely because our major problems have never been discussed and never been settled at the satisfaction of our two great majorities.

When you read the report of the Royal Commission on Bilingualism and Biculturalism whose members were chosen among our most competent citizens and when you see at each page the injustice inflicted upon our French-speaking people you cannot but feel frustrated and I would say you cannot help crying over such small results achieved after 100 years.

I would quote only a few pertinent paragraphs. Paragraph 730 reads as follows:

730. On balance, however—

—despite all the progress made—

—extensive optimism is not warranted. In an organizational structure where the English language and culture predominate, there are still many factors blocking the progress of Francophones.

The three most important involve their adjustment to settings where English is dominant, their aversion to making geographic moves outside French-speaking areas,—

—and this is understandable—

—and problems of social relations and sponsorship.

I now quote from paragraph 752:

Everywhere in the Public Service there is great concern for recruiting Francophones, but the desire seems to be for men who will fit easily into the existing structure. The desire for Francophones was rarely complemented by a willingness to provide the intellectual atmosphere and working conditions for the development of their talents.—The greatest drawback Francophone public servants must face is the cultural milieu of the federal administration: it is so overwhelmingly "English" that it is difficult for Francophones to identify with its problems or with the style of life, honour, and prestige of its officers.

I now quote from paragraph 767:

The greatest obstacle to equal partnership in the federal Public Service—The factor that most impedes a strong Francophone presence is the environment of the Public Service: its underlying assumptions and conventions, its prejudices, and, most important, its language, all of which are overwhelming of English-speaking Canada.

The discrimination of which the French-speaking population has been the victim had been exposed some years before by the Glassco Commission which was set up by the official opposition and had been made known much earlier by the French-speaking group since the beginning of the century. Let us remember the Lacroix amendment, the Jean committee, the amendments proposed by the Right Hon. Ernest Lapointe, and all the committees set up in the past: we see that progress has been slow, that the French Canadians have suffered from injustice and that the resolution before the House is in my opinion a very small effort to remedy the situation.

Some maintain that the Official Languages Act has settled those problems. Let me emphasize what the Commissioner of Official Languages wrote, a few weeks ago, in the report submitted to the House. On page 12, we can read and I quote:

● (1730)

Although the Act has been in effect for well over three years, it is painfully clear that many government agencies still consider the Act part of a distant and irrelevant archive. As a result, they have too often proven unwilling—

In the legal sense, unwilling and malice are the same thing, Mr. Speaker.

—or unable to effect significant reform without the Commissioner's intervention.

And he quotes several examples, particularly on page 9, some of which are shocking.

And that is why many French Canadians—myself included—are being humiliated every day in Ottawa because of the way they are treated as French Canadians and that is why I am not surprised when French-speaking public servants come to me and say that they can no longer live in such a hostile environment and prefer to go back to the province of Quebec.

And that humiliation, once again, is an every day reality, and many examples could be given merely on the way the French language is respected even here within the walls of this Parliament.

I just mentioned the alienation of French-speaking public servants. One could talk about the alienation of English-speaking westerners who are no more adequately represented in the federal public service. One could also talk in passing about the alienation of English-speaking Quebecers who are absent from the provincial public service. One can also talk about the absence of native groups. But I know that the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development (Mr. Chrétien) is making considerable efforts in that respect within his department. I was speaking a while ago of alienation English-speaking westerners who are also right when they complain, because in a federal government, a government that should represent citizens from all Canada, all areas—maritimes provinces or Quebec or western Canada—should be represented as Ontario has always been.

My other comment is that considering all the efforts that were made during the last half-century, the amendments to the regulations of the Public Service Commission, the laws that were enacted and the resolutions that remained a dead letter, I believe it is high time we had a control system as they say in English a monitoring system—to check the progress that will be made.

The resolution mentions efforts to appoint French-speaking people. I could quote regulations going as far back as 1908, about efforts in that field. One needs only recall the right hon. Lester B. Pearson, the hon. Maurice Lamontagne and many other leaders who also talked about efforts to appoint French-speaking people. Moreover, let me recall that in 1955 the number of Francophones in the public service amounted to 22 per cent and that this percentage has not increased since. I believe that a close supervision will be necessary to make sure that there is progress.

And to think that more than 65 big statistical charts were prepared by the Laurendeau-Dunton Commission and that not a single one was kept up to date, while we know very well that statistics on almost everything in Canada, except this question, were of some concern—one might say that to talk about that is inelegant, disgraceful or improper—I think that work will have to be done over again and kept up to date.

Mr. Speaker, I believe the fate of the French-speaking group in this country for the last 100 years does not speak well for us; it is not one of the most beautiful pages in the history of this country. Not only are we a minority submerged in an English-speaking environment, but everything has worked against us.

I do not wish to go back very far, but let us consider only the immigration policy for the past 100 years. Nothing has been done during the past 100 years to prevent immigration from jeopardizing further the dangerous position of the French-Canadian people.

Finally, as to the measure for the establishment of French language units, I think that the only model acceptable is that suggested by the commission, especially on pages 284 and the following of the report, where it spells out what are French language units, that is a department where, parallel to unilingual English language units, we would have an equally important unilingual French language section in addition to common bilingual services. It is different from what we have now where French units, for all practical purposes, are located in certain parts of Quebec.

It is not surprising, Mr. Speaker, in view of the situation I have just described, that we should notice that the percentage of resignations and departures among French-speaking Canadians is, according to the statistics of the commission, much greater than among English-speaking Canadians. I think it is true that they cannot indefinitely bear this alienation to which they are submitted every day and eventually they leave the federal civil service.

I think that we should fight on a daily basis. Most of our past efforts have led to failures. We failed to make this country really the true champion of both cultures. Mr. Speaker, far from me the idea of uttering threats, but my humble opinion is that the separation of Quebec from the rest of Canada is written down in history unless we succeed in making Ottawa and the federal government the champion of the two cultures. And to the extent where French Canadians will feel humiliated as they still do today, I think that this is the most dangerous seed for separation.

Obviously, it can be said that I am exaggerating, just as French Canadians said that English-Canadian westerners exaggerated when they complained when someone suggested doing away with the four small letters R.C.M.P. But this reminds me of a sentence by Albert Memmi in his book "Le portrait d'un homme colonisé": "When someone complains about the injustice he is suffering from, he is always told that he exaggerates".

Mr. Speaker, during the five years I have been here, I have too often witnessed the humiliation the French Canadians are suffering from. I live with it every day and I say that the issues of poverty or economic disparities or others are not at the root of the need French Canadians have to separate, to assert themselves, but it is this constant humiliation in which they are held.

Insofar as I am concerned, it is a daily tragedy to live in an environment which is, not hostile, but unaware of our dignity, and I say to myself that were the English-speaking Canadians to suffer the same prejudices, they would not tolerate them either.

This country is made of two majorities, and together they can form a country where we can really offer to the world an example of tolerance and civilization.

Otherwise, it must be remembered that the French-speaking Canadians have a territory of their own, that they have their own government, and if they are humiliated further, it would be most easy for them, overnight, to find a way to live in dignity.

Mr. Speaker, I am here to fight, to keep this country united, but I hope that everyone in this House will want to face this problem once and for all. All our statistics prove what the two Royal Commissions of inquiry and the present Chairman of the Public Service Commission have denounced, including the "discrimination" against the French-Canadians over the past few years.

It is important to recognize this and to take the necessary steps to keep our country united. Of course, this will mean concerted efforts and a high price; but it all this depends upon our scale of values. Do we want a united country or not? If the effort is really too great, let us say so. If economic values must have priority, we might as well join the United States. However, I have always thought that we stood for other values and, in this respect, to my mind the co-existence of various groups within the same community bears witness to a civilized society. It is pointless to dream of understanding between men, between peoples of the world who have never met if, in this country, where we have been living side by side for the past 100 years, we cannot achieve more mutual respect.

Mr. Speaker, a debate such as this one today is essential. It must be devoid of political considerations. I mentioned earlier, and other hon. members repeated it after me, that it has been said that it is indecent to speak of co-existence between various groups which have never gone to the roots of these problems; I, for one, consider that it is imperative that we talk about it now, if we do not want to face separatist and secessionist winds later on.

● (1740)

Mr. Speaker, we must recognize, as the Royal Commission on bilingualism and biculturalism stressed on every page of its report, the problem of the federal administration; as we can read in every paragraph of Volume III, it is the problem of discrimination against French Canadians. Let us read again all its recommendations; every one is related to the discrimination against Francophones.

That is why I wish I could have voted for the amendment moved by the Leader of the official opposition (Mr. Stanfield), but, unfortunately, this amendment relates only to the first part of the resolution. I really don't understand why it cannot also include the second part of the resolution, which is a follow-up, a reply to the Commission's report.

This is, Mr. Speaker, what I had to say. I think that coolly and dispassionately we will have to tackle the problem as it is, that of a people who for 100 years have been denied justice. Surely there has been some progress, but as they assert themselves increasingly, and become aware that they must shape their own fate, two avenues are open to them: either, become equal partners, and I think that it is the only valid objective in the federal Public Service, or entrench themselves. We must all cooperate so that those two large groups, as well as all the others which have been unfairly treated, may feel fairly dealt with by the Canadian government. To the extent where the government or the entire country become defenders of the French as well as the English cultures—and that is the only solution—this problem will be solved. Any other procedure or solution is a palliative that will not stand the test of time and the awareness of the people.

That is why I think that this debate should be held on a higher level than that of politics; the time has come to make the same diagnosis as the Commission and say that the only possible solution for this country is to act so both majorities will consider themselves as equal partners.

Official Languages

Mr. C.-A. Gauthier (Roberval): Mr. Speaker, I want to congratulate the speaker who just resumed his seat. I believe he spoke as a real French Canadian; he deserves our consideration.

I have read very carefully the resolution moved by the right hon. Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) concerning the use of both official languages within the Public Service. My speech will certainly not be as well structured and as colorful as the one made by the right hon. Prime Minister as I do not have the multiplicity of 90 per cent English-speaking technocrats who surround him to think and write for him, as is also the case with the Treasury Board President (Mr. Drury).

In fact, as I have said already in this House, that deep feeling of discomfort that exists in this parliament is due to the fact that the government is only the reflection of the bureaucracy—in the main, Anglophone—that reigned supreme over all successive governments.

In such a government, the minister, as well as the government member, completely loses his personality. That explains, in fact, why voters no longer recognize their representatives once they sit on the government side.

As, for 11 years now, I have made it a point of being realistic, I may be harsh towards some, but I intend, even so, to tell you the truth about bilingualism in the Public Service as well as in our federal courts of justice and Crown corporations. As I am not in power, I do not have to act according to the pleasure of a dictatorial bureaucracy and I can voice the views of the people.

In order to hide their incapacity to change anything basic, the government members, who have succeeded one another during 100 years of confederative life, have tossed around beautiful principles without ever achieving any concrete results.

The resolution introduced in the House on May 30 last is an unparalleled example of what I have just stated. At the beginning, it is the same old story, that is the principles concerning the official languages embodied indefinitely in Chapter O-2 of Volume V of the Revised Statutes of Canada, 1970.

Naturally, we are for those principles since we have adopted them, but we are for their implementation and not for their shelving. Mr. Speaker, here is the beginning of the resolution of the right hon. Prime Minister as given on page 4302 of *Hansard*:

> RIGHT HON. P. E. TRUDEAU moved:
>
> That this House,
>
> (i) aware that, as provided in the Official Languages Act, the English and French languages possess and enjoy equality of status and equal rights and privileges as to their use in all the institutions of the Parliament and Government of Canada;
>
> cognizant that it is the duty of departments and agencies of the Government of Canada to ensure, in accordance with that Act, that members of the public can obtain available services from and communicate with them in both official languages; while
>
> recognizing that public servants should, as a general proposition and subject to the requirements of the Official Languages Act respecting the provision of services to the public, be able to carry out their duties in the Public Service of Canada in the official language of their choice;
>
> do hereby recognize and approve the following Principles for achieving the foregoing:

And following that hymn to the glory of the principles, the Prime Minister makes an extraordinary discovery. He discovers the reality of the country. After having repeated his song on national unity, he finds out that we are dealing with specific political and social realities. And I quote again the Prime Minister:

We are dealing with very specific political and social realities.

And a stark reality of our country is this: there are about 16 million English-speaking Canadians, most of whom speak no French. There are about 6 million French-speaking Canadians, a majority of whom speak no English. If only because of sheer force of numbers, either group has the power to destroy the unity of this country.

Those are the facts, Mr. Speaker: two numerically dominant language groups, both of them prevalently unilingual. As the President of the Treasury Board (Mr. Drury) reminded us last December:

That same President of the Treasury Board repeated that to us in his last speech which completed the one written for the Prime Minister. Nevertheless, I want to warn the persons in charge at the office of the President of the Treasury Board about contradictions, when they state on page 4347 of the *Hansard*, and I quote:

It is part of this law that Canadians should be able to receive services from, and communicate with, their government in the official language of their choice.

That conditional mood, Mr. Speaker, well indicates that all Canadians do not now have that power to communicate, even after the passing of the Official Languages Act.

● (1750)

Why then does he state in the same paragraph, and I quote:

In Canada . . . the passage of the Official Languages Act made this the law.

Even if one is a seasoned civil servant, one need not treat everybody like morons.

I was also very much interested by the speech of the Leader of the Official Opposition (Mr. Stanfield)—which easily harmonizes with the statements of the Prime Minister—although his predecessor was singing a different tune.

I was very much impressed by the frankness of the Leader of the Official Opposition who stated that this motion, which he will nevertheless support, is null and void. We can read his statement in *Hansard* on page 4314, where the Leader of the Official Opposition is reported as saying:

The adoption of this resolution—I emphasize this—is not binding on the government. It is a matter of law, despite what the Prime Minister said in the House of May 7 of this year in answer to the hon. member for Crowfoot (Mr. Horner). One might argue, of course, that there would be some moral obligation on the part of the government to comply with the resolution, but there certainly could be no legal obligation on the part of the government, or officials administering the legislation, because this resolution cannot have the force of law, cannot change any existing law and cannot be binding upon those who are administering the law.

One realizes that the civil servants who hold positions are reassured. They will never be subjected to any obligations. That is a point which the Prime Minister strove to hide from the House, for fear of informing the Canadian people.

[Mr. Gauthier (Roberval).]

When the Official Languages Act was promulgated, it was evident that many civil servants were afraid of some transfers. When, after nearly 100 years, during which the public service was open only to unilingual English-speaking Canadians and a few perfectly bilingual French-speaking Canadians, it was quite difficult for this predominating group to accept the arrival of a group which represents after all one third of the Canadian population. And I am quite moderate when I say this, since the Leader of the New Democratic Party, who can speak freely to the English-speaking people, stated in the House on May 31, and I quote:

Those of us who are English-speaking and who see that side ought to remember that the French-speaking Canadian has not had an opportunity to advance in the public service of Canada, not only for a century but for two centuries: not only since confederation, but for a century before confederation that was the situation in this country.

Those are statements which speak volumes and at the same time explain the reaction of the young people, particularly in Quebec, when they see such absurd and long-standing discrimination. Indeed, when the young people look at all the efforts made by the Creditistes since 1962 in order to be recognized as French Canadians, more specifically in this House, they cannot but be disappointed to realize the few gains painfully acquired.

An English-speaking member was pleased to praise the simultaneous translation now available in this House as well as in committees. But do the members newly elected since 1962 even know about the fight that we, of the Creditiste party, had to put up to get that service in all the standing committees of the House.

Mr. Speaker, I still remember as if it were yesterday all the sarcasm and the insults we had to put up with from our fellow citizens, some of whom were French-speaking. The latter called us "peasants" and "stupid" because we dared protest against English-speaking unilinguism which had always existed in committees.

At that time, at the end of our tether, in order to have few words of French in committees, we finally decided to boycott committee work until we obtained justice. The operation was successful because since then, we enjoy this marvelous system of simultaneous translation.

I frankly admit that many times I felt like giving up everything because of the attitude of my French-speaking colleagues who sat on those committees. And had it not been for the support of many of my English-speaking friends, some of whom are still in the House today and I could point at, I believe that we could not survive those insidious attacks.

Indeed, when we left the committee rooms after stopping any proceedings without interpretation, those sincere friends whom I will never forget even if they were not from my party, shaked hands with me and said, "Cheer up, you will win. Pay no attention to your fellow countrymen, only think of your cause, because you are one hundred per cent right."

Today, we hear those jokers, those third rate members who fought against us during those difficult years, say in the House that their party introduced the simultaneous translation and that they granted some other small concessions to French Canadians. They seem satisfied with the

crumbs obtained after much protest and pleading. It is because of such jokers that Quebec has never managed to take its place within the Canadian nation.

Let us stop saying "damned Englishmen" and let us look at ourselves in the mirror in order to see if we truly reflect the image ascribed to us by the people in Quebec. We have just conducted a little investigation on the percentage of French Canadians within the public service. And yet there are many French-Canadian ministers in the present cabinet. It is simply revolting, Mr. Speaker, to think that we make up one third of the population of Canada and that new Canadians outnumber us in the public service. Nevertheless, French Canadians in other parties say they are satisfied with the situation.

The Prime Minister boasts about being a dyed-in-the-wool French Canadian, but he has not dared yet hire a single unilingual French Canadian, whereas 90 per cent of his battalion is made up of unilingual anglophones, the few French Canadians working for him being all fluently bilinguals. "How about that?" as the Leader of the Official Opposition (Mr. Stanfield) would say.

In another area, the National Energy Board and the Treasury Board Secretariat answered a question from the hon. member for Richmond (Mr. Beaudoin) concerning the percentage of English-speaking and French-speaking civil servants. As far as the National Energy Board is concerned, out of 212 employees, 173 are unilingual anglophones, 1 is francophone and 38 are bilingual. At the Treasury Board Secretariat, out of 159 employees, 126 are unilingual anglophones, there are no francophones and 33 are bilingual.

As a result, I think the figures speak for themselves! We do not need any other proof. I said I would throw some light on some truths that honest Canadians will find shocking, but they must be told in this House. It is all very well to buy "translating machines", but what about the increase in the number of French-speaking employees here in Parliament? May I call it six o'clock, Mr. Speaker?

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Boulanger): Order, please.

It being six o'clock, I leave the chair until 8 o'clock p.m.

At six o'clock the House took recess.

AFTER RECESS

The House resumed at 8 p.m.

Mr. Gauthier (Roberval): Mr. Speaker, as I was saying at six o'clock, it is all very well to have bought and installed a simultaneous translation system, but the increase in the number of francophones in the Public Service of Canada must also be accelerated, mainly, at the higher levels of administration. As a matter of fact, I have found that it is extremely difficult for a French-Canadian, even if he is bilingual, to have precedence over an unilingual anglophone. What happens to the 7 per cent bonus for bilingualism designed for the bilingual employees? There again, some cards are not played according to the rules of the game. If I had the time to do so, I would mention hundreds of cases where people complained of discrimination to my office, in Parliament, and that I was able to look into. But, what can we do? We run up against a wall of silence at the higher levels of the Civil Service. Everything is done so silently that even the Members of Parliament can't break this silence.

I heard the Leader of the NDP say that this resolution should not have been brought before the House. In this regard, may I be permitted to quote his statement which is recorded in *Hansard* of May 31, 1973. And I quote:

> In a sense, I regret that this resolution has been brought before the House, not for some of the reasons I have heard but for another and perhaps deeper reason.
>
> ● (2010)
>
> I have learned that in life, particularly in collective life, there are matters with respect to which repeated argument produces confrontation and repeated confrontation pollutes rather than clears the air—
>
> —I am not certain that it is the wisest step to bring this resolution before the House.
>
> A statement was made by the late Mr. Pearson with regard to policies in the public service. That was followed by the adoption of the Official Languages Act, supported by all parties in this House. Some members opposed it, but all parties officially supported it. We had the introduction of new public service suggestions after volume 3 of the B and B report. Commissioner Spicer reported twice to this Parliament. There has been a great deal of discussion on the subject across this country.
>
> One of the disturbing things about this kind of delicate, sensitive subject is that instead of discussion producing more understanding and clearing the air, it frequently rejuvenates prejudices and misunderstandings rather than allaying them. That is why I am sorry to some extent that this resolution is now before us.

The leader of the New Democratic Party seems to be afraid of delicate and sensitive subjects as he calls them. Well, we are not afraid of them at all, because we know how to deal with thorny subjects. You just have to pluck off their thorns.

That is why we are going to consider carefully the nine principles contained in the Prime Minister's resolution. Let me warn hon. members right away that even though we agree with the introduction and the conclusion of this resolution, we are strongly opposed to some items because they counteract the beneficial effects of the resolution itself.

The first principle reads as follows:

> that positions which are seen, under present circumstances, as requiring the knowledge and use of both the French and English languages will be first identified, and then designated, as bilingual in the course of the period ending December 31, 1978;

We cannot accept to wait another five years after having already lost four. Indeed, since the act was promulgated, nothing has been done. People seemed convinced that it was only a matter of passing an act and that everything would go well in the public service. And as a consolation prize, the Prime Minister tells us that bilingual positions will be identified within a period of five years. It is that extension, Mr. Speaker, that we cannot accept.

The second principle reads as follows:

> that positions will also be identified where English is an essential requirement of the job, where French is essential, or whether either French or English may be used;

That falls precisely within our principles of letting each citizen decide freely on those positions, French positions and English positions.

The third principle deals with standard knowledge, and I quote:

that a knowledge of English and French is one of the elements of merit in the selection of candidates for bilingual positions;

And I read it purposely because the next principle contradicts this last one when it is says that knowledge of French and English is absolutely essential to be able to seek bilingual positions.

As for the fourth principle, we read in connection with competitions, and I quote:

(4) competitions for bilingual positions will be open both to bilingual candidates and unilingual candidates—

A bilingual position is set up and will be open to unilingual candidates—

—who have formally indicated their willingness to become bilingual;

It is somewhat as if we started to give a doctor's degree to a student wishing to become a doctor. It seems to me quite normal to require qualifications from someone for a competition. But everything is turned upside down with this resolution saying that unilingual candidates will also be eligible for competitions for bilingual positions.

The fifth principle reads as follows:

(5) that competitions for unilingual positions will continue to be open to unilingual or bilingual candidates who meet the language requirements of the job;

This is quite well, we admit it.

The sixth principle is as follows:

that unilingual incumbents—

I think that the Prime Minister felt remorse when he included that principle in his resolution.

(6) that unilingual incumbents of bilingual positions may elect to become bilingual and undertake language training, or transfer to another job having the same salary maximum, or, if they were to decline such a transfer, to remain—

—simply in their position, not give a darn about bilingualism and continue to practise unilingualism just as in the two past centuries.

Mr. Speaker, I feel that this provision is a backward step; we will prevent those who are qualified from holding positions which they would fill better than unilingual individuals. I continue the quotation dealing further with unilingualism:

(7) that employees who, as of April 6, 1966, had at least ten years of continuous service and who, since that date, have been employed continuously in the federal Public Service, will be entitled to apply for any job—

... let us not forget that we are always referring to unilingual employees ...

... that has been identified for future designation as bilingual without having to indicate their willingness to become bilingual;

It is fantastic, Mr. Speaker. The worse is still to come:

(8) that unilingual French-speaking and English-speaking persons from outside the Public Service ...

[Mr. Gauthier (Roberval).]

... who have never worked in the Public Service ...

... who are willing to become bilingual may apply for bilingual positions ...

Imagine the mess! And they will try to make us swallow that!

I frankly say, after reading those conditions, that it is impossible for us to remain unconcerned about those proposals which are a complete reversal of the idea which underlies the preamble to the resolution.

The Prime Minister suggests at first the establishment of bilingual positions to guarantee adequate service to both main ethnic groups in Canada, but those positions may be filled by unilingual employees. The only qualification required will be the desire to learn another language. Nobody may be compelled to learn another language.

When bilingual districts and bilingual positions have been set up by the government, several persons, including our young university graduates who are perfectly bilingual, will be ready to take over. We will then have a sufficient number of competent people to fill those positions without being obliged to submit ourselves to the principles included in this resolution which are "superlatively ridiculous" because it will have been pointless for the Prime Minister to arrive at such brilliant conclusions and then destroy them completely by imposing politically biased conditions. This is mainly the result of political fears: the liberals have not yet admitted their last defeat; they will resort to anything to get votes from our two main ethnic groups in the next election.

Although the first principles of the resolution are good, the three or four I have mentioned are quite bad and unacceptable to my colleagues of the Social Credit.

Here is the only solution: If we want everyone to be satisfied, two parallel systems should be established, one in French and the other in English. This will be costly, but not more than all the bilingual positions that will never be bilingual and that will always be English unilingual. The only way to work towards national unity and to meet the needs of both groups in the linguistic field is to accept the proposals made recently by my colleague for Rimouski (Mr. Allard) and by the other members of the Social Credit, namely to create two parallel groups within the Public Service, one English and the other French.

Thus, we will really be able to strive towards national unity within diversity. Because Canada is unity within diversity, let us respect this diversity and give each citizen what he needs to live and guarantee his language and his institutions.

Then we will start working seriously towards Canadian unity.

● (2020)

[*English*]

Mr. Douglas Roche (Edmonton-Strathcona): Mr. Speaker, I want to begin by extending my congratulations to the hon. member for Matane (Mr. De Bané) who spoke this afternoon and to tell him, through you, Sir, that I appreciated the forthright and sincere manner of his speech and hope that he will accept mine in the same spirit.

I rise as a western Canadian to take part briefly in this debate. No one can presume to speak for all of western Canada; it is a huge expanse of diverse interests and a multitude of cultures. It is this very variety that is one of our strengths. But we consider ourselves Canadian first and we put the interests of Canada ahead of regional viewpoints. At least, that is the approach of those for whom I speak in this House. With great deference to those who pioneered those great open spaces, with great respect to those who claim an affinity to languages and cultures other than English and French, we speak for the new west.

It is time for Canada to hear the voice of the new west. We are urban and up to date. We are cosmopolitan, with the virtues and vices found in central Canada. We have skyscrapers and traffic jams, cuisine and culture and computers; and lots of energy, both in the ground and in the bodies of industrious, ambitious people. In short, we have the joys and hopes, the griefs and anxieties of Canadians everywhere. We want justice for ourselves, just as we are ready to do our part to obtain justice for all racial and ethnic groups in Canada.

The new west, then—and let this be heard clearly across the land—supports the principles of the Official Languages Act of 1969. Perhaps it was hard at first to swallow, because of our affinity with so many languages other than French, but the new west knows that it was a federal partnership of English and French which created Canada and we respect the principle that the future of one Canada, our Canada, depends on the maintenance of that partnership of equality.

[*Translation*]

Today, the Western provinces welcome the participation of the French-speaking Quebecers at the governmental level, and after hearing the points made by the President of the Treasury Board (Mr. Drury) on bilingualism among federal employees, nobody can question the issue of this discussion.

As the leader of the official opposition (Mr. Stanfield) is suggesting, the resolution should be annexed to the act, thus making it legal, and ensuring equal protection to all civil servants French- or English-speaking.

[*English*]

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Roche: The amendment put forward by my hon. friend, the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Stanfield), is a move to secure both justice and solidarity. It is the Leader of the Opposition who has provided the real leadership on this issue. Mr. Speaker, this spirit of justice and scrupulous concern for the rights of public servants is applauded by the new west. We know that if the government had been led in the past five years by that honest man from Nova Scotia, we in the west would not have felt humiliated by the downgrading of the monarchy, the diminution of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, the gestures of contempt at the hands of the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau).

It is lack of concern for our feelings and traditions that has exacerbated the acceptance of functional bilingualism. People in the west have felt threatened that government would be shut off from them unless they spoke French. It was the overbearing manner of the government that aroused fears in people and created resentment. If the nine points introduced by the President of the Treasury Board (Mr. Drury) and the uplifting demeanour of the Prime Minister last Thursday had been in evidence these past few years, Canada would have been more at peace with itself, and the personal crises experienced by many in the civil service who felt their careers being peremptorily jeopardized could have been avoided.

I understand that the resolution before us protects the careers of unilingual public servants, whether they speak English or French, while at the same time guaranteeing services to the public in both languages. That demonstrates fairness, and I support it. L. W. Barnes, executive director of the Professional Institute of Canada, the certified bargaining agent for 38 professional groups in the public service, has said that the guidelines in this resolution represent a "great improvement". Claude Edwards, president of the Public Service Alliance of Canada, said the guidelines meet most of his objectives.

Let us not, therefore, debate endlessly a resolution that is good for Canada. In Mr. Keith Spicer we have a language ombudsman and I am confident that if we adopt the approach reflected in his second annual report we will make progress. Of course, in matters of bilingualism and multiculturalism a sense of good will and trust is essential. I want the people of Quebec to know that the new west offers that good will and trust.

Education, as everyone knows, is the key to bilingualism. It is in the kindergartens and primary grades that we can make the most significant contribution to developing linguistic fluency; that is where our money and efforts should be directed. English-French relations must be constantly improved for the good of our country. Let us end the two solitudes and work together to build a Canada that yearns to fulfil its destiny in the new global society. Statesmanship, not diatribe, is what this chamber needs and the country wants. I am proud to support the statesmanship of the Leader of the Opposition whose speech on national unity last Thursday was the finest moment the twenty-ninth parliament has yet seen.

Let those who would sow suspicions be trampled in a new harvest of national unity in which the rights of all Canadians are protected and fostered. Let us strive for a new level of national unity, conscious that the aged, youth, women, as well as language groups, must be able to plug into our society.

All this is what the new west wants. Our Canada is on a broad canvas. We have no time for narrow fixations or old battles. We want to spend our energies solving the economic and social problems facing us. In the west we have brains, energy and good will, and we will not be deflected from our task. I say to hon. members: "Let us get on with the job of helping all Canadians achieve their levels of greatness.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Frank Howard (Skeena): Mr. Speaker, I do not want to take long in expressing my views on this subject. I do not believe that anything I might say would greatly influence other members, since I am sure this question has been on their minds for a considerable time and they have

already reached a conclusion as to the way in which they intend to vote.

● (2030)

I want to say a few words about the resolution, and I should like to say this at the outset. This is a very sensitive issue. A person's language, or mother tongue as it were, is so much part of his own personality, his family inheritance and background, that it is very difficult to deal with the subject in a large context. On a personal basis it is quite simple, because in personal, individual discussions one can show respect to another human being and this foreshadows, or should foreshadow, any background experiences of individuals involved in such kinds of personal relationships.

However, when government makes a formal decision with regard to the language issue the situation becomes more difficult to cope with, or to appreciate or understand what is involved. The course upon which any government sets out in dealing with language and linguistic matters is impeded by a large number of hazards, not the least of which are emotional feelings that stem from a person's childhood, his upbringing, his schooling and his associations in early life. Not the least of these emotional feelings are those concerning a person's current status if he feels his job or security is threatened either in a real or imagined way.

This is because government is generally insensitive to an individual's plight or his concerns. Government is too big, too massive an organization—and so are big companies—to be aware of any emotional sensitivities that a person has if his job is in jeopardy as a result of linguistic policy. The same is true if his stature in society is placed in doubt, or the way he grew up in life is threatened. In this regard, and for these reasons, I think that government has to be extra careful when dealing with such matters. It has to tread softly and carefully and to move tentatively when bringing about any alteration to existing language concepts within this nation.

Regrettably, I suppose, from the point of view of national unity about which the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) and his government like to speak so often, the Liberal party has not as a government trodden softly. In fact, if anything it has trampled heavily in the area of language. This government has become associated with the imposition of language upon the public service, particularly with the imposition of the French language upon people in the public service who have worked for many years in a unilingual, English-speaking capacity. On the other hand, one can say this is only the reverse of the coin so far as the Quebecois are concerned, because for four years the English language has been imposed upon French-speaking people from and in Quebec. As I understand it, there has been a denial of opportunity in the past for people of French-speaking origin to move freely, especially in government circles.

However, I do not think that this has been the result of any deliberate or conscious act imposed by statute law or by declaration by the Parliament of Canada; it has resulted from natural outgrowth within the province of Quebec itself. This outgrowth in turn arose from the attitude taken by the late Premier Duplessis, who to my mind was very parochial in outlook and anti-Canadian in view. He rejected any concept of federalism, rejected aid for universities, refused to accept grants for the trans-Canada highway, as well as a whole bunch of other things designed to assist in the development and growth of Canada as national policy. This outgrowth probably also sprang from an educational system that was geared largely to matters that were neither governmental nor economic but which were largely connected with the arts, and so on. So it is a question of trying to balance the books.

I do not like the term "French Canadian" although it is used pretty commonly, but there are many people of French-speaking origin who during the few years that I have been a member of this House have increasingly, and I think rightly, been demanding respect for themselves, for their language and their position. While it is true that they deserve respect in this regard, it is equally true that they themselves must also show respect. While there may be bigots of great stature, according to their own designation, both in this House and elsewhere of English-speaking background, there are also, regrettably, people of French-speaking origin who are equally bigoted in their view of people of English descent.

A very sad moment in the consideration of the language question came about when the Prime Minister entered into the throne speech debate last January and gave what I would call, in the most polite terms I can think of, a terrible example of indiscretion so far as the language question is concerned. I think he did as much at that time to indicate that he had a closed mind on this subject as others who have spoken in the last day or so in this House have done.

What the speech of the Prime Minister did was to indicate that in January he and some of his colleagues were not really desirous of showing generosity in regard to the development of bilingualism within the public service. His was a comment that was made out of pique. His was a reaction and a response to something that took place on October 30 last, namely, the election. I do not want to dwell too long on that matter because it is an insignificant part of what I want to say.

By contrast, I think we also saw the other side of the Jekyll and Hyde personality that comprises the Prime Minister of this nation. In introducing the resolution to this House he was extremely contrite. He was sorry and rather reflective about his past errors and sins, which showed, I think, not a change in substance or in attitude per se but at least a change in technique and in approach.

Earlier, outside the House, I had expressed the thought that the Prime Minister was a bit childish in wanting to bring a resolution of this nature before the House and to test the authority of his government upon that resolution in terms of want of confidence. I said that if he had wanted an election based on the linguistic policy of the government, there would have been many people in this House, I for one, who would have been glad to accommodate him. But because I felt that the Prime Minister was childish and wrong in his approach is no reason why I have to be.

● (2040)

I am trying to assess as objectively as possible what the initial dangers are that exist in respect of the Official

Languages Act and its application to the resolution before us. I think there is great danger in trying to equate bilingualism with Canadian unity. The feeling of Canadians for this nation goes far beyond the question of the linguistic background of an individual or the lack of it, and to try to suggest that one is equal to the other is extremely dangerous.

There is a danger in attempting to bring into effect a policy of bilingualism or any policy of that nature. There is a danger in attempting to force upon Canadians any policy that touches upon Canadian unity. Surely it is dangerous to bring in any policy with the suggestion that the future of this country depends upon its acceptance—and that is the attitude of the government in respect of bilingualism. There is the suggestion that if bilingualism is not accepted, the future of Canada is likewise unacceptable and will fail.

This policy of bilingualism within the public service is a marked change from the attitude exhibited last year by the government. There is a tremendous amount of jealousy among various levels of the public service. There is a great hiving for positions by members of the public service solely for the purpose of advancement, increased power and less work. Many of these people are very narrow minded. There has been, there is and still can be an attitude on the part of certain individuals in the public service to force linguistic requirements on people who may well be at the lower levels of the public service.

Let me read one paragraph from a letter I received from an individual in the public service. This man is not an official of the Public Service Alliance or any other group; he is an uncomplicated worker in the public service. This is a two-page letter which goes into more detail than I could possibly cover in the time allotted to me, but I should like to read this paragraph which points up the situation better than I could. This man writes:

> What distresses me more is the fear that now exists among English-speaking people. The French unilingual knows he has the support of the government behind him. If one dares to speak against the policy of bilingualism from an English-speaking viewpoint, you are immediately frowned upon or reminded that your job is your "bread and butter", etc.

An hon. Member: That's a lot of nonsense.

Mr. Howard: Somebody suggests that this is a lot of nonsense. If that suggestion came from the hon. member for Cochrane (Mr. Stewart), I know of no better authority on the subject of nonsense than he.

An hon. Member: At least I don't take political advantage from a debate on bilingualism.

Mr. Howard: Mr. Speaker, I think the best thing I can do in respect of that hon. member is to ignore him.

An hon. Member: That's right.

Mr. Howard: If I do that, I will place him in the category in which he has been placed by the whole cabinet.

There is also a danger, in this question of bilingualism in the public service, in relation to the development of a very small bilingual segment of our society, namely, the 250,000 people who happen to work in the public service. If the hon. member for Scarborough West (Mr. Harney) is correct in his assessment of the fact that universities are moving away from the requirement of a second language for university entrance, I suggest he is also correct in that we find high school students not being required to take a second language in order to qualify for university courses. We find a tendency not to teach two languages in our schools from kindergarten upward. For this reason I suggest that when we embark upon a policy such as that contained in this resolution, we are in danger of developing a policy of bilingualisms solely and entirely for the purpose of the Public Service of Canada.

I sent a questionnaire to my constituents some two years ago. Hon. members should remember that the most westerly part of my constituency is close to what might be known as the riding of Japan. I asked whether the teaching of French in our schools should start in the lower grades, and the preponderance of those who responded were in favour of teaching the French language in kindergarten. That might be a good idea, but I must admit that in the two or three years I attended high school the classes in French were a waste of everybody's time, including the teacher's. I am sure that not one student graduated with much more knowledge of the French language than I did—and that is the ability to answer "Yes" or "No."

I suggest that this resolution has nothing to do with the teaching of English or French in our schools. The resolution standing in the Prime Minister's name seeks to guarantee certain rights for the people in our public service. It does not seek to guarantee a policy of bilingualism in this country. Presumably it ignores national unity. If a matter of this nature is important enough to this government that it should bring a resolution into the House in this form, it is important enough that the government should bring in a resolution that is acceptable.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Howard: This is a resolution which seeks to set out and recognize certain rights of the people, and so far as I am concerned, when the Prime Minister of Canada seeks to legislate in respect of the rights of people there should be flexibility and room for adjustment; there should not be any potential for interpretation, or misinterpretation as the case may be. These rights should not be negotiable.

I noticed over the weekend that one public servant, a member of the Public Service Alliance of Canada, came out in opposition to the Conservative amendment. Let me suggest, first, that I am not taking the part of any group or union in the public service and I am not advocating the right of such a group or union to negotiate in respect of any rights declared in law.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

● (2050)

Mr. Howard: I should like to quote point No. 6 of the resolution as an example. This is the crux, the guarantee of the recognition of the right of a person in the civil service to work and to enjoy his work and not to be in fear of losing it because somebody changes the rules in the middle of the game. Point No. 6 reads:

> That unilingual incumbents of bilingual positions may elect to become bilingual and undertake language training, or transfer to

another job having the same salary maximum, or, if they were to decline such a transfer, to remain in their positions even though the posts have been designated as bilingual—

I do not want the Public Service Alliance of Canada bargaining away that kind of right for two cents or three cents an hour or some other fringe benefit they might be able to get in a collective agreement.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Howard: The amendment put forward by the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Stanfield), I think, is one which tends to keep the government honest, which tends to keep the government in a position of not only saying they believe in certain principles but that they are prepared to back up that belief with law. The statute amendments do not have to be in a dozen bills that come to the House. The principal point can be contained in one bill embracing the Official Languages Act, the Public Service Act and whatever other acts are involved.

To solidify those rights in law, which I think must be done for people working in the public service, ensures that they are not subject to tampering, subject to negotiations, subject to flexibility, subject to interpretation or misinterpretation. If they are to be permitted, as they are, just straight declarations of parliament subject to the whim or change of whoever happens to be in government, it will always be in the back of the Prime Minister's mind at some time in the future that he would want to get back to that comfortable, pre-October 30 time when he was king and there was no one to challenge him.

Let us put these principles into the law, now that we have a chance. Let us preserve those rights in law. Let us also take the position, as I have tried to say, that we should deal with linguistic matters in a respectful way and by so doing show that we respect the integrity of the individual. Thus, we will get some respect in return.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Paul Dick (Lanark-Renfrew-Carleton): Mr. Speaker, I would like to make reference, first of all, to the remarks of the hon. member for Skeena (Mr. Howard) that the teaching of French in high schools and universities is being stopped, and that if we are to have a purely bilingual country in the years ahead, the teaching of French should be continued in order to unify this country. I agree wholeheartedly with my friend the hon. member for Skeena that we should put our money where our mouth is. Let us put a bit of federal money into encouraging the teaching of French, not only at universities but in high schools and in public schools right down to kindergarten and pre-kindergarten for as many days a week as possible, as well as encouraging as much teaching of English in French schools as possible.

It is with some sadness that I rise to speak this evening. I have started to write a speech on this topic on a number of occasions but have been somewhat troubled and have had limited success, partly because I support the idea of bilingualism and biculturalism and in an effort to try to learn a language at which I consistently failed in university and in high school I took the opportunity of working for two summers in the region of the Saguenay valley and the little town of Port Alfred. I found it to be an enriching

experience and that despite what the public was saying, what the politicians were saying and what the press was saying, people are people and it does not matter whether they speak English, French, German, Cree or any other language.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Dick: I am sad because we as Canadians are losers again. In the throne speech the government preached two priorities, the first about economic matters and the second about social and welfare matters. Neither priority has been established to any degree in this parliament. Canadians have been fooled again. This government has falsely presented the facts, and I call this a misrepresentation. They have changed the list of priorities. I am also saddened because lurking in the background is Canadian unity.

In May and June of 1968 in the constituency which I have the privilege and honour to represent, namely, Lanark-Renfrew-Carleton, one could see a sign on all the trees and telegraph poles which read "One Canada: Trudeau, McBride". In 1969 a language debate took place and my Liberal predecessor did not take part in it, I am informed by the hon. member for Crowfoot (Mr. Horner), because he felt that his constituents did not want him to speak in support of the Official Languages Act. I do not hide. I will speak in favour of the Official Languages Act and of this resolution.

In 1972, after the election of October 30, I was somewhat discouraged and disappointed in my predecessor, the Reverend Murray McBride, referring to the people in Lanark-Renfrew-Carleton as bigots, as was reported from coast to coast and appeared on the front pages of Vancouver newspapers and Halifax newspapers. This is the man who did not have the courage to speak in the debate on the Official Languages Act, yet he called us bigots.

In January of 1973 I almost rose in my place for the first time on a question of privilege when the right hon. Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) was addressing this House and made a comment which could only be interpreted as meaning that we on this side of the House are bigots. I did not like that. Now, in June of 1973, we have heard the comment of that noble gentleman, that noble Liberal, that noble person, Mr. Jack Pickersgill. He created his own job for retirement, left his $37,000 cabinet post for his $50,000 self-created job, and as soon as he got out decided he was going to be a Liberal again and called all of us Tories bigots. If you define bigotry as not understanding or not wanting to understand another person's point of view, then it follows that he who calls a person a bigot is a bigot himself.

To my way of thinking it is unfortunate that the government of today and the Liberal party seem to have cornered the market on calling people bigots. Let us do away with that word. Let us throw it out of parliament. That word should be tossed on the trash heap before the word "liar". It is easy to prove somebody a liar, but you cannot prove somebody a bigot because bigotry is a state of mind.

● (2100)

I am also sad because although the government says it feels this question is important and is a matter of priority,

the Prime Minister did not feel it was important enough, nor did the majority of his senior cabinet officials—especially those from Quebec—feel it was important enough to stick around in this chamber and hear other points of view. They did not even have the courtesy to hear the points of view presented by the Leader of the Official Opposition (Mr. Stanfield) and by the leaders of the other parties. That is some sense of priority, some sense of wanting to understand!

Any segment of society, whether it be French, English, East European, West European, Eskimo, Indian or what-have-you, is entitled to a sense of security. I will always vote for and support that which helps give a segment of people a sense of security if it does not encroach upon other people's sense of security. I said much the same thing in the recent debate on capital punishment. I say French-speaking Canadian felt threatened, felt that their sense of security was in jeopardy; therefore, to help provide them with a sense of security parliament deemed fit to enact the Official Languages Act. I support that act.

Now we have some unilingual, English-speaking Canadians who want the same feeling of security, and we have this resolution. The resolution is not much, but it is a small token in giving that sense of security and therefore I will gladly support it. However, I repeat that this resolution does not go far enough. If legislation was necessary to bolster the sense of security of French-speaking Canadians, then surely legislation is necessary to bolster the sense of security of English-speaking Canadians.

The resolution itself means nothing. It is not binding as a legal precedent. It cannot be pleaded in the courts. It cannot be cited in any court in this land. It has the same effect as Pearson's pledge, which has been referred to in this debate and which Mr. Carson said did not bind him at all; he said he went by the law of the land. The Secretary of State for External Affairs (Mr. Sharp) has already told this House that a resolution does not bind the government. Therefore, the government will not be bound by this resolution.

Through the Minister of Finance (Mr. Turner) the government says that it wants to remain flexible. If it wants to remain flexible it must already have in mind the idea of changing these principles. I do not think they should be so flexible as to be changed at the whim of the government. There is no guarantee, as the Minister of Finance indicated yesterday, in this resolution for our civil servants. Claude Edwards, the leader of a group of public service employees, says he wants the resolution made into law, but not yet. Has Claude Edwards negotiated a contract, a collective agreement with the government? If he has, that does give those civil servants a sense of security because they can sue on the basis of a contract or collective agreement. But if he has not negotiated and signed such a collective agreement or contract, then members of the public service are being sold short by their leader in this instance: they have no security whatever.

I accept the principles contained in this resolution, but I ask the House to have the courage of its convictions and put those principles into law. If this amendment is defeated, if the members of the NDP let down the workers in the civil service, then their principles, the socialist principles of protecting employees, are once again swept under the carpet and the English-speaking public servant is left with only hopes of good faith to depend on, with no law, no contract, no collective agreement. With this government, Mr. Speaker, I would never want to depend on its good faith.

If you have a contract or collective agreement, it can always be amended. It could be amended within minutes, with a notarial seal on it and a few signatures. If you have a law, it may take an amendment three or four days at the most to pass through the House of Commons. Surely that would give flexibility enough, if the government wants flexibility, and would provide security if a person wanted to go to court.

The Minister of Finance says it is a guarantee. It is a worthless guarantee. Perhaps we in this House should some time consider legislation dealing with guarantees, with unscrupulous salesmen delivering goods under a worthless guarantee. The only way to guarantee these principles is by contract, collective agreement of legislation. I can only add that if there is a contract or collective agreement stating these principles, then there is no need for this debate. If there is not an agreement, then we as good parliamentarians should make the resolution into law. This resolution is not being made into law. I believe it is only here to cause mischief—the old divide and rule principle. It is politically motivated. God, please don't divide my country over politics. The people of Canada are not causing disunity; it is the politicians in this chamber and the politicians outside this chamber, the ones who are hungering for power or who are trying to cling to power who are trying to divide this country for their own political ends.

Mr. Speaker, I did not come here to take part in the partitioning or dismembering of this country. Canada is too important and should not be pulled apart by politicians crying "unity", "bigotry", or "disunity". All politicians who make Canadian unity part of a partisan political process should be condemned. Even when the politicians are acting irresponsibly, as I believe we are in this debate, I plead with the members of the press to act responsibly. Don't use national unity, Canadian unity, for sensationalized stories. If the politicians are acting like children trying to pull Canada apart, I beg the press to condemn the politicians and to act to keep Canada together.

If the amendment to put the resolution into law in the near future is defeated, nevertheless, as I have already said, I will support the main motion. It really will be the case that if I cannot get a whole loaf, at least I might get a crumb. It will be negligible, perhaps a small deposit. I would not condemn those who choose to vote against the motion if the amendment is defeated, for they may be saying that if you give French-speaking Canadians a sense of security by putting the principle into law, you should also give English-speaking Canadians the same sense of security by putting it into law. What is good for the goose is good for the gander.

● (2110)

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Dick: I am taking the other approach, that a promise is better than nothing at all. I am hoping that the day will come when this party forms the government and we can put this resolution into law. Mr. Speaker, I do not have any great facility with the French language.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Speaker, I am not bilingual, but I can try to express myself in French; I know a few words. When I think about Canada, I think about a country from sea to sea, about a Canada composed of ten provinces and two territories, a Canada composed of many ethnic groups but with two official languages, a Canada where all peoples are happy.

Mr. Speaker, I love Canada, my Canada: Long live Canada!

Mr. Roch La Salle (Joliette): Mr. Speaker, I am sorry my colleagues are not clapping any louder.

Mr. Speaker, I was anxious, like so many others, to take part in this debate, and particularly as a Quebecer. I believe this is a very special opportunity to express, as a Quebecer and as a francophone, my opinions on the past which I will not describe because time does not allow me.

Still, I should like to make a few comments on the resolution and on the amendment under study. In 1970, we passed an official languages act that was very promising, and which I supported off-hand; I was very happy to do it. We hoped that, with this 1970 bill, we would eliminate the disappointment of some of the French-speaking people in this country and also, at the same time, ensure the security of the employees in the Civil Service.

I am not exaggerating when I say that the objectives sought or set at the time have not all been reached. Should we blame the government for this delay in the implementation of bilingualism throughout the Civil Service?

I would be tempted instead to blame a few responsible persons in the Civil Service, persons who may not have understood. There were certainly people within the public service who did not want to understand. One thing is certain: the government, that was supported by the great majority in Parliament, is also disappointed for having to give a date for the implementation of the Official Languages Act within the Civil Service.

I said earlier, as a Quebecer, that I was very honoured to take part in this debate because I think this is a very special opportunity for any member to speak favourably not only on the great principle that bilingualism would be for the country but also on the implementation of this bilingualism.

History forces us to react when such a serious question is being discussed. I will not go so far as to say that the integral implementation of the government's resolution will achieve national unity.

To achieve national unity would require much more than the adoption of a resolution to be implemented as law; this is one aspect, among many others, that should be studied as soon as possible, that Canadians in general be led to believe in this implementation of bilingualism within the public service.

I have listened to several speeches and I quite appreciated the presentation of the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau). The principles included in his resolution are suggestions which will be workable to the extent where officials in the public service will make them workable.

I hope that thanks to this debate we will succeed in sensitizing, first those officials, and also all the hon. members to the importance of total implementation of bilingualism in the public service.

I will not go so far as to suggest that discussing the official languages in parliament could incite all Canadians to speak two languages. To give such a guarantee would be to mislead those who listen to us. But it is absolutely imperative that, within the federal institutions,—and I think that all hon. members will agree with me—every Canadian may be taken care of in one of our official languages, and that from sea to sea. The Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) said, and I quote:

● (2120)

> For almost a century, many French-speaking Canadians have been thinking: "The government in Ottawa is not our government . . . it does not even speak our language". That is the kind of frustration which facilitated separatism.

I think that the Prime Minister was perfectly right in making that statement. Of course, more than an official languages act will be necessary to convince the Quebecers that the best and most beautiful place is still Canada. I will come back to that point anyway, Mr. Speaker.

I would also like to congratulate the Leader of the Official Opposition (Mr. Stanfield) who first supported the resolution now before us and then for reasons that I greatly respect suggested that these suggestions should be incorporated into the Official Languages Act. I think that we must consider seriously the possible application of these proposals. Of course, the experience of the last three years leads us to be pessimistic, even though I am sure of the Prime Minister's good faith with regard to his goal, that is to say bilingualism within the public service. I am convinced of the Prime Minister's good faith as I am convinced of that of the Leader of the Official Opposition when he brings forward an amendment and says that he would like to see these proposals incorporated into the Official Languages Act, so that the delay of the last three years does not occur again.

Therefore, after thinking seriously about it, I am ready to support these proposals, though they are not perfect. However, I think that they deserve my consideration and confidence and I believe that the amendment before us deserves enough consideration to encourage me to support it, in order to facilitate the fastest and most complete application of these proposals. Should this amendment not get the support of the majority, I will do like so many others: I will gladly support the proposals submitted to us.

However, when we read some of the speeches again, we find that there are still weaknesses.

I also listened carefully to the leader of the New Democratic Party (Mr. Lewis) who did not hesitate to support these resolutions and, as did the leader of the official opposition, mentioned the respect that those two party leaders have for French-speaking citizens of this country and the importance they attach to them. I think it is only fair to say that they showed their respect and consideration for that group which lives for the greater part in the

province of Quebec, and they proved their respect for that group on several occasions.

As to my honourable friends of the social credit party of Canada, I do not know what their position is and whether they are free to vote for or against the resolution. Judging from what the hon. member for Champlain (Mr. Matte) said, I would think it difficult for them to support that resolution. If I were more convinced that their amendment could be implemented, I would probably think more about it, but I have great doubts that the amendment moved by the social credit would be the solution.

I am told by a colleague that I cannot vote three ways. That is not my habit. However, I like to express my views and I may be in the best position to give credit to those who deserve it because I know that it is not always easy to congratulate an opponent and say publicly what is good and what is bad. I am free, Mr. Speaker, to appreciate and consider the fine comments which we have heard in this House.

I would also like to recall the hon. members the statistics which the member for Saint-Hyacinthe (Mr. Wagner) mentioned when he stated that in 1971, among the 66,675 positions to be filled by the public service in federal departments, only 8 per cent required a unilingual French-speaking incumbent, while 80 per cent, that is ten times more, required only English. However, in 1972, contrary to the recommendations of the Dion report, only 12 per cent of senior employees were French-speaking and only half of them were from Quebec.

Therefore, the data given by the member for Saint-Hyacinthe give food for thought. They show how important it is not only to discuss the principles but especially to implement them as soon as possible. We have experienced failure in the past three years, although there has been some progress. This progress has been unsatisfactory, but it is clearly apparent that through legislation we could have greater success and better results.

I agree with some members, but perhaps I do not endorse the entire speech made by the right hon. member for Prince Albert (Mr. Diefenbaker). He said, for example, that he proposed the establishment of a royal commission. When the royal commission was suggested, he stated that he objected to it, under the circumstances and that the royal commission which cost $10 million has rather served to divide the country. I disagree with the right hon. member for Prince Albert. I have disagreed with him before and I still do because I think that although that inquiry cost $10 million and did not succeed in achieving national unity, it still had some good points: it has shown the Canadian entity with its qualities and defects. Any unbiased and sensible individual would admit that this inquiry opened our eyes to the current situation and we have every reason, by seriously analyzing the report, for correcting the shortcomings and injustice which do exist.

Mr. Speaker, if we want to respond to the desires of most Canadians we should respond unanimously if possible on a matter of principles put before us with a view to improving bilingualism within the public service. Several hon. members have urged their colleagues to show good will and objectivity.

I also heard some hon. members express certain fears on the part of English-speaking people about the proposals on official languages accepted three years ago. I think I can say that for us, French-speaking people, those fears are far behind us because we have known frustration; many French-speaking people have grown discouraged by slow progress and the impossibility of participating in the administration of this country.

Some are concerned and surprised to see that, particularly in the province of Quebec, people have given up on federalism. If you assess the results of the last hundred years, you will understand this discouragement; if I were to limit myself to the results of the last hundred years, I would certainly hesitate to remain in this House. However, efforts have been made for the last ten years. Some injustices have been alleviated and if you assess the results of the last ten years there is reason to be optimistic rather than pessimistic. Does one have to forget a long part of Canadian life?

• (2130)

The right hon. member for Prince Albert mentioned that he introduced in Parliament a measure to provide Canadians with bilingual cheques, with simultaneous translation, that he took steps to have certain French-speaking people apoointed to important posts; I think that, in all equity, we must recognize that on those occasions he did consider francophones. Mr. Speaker, one should not delude oneself and believe that those nominations or the bilingual cheques are adequate reasons to make francophones think that equality exists in this country.

We may very well talk about national unity, but woe unto him who thinks that the Official Languages Act is the only means to realize national unity! I for one prefer talking about national harmony.

Will we have to recognize that there are different regions having different needs? It is recognized in the House. I often hear hon. members talking about notable differences on a national basis. Of course some are reluctant to repeat that there exist two founding people. i am not afraid to say it, Mr. Speaker, because this is how I learned the Canadian history.

The right hon. member for Prince Albert mentioned that Confederation is the result of the association of English- and French-speaking people who believed that the destiny of the northern half of this continent could be fulfilled in unity, but not in uniformity, and I quite agree. Without the basic agreements expressed in British North America Act section 133 which ratify the rights pertaining to our country's languages, as well as in sections 91 and 92 stipulating that the provinces have jurisdiction over education and culture, Canada would never have been.

I do not believe it exaggerated to say that there are in Canada two founding nations. Naturally there is also, and I am delighted about it, the contribution of thousands of immigrants from various origin who deserve the respect of all Canadians, for they have contributed to the unification of Canada. But, just the same, how can we forget our origins and the true history of this country? Hence the need and the importance to recognize two official languages in this country.

Now I believe that this opportunity is most important, for it allows us to ask hon. members to respect that goal which we must pursue. That is one aspect of the problems we are facing in this country. Its achievement will be possible to the extent that those responsible in the civil service will think like most members, for I am convinced that the majority of members will support the initial resolution.

In any event we must at least—and I dare hope so—support unanimously the proposals that are now before us. It is not a life insurance, of course; I think it is a minimum which is worth considering. We will have to control the implementation of these principles, within the time limits stated, in respect of some positions to be created. It is a way of proving to the anglophones and francophones that Parliament, since we can all discuss this matter, is making a real effort to correct some injustices. The word is not too strong, and several members have said so before me. There have been injustices, and it seems that the majority, in Parliament, want to correct them. I think that we must make an effort to reach this goal; others before me appealed to unity and the influence that unanimity could exercise in Parliament. But we still have to convince the responsible people and to control closely the integral implementation of the principles involved. If, unhappily, we do not get better results than we have had in the last three years, we will have to admit that the Leader of the Official Opposition is quite right in asking as he does in his amendment that these principles be included in the Official Languages Act.

So I dare hope that the speeches made in this House will finally convince us of the importance of this debate. I would like to say before I conclude my remarks that we must not let ourselves be fooled into believing that with the Official Languages Act we have succeeded in satisfying the French-speaking group.

Should anybody think that those proposals were introduced only for those people living in the province of Quebec, it would be a serious mistake. I think that we can achieve that national harmony, that is the understanding of all ethnic groups in this country, through legislation a lot more important than the Official Languages Act. These amendments concern the economy of Canada.

I read today in a Montreal newspaper that Mr. Gérard Filion, a man well known in the province of Quebec, dealt with economic separatism 30 years ago because already at that time Quebec milk producers were adversely affected by the feed grain policy which still creates problems today.

There is this language problem for French-speaking people, but there are also economic problems. I am also thinking about the attitude of Quebec authorities.

Earlier, I heard a colleague from the New Democratic Party talk about the late Maurice Duplessis. Heaven knows if he is known in Quebec! But, Mr. Speaker, attempts were made to blame him for a certain conservatism, or a refusal to approve federal policies at one time. The attitude of Quebec governments for the last 30 years has always been aimed at a decentralized federalism. That has not changed today and the premier is asking that certain powers be handed back.

[Mr. La Salle.]

That is how national harmony will be achieved in this country, namely through the recognition of Quebec's needs.

I admit that in other areas or other provinces in this country people do not think as we do and do not speak our language, but the citizens in those areas have the right to live as much as we have.

Therefore, if we all recognized the distinct differences between the various areas in this country, we would accept them and would come to understand them, while promoting for certain areas, certain jurisdictions that would not be the same in other areas, because needs are different.

Therefore, Quebec's position is clear enough on that point. It is the whole history of the province and its mentality that want that, and I believe nobody has the right to put obstacles in the way of the one who wishes to preserve such basic rights.

However, it is not only a question of language here, but of needs and a question of mentality, that mentality we would like to be recognized throughout this country, as Quebecers. We already recognize different mentalities and accept them.

Now I believe it is with objectives such as those that we shall achieve that national harmony for the good of all Canadians. I hope there will be unanimity at least in this House on the principle of bilingualism, which is a basic principle and an obviously necessary one, so that we may really prove that we are members of parliament of this day and age.

[*English*]

Mr. Dan McKenzie (Winnipeg South Centre): Mr. Speaker, it is with full realization of the significance and importance of the subject that I rise to take part in this debate, a debate which has included eloquent speeches by members from all parties. It is obvious that bilingualism is a subject that concerns us all.

Some Canadians see the Official Languages Act, and the nine principles for implementing bilingualism in the public service, as necessary and long overdue steps by the government to formally acknowledge the French fact in Canada. Others see the act as an arbitrary, inequitable and poorly administered program which is neither feasible nor workable. This latter group appears to include the majority of English-speaking Canadians, very few of whom harbour any ingrained biases or prejudices against their French-speaking countrymen as has been suggested. I include myself within this group of Canadians who are unhappy with the government's philosophy of bilingualism as articulated in the Official Languages Act. To us, the act has done little but foster misunderstanding and divisiveness between English- and French-speaking Canadians. This is the tragedy of the Official Languages Act.

Rather than re-evaluating the entire act in the hope of arriving at solutions more satisfactory to all Canadians, the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) is asking parliament to confirm the basic principles of the government's program for bilingualism in the public service. What this means is simply that the government is asking parliament to tell them to do what they intend to do anyway, that is, carry out the nine-point policy. It is a farce so far as public

policy goes. The resolution has no value for it merely reiterates present government policy, and it will have no real effect upon the issue itself since it is not an enactment of legislation but an expression of opinion. It is evident that the Prime Minister's intention for this debate was not to enter into a constructive dialogue on bilingualism. Rather, as he himself said, his intention was to make it difficult for some members to hold ambiguous positions on bilingualism.

My position is unequivocal. While I recognize the obvious right of every French-speaking Canadian to deal with the federal government in French, and while I recognize the undeniable right of every French-speaking Canadian to have equal employment opportunities within the federal civil service, I do not recognize nor approve of the manner in which the government is going about guaranteeing these rights. I disagree with the way the Official Languages Act is being implemented. However, it is not the implementation of the act that is necessarily responsible for its disastrous results; it is the act itself. The Official Languages Act must be rewritten.

Four years have elapsed since the Official Languages Act was passed in parliament with an overwhelming majority. The act, which was thought by most members to be a logical and extremely necessary piece of legislation, has in practice proven to be just the opposite. The past four years have ushered in a new era, one of unprecedented misunderstanding between Canada's two founding peoples. This misunderstanding manifested itself clearly in the last election. There was a blacklash, and this blacklash will not be curbed until legislation is enacted which is both more fair and rational than that which we currently have before us. This does not mean arbitrary and binding regulations and stipulations. What it does mean is flexibility. It means taking account of the French fact in the public service, but only in direct proportion to their statistical numbers in the population, and vice versa for districts in which English-speaking persons are in the minority.

● (2140)

One example of the arbitrariness and rigidity which is characteristic of the Official Languages Act, and which does little to foster national unity, is the 10 per cent minority population rule used in drawing the boundaries for bilingual districts. In these districts bilingual government services are to be statutorily required rather than left to administrative judgments of significant demand and feasibility as otherwise ordered in the Official Languages Act. But how are the lines on the maps to be drawn?

The Canadian population is relatively mobile and, as the 1971 census has shown, French-English proportions change significantly over a decade. Are the boundaries of these districts to be redrawn every ten years? If so, we can be sure that such a move would cause much bitterness and irritation among the persons affected. The concept of bilingual districts must be abandoned. Instead, the government should rely on criteria of significant demand and feasibility to determine where bilingual government services should be provided. Such a move would do away with the ridiculous intention of the government to set up a surfeit of federally-declared bilingual districts, staffed with persons having to satisfy inflexible bilingual criteria, in provinces where it is neither necessary not proportionately justifiable with regard to population.

It appears, however, that the government has no plans to change the policy and thereby move to allay the fears of those most affected. Such lack of understanding and action epitomizes exactly what is wrong with both the government and the Official Languages Act. Even the Commissioner of Official Languages, Mr. Keith Spicer, has suggested that the government take a second look at the idea of bilingual districts. The government's apparent refusal thus far to acknowledge Mr. Spicer's concern regarding bilingual districts is not surprising. The commissioner's frequent outbursts and sardonic humour have done nothing but further compound and intensify animosities between English- and French-speaking Canadians.

Why the Prime Minister has refrained from reprimanding the commissioner for his outlandish statements is anyone's guess. However, I suspect the Prime Minister of being somewhat sympathetic to the commissioner. After all, what the Prime Minister is attempting to achieve in this plastic debate is a distinctly measurable degree of divisiveness in this country on the entire subject of bilingualism. It is the Prime Minister's hope that from such divisiveness will emerge a feeling among many Canadians that he, and he alone, is Canada's last real hope for national unity—a sort of omniscient father called upon to bring together all his children.

It is obvious that the Postmaster General (Mr. Ouellet) believes this, having accused several of my Conservative friends of persecuting French Canadians. Statements like these from an avowed federalist are inexcusable and reprehensible and further compound the problem. As long as bias and prejudice are continually rekindled, they will continue to exist; and no legislation, least of all the Official Languages Act, will make things any different. But to rewrite the act would at least be a start at nurturing a new feeling of understanding and equality among Canada's two founding peoples.

In any revision of the act, several important problem areas, all of which have blatently manifested themselves in the public service over the past four years, would have to be examined. As I mentioned earlier, the premise upon which a new act must be established is one of services and opportunity based on numbers. Minority group representation in the federal civil service should be based upon their statistical numbers in the population. Similarly, bilingual districts as such must be scrapped. If there are 50,000 French-speaking Canadians in an English-speaking province, there should only be a proportionate number of French-speaking public servants to deal with them. Current quotas are arbitrary and unfair. For example, there is little logic in a regulation stipulating that 50 per cent of the administrative staff in the Winnipeg Manpower Office must be bilingual by 1978, when the amount of government business they carry on with French-speaking Manitobans hardly makes the rule justifiable.

Other quotas, such as those involving the defence department, which stipulate that 28 per cent of all officers in the Canadian armed forces must be French-speaking, are similarly ridiculous. Quotas such as this smack of

tokenism, and the possibility exists of some positions being filled with personnel merely because they are able to speak French.

The Official Languages Act also failed to take cognizance of the fact that learning another language is not always easy. Many public servants find it immensely difficult to master a new language and, as a result may be effectively prevented from moving into higher positions. Even those who are able to learn a new language with relative ease have problems with retention. This situation is exacerbated by the manner in which the public service has structured its French language training programs. Language specialists tell us that a person who studies a new language intensively for six weeks and then goes back to a job for the same period of time where that language is used only sparingly, can easily forget what he learned. Today this is a common occurrence in the Canadian public service, and an unnecessary one. The number of civil servants having to take part in these courses is totally out of proportion to the number that need to, or ever will, actually conduct their business in French.

Then there is the eroding effect that bilingualism has had on morale within the public service, not only in the national capital region where the results of October 30 indicate this widespread disaffection but throughout the country. Low employee morale is hardly conducive to good government. But perhaps the most serious concomitant effect of the entire bilingualism program has been the fantastic expenditure. Hundreds of millions of dollars have been spent by the government in implementing the federal bilingualism development program. The great portion of this money has been unnecessarily spent. The return on the investment has been poor.

One government practice in particular clearly illustrates to what I allude. I refer to the government's insistence that all government documents, books and pamphlets be printed and bound in both English and French. I am not arguing that inasmuch as both are official languages there should not be an English version and a French version of government publications, but why insist on having both versions within the one cover when only half will be used by the reader depending upon whether he speaks English or French? Even the Liberal Winnipeg *Free Press* pointed out that which is obvious when it said:

> Government documents are twice as large as they need be and therefore twice as costly. English-speaking Canadians will not use that half of a publication that is written in French; nor will French-speaking Canadians use the English half. Why, then, does the government print and make the public buy both versions?

Then there is the question of language training. As many speakers have said before me, more money must be spent in promoting French language instruction in our schools, particularly our elementary schools. This is where learning begins, where language training can be most effective and where understanding of different cultures and people initially develops. But while more of our young people could be studying French, they are not. A recent study by the Ontario Department of Education shows that the number of students studying French in the province is declining rather than increasing. This decline is indicative of the dissatisfaction felt by many Canadians with regard to the Official Languages Act. The number of students learning French is also declining in Manitoba and Saskatchewan.

I could go on at some length reciting numerous other reasons why I am unhappy with the Official Languages Act and why I shall vote against this resolution. However, I think that my remarks sufficiently explain my position, one which is similar to that held by a great many Canadians, including the great majority of my constituents. I was thus astounded to hear the remarks of the hon. member for Davenport (Mr. Caccia) who recently assured the House that bilingualism is highly supported and is received with great enthusiasm by all cultural groups in this country. I question his judgment and am anxious to know the name of the country to which he referred.

● (2150)

The Official Languages Act and the question of its legality is currently before the courts. Its principles are before parliament and will eventually be before the Canadian people in an election. The controversy, hostility and misunderstanding surrounding bilingualism will continue until a more satisfactory approach is sought and found. A fair and equitable solution to the problem can only be arrived at through further dialogue and with the adoption of more flexible legislation. Such a solution must also acknowledge to a much greater extent other cultures and languages. Then, and only then, will Canada be on the road toward achieving our elusive dream—that of national unity.

Mr. S. J. Korchinski (Mackenzie): Mr. Speaker, I want first of all to congratulate the government on introducing this resolution. It is something they dreamed up following a great deal of consideration. The Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau), being a very cunning man and somewhat repentant, so it appears, felt it was necessary to show the country that the government had had a change of heart. I think that is really the purpose of this resolution, to leave the country with the impression that the Liberal party is adopting a new line of thinking and that the Prime Minister has learned something from the election of October 30.

However, I want also to state that this resolution, in terms of today's news events, is Canada's answer to the United States' Watergate. This is the biggest cover-up we have ever experienced by a government that knows full well that it does not mean one word of what it is saying in this resolution. This resolution is an attempt to deceive the Canadian people.

Just what is a resolution, Mr. Speaker? I have attended a great many conventions in my day, and I am sure each member of this House has attended convention after convention in one capacity or another. What is a resolution? It is simply a recommendation to a higher authority. So what do we have here? We have the government in power, which is one authority introducing in the House of Commons, which is the final authority, a recommendation to itself: it is saying, "We recommend to ourselves that we do this".

If the Prime Minister and his government were sincere they would not try to deceive the people of Canada. But someone in this House of Commons has been able to call their bluff. I am not going to stand here, as a member of

this party or of any other party in this House, and have that kind of deceit, that kind of bluff, pulled on me. I do not think the Canadian people expect this sort of thing. If the Prime Minister or his cabinet were sincere today they would have introduced an amendment to the Officials Languages Act. That would have meant something. Certainly I would support that sort of amendment. Had the Prime Minister and the Liberal party done that, they would have called my bluff. Members who were here in the previous parliament will recall that I voted against the Official Languages Act. This act is now part of history. Obviously there is a feeling against it in certain parts of the country, contrary to the kind of hypocrisy that has existed in other parts.

In this chamber we have two standards. You can say things against English-speaking parts of Canada but you dare not say anything about French-speaking Canadians. You can say whatever you like about the other ethnic groups in this country. For example, what is happening in St. Boniface? The hon. member for St. Boniface (Mr. Guay) has been very vocal on many occasions, but what is happening to the radio station there? This radio station has provided Jews, Ukrainians and other ethnic groups with the chance to sing songs in their own language, but it is now being taken over by French-speaking Canadians.

Mr. Guay (St. Boniface): A question of privilege, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Korchinski: Mr. Speaker, why should I have to sit here—

Mr. Guay (St. Boniface): A question of privilege, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order.

Mr. Korchinski: I am not going to be silent in this House while—

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Would the hon. member kindly resume his seat?

Mr. Korchinski: I have to be honest with myself, and certain things must be said.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, please. I realize that with a minute to go it is difficult to entertain a question of privilege and I know that the hon. member for Mackenzie (Mr. Korchinski) would like to continue his speech, but I have to hear the question of privilege of the hon. member for St. Boniface (Mr. Guay).

Mr. Guay (St. Boniface): I will allow him to continue. He can shoot his mouth off, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: The hon. member for St. Boniface adds nothing to the dignity of this debate.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Guay (St. Boniface): Mr. Speaker—

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, please. Pursuant to special order made at this day's sitting, the debate on the amendment proposed by the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Stanfield) is deemed to have been terminated. Accordingly, the question is as follows. Mr. Trudeau, seconded by Mr. Drury, moves:

That this House,

(i) aware that, as provided in the Official Languages Act, the English and French languages possess and enjoy equality of status and equal rights and privileges as to their use in all the institutions of the Parliament and Government of Canada;

cognizant that it is the duty of departments and agencies of the Government of Canada to ensure, in accordance with that Act, that members of the public can obtain available services from and communicate with them in both official languages; while

recognizing that public servants should, as a general proposition and subject to the requirements of the Official Languages Act respecting the provision of services to the public, be able to carry out their duties in the Public Service of Canada in the official language of their choice;

do hereby recognize and approve the following principles for achieving the foregoing:

(1) that positions which are seen, under present circumstances, as requiring the knowledge and use of both the French and English languages will be first identified, and then designates, as bilingual in the course of the period ending December 31, 1978;

(2) that positions will also be identified where English is an essential requirement of the job, where French is essential, or whether either French or English may be used;

(3) that a knowledge of English and French is one of the elements of merit in the selection of candidates for bilingual positions;

(4) that competitions for bilingual positions will be open both to bilingual candidates and unilingual candidates who have formally indicated their willingness to become bilingual;

(5) that competitions for unilingual positions will continue to be open to unilingual or bilingual candidates who meet the language requirements of the job;

(6) that unilingual incumbents of bilingual positions may elect to become bilingual and undertake language training, or transfer to another job having the same salary maximum, or, if they were to decline such a transfer, to remain in their position even though the posts have been designated as bilingual;

(7) that employees who, as of April 6, 1966, had at least ten years of continuous service and who, since that date, have been employed continuously in the federal public service, will be entitled to apply for any job that has been identified for future designation as bilingual without having to indicate their willingness to become bilingual;

(8) that unilingual French-speaking and English-speaking persons from outside the public service who are willing to become bilingual may apply for bilingual positions open to public competition;

(9) that language training, at public expense, will be provided to unilingual public servants as well as to persons who are appointed to the public service to bilingual positions;

do further approve the Government of Canada, and, in particular, the Treasury Board and the Public Service Commission, taking the measures required to give effect to the aforementioned principles; and

(ii) do further approve the taking of measures, after consultation with employee representatives, designed to produce a greater use of the French language at all levels in the public service, through increasing, where practical, the number of French language units, through further recruitment efforts by the Public Service Commission, through training programs offered in the French language and by developing proposals, in conjunction with the governments of the provinces of Ontario and Quebec, to enhanced the bilingual character of the nationa' capital region, thus helping to realize the objective of achieving, within the merit principle, full participation in the public service by

members of both the Anglophone and the Francophone communities,

In amendment thereto, Mr. Stanfield, seconded by Mr. Baker, moved:

That the motion be amended by adding to paragraph (i) thereof, next after the words, "taking the measures required to give effect to the aforementioned principles", the following:

"and the Government of Canada, as a priority measure, introducing legislation to incorporate the aforementioned principles in the Official Languages Act, the Public Service Employment Act and other appropriate statutes;".

Mr. Reid: A point of order, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order. There can be no interruption when the Chair is putting a motion.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Deputy Speaker: All those in favour of the said amendment will please say yea.

Some hon. Members: Yea.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: All those opposed will please say nay.

Some hon. Members: Nay.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: In my opinion the nays have it.

And more than five members having risen:

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Pursuant to special order made this day, the recorded division on the proposed amendment stands deferred until the order of the day to resume this debate is entered upon tomorrow afternoon.

PROCEEDINGS ON ADJOURNMENT MOTION

● (2200)

[*English*]

A motion to adjourn the House under Standing Order 40 deemed to have been moved.

FISHERIES—REQUEST FOR ACTION TO ALLEVIATE PROBLEMS CAUSED BY GREY SEALS IN CERTAIN AREAS OF ATLANTIC

Mr. Elmer M. MacKay (Central Nova): Mr. Speaker, on May 29, as recorded at page 4209 of *Hansard,* I had occasion to ask the Minister of the Environment (Mr. Davis), in charge of fisheries, a question with reference to the detrimental effect grey seals are having on certain fishing operations off the eastern shore of Nova Scotia. There is a real problem in this particular part of Atlantic Canada which is symbolic of the situation in other parts of Canada.

The whole inshore fishing industry is not getting the advantage it deserves, and it is under severe pressure. Anyone who has attended the proceedings of the Standing Committee on National Resources and Public Works, or has read the minutes of that committee knows that in many respects the fishermen of eastern Canada are being short-changed. They are being short-changed in dredging, wharf repair and construction, breakwater maintenance, and so on. These aggravated problems are made worse in this particular area of my constituency and, incidentally, the constituency of the government House leader (Mr. MacEachen), by the activity of the grey seals.

The warden of the municipality of the district of St. Mary's, Howard Turner, who has been active in the fishing industry for many years, told me a few days ago that at one time he and others used to keep these animals in check and received bounty money for their trouble. At that time the fishermen were protected and the grey seals were kept in check. Now the situation is unfortunately reversed. The attitude of the government toward these fishermen in general is deplorable. The Department of Fisheries must be restored to its rightful place under a minister, and not lumped together with another department with other responsibilities.

The annual report of the Fisheries Prices Support Board, a government publication, indicates a decline in Canadian fisheries production. The annual *Statistical Review* of the Canadian fisheries for 1972, published by Environment Canada, illustrates Canada's position in world fisheries as being pretty mediocre: we are behind Russia, we are behind Japan, we are behind Norway and the United States. In terms of volume and value of catch we are behind these four countries. I suggest this is because our fishermen are not getting the backing or the protection and consideration they deserve.

About a year ago, because of a certain amount of agitation from the fishing industry the Minister of the Environment and the government House leader came to the town of Larry's River along with assorted officials. We had a very successful meeting there in terms of the number in attendance. At that time many promises were made about dredging, better wharves, better guidance systems and harbours. I do not have time to list the number of promises made but I certainly do not need much time to enumerate the promises that were kept. The fishermen in my constituency realize they are not being fairly treated. I know that the minister and many of his departmental officials hardly know the difference between a hake and a haddock, a cod fin and a capelin.

Let me refer again to the question of the grey seal. Unless something is done to relieve the situation, the fishermen will, in defence of their livelihood, be forced into disposing of these animals in contravention of the law. This is something no one wants to see happen, but unless consideration is given to some of the problems inherent in the inshore fisheries of Nova Scotia it is likely to happen.

This may not be strictly relevant to the question I directed to the Minister of Fisheries, but perhaps he would use his influence with the minister in charge of the Unemployment Insurance Commission to change the regulations so that fishermen can get better protection, in terms of unemployment insurance benefits, than they now get because of gross discrimination in terms of UIC benefits.

Hon. Jack Davis (Minister of Fisheries): Mr. Speaker, the hon. member for Central Nova (Mr. MacKay) made a

statement which implied that the fishermen are being ignored. If he had read one of the recent reports of the Science Council of Canada he would have noted, for example, that the money which the federal government is spending on research and development in fisheries is the highest by all odds, for any industry in this country.

Ten per cent of the equivalent of the total value of output of the industry at the processing plant is spent by the taxpayers of Canada on research and development in the industry. If we take the total budget of the fishery service, it is equivalent approximately to 20 per cent of the value of the output of the industry.

There is no industry in Canada that gets this kind of support from the taxpayers of this nation, and that money is spent substantially on the east coast. It is roughly three times that spent on the west coast. It is spent in proportion to the value of the output of the industry.

I mentioned the figure of 10 per cent which is spent on research and development in proportion to the gross value of the industry. In agriculture, forestry and other industries the figure is more like 1 per cent. So in terms of R and D support the fishery is being treated ten times as well as forestry or agriculture. The fishery has not done badly in spite of what the hon. member said. Canada is behind Japan, Norway, Russia and the United States today. It has been behind them for many many years, those countries being long-distance fishing nations, fishing all over the world. Some of them with very large populations and concerned about protein shortages have always taken many more fish than Canadians with a relatively small population. We are more efficient but we take fewer fish.

The grey seal population on the east coast has been growing. It is now in the order of 30,000. We do have a controlled culling operation which is carried out annually under the direction of our scientists. However, the population has increased and the problem is increasing. They are taking large numbers of mackerel, cod, herring, and so on. Because the number of fish off our shores has been decreasing due to excessive fishing pressure, we have to take seals because their population is rising and the ecological balance has been upset. I can assure the hon. member and the fishermen in his area that we have the grey seal problem very much in mind and we are doing something about it.

INDIAN AFFAIRS—ABORIGINAL RIGHTS—VALIDITY OF ROYAL PROCLAMATION OF 1763

Mr. Thomas S. Barnett (Comox-Alberni): Mr. Speaker, the occasion for the question which I addressed to the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) last May 8 on the matter of aboriginal rights arose from two separate but related events. One was the statement made to the committee on Indian affairs by the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development (Mr. Chrétien) on April 12, 1973, as recorded at page 1329 of the proceedings of the committee which reads:

> The proclamation of 1763 I recognize as a valid document—It establishes on obligation for the Crown to negotiate with the natives before taking land from the Indians.

The second event was a little later, when this House was in recess and the Prime Minister made certain public statements on television, and perhaps otherwise, among other things suggesting that the NDP was trying to rewrite history and accusing us of lack of concern for what some of the provincial governments of Canada are doing in this area. This was sufficient cause for me to ask the Prime Minister whether the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development when he was speaking before the committee was stating government policy or not. While there were certain procedural difficulties to the question as I posed it, that essentially was the question I asked and on which I would like information. The Prime Minister in his reply said it was "a very difficult legal question which I am not able to settle in any final way by any answer or, indeed, by a statement of policy."

● (2210)

When the Prime Minister of this country, in this day and age, was so vague about it, I felt the answer was far from being satisfactory and that I should pursue the matter further on an occasion such as this. The nub of the question that arises in my mind is why the Prime Minister continues to deal with this matter as an abstract legal question rather than as a basic human question involving basic human rights. That is the point of view from which I would like to see the question treated. Incidentally, I say at once, Mr. Speaker, that if we can get a real statement of policy, in depth from that point of view, from the government of Canada then so far as I am concerned I am quite prepared to play my part with any provincial government in this country, regardless of its political stripe, in having that government recognize its appropriate responsibility in the consideration of this matter. But until there is forthcoming from the Government of Canada a clear-cut statement of its policy, it ill behooves the Prime Minister or anyone else to criticize the position being taken in this context by provincial administrations.

There are a couple of points I would like to mention in the few minutes available to me. One arises out of the further statement by the minister on April 12 when, in reference to the B.C. land question, he said:

> In the B.C. land question the judges did not agree, they split. Three judges said that the proclamation of 1763 did not apply to B.C. because B.C. was *terra incognita* in 1763.

My response to that is again to say, let us get it out of the legal context. The fact is, and the records indicate it, that whether or not this legally applied, certainly the first Governor and the Colonial Secretary in London at that time acted as if it did apply. The documentary evidence on that point is quite clear. if one looks afield one can pick up that kind of factual recognition almost anywhere.

I have in my hand a copy of a book just published, "Barkley Sound—A History of the Pacific Rim National Park Area," by R. Bruce Scott in which he tells something of the life and adventures of William Eddy Banfield, described as a government agent, trader, explorer, writer, ship's pilot and the first white settler in Barkley Sound. Mr. Banfield in his rather voluminous reports to the Colonial Secretary at Government House, Victoria, a man named W. A. G. Young, had many interesting things to say. Among them is one of his reports dated Ohiat, Barclay Sound, 23rd February, 1860, in which he wrote:

I mentioned to His Excellency when at Victoria that I had made a purchase of my place at Ohiat from the Chief. I was almost compelled to do so on my first coming among them; they were particularly anxious that I should purchase the ground on which I lived... saying that the Americans at Cape Flattery had all bought their ground from the Indians. I pleaded poverty, which was very evident to them, my stores being very limited... But to save myself the daily annoyance of the creatures I at length bought it for two blankets and two shirts. In order to impress on them formality, I drew out a title deed and explained it to them, giving them a duplicate. I had no civilized witness, none being in the neighbourhood.

Then Mr. Banfield goes on to explain how he later moved to another spot and bought another place. Inflation had set in, for his second property cost "six blankets, some beans, molasses, etc." Again he drew out a title deed. The evidence is clear for anyone who want to see that *de facto* recognition was given at one time by governmental authorities, and that all we really need to do is interpret the context of the present documents on human rights in relation to the situation as it was recognized then.

Mr. Speaker, when I talk about documents I have in my hand some of the international covenants on human rights, among them the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights of the United Nations, and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights. In the preamble to the covenant of the assembly the text reads as follows:

Recognizing that, in accordance with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the ideal of free human beings enjoying civil and political freedom and freedom from fear and want can only be achieved if conditions are created whereby everyone may enjoy his civil and political rights, as well as his economic, social and cultural rights,

And part I, article I reads—

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order. I regret to interrupt the hon. member, but the time allotted to him has expired.

Hon. Jean Chrétien (Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development): Mr. Speaker, I should like to reply to the hon. member for Comox-Alberni (Mr. Barnett) because it is good that once in a while he is caught in the position of defending the government.

Of course we recognize Indian rights in this country, and of course we do that in British Columbia; and the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) stated that. When the decision of the Supreme Court was handed down a few months ago in the case of the Nishga people's council, the court was divided and the Indians came to me and asked me to go and see the British Columbia government, which happens to be of the same political stripe as the hon. member's party. I went, and said to the British Columbia government that the Indians from the Nass River were asking British Columbia to turn over to them the land that belongs to them according to the decision of the Supreme Court.

I expected the NDP government in British Columbia to agree and say it was part of the policy of their government and party to recognize those rights. Oh, they were surprised that I said that to them and asked that they recognize in general terms the Indian rights. That means that the B.C. government has to return to the federal government, for the benefit of Indians of the Nass River, those lands that immemoriably belong to the Indians there. I was flabbergasted to realize that they were not keen to do that. When it was time to deliver the goods, they were not there. They said, "Write us a letter about it." I wrote two months ago asking them to live up to the decision of the Supreme Court and deliver the land to the Nass River Indians. I am still waiting for an answer. So I hope the hon. member who is so devoted to the cause of Indians will go to his friends in British Columbia and tell them to live up to the program of his own party.

When the land was cut off from the Indians after 1912 during the time of the McBride commission a lot of land was taken away from the Indians and used by the province as Crown land. So I am going to the B.C. government once in a while asking them to return those lands that were taken away by the provincial authorities, for the benefit of the provincial government, from the Indians.

I am still waiting for British Columbia to live up to the commitment they made to the Indians during the last provincial election campaign, because this is a clear case where the rights of the Indians have not been lived up to by the provincial government and perhaps by the then federal government. So if the hon. member wants to cry in this House he should spend one day more, perhaps one week, on Vancouver Island and drive south to Victoria and speak to the provincial government.

I said in committee, and I repeat it here, that after the decision of the Supreme Court it is very clear that the royal proclamation by King George III in 1763 imposes an obligation to settle the Indian claims in a certain fashion. That is exactly why we have already started negotiations with the Yukon Indians, to settle their claims. That is why I am starting to establish acceptable mechanisms in order to find ways to solve the problems of those Indians in British Columbia who have not signed treaties.

● (2220)

I hope the hon. member for Comox-Alberni will employ some energy and use his facility with language to explain this to his friends in British Columbia who do not seem to be ready to deliver what they have promised to the electorate of British Columbia.

AIRPORTS—PICKERING TOWNSHIP SITE

Mr. Ron Atkey (St. Paul's): Mr. Speaker, on May 9 I asked the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) whether, in light of the fact that he had promised residents of the Toronto region that he would cancel the Pickering airport development if more than 51 per cent of the people in metro Toronto were opposed to it, he would treat a recent public opinion poll in the Toronto *Star* as indicative of the feelings of the people of the region, or would he prefer to treat the opinion of the NDP on this issue in view of their switch in position in committee, as indicative of public opinion. The Prime Minister refused to answer. The words I am about to refer to were uttered in the borough of Scarborough, but they would apply to the whole of metropolitan Toronto. They were spoken on March 25, 1972, and are as follows—that if the majority of people living in this area, even if only 51 per cent, did not want this airport, the government would not proceed with it.

There have always been a great many people in the Toronto region who have questioned the need for a second airport. It was a major issue, in the election campaign in the Toronto region, of the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Stanfield), who went on record as early as September 30, 1972, as saying that the case for a second Toronto airport had not been made. Fourteen of the 22 successful candidates in the metro Toronto region who ran in the October 30 election were on record during the election campaign as saying that there was no proven need for a second airport. Yet still the government pushed ahead, convinced that the public was still behind them on this.

Then some of the municipal councils got into the act, namely, Toronto city council representing 700,000 people, the regional municipality of York representing 166,000 people, and the township of Pickering representing 30,000 people. The councils of all these municipalities expressed opposition to the airport proceeding as planned. Yet the government still persisted. Then the Swackhammer report was completed early in January of this year, indicating that there were weighty technical arguments against the airport proceeding. As well, there was further evidence of widespread public opposition. Yet the government charged blindly ahead and on January 30 confirmed the expropriation notices on some 18,000 acres of land even though there has not been an independent inquiry to allow full public participation on the question of the need and site of the location.

That was over four months ago, Mr. Speaker. We are still waiting for the Minister of Transport (Mr. Marchand) to announce the terms of reference and membership of the independent inquiry, notwithstanding that he originally promised that it would be reporting within one year of his January 30 announcement. We are anxiously awaiting that announcement and I hope it will be made very shortly.

As for public opinion, there was further evidence brought to the attention of the government on April 28 of this year when the Toronto *Star* published the result of a poll carried out by Canadian Facts Company Ltd. during the first ten days of April. This poll was conducted on a number of national and local issues and included a sample of 407 eligible voters across metro Toronto. The poll concluded with this question: Are you in favour of the proposed new airport scheduled to be built in Pickering township, or are you against it?

The result in metropolitan Toronto was as follows: 56 per cent of the people were against the airport, only 26 per cent said they were in favour, and 18 per cent said they were not sure. In the city of Toronto, which contains the riding of St. Paul's which I represent, the result was as follows: 62 per cent were against the airport, 19 per cent were in favour of it, and 19 per cent were not sure. Mr. Speaker, over three to one were against it in the city, and if you take the entire metropolitan region, over two to one were against the airport.

Is it not about time to say to the Prime Minister: How about it? Will you honour your word to the people of the metropolitan Toronto region? Will the Prime Minister and the Minister of Transport continue to ignore the facts which I have stated, or will the government continue to push blindly ahead, bolstered by the votes in committee of NDP members who in a moment of utter hypocrisy voted on estimates to give the government the money to push ahead with this unnecessary project? The whole project at Pickering runs counter to the environmental, economic and human needs of the urban region of metropolitan Toronto. When will this government begin to listen to the people?

Mr. Joseph-Philippe Guay (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, in reply to the hon. member for St. Paul's (Mr. Atkey) I wish to say that the minister has clearly outlined his views at the committee level.

Projections indicate that by the end of the century, Toronto will have in excess of six million people. Toronto is the hub of our domestic air transportation system. Air travel is no longer for the wealthy few. Air cargo will be a vital part of our future economic activities. Many times more facilities than those we have now will be required. In 1968 we abandoned the idea of expanding Malton airport due to the threat of noise and due to the surrounding development. Malton's traffic will be further expanded, but not its size. Even considering the quieter aircraft we will have in the future, Malton would have too many flights, considerable noise problems and too high a volume of aircraft unless the airport is enlarged. A new airport is required.

The Ontario government has a plan for regional development known as the Toronto centred region and we have been able to achieve a consensus of view with the Ontario government in selecting a new site consistent with their planning. Pickering meets aviation criteria, is convenient and can be developed to meet future demand. Those persons owning on land expropriated will be paid not only the market value but also related payments for relocation and disturbance. Also, a great deal of expropriated land can be made available for agricultural use within the airport zone.

Hearings under the Expropriation Act have been held. Everyone has been given time to be heard; yet no one need be disturbed nor will construction begin until a board of examination, working with the three levels of government concerned, determines the type and timing of facilities required.

Motion agreed to and the House adjourned at 10:30 p.m.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Wednesday, June 6, 1973

The House met at 2 p.m.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[*English*]

CITIZENSHIP

ANNOUNCEMENT OF PROGRAMS TO ENCOURAGE IMMIGRANT RESIDENTS TO BECOME CITIZENS AND TO PROVIDE FINANCIAL SUPPORT TO NATIONAL VOLUNTARY ORGANIZATIONS

Hon. James Hugh Faulkner (Secretary of State): Mr. Speaker, I should like to say a few words about a group of integrated programs which the government is undertaking to encourage eligible resident immigrants to obtain their citizenship and to provide financial support to national voluntary organizations engaged in stimulating a greater awareness among Canadians of the meaning and significance of citizenship.

Since the government does not oblige anyone to take out citizenship, there is no exact number of Canadian residents who now qualify. However, we estimate that there are over 850,000, possibly a million, immigrant residents in Canada who could now apply for citizenship.

As in other democracies, ours is not a coercive society. This is especially true of the registration of new citizens. The government can readily make available a range of services and essential information to them about these services. But it is up to the individual to initiate voluntarily the procedures leading to equal status with other Canadians. It will be a gentle invitation, this call to citizenship.

It is to extend the present registration and counselling facilities, and to add to the information at the disposal of potential citizens, that I am announcing today an additional budget of $2 million.

The Department of the Secretary of State has been receiving requests for the provision of special services for potential citizens. To help respond to the need, the services of citizenship branch officials and citizenship courts are being broadened in areas where the population density is high and the immigrant concentration is heavy.

New branch offices are being opened in Quebec City, in Brampton and Barrie, Ontario, and in Kelowna, British Columbia. On an experimental basis, travelling teams of citizenship registration officials will be located in "target areas" in Toronto, Montreal, Hamilton and Vancouver. They will be available upon demand to take applications and answer questions in such places as work sites, shopping centres, and recreation centres. There are plans for a storefront office in a busy location in Toronto, to make citizenship registration services as informal and as accessible as possible. The aim is to make the services available to people in the familiar surroundings of their own communities. Where we can, as with the storefront office, we also want the hours of service extended into evenings and weekends.

In support of this extension of court services, there will be a promotion program in the media, with emphasis on local newspapers. It is anticipated that there will also be some use of pamphlets and posters, and some reliance on radio and television.

A third program is the development of new resource materials to be provided to citizens and potential citizens to help them learn about Canada. These will include specially designed and specially written booklets, attractive and up to date, and audio-visual materials and kits for the use of individuals and citizens' groups.

It is with considerable pleasure that I announce today the first grants to be made under our new program of support to voluntary organizations engaged in special projects to reinforce the meaning and importance of our common citizenship. These grants will go to the Canada Studies Foundation in Toronto and the Canada Committee in Montreal.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Heward Grafftey (Brome-Missisquoi): Mr. Speaker, we of the Progressive Conservative party totally endorse the government initiative to assist those who come to this country to understand and to use their rights. We wish those who emigrate to Canada to do so with a genuine involvement.

[*English*]

At the same time, Mr. Speaker, we are aware, as are the ministers involved, of woeful shortcomings. There are no reliable figures available as to the number of illegal immigrants in this country. It is truly disgraceful that the honest must often wait for years, subjected to great anxiety through a cumbersome and outdated appeal process—

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Grafftey: —while the less scrupulous are able to freely enjoy the advantages of this country.

It is a disgrace that newcomers are given such hopelessly inadequate instruction in the new society into which they enter, and I hope that the government announcement today reflects a serious coming to grips with this problem.

Fully two-thirds of those who immigrate to this country are below the age of 30. We must keep this fact clearly in mind while developing immigrant services. Their access to the rich multicultural resources of Canada must be assured. Their full acceptance as Canadians should they desire to become citizens ought to be guaranteed. Consideration might be given to removing all legal differentia-

tion between native and naturalized citizens. This is surely in the spirit of the minister's initiative, and would certainly make citizenship more attractive to our resident immigrants.

● (1410)

In conclusion, Mr. Speaker, let me emphasize that the immigrant to this country has three major areas of difficulty: the first is one of information, often including a language barrier. The government has recognized its responsibility in general terms in this area, but we would like to see far more sensitivity shown with respect to the type and particular needs of immigrants for information, particularly for those who come from a radically different cultural background. The second great problem is loneliness. Here the direct role of the state is limited, yet that of its indirect influence is substantial. We must not allow the immigrant to disappear in our national debates on linguistic and cultural issues. Finally, there is a substantial economic problem. Many barriers are placed in the way of the newcomer; many of those with substantial skills are forced to work in positions and at wages which are far below their capacity, and all of Canada is made poorer by the limiting of their potential contribution.

[*Translation*]

The government has a positive role to play in those three areas. We have been delighted with the announcement of the minister, but I would like to express our wish that the government will integrate with efficiency and understanding those who come over to live in the Canadian community.

[*English*]

Mr. Terry Grier (Toronto-Lakeshore): Mr. Speaker, on behalf of my party I welcome the statement made this afternoon by the minister as a first step in a broad, general review and extension of government services to immigrant people in Canada. The minister has given us a firm assurance in committee that such an overhaul of the programs being presented by his department is now under way and, taking him at his word, we look forward to further developments of a similar nature in future.

I have no doubt, Mr. Speaker, that the citizenship outreach program outlined this afternoon by the minister is not only needed but overdue and that it will prove to be well utilized so long as it operates on the principle that its prime concern is to meet the needs and convenience of its clientele and not those of the officials. The pilot experiments conducted in recent years by the department indicate that the present program, extended as it is, will be fully used. I would stress that the question of the hours of the services is crucial to the success of this program, and I would say to the minister that I hope the plan to operate it in the evenings and on weekends will not be limited merely to one storefront office but will include the mobile teams as well. I also hope that the department will establish advance liaison with the communities through existing organizations as well as the specialized media that often publish in the language of the immigrant community.

I would also point out that there is abroad a mystique to the effect that successful application for citizenship may involve answering tough questions or examinations. This has in the past proved to be an inhibition to applications for citizenship. I hope that the promised programs to be undertaken by the department will assure that the process of applying for and receiving citizenship is an encouraging rather than a discouraging one.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, we look forward, as I said, to the continuing overhaul and extension of government programs aimed at new Canadians. I would emphasize that this process should be undertaken in close consultation with the communities affected as well as with provincial and municipal governments. I conclude by hoping that the program will extend beyond the range of the immediate services indicated in this afternoon's statement to the educational and cultural fields.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Gérard Laprise (Abitibi): Mr. Speaker, the announcement just made by the Secretary of State (Mr. Faulkner) in order to assist the voluntary groups dealing with immigrants is full of good intentions, and I believe that the whole House agrees with that decision.

However, it is necessary that those applying to emigrate to Canada be well informed. Rather unfortunate situations happened in the past, and I just have one in mind, Mr. Speaker. A Frenchman made an application to come over to Canada, and the Canadian immigration office in France told him that he absolutely had to speak English in order to emigrate to Canada and work here. With that information, the applicant went back home and managed to follow intensive courses in English, and after one year, he applied again at the immigration office. He was then accepted and once in Canada, in the province of Quebec, he went over to Normetal Mine, in my constituency, to take a job as a miner. Upon his arrival he realized that there were no English-speaking persons working in that industry. You can appreciate his disappointment in the face of that situation. He lost a year merely because of this anomaly.

In my opinion, steps should be taken first of all to properly advise those who want to become Canadian citizens. Then, the procedures for granting Canadians immigrants citizenship certificates should be instituted early enough for them to receive their papers when the time comes. Of course, cases may differ but, in my opinion, they should not be considered separately.

Some immigrants who want to qualify for Canadian citizenship could certainly meet our requirements within a year. However, there are others—a limited number, I am glad to say—who will never really become Canadian citizens. In all fairness to those who have been accepted among us, they should be granted their certificates of citizenship as soon as possible, when the time comes, so that they may become Canadian citizens.

[*English*]

Mr. Speaker: The Chair has received notice from the hon. member for Humber-St. George's-St. Barbe of a question of privilege of a non-controversial nature. The hon. member might be recognized for that purpose at this time.

PRIVILEGE

MR. MARSHALL—TWENTY-NINTH ANNIVERSARY OF D-DAY

Mr. Jack Marshall (Humber-St. George's-St. Barbe): Mr. Speaker, I rise at this time because today, June 6, marks the twenty-ninth anniversary of D-Day, and I am sure I speak for all members of the House and all Canadians in requesting a moment to pay homage to those valiant soldiers who took part in the allied invasion of Normandy.

Canadian veterans who took part will reflect today, I am sure, wherever they may be, on events which took place on the beaches of France some 29 years ago and think of their comrades who fell by their side and were denied the chance to return to Canada to avail themselves of the great opportunities of our growing and prosperous country. It is significant that today, 29 years later, the overriding topic that we are discussing across our nation is national unity and we are trying to attain this goal by legislation and with words. Yet we fail to recognize that we started to become a great nation because thousands of our young citizens from 1939 to 1945, including many who sit here as members of parliament, volunteered to fight for their country in far-off lands to defend Canada and the free world against the greed and lust for power of other nations. They fought together regardless of race, creed, colour or origin. They fought united as Canadians.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Marshall: We can continue to build a greater nation if we take time to reflect and take an example from the comradeship which was instilled in our veterans through suffering together on the battlefield, a comradeship that will remain in their hearts as long as they live. We should think of this today. Let us ever remember the thousands of our veterans who lie in graves in foreign countries because of their duty to their country. Let us remember those veterans who returned, maimed and disabled, and who must look to us for help. Let us never forget our responsibility to those veterans who, by their sacrifice, protected our freedom to govern and to build a great nation for those of us who remain, a nation with pride, prosperity and peace, a nation with unity and comradeship among all Canadians.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

* * *

● (1420)

TRANSPORT

INCREASE IN TONNAGE RATE CHARGED OCEAN GOING VESSELS AT PORT OF VANCOUVER—REQUEST FOR UNANIMOUS CONSENT TO MOVE MOTION

Mr. John Reynolds (Burnaby-Richmond-Delta): Mr. Speaker, pursuant to Standing Order 43 I rise on a matter of urgent and pressing necessity, namely, the unexplained and dangerous decision of the government to increase by approximately 60 per cent port rates payable by ocean vessels using the port of Vancouver. I therefore move,

seconded by the hon. member for Vancouver Quadra (Mr. Clarke):

That this House insist that the Minister of Transport present a detailed explanation of why this increase was undertaken, and insist that the minister undertake an immediate review of that decision.

Mr. Speaker: Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

Mr. Speaker: There is not unanimous consent.

* * *

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

Mr. Speaker: I have the honour to inform this House that a message has been received from the Senate informing this House that the Senate have passed Bill S-5, an Act to amend the Farm Improvement Loans Act, to which the concurrence of this House is desired.

* * *

PAROLE ACT

APPOINTMENT OF ADDITIONAL AD HOC MEMBERS TO NATIONAL PAROLE BOARD

Hon. Warren Allmand (Solicitor General) moved for leave to introduce Bill C-191, to amend the Parole Act.

Motion agreed to, bill read the first time and ordered to be printed.

QUESTIONS ON THE ORDER PAPER

(Questions answered orally are indicated by an asterisk.)

[*Text*]

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS—EXPENDITURE ON PUBLICITY AND INFORMATION

Question No. 91—**Mr. Nystrom:**

1. What were the amounts of money spent by the Department of External Affairs on publicity and/or information in each of the fiscal years 1968-69, 1969-70, 1970-71, 1971-72?

2. What were the names and addresses of firms or individuals who received these contracts, what amounts of money were spent in each case and what was the purpose of each contract?

3. What contracts for publicity and/or information were awarded in the current fiscal year, what are the names and addresses of contractees, what are the amounts of money involved in each case and what is the purpose of each contract?

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs): 1. Expenditures of the Department of External Affairs were as follows:

Order Paper Questions

	A	B	
1968-69	447,698	Nil	
1969-70	1,469,084	33,674	(including $29,108 for advertising space)
1970-71	1,170,570	29,948	(including $26,019 for advertising space
1971-72	1,613,332	31,397	(including $29,479 for advertising space)

The amounts under column A pertain to direct program costs under the department's Information Program the objective of which is to publish and disseminate information about Canada in foreign countries and provide information on international affairs to the Canadian public.

2. The amounts under column B were paid to John Doherty and Company Limited, Ottawa in connection with a nation wide publicity campaign to inform the public on requirements relative to the procurement of passports.

3. Nil.

DREE—NUMBER OF APPLICATIONS FOR ASSISTANCE, 1971

Question No. 149—**Mr. Forrestall:**

1. What is the total number of applications received by province, by the Department of Regional Economic Expansion for assistance in the fiscal year ended 1971?

2. Of those approved, how many applications were exercised by the applicants, by province?

3. What is the total operating cost of the Department for the same period, exclusive of grants?

4. What is the total operating cost of the Department for the same period, inclusive of grants?

5. What is the average cost, based on the above, of each decision made by the Department on applications received?

Mr. Marcel Prud'homme (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Regional Economic Expansion): 1. For the fiscal year ending March 31, 1971, the number of applications for assistance under the Regional Development Incentives Act received by the department is, by province, as follows: Newfoundland, 80; Prince Edward Island, 40; Nova Scotia, 83; New Brunswick, 121; Quebec, 740; Ontario, 136; Manitoba, 164; Saskatchewan, 69; Alberta, 75; British Columbia, 47; Location of facility not specified by applicant at time of submission, Nil; total, 1,555.

2. For the fiscal year ending March 31, 1971, the net number of accepted offers of development incentives authorized under the provisions of the Regional Development Incentives Act is, by province, as follows: Newfoundland, 12; Prince Edward Island, 14; Nova Scotia, 41; New Brunswick, 35; Quebec, 150; Ontario, 25; Manitoba, 54; Saskatchewan, 23; Alberta, 23; British Columbia, 7; total, 384.

3. The operating costs for the Incentives Division of the department exclusive of grants were $1,041,542 for the fiscal year ending March 31, 1971. This cost includes the expense of administering inspections and payments under the Regional Development Incentives Act and the Area Development Incentives Act, as well as that associated with the processing of applications.

[Mr. Sharp.]

4. The operating costs of the Incentives Division for the same period including RDIA and ADIA grant payments were $61,240,390.

5. It is not possible to give a meaningful response to this question. As pointed out in 3, officers of the Incentives Division carry a number of responsibilities that are not directly related to the processing of applications. These include the administration of payments, promotional activity, general research activity and a number of other supportive functions. The evaluation of applications cannot be broken out so as to provide average cost figures on the basis requested.

DREE—NUMBER OF APPLICATIONS FOR ASSISTANCE, 1972

Question No. 991—**Mr. Forrestall:**

1. By province, what was the total number of applications received by the Department of Regional Economic Expansion for assistance in the fiscal year ended 1972?

2. By province, of those approved, how many applications were exercised by the applicants?

3. What was the total operating cost of the Department for the same period (a) exclusive of grants (b) inclusive of grants?

4. What is the average cost, based on the above, of each decision made by the Department on (a) all applications received (b) applications approved (c) applications rejected (d) applications accepted but not exercised by the applicants?

Mr. Marcel Prud'homme (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Regional Economic Expansion): 1. For the fiscal year ending March 31, 1972, the number of applications for assistance under the Regional Development Incentives Act received by the department is, by province, as follows: Newfoundland, 118; Prince Edward Island, 39; Nova Scotia, 157; New Brunswick, 149; Quebec, 1,754; Ontario, 227; Manitoba, 172; Saskatchewan, 67; Alberta, 75; British Columbia, 57; Location of facility not specified by applicant at time of submission, 19; total, 2,834.

2. For the fiscal year ending March 31, 1972, the net number of accepted offers of development incentives authorized under the provisions of the Regional Development Incentives Act is, by province, as follows: Newfoundland, 43; Prince Edward Island, 26; Nova Soctia, 75; New Brunswick, 87; Quebec, 704; Ontario, 72; Manitoba, 123; Saskatchewan, 37; Alberta, 36; British Columbia, 24; total, 1,227.

3. (a) The operating costs for the Incentives Division of the Department exclusive of grants were $3,499,327 for the fiscal year ending March 31, 1972. This cost includes the expense of administering payments under the Regional Development Incentives Act and the Area Development Incentives Act, as well as that associated with the processing of applications. (b) The operating costs of the Incentives Division for the same period including RDIA and ADIA grant payments were $99,773,034.

4. (a) It is not possible to give a meaningful response to this question. As pointed out in 3(a), officers of the Incentives Division carry a number of responsibilities that are not directly related to the processing of application. These include the administration of payments, promotional activity, general research activity and a number of other supportive functions. The evaluation of applications cannot be broken out so as to provide average cost figures

on the basis requested. (b), (c) and (d) For the reasons pointed out in 4(a) these costs are not available.

PRINTING CONTRACTS

Question No. 1,038—**Mr. Lawrence:**

What departments, commissions or other agencies of the government or the Crown in the Right of Canada awarded printing contracts or had printing work completed for them for a consideration in the Province of Ontario during 1971 and 1972, other than the Department of Supply and Services?

Mr. John M. Reid (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): Agriculture Canada, Canadian Livestock Feed Board; Department of Energy, Mines and Resources, Atomic Energy of Canada Limited, Eldorado Nuclear Limited; Department of External Affairs; Department of Finance, Canada Deposit Insurance Corporation; Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, Northern Canada Power Commission: Department of Industry, Trade and Commerce, Statistics Canada; Department of Justice; Department of Manpower and Immigration, Immigration Appeal Board, Unemployment Insurance Commission; Department of National Health and Welfare; Department of National Revenue, Taxation; Post Office Department; Department of Public Works; Department of Regional Economic Expansion; Ministry of State for Science and Technology, Science Council of Canada; Department of the Secretary of State, National Film Board, Public Service Commission, National Museums of Canada, Canadian Broadcasting Corporation; Ministry of the Solicitor General, Canadian Penitentiary Service; Canadian Arsenals Ltd., Crown Assets Disposal Corporation, Royal Canadian Mint; Ministry of Transport, The National Harbours Board, The St. Lawrence Seaway Authority, The Seaway International Bridge Authority; Treasury Board Secretariat, The Canadian Patents and Development Corporation Limited; Ministry of State for Urban Affairs, Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation, National Capital Commission; Department of Veterans Affairs.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE—SALARIES

Question No. 1,189—**Mr. Knight:**

1. How many full-time employees were there as of January 31, 1970 in the Department of Justice?

2. How many of those employees were earning more than $15,000 annually, distributed according to $1,000 intervals?

3. How many full-time employees were there as of January 31, 1973 in the Department of Justice?

4. How many of those employees were earning more than $18,000 annually, distributed according to $1,000 intervals?

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Justice): 1. There were 484 full-time employees in the Department of Justice as of January 31, 1970.

2. One hundred and three of those employees were earning more than $15,000 annually and distributed according to $1,000 intervals they were:

5	earning between	$15,000	and	$16,000
13	earning between	16,000	and	17,000
15	earning between	17,000	and	18,000
9	earning between	18,000	and	19,000
7	earning between	19,000	and	20,000
11	earning between	20,000	and	21,000
12	earning between	21,000	and	22,000
6	earning between	22,000	and	23,000
3	earning between	23,000	and	24,000
3	earning between	24,000	and	25,000
2	earning between	25,000	and	26,000
3	earning between	26,000	and	27,000
1	earning between	27,000	and	28,000
5	earning between	28,000	and	29,000
5	earning between	23,000	and	30,000*
2	earning between	30,000	and	35,000*
1	earning between	39,000	and	42,000

———

*Not separated to $1,000 intervals in order to protect privacy of salary information in accordance with TB circular 1969-206.

3. There were 731 full-time employees in the Department of Justice as of January 31, 1973.

4. Two hundred and fifteen of those employees were earning more than $18,000 annually and distributed according to $1,000, they were:

20	earning between	$18,000	and	$19,000
20	earning between	19,000	and	20,000
29	earning between	20,000	and	21,000
17	earning between	21,000	and	22,000
13	earning between	22,000	and	23,000
26	earning between	23,000	and	24,000
11	earning between	24,000	and	25,000
17	earning between	25,000	and	26,000
15	earning between	26,000	and	27,000
4	earning between	27,000	and	28,000
7	earning between	28,000	and	29,000
7	earning between	29,000	and	30,000
26	earning between	23,000	and	36,000*
2	earning between	34,000	and	40,000*
1	earning between	45,000	and	50,000*

———

*Not separated to $1,000 intervals in order to protect privacy of salary information in accordance with TB Circular 1969-206.

LIP—APPLICATION FOR GRANT RELATING TO PROJECT No. H-4210

Question No. 1,300—**Mr. Allard:**

1. On what date did the government receive an application for a grant under LIP concerning project No. H-4210?

2. On what date was the application either approved or refused?

3. What were the reasons set forth by the government for its refusal or approval of said project?

4. If the project was accepted, what was the amount granted by the government to finance it?

5. How many jobs were created by the implementation of this project?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. December 12, 1972.

2. Rejected on February 7, 1973.

3. The Department received a far greater number of applications than funds were available for. All applications were carefully assessed and many difficult decisions not to approve had to be made.

4. N/A.

5. N/A.

LIP—APPLICATION FOR GRANT RELATING TO PROJECT No. H-4213

Question No. 1,301—**Mr. Allard:**

1. On what date did the government receive an application for a grant under LIP concerning project No. H-4213?

2. On what date was the application either approved or refused?

3. What were the reasons set forth by the government for its refusal or approval of said project?

4. If the project was accepted, what was the amount granted by the government to finance it?

5. How many jobs were created by the implementation of this project?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. December 12, 1972.

2. Approved on February 3, 1973.

3. One of those projects that best combine the dual objectives of job creation and a realistic and identifiable contribution to community betterment.

4. $13,522.

5. One hundred twenty man-weeks.

LIP—APPLICATION FOR GRANT RELATING TO PROJECT No. H-4216

Question No. 1,302—**Mr. Allard:**

1. On what date did the government receive an application for a grant under LIP concerning project No. H-4216?

2. On what date was the application either approved or refused?

3. What were the reasons set forth by the government for its refusal or approval of said project?

4. If the project was accepted, what was the amount granted by the government to finance it?

5. How many jobs were created by the implementation of this project?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. December 12, 1972.

2. Rejected on February 7, 1973.

3. The Department received a far greater number of applications than funds were available for. All applications were carefully assessed and many difficult decisions not to approve had to be made.

4. N/A.

5. N/A.

LIP—APPLICATION FOR GRANT RELATING TO PROJECT No. H-6107

Question No. 1,323—**Mr. Allard:**

1. On what date did the government receive an application for a grant under LIP concerning project No. H-6107?

2. On what date was the application either approved or refused?

3. What were the reasons set forth by the government for its refusal or approval of said project?

4. If the project was accepted, what was the amount granted by the government to finance it?

5. How many jobs were created by the implementation of this project?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. January 11, 1973.

2. Approved on February 14, 1973.

3. One of those projects that best combine the dual objectives of job creation and a realistic and identifiable contribution to community betterment.

4. $18,711.

5. One hundred sixty-two man-weeks.

LIP—APPLICATION FOR GRANT RELATING TO PROJECT No. H-3729

Question No. 1,338—**Mr. Allard:**

1. On what date did the government receive an application for a grant under LIP concerning project No. H-3729?

2. On what date was the application either approved or refused?

3. What were the reasons set forth by the government for its refusal or approval of said project?

4. If the project was accepted, what was the amount granted by the government to finance it?

5. How many jobs were created by the implementation of this project?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. December 5, 1972.

2. Approved on December 28, 1972.

3. One of those projects that best combine the dual objectives of job creation and a realistic and identifiable contribution to community betterment.

4. $27,819.

5. Two hundred forty-seven man-weeks.

LIP—APPLICATION FOR GRANT RELATING TO PROJECT No. H-2276

Question No. 1,348—**Mr. Allard:**

1. On what date did the government receive an application for a grant under LIP concerning project No. H-2276?

2. On what date was the application either approved or refused?

3. What were the reasons set forth by the government for its refusal or approval of said project?

4. If the project was accepted, what was the amount granted by the government to finance it?

5. How many jobs were created by the implementation of this project?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. November 17, 1972.

2. Approved on February 5, 1973.

3. One of those projects that best combine the dual objectives of job creation and a realistic and identifiable contribution to community betterment.

4. $49,186.

5. Four hundred twenty-two man-weeks.

LIP—APPLICATION FOR GRANT RELATING TO PROJECT No. H-2609

Question No. 1,349—**Mr. Allard:**

1. On what date did the government receive an application for a grant under LIP concerning project No. H-2609?

2. On what date was the application either approved or refused?

3. What were the reasons set forth by the government for its refusal or approval of said project?

4. If the project was accepted, what was the amount granted by the government to finance it?

5. How many jobs were created by the implementation of this project?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. November 22, 1972.

2. Rejected on January 5, 1973.

3. The Department received a far greater number of applications than funds were available for. All applications were carefully assessed and many difficult decisions not to approve had to be made.

4. N/A.

5. N/A.

LIP—APPLICATION FOR GRANT RELATING TO PROJECT No. H-2790

Question No. 1,350—**Mr. Allard:**

1. On what date did the government receive an application for a grant under LIP concerning project No. H-2790?

2. On what date was the application either approved or refused?

3. What were the reasons set forth by the government for its refusal or approval of said project?

4. If the project was accepted, what was the amount granted by the government to finance it?

5. How many jobs were created by the implementation of this project?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. November 23, 1972.

2. Rejected on January 12, 1973.

3. The Department received a far greater number of applications than funds were available for. All applications were carefully assessed and many difficult decisions not to approve had to be made.

4. N/A.

5. N/A.

OFY—PROJECTS OKANAGAN-KOOTENAY 1971-72

Question No. 1,373—**Mr. Stewart (Okanagan-Kootenay):**

1. What Opportunities for Youth Program grants were paid to associations in the constituency of Okanagan-Kootenay in 1971 and 1972?

2. What were the names and addresses of each association and sponsors?

3. What were the names and addresses of each association and sponsors who did not receive a grant?

4. What study did the Secretary of State's Office make of the grants paid in 1971 and 1972 in the constituency of Okanagan-Kootenay as to their effective utilization?

Hon. James Hugh Faulkner (Secretary of State): 1. A list of all projects funded under the Opportunities for Youth program in 1971 has been completed. Projects are classified by province and then by type of project, not by constituency. A list of all projects funded under the 1972 Opportunities for Youth program has been completed. Projects are classified by province and in alphabetical order of the towns and cities in which the projects were carried out, not by constituency. Information included the project title and number, a short description of the project's activities, amount of the grant, number of participants and the name and address of the project representative. This 421-page listing can be obtained from the Secretary of State Department.

2. Groups were not required to have sponsors or to be connected with an association.

3. Groups were not required to have sponsors or to be connected with an association. No tabulated records exist for project applications which were not selected for funding under Opportunities for Youth in either 1971 or 1972.

4. All projects funded by Opportunities for Youth in 1971 and 1972 were visited at least once by the project officer responsible prior to receiving the second of three payments on the grant allocated. Further visits were made at the discretion of the officer concerned. Prior to receiving the third and last instalment of the grant, all projects were required to submit an evaluation report to the Secretary of State outlining the project's activities. All project evaluations were reviewed by officials in the Department of the Secretary of State. Evaluations are not classified according to constituency.

NEW BRUNSWICK—LIP PROJECTS

Question No. 1,557—**Mr. Latulippe:**

How many LIP projects were approved for the Province of New Brunswick and what were the amounts thus granted in each constituency as of March 13, 1973?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 408.

Constituency	Amount Granted
Carleton-Charlotte	$ 752,233
Fundy-Royal	262,351

Constituency	Amount Granted
Gloucester	2,148,574
Madawaska-Victoria	1,133,734
Moncton	720,620
Northumberland-Miramichi	1,073,237
Restigouche	1,676,257
Saint John-Lancaster	721,172
Westmorland-Kent	1,229,257
York-Sunbury	1,009,145

NOVA SCOTIA—LIP PROJECTS

Question No. 1,558—**Mr. Latulippe:**

How many LIP projects were approved for the Province of Nova Scotia and what were the amounts thus granted in each constituency as of March 13, 1973?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 358.

Constituency	Amount Granted
Annapolis Valley	$ 815,347
Cape Breton-East Richmond	361,193
Cape Breton Highlands-Canso	2,026,594
Cape Breton-The Sydneys	1,486,424
Central Nova	828,820
Cumberland-Colchester North	514,982
Dartmouth-Halifax East	683,828
Halifax	1,566,120
Halifax-East Hants	413,257
South Shore	623,998
South Western Nova	879,062

NEWFOUNDLAND—LIP PROJECTS

Question No. 1,559—**Mr. Latulippe:**

How many LIP projects were approved for the Province of Newfoundland and what were the amounts thus granted in each constituency as of March 13, 1973?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 327.

Constituency	Amount Granted
Bonavista-Trinity-Conception	$1,575,643
Burin-Burgeo	1,274,257
Gander-Twillingate	1,479,101
Grand Falls-White Bay-Labrador	2,684,941
Humber-St. George's-St. Barbe	2,954,183
St. John's East	971,834
St. John's West	739,352

[Mr. MacGuigan.]

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND—LIP PROJECTS

Question No. 1,560—**Mr. Latulippe:**

How many LIP projects were approved for the Province of Prince Edward Island and what were the amounts thus granted in each constituency as of March 13, 1973?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 95.

Constituency	Amount Granted
Cardigan	$589,990
Egmont	628,174
Hillsborough	449,623
Malpeque	285,619

MANITOBA—LIP PROJECTS

Question No. 1,561—**Mr. Latulippe:**

How many LIP projects were approved for the Province of Manitoba and what were the amounts thus granted in each constituency as of March 13, 1973?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 242.

Constituency	Amount Granted
Brandon-Souris	$ 494,154
Churchill	859,857
Dauphin	567,734
Lisgar	118,265
Marquette	209,128
Portage	584,926
Provencher	509,580
St. Boniface	181,594
Selkirk	324,202
Winnipeg North	217,298
Winnipeg North Centre	1,621,174
Winnipeg South	905,439
Winnipeg South Centre	273,033

SASKATCHEWAN—LIP PROJECTS

Question No. 1,562—**Mr. Latulippe:**

How many LIP projects were approved for the Province of Saskatchewan and what were the amounts thus granted in each constituency as of March 13, 1973?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 182.

Constituency	Amount Granted
Assiniboia	$ 116,937
Battleford-Kindersley	304,561
Mackenzie	134,224
Meadow Lake	817,016
Moose Jaw	129,140

Constituency	Amount Granted
Prince Albert	514,391
Qu'Appelle-Moose Mountain	339,565
Regina East	1,025,085
Regina-Lake Centre	138,681
Saskatoon-Biggar	446,076
Saskatoon-Humboldt	645,081
Swift Current-Maple Creek	154,774
Yorkton-Melville	367,662

ALBERTA—LIP PROJECTS

Question No. 1,563—**Mr. Latulippe:**

How many LIP projects were approved for the Province of Alberta and what were the amounts thus granted in each constituency as of March 13, 1973?

Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 277.

Constituency	Amount Granted
Athabasca	$ 796,927
Battle River	313,188
Calgary Centre	764,457
Calgary North	277,681
Calgary South	745,082
Crowfoot	263,228
Edmonton Centre	1,304,573
Edmonton East	20,021
Edmonton-Strathcona	262,246
Edmonton West	373,285
Lethbridge	326,793
Medicine Hat	203,895
Palliser	153,874
Peace River	432,771
Pembina	297,344
Red Deer	129,748
Rocky Mountain	376,247
Vegreville	523,604
Wetaskiwin	138,393

DREE—APPLICATIONS FOR ASSISTANCE 1972-73

Question No. 1,861—**Mr. Forrestall:**

1. What was the total number of applications received by the Department of Regional Economic Expansion for assistance, by province, in the fiscal years ended 1972 and 1973?

2. Of those applications approved, how many were exercised by the applicants on a provincial basis?

3. What was the total operating cost of the Department for these periods (a) exclusive of grants (b) inclusive of grants?

4. What was the average cost, based on the above, of each decision made by the Department on applications (a) received (b) rejected (c) approved but not acted upon?

Mr. Marcel Prud'homme (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Regional Economic Expansion): 1. For data relating to the fiscal year ending 1972, please refer to reply to Inquiry No. 991. For the fiscal year ending March 31, 1973 the number of applications received by the department under the Regional Development Incentives Act is, by province, as follows: Newfoundland, 71; Prince Edward Island, 32; Nova Scotia, 132; New Brunswick, 153; Quebec, 1,596; Ontario, 196; Manitoba, 151; Saskatchewan, 56; Alberta, 53; British Columbia, 48; Location of facility not specified by applicant at time of submission, 23; total, 2,511.

2. For data relating to the fiscal year ending 1972, please refer to reply to Inquiry No. 991. For the fiscal year ending March 31, 1973, the net number of accepted offers of development incentives authorized under the provisions of the Regional Development Incentives Act is, by province, as follows: Newfoundland, 16; Prince Edward Island, 9; Nova Scotia, 39; New Brunswick, 51; Quebec, 541; Ontario, 39; Manitoba, 42; Saskatchewan, 16; Alberta, 10; British Columbia, 3; total, 766.

3. (a) The operating costs for the Incentives Division of the department exclusive of grants were $3,474,361 for the fiscal year ending March 31, 1973. This cost includes the expense of administering payments under the Regional Development Incentives Act and the Area Development Incentives Act, as well as that associated with the processing of applications; (b) The operating costs of the Incentives Division for the same period including RDIA and ADIA grant payments were $88,500,899.

4. (a) It is not possible to give a meaningful response to this question. As pointed out in 3(a), officers of the Incentives Division carry a number of responsibilities that are not directly related to the processing of application. These include the administration of payments, promotional activity, general research activity and a number of other supportive functions. The evaluation of applications cannot be broken out so as to provide average cost figures on the basis requested; (b,(c,(d) For the reasons pointed out in 4(a) these costs are not available.

DELORO MINING AND REDUCTION COMPANY

Question No. 1,885—**Mr. Ellis:**

1. Has the government, at any time, contributed public funds to the construction of the physical plant and/or to the capital structure of The Deloro Mining and Reduction Company situated at Deloro, Ontario and, if so, what amounts were allocated to (a) the construction of the physical plant, by way of grants, loans, subsidies, et cetera (b) the capital structure of the Company, by way of grants, loans, subsidies, et cetera?

2. In what years were these funds allocated for the above-mentionned reasons?

Mr. Herb Breau (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): 1. No.

2. Not Applicable.

DREE—APPLICATIONS FOR GRANTS IN CONSTITUENCY OF CHARLEVOIX

Question No. 1,915—**Mr. Caouette (Charlevoix):**

In the consituency of Charlevoix for the years 1970-71, 1971-72, 1972-73 and April 1, 1973 to date (a) how many applications were received by the Department of Regional Economic Expansion for

grants or loans to small businesses (b) how many were approved (i) for which firms (ii) in what amounts (c) how many are still being studied?

Mr. Marcel Prud'homme (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Regional Economic Expansion): The information relating to applications submitted for a development incentive in accordance with the provisions of the Regional Development Incentives Act is indicated below; no applications were submitted for a loan guarantee under the said legislation. This information does not only relate to "small businesses" but to all applications received under the Regional Development Incentives Act legislation. (a) 1970-71, Nil; 1971-72, 1; 1972-73, 1; (b) 1970-71, Nil, (i) N/A, (ii) N/A; 1971-72, 1, (i) Reynolds Cable Co., (ii) $95,760; 1972-73, 1, (i) La Ferme de la Poule, (ii) $28,000; (c) 1970-71, Nil; 1971-72, Nil; 1972-73, Nil.

POLAR BEAR QUOTAS

Question No. 2,065—**Mr. Paproski:**

1. What is the quota of polar bears for 1973 permitted Eskimo hunters in the Canadian Arctic?

2. What part of the quota can be sold by Eskimo hunters to non-Eskimos and what is the price in each case?

3. How many non-Eskimo hunters were allowed to purchase Eskimo polar bear quotas in 1971?

4. How many polar bears were reported killed in the Canadian Arctic in 1971 by Eskimos and non-Eskimos?

5. What is the present population of polar bears in the Canadian Arctic according to the latest government estimate?

Hon. Jean Chrétien (Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development): 1. The quota for the season October 1, 1972 to May 31, 1973 was 445.

2. Within the above quota a total of 21 tags were authorized to be sold to sportsmen. However, due to cancellations in bookings, only 16 sports hunters will be accommodated. Outfitting fee paid to Eskimo organizations for the hunts is $2,500 per hunter.

3. In the calendar year 1971, 12 non-Eskimo hunters purchased polar bear quotas.

4. In the licence year July 1, 1970 to June 30, 1971, 422 polar bears were taken, 7 of which were taken by non-Eskimos.

5. No accurate total population is available, however the estimated figure is in the neighbourhood of 8,000.

PROSECUTION OF IRVING INTERESTS UNDER COMBINES INVESTIGATION ACT

Question No. 2,076—**Mr. Howie:**

As of May 15, 1973, what and to whom was the total amount paid for prosecution of the Irving interests under the Combines Investigation Act?

Hon. Herb Gray (Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs):

Cost of New Brunswick Newspapers Prosecution[1]

William L. Hoyt, Q.C. Hoyt, Mackler, Allen, Dixon & Godin, Fredericton, N.B. (Crown Counsel)	Legal Fees	$ 75,839
	Disbursements	20,885
T. Joseph Scanlon Dean of the School of Journalism, Carleton University, Ottawa, Ontario. Special Assistant to Crown Counsel—Consultant)	Fees	9,100
	Disbursements	3,367
Winnifred Johnston, Saint John, N.B. (Witness)		630
	Total	$109,821

[1] Does not include travelling expenses and time of Department of Justice personnel and of officers on the staff of the Director of Investigation and Research.

* * *

QUESTIONS PASSED AS ORDERS FOR RETURNS

STATISTICS CANADA—EXPENDITURES ON RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

Question No. 100—**Mr. Nystrom:**

1. What was the total amount of money spent in each of the fiscal years 1968-69, 1969-70, 1970-71, 1971-72 by Statistics Canada on contracts to outside persons and organizations for research, development and other consulting services?

2. What are the names and addresses of these outside persons and organizations and what amounts of money were involved in each contract?

3. What was the purpose of each contract and title of each report submitted?

4. what are the names and addresses of outside persons and organizations who were awarded contracts for research, development and other consulting services in the current fiscal year, what are the amounts of money involved in each case and what is the purpose of each contract?

Return tabled.

PRIVY COUNCIL OFFICE—EXPENDITURES ON RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

Question No. 107—**Mr. Nystrom:**

1. What was the total amount of money spent in each of the fiscal years 1968-69, 1969-70, 1970-71, 1971-72 by the Privy Council Office on contracts to outside persons and organizations for research, development and other consulting services?

2. What are the names and addresses of these outside persons and organizations and what amounts of money were involved in each contract?

3. What was the purpose of each contract and title of each report submitted?

4. What are the names and addresses of outside persons and organizations who were awarded contracts for research, development and other consulting services in the current fiscal year, what are the amounts of money involved in each case and what is the purpose of each contract?

Return tabled.

DREE—GRANTS TO INDUSTRIES IN DRUMMONDVILLE AREA

Question No. 1,007—**Mr. Boisvert:**

1. How many industries in the Drummondville area received grants from the Department of Regional Economic Expansion since it was established (a) what are the names of such industries (b) what amount has each of them received (c) before receiving their first grant, how many persons were in their employ?

2. Once the grants had been made, how many employees were working in such industries (a) how many in each industry(b) what was the number of jobs available (c) how many years did they last?

3. Among industries that closed since 1968, how many had received grants (a) how many employees were dismissed (b) what was the amount of the grants made to each industry (c) what were their names (d) who are the main shareholders of the companies?

Return tabled.

EMPLOYMENT OF HANDICAPPED PEOPLE BY FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

Question No. 1,190—**Mr. Atkey:**

1. Which departments of the government, if any, have specific policies of employing handicapped people, and what is the nature of each of these policies?

2. (a) Has the Department of Manpower and Immigration ever conducted advertising or promotional programs with a view to making employers in the private sector aware of the possibilities and benefits of employing handicapped persons and, if so (i) what was the nature of these programs (ii) what were the governmental expeditures required to operate them in each of the past five fiscal years (b) are such programs currently operating and, if not, for what reason?

3. Does the Department of Manpower and Immigration have specially trained manpower counsellors in Canada Manpower Centres and regional headquarters to deal exclusively with the specialized requirements of placing handicapped persons and, if so (a) how many such counsellors are there (b) where are they located (c) what are the minimum qualifications and approximate salary ranges for such personnel?

4. Are there manpower counsellors specifically designated and available in the various Canada Manpower Centres to deal with the specialized requirements of placing handicapped people in employment (although not dealing exclusively with these matters) and, if so (a) how many counsellors are so designated (b) where are they located (c) what are the minimum qualifications and approximate salary ranges for such personnel?

5. Has the Department of Manpower and Immigration an active program to work with employers in the private sector to identify and develop jobs for which handicapped people could qualify and, if so, what is the nature of this program and what financial and man-years commitment has the government made to it in each of the past five fiscal years?

6. Does the Department of Manpower and Immigration participate in any federal-provincial committees or conferences to specifically consider the employment needs and requirements of the handicapped and, if so (a) what are they (b) how often do they meet (c) what is the nature of their discussions?

7. Has the Vocational Rehabilitation Program been transferred from the Department of Manpower and Immigration to the Department of National Health and Welfare and, if so, when was the transfer completed and for what reason?

Return tabled.

Orders for Returns

EMPLOYMENT BY FEDERAL GOVERNMENT IN CONSTITUENCY OF VICTORIA, 1968-72

Question No. 1,478—**Mr. McKinnon:**

1. What were the names and addresses of all lawyers and law firms in the constituency of Victoria, B.C., who performed services for the government during 1972, 1971, 1970, 1969 and 1968?

2. What was the total amount of money paid to each by year?

Return tabled.

ONTARIO—LIP PROJECTS

Question No. 1,556—**Mr. Latulippe:**

How many LIP projects were approved for the Province of Ontario and what were the amounts thus granted in each constituency as of March 13, 1973?

Return tabled.

QUEBEC—LIP PROJECTS

Question No. 1,567—**Mr. Latulippe:**

How many LIP projects were approved for the Province of Quebec and what were the amounts thus granted in each constituency as of March 13, 1973?

Return tabled.

EMERGENCY MEASURES ORGANIZATION

Question No. 1,740—**Mr. Stewart (Okanagan-Kootenay):**

1. What is the policy of the government regarding the Emergency Measures Organization?

2. How many sub-units of EMO are established in Canada?

3. What are the terms of reference of each EMO unit?

4. Where are each of the EMO units located?

5. What was the cost of each of the units during the years 1960-72 inclusive?

6. Does the government provide any grants to municipalities that have EMO units?

7. Do municipalities contribute financially to the EMO undertaking in their municipality?

8. Do municipalities provide assistance by way of buildings and/or service to EMO and where are such provided and what is the value of same?

9. What was the total cost of EMO to Canadians in each province for each of the years 1960-72 inclusive?

10. What was the cost of EMO in each of the following cities (a) Montreal (b) Toronto (c) Winnipeg (d) Vancouver (e) Calgary (f) Edmonton (g) London (h) Windsor (i) Ottawa (j) Quebec City (k) Victoria (l) Halifax (m) Saskatoon (n) Regina (o) St. John's?

11. Does the government propose to continue this program?

12. What service does EMO provide?

13. How many Canadians received training through EMO in each of the years 1960-72 inclusive and what kind of training was received and what qualifications were given?

14. Was any money spent on advertising EMO in the years 1960-72 inclusive and, if so, how much was spent for each of the years?

15. What courses of training are offered by EMO and who is eligible to take the training?

16. Is EMO co-ordinated with the Canadian Forces, are any joint exercises held and, if so, on what date and in what location was the last one held?

17. What is the composition of EMO?

Motions for Papers

18. What are the names of the Directors?

19. How many people are directly involved in EMO?

20. How many sub-units are there (a) where are they located (b) who is in charge of each unit (c) how many staff people are at each location (d) what training is carried out at each location (e) what courses are offered?

Return tabled.

EMPLOYMENT IN YUKON TERRITORY

Question No. 1,741—**Mr. Nielsen:**

1. How many persons are employed (a) by the Government of the Yukon Territory (b) by the Government of Canada in (i) Whitehorse, Yukon (ii) the remainder of the Yukon?

2. What is the total amount paid in wages and allowances to those in (a) and (b) in (i) and (ii)?

Return tabled.

MOTIONS FOR PAPERS

[*English*]

Mr. John M. Reid (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): Mr. Speaker, would you be so kind as to call notices of motions for the production of papers Nos. 207, 209, 210, and 212.

CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM—COPY OF STUDY OF ETHNIC PRESS IN CANADA

Motion No. 207—**Mr. Yewchuk:**

That an Order of the House do issue for a copy of the study made for the government of the ethnic press in Canada, undertaken as part of the Cultural Development Program.

Mr. Baldwin: Mr. Speaker, I move this motion on the hon. member's behalf.

Mr. John M. Reid (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): Mr. Speaker, this study has not yet been completed and it is a document internal to the department's operations. In the circumstances the hon. member may wish to withdraw his motion.

Mr. Baldwin: He would prefer to have it transferred for debate, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: Transferred for debate.

CANADIAN ETHNIC STUDIES—COPY OF REPORT

Motion No. 209—**Mr. Yewchuk:**

That an Order of the House do issue for a copy of the report of the government on Canadian ethnic studies.

Mr. Baldwin: I move the motion on the hon. member's behalf, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. John M. Reid (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): Mr. Speaker, the report requested is a document internal to the department's operations. In the circumstances the hon. member may wish to withdraw his motion.

[Mr. Stewart (Okanagan-Kootenay).]

Mr. Baldwin: Mr. Speaker, we would like to make it external to the department's operations so would like it to be debated.

Mr. Speaker: Transferred for debate.

CANADIAN ETHNIC STUDIES—COPY OF ALTERNATIVES PAPER

Motion No. 210—**Mr. Yewchuk:**

That an Order of the House do issue for a copy of the policy alternatives paper prepared on the basis of report to the government on Canadian ethnic studies.

Mr. Baldwin: Mr. Speaker, I move the motion on the hon. member's behalf.

Mr. John M. Reid (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): Mr. Speaker, this document is of a confidential nature internal to the department's operations. In the circumstances the hon. member may wish to withdraw his motion.

Mr. Baldwin: Mr. Speaker, we should like it to be less confidential and would like the matter to be debated.

Mr. Speaker: Transferred for debate.

IACC REPORTS TO DATE

Motion No. 212—**Mr. Yewchuk:**

That an Order of the House do issue for copies of any reports so far completed by IACC.

Mr. Baldwin: I move the motion on the hon. member's behalf, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. John M. Reid (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): Mr. Speaker, the Inter-Agency Co-ordinating Committee fulfils an internal co-ordinating function among government departments and agencies carrying out programs under the multicultural policy. In the circumstances the hon. member may wish to withdraw his motion.

Mr. Baldwin: That alone, Mr. Speaker, justifies asking for it to be debated.

Mr. Speaker: Transferred for debate. Shall the remaining motions stand?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Mr. Speaker: Shall the remaining notices stand?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

THE CANADIAN ECONOMY

INFLATION—POSSIBILITY OF SELECTIVE CREDIT CONTROLS—POSITION OF GOVERNMENT

Mr. James Gillies (Don Valley): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Finance. In view of the fact we are now experiencing the highest amount of inflation we have had in almost 25 years, and given the fact the minister has indicated that he now believes most of the cause of this inflation is demand pull, is the government considering the introduction of any sort of selective credit controls to eliminate some of this excessive purchasing power in the economy?

Hon. John N. Turner (Minister of Finance): No, Sir.

Mr. Gillies: If the government is not prepared to introduce selective credit controls, is not prepared to accept any sort of over-all wage and price controls and is not prepared to go for higher interest rates, would the minister tell the House whether or not the government is now prepared to live with this rate of inflation for the rest of the year?

Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton): Mr. Speaker, I think I have set forth the position of the government very clearly, that the present rate of inflation results from world commodity prices and agricultural prices which, even adopting the theories advanced by my hon. friend, would not be amenable to wage and price controls. The government's response to the current position is to try to increase the supply of those commodities by lowering tariffs, encouraging agricultural production and increasing the disposable income of all Canadians.

Mr. G. W. Baldwin (Peace River): Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question which I should like to address to the Prime Minister. In light of the existence of the cabinet document on priorities which the Prime Minister has not rejected, has the government in fact abandoned its fight against inflation, and is price stabilization now well at the foot of the government's priority list?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): No, Mr. Speaker.

* * *

FINANCE

POSITION OF MINISTER ON PROBABLE FURTHER INCREASE IN PRIME INTEREST RATE—REQUEST FOR ACTION TO LIMIT

Mr. David Lewis (York South): Mr. Speaker, I have a question or two for the Minister of Finance arising out of the announcement that the prime interest rate is likely to go up to 7½ per cent from 7¼ per cent. In view of the fact that kind of action by the chartered banks follows action or advice by the Bank of Canada, or a contraction of the money supply on the part of the Bank of Canada, and in view of the fact that the Bank of Canada would take that action only after consultation with and approval by the government or the Minister of Finance, may I ask the minister whether he is ready to accept a further increase in the prime interest rate from 7¼ to 7½ per cent?

Hon. John N. Turner (Minister of Finance): Mr. Speaker, the so-called announcement to which the hon. gentleman refers is based on a newspaper report this morning which is of a speculative nature. I am not going to deal with hypothetical or speculative questions on the floor of the House.

● (1430)

Mr. Lewis: Mr. Speaker, let me ask the minister a direct question. Is he encouraging or approving of the Bank of Canada contracting the money supply, and is he prepared to allow the prime interest rate to go higher than the present 7.25 per cent?

Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton): Mr. Speaker, the Bank of Canada is allowing the money supply to increase at least at a rate to accommodate the expansion of the economy. At the moment the rate of increase in loans by the chartered banks in the first four months of this year, as the hon. gentleman knows, is expanding at about 28 per cent, well beyond the expansionary rate of the economy, so the words he has used are not applicable to the situation.

Mr. Lewis: Mr. Speaker, in view of the fact the minister can make any sort of statement or speech he likes, but in view of the fact that interest rates are going up, that mortgage interest rates have followed the increase in their rate and are now up to 9½ per cent, in view of all these serious circumstances not only for borrowers but for home buyers, is the minister now prepared to take action together with the Bank of Canada to place a limit on interest rates so they will not go any higher than they are now?

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton): No, Mr. Speaker, I am not. I am as conscious as the hon. gentleman of the pain of rising interest rates in this country. He has not got a monopoly on that feeling. But I want to say to him that in view of the current expansion of the economy over the last six months, at a rate of 11.6 per cent in real terms which is the fastest expansion we have ever had in this country—

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton): —in view of the extreme pressure of international interest rates, because despite historical trends our interest rates in the short term are still a point to a point and a half lower than those in the United States and well below those in Europe, if interest rates were not to reflect this economic expansion we would get—

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. We are obviously getting into a debate.

Mr. Diefenbaker: I thought inflation ended two years ago, according to the Prime Minister.

Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton): That is another subject.

An hon. Member: Pierre said it was over two years ago.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

An hon. Member: That was before Turner took over.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

* * *

[*Translation*]

AIRPORTS

DORVAL—REQUEST FOR LOCAL TRANSPORT SERVICE

Mr. Réal Caouette (Témiscamingue): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Minister of Transport concerning Dorval airport, in Montreal, where there are two wings from which one can board an aircraft, the one with gate No. 40, and the other with gate No. 6. Well, it happens that we have to run the whole distance about a mile, between gate No. 40 to reach gate No. 6.

Would the minister consider providing a small bus service, for instance, from one wing to the other, which would facilitate the comings and goings, as is done in New York and in all self-respecting cities?

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, we are considering operating small jets to enable passengers to go from one place to the other.

Mr. André Fortin (Lotbinière): Mr. Speaker, can the Minister of Transport tell us whether these small jets will be bilingual like his own department?

* * *

[*English*]

AIR CANADA

ROTATING STRIKES BY MACHINISTS—STATUS OF NEGOTIATIONS—GOVERNMENT ACTION

Mr. James A. McGrath (St. John's East): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Labour. In view of the fact the machinists union is striking five cities today, and in view of the statement by Air Canada that if rotating strikes continue it will probably have to close down its operations, may I ask the minister whether the parties are any closer to a settlement, and what is the government doing to assist the parties to arrive at a settlement?

Hon. John C. Munro (Minister of Labour): Yes, Mr. Speaker, the government through the appointment of a mediator, Mr. Gallagher, has been meeting almost constantly with the parties in Montreal. They have narrowed the issues down progressively each day. The situation seemed quite hopeful yesterday. They are meeting again today, right now, and I hope to have a report one way or the other some time later today.

Mr. McGrath: In view of the deteriorating aspects of this situation, has the government presented any concrete proposals to both parties to help settle this dispute and, if not, does the government contemplate presenting such proposals?

Mr. Munro (Hamilton East): Mr. Speaker, of course this is a process of collective bargaining between the parties, Air Canada and the machinists. The mediator's role is to endeavour to bring the parties together and achieve a reconciliation of the proposals of both sides in order to obtain a settlement of the dispute. That process is going on at the moment.

REQUEST THAT COMPANY NOT BE ALLOWED TO INCREASE FARES WITHOUT CONSULTATION WITH PARLIAMENT AND REVIEW OF OPERATIONS

Mr. Harvie Andre (Calgary Centre): Mr. Speaker, my supplementary question is directed to the Minister of Transport. Can he assure the House that the government will not allow Air Canada to increase its rates this year without consulting with parliament and without a full review of the management and operations of Air Canada?

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, I have not heard that fares are going to be increased. If Air Canada gets in touch with us concerning an increase we will, of course, surely be very reluctant about any move of this kind by Air Canada.

STRIKE BY FINANCIAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE EMPLOYEES AT WINNIPEG—GOVERNMENT ACTION

Mr. David Orlikow (Winnipeg North): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct my supplementary question to the Minister of Labour. Is his department taking any action to bring together the parties, Air Canada and the employees in Winnipeg who have been on strike for two weeks as a result of the refusal of Air Canada even to consider accepting the unanimous recommendation of the conciliation board?

Hon. John C. Munro (Minister of Labour): Yes, Mr. Speaker, the government is taking action. We have a mediator on the scene who is endeavouring to his utmost to bring the parties together and try to arrive at a settlement.

Mr. Orlikow: Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask the minister whether there has been the same kind of movement toward settlement of that dispute as the minister just reported with regard to the machinists' dispute?

Mr. Munro (Hamilton East): I am hopeful, Mr. Speaker.

* * *

YOUTH

NATIONAL 4-H WEEK—REQUEST THAT GOVERNMENT INITIATE SPECIAL PROGRAM TO SUPPORT

Mr. Gordon Towers (Red Deer): Mr. Speaker, through you I should like to ask the Prime Minister a question. In view of the fact 1973 is the 60th anniversary of the found-

ing of the first rural youth group in Canada, which is now made up of 6,000 4-H Clubs involving 77,000 young Canadians, and in view of the fact that November 10 to November 16 has been named National 4-H Week, would the government of Canada consider initiating a special program of support during that week to commemorate this anniversary?

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, the government would be prepared to encourage youth groups of this kind by whatever means are legally and traditionally possible. The designation of a week is something I do not believe is generally done by the executive unless it is provided for by statute. There are certainly other ways of honouring this group and congratulating it for its very fine work, and I will do something.

* * *

PENITENTIARIES

MEASURES TO ALLEVIATE OVERCROWDING—POSSIBLE ACQUISITION OF COMMON JAIL AT PRINCE ALBERT

Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Prince Albert): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Solicitor General and has to do with the fact that one of the major complaints I have received in connection with penitentiaries is that there is overcrowding and that this applies right across the country. What is being done to provide temporary places where inmates can be kept? What is being done in order to bring about alleviation of the overcrowding?

An hon. Member: He is letting them out.

Mr. Hees: They are escaping.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

An hon. Member: They are all enjoying themselves.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Baldwin: Have you got a reservation list?

Hon. Warren Allmand (Solicitor General): Mr. Speaker, in order to accommodate the overpopulation problem in the penitentiaries—

Mr. Hees: You are opening the doors.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

An hon. Member: Weekend leaves and trips to Europe.

Mr. Allmand: —we have already set up two new minimum security institutions in the west made up of trailer camps.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

● (1440)

Mr. Allmand: Mr. Speaker, one of those is situated at Drumheller, Alberta just outside the medium security institution and the other is being set up at Mission City, British Columbia. In addition, we are presently looking at several buildings that have been used as provincial institutions with a view to taking over these provincial institutions so they can be used as minimum security federal penitentiaries.

Mr. Diefenbaker: Mr. Speaker, I am tremendously interested in this course in escape training that is taking place, but I ask the minister particularly what is being done at Prince Albert? Does the government intend to purchase the common jail there that is practically unoccupied as a means of alleviating the situation? When he is answering that question he might at the same time, having regard to the fact that two of the escaped inmates from Cowansville out for two months were picked up yesterday because of a very serious crime, advise how many crimes away he thinks it will be before he has the rest of them back?

Mr. Allmand: Mr. Speaker, it is correct that in Saskatchewan and Alberta we are looking at the possibility of purchasing or leasing certain provincial institutions. However, there are certain disadvantages with respect to the provincial institution in Prince Albert and we have not yet made a decision in that regard. I might point out that the trailer camps being used as minimum security institutions have been used in the past very successfully. They are used as work camps in the mountains and forests.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Diefenbaker: Would the minister say whether or not the particular tourist accommodations that he mentioned have proven to be the sieves that the penitentiaries have been under his administration?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member for Fraser Valley West. Is the minister rising on a point of order?

Mr. Allmand: Mr. Speaker, I would like to answer that.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The minister may wish to answer the question but I do not think a question asked in those terms is in order. The minister might like to rise on a question of privilege or on a point of order, but certainly the question as asked by the right hon. gentleman is clearly out of order.

Mr. Allmand: On a question of privilege, Mr. Speaker, for years now we have had minimum security institutions where there have not been any walls and if the men at those institutions wanted to escape they could. We do not classify these as escapes in the usual way. But the majority of the escapes have not been from the minimum institutions but, unfortunately, from the medium and maximum institutions. I might say that they are no hotels. If the hon. member or any other member wishes to visit them and stay there for a while I will try to arrange it.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Speaker: The Chair has recognized the hon. member for Fraser Valley West.

Oral Questions

SPORTS

SIGNING OF HOWE BROTHERS BY HOUSTON AEROS HOCKEY CLUB—REQUEST BY CANADIAN AMATEUR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION FOR MEETING WITH MINISTER

Mr. Mark Rose (Fraser Valley West): Mr. Speaker, I wonder if I might direct a very serious question, perhaps as a supplementary, to the Minister of National Health and Welfare. In light of yesterday's announcement of the signing of the Howe brothers by the Houston Aeros Hockey Club and the various implications flowing from these contracts, has the minister yet agreed to a requested meeting with the Canadian Amateur Hockey Association and, if so, when will this meeting be held?

Hon. Marc Lalonde (Minister of National Health and Welfare): Mr. Speaker, most of the implications I have seen in respect of the first part of the question seem to represent a "Hulluva" lot of money for the Howe brothers. I am quite happy for them. As to a meeting with the CAHA, my office received this request only yesterday and a meeting will be set up as soon as possible.

SIGNING OF HOWE BROTHERS BY HOUSTON AEROS HOCKEY CLUB—REQUEST THAT GOVERNMENT PREVENT RETURN TO USE OF C-FORMS

Mr. Mark Rose (Fraser Valley West): Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary for the minister. Without holding any brief for the NHL, and offering my congratulations to the Howe brothers, in view of the fact the signing of under-age players violates both the recommendation of the federal task force on sport and the agreement between the Canadian Amateur Hockey Association and the NHL, an agreement now threatened by the World Hockey Association, I should like to ask what initiatives the federal government is planning to prevent the return of the primitive pre-agreement practice in which children signed C-forms committing them to long-term peonage at the hands of the international sports industry?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. That has the appearance of a statement rather than a question. In any event, if the minister wishes to reply to the question he ought to do so by way of a statement on motions. Is the hon. member rising on a point of order?

Mr. Rose: Mr. Speaker, I would like to rephrase the question. I had just got to it. I wish to ask most seriously what initiatives the government is planning to prevent the practice that occurred before the CAHA and NHL agreement which caused considerable controversy and many problems in this country?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The Chair had heard the question. My suggestion was that this kind of information should be given in a general way by a statement on motions. If I am wrong, the question could be considered at the time of adjournment.

[Mr. Speaker.]

[*Translation*]

REGIONAL ECONOMIC EXPANSION

GASPÉ AREA—CONTINUATION OF CANADA-QUEBEC AGREEMENT—REQUEST FOR STATEMENT BY MINISTER

Mr. Alexandre Cyr (Gaspé): Mr. Speaker, I should like to put a question to the Minister of Regional Economic Expansion.

Following the minister's recent visits to the provincial capitals and his talks with Quebec officials, can he tell the House if there was any reference to the renewal of the Canada-Quebec agreement concerning the development of the Lower St. Lawrence area, the Gaspé peninsula and the Magdalen Islands, and what was his answer?

[*English*]

Hon. Donald C. Jamieson (Minister of Regional Economic Expansion): Not in precisely those terms, Mr. Speaker, and not necessarily a renewal of the existing arrangement, but a new agreement which would certainly continue to include such areas as Gaspé where additional work is clearly necessary.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Cyr: Mr. Speaker, could the minister announce in the near future the policy of the Canadian government about those special programs which will replace the agreements with the provinces?

[*English*]

Mr. Jamieson: Yes, Mr. Speaker. I think it is required by the statute that such agreements be public documents. If and when one is reached, and I have every confidence it will be reached, then it will be made public.

[*Translation*]

CIP PLANT IN TEMISCAMING—STUDIES RESPECTING POSSIBLE REOPENING—REQUEST FOR REPORT BY MINISTER

Mr. Réal Caouette (Témiscamingue): Mr. Speaker, I should like to put a supplementary question.

I should like to ask the Minister of Regional Economic Expansion whether during the discussions concerning the Gaspé peninsula, reference was also made to the reopening of the CIP plant in Temiscaming?

[*English*]

Hon. Donald C. Jamieson (Minister of Regional Economic Expansion): Yes, Mr. Speaker. As of yesterday when I arrived back in Ottawa late last night I was informed that the Quebec government had now formulated a set of recommendations which I understand has gone to the TEMBEC operators to see whether they in fact can agree with the government of Quebec. Should that occur, then our intervention would follow from that point.

AIR TRANSPORT

POSSIBLE WITHDRAWAL BY UNITED STATES OF MANDATORY SCREENING OF PASSENGERS—GOVERNMENT POSITION—IMPLICATIONS FOR BILL C-128

Mr. Don Mazankowski (Vegreville): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct my question to the Minister of Transport. Having regard to the fact that the United States Federal Aviation Authority has suggested the validity of considering withdrawal of the mandatory screening of airline passengers because of the development of a more effective revised screening system in which all passengers do not have to undergo a scrutiny check, I wonder whether the minister has had an opportunity to look into this and can he advise whether the implications of this move will have any effect on the passage of Bill C-128?

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, I have tried to obtain confirmation of this piece of news. It has not been confirmed by officials of the Washington government.

Mr. Mazankowski: Can the minister advise the House whether in fact a more adequate procedure is being developed and whether he would consider taking this into consideration during the passage of this particular piece of legislation?

● (1450)

Mr. Marchand (Langelier): Mr. Speaker, I am sure the hon. member does not assume that just because the United States does something we will automatically do it. However, if it makes sense I agree that we should look at it.

* * *

AIRPORTS

TERMINAL No. 2, TORONTO—ACTION TO SOLVE PROBLEMS—REQUEST FOR MOVING SIDEWALK

Mr. Don Blenkarn (Peel South): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Minister of Transport. In view of the fact that Terminal No. 2 in Toronto has been in use for over a month and that I have not found any members of the public or Air Canada who are satisfied with its operation, will the minister set out what he proposes to do about this terminal?

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, I did not build Terminal No. 2 myself. It is there, and I know a lot of people are unhappy about it. We have constituted a working group with Air Canada to see how we can manage it so that the customers are better treated than they are now. I hope this group will be successful in improving the situation.

Mr. Speaker: The Chair will recognize the hon. member for Peel South on a supplementary, and then the hon. member for Timiskaming.

Mr. Blenkarn: Has the minister made any study of the installation of at least a moving sidewalk so that people using the domestic end of the terminal will not have to walk half a mile to three quarters of a mile to and from their planes?

Mr. Marchand (Langelier): Mr. Speaker, as soon as I receive reports from the working group we will see what solutions we can find.

* * *

PAROLE

INQUIRY AS TO DISCUSSION BY MINISTER WITH PAROLE BOARD LEADING TO INCREASE IN RELEASE OF PENITENTIARY INMATES

Mr. Arnold Peters (Timiskaming): Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the Solicitor General this question. At what stage are his negotiations with the National Parole Board with regard to revitalizing a more orderly method of emptying some of our penitentiaries, which obviously should take place?

Hon. Warren Allmand (Solicitor General): Mr. Speaker, I am not sure I understand the question. There are no negotiations with the Parole Board. Today I introduced a bill in the House to increase the number of members of the Parole Board by ten, in accordance with the statement I made on Friday. We hope that by doing this the board will be able to process parole applications much quicker and in a much more effective way than in the past.

Mr. Peters: Since there was a curtailment of 25 per cent in paroles last year, obviously discussions must be taking place with the National Parole Board on why that situation developed. I would like to know from the minister whether he has been able to correct this situation and have it return to normal so that an extra 25 per cent of our prison population will be released?

Mr. Allmand: Mr. Speaker, the reason there was quite a cutback in paroles last year was the fact that there was a high rate of violations when people were on parole. As a result, a lot of people out on parole came back into the institutions, and the board reconsidered its policy of granting parole on the basis it had done so in the previous year. However, I agree that there are probably a lot of people in penitentiary who should be out on parole, and we hope that with these new guidelines and new members it will be possible to deal with paroles in a more effective way.

* * *

[*Translation*]

LABOUR RELATIONS

LOCKOUT AT DAVIE SHIPBUILDING LIMITED—ECONOMIC REPERCUSSIONS—DISCUSSIONS WITH QUEBEC MINISTER OF LABOUR

Mr. Adrien Lambert (Bellechasse): Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct a question to the hon. Minister of Labour.

The labour dispute at the Lauzon shipyard having serious effects on the regional economy, could the minister

say whether he had discussions with the Quebec labour minister, what position he intends to adopt regarding that matter, and whether he intends to make a relevant statement in the near future?

[*English*]

Hon. John C. Munro (Minister of Labour): No, Mr. Speaker, I have not had any talks with the Minister of Labour of Quebec, but I am prepared at the earliest opportunity to give further details to the hon. member.

* * *

AIR CANADA

EXPLOSION AND FIRE ON FLIGHT 141, TORONTO TO CALGARY

Mr. Ken Hurlburt (Lethbridge): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Transport. On March 26 the minister assured me he would inquire concerning the reason why Air Canada flight No. 141 from Toronto to Calgary was turned back. On March 28 the minister sent me a letter stating that the engine did not explode or catch fire after takeoff. Subsequent to the receipt of this letter—

Some hon. Members: Order!

Mr. Hurlburt: —I concluded my own investigation—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member has the floor for the purpose of asking a question, not for the purpose of revealing to the House the results of his investigation.

Mr. Hurlburt: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will be brief.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Hurlburt: I would now like to ask the minister if he is prepared to issue a new statement, or is he prepared to stand behind his communication of March 28?

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, I am ready to doublecheck the information I gave.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Marchand (Langelier): Maybe we will find out that the hon. member is a better inquirer.

* * *

CANADIAN NATIONAL RAILWAYS

RESPONSIBILITY OF COMPANY TO ASSIST IN REMOVING ECONOMIC DISPARITIES BY LOWERING FREIGHT RATES

Mr. J. R. Ellis (Hastings): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Transport. Does the minister agree with the president of Canadian National Railways that the CNR has no responsibility—

Some hon. Members: Order!

[Mr. Lambert (Bellechasse).]

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. May we have order, please. I thank hon. members who want to give advice and guidance to the Chair, but I think it is irregular for members to try to guide the Chair in determining whether or not a question is in order. The hon. member for Hastings has the floor, but he should ask his question directly, and not ask the minister to confirm a statement or an opinion expressed by someone outside the House.

Mr. Ellis: Mr. Speaker, I want to ask the minister whether he and the government feel the CNR has no responsibility to help remove economic disparities by lowering freight rates?

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, this is purely a hypothetical question. I never heard Mr. MacMillan say that, and if he made a statement I would like to read it myself.

Mr. Ellis: Mr. Speaker, since I was not allowed to refer to the document I merely asked the minister whether the Department of Transport and the government do not feel that the CNR has a responsibility to help remove economic disparity, and I did not refer to what Mr. MacMillan said.

Mr. Marchand (Langelier): Mr. Speaker, I would prefer to read Mr. MacMillan's statement before discussing it.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

* * *

GRAIN

OPEN QUOTAS ON WHEAT—REQUEST THAT FARMERS RECEIVE SAME PAYMENT THIS YEAR AS NEXT YEAR TO ENSURE DELIVERIES

Mr. S. J. Korchinski (Mackenzie): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Justice who is responsible for the Canadian Wheat Board. In view of the fact the Wheat Board now has open quotas on wheat and other grain deliveries, would the minister assure, in order to provide the full flow of grain to elevators necessary at this time to meet our commitments, that farmers will receive the same type of payment this year as next year and thus provide them with a guarantee?

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Justice): Mr. Speaker, we had quite an exchange on this subject yesterday. I indicated that I certainly expected the flow of grain to continue, and there is every sign that it will. I certainly cannot tell the hon. member that prices will not be in total, higher in the crop year 1973-74 than they are in the crop year 1972-73. The initial prices are at the same level for both years in the case of wheat.

Mr. Korchinski: Will the minister provide a supplementary payment for those producers delivering this year to match the same level of payment that will be made next year in order to assure deliveries and avoid the embarrassment of having to buy wheat from other countries?

Mr. Lang: Mr. Speaker, there is no possible question of having to buy grain from other countries, and it does a disservice to the Wheat Board and the grain industry to

suggest it. In fact, as I indicated yesterday in the House, many farmers are not delivering grain because they are concerned about their income tax payments for 1973, and any additional supplementary payment would cause additional problems in that regard.

* * *

CENTRAL MORTGAGE AND HOUSING CORPORATION

APPOINTMENT OF WILLIAM TERON AS PRESIDENT—DIVESTMENT OF HIS FINANCIAL INTERESTS IN CERTAIN CORPORATIONS

Mr. Paddy Neale (Vancouver East): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Minister of State for Urban Affairs. In view of the announcement by the minister yesterday of the appointment of Mr. William Teron as President of Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation, would the minister inform the House of the exact manner in which Mr. Teron has divested himself of his financial interests in the following corporations: William Teron and Associates, Etron Limited, Marina City, Kingston, Limited—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. Would the hon. member ask a question.

Mr. Neale (Vancouver East): Mr. Speaker, that was part of the question. There is quite a list. I will not read all of them but I have one I would like to get into the record—Power Corporation of Canada.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

● (1500)

Hon. Ron Basford (Minister of State for Urban Affairs): Mr. Speaker, as the Prime Minister's statement made clear yesterday, Mr. Teron has either divested himself or has undertaken to divest himself of those properties which would give rise to any possible or apparent conflict of interest with his operation as president and the other properties will be managed by trustees. I resent the implication of the question—

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

An hon. Member: Come on!

An hon. Member: Shame!

An hon. Member: What about the waterfront park?

Mr. Basford: —and I know that Mr. Teron—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. May we have order, please. There are a number of members anxious to ask questions and we will be running short of time. The hon. member for Vancouver East.

Mr. Neale (Vancouver East): I would like to ask the minister if he would inform the House whether Mr. Teron is still a member of the Liberal party's task force on housing and cities?

An hon. Member: Answer that.

Mr. Basford: Mr. Speaker,—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member for Lisgar.

Mr. Hees: That is how he got the job.

* * *

AGRICULTURE

FEED GRAIN POLICY—POSSIBLE DISCUSSION BY OTHER MINISTERS WITH QUEBEC PRODUCERS—INQUIRY AS TO DECISION

Mr. Jack Murta (Lisgar): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Agriculture. In view of the statements made yesterday in the committee on agriculture to the effect that the feed grains policy may or may not be discussed with the committee when it is presented, I should like to ask the minister if it is true that the Minister of Transport and the Minister of National Health and Welfare will be in Drummondville, Quebec, on June 12 to discuss the feed grain policy with the union of agricultural producers in that province?

Hon. E. F. Whelan (Minister of Agriculture): Mr. Speaker, I stand by what I said in committee. I am not responsible for what the Minister of National Health and Welfare or any other minister may say or do in taking part in any meetings in Drummondville, Quebec, or any other place.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The Chair will recognize the hon. member for a supplementary, but there are only three minutes left before the end of the question period. There are about 20 members rising but many of them could save themselves the effort as it is obvious that they will not be recognized. The hon. member has a supplementary and will be recognized.

Mr. Murta: Although the minister may or may not agree with what may be said at that meeting, has he, contrary to what was stated yesterday, made a decision on a feed grain policy, and will the minister be stating government policy at that meeting?

Mr. Whelan: Mr. Speaker, when a decision is made on the feed grain policy it will be announced in the proper fashion.

SOYBEAN FEEDS—REQUEST FOR ACTION TO LOWER AND CONTROL PRICE

Mr. A. D. Alkenbrack (Frontenac-Lennox): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs and also pertains to feed grains. The price of soybeans and feeds containing this commodity used by farmers for feeding livestock has recently risen faster than the price of gold and beyond any reasonable level. Will the minister please take action to reduce and control the price of this product?

Hon. Herb Gray (Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs): Mr. Speaker, parliament has not given me that

authority but I will be happy to discuss the issue with my colleague, the Minister of Agriculture.

Mr. Alkenbrack: Has the minister had any representations from the Minister of Agriculture regarding this serious situation?

* * *

HARBOURS

CHURCHILL—REQUEST FOR IMPROVEMENT IN PORT FACILITIES

Mr. Keith Taylor (Churchill): Mr. Speaker, I have a very simple question for the Minister of Transport and I am sure he will give me a straightforward answer. In view of the urgent need for improvements to the facilities at the port of Churchill, and in view of the delay caused by lack of direction on the part of the minister, would the minister make a statement on motions of the policy—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. A question asked in those terms is not in order. The hon. member might like to rephrase the question.

Mr. Taylor: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Would the minister inform the House whether it is the intention of his department to use the two million dollars placed in the estimates by the minister for improvement of the port facilities to the benefit of all western Canada?

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, I think I answered a similar question last week, that I had received a report concerning the port of Churchill. I sent it back to the marine administration of my department and I am expecting to have some recommendations very soon. At that moment I will tell the hon. gentleman what we intend to do.

* * *

FINANCE

REQUEST FOR ELIMINATION OF EXCISE TAX ON BUILDING MATERIALS—GOVERNMENT POSITION

Mr. Trevor Morgan (St. Catharines): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Finance. Having regard to the rapidly increasing rates for shelter and having regard to the fact that this is caused by the increase in mortgage interest rates and the fact that the cost of lumber has gone up by some 300 per cent in the last two years, will the minister now reduce or eliminate the excise tax on construction materials and, if not, why not?

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Hon. John N. Turner (Minister of Finance): Mr. Speaker, I think one of the prime factors in the rise in the price of lumber is the fact that price controls were released in the United States over lumber and that affected the Canadian market immeasurably.

[Mr. Gray.]

CITIZENSHIP

ALLEGED DISCRIMINATION IN REGULATIONS AGAINST ALIEN HUSBANDS—POSSIBILITY OF LEGISLATION TO ELIMINATE

Mrs. Grace MacInnis (Vancouver-Kingsway): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Secretary of State. In view of the minister's outline today of measures designed to make immigrants feel more at home in Canada, and in view of the fact that an alien woman marrying a Canadian citizen can become a Canadian at the end of one year, while the alien husband of a Canadian woman must wait five years to become a Canadian citizen, does the minister intend to introduce legislation this session to wipe out this discrimination against the male sex?

Hon. James Hugh Faulkner (Secretary of State): Not this session, Mr. Speaker.

[*Later:*]

Mrs. MacInnis (Vancouver-Kingsway): Can the minister tell the House if and when the government, if it survives, intends to introduce such long overdue legislation?

Mr. Faulkner: Mr. Speaker, the problem has nothing to do with survival; it has to do with a rather crowded order paper. As the hon. member knows, there are amendments to the Citizenship Act which I and other members would like to make and it will all be done at such time as I can negotiate with the House leader.

* * *

AIR CANADA

NEW APPAREL FOR STEWARDESSES

Mr. Perrin Beatty (Wellington-Grey-Dufferin-Waterloo): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Transport. In light of the concern expressed earlier this week at a meeting of air stewardesses in Toronto that the new non-uniform for Air Canada stewardesses could lead to great difficulty in times of emergency—

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

An hon. Member: Explain!

Mr. Beatty (Wellington-Grey-Dufferin-Waterloo): —in terms of maintaining order in times of emergency because of difficulty in telling stewardesses from passengers, would the minister—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I believe the hon. member for Hamilton-Wentworth has a supplementary from yesterday.

PENITENTIARIES

MEDIUM SECURITY INSTITUTIONS—REQUEST FOR TABLING OF INSTRUCTIONS FOR UPGRADING

Mr. Sean O'Sullivan (Hamilton-Wentworth): Mr. Speaker, it was not my intention to ask a supplementary from yesterday but if it will get me recognition I certainly will. My question is to the Solicitor General. Will the minister table in the House the document he referred to giving directions for the upgrading of the facilities surrounding medium security prisons in Canada?

Hon. Warren Allmand (Solicitor General): Mr. Speaker, I do not think I said there was a document. I said that instructions were given—

An hon. Member: Somebody stole it.

Mr. Allmand: I will check whether instructions were given by telephone, wire, or special document and see what can be done to answer the hon. member.

* * *

TRANSPORT

ALLEGED STUDY DECLARING ARCTIC OIL RAILWAY PROPOSALS UNREALISTIC—GOVERNMENT POSITION

Mr. Peter C. Bawden (Calgary South): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Transport. Is the minister aware of a report prepared by the Canadian Transport Commission which discounted the Arctic oil railway proposals and concluded that they were unrealistic?

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): No, Mr. Speaker, I am not aware of that.

* * *

THE CANADIAN ECONOMY

ALLEGED PROPOSAL TO SELL AVIS TRANSPORT TO UNITED STATES PURCHASER—REQUEST FOR DELAY

Mr. Terry O'Connor (Halton): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the President of the Treasury Board. In view of the reports of the imminent sale of 71.4 per cent of the shares of Avis Transport of Canada Limited, of which the minister and some members of his family are major shareholders, to a United States purchaser for $2.6 million, would the minister consider postponing the sale until the passage of the foreign takeover bill so that such sale could be judged under the provisions of the act?

Hon. C. M. Drury (President of the Treasury Board): Mr. Speaker, under the terms of a trust, unfortunately, I have no control over the sale or otherwise. I should point out I have been given to understand that if the sale goes through it will be in conformity with the terms of the act.

HEALTH

REMOVAL OF DRUG SISTOSAN FROM APPROVED LIST—REQUEST FOR STATEMENT

Mr. John Rodriguez (Nickel Belt): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of National Health and Welfare. In view of the fact that sistosan, the anti-haemorrhagic drug developed by Dr. Luigi Pancaro of Sudbury, has been removed from the approved list by the food and drug administration after being in use for 33 years and the doctor has not been given a reason for this, would the minister undertake to issue a statement on why the drug was removed?

● (1510)

[*Translation*]

Hon. Marc Lalonde (Minister of National Health and Welfare): Mr. Speaker, the drug was removed because it was found ineffective.

Mr. Rodriguez: A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The Chair will recognize the hon. member on a supplementary, then the hon. member for Edmonton West and then call orders of the day.

Mr. Rodriguez: In view of the fact the drug was on the market from 1934 to 1967, how can the minister say it was ineffective when it was in use for 33 years?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. That is obviously argument, not a supplementary question.

* * *

INCOME TAX

PROPOSED CUT IN TAX ON CORPORATIONS ENGAGED IN MANUFACTURING AND PROCESSING—REQUEST FOR TABLING OF REGULATIONS

Hon. Marcel Lambert (Edmonton West): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Finance. Would the minister consider favourably a request that he table on Friday the regulations that will define manufacturing and processing profits as defined within the act and as required by the proposal he is making, with regard to the cut in taxation on corporate profits?

Hon. John N. Turner (Minister of Finance): Yes, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: Orders of the day.

Ways and Means

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

[*English*]

WAYS AND MEANS

INCOME TAX ACT

The House proceeded to the consideration of a ways and means motion to amend the Income Tax Act.

Hon. John N. Turner (Minister of Finance) moved:

That a ways and means motion to amend the Income Tax Act laid upon the table on Tuesday, May 29, 1973, be concurred in.

Motion agreed to.

INCOME TAX APPLICATION RULES, 1971

The House proceeded to the consideration of a ways and means motion to amend the Income Tax Application Rules, 1971.

Hon. John N. Turner (Minister of Finance) moved:

That a Ways and Means motion to amend the Income Tax Application Rules, 1971, laid upon the Table, Tuesday, May 29, 1973, be concurred in.

Motion agreed to.

* * *

INCOME TAX ACT (NO. 2)

Hon. John N. Turner (Minister of Finance) moved that Bill C-192, to amend the Income Tax Act (No. 2), be read the first time and printed.

Motion agreed to, bill read the first time and ordered to be printed.

* * *

STATUTE LAW RELATING TO INCOME TAX (NO. 3)

Hon. John N. Turner (Minister of Finance) moved that Bill C-193, to amend the statute law relating to income tax (No. 3) be read the first time and printed.

Motion agreed to, bill read the first time and ordered to be printed.

* * *

WAYS AND MEANS

EXCISE TAX ACT AND EXCISE ACT

The House proceeded to the consideration of a ways and means motion to amend the Excise Tax Act and the Excise Act.

Hon. John N. Turner (Minister of Finance) moved:

That a Ways and Means motion to amend the Excise Tax Act and the Excise Act, laid upon the Table, Monday, February 19, 1973, be concurred in.

Motion agreed to.

[Mr. Speaker.]

EXCISE TAX ACT AND EXCISE ACT (NO. 2)

Hon. John N. Turner (Minister of Finance) moved that Bill C-194, to amend the Excise Tax Act and the Excise Act (No. 2), be read the first time and printed.

Motion agreed to, bill read the first time and ordered to be printed.

* * *

WAYS AND MEANS

CUSTOMS TARIFF

The House proceeded to the consideration of a ways and means motion respecting the Customs Tariff.

Hon. John N. Turner (Minister of Finance) moved:

That a Ways and Means motion respecting Customs Tariff, laid upon the Table, Monday, February 19, 1973, be concurred in.

Motion agreed to.

* * *

CUSTOMS TARIFF (NO. 2)

Hon. John N. Turner (Minister of Finance) moved that Bill C-195, to amend the Customs Tariff (No. 2), be read the first time and printed.

Motion agreed to, bill read the first time and ordered to be printed.

* * *

OFFICIAL LANGUAGES

DECLARATION OF CERTAIN PRINCIPLES RESPECTING EMPLOYMENT IN PUBLIC SERVICE OF CANADA

The House resumed, from Tuesday, June 5, consideration of the motion of Mr. Trudeau; and the amendment thereto of Mr. Stanfield (p. 4318).

That this House,

(i) aware that, as provided in the Official Languages Act, the English and French languages possess and enjoy equality of status and equal rights and privileges as to their use in all the institutions of the Parliament and Government of Canada;

cognizant that it is the duty of departments and agencies of the Government of Canada to ensure, in accordance with that Act, that members of the public can obtain available services from and communicate with them in both official languages; while

recognizing that public servants should, as a general proposition and subject to the requirements of the Official Languages Act respecting the provision of services to the public, be able to carry out their duties in the Public Service of Canada in the official language of their choice;

do hereby recognize and approve the following Principles for achieving the foregoing:

(1) that positions which are seen, under present circumstances, as requiring the knowledge and use of both the French and English languages will be first identified, and then designated, as bilingual in the course of the period ending December 31, 1978;

(2) that positions will also be identified where English is an essential requirement of the job, where French is essential, or whether either French or English may be used;

(3) that a knowledge of English and French is one of the elements of merit in the selection of candidates for bilingual positions;

(4) that competitions for bilingual positions will be open both to bilingual candidates and unilingual candidates who have formally indicated their willingness to become bilingual;

(5) that competitions for unilingual positions will continue to be open to unilingual or bilingual candidates who meet the language requirements of the job;

(6) that unilingual incumbents of bilingual positions may elect to become bilingual and undertake language training, or transfer to another job having the same salary maximum, or, if they were to decline such a transfer, to remain in their positions even though the posts have been designated as bilingual;

(7) that employees who, as of April 6, 1966, had at least ten years of continuous service and who, since that date, have been employed continuously in the federal Public Service, will be entitled to apply for any job that has been identified for future designation as bilingual without having to indicate their willingness to become bilingual;

(8) that unilingual French-speaking and English-speaking persons from outside the Public Service who are willing to become bilingual may apply for bilingual positions open to public competition;

(9) that language training, at public expense, will be provided to unilingual public servants as well as to persons who are appointed to the Public Service to bilingual positions;

do further approve the Government of Canada, and in particular, the Treasury Board and the Public Service Commission, taking the measures required to give effect to the aforementioned Principles; and

(ii) do further approve the taking of measures, after consultation with employee representatives, designed to produce a greater use of the French language at all levels in the Public Service, through increasing, where practical, the number of French Language Units, through further recruitment efforts by the Public Service Commission, through training programs offered in the French language and by developing proposals, in conjunction with the Governments of the Provinces of Ontario and Quebec, to enhance the bilingual character of the National Capital region, thus helping to realize the objective of achieving, within the merit principle, full participation in the Public Service by members of both the anglophone and the francophone communities.

Mr. Speaker: Pursuant to the special order made Tuesday, June 5, 1973, the House will now proceed to the taking of the deferred vote. The question is on the amendment of the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Stanfield).

[*Translation*]

Pursuant to special order made on June 5, 1973, the House will now proceed to the recorded division on the amendment proposed by the hon. Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Stanfield). Call in the members.

[*English*]

Call in the members.

The House divided on the amendment (Mr. Stanfield) which was negatived on the following division.

● (1520)

(Division No. 24)

YEAS

Messrs:

Alexander	Baldwin	Beatty
Alkenbrack	Balfour	(Wellington-Grey-Dufferin-Waterloo)
Andre	Bawden	Bell
Arrol	Beattie	Blenkarn
Atkey	(Hamilton Mountain)	
Baker		

Carter	Howie	Morgan
Clark	Hueglin	Muir
(Rocky Mountain)	Hurlburt	Munro
Clarke	Jarvis	(Esquimalt-Saanich)
(Vancouver Quadra)	Kempling	Murta
Coates	Knowles	Neil
Cossitt	(Norfolk-Haldimand)	(Moose Jaw)
Crouse	Korchinski	Nowlan
Danforth	Kuntz	Oberle
Darling	Lambert	O'Connor
Dick	(Edmonton West)	O'Sullivan
Dinsdale	La Salle	Paproski
Ellis	Lawrence	Peters
Epp	Lundrigan	Reilly
Fairweather	MacDonald	Reynolds
Forrestall	(Egmont)	Ritchie
Frank	MacDonald (Miss)	Roche
Gillies	(Kingston and the Islands)	Schellenberger
Grafftey	MacKay	Schumacher
Hales	MacLean	Scott
Haliburton	Macquarrie	Stackhouse
Hargrave	Madill	Stanfield
Hees	Marshall	Stevens
Higson	Mazankowski	Stewart
Hollands	McCain	(Marquette)
Holmes	McCleave	Taylor
Horner	McGrath	Thomas
(Crowfoot)	McKenzie	(Moncton)
Horner	McKinley	Towers
(Battleford-Kindersley)	McKinnon	Wagner
Howard	Mitges	Whittaker
		Wise
		Woolliams—96.

NAYS

Messrs:

Allard	De Bané	Herbert
Allmand	Demers	Hopkins
Andras	Dionne	Hymmen
Barnett	Douglas	Isabelle
Basford	Drury	Jamieson
Beaudoin	Dubé	Jerome
Béchard	Dupont	Knight
Bégin (Miss)	Dupras	Knowles
Benjamin	Duquet	(Winnipeg North Centre)
Blackburn	Ethier	Lachance
Blais	Faulkner	Laflamme
Blaker	Firth	Lajoie
Blouin	Fleming	Lalonde
Boulanger	Fortin	Lambert
Breau	Foster	(Bellechasse)
Brewin	Fox	Lang
Broadbent	Gauthier	Langlois
Buchanan	(Roberval)	Laniel
Caccia	Gauthier	Laprise
Cafik	(Ottawa East)	Leblanc
Caouette	Gendron	(Laurier)
(Charlevoix)	Gilbert	LeBlanc
Caouette	Gillespie	(Westmorland-Kent)
(Témiscamingue)	Gleave	Lefebvre
Caron	Godin	Leggatt
Chrétien	Goyer	Lessard
Clermont	Gray	Lewis
Comtois	Grier	L'Heureux
Corbin	Guay	Loiselle
Corriveau	(St. Boniface)	Macdonald
Côté	Guay (Lévis)	(Rosedale)
Cullen	Guilbault	MacEachen
Cyr	Haidasz	MacGuigan
Danson	Harding	
Davis	Harney	

Official Languages

Messrs:

MacInnis (Mrs.) (Vancouver Kingsway)
Marceau
Marchand (Langelier)
Marchand (Kamloops-Cariboo)
Mather
Matte
McRae
Morin (Mrs.)
Munro (Hamilton East)
Neale (Vancouver East)
Nelson
Nesdoly
Nystrom
Olaussen
Olivier
Orlikow
Ouellet
Pelletier (Hochelaga)
Pelletier (Sherbrooke)
Penner
Portelance
Poulin
Prud'homme
Railton
Reid
Rodriguez
Rompkey
Rooney
Rose
Roy (Timmins)
Roy (Laval)
Saltsman
Sauvé (Mrs.)
Sharp
Smith (Northumberland-Miramichi)
Smith (Saint-Jean)
Stanbury
Stewart (Okanagan-Kootenay)
Stewart (Cochrane)
Stollery
Symes
Trudeau
Trudel
Turner (London East)
Turner (Ottawa-Carleton)
Walker
Watson
Whelan
Whicher
Yanakis—143.

● (1540)

Mr. Speaker: I declare the amendment lost.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Réal Caouette (Témiscamingue): Mr. Speaker, if they all run away they will obviously understand nothing.

We have just voted on one amendment. I do not think I am entitled to comment on this vote. However, what I find strange in the resolution of the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) is its lack of clarification. For instance, I went through the nine points submitted to Parliament. We have just decided that this resolution cannot become law but will still remain a resolution. Paragraph (6) reads as follows, and I quote:

(6) that unilingual incumbents of bilingual positions may elect to become bilingual and undertake language training, or transfer to another job having the same salary maximum, or, if they were to decline such a transfer, to remain in their positions even though the posts have been designated as bilingual;

I think that this completely destroys the resolution.

On television last night I heard the remarks of the member for Matane (Mr. De Bané). He was saying that this resolution will not in the least improve the situation.

Generally speaking, I agree. For the last few years we have been talking about official languages, bilingualism, equal treatment for French- and English-speaking Canadians and after three of four years of tentative action here and there we hear the Commissioner of Official Languages, Mr. Spicer, say that bilingualism has become a gross farce to the disadvantage of French-Canadians.

I do not intend to fight the assistance which the government wants to grant to our linguistic elements. However, I must quote a statement made by the former leader of the Progressive Conservative Party, the right hon. member for Prince Albert (Mr. Diefenbaker), as recorded on page 4396 of *Hansard* of June 4:

—He did not tell—

—meaning the Prime Minister—

—He did not tell the House why it is that at a time when critical national issues confront us, parliament is being asked by the Prime Minister to masticate material already digested.

[Mr. Speaker.]

Mr. Speaker, the right hon. member used polite terms to say roughly what the Prime Minister said to the Lapalme boys a few years back.

The discussion of the past few days allows us to repeat what we have been saying for a number of years, that those are only pious wishes expressed in the House. In fact, even during this session we have seen how various departments make light of bilingualism or biculturalism and care little about treating English-speaking and French-speaking Canadians equally.

I have here a letter from the Department of Transport—the minister just left—addressed to:

Champlain Service
Emilien Dubé
Rivière Portneuf
Saguenay, Québec

Mr. Dubé does not know a word of English. But he is sent a document which reads as follows:

Transport Canada Transports Canada NEWS—NOUVELLES

It is entirely in English, two full pages, and not a word of French. The Department of Transport and the Minister of Transport (Mr. Marchand) sent that news letter to Rivière Portneuf in the Saguenay area to Mr. Dubé who does not know a single word of English.

An hon. Member: It is a mistake!

Mr. Caouette (Témiscamingue): It is a mistake? Then let us take another department, Mr. Speaker. I have here another letter, and I quote:

Plant Products Division Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0C5
May 29, 1973

Mr. Louis Paquin
77 Rue St. Thomas
Montmagny, P.Q.

Mr. Paquin does not know a word of English. He received a letter signed by:

R. H. Davidson
Feed Unit

It is certainly not "fed" neither in English nor in French.

Mr. Speaker, that is a letter written entirely in English from one of the divisions of the Department of Agriculture, and this occurred after three, four or five trial years.

● (1550)

Mr. Speaker, eleven years ago, when I was requesting from Air Canada more French spoken by its stewardesses, I used to receive the following reply: Yes, this is going to be improved.

When we were elected in 1962, the Parliamentary Rules were written in English and I must pay tribute to the former Prime Minister of Canada, the right hon. member for Prince Albert, who gave instructions to translate the Parliamentary Rules into French as early as 1962.

At present we travel by plane, for instance, between Montreal and Vancouver. It still happens that we cannot get a French answer on the plane. Mr. Speaker, I have nothing against a young lady—whether her name is Smith, Lanier, Caouette or Trudeau, I do not mind—but let them give us services in both languages! I would object if a stewardess could not speak English to English-speaking passengers. I am convinced that no English-speaking Canadians would tolerate unilingualism on Air Canada flights, over the CBC or in any other Crown Corporation.

Mr. Speaker, this is not asking too much but we have not yet succeeded in obtaining it and now the government is putting forward a resolution which says that any incumbent of an English unilingual position may elect to undertake French language training and keep his position if he wants to, even though he does not want to become bilingual. This is the whole matter which generates division throughout Canada.

We are spending millions of dollars to tell English-speaking Canadians to learn French, and French-speaking Canadians to learn English, although we will never succeed in making an English speaking individual out of a French Canadian nor a French speaking individual out of an English speaking one. This is a point that we must always keep in mind. We will never succeed in doing it.

But we must find a solution that seems acceptable to both groups, a solution allowing English-speaking and French-speaking Canadians to preserve their respective characteristics. I note that for the past three, four or five days the resolution has been criticized by all opposition leaders and by other members. At one point, the Leader of the Official Opposition (Mr. Stanfield) decided to move an amendment aimed at giving the force of law to a useless resolution. This is far from being very bright.

Mr. Speaker, we would like to move an amendment. My friend the member for Champlain (Mr. Matte) referred to it last Thursday and I would like to develop those points which we want to explain clearly in this House and outside for the benefit of all Canadians.

Therefore, I move, seconded by the hon. member for Champlain (Mr. Matte):

> That the motion be amended by removing, after "the foregoing:" in the fourth paragraph, the nine principles which are listed, and substituting therefor the following:
>
> (1) Bilingualism cannot be considered as a basic factor of qualification.

That is clear. If an English-speaking person is more qualified than a bilingual person in a certain field, he must be given the job even though he is unilingual. In doing so, we respect both the English- and French-speaking people in Canada. This would work both ways. We should not look for difficulties where there are none as we are doing right now.

A moment ago, I referred to airline stewardesses. Mr. Speaker, often times, a unilingual English stewardess gets a job with Air Canada. But a French Canadian stewardess who is not bilingual cannot get a job even in Montreal, even in Rouyn-Noranda, my hometown. Why should one have to speak two languages and the other be accepted though unilingual?

If we had truly parallel administrations for the whole nation we would not have the kind of situation we have at present. Then, as specified in our amendment, and I quote:

> (1) that bilingualism cannot be considered as an essential factor of competence;
>
> (2) that the knowledge of both official languages is required only for administrative positions where it becomes a criterion of competence, such as telephone operator, hostess, train conductor, receptionist, etc.;

In such cases, the knowledge of both languages may be required.

> (3) that everyone is free to speak the language of his or her choice in Canada;

I find it rather stupid to tell a civil servant: If you want to save your job, learn French. In fact, why should we tell a man of 50: Learn the other language or you might lose your job, you will be transferred or we will make changes which will upset everything. When someone is 50 years old, it is not the right time to tell him: Learn the second language that you must know.

I said it everywhere in Canada: If we want one day both languages to be known throughout Canada, let us start in the first grade to teach both official languages to our children and in less than five years, we will have people who speak French in British Columbia, in Nova Scotia, in Quebec and in Ontario.

Then, it might be done, but nobody should have to learn another language at 50, especially if we must spend hundreds of millions of dollars and tell people: Learn this language, we will help you. Then again, there are more Anglo-Saxons to help than French Canadians who speak French; so English people are given more opportunities to learn French and French people to learn English.

Mr. Speaker, I go on quoting our amendment:

> (4) that, account being taken of geographical and demographical circumstances, everyone in Canada has the right to be served and administered in the official language of his or her choice;
>
> (5) that unilingualism cannot prevent a civil servant in the Canadian government from being eligible for senior positions; . . .

That means that all present public servants would keep their positions if we applied a really Canadian national policy.

I resume the quotation:

> . . . therefore, the government undertakes to set up, organize and implement a parallel administration, one English-speaking, the other French-speaking, in all departments of the federal government;

It is being done at the present time in the CBC, for instance, where there is an English network and a French network. That was established by the government of that time.

We have Air Canada with an English section and a French section. We have a president of our own and the English section also has its own. Do we ever see the English or the French squabbling over senior positions in Air Canada?

An hon. Member: . . . in the CBC.

Mr. Caouette (Témiscamingue): I said the CBC.

An hon. Member: No, you said Air Canada.

Mr. Caouette (Témiscamingue): Maybe, but I meant the CBC, where there are two presidents.

Now, we are not asking for the appointment of two ministers, but for two deputy ministers, and parallel administrations in all the Federal government departments. Thus, each department would have two sections: one English and one French. The size of each would depend on the needs. They would not have the same number of employees, of course, as there are fewer French-speaking Canadians than English-speaking Canadians.

Coming back to the amendment, I quote:

● (1600)

. . . the size of these sections shall be proportional to the requirements of their respective administrative needs, which means that the departments shall not necessarily have the same number of employees;

(b) these departments shall be autonomous entities with equal responsibilities up to the deputy minister level.

It would not matter whether the minister be French-speaking or English-speaking!

I continue the quotation:

. . . both the English-speaking and the French-speaking deputy ministers having similar authority and similar responsibilities;

Had we implemented that principle, we would not receive such letters in the Saguenay area, in Montmagny, or in areas of the province of Quebec where only French is spoken.

Mr. Speaker, paragraph (c) reads as follows:

promotions in each department shall be based exclusively on merit.

Promotion should be granted to a civil servant not because he speaks French or English, but because of his actual skills.

Those are the points we would like this House to understand so we can finally stop quarrelling all across Canada and hearing the Anglo-Saxons say that French-speaking Canadians demand too much and French-speaking Canadians complain that English take everything.

Mr. Speaker, with parallel administrations, we would certainly have gained much ground. For instance, when you see that $29,000 are now being spent in trying to make someone bilingual with hardly any positive results, that $54,000 or $55,000 are being spent to allow someone to learn the other culture in Canada, you must agree that these things will never be accepted by Canadians as a whole.

Someone will probably ask me: What is it going to cost the government? It will cost national unity. And we will achieve national unity provided the identity of everyone is respected, provided equal opportunity is given every Canadian with a law that allows everyone to be himself.

Mr. Speaker, as to the resolution moved by the right hon. Prime Minister, I did not attend the cabinet meeting, but I was told by a member of the Liberal party that the whole story was fabricated, made up and presented to the government by the Public Service Alliance of Canada. Then, if everything is settled in advance, why do we discuss those questions here? If the civil servants are the ones who decide for the government, who say to the government: We are in charge, and you are going to act in such and such a way, why then should a resolution be submitted to us?

In a debate as this one, Mr. Speaker, as I said earlier, the whole resolution is defeated by the sixth principle and the last paragraph which reads as follows:

(ii) do further approve the taking of measures, after consultation with employee representatives, designed to produce a greater use of the French language at all levels in the public service, through increasing, where practical, the number of French language units, through further recruitment efforts by the Public Service Commission, through training programs offered in the French language and by developing proposals, in conjunction with the governments of the provinces of Ontario and Quebec, to enhance the bilingual character of the national capital region, thus helping to realize the objective of achieving, within the merit principle, full participation in the public service by members of both the anglophone and the francophone communities.

This is again total confusion. In one paragraph the objective is to save national unity whereas in another paragraph it is attacked. A third paragraph states: You can remain what you are; if you are not satisfied, do something else.

We are presenting objectively our amendement to the House and we believe that parallel administrations would be no disappointment to anyone ans would be helpful to everyone. We would no longer hear an English civil servant say: Down with French civil servants and vice versa but Canadians would be on the same footing before the law and the same chances would be offered to all Canadians.

That is the amendment we are proposing and I hope the House will study it most carefully.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Laniel): Order. Mr. Caouette (Témiscamingue) seconded by the hon. member for Champlain (Mr. Matte), moved:

That the motion be amended by deleting, after the words "the foregoing" in the fourth paragraph, the nine Principles listed therein and substituting therefor the following Principles:

(1) that bilingualism cannot be considered as an essential factor of competence;

(2) that the knowledge of both official languages is required only for administrative positions where it becomes a criterion of competence, such as telephone operator, hostess, train conductor, receptionist, etc.;

(3) that everyone is free to speak the language of his or her choice in Canada;

(4) that, account being taken of geographical and demographical circumstances, everyone in Canada has the right to be served and administered in the official language of his or her choice;

(5) that unilingualism cannot prevent a civil servant in the Canadian government from being eligible for senior positions; therefore, the government undertakes to set up, organize and implement a parallel administration, one English-speaking, the other French-speaking, in all departments of the federal government;

(a) each department shall have two sections, one English, the other French; the size of these sections shall be proportional to the requirements of their respective administrative needs, which means that the departments shall not necessarily have the same number of employees;

(b) these departments shall be autonomous entities with equal responsibilities up to the deputy minister level, both the English-speaking and the French-speaking deputy ministers having similar authority and similar responsibilities;

(c) promotions in each department shall be based exclusively on merit.

[*English*]

Mr. Heath Macquarrie (Hillsborough): Mr. Speaker, I suppose we all have certain oratorical cliches. One of mine is that I usually begin participation in debate by saying it is a great pleasure to take part in the debate. I do not say that this time. Indeed, I enter this debate with a certain heaviness of heart because I have a feeling that the whole discussion is not likely to be helpful, although I will say, and say with sincerity, that there have been speeches of a very high order and among those I would list that of my leader, that of the Leader of the New Democratic Party (Mr. Lewis) and that of the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau). However, there have been other utterances, and I regret to say some of them by the Prime Minister, in this House which have not indicated statesmanship and which have not been conducive to national unity.

I heard the Prime Minister when he spoke on the draft address and I also recall—I wish I did not—his malicious oratory when he spoke of certain people ending up as elevator operators. On this issue, there have been too many irritants and too many occasions when thoughtful silence would have been preferable to the smart utterance. I do not wish to denigrate a public servant and suggest that one utterance should characterize his whole performance, but I think Mr. Spicer's remarks about the Rhodesians might have been far better left unsaid. I heard him also on the radio last Sunday and I thought, when one woman phoned in and said that one of her children had learned French and the other had not, I had detected his approach of zeroing in on the one that had not, rather than of commending her in respect of the one that had. I have been in public life long enough to know it is much easier to catch the attention of the press and the public by the dramatic overstatement. Indeed, if he seeks publicity, the way of the moderate is hard.

While regretting the introduction of this measure at this time, and deploring the extremists on either side of the argument, I certainly plan to support this resolution and thereby renew my commitment to bilingualism, no matter how imperfect and sometimes hurtful has been its implementation so far. There is no immutable law, no certainty which declares that this Dominion shall endure. But it is my determination and my commitment that no intemperate remark of mine, no unwillingness to compromise, no unreadiness to understand others' views and aspirations will make even a tiny contribution to the weakening of the great experiment in nation building which began in my province, and indeed in my constituency in 1864.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Macquarrie: If I did not make this clear commitment I think I would be unworthy to represent the cradle of Confederation.

The Prime Minister the other night expressed the view that the existence of two official languages was not primarily because of any historical founding rights. I am inclined to give more weight to history on this matter. The British North America Act, the product of compromise and conciliation of the men of Canada, Nova Scotia, New

Brunswick, Newfoundland and Prince Edward Island did establish a bilingual parliament. This matter was formally settled over a century ago. About that particular document and that particular provision the great Liberal historian Professor Lower, has said:

Similarly, the spirit of the Act, removed all distinction of status between French and English. The Act symbolized an agreement between the races to live and let live and gave a formula for the solution of the antagonisms that had brought the wheels of government to a stop. French speaking Canadians could only point to one or two specific clauses in hard legal support of their 'rights', but their claim would be that there were but 'the evidence of things unseen', the crystallization into law of understandings reached behind the scenes, of the compromises and mutual confidence which alone could have brought forth Confederation.

In Confederation, English and French, after a stormy courtship, took each other for better or worse, and whether the marriage had much prospect of being happy or not, it must, like other marriages create a reasonable degree of equality between the contracting parties.

● (1610)

I love to quote Professor Lower, who was one of the greatest teachers I ever had, and one of the greatest Liberals I ever ran across. The last time I saw him I gave him a little party in Charlottetown, and when he took leave of me he said: "I wish you well, Heath, even though you are a Conservative."

I mention the British North America Act because surely if the parliament of the country is to be bilingual, and to be established as bilingual, it is normal and natural to assume that the administrative bureaucracy through which parliament functions should reflect that bilingualism. Doubtless part of our anguish and frustration today stems from the fact that we are seeking to do in a decade what was essentially neglected for ten.

I listened carefully to the hon. member for Témiscamingue (Mr. Caouette). I always listen to him, Mr. Speaker. I honour him as a good federalist. He comes out with some strange ideas at times, and with some practical suggestions too. When he refers to the delay in making bilingualism a fact I am very much in sympathy with him. He mentioned Beauchesne. When I came to this House Beauchesne was available only in English, and God knows it is hard enough to understand even written in your own language. Here I mention that Dr. Beauchesne was not a Scottish Canadian. His book was printed in English from 1922 to 1959, and its publication in French was one of the fine things that did take place under the administration of the right hon. member for Prince Albert (Mr. Diefenbaker), that and simultaneous translation in this chamber. Until 1959, French speaking members had the right to speak, but not the technical right to be heard by those who did not know their language. And of course, it worked the other way also.

As has been noted in this debate previously, principally by the hon. member for Rocky Mountain (Mr. Clark) who made a most excellent speech, the earlier emotional tensions and divisions in this country were more heavily weighted on the religious rather than the linguistic side. Even the great Sir Wilfrid Laurier could write as late as 1911:

It is becoming more and more manifest to me that it was not reciprocity that was turned down but a Catholic premier.

Making allowance for the shock and pain which we are told is felt by all holders of high office on defeat, it is interesting that Laurier felt no repudiation of his ethnic background or linguistic category. Tension, then, was over religion.

But these strains did come very close, down through our history, to being a continuation of what Lord Durham described in 1837 as "two nations warring in the bosom of a single state." Deep cleavages such as those over separate schools, the autonomy bills of 1905, the *ne tempere* decree, and regulation 17 have been with this country down through the generations, and we are naïve to think that the question of disunity is unique to our day and age. Indeed, since we became a country it has always been the test of statesmanship to resist and diminish the centrifugal forces which in Canada, in such a vast country, come into play far too easily. Confederation was not easily attained. We have always underestimated the eminence of the Macdonalds, Cartiers, Browns, McGees, Tuppers and others who were great nation builders. It was not easy for them to bring the country together. Nor is it easy to keep it together. Without goodwill, moderation, reasonableness and conciliation it will not hold together.

Reference has been made more than once to Sir John A. Macdonald, the founder of my party and, I think, the chief founder of the country. He had many virtues and some vices. But while he could be intemperate in some things he was ever temperate, wise and moderate on the issue of relations between the two major groups comprising the dominion. The Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) quoted Sir John the other night in direct reference to the language issue, when Macdonald said:

> I have no accord with the desire expressed in some quarters that by any mode whatever there should be an attempt made to oppress the one language or to render it inferior to the other; I believe that it would be impossible if it were tried, and it would be foolish and wicked if it were possible.

Those are fine, wonderful words. Many years ago Sir John A. Macdonald wrote to a Montreal editor, and I am sure many hon. members are familiar with this quotation:

> The trouble is that you British Canadians can never forget that you were once supreme, that John Baptiste was once your hewer of wood and drawer of water. You struggle for ascendency. If a lower Canadian Britisher desires to conquer he must stoop to conquer. He must make friends with the French without sacrificing the principles of his race or lineage. He must respect their nationality. Treat them as a nation and they will act as a free people generally do—generously. Treat them as a faction and they will become factious.

The phraseology is antique but the spirit, the sentiment is there. And of that particular passage again my old mentor, Professor Lower, wrote:

> —wise words, the beginning and end of our Canadian puzzle but by few indeed taken to heart.

I give one final quote from Dr. Lower, who must love to be forming part of a Progressive Conservative member's speech! Here, I recall what he said about Macdonald:

> —his stand with respect to the race question was consistent throughout his life whatever the cost to himself . . . he refused to raise the race cry at a time when he was in low political water.

I am proud that the father of my party in this, the eighty-second anniversay of his death, left such noble sentiments to guide us on this very serious matter. In these difficult days it is our task, indeed our duty, to ameliorate not exacerbate those things which might divide us, moderate not accentuate the irritants which could weaken the frail fabric of federation, and at times indeed it appears frail. It is my belief that we would be unworthy of our present and our past if we brought to an end the experiment launched with wisdom and foresight by our political ancestors in Charlottetown in 1864. I intend to do my humble bit to help strengthen the dynamic unity of this country.

The hon. member for Verdun (Mr. Mackasey) on Monday praised the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Stanfield). I appreciate and I echo his sentiments. There is a deal of personalizing entering into this debate. Mr. Speaker, I attended my first political meeting at the age of 11, and I have had the privilege of knowing the greats and the near greats of my party over a good many years. I remember all the numerous defeats and the few victories, and it is an honour to know those who are dedicated to a political party because I believe that Lord Bryce is right, that parliamentary democracy cannot function without political parties.

I have never been reluctant to parade my belief in political parties, and in their function. I would like to say I rejoice in the mind and in the manner of the man who is now our leader. Him I have known for 25 years. I was extremely young when I first met him! He came to the leadership of our party pledged to do his utmost for the unity of Canada. He has adhered to that pledge, and no man of all the men who have led our party with honour and distinction, and I am not reluctant to praise them all, no man has been more honourable, more consistent, more faithful in his determination to place country ahead of party, and the unity of the nation ahead of any seeming temporary partisan or political advantage.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Macquarrie: One of the great statesmen of an earlier age said that the worst ill which could befall any country would be for it to be divided on political lines paralleling lines of race or lines of religion. He said that that kind of strain no political entity could stand. To those who look only superficially, we might appear to be close to that situation in Canada today, but I say that those who look more deeply than that, know in fact that that is not the case.

● (1620)

One of the things of which I was most proud in the Leader of the Opposition—and I know he will not care for these references I am making—was that after the election on October 30, when it would have been natural and normal that he might have been disappointed in the response to his program and of his people in the province of Quebec, he wasted no time in recriminating, no time in repining, no time in regretting but said straightforwardly, simply and sincerely, "I would not feel content about forming a government with little representation from Quebec". This was a speech that he made in Edmonton, after that near miss on October 30. It is my belief that he will be forming a government and that he will be having representation from Quebec.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Macquarrie: Indeed, the more I see at close hand our new member from Quebec, the hon. member for Saint-Hyacinthe (Mr. Wagner) I say that our setback there was only numerical and it is only temporary. Him, I honour as a man who serves his province, who serves his country with dignity, with presence, with moderation and with wisdom and I would class him, although he may not enjoy this sort of adulation either, as the modern Cartier of this nation. I think when this matter is disposed of and we move on to pressing things of an economic nature, that it is for all of us to set aside our differences, to ameliorate dissention and to make sure that in the development of the concept of bilingualism people are not injured. This, of course, is the great problem, when you take a good idea and apply it people are injured. This has been the problem that has caused anxiety to many, many Canadians.

I listened with interest to the hon. member for Témiscamingue (Mr. Caouette). I cannot say his resolution commends itself to me or to my colleagues. It seems to me that to follow the course which he has mapped out, to support the resolution which he has advanced would, for a long time to come, give firmness and fabric to the very thing we do not want in this country, that is the continuation of the two solitudes, an expression that a distinguished Maritimer and great author used some years ago. I think we should be standing together and we should be governing the country together.

Not all of us will speak the same tongue. I notice that most people in this debate have expressed some of their remarks in English and some in French. I am not so confident of national unity that I would attempt to speak in French! I commend the present Leader of the Opposition who has become bilingual, and I commend members in the Social Credit Party for what they have done in this regard. But, as for their resolution, we do not want to preserve, to jell, the separation of our groups. We want to find ways where meaningfully we can work together to make the country the land of all, regardless of background. This surely was the vision of those who met in Charlottetown and Quebec City; this is what it was about.

I never liked to hear this expression "the patriation of the constitution"; I maintain the expression is "repatriation" because the constitution was made in Canada by Canadians, by people of the dominion and it was only a technicality that caused it to be processed in Britain. It was our achievement, by our great men of the nation, of the dominion. At times like this we have to be on the alert for those things which would divide that unity, which would diminish that entity, which was created by our political forefathers, men of wisdom, men of reason, men of understanding, men of broad vision. We must keep these visions of tolerance and understanding. These are the keynotes, these are what are called for in difficult days. In its application, bilingualism is difficult. People will be inconvenienced and worse, but we must set our eyes upon a high and noble goal and we must work together for it.

The hon. member for Rocky Mountain (Mr. Clark) was wondering about the motives of this resolution. I profoundly hope that no one introduced this measure as a device to diminish the effectiveness of my political party. I profoundly hope that this is not the case but I am in a position to say—and I am not a stripling in the party any more—that any one who had that illusion was totally wrong. Our party is not a newcomer when it comes to concern for national unity. Down through the ages we have held beliefs and initiated practices that put us in the position where we have to take a back seat to no other group. Not that I am boasting that we are better than others or that we have more regard, but we have not been unmindful of those things which unite rather than divide the country.

In conclusion, I am happy to say that we are led by a man, the present Leader of the Opposition, who, while he may be short on charisma is long on character and who will give that kind of leadership in his present role as well as a role which will come his way before long I think, that will cause Canadians of all backgrounds and different languages to be confident that he is a fit and proper repository of their confidence, a man who has the statesmanlike qualities which marked men like Macdonald and Laurier, men of moderation and goodwill who have generally been the people in whom the Canadian people have reposed their confidence for the longest periods.

So, Mr. Speaker, while I have noted and deplored some of the irritating features of this matter, I renew my commitment to the principle of bilingualism. May it be a hopeful factor for building a better Canada; may it be a factor causing all Canadians to feel that this indeed is a land worthy of their confidence, worthy of continuing fidelity. I hope we will not soon again have to be asked to renew our belief in something which most of us made clear only a few years ago. Let us say that now the issue has been settled, let us make bilingualism work with fairness with justice, with efficiency for all.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

● (1630)

Mr. Bill Knight (Assiniboia): Mr. Speaker, my colleagues tell me they are all behind me, and I shall feel secure—until I turn round. Being the whip of my party, I have sometimes tried to convince members not to take part in a debate in order to allow quick passage of a bill or resolution. However, in this debate I understand their feelings when they say they wish to speak. Having listened to the debate on this resolution, I feel that there is room and need for some of us who represent western prairie areas to express our feelings and opinions, in view of some of the remarks which have been made in this House.

I want to make my position perfectly clear. I do and will support the Official Languages Act. I do and will support the resolution presently before the House, even, I might add, if my party were of a contrary opinion to the one it presently holds, and they are not of that contrary opinion. Some speakers in this chamber have questioned our sincerity in debating this measure at this time. There is no greater question that this one relating to the unity of our country and its future. Any matter relating to that, whether it be the resolution concerning employment in the public service or the Official Languages Act, ought, without doubt, to be debated in this House when necessary.

There are in this House fellow westerners whose opinions I have respected over the years. Included among them is the right hon. member for Prince Albert (Mr. Diefenbaker). I have always admired and respected him in his pursuit of his political career. Let me point out to them why it is necessary to debate this kind of resolution. In the past, authority has been exercised in such a manner that the relevance of this House has been brought into question by members, particularly by the right hon. member for Prince Albert, who has complained about the erosion of the powers of parliament. Therefore, I am pleased to see this resolution openly and freely debated in the House. I believe it is a resolution of importance and significance. I know of no place other than parliament where this question can be so effectively debated. Certainly, in this House we consider questions relating to national unity and questions of an economic nature. For a long time my party has espoused or proposed certain changes in our economic system in an attempt to solve those problems that divide our country on economic grounds. I will continue speaking on that subject as well, as I am sure the Minister of Regional Economic Expansion (Mr. Jamieson) is well aware.

The hon. member for Hillsborough (Mr. Macquarrie) made an excellent speech today and enunciated the position that ought to be taken by members of parliament of this country and by the people of Canada generally. On our national coat-of-arms, if one cares to call it that, one will see a slogan that, translated, reads "From sea unto sea". Sometimes, in listening to debates in the House, in listening to my constituents and to people from all across Canada, I have felt that one word ought to be added to that motto—toleration. Our motto ought to read, "Toleration from sea unto sea". This nation cannot continue to exist if the two founding races, and the other races which have come to this country,—I use those words in a proper way—cannot learn to work together and function in an atmosphere of toleration. I believe that if one is a student, as I am, of Canadian history, one will find that this nation is unique. That cannot be denied.

I fear for its economic future because of foreign control and ownership of our resources. But Canada has maintained its identity as an independent nation of North America by reason of the operation of certain social and cultural forces. There are varied elements in our population. They are different. I believe that the difference of our cultural development, the difference of outlook, the difference in our social input, if you like, is to be attributed to the influence of the French fact, if one cares to call it that, in Canada. The fact that 7 million people living in one province use a language different from that in common use in North America, the fact that in areas like Saskatchewan there are thousands of French Canadians who are still adept at expressing themselves in French and in English, has, above all else in this country, helped us to maintain ourselves as an independent nation, as a nation together, instead of as a nation swallowed up by the United States of America. I have been talking about cultural matters and not economic matters. The cultural aspect of our country is, as I said, tremendously important in keeping this country together.

This resolution before the House, which I support, clarifies some aspects of bilingualism, as that relates to the public service. In this connection I wish to read an article written by Mr. Carson. The headline is "Bilingualism in the public service". I shall read this to show why I hold the view I do. It reads in part:

> We have undertaken, and will continue to undertake, programs aimed at attracting an increased number of French-speaking Canadians into the public service. We are very mindful of the fact that in the past, French-speaking Canadians have not had an even break when it came to being considered for a job in the public service. The current population of the service in the key occupations—the executive, scientific and profession, administration and foreign service, and technical categories—is 67,661. Of that total, 55,324 or 81.8 per cent are English-speaking and 12,337 or 18.2 per cent are French-speaking.
>
> Given that the population breakdown in the country at large is about 28 per cent French-speaking to 72 per cent English-speaking, I would venture to say that much remains to be done before we can truly say that the public service is representative of the two main linguistic groups in Canada . . .
>
> The overwhelming and traditional anglophone influence in the public service generates enough pressure to actually work against equal opportunity for French-speaking Canadians competing for jobs in the public service. Special recruitment programs help to counteract such pressure. During 1971, for example, 589 university students were recruited under the regular program, 449 of whom were English-speaking and 140 of whom spoke French as their mother tongue but were sufficiently bilingual to work in English, as we have traditionally required. One can see that our regular recruitment programs are not enough to attract and engage a sufficient number of French-speaking Canadians to offset this influence. With the addition of a special recruitment program, the French-speaking university recruitment total was raised to 398—not enough to redress the balance, but a step in the right direction.

The figures used show why the Parliament of Canada needs to deal with the problem respecting bilingualism in the Public Service. I believe that many problems were created because of the manner in which the government tried to implement its program in this regard in the last three or four years. Now, because of the result of the October 30 election, and because this is a minority parliament, the government has asked this House to express itself on a resolution, in an attempt to straighten out or accommodate the situation within the public service. I believe the resolution should be given full support. I commend the leader of my party for his position, other members of my party and other members of the House as well, who, as I do, support the resolution.

● (1640)

If we are to examine the future of this country, we have to recognize that this federal system has reached the position where in the next decade or so it must truly accommodate the fact that this is a bilingual nation, the fact there are two founding races, English and French. There must be tolerance to allow resolutions such as this to be discussed in parliament and by the public in a sound and rational manner in order to allow a continuing growth, not a tearing apart of this dominion of Canada.

I wish to deal with one aspect of this question which may interest members who participate in this debate. Some members have mentioned that unilingual French Canadians have difficulty getting jobs in the Public Service of Canada. I notice that most grievances filed under the Official Languages Act have been from unilingual Canadians of French background. Some hon. members, including a colleague on this side of the House, spoke of English Canadians who have become very angry because a

position has been designated as bilingual. They thought the program was all wrong. Therefore, there are these two forces creating tension.

In western Canada there are large settlements of French Canadians whose ancestors were pioneers. For example, in my constituency there are 4,000 to 6,000 individuals whose mother tongue is French. Some of the leaders in their society have a different view toward the Official Languages Act. Originally, they did not think it was very effective. They thought it was merely an attempt to get Quebec to feel part of this nation. Even though the area in which they live has been designated as a bilingual district, they thought the Language Act was a sop to Quebec and they were being left out of the picture. These people have struggled to maintain their group, as have many other groups in the province of Saskatchewan. These people have the only bilingual school that I am aware of in the province of Saskatchewan. They have had to fight constantly in terms of dollars and cents to keep that college in operation. I have never been more proud of a situation than when I attended the graduation ceremonies at College Mathieu three weeks ago. That is an example of a bilingual school teaching the two official languages of this country. Students were able to make their addresses and replies to different toasts and so on in the two official languages. That is an example of the kind of development there ought to be in Canada in terms of the use of another language by both major groups.

I realize that the party across the way has moved an amendment. I will cease my discussion on this matter as I am sure they wish to have more members participate. I will end on this note. The most important aspect of this question is for those of us who believe in tolerance and accommodation to accept that moral obligation. We must express that toleration and accommodation by supporting the principles and the carrying out of the Official Languages Act in a just and judicial manner. We must listen, conciliate and, at times, compromise. We must ensure that that accommodation and tolerance operate to maintain national unity in this country of Canada, which all of us want to see continue to exist.

[*Translation*]

Mr. André Fortin (Lotbinière): Mr. Speaker, since the beginning of the debate on the motion introduced by the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau), with a view to reopening a meaningless debate on bilingualism, I dreaded with some bitterness taking part in it because it seemed abnormal to me that in 1973, after a federal election, we should have to come back to the question of bilingualism in Canada.

Mr. Speaker, the main motion which gave rise to this debate and prompted our leader, the hon. member for Témiscamingue (Mr. Caouette), to move his motion a moment ago, is in my opinion—especially after listening to several speakers in this House—a device used by the great political parties, among others, to save face. That seems to me to be the purport of all the speeches I have heard.

● (1650)

I remember that after the election of October 30, 1972, in which the government had lost an almost unprecedented majority, the right hon. Prime Minister accused the Progressive Conservatives of having made contradictory statements during the election campaign on the Canadian language problem; he said that at that time threats had been made on both sides and that in the Speech from the Throne, he would propose a resolution on bilingualism to settle this matter.

Now, this resolution was tabled in April and it is under study. The more I read it, Mr. Speaker, the more I find it unacceptable, hard to understand and to support. In fact, this motion does not change anything at all.

We must understand that a law called "Official Languages Act" has already been before Parliament. We must also understand that all the departments, since 1968, are governed by the bilingual policy generally based on the requirements of the Official Languages Act which was adopted by this Parliament and which recognizes an equal status to the two languages in the Civil Service and in Canada.

The departments are also guided by the Public Service Employment Act, the Translation Bureau Act and by the policy and directives set up by government.

But, before continuing, Mr. Speaker, I should like to say that the position of the Commissioner of Official Languages was created, as well as inquiry commissions. There was the Coulombe inquiry, within the Treasury Board. There was the Royal Commission on Bilingualism and Biculturalism that spent millions of dollars to learn what language people were speaking in Canada. It was discovered that in some regions of the country, people spoke English and that in others, they spoke French.

Since then, one concept is replaced by another: the concept of two nations, the concept of one nation, Francophones versus Anglophones, and we say: The others are to blame.

Within the various departments, within the Public Service, official statistics readily prove that not only is there no progress being made, but that several departments are moving backwards.

I know that many government members or others will say: That is not true. Then I will refer them to *Hansard* for Wednesday, May 16, 1973. As a result of such findings, our party has been prompted for a number of years to move a positive motion, and we will support it all the way.

Let us take the case of the National Defence Department. The minister will rise in the House and stand up for his department saying that bilingualism there is a fantastic achievement and that they spend thousands of dollars for that purpose. Let us read question No. 482 put on order paper by the hon. member for Richmond (Mr. Beaudoin) regarding the National Defence Department, and I quote:

> 2. What number and total percentage of that department's employees are (a) English unilingual (b) French unilingual (c) bilingual?

Here is the answer:

> 2. On 31 December, 1972, there were (a) 61,960 (76%) unilingual Anglophones (b) 10,422 (13%) unilingual Francophones . . .

Let us consider, for instance, the Manpower and Immigration Department and the significance of our motion will be obvious. Some day we will have to bow to facts.

I go on quoting:

2. What number and total percentage of that department's employees are (a) English unilingual (b) French unilingual (c) bilingual?

Now, regarding the Department of Manpower and Immigration, despite the Official Languages Act, promises and pious wishes from this and preceding governments, are we to believe that this department does not have such information? It does not know how many of its employees are unilingual English, unilingual French and bilingual. It does not know and I would be curious to hear the minister (Mr. Andras) tell us what he thinks about the bilingualism possibilities, progress of bilingualism and respect for both languages in his department.

The reply is this and I quote:

The information is not available from departmental records.

Yet, in the very same department, $111,000 were invested in 1970-71 for bilingualism, but bilingualism for whom, Mr. Speaker, if no one has not even any information available, if it is not even known who has been following these courses? What was the classification of the employees who took this course?

Do you realize that this department which spent $174,000 to develop bilingualism during fiscal year 1971-72, and which will spend $671,000 during fiscal year 1972-73, does not even know how many of its employees speak only French or English, and how many are bilingual?

To speak plainly, this is a policy worthy of an ostrich. This motion which has been presented to divert people and continue to divide Canadians, will solve nothing. On the contrary. The civil servant whose rights have been encroached upon and who tries to avail himself of this motion will eventually realize that, because it is only a declaration of principles, this motion has no legal value in court.

Mr. Speaker, for the Department of Manpower and Immigration to spend $671,000 on bilingualism without actually knowing the number of civil servants taking these courses is a disgrace.

Let us take for instance the Department of Labour. Maybe we shall finally find a department that works? Same question: Unilingual English-speaking employees:

2. a) 482, 71.4 per cent;

Unilingual French-speaking employees:

b) 1;

This means that bilingualism applied at the expense of French-Canadians through those courses, and this is unilateral. As the hon. member for Témiscamingue stated earlier, the opportunities for becoming bilingual are much greater—at any rate they are disproportionate—for the English-speaking civil servants than for the French-speaking employees.

I could keep on quoting those statistics, but anyone can read. I will conclude with the Department of National Health and Welfare which is not only unable to say how many of its employees are unilingual English-speaking, unilingual French-speaking or bilingual but the answer is, as recorded on page 3821 of *Hansard* of May 16, and I quote:

[Mr. Fortin.]

2 and 3. Employees may only be considered as officially bilingual on the basis of having successfully completed the Public Service Commission second language proficiency test and met all standards set for their particular work category. Since this test is not compulsory, there may be certain persons who are in fact bilingual and who are not counted as such. However for the purpose of this question, all employees not bilingual, are considered to be unilingual.

These civil servants have certainly had a bright idea when they concocted this answer. And again I quote:

. . . There is at present, no basis for officially identifying unilingual French or unilingual English employees. The information requested in paragraphs 2 and 3 were not available before 1971. Listed below are the data . . .

This is the dead-end you reach with this bilingual policy advocated by the right hon. Prime Minister who is trying to turn French-speaking people into English-speaking people and vice versa whereas it would be so simple to leave everyone as they are and at a much lesser cost.

● (1700)

Mr. Speaker, an article published in *Le Devoir* of October 19, 1972 read as follows:

The federal government's program for the teaching of a second language has been an almost complete failure during the 1966-71 period.

Regardless of the method used to assess the results, it is obvious that the program was highly ineffective and awfully expensive.

This is borne out by a report . . .

An hon. Member: Give your references.

Mr. Fortin: Yes, Mr. Speaker. I am quoting from *Le Devoir* of October 19, 1972.

I go on reading:

. . . a report of 300 pages completed in April 1972 by Mr. André Beaudet for the Treasury Board's task force on bilingualism.

"The Language Bureau's operation costs for those five years actually reached a sum of $54 million . . .

—namely $29,000 for each public servant. And for other public servants known as "senior officials" because they run the government, it cost $55,000 for each to become sensitized to the other culture in Toronto. Mr. Speaker, this clearly leads us nowhere.

The purpose of our motion is this: Instead of trying to make an Anglophone out of a Francophone and vice versa, we want Anglophones and Francophones to be at their place in the Public Service, without prejudice to the career or promotion of either because of their language.

It is ridiculous to base competence on the bilingual factor, Mr. Speaker. Competence should be based instead on the knowledge of the individual and his superior or average ability, but not on bilingualism.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to clarify a point of our policy. Yesterday I was discussing this motion with my Liberal colleagues who said: "Parallel services do not make any sense." Mr. Speaker, to answer those who are over-critical it is obvious that a policy of parallel services is difficult to implement, for example, in the Department of External Affairs. When we are dealing with the Chinese, we surely speak their language. Money knows no language, Mr. Speaker. If our department is dealing with the Secretary of State for External Affairs, it is surely with the department and not with a branch. We are referring to all the

federal departments or Crown corporations dealing with the public. We want those departments to be separate, one French-speaking and the other English-speaking. It does not harm anyone and we would be upholding the rights of everyone.

When I hear in the House speeches on national unity, on this magnificient and vast country, Canada, on the importance of speaking the two languages, of course I agree, Mr. Speaker. As the hon. member for Témiscamingue stated, we should do so in the early school years, we should give language training in the two languages in the schools, and the federal government could surely play an important role in the financing of this training. But we realize now that when a member of parliament or any citizen has any business to conduct with any department, and obtains a reply in English, that, Mr. Speaker, becomes unacceptable, when we know the costs of bilingualism.

What will it cost to remain oneself? When French-speaking people communicate with the Department of Veterans Affairs, once our motion is agreed to, it is absolutely sure that they will be served in their own language by this department and that they can deal in French at all levels, even if they speak to the deputy-minister.

What will that cost, Mr. Speaker? No more than the present system, under which we flounder and have to work out percentages to know if there is progress or recession, while national unity wavers.

Mr. Speaker, I had a very unfortunate experience a month and a half ago when I went before the Canadian Transport Commission to stand up for some of our students. The Minister of Transport (Mr. Marchand) is going to say that he is not responsible for the Commission. But sooner or later someone will have to say he is responsible for something as far as the Commission is concerned.

I was unable to meet with anyone at the Canadian Transport Commission who spoke my language. I had to come back to my office and find someone who was bilingual on our floor. This person is fluent in both languages, better than I am. I should like to master both languages but it is a matter of time and I want to keep my own identity. In any case, I went back to the Canadian Transport Commission with this translator. The Commission could not even provide an interpreter. I was ashamed because I was accompanied by ten students and none could speak English, because they had all grown-up in a French-speaking community. And yet these young people were penalized because they spoke French, in the same way as a unilingual Francophone who would like to apply for employment with the civil service.

The fact that the applicant can speak both languages will be used as a proficiency criterion and he will be required to speak English adequately, otherwise preference will be given to a unilingual Anglophone or to a bilingual whose mother tongue is English.

Mr. Speaker, as long as we stand such a discrimination, as long as we are satisfied with pious wishes, as long as we play politics at the expense of French Canadians, we will contribute to dividing the country.

I heard Progressive Conservative members say that the Prime Minister's motion was meaningless and then they introduced a motion suggesting that this meaningless measure be written into law. Mr. Speaker, this is their kind of logic.

The Liberals who find it funny are no better. They present a motion which, they say, will solve all problems, but about which the Progressive Conservatives say: If it is that good, write it into law, and then they are against it because they do not want it to become law.

For five days now we have been wasting our time. Pretentious speeches have been made but it remains that discrimination still exists within departments and Crown corporations. The fact is that if some progress has been made in the House with regard to bilingualism, it is because some men have stood up; as long as men, in this government or in the following ones, do not really stand up—it is not a matter of taking anything away from people but of seeing to it that these linguistic rights are truly respected—we will get nowhere.

This is why we are advocating the respect of cultural entities in Canada, the respect of languages and of every citizen within the Civil service. We are advocating a policy whereby, at any time of the night or day, any Canadian citizen, from the Pacific to the Atlantic, can communicate with his government, with a department—

Mr. Marchand (Langelier): Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Boulanger): Order please. The hon. Minister of Transport on a point of order.

Mr. Marchand (Langelier): I merely wish to point out to the hon. member for Lotbinière (Mr. Fortin), that if he did not meet any French Canadians when he went to the Transport Commission, it was not because there were not any. I have here a list of the Commissioners. There is Mr. Guy Roberge, a very good French-Canadian, who is vice-president; Mr. Laval Fortier, also a French-Canadian commissioner and Mr. Talbot also, formerly with National Harbours. The hon. member was really unlucky not to meet any because there are some.

Mr. Fortin: Mr. Speaker, I thank the hon. minister for his information, but if he knows his department so well, we will be able to speak of it to him.

To question No. 473 published in the *Hansard,* which reads in part as follows:

What number and total percentage of that department's employees are (a) English unilingual (b) French unilingual (c) bilingual?

The following answer was given:

(a) English unilingual, 12,360, 80 per cent; (b) French unilingual, 1,558, 12 per cent.

● (1710)

To the fourth part of the question which reads in part as follows:

. . . what was the total budget allocated for the development of bilingualism in that department?

The answer is, and I quote:

4. Total budget allocated for development of bilingualism is available only for the following years: 1969-70, $92,280; 1970-71, $59,100; 1971-72, $324,754; 1972-73, $976,900.

Surely that time, I went to the Canadian Transport Commission, and I was not lucky, Mr. Speaker, for I would have liked to see at least the result of an investment of almost $1 million for bilingualism, which I was not able to do. It would have been much easier for the Canadian Transport Commission to have a French-speaking section so that there would not have been any kind of problem.

Mr. Speaker, this seems extremely important to me. A lot of things might be said about this motion, but let us think seriously about it.

In an article by Claude Ryan in the paper *Le Devoir*, on June 1, 1973—it is sometimes a good thing to draw inspiration from people who observe the situation from outside and some people might be surprised to hear that members of the Social Credit Party read *Le Devoir*—one can read about the present policy of the government, and I quote:

this policy, when considered without any partisanship, represents a strategic withdrawal more than anything else . . .

Not only does the government reserve for itself the exclusive use of a capital document which belongs to all hon. members, but it asks the House to vote on the future of bilingualism without stating itself its own approach to concrete problems which exist in this area . . .

As long as this reality will not be more clearly admitted, we will likely waste—as has been the case for seven years—millions of dollars in programs of linguistic dusting which will always have restricted results . . .

Mr. Speaker, since they came to this House the Creditists have fought for the respect of French. When you consider that during one hundred years the Standing Orders in this House were in English only, that is a real shame. And I am ashamed of those Quebec members who represented us here and never dared to stand up and demand a translation.

Mr. Speaker, it is not out of bitterness that we demand equal rights for both languages. It is strictly because it seems abnormal to us to have to fight for the respect of a language. It seems to be a natural and legitimate right and we should not be fighting for something so essential, so vital and so human.

All Canadian citizens have the right to be served in their mother tongue. All Canadian citizens under the Canadian Bill of Rights are equal before the law, but they are not treated equally—in spite of the fact that the bilingualism policy is costing millions of dollars—when they approach departments or Crown corporations.

How many more years will we have to wait before we realize that the bilingualism policy will always have to be brought up again, that it does not really serve the interests of both languages? The cost of making a public servant who is 35 or 40 bilingual is $29,000, and even then the results are patchy, some are often so hard-headed that it cannot be done. Mr. Speaker, even if we spend $55,000 to teach the other culture to a public servant, when that public servant reaches 50, he will not be able to transmit his knowledge to his replacement. We will have to start all over again.

That is why, Mr. Speaker, I am surprised to see that when public servants are hired now, they are judged according to their linguistic knowledge, and preference is given to those who are bilingual, so that French-speaking unilinguals—the majority in Quebec—hardly has a chance to get a job in those departments, so that we will always go around in circles and continue to divide Canadians among themselves.

Mr. Speaker, the motion we introduced today is a valid one: it is positive and also suggests a solution to that problem.

We do not want to take anything from the English-speaking Canadians but we would like them to recognize the same rights to French-speaking Canadians.

Mr. Speaker, it is only at that cost that every Canadian citizen will really feel at home in his country. When I am in Toronto I expect to have to speak English. When a Torontonian comes to Victoriaville, my home town, he expects to have to speak French, but when the Torontonian or someone from Victoriaville calls upon a department they expect to be served in their mother tongue. And, Mr. Speaker, the easiest way to satisfy that legitimate right of those two Canadians who are equal before the law would be to give the French-speaking Canadian unit and the English one an English unit, so that both would be treated on an equal basis.

Before I resume my seat, Mr. Speaker, I would like to say I am eager to see this Parliament put an end to its division over matters of languages when such matters are already established facts—and that we discuss serious problems.

Bilingualism, Mr. Speaker, is obviously a serious and very important problem. This is why we are moving a positive and constructive motion to solve this problem. But, we will not do it by speaking for days and days about languages, by moving motions that mean absolutely nothing and have no value legally.

I would like the hon. Minister of Transport (Mr. Marchand) to indicate to me what would be the use of such a motion. Let us suppose that there is an obvious injustice within a department, that an appeal is lodged as provided for in the Public Service Commission Act and that this civil servant wants to protect himself, will he be able to use that motion to defend himself? No, and the hon. minister must admit it. This is true, as the game we are playing here settles absolutely nothing. It is nothing more than small vengeance by the right hon. Prime Minister against Higher Canada and, Mr. Speaker, that does not mean anything.

In any event, I sincerely hope that all my colleagues in the House will read this motion, consider it in depth and pass judgment on its merits. If we do it in a non partisan objective manner, I believe, Mr. Speaker that all Canadians will derive something positive from this debate. It would have been useful for once, to speak about languages, because we would then have had the assurance that every Canadian will be served in his own language, without depriving anybody of anything, but in respecting the equal rights of everyone.

[*English*]

Mr. Stan Schumacher (Palliser): Mr. Speaker, it appears that once again, as in the capital punishment debate, the government has, by threat, conjoling or otherwise, ensured that a certain number of members will be denied the right to express their ideas on a matter which, rightly or wrongly, is of great concern to a number of

people. I will, therefore, try to keep my remarks at a minimum. I am sure hon. members on the other side will appreciate that, in any event.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Boulanger): Order, please. I regret to interrupt the hon. member, but I think he should know there are no special rules in respect of a time limit on speeches in this debate. There is no special arrangement by which the hon. member would be limited to speaking only five minutes instead of 30 minutes or 40 minutes. That is not the situation.

Mr. Schumacher: I realize I am allowed 40 minutes, Mr. Speaker, but if I take that long I will be speaking from now until the vote is called, thereby being the last member to speak on this subject, and I would not like to be in that position. As a member who voted against second reading of the Official Languages Act, may I say I have no reason to regret that vote. I am only sorry that my fears concerning that legislation are being realized. The proof of that fact is that we are now engaged in this debate, less than four years after the proclamation of that legislation.

Speaking as a representative from western Canada, I would say there is no objection to, or resentment of, those persons of French origin in this country. In point of fact, western Canada was settled by people from every part of the world. We have learned to live with and judge one another for what we are, and by that I mean what we can do, what the value of our word is and the interest we take in our communities and neighbourhoods.

The fundamental fear of the bilingual program as administered by this government is simple; it is that the public service at the senior or executive level will be completely dominated by people, whether they be anglophone or francophone, from the Ottawa Valley, Quebec and northern New Brunswick. It has long been the belief in western Canada, and rightly so in my submission, that policy and administrative changes by any government are for the most part initiated by senior public servants. If artificial language requirements prevent westerners from occupying senior or executive public service positions, the apparent misunderstanding of our problems will continue and, in fact, grow.

Let us consider what is happening. Wheat has been sold by so-called experts too cheaply and too far in advance. The world price is now over $3 a bushel but we are still filling contracts at about $1.78 a bushel. A subsidy paid in the form of acreage payments is a subsidy to consumers of bread, because we are forced by a government decision to sell wheat on the Canadian market at about $1 below the international market price. Western farmers suffer low prices at a time when the international price is high. Last year the final, realized price was the lowest in the last 10 years, namely $1.59. When the last Conservative administration made an acreage payment, it was over and above the world price of wheat.

Let us consider the feed grain problem. The western farmer does not mind the government paying feed freight assistance, but he does object to his feed grain being sold at a price 12 cents a bushel less than world prices. Western cattlemen are concerned because their representations were not listened to when the government reduced tariffs on United States cattle coming into this country, thus lowering the price of their cattle by $1.50 per hundred pounds. At the same time, the government did not ask the United States to reciprocate by allowing our cattle to move just as freely into their market.

Some hon. Members: Order, order.

Mr. Schumacher: There is also the question of energy. We hear rumours or comments by the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources (Mr. Macdonald) that perhaps we should have a two-price system in order to lower the price of natural gas to Ontario and Quebec, and sell it at a higher price to the rest of the continental market. There is similar talk concerning oil. Reference has also been made to the fact that perhaps we should cut off or sharply reduce our exports of our surplus gas and oil in order to keep the price low in central Canada. The hon. Senator Maurice Lamontagne in a speech in the Senate said:

> Let's make a deal with the U.S.—trade our resources for markets for our manufactured goods.

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Order.

● (1720)

Mr. Schumacher: In other words, he suggested that we sell western Canada's wealth to maintain employment in eastern Canada. This is not too different from what Premier Lougheed and representatives of the other western provinces are complaining about today. Mr. Lougheed says that it is ludicrous and a farce to export jobs from the agricultural heartland of Canada to concentrate more people in the same crowded parts of Canada. He suggests that this makes no sense at all. The hon. member for York South (Mr. Lewis), Leader of the NDP, has said the same thing at various times with regard to the auto pact. Now, we are promised a western conference on transportation and economic opportunity.

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Order.

An hon. Member: You are making the wrong speech.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Boulanger): Order. I do not like to do this, but I must point out that we are not involved in a throne speech debate or in some other debate. We are involved in a very specific motion concerning bilingualism. I wish the hon. member would return to the subject matter of the resolution.

Mr. Schumacher: Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I am attempting to point out examples of what happens when you do not have representation in the public service from a certain area to make the views of that area known. The result is policy being formulated by a government which does not have any idea what is going on in a particular area. I suggest that if we continue to administer the bilingualism program in the way it has been administered in the past four years, these problems will continue to crop up. I am trying to point out what happens when we do not have the proper input from people who do not live in the golden triangle. That is the reason for these examples. I suggest that, politically, we in the west have endeavoured to put the point across. However, there is another part of the process, the public service, which is probably more important than the political aspect because

that is where policy is formulated. The result is that we end up with half-baked policies based on lack of knowledge of the area concerned.

Transportation is a very important element in the problems of Western Canada. The Prime Minister has recognized this and is willing to go to Calgary to talk about it. In 1967, it was pointed out to the government that agreed charges were bad, that captive shippers could never be proven and that public interest was difficult to prove. Having said all this, perhaps members can understand why fears and alienation will grow. Westerners have always felt that the government controlled their destiny to a greater extent than that of the people in any other part of Canada. We have seen the example of the government of Quebec opting out of very important programs. The government of Quebec appears to have arrived at a situation in which it has much more influence over the residents of that province than any other province has over its residents. Westerners have not opted out of anything. We are willing to participate but we want the opportunity to do so. This is why we are so concerned about the inability to have adequate representation at the senior level of the public service.

One could even say that this situation is the reason for the feeling that the west is continually being used by central Canada, because people from our area have a more difficult time getting to the top in Crown corporations, in the armed services and in the public service. In speaking of the armed services, I may say that we have four destroyers laid up now because the government says it cannot get people to man them. This statement is made at a time when there is supposed to be much unemployment in this country. One would think, in view of the pay scales of the armed forces, many people would be willing to take a secure and fulfilling job, but such people do not seem to be available. I wonder whether the bilingual program has anything to do with that.

Finally, in view of the Prime Minister's role in bringing about this debate at this time, I can only agree with the hon. member for Burnaby-Richmond-Delta (Mr. Reynolds) when he characterized an eating establishment in his area called "Sneaky Pete's" as being named after the Prime Minister.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

[*Translation*]

Mr. René Matte (Champlain): Mr. Speaker, I would like to make a few remarks before the amendment by the Leader of the Social Credit Party (Mr. Caouette) is put to the vote, because it is extremely important that all the members of this House know exactly what is its true significance.

Mr. Speaker, I am of course not questioning the intentions of the right hon. Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) when he put forward his motion on April 13. As I have said time and time again, it is the means to achieve the good intentions with which we do not agree, especially since we have the means not only to solve the language problem but also the constitutional problem.

[Mr. Schumacher.]

• (1730)

This will never be repeated often enough: The problem for French-speaking Canadians is not a problem of languages but a problem of participation. Since French Canadians want at all cost to feel truly at home in this country they want to participate in the preparation of laws and in the administration and management of the country. It is simple enough.

Even if we succeeded in turning the public service into a totally bilingual body, if a fair and reasonable proportion of French-speaking people are not employed we shall have settled nothing; in fact, we shall even have accelerated the division process in this country because when French-speaking Canadians will realize that they are being served in both languages but are only participating for 2, 3, or 4 per cent in the administration, they will be definitely convinced that the situation is hopeless. This is what we are trying to prevent.

In various fields this party has always been at the forefront and several years later our predictions turn out to be true. This has been happening for years, but when we are faced with the problem now before us we can no longer afford to say that this problem will be settled, that we are pioneers and that we shall settle it in 5, 10 or 20 years. Our proposal is so urgent that if we do not implement it almost immediately, I wonder where Canada is headed for.

All hon. members who have our unity at heart should most seriously consider the final settlement of this problem in Canada, to settle not a problem of language but a problem of participation.

If our objective were to enable each individual to achieve fulfilment, if it was admitted—not by paying lip service or by pious wishes—that Canada can subsist only through the active and effective participation of the francophone and anglophone communities, we would achieve something.

I am sure all my English-speaking colleagues recognize very well that Canada would not be Canada without the francophone element. Therefore it is in the interest of all my colleagues, be they from any Canadian province, to give francophones in this country the place they are entitled to. We are not asking more than that; we do not want to persecute anyone. On the contrary, we fully agree on the fact that all present public servants should keep not only the rights but the privileges they have acquired.

We agree to that. All we want is to enable now francophones to participate also on the administration level and it is by doing that that indirectly, as I said a while ago, we shall solve not only an administrative and language problem but also—and that is what is extremely important to me—a basic problem, namely that of a permanent harmony between the English and the French communities in this country.

It is in such a context that we have always examined that problem and we know objectively that it would become a secondary problem the moment the participation principle would be accepted.

That is why in paragraph 5 which is the major section of the amendment, one must see things as they are. Frankly, Mr. Speaker, is there a member in this House who could be

against such an amendment. In fact, we merely move, and I quote:

(5) that unilingualism cannot prevent a civil servant in the Canadian government from being eligible for senior positions;

Apparently then, we entirely agree with most civil servants.

I continue the quotation:

therefore, the government undertakes . . .

Once again, we are soft-pedalling and we would like to consider actually whether it would be possible—

. . . to set up, organize and implement a parallel administration, one English-speaking, the other French-speaking, in all departments of the federal government;

There would be no duplication of services nor overcrowding of the Public Service, since as explained in paragraphs (a)(b)(c) of the clause 5 of our amendment, both sections shall be proportional to the requirements of their respective administrative needs.

We entirely agree, Mr. Speaker, that in a given department in order to provide all services to our French-speaking people, we could need only 200 French-speaking employees as opposed to 1,200, 1,500 or 2,000 English-speaking. It could happen, depending on the services to be provided by a department.

This is then a matter of actual equality, and not of mathematical equality. This is a matter of equality according to human principles and the constitution.

Let us face it. Since we made that proposal, we have heard certain arguments from people who feared, for example, the cost of that duplication. Mr. Speaker, I am sure that the cost of such a system would probably be less than the actual cost of bilingualism, since, as it is stated in the Coulombe report, to make a public servant bilingual it costs $29,000 and to give him an insight into the other culture it costs $55,000; one knows that even if today an unilingual public servant became bilingual following those courses and the consequent expenses incurred by the government, that employee would not systematically and miraculously pass that on to others. It will be a perpetual new start and that is what we are against.

If we determine exactly what services should be provided to the French-speaking and English-speaking population of this country, and if we also determine the number of civil servants needed for each section, we are sure then of one thing: we are putting an end to the injustices that have been going on for years. And nobody would ever be dissatisfied, because those who wanted to be served in French would only have to contact the French department and those who wanted to be served in English would only have to contact the English department. Nothing could be simpler. It is like Columbus' egg. And like all simple things, it is not easy to accept. It seems too simple, because for years it has been unduly complicated, bilingualism has been overstressed at the expense of participation by the people.

Mr. Speaker, we can already foresee that if we had two departments, a French one and an English one, there would be a healthy competition that would enable all civil servants of either section to choose freely to become bilingual, not through any legal constraint but owing to the force of circumstances. This is one of the most essential freedoms; it should really be left to the free will of everyone who wants to be bilingual. Everyone recognizes this need.

Mr. Speaker, some might think that I, for example, am not bilingual. Of course, I am not perfectly bilingual, but I should say that I have tried to prove that the old story I have been hearing since childhood is not quite true. As a matter of fact, I was told over and over again that to get ahead, to be successful in any field, you had to be bilingual. That was the old story I used to hear when I was young, particularly in the province of Quebec.

● (1740)

Well, I have attempted to show that it was possible to be a Canadian while speaking French. Unfortunately today I have to bear the consequences of the principle I have tried to demonstrate and I am really anxious to be bilingual myself. But, Mr. Speaker, it is in that context that we see the problem. As I have said before, we are not motivated by emotion or spite but we are sure that we can offer a concrete solution which could at least be considered and furthermore which could really save Canada if we were to set up a system by which all French-speaking people in this country could participate in the management of the nation. That would depend only on their qualifications and therefore, there would not be anymore injustice. Is that not all what we want?

There already has been references to the "just society". It has been said already that we want for this country understanding, unity, and harmony. But why? To do that, Mr. Speaker, why do we not take the required steps? Why these further attempts with good intentions? Why are we frustrating the French-speaking Canadians by telling them that it is very difficult to change the civil service because it has been in existence for so many years—that is why people refer to it as an English-speaking establishment—and we must proceed slowly. They tried to implement certain changes after having passed the Official Language Act, but they realized that politically it was not good, and then they said: Let us back up a little bit, let us please the civil servants and then afterwards we shall see!

Mr. Speaker, once more, we do not take a pessimistic approach to the right hon. Prime Minister's intentions and these nine principles, these nine steps he wants to take to achieve his goal; it is not a matter of being pessimistic but we want to stop thinking in terms of wishes, pious hopes and even miracles. As a matter of fact, I read that if someone wants to obtain a bilingual position, he simply has to indicate his willingness to become bilingual.

We do not believe very easily in this gift of tongues. We do know that although this has already happened in the Cenacle for the Apostles, but we do not believe that to-day, a public servant may become bilingual just because he wishes to. That is too much!

That is the reason why, without trying to interfere with anybody's rights and privileges, we could do justice to French-speaking Canadians, and to English-speaking Canadians everywhere in this country, by merely adopting our amendment.

Mr. Speaker, when we mentioned this part of our political platform to our own party—I remember quite well, having presented it myself—our delegates from British

Columbia, Alberta and Manitoba told me: We are not only in agreement with this proposition, we are behind it 200%, which means that we may be the only political party with sympathizers in all parts of Canada and, whether in British Columbia, Newfoundland or Quebec, our message is always the same, thereby assuring all Canadians of the prospect of self-reliance and self-development, while maintaining their true identity.

Therefore, this is not a last minute amendment that we are proposing now but an amendment which has been thought out and which has already been proposed to our delegates from every part of this country who have adopted it right away. This is why, Mr. Speaker, we should like the government and all the hon. members to merely support it. Then they could rightfully claim the glory and honour of having not only settled the constitutional problem, but also the problem of Canada as a whole.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Laniel): Order, please. It being five forty-five o'clock, pursuant to special order made on Tuesday, June 5, 1973, it is my duty to interrupt the debate and to put forth every question necessary to dispose of the motion before the House.

Concerning the amendment, the Chair wishes to point out to the hon. member for Témiscamingue (Mr. Caouette) who had suggested the name of the hon. member for Champlain (Mr. Matte) as seconder of his motion, that the hon. member for Champlain had already taken part in the debate on the main motion; the Chair decided to substitute the name of the hon. member for Abitibi (Mr. Laprise).

The question is now on the amendment to the main motion.

All those in favour will please say yea.

Some hon. Members: Yea.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Laniel): Those against will please say nay.

Some hon. Members: Nay.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Laniel): In my opinion, the nays have it. Call in the members.

● (1750)

(Division No. 25)

YEAS

Messrs:

Allard
Beaudoin
Caouette (Charlevoix)
Caouette (Témiscamingue)
Dionne
Fortin
Gauthier (Roberval)
Godin
Lambert (Bellechasse)
Laprise
Matte—11.

NAYS

Messrs:

Alexander
Alkenbrack
Allmand
Andras
Andre
Arrol

Messrs:

Atkey
Baker
Baldwin
Balfour
Barnett
Basford
Bawden
Beatty (Wellington-Grey-Dufferin-Waterloo)
Béchard
Bégin (Miss)
Bell
Benjamin
Blackburn
Blais
Blaker
Blenkarn
Blouin
Boulanger
Breau
Brewin
Broadbent
Buchanan
Caccia
Cafik
Caron
Carter
Chrétien
Clark (Rocky Mountain)
Clarke (Vancouver Quadra)
Clermont
Coates
Comtois
Corbin
Corriveau
Cossitt
Côté
Crouse
Cullen
Cyr
Danforth
Danson
Darling
Davis
De Bané
Demers
Dick
Dinsdale
Douglas
Drury
Dubé
Dupont
Dupras
Duquet
Ellis
Epp
Ethier
Fairweather
Faulkner
Firth
Fleming
Forrestall
Foster
Fox
Frank
Gauthier (Ottawa East)
Gendron
Gilbert
Gillespie
Gillies
Gleave
Goyer
Grafftey
Gray
Grier
Guay (St. Boniface)
Guay (Lévis)
Guilbault
Haidasz
Hales
Haliburton
Harding
Hargrave
Harney
Hees
Herbert
Higson
Hollands
Holmes
Hopkins
Horner (Crowfoot)
Horner (Battleford-Kindersley)
Howard
Howie
Hueglin
Hurlburt
Hymmen
Isabelle
Jamieson
Jarvis
Jerome
Kempling
Knight
Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre)
Knowles (Norfolk-Haldimand)
Korchinski
Kuntz
Lachance
Laflamme
Lajoie
Lalonde
Lambert (Edmonton West)
Lang
Langlois
Laniel
La Salle
Lawrence
Leblanc (Laurier)
LeBlanc (Westmorland-Kent)
Lefebvre
Leggatt
Lessard
Lewis
L'Heureux
Loiselle
Lundrigan
MacDonald (Egmont)
Macdonald (Rosedale)
MacDonald (Miss) (Kingston and the Islands)
MacEachen
MacGuigan
MacInnis (Mrs.) (Vancouver Kingsway)
Mackasey
MacKay
MacLean
Macquarrie
Madill
Marceau
Marchand (Langelier)
Marchand (Kamloops-Cariboo)
Marshall
Masniuk
Mather
Mazankowski
McCain
McGrath
McKenzie
McKinley
McKinnon
McRae
Mitges
Morgan
Morin (Mrs.)
Muir
Munro (Esquimalt-Saanich)
Munro (Hamilton East)
Murta
Neale (Vancouver East)
Neil (Moose Jaw)
Nelson
Nesdoly
Nowlan
Nystrom
Oberle
O'Connor
Olaussen
Olivier
Orlikow
O'Sullivan
Paproski
Pelletier (Hochelaga)
Pelletier (Sherbrooke)
Penner
Peters
Portelance
Poulin
Prud'homme
Railton
Reid
Reilly
Reynolds
Ritchie
Roche
Rodriguez
Rompkey
Rooney

Messrs:

Rose
Roy (Timmins)
Roy (Laval)
Saltsman
Sauvé (Mrs.)
Schellenberger
Schumacher
Scott
Sharp
Skoreyko
Smith (Northumberland-Miramichi)
Smith (Saint-Jean)
Stackhouse
Stanbury
Stanfield
Stevens
Stewart (Marquette)
Stewart (Okanagan-Kootenay)
Stewart (Cochrane)
Stollery
Symes
Taylor
Thomas (Moncton)
Towers
Trudeau
Trudel
Turner (London East)
Turner (Ottawa-Carleton)
Wagner
Walker
Watson
Whelan
Whicher
Whittaker
Wise
Yanakis—226.

● (1800)

[*English*]

Mr. Speaker: I declare the amendment lost. The question is now on the main motion. Is it the wish of the House that we proceed with this division without the ringing of the bells?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

The House divided on the motion (Mr. Trudeau) which was agreed to on the following division:

(*Division No. 26*)

YEAS

Messrs:

Alexander
Allmand
Andras
Andre
Arrol
Atkey
Baker
Baldwin
Balfour
Barnett
Basford
Bawden
Beatty (Wellington-Grey-Dufferin-Waterloo)
Béchard
Bégin (Miss)
Bell
Benjamin
Blackburn
Blais
Blaker
Blenkarn
Blouin
Boulanger
Breau
Brewin
Broadbent
Buchanan
Caccia
Cafik
Caron
Carter
Chrétien
Clark (Rocky Mountain)
Clarke (Vancouver Quadra)
Clermont
Coates
Comtois
Corbin
Corriveau
Côté
Crouse
Cullen
Cyr
Danforth
Danson
Darling
Davis
De Bané
Demers
Dick
Dinsdale
Douglas
Drury
Dubé
Dupont
Dupras
Duquet
Ellis
Epp
Ethier
Fairweather
Faulkner
Firth
Fleming
Forrestall
Foster
Fox
Frank
Gauthier (Ottawa East)
Gendron
Gilbert
Gillespie
Gillies
Gleave
Goyer
Grafftey
Gray
Grier
Guay (St. Boniface)
Guay (Lévis)
Guilbault
Haidasz
Hales
Haliburton
Harding
Hargrave
Harney
Hees
Herbert
Higson
Holmes
Hopkins
Howard
Howie
Hueglin
Hurlburt
Hymmen
Isabelle
Jamieson
Jarvis
Jerome
Kempling
Knight
Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre)
Knowles (Norfolk-Haldimand)
Kuntz
Lachance
Laflamme
Lajoie
Lalonde
Lambert (Edmonton West)
Lang
Langlois
Laniel
La Salle
Lawrence
Leblanc (Laurier)
LeBlanc (Westmorland-Kent)
Lefebvre
Leggatt
Lessard
Lewis
L'Heureux
Loiselle
Lundrigan
MacDonald (Egmont)
Macdonald (Rosedale)
MacDonald (Miss) (Kingston and the Islands)
MacEachen
MacGuigan
MacInnis (Mrs.) (Vancouver Kingsway)
Mackasey
MacKay
MacLean
Macquarrie
Madill
Marceau
Marchand (Langelier)
Marchand (Kamloops-Cariboo)
Marshall
Mather
Mazankowski
McCain
McCleave
McGrath
McKinley
McKinnon
McRae
Mitges
Morgan
Morin (Mrs.)
Muir
Munro (Esquimalt-Saanich)
Munro (Hamilton East)
Murta
Neale (Vancouver East)
Nelson
Nesdoly
Nowlan
Nystrom
O'Connor
Olaussen
Olivier
Orlikow
O'Sullivan
Ouellet
Paproski
Pelletier (Hochelaga)
Pelletier (Sherbrooke)
Penner
Peters
Portelance
Poulin
Prud'homme
Railton
Reid
Reilly
Reynolds
Roche
Rodriguez
Rompkey
Rooney
Rose
Roy (Timmins)
Roy (Laval)
Saltsman
Sauvé (Mrs.)
Schellenberger
Scott
Sharp
Smith (Northumberland-Miramichi)
Smith (Saint-Jean)
Stackhouse
Stanbury
Stanfield
Stevens
Stewart (Okanagan-Kootenay)
Stewart (Cochrane)
Stollery
Symes
Thomas (Moncton)
Towers
Trudeau
Trudel
Turner (London East)
Turner (Ottawa-Carleton)
Wagner
Walker
Watson
Whelan
Whicher
Whittaker
Wise
Yanakis—214.

NAYS

Messrs:

Alkenbrack
Cossitt
Diefenbaker
Hollands
Horner (Crowfoot)
Horner (Battleford-Kindersley)
Korchinski
Masniuk
McKenzie
Neil (Moose Jaw)
Oberle
Ritchie
Schumacher
Skoreyko
Stewart (Marquette)
Taylor—16.

● (1810)

It being twenty minutes after six o'clock, the House adjourned, without question put, pursuant to Standing Order.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Thursday, June 7, 1973

The House met at 2 p.m.

[*Translation*]

HOUSE OF COMMONS

CORRECTION IN VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS FOR JUNE 6 RESPECTING BILL S-5

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. Page 379 of the Votes and Proceedings for yesterday reports that Bill S-5, an act to amend the Farm Improvement Loans Act

> . . . was deemed to have been read the first time and ordered for a second reading at the next sitting of the House, pursuant to Standing Order 100(2).

This is a public bill which was inadvertently treated as a private bill.

This entry will therefore be stricken from the Votes and Proceedings and Bill S-5 will appear on tomorrow's order paper under the heading "First Reading of Public Senate Bills".

* * *

[*English*]

PRIVILEGE

MR. HARNEY—REFERENCES BY MEMBER FOR ST. PAUL'S TO VOTE IN TRANSPORT COMMITTEE

Mr. John Harney (Scarborough West): Mr. Speaker, I rise on a question of privilege of which I have given Your Honour notice. It relates to remarks made by the hon. member for St. Paul's (Mr. Atkey) at the time of consideration of questions on the motion for adjournment on Tuesday night. As recorded on pages 4476 and 4477 of *Hansard*, there are two references by the hon. member to a vote which was taken in the transport committee. The first reference, as recorded on page 4476, was as follows:

> . . . or would he prefer to treat the opinion of the NDP on this issue, in view of their switch in position in committee, as indicative of public opinion.

Further, as recorded on page 4477, he said:

> . . . or will the government continue to push blindly ahead, bolstered by the votes in committee of NDP members who in a moment of utter hypocrisy voted on estimates to give the government the money to push ahead with this unnecessary project?

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Harney: My question of privilege is based on two points, Mr. Speaker. First, the hon. member's remarks are a reflection on a vote in a committee and as such are improper remarks to be made in the House. Second, the hon. member's remarks, particularly the second statement, involve an imputation of motives on the part of another member of the House.

The hon. member for St. Paul's can say anything he wishes outside the House about me, my colleagues or our votes in the House, but in this chamber he should respect the traditions of the House and neither reflect on a vote nor impute motives on the part of another member.

The substance of his imputation is that, although opposed to the building of the Pickering airport, I voted for the appropriation so that the government could go ahead and pay those people who wished to be expropriated. He is interested in supporting this as a change of position on my part that took place not only in terms of months but on the same day.

To end my point, I could very well in this House point out to the hon. member that he, in committee, in relation to his motion which he claims correctly I did not support, stated, as recorded on page 5:77 of Issue No. 5 of the Minutes of Proceedings and Evidence of the Standing Committee on Transport and Communications:

> Mr. Chairman, the members should be perfectly clear that this motion does not kill the Pickering airport.

It was clearly stated by him that his motion was not in opposition to the Pickering airport.

On this matter, Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask for a withdrawal of the hon. member's remarks of the other night.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Harney: I do not ask, Mr. Speaker, for an apology.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I wonder whether the hon. member could bring his remarks to a close. I think he has indicated what his question of privilege is and he should give the Chair an opportunity to make a ruling.

Mr. Harney: Yes, Mr. Speaker. I repeat, I ask for a withdrawal and not for an apology because an apology, just like an insult from the hon. member, is of no particular consequence to me.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member has referred to statements which were made in the House two days ago. He suggests that it is against the traditions, rules and practices of the House to reflect on a vote. Of course I am in agreement with him, as I am sure all hon. members are, and also that we cannot impute motives. But I do not think the hon. member is entitled on this basis to ask either for an apology or for a withdrawal. He has brought to the attention of the hon. member for St. Paul's and all other hon. members that it is irregular to refer to proceedings in a committee, to reflect on a vote or to impute motives. We are all agreed on this. I am sure the hon.

member for St. Paul's has noted the hon. member's reprimand.

● (1410)

Is the hon. member for St. Paul's rising? I would hope the hon. member would not pursue the matter. Will the hon. member resume his seat. I think there is a practice that an hon. member whose conduct is impugned or referred to in some way is given an opportunity to comment. I had not noticed that the hon. member wanted to rise. I think I owe it to him to let him say a few words, but I hope the matter will not be exacerbated and that we will not become involved in a long debate.

Mr. Atkey: Mr. Speaker, I will be very brief. My only suggestion is that the hon. member for Scarborough West (Mr. Harney) is very thin-skinned and sensitive.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[*English*]

TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Fourth report of Standing Committee on Transport and Communications—Mr. Horner (Crowfoot).

[*Editor's Note: For text of above report, see today's Votes and Proceedings.*]

* * *

HOUSE OF COMMONS

SOFTBALL GAME BETWEEN MEMBERS AND PROTECTIVE STAFF

Mr. J. H. Horner (Crowfoot): While I have the floor, Mr. Speaker, may I advise Your Honour that in the annual ball game last night between members of the House of Commons and the protective staff the House of Commons upheld its tradition by winning. May I recommend, Sir, that in the year ahead Your Honour consider hiring a pitcher, no matter what language he speaks, and pay him the 7½ per cent bonus. They might do better next year.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Speaker: The Chair will seek assistance from the Senate.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

[Mr. Speaker.]

AIR TRANSPORT

PACIFIC WESTERN AIRLINES APPLICATION TO SUBCONTRACT CERTAIN ROUTES—REQUEST FOR UNANIMOUS CONSENT TO MOVE MOTION

Mr. Frank Howard (Skeena): Mr. Speaker, I rise to seek the unanimous consent of the House to move a motion under Standing Order 43 on a matter of urgent and pressing necessity, namely, the arrangement by the Air Transport Committee of the Canadian Transport Commission for a public hearing in Vancouver on June 18 into an application by Pacific Western Airlines to subcontract some of its routes to other air carriers and the fact that the Air Transport Committee gave insufficient notice to those who may want to make some preparation and appear at that hearing. I therefore move, seconded by the hon. member for Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands (Mr. Douglas):

This House calls upon the Air Transport Committee of the Canadian Transport Commission to postpone its scheduled hearing relating to the request by Pacific Western Airlines to subcontract some of its routes in B.C., which hearing is scheduled to be held in Vancouver on June 18, in order that interested parties may have adequate opportunity to prepare for the hearing.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member's motion is proposed under the terms of Standing Order 43. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

Mr. Speaker: There is not unanimity. The motion cannot be put.

* * *

LABOUR RELATIONS

PROPOSED BANNING OF STRIKES IN PUBLIC SECTOR—REQUEST FOR UNANIMOUS CONSENT TO MOVE MOTION

Mr. Reg Stackhouse (Scarborough East): Mr. Speaker, pursuant to Standing Order 43 I rise on a matter of urgent and pressing necessity to ask leave of the House to move the following motion:

That in the opinion of this House, strikes should be banned from the public sector, that an industrial disputes commission be set up to deal with workers' grievances, that disputes in the public sector should be settled by arbitration, and that this matter be referred to the Committee on Labour, Manpower and Immigration.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member's motion is proposed under the terms of Standing Order 43. The Chair will inquire whether the hon. member has the unanimous consent of the House. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No!

Mr. Speaker: There are "Noes", and the motion cannot be put.

AGRICULTURE

DOMESTIC FEED GRAIN POLICY—REQUEST FOR UNANIMOUS CONSENT TO MOVE MOTION

Mr. A. P. Gleave (Saskatoon-Biggar): Mr. Speaker, I rise under the terms of Standing Order 43 to move a motion in a case of urgent and pressing necessity. The subject matter has to do with the declared intention of the government to bring in a new policy to govern the marketing of feed grain in the domestic market and the intention of the Minister of Transport and the Minister of National Health and Welfare to discuss this cabinet policy publicly before it has been presented to the House.

I would therefore move, seconded by the hon. member for Assiniboia (Mr. Knight):

That the Standing Committee on Agriculture meet forthwith and that the Minister of Agriculture place the proposed changes in feed grain marketing before the committee in order that such changes can be examined and discussed by the members of that committee.

Mr. Speaker: Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

Mr. Speaker: There is not unanimity, and the motion cannot be put.

* * *

[*Translation*]

MANPOWER

CRITERIA FOR EXTENSION OF LOCAL INITIATIVES PROJECTS—REQUEST FOR UNANIMOUS CONSENT TO MOVE MOTION

Mr. André Fortin (Lotbinière): Mr. Speaker, under Standing Order 43, I seek the unanimous consent of the House to move the following motion:

That a committee of the House made up of representatives of all political parties be established to clear up the matter of standards used to decide whether local initiatives projects should be extended; of persistent reports concerning political and partisan interventions with regard to the acceptance of such projects which reports bring discredit to the Local Initiatives Program and procedures used to review unilateral and arbitrary decisions of officials over which the responsible minister has effectively no control.

Mr. Speaker: The House has heard the motion of the hon. member. Under Standing Order 43, this motion requires the unanimous consent of the House. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Yes.

Some hon. Members: No.

Mr. Speaker: Consent is not unanimous; therefore, the motion cannot be put.

INCLUSION OF LEISURE TIME IN LOCAL INITIATIVES PROJECT—REQUEST FOR UNANIMOUS CONSENT TO MOVE MOTION

Mr. Jean-Marie Boisvert (Drummond): Mr. Speaker, pursuant to Standing Order 43, I request unanimous consent to rise on a matter of urgent and pressing necessity.

In view of the fact that the criteria allowing the extension of the local initiatives projects have been established on an unsound basis and that some very important ones, including that of the Sainte-Thérèse de Drummondville recreational activities, have been cancelled, I move, supported by the hon. member for Champlain (Mr. Matte):

That the House examine the possibility of accepting recreational activities as a criterion for extending Local Initiatives Projects in communities where the unemployment rate exceeds 6.8 per cent.

Mr. Speaker: The House has heard the hon. member's motion. Under Standing Order 43, this motion requires unanimous consent. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Yes.

Some hon. Members: No.

Mr. Speaker: There is not unanimous consent; therefore the motion cannot be put.

ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

[*English*]

AIR CANADA

ROTATING STRIKES BY MACHINISTS—SUGGESTED INTERVENTION BY GOVERNMENT IN VIEW OF BREAKING OFF OF NEGOTIATIONS

Mr. James A. McGrath (St. John's East): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Labour. In view of the fact that contract talks between Air Canada and the machinists union have been broken off, is the minister able to inform the House that the government is now prepared to intervene in this dispute?

Hon. John C. Munro (Minister of Labour): I cannot report to the House or to the hon. member on what further action will be taken as of the moment, simply because—

An hon. Member: You do not know!

Mr. Munro: —the talks broke off only a few hours ago. I am endeavouring to get full details as to the precise issues upon which the negotiations broke down and those issues on which there was agreement before deciding on what further efforts should be made toward mediation to bring the parties together.

● (1420)

Mr. McGrath: Mr. Speaker, if the minister had sat in on the talks perhaps he would be better informed. In view of the fact four or five more cities have been struck today and the president of Air Canada has announced that if rotating strikes continue they will have to close down

operations, and in view of the fact Air Canada has shown a substantial profit in the past year, the highest in its history, is the minister now prepared to recommend a settlement of this dispute, and is the government prepared to take a stand on what seems to be the very justified and reasonable wage demands of the Air Canada machinists?

Mr. Munro (Hamilton East): Mr. Speaker, if the hon. member is saying for himself and the Official Opposition that they have already taken a stand on the rights and privileges of the people involved in terms of what they feel they should be awarded, I must say that the government has not. We believe this is part of the free collective bargaining process. It is still going on. We believe in that process, and as long as we continue to believe in it we also believe in the right to strike for the employees affected.

Mr. McGrath: In view of the fact the free collective bargaining process has broken down, by the minister's own admission, and in view of the fact Air Canada is a publicly owned corporation owned by the people of Canada, is the minister, as the representative of the people of Canada, prepared to intervene in this dispute?

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Munro (Hamilton East): Mr. Speaker, if it is felt, either by myself or by the government, that personal intervention on my part would resolve the dispute, then of course that would be seriously considered.

Mr. G. W. Baldwin (Peace River): As a supplementary question I would like to ask the minister whether he has considered consulting with the Prime Minister to obtain permission to get the advice of the hon. member for Verdun, who had a reasonable amount of success in solving industrial disputes?

Mr. Munro (Hamilton East): Mr. Speaker, I would advise the hon. member that I am constantly getting advice, and it is always welcome, from the hon. member for Verdun.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Réal Caouette (Témiscamingue): Mr. Speaker, I wish to ask a supplementary question.

Since Air Canada is a Crown corporation and our friends of the New Democratic Party are strongly in favour of nationalization, would the minister consider the possibility of "re-nationalizing" Air Canada to end that conflict?

[*English*]

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The Chair will recognize the hon. member for Prince Edward-Hastings for a last supplementary on this matter, after which I will recognize the hon. member for Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands.

Hon. George Hees (Prince Edward-Hastings): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a supplementary question to the Minister of Labour regarding the possibility of his taking an active part in these negotiations. As his predecessor, the hon. member for Verdun, described himself as the Babe Ruth of the bargaining table, does the minister intend to step up to the plate or to remain sitting in the club house?

* * *

ENERGY

REASONS FOR DECISION TO INCREASE EXPORTS OF PROPANE TO UNITED STATES—PROTECTION OF CANADIAN CONSUMERS

Mr. T. C. Douglas (Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands): Mr. Speaker, may I address a question to the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources regarding the government's decision to allow three companies to double their exports of propane to the United States. In view of the fact this is merely another form of exporting natural gas, of which we do not have unlimited supplies for our own needs, I want to ask the minister what reasons motivated the government in reaching this decision?

Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): Mr. Speaker, in the report of the National Energy Board on this question they drew a distinction between propane which, for pipeline reasons, has to be extracted from the natural gas flow, and ethane, which does not. The decision of the board was that ethane should be treated differently from propane, that propane is a distinct commodity by itself, that there is a very substantial surplus of propane in Canada which, were it not for the order the board made, would be difficult to accommodate within Canadian domestic requirements at the present time, and because of the very substantial surplus of propane and the necessity of removing it from the gas stream it was felt by the board that the application should be allowed, as it was.

Mr. Douglas: Mr. Speaker, since the companies in question sought to reduce to less than half their shipments of propane to Canadian consumers while seeking to more than double their exports to the United States because of more attractive prices there, I want to ask the minister what steps he is taking to protect Canadian consumers of propane both with respect to price and guarantee of supplies?

Mr. Macdonald (Rosedale): Mr. Speaker, I regret I do not have the board's decision with me which points out that the application made was somewhat different from its disposition by the board, but the indication was that there was a very substantial surplus of propane which the board distinguished from natural gas, and for this reason export-import would be permitted. With regard to price, I do not have the details, but the hon. member will recall that the order was for five years only as opposed to the 20-year contract sought.

Mr. Douglas: Mr. Speaker, in view of the fact that all the board did was license the three companies to supply eastern consumers with propane, which is no assurance they will receive supplies or that they will not have the price raised because of higher prices in the United States, I should like to ask the minister whether he is prepared to take some steps to protect the consumers who, if the

original request had been acceded to, would have had their supplies in eastern Canada cut to less than half?

Mr. Macdonald (Rosedale): Mr. Speaker, as I said, I do not have the board's report in front of me, but I think the hon. member might do well to read the section on price, as I will again, and I will be glad to discuss that with him further.

POSSIBILITY OF PRICE CONTROLS IN LIGHT OF PRESENT OR FUTURE SUPPLY CRISIS OUTSIDE CANADA

Mr. Sinclair Stevens (York-Simcoe): Mr. Speaker, my supplementary question is also directed to the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources. If necessary, will the government resort to energy price controls to ensure that domestic prices of energy resources are not inflated by any crisis that may exist or may arise in the future in respect of energy supplies outside of Canada?

Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): Mr. Speaker, that was the subject of a debate in the House a week ago Monday, and my reasons still stand.

* * *

[*Translation*]

MANPOWER

LOCAL INITIATIVES PROGRAM—REPRESENTATION RESPECTING INCLUSION OF LEISURE TIME IN PROJECTS—EXTENSION BASED ON UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

Mr. Gilles Caouette (Charlevoix): Mr. Speaker, I want to ask a question of the hon. Minister of Manpower and Immigration.

Has the minister received lately representations or telegrams of protest from municipalities or community organizations concerning the refusal to extend local initiatives projects, one of which is in the field of recreational activities?

[*English*]

Hon. Robert K. Andras (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, such representations have not reached me personally, but I would not be surprised if some were in the mail somewhere and on the way now.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Caouette (Charlevoix): Mr. Speaker, I wish to ask a supplementary question.

Since the minister does not seem to be too well informed and extensions were to be authorized according to the unemployment rate in each region, and since the Saguenay-North Shore area unemployment rates at 20 per cent, can the minister assure us that he will take those applications into consideration and reverse the decisions of officials concerning recreational activities projects?

[*English*]

Mr. Andras: Mr. Speaker, I believe the premise of the hon. member's statement is somewhat incorrect. In addition to unemployment, as a factor, all the manpower centres have been instructed, in the further extension of the criteria, to give consideration to all projects in manpower centres where unemployment is below the national average, but these would be judged on their merits. In that regard, consideration is going on now; the final decisions are in the process of being made and I think should be completed by June 15.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I recognize the hon. member for Lotbinière for one or two supplementaries, then I will recognize the hon. Leader of the Official Opposition.

LOCAL INITIATIVES PROGRAM—ALLEGED DIRECTIVES FROM DEPARTMENT RESPECTING EXTENSION OF PROJECTS

Mr. André Fortin (Lotbinière): Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the Minister of Manpower and Immigration whether he has formally requested manpower centres to convey their recommendations concerning the renewal of certain projects and, if so, what are those recommendations?

[*English*]

Hon. Robert K. Andras (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, with regret, I think the suggestion is so general I would have to know more precisely from what particular person, sponsor, group of sponsors or community the application came, but if the hon. member would give me more specific details I would be very happy to enlighten him.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Fortin: Mr. Speaker, you have realized as I did that the minister did not get my question straight.

I would like to ask him whether an official memo has been forwarded by the department to manpower centres requesting their comments on the renewal of certain local initiatives projects?

● (1430)

[*English*]

Mr. Andras: Mr. Speaker, not in those precise terms. There are, of course, instructions to the manpower officers, or at least those particularly associated with the local initiatives program, based on the extension criteria, dollar amounts and other conditions about which I have informed hon. members in the House and in communication by letter.

* * *

TRANSPORT

INCREASE IN TONNAGE RATE CHARGED OCEANGOING VESSELS AT PORT OF VANCOUVER—JUSTIFICATION

Hon. Robert L. Stanfield (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask the Minister of Transport a question about the increase in the tonnage rates at the port of Vancouver on oceangoing vessels involving a switch from a charge based upon net tonnage to gross tonnage, resulting in an increase of about 60 per cent in the rates. Can the minister give in a very simple way the

justification for this increase as there cannot be a necessity for revenue in view of the profitability of the port of Vancouver.

[*Translation*]

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, I believe the 60 per cent figure is rather exaggerated, but even if it is, it represents a substantial increase. This increase was decreed so that the rates in Vancouver and Prince Rupert might be the same as in all other national harbours. This will provide a total additional income of $300,000 a year, and within the next two years we will be spending over $40 million in the port of Vancouver.

[*English*]

Mr. Stanfield: In view of the fact that the port of Vancouver is in intense competition with the port of Seattle, is the minister satisfied that this increase in the rate at the port of Vancouver will not put that port at a disadvantage with the port of Seattle which I understand is very actively competing for business now going to Vancouver?

[*Translation*]

Mr. Marchand (Langelier): Mr. Speaker, this is a matter we considered very seriously, and since the amount is not very high, that is about $300,000 a year, for the port of Vancouver, this amount should not affect it very much compared with the cost of the port of Seattle or other ports on the west coast of the United States.

[*English*]

INCREASE IN TONNAGE RATE CHARGED OCEAN GOING VESSELS AT PORT OF VANCOUVER—POSSIBLE INTENTION OF FURTHER SUBSIDY FOR NATIONAL HARBOURS BOARD

Mr. John Reynolds (Burnaby-Richmond-Delta): Mr. Speaker, would the minister inform the House whether he was aware that the port of Vancouver made a $1.2 million profit for the National Harbours Board last year and was one of the few profitable ports in the country? If so, would the minister tell the House whether the rate increase was consciously intended to subsidize further the National Harbours Board?

[*Translation*]

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, I have given the reason for that, namely that new rates at Vancouver and Prince Rupert will be exactly the same as in all other Canadian harbours.

* * *

[*English*]

FISHERIES

LOBSTERS—REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF SEASON IN DISTRICT 16, NOVA SCOTIA, BECAUSE OF ICE CONDITIONS

Mr. Robert Muir (Cape Breton-The Sydneys): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Fisheries. In light of the fact that as a result of severe ice conditions lobster fishermen in district 16 in Nova Scotia have suffered loss of income and fishing equipment, would the hon. gentleman give consideration to an extension of the season for a two-week period beyond the proposed closing date?

Hon. Jack Davis (Minister of Fisheries): Mr. Speaker, we will give serious consideration to an extension of the season, but my information varies with that of the hon. member. I am told that in that region the catch so far has been up to normal.

* * *

GRAIN

PRICES OF WHEAT SOLD TO RUSSIA AND CHINA IN FIRST QUARTER OF 1973

Mr. Jack Murta (Lisgar): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the minister responsible for the Canadian Wheat Board. Why is it that in the first quarter of 1973 Canadian wheat was sold to Russia at an average price of $1.73 a bushel and to China at an average price of $1.97 a bushel when the Wheat Board's own asking price at that time, basis Vancouver, was $2.97?

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Justice): Mr. Speaker, while as the hon. member knows it is not customary to comment on specific prices—

Mr. Baldwin: Not when it is embarrassing.

Mr. Lang: —because of the Wheat Board's wish that these be kept secret as a matter of commercial practice, I should like to say on this occasion to the hon. member quite flatly that no sales in those periods were made at those prices.

Mr. Hees: At what prices were they made then?

Mr. Murta: Mr. Speaker, if I might be permitted to inform—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member might like to ask a question rather than provide information.

Mr. Murta: In that case, Mr. Speaker, as I believe the information to be true because it was obtained from a book issued by Statistics Canada on exports by commodity—

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Murta: —I should like to ask the minister whether since in the case of Russia and China there was a difference between the Wheat Board's Vancouver asking price and the actual selling price of approximately $1.25 a bushel to $1 a bushel respectively, the Wheat Board was not conscious of the fact of what was happening in respect of world markets at this period in time?

Mr. Lang: Mr. Speaker, perhaps I might try to help the hon. member to understand—

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Hees: Just read Statistics Canada.

Mr. Lang: As hon. members will appreciate, there is a difference between the price at which a sale is made in a particular period and the total price on a product which may be delivered in that period but which is based on a contract entered into at some time long before. As the hon. member will appreciate we have, of course, been delivering grain to a variety of countries on the basis of agreements we had made in a number of different and earlier periods, at prices which were then prevailing, at prices which at that time reflected the judgment in the world of the competitive situation. I would say to hon. members that they would have been completely unforgiving of the Canadian Wheat Board if it had lost the sales to the U.S.S.R. or China to one of our competitors in that period because we were refusing to meet the competition. We had to meet the competition.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I can see that obviously a number of members want to enter the fray. For the moment the Chair will recognize the hon. member for Lisgar on a supplementary, then the hon. member for Saskatoon-Biggar and see where we will go from there.

Mr. Murta: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Since this is such a very important matter and as in the first quarter of 1973 wheat was sold at an average loss of 79 cents per bushel—

Some hon. Members: Shame!

Mr. Murta: —I should like to ask the minister whether the Canadian Wheat Board intends to continue committing itself to long-term forward sales and in effect playing with the western farmer's own money?

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Lang: Mr. Speaker, I have no doubt at all that the Canadian Wheat Board will continue to enter into long-term agreements and those long-term agreements at this point in time are being based on wheat priced at over $3 out of Thunder Bay.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Saskatoon-Biggar. Order, please. The Chair has recognized for the moment the hon. member for Saskatoon-Biggar on a supplementary.

WHEAT—SUGGESTED GREATER PLANTING—POSSIBILITY OF BETTER PRICES

Mr. A. P. Gleave (Saskatoon-Biggar): Mr. Speaker, may I ask the minister a question. In view of his public statement just the other day asking farmers to sow extra acreage in wheat and to produce a great deal more than they had intended to plant this spring, does this indicate a confidence on his part that this grain will move readily at better prices than those discussed here in the last few minutes?

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Justice): Yes, Mr. Speaker. As the news release indicated, there is every reason to be confident about both the price level and the level of volume to be sold. In the last three years we have sold in each year an increasing and new record volume of grain into export.

Mr. Diefenbaker: At firesale prices.

Mr. Lang: For the last six months these record volumes have been moving at record prices.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

● (1440)

Mr. Lang: It now appears, although there is no certainty in world prices, that this is likely to continue for a significant period. I am quite confident that, given the volume of production and the full operational capability of our handling system, we should be able to sell another record volume of grain in the coming year, and we are therefore inviting farmers to produce even more than they have ever produced before.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Hees: Better put someone in charge there, Pierre, or the whole business will go bankrupt.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member for Saskatoon-Biggar has the floor for the purpose of asking a question. Perhaps he might be heard.

FEED GRAIN—PRICE TO FARMERS FOR DOMESTIC SALES UNDER NEW POLICY

Mr. A. P. Gleave (Saskatoon-Biggar): In view of the fact the minister is urging farmers to plant more feed grains, can he assure the House and the farmers that under the new feed grain pricing policy, about which we have been able to obtain no information up to this point, farmers in western Canada will be assured a maximum price for those grains as the minister has assured us they will receive on the export market?

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Justice): The Speech from the Throne indicated the basic thrust of the feed grain policy. I am happy to re-emphasize that in my belief the feed grain policy as developed will be fair to farmers in Canada both in the east and the west.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Lang: I am completely confident, given the present world pricing situation, that prices will be very good indeed from the point of view of the producer of grain.

WHEAT—DELIVERIES BY FARMERS IN LIGHT OF EXPECTED HIGHER PRICE IN NEXT CROP YEAR

Mr. J. H. Horner (Crowfoot): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a supplementary question to the minister in charge of the Canadian Wheat Board. We all realize that sometimes hindsight proves better than foresight, but would the minister now lend some foresight to farmers and advise them not to deliver more wheat until the next

crop year, in view of the low price in the 1972-73 crop year, because they will receive 50 cents a bushel more after August 1?

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Justice): Some farmers are indeed arriving at the conclusion that they will not take advantage of the open delivery quotas at present because of the conclusion at which they have arrived with regard to the total price. I think the difference in the price will not be nearly as great as the hon. member suggests, but no one knows this at present because it will be about six months before we know the price on this year's pool, let alone the price on next year's pool.

However, I would like to say to farmers, as well as to hon. members, that the reason it is particularly desirable to deliver on these open quotas right now is that it looks as though there is a good possibility that farmers can in fact produce so much grain in the course of this year that they will want to make use of the available delivery opportunities to deliver new grain at the new high price and have the advantage of the present high price on the grain they can deliver now.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. May we have order. I see a number of hon. members who wish to ask supplementaries on this question. I will, of course, return to the hon. member for Edmonton East and others in a moment. We might try to give other hon. members an opportunity to ask their questions, and after these other subjects have been considered by the House we will return to the great wheat debate. For the moment, the Chair will recognize the hon. member for Fraser Valley West.

* * *

SPORTS

MONTREAL OLYMPIC GAMES, 1976—ROLE OF CENTRAL MORTGAGE AND HOUSING CORPORATION IN DECISION ON SITE FOR OLYMPIC VILLAGE

Mr. Mark Rose (Fraser Valley West): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Minister of State for Urban Affairs. In view of the fact that more than 100 associations and 66,000 petitioners in Montreal have indicated their opposition to Mayor Drapeau's proposed site for the Olympic village, has CMHC been consulted on that specific location and has any decision been reached yet by CMHC regarding the location of the village site?

Hon. Ron Basford (Minister of State for Urban Affairs): Mr. Speaker, CMHC has not been consulted to this point and therefore no decision has been made. I have had some informal consultations on the matter with Dr. Goldbloom of the province of Quebec who, as you may know from reports, has been actively involved in this matter.

Mr. Rose: Since the CMHC, I assume, would not wish to bear the responsibility of funding future urban ghettos, I should like to ask the minister whether CMHC is under any obligation to fund projects in only those locations recommended by the city of Montreal, or is CMHC free to seek or propose alternative sites?

Mr. Basford: We would respond to an application by the Quebec Housing Authority not the City of Montreal and in looking at any application we would apply the rules that we normally do to our approvals.

* * *

[*Translation*]

MANPOWER

INQUIRY RESPECTING REMUNERATION OF STUDENTS EMPLOYED IN MANPOWER CENTRES

Mr. Roland Godin (Portneuf): Mr. Speaker, I would like to put a question to the Minister of Manpower and Immigration.

Can he tell us whether he has been advised of the fact that some students hired by his department six weeks ago to head the temporary Manpower Centres for students have not yet received any salary? If so, can he tell us what steps he intends to take to pay them?

[*English*]

Hon. Robert K. Andras (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, I will have to look into the matter. I have not been so informed, but I am quite sure that if the department has taken on these people and given them jobs it will find a way of paying them.

* * *

GRAIN

WHEAT—SALES TO RUSSIA AND CHINA—ALLEGED FIRE SALE PRICES

Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Prince Albert): Mr. Speaker, I wish to come back to the questions asked of the Minister of Justice. In view of the fact the figures given by the hon. member for Lisgar have not in any way been challenged by the minister, and they could not be, coming as they do from Statistics Canada, does that fact not show what we have been endeavouring to prove for a long while, that while sales of wheat have been large they have been at fire sale prices and the western farmer has been taken for a ride?

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Justice): Mr. Speaker, what the price and return figures show is what has been known to everyone and is not a matter for vital proof by the right hon. member for Prince Albert, namely, that when world prices were too low, in his and my opinion far too low, the Wheat Board was competing in those markets at those prices. I have not yet seen the right hon. member or others have the gumption to say that the Wheat Board was completely wrong in staying in the market. Would you have liked to see us, would the right hon. gentleman have liked to see us lose the Chinese market?

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Diefenbaker: The degree of annoyance displayed by the minister indicates that the cat is out of the bag and he knows it. I now ask him, on the basis of those contracts with the U.S.S.R. and Communist China that were made two years ago, is it not a fact, as I have suggested to him over and over again, that wheat was being sold at prices below the cost of production?

Mr. Lang: Mr. Speaker, the right hon. member has never supplied me with the conclusion he agrees with as to the cost of production. I do not know whether he is using Palliser figures or National Farmers Union figures. What I have said is that, in my view, those prices were unreasonably low. We made that position clear to our competitors when we urged them throughout to revert to a reasonable International Grains Arrangement and sensible pricing provisions both at minimums and maximums.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Diefenbaker: Now that we have smoked the minister out, I ask him: Did he not on March 10, 1971, have this notation in his diary concerning a meeting of farm organizations in Minneapolis: I wondered whether or not something could not be done so that we in the United States and Canada would not be selling our wheat below the cost of production?

● (1450)

Mr. Lang: Mr. Speaker, I believe I still have a copy of my Minneapolis speech and I will send it to the right hon. gentleman again. In the meantime, I wonder if he would tell me, Mr. Speaker, what he would have said if for two years we had stayed out of the Chinese and Russian markets?

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Diefenbaker: No, no, the diary—

Some hon. Members: Come on!

Mr. Diefenbaker: Mr. Speaker, I have been asked by these hon. members to—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. Order, please. I gather that the hon. minister's question was rhetorical and was not meant to elicit a reply from the right hon. gentleman. I think that our rules make it possible for members or right hon. members to ask questions of ministers but not for ministers to ask questions of right hon. members. The hon. member for Témiscamingue.

Mr. Diefenbaker: The farmers were taken for a ride and the minister is responsible.

Mr. Horner (Crowfoot): "Hindsight Otto", they call him.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Réal Caouette (Témiscamingue): Mr. Speaker, I would like to put a supplementary to the Minister of Justice.

The minister has simply failed to reply to the questions just put to him. We want to be told clearly whether our wheat is being sold to China and Russia for more or less than the cost price? That is all we want to know: there is no need for the minister to make a speech on that. Let him simply reply to that question.

* * *

[*English*]

CANADIAN NATIONAL RAILWAYS

REQUEST FOR RESUMPTION OF RAIL PASSENGER SERVICE IN NEWFOUNDLAND IN LIGHT OF OPERATING PROFIT

Mr. Walter C. Carter (St. John's West): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Transport. In view of the fact that in 1972 Canadian National Railways showed an operating profit of $48.3 million and a substantial increase in revenues from rail passenger service of 3.9 per cent, the reason for which has been given by the president as good merchandising and improved services, is the minister now prepared to accept the fact that rail passenger service can make money and can be economic? If so, is he prepared to accept the recommendation of the Standing Committee on Transport that rail passenger service be reinstated in Newfoundland?

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, I believe that some branches are profitable and others are not.

* * *

NORTHERN AFFAIRS

PETITION BY RESIDENTS OF FORT WRIGLEY THAT WORK ON MACKENZIE HIGHWAY BE STOPPED PENDING SETTLEMENT OF NATIVE CLAIMS

Mr. Wally Firth (Northwest Territories): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the right hon. Prime Minister. I should like to know what his response is to a petition from the settlement council and residents of Fort Wrigley in the Northwest Territories asking that work be stopped on the Mackenzie highway until such time as the native claims have been settled?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I have no record of having seen that petition but I shall look into my files and see if I can check it out.

* * *

[*Translation*]

MANPOWER

LOCAL INITIATIVES PROGRAM—AVAILABILITY OF ADDITIONAL FUNDS

Mr. Roch La Salle (Joliette): Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct a question to the Minister of Manpower and Immigration.

In view of the importance for certain local initiatives projects to continue, could the minister, following serious recommendations, consider the possibility of granting additional funds in order that those projects might continue?

[*English*]

Hon. Robert K. Andras (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, I see no possibility of additional credits other than those already announced. While I am on my feet, I might take the opportunity to reply to a question from the hon. member for Winnipeg North regarding—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. Ministers and hon. members know that it sometimes creates difficulties when we try to reply to a question that was put earlier unless we are sure we have completed the question before us at the moment. If there are no supplementaries, the minister might be allowed to reply to the question to which he has just alluded.

LOCAL INITIATIVES PROGRAM—NUMBER OF PROJECTS APPROVED FOR EXTENSION

Hon. Robert K. Andras (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, regarding my department's progress with LIP extensions, the situation as of this morning was that 1,585 projects have received an extension of time to complete their work with no additional funding; 1,800 projects were eligible for extension and funding under the criteria I announced. Of these 1,800, 1,594 applied for extensions of which 1,200 have been approved, 194 have been refused and 200 are still under discussion with the provinces and should be settled within the next several days, with all project sponsors hopefully notified by Monday, June 11.

* * *

CONSUMER AFFAIRS

MONITORING OF SALES TAX AND TARIFF CUTS TO ENSURE BENEFITS REACH CONSUMERS—REQUEST FOR REPORT

Hon. Robert L. Stanfield (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs. I have been trying for three and a half months to get an answer to this question. Can the minister now tell the House when he will report on the monitoring arrangements, as promised by him and by the Minister of Finance at the time of budget, with respect to the tariff and excise tax cuts?

Hon. Herb Gray (Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs): Mr. Speaker, I think it has been indicated to the House that this work is under way. The Minister of Finance and I will consider what further information we can provide when the work is completed.

Mr. Stanfield: May I remind the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs that a report was promised and it was indicated that it would be made after the Easter recess. I now ask the minister whether he meant what he said or whether the whole undertaking was simply so much boloney?

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Gray: Mr. Speaker, I suggest to the Leader of the Opposition that he should check his own diet before referring to other people's comments as boloney. I shall certainly check what I said in that regard and attempt to live up to it.

Mr. Fairweather: Would the minister arrange the leak of this report like the last report on which he was engaged?

* * *

INCOME TAX

ALLEGED DELAY IN ISSUING REFUNDS

Mr. A. D. Hales (Wellington): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of National Revenue. On May 14 the minister replied to a question I asked concerning undue delays in income tax refunds. In view of the fact that since that inquiry income tax refund delays have increased rather than declined, can the minister now say when Canadian taxpayers will receive their tax refunds?

Hon. Robert Stanbury (Minister of National Revenue): Mr. Speaker, I am happy to say that the bulk of refunds has already gone out, some six million of them.

An hon. Member: Where is mine?

Mr. Stanbury: Preference, of course, has been given to those returns that can be processed by computer, that are "clean returns". In the case of those returns with no errors either in figures or in the placing of the figures and those returns that bore the "urgent" tag which was provided for taxpayers, refunds have largely already gone out. Even in the case of the problem returns, refunds should be out within the next two weeks or a month.

Mr. Hales: A supplementary—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. We are running short of time as there is just about one minute left before the end of the question period. Hon. members will appreciate that we have spent quite a bit of time on one or two subjects, which eliminates most questions. The hon. member for Wellington.

Mr. Hales: In view of the fact the minister said on May 14 that they would all be out within two weeks, and as he still has not answered the question, is he going to notify Canadian taxpayers, whether or not their returns have errors, when they may expect their refunds?

Mr. Stanbury: Of course, Mr. Speaker, but as I have said nearly all the refunds have already gone out for people whose returns were completed without any errors.

INQUIRY OF THE MINISTRY

Mr. Bill Jarvis (Perth-Wilmot): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the right hon. Prime Minister. In view of a new publication issued by the Liberal Party of Canada called "This Week In Ottawa" purporting to describe to weekly newspapers events in Ottawa in a non-partisan and factual way—

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Jarvis: —and in view of the fact last week's column forwarded to weekly newspapers was a blank piece of paper, can the Prime Minister confirm whether this new policy of honesty will be followed by all government agencies?

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I apologize to the right hon. Prime Minister who may have a reply to the hon. member's question, but I am sure the question was not intended to elicit a reply. We are running short of time. The Chair will recognize the hon. member for Scarborough West, the hon. member for York-Simcoe and then call orders of the day.

* * *

● (1500)

AIRPORTS

PICKERING—REQUEST FOR ASSURANCE TERMS OF REFERENCE OF REVIEW BOARD WILL BE AS STATED BY MINISTER OF TRANSPORT

Mr. John Harney (Scarborough West): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Prime Minister. In view of the fact that on an earlier occasion the Minister of Transport said that the terms of reference for the board of review over the building of the Pickering Airport would be very broad and include such matters as need, location, planning, etc., and in view of the fact the Minister of Public Works said in Toronto on Tuesday that unless the hearings discover a facility which makes airports obsolete the airport will be built, will the Prime Minister assure the House and the residents of the Pickering area that the attitude and terms of reference—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member should ask his question. It seems to me, and I am not saying this in relation to the hon. member's question, although it does seem a little long, that we would proceed much more effectively and there would be opportunity for more members to ask questions if questions were not really speeches. I think questions as long as the hon. member is asking now are unfair to other members.

Mr. Harney: Mr. Speaker, I ask the Prime Minister whether it will be the position of the Minister of Transport or that of the Minister of Public Works that will hold?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I have not had time to look at the speech of the Minister of Public Works which is referred to. I do know of speeches and statements that have been made by the Minister of Transport and I can only say that they represent government policy. I would be inclined to gamble that the Minister of Public Works is also in line with what the Minister of Transport has said.

* * *

ENERGY

OIL—POSSIBILITY OF SUPPLYING STATE OF WASHINGTON THROUGH TRANS MOUNTAIN PIPELINE AS ALTERNATIVE TO WEST COAST TANKER ROUTE

Mr. Sinclair Stevens (York-Simcoe): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources. Has the government offered or is the government willing to offer western Canadian low sulphur sweet crude oil to the Washington state area to obtain an agreement from the United States that supertankers would not service that area and would therefore not have any need to go through United States coastal waters which are near to British Columbia?

Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): Mr. Speaker, the hon. gentleman is obviously referring to a speech which was made by Senator Stevens who is a great supporter of the Alyeska trans-Alaska pipeline. I indicated to the American senators, as I have indicated to the House many times, that the preference obviously is to have a Mackenzie Valley route which would obviate the necessity for tankers at all on the west coast, but that a second alternative would be, if that were not achievable, to repeat the offer made last year that we would continue to supply the Puget Sound refineries through the Trans Mountain Oil Pipeline.

Mr. Speaker: Orders of the day.

Mr. Cafik: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, the hon. member for Scarborough West said that a meeting was held in Toronto by the Minister of Public Works in respect of Pickering airport. I wish to point out that Toronto and Pickering are two distinct places and I hope they stay that way.

* * *

AIR CANADA

ROTATING STRIKES BY MACHINISTS—POSSIBLE CLOSURE OF TORONTO AIRPORT

Mr. John Lundrigan (Gander-Twillingate): On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, as this information has just reached members of the House I wonder whether the Minister of Labour could indicate to the House if he has received word that Toronto International Airport will be struck at four o'clock today by the machinists and inform us whether there is any indication from Air Canada that the airport will be closed so far as Air Canada flights are concerned?

Hon. John C. Munro (Minister of Labour): Mr. Speaker, if the hon. member is directing his question to me, no, no information has been conveyed to me or, as far as I am

aware, to any of my colleagues that the airport in Toronto will be closed.

Mr. McGrath: A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. Hon. members will appreciate that we have gone beyond the question period and we would need the unanimous consent of the House to continue the question period. I appreciate the importance of the matter but there are hon. members who, if the hon. member for St. John's East is allowed to ask a question, will want to ask questions. The hon. member for Champlain has been waiting for a long time and there are others as well. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: No.

Mr. Speaker: Unless the hon. member is rising on a point of order, I shall have to call orders of the day.

Mr. McGrath: Mr. Speaker, I was going to suggest, perhaps by way of a point of order, that perhaps now the minister might be prepared to take the next train to Montreal and personally intervene in this dispute.

Mr. Cossitt: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, for the second time in several days I rise to correct a grave error in *Hansard*. I have just noticed that in yesterday's *Hansard*, at page 4516, my name is not—

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Cossitt: Mr. Speaker, it is very difficult to make a point of order when the trained seals are hollering again.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member has complained before of the language used by other hon. members. I think I have to make the same remark to him regarding the language which he uses.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Speaker: I think it is not conducive to the dignity of this chamber for hon. members, every time they take the floor, to use offensive and abusive language. The hon. member, I am sure, does not appreciate being called names, and I think it is not right for him, without provocation very often, to use strong language. That is not conducive to debate in a dignified atmosphere. The hon. member may have a very valid point of order. He will be heard, and if it calls for redress I will assist him, but it seems to me he is injuring his own case when he prefaces his points of order or questions of privilege with this kind of reference to other members of the House.

Mr. Cossitt: Mr. Speaker, I respectfully accept your remarks. I only have this comment to make. It is very difficult to speak when one is being constantly interrupted by buzzing noises on the other side of the House. In yesterday's *Hansard*, Mr. Speaker—

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Speaker: May we have order, please. The hon. member has the floor and should be given the opportunity to raise his point of order.

[Mr. Munro (Hamilton East).]

Mr. Cossitt: In yesterday's *Hansard* my name is not shown in the division list, as having participated in division No. 25 on the amendment proposed to the bilingual resolution by the hon. member for Témiscamingue (Mr. Caouette). I was present in the House for that particular vote, and I voted "nay" on that occasion. I should like, if possible, to have that error corrected.

Mr. Speaker: The record will be corrected and the hon. member's correction is accepted. Certainly it must be the result of a mistake on the part of our staff. The difficulty will be straightened out and the official record corrected, as suggested and indicated by the hon. member for Leeds.

* * *

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

WEEKLY STATEMENT

Mr. Baldwin: Mr. Speaker, may I ask the government House leader about the business of the House for the rest of this and next week, and as far ahead as he can project his mind.

Mr. MacEachen: Mr. Speaker, today is an opposition day and tomorrow will be as well. On Monday, we will begin the report stage of the National Housing Act, followed by the residential mortgage market proposal and followed, in turn, by the series of tax proposals, namely, Bill C-192, Income tax bill No. 2 with regard to corporate taxes; Bill C-193, Income tax bill No. 3, on personal income tax, and other matters, followed by the excise tax bill and customs tariff bill. Next week, we will call an opposition day on Friday. Beyond that my mind is not projected.

Mr. Baldwin: Mr. Speaker, can the minister tell me whether, with the exception of opposition days which are essential and healthy, the government intends, once the tax bill debates begin, to complete them in all their forms in the House before we go to other legislation?

Mr. MacEachen: Mr. Speaker, with respect to the corporate tax and the income tax, we would like to complete those bills without interruption. I cannot give the same assurance with respect to the customs tariff and excise tax.

[*Translation*]

Mr. La Salle: Mr. Speaker, in view of the fact that the leader of the government has enumerated the various legislation to be put before the House, and that it is urgent to adopt the legislation on the 1976 Olympic Games, I would like to ask him when he will bring in that particular legislation, and whether he can assure us that it will be brought in before the summer recess?

[*English*]

Mr. MacEachen: Mr. Speaker, the Olympic bill will be given first reading tomorrow, probably, and we will deal with it as quickly as possible following the tax bills.

Mr. Bell: Before 1976?

[*Translation*]

Mr. Fortin: Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the leader of the government when the next discussion will take place on the obvious necessity of having secretaries in the ridings?

[*English*]

Mr. MacEachen: Mr. Speaker, that debate is a continuous one.

Mr. Speaker: Orders of the day.

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

[*English*]

BUSINESS OF SUPPLY

ALLOTTED DAY S.O. 58—REQUEST FOR STATEMENT OF OWNERSHIP AND ACTION TO PROTECT FISHERIES RESOURCES OVER CONTINENTAL SHELF

Hon. Robert L. Stanfield (Leader of the Opposition) moved:

That this House accepts the principle that Canada and other coastal states own the fisheries resources on and over their respective continental shelves and slopes, that the management of these fisheries resources are the responsibility of the coastal state, that other states may only fish such resources with the permission of the coastal state; and,

This House agrees that, in implementation of this policy, Canada must provide adequate surveillance so that swift action can be taken when Canadian interests are threatened or violated.

● (1510)

Mr. Baldwin: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. In view of the interest of so many hon. members in this subject, possibly after the first four speeches, one speaker from each party, it would be acceptable to the House to limit speeches from then on to 15 minutes.

Mr. Speaker: Is this agreed?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Mr. Stanfield: Mr. Speaker, it is a very pleasant day. It is an appropriate day for a trip to sea as long as we do not get too far off shore or lost at sea.

This motion is placed before the House today to give members an opportunity to indicate their support for the position and, indeed, the principle that Canada and other coastal states own the fisheries resources on and over their respective continental shelves and slopes, and that the management of these fisheries resources are the responsibility of the coastal state. It is important that we indicate our support for our position in view of the forthcoming Law of the Sea Conference and, without injecting too much controversy, we wish to discuss some of the misrepresentations made by the Minister of Fisheries (Mr. Davis) with regard to general views on this subject in this country. I simply wish to open the subject. A number of my colleagues will want to develop the points that I make as well as develop further points.

Those of us who have grown up by the sea have been involved in coastal life, associated closely with fishermen and the kind of life they lead, and are aware of the vast potential of the sea as a source of wealth as well as of the importance of the supply of fish to our fishermen. We are intensely aware of the vital importance of preserving the stock of fish, as well as the increasing pressure from many sources upon this great reserve of wealth as a result of technical innovations and vessels from various countries being able to move further afield, particularly factory ships. We are aware also that this increased pressure is not confined to our traditional fishing areas, but is a phenomenon that is being very keenly felt elsewhere.

I, of course, am identified particularly with the east coast of this country and the fishing problems there. However, I am familiar with the problems on the west coast and the measures that have been taken over recent years to at least cope with these problems. I am familiar with the disputes and difficulties that still remain, as well as with the general state in which they are today.

It is the east coast that I know best. I am familiar with the jurisdiction in eastern waters and the extension further to sea as well as the inclusion of the Gulf of St. Lawrence. I am aware of the importance of this. However, I am only too familiar with the depletion in the stock of fishing species in the region over which we are claiming jurisdiction, namely our continental slopes and shelves. I am well aware of how difficult it has become for fishermen to make economic catches, despite very significant improvements in their equipment. Anyone who sits in this House must be aware of the depletion of many species as well as the often expressed fear of the extinction of certain species.

Many times my colleagues in this House have demanded action and protection for our fishermen and offshore fishing grounds. They have expressed concern about the share of available fish to be harvested by Canadian fishermen. I think I know what has been going on under the jurisdiction of ICNAF. Moves have been made to establish quotas. I think that a quota on herring is in operation. I believe that quotas are now in effect for other species such as cod, haddock and flounder and quotas for other species are under consideration.

I do not rise today to carp or be critical. However, I think these efforts have been a very long time in coming. I do not think there is any reason to believe these quotas will really work. I say this because of the slowness of this process. There is concern as to whether these arrangements will really work in terms of conservation or whether they will take care of the needs of Canadian fishermen. Because of this, some time ago my party turned to a consideration of the extension of Canadian jurisdiction over the waters over our continental shelves and slopes. We turned to the principle of Canada achieving that jurisdiction and exercising management of the fishing stock in the waters over our continental shelf and slopes.

I agree in principle that there is something attractive about the idea of a truly international approach to the problem of conservation. There is something attractive about the idea of nations being able to work together to achieve agreement, to achieve some joint means of surveillance and enforcement, to achieve an equitable sharing of

the marine resources of the world. But the idea really does not seem to be working, either in terms of management or in terms of surveillance, and there does not seem to be much prospect of much success in the future to judge by the way things are going.

● (1520)

I could not help noticing an article in the *Economist*, dated June 2, devoted, basically, to the dispute between Britain and Iceland. The article reviews the general situation, speaks about the erosion of the doctrine of the freedom of the seas, speaks about preliminary consultation already going on in preparation for the San Diego conference and says that very few governments have shown any real interest in fair sharing of supplies or in the preservation of the marine environment. The article goes on to say, and I quote:

> Much of the current excitement turns on claims to national authority in the "superjacent" waters that lie above the continental shelf and slope zones off the coastal states' shores. Australia and New Zealand are thinking of claiming authority over a 200-mile zone; several South American states already make similar claims; Morocco is now violently at odds with Spain over its 70-mile claims; Iceland has indicated that it will soon extend its claim to 70 miles; and so it goes on, with China even demanding the scrapping of the 1958 and 1960 conventions, which it denounces as the product of imperialist machinations.

Then follows what is, to my mind, the most interesting part of the whole article, particularly since it is devoted basically to the dispute between Britain and Iceland and the right of British fishermen to fish in waters off the Icelandic coast.

> If the trendy thing is going to be for each coastal state to grab all it can, there is not much to be gained—and there may be much to be lost—by a solitary attempt to buck the trend. It is probably time for Britain to start preparing for the 1974 conference by deciding how far out it will push its own maritime frontiers—and then enforce them.

Now, for a perceptive economic journal to take this position in the context of the dispute which is going on between Britain and Iceland indicates how much the thinking has changed with regard to this whole situation and how far disillusionment has set in as to the prospect of any satisfactory regulation of these matters by international arrangement.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Stanfield: This may be regrettable. As I say, there is something attractive to me about international regulation and co-operation, but to date at least the ICNAF arrangements have not in my judgment effectively protected the species or done the job that needs to be done to manage these marine resources properly. As Canadians, we want to be good citizens of the world but it is certainly our duty to protect our fishermen and to conserve the stocks of fish off our shores. Pressure on these stocks has been increasingly heavy. There is, too, I am told, inadequate surveillance of these waters—insufficient protection of our fishermen and fisheries. I have no doubt other speakers will emphasize this aspect.

So it was to protect our national interest and to protect our fishery stocks that my party adopted a resolution in Charlottetown last autumn which called, first of all, for the re-establishment of a separate department of fisheries.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Stanfield: The resolution then went on to say, and I quote:

> —under this new department, launch a new, aggressive program to extend Canada's managerial control to the extremities of its continental shelf, for conservation and management of its marine resources; immediately increase its surveillance and protection capabilities for the fishermen . . .

This principle was adopted as a matter of national policy.

Mr. McGrath: Long before the minister made his speech, I may say.

Mr. Stanfield: It is true the dispute involving Iceland and Great Britain has so far been in terms of a 50-mile limit, although the article I quoted from the *Economist* indicates that Iceland is thinking of going further than that and claiming 70 miles. A number of days ago, the hon. member for Gander-Twillingate (Mr. Lundrigan) tried to get the Secretary of State for External Affairs (Mr. Sharp) to indicate Canada's support for the basic position taken by Iceland in extending jurisdiction to the 50-mile limit.

Mr. Sharp: He asked me to intervene.

Mr. Stanfield: I do not intend to become involved in an argument with the minister as to whether he was asked to intervene or not. The point I want to make is this, that it was in relation to Iceland's position, and, therefore, 50 miles—

Mr. Sharp: But we are going way beyond that—way out to 200 miles.

Mr. Stanfield: If the Secretary of State for External Affairs wishes to give us the benefit of his views and wisdom, I am sure he can take part in this debate. But I suggest that in what he has had to say so far he has given no adequate justification for the kind of twisting he is doing now or what the Minister of the Environment and Fisheries (Mr. Davis) said in his speech in New Brunswick. It is not my intention to interject too much controversy into this debate, though I enjoy it just as much as the Secretary of State for External Affairs, though he is a much more restrained individual, since basically he is a civil servant—

Mr. Sharp: I have been here longer than you have, and involved in more controversy, too.

Mr. Stanfield: I will take that back, Mr. Speaker, because members of the public service might think I was trying to insult them.

Mr. Sharp: I was just correcting the record.

● (1530)

Mr. Stanfield: Mr. Speaker, the hon. member for Gander-Twillingate sought to get the Secretary of State for External Affairs to indicate support for the principle behind the position being taken by Iceland. I do not know how happy the Minister of Environment and Fisheries is with his title, because he tried pretty hard to get "Fisheries" expunged from it. Anyway, he made a political speech

before a Liberal association in New Brunswick the other evening, no doubt trying to generate a little enthusiasm for his party in a difficult part of the country. I quote:

> And where do our Conservative friends stand now? They are boldly talking about a fifty mile limit. Little Iceland is going for fifty miles so Canada might be so bold to do likewise. That is Conservative thinking for you.

I simply indicate to the House that, because of our disillusionment with the effectiveness of international arrangements such as ICNAF, we in this party last fall formally adopted the resolution I have read. I think it must be the fault of the organization. I do not think it is the lack of drive which the minister has put into Canada's participation in that organization, and so it must be because of the lack of success of that organization, or at least partly for this reason, the minister has turned to the idea of making a vigorous demand to the Law of the Sea Conference for the extension of our rights to the waters over the continental shelves and slopes.

As a matter of fact, I think it was a rather cheap shot that the Minister of the Environment took when he was in New Brunswick, but I recognize the dire straits in which he must have been down there in trying to generate a little excitement in his party. I say to him that he had better get on with the job and, if he does, he will get lots of support over here. I think he had better get ahead with the business, within ICNAF, of protecting species, at least while we are relying on ICNAF. He had better get ahead with the job of providing adequate surveillance, because surveillance seems to be very inadequate today. Indeed, Sir, if I may give him a little advice, which I hope he does not find offensive, it might be more helpful for the fishermen if he did get ahead with the job of providing the surveillance that is needed, and providing the protection that is needed, instead of talking so much about it.

I simply want to say this in closing: we want to see the protection; we want to see the conservation; we want to see the management by Canada of our marine resources in the waters over the continental shelves and slopes. Those of us who live by the sea do not enjoy seeing the minister playing games with the matter. We want to see him get on with the job, and we will support him.

Mr. Thomas S. Barnett (Comox-Alberni): Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased to rise and indicate the support of the New Democratic Party for the motion which the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Stanfield) has placed on the order paper for our consideration today. I think it is important to recognize that when a motion of this kind is put before the House it represents some forward advance in our thinking in the area of preserving the resources of the sea that are adjacent to our coasts.

I think it would be well if we, as members, were all prepared to admit that over a period of years we have been groping towards a more adequate way of conserving those resources and protecting the rightful interests of Canadians who go down to the sea to fish.

I thought the Leader of the Opposition exercised very commendable restraint—perhaps it was his style of speaking—in reference to the speech delivered at St. Andrews, New Brunswick, last May 26 by the minister. Obviously, it was a political speech. Far be it from me to suggest that ministers of the Crown should not from time to time make political speeches. But, Mr. Speaker, the notes for that speech were distributed to us on the letterhead of the Minister of Fisheries for Canada, and when we get them in that form they lead us to hope that at least basically they contain serious statements of policy. As I say, it is self-evident it was a political speech, but the point that needs to be clarified in this chamber, and it has not yet been clarified, is to what extent that speech represents the official policy of the government of Canada.

The Leader of the Opposition referred to the Secretary of State for External Affairs (Mr. Sharp). I certainly agree with him that it is high time the Secretary of State for External Affairs got up in his place in this House and gave us his views, in such a way that we could recognize exactly what Canada's foreign policy is in the realm of developing an approach to the law of the sea that will protect Canada's interests. It seems to me that often such matters are shoved off on to the Minister of Fisheries, and not enough recognition is given to the fact that in this area at least we, along with other countries, are involved in a great many important matters that vitally affect our interests, and indeed the future resources that will be available in terms of high protein foods to feed a hungry world.

When I first came to this House we were really in a different era. At that time, Canada dealt with this question, and it is only fair to say we did not do too badly, through bilateral treaties or arrangements. By and large, the encroachment of other nations with modernized high-seas fishing fleets had not yet come into being. So, we had bilateral treaties. Later, it began to be apparent that that approach was not adequate. It became apparent that we had to have a new look at where, either ourselves or in concert with other nations, we should assert increasing jurisdiction.

I was quite dismayed by the speech which the Minister of Fisheries made in St. Andrews, New Brunswick, because undoubtedly it was most unfair and not a factual attack on the position which the Conservative party is currently enunciating. If there is any one matter on which this House should try to set aside any narrow, partisan considerations and speak with a united Canadian voice, it is on this matter of our position on our jurisdiction over the resources of the sea.

● (1540)

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Barnett: I hope the Minister of Fisheries and the Secretary of State for External Affairs will clarify, during this debate, whether the rather extravagant remarks made to the Charlotte-Carleton Liberal Association do represent the position Canada is taking at the Law of the Sea Conference looming ahead. It is not my business to interfere with that question of which kettle is calling which pot black, but in this context I cannot help but draw the attention of the House to a little item that appeared in the Ottawa *Journal* on May 31 in which Mr. Henry Heald says:

> If anyone can claim kudos for far-sightedness in pushing out fishing limits, it should be Frank Howard (NDP—Skeena) who was calling for bold advances before Mr. Davis was ever elected to parliament. He was a constant prod urging the government to take the bold step of replacing the old three-mile limit with a 12-mile headland-to-headland fishing zone.

Perhaps the Minister of Fisheries' perspective is understandably a bit foreshortened on this matter because he has not been in the House that long, but I took the trouble to look at *Hansard* for the year 1960 and I think perhaps one of the first references ever made in this House to the extension of our territorial waters was made on June 29, 1960 by the hon. member for Skeena (Mr. Howard), as reported at page 5565:

> Perhaps the most appropriate thing to do, so far as our general limits are concerned, is to take unilateral action and declare as Iceland has declared and as others are considering now, that our territorial limits for all purposes are 12 miles, and that is that.

It is surprising how often Iceland crops up in discussions of this matter. One can follow this course of events through the years. I might point out that in the next year, 1961, the member for Skeena introduced Bill C-96, to amend the Coastal Fisheries Protection Act, to provide for a 12-mile fishing zone in Canada.

When I returned to this House and rejoined the hon. member for Skeena on the fisheries committee, there was a question then as to who was outdoing whom on the matter of how timid we could be in the steps we were prepared to take regarding our fishing zones, the then Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Minister of Fisheries or the Official Opposition. However, I suggest that question is not really pertinent today because the motion before us clearly indicates our changing thinking on the matter of exercising jurisdiction over the continental shelf.

If I may, perhaps I could just blow my own horn a little bit. In 1970 when we had Bill C-203, to amend the Territorial Sea and Fishing Zones Act, before the House I moved an amendment which had the effect of doing exactly what is envisaged in the resolution now before us. It was not accepted by the House, and to the best of my knowledge it was supported only by my colleagues in the NDP. My amendment read:

> The fishing zones of Canada comprise all water adjacent to the coasts of Canada, the natural resources of whose subjacent submarine areas Her Majesty in right of Canada has the right to dispose of or exploit—

I took this rather awkward phrase from the Arctic Waters Pollution Prevention Act as the definition of the continental shelf envisioned by the government of Canada. I hope we can have an indication from hon. members on the government side of their preparedness to recognize the position of the opposition, and that they will support the opposition in exercising our jurisdiction in respect of the continental shelf.

There is one rather important omission in the text of the motion put forward by the Leader of the Official Opposition. One of our most important fisheries, namely the salmon fishery off the Atlantic and the Pacific coasts, would not be protected merely by asserting Canadian jurisdiction to the edge of the continental shelf. We all know that salmon roam abroad in the high seas and return to our coasts and our rivers to spawn. If we are to consider this whole matter in its full context it is necessary to propose, in addition to the motion now before us and I intend to move an amendment, seconded by the hon. member for Coast Chilcotin (Mr. Olaussen), an extension to our jurisdiction. I therefore move:

[Mr. Barnett.]

> That the motion be amended by adding a comma following the words, "with the permission of the coastal state" and inserting thereafter the following:
>
> "and asserts ownership by Canada of anadromous fish spawned within our borders, and the exclusive right to harvest the same."

I think I have already made it clear, but for those who may not be familiar with that particular term, let me say that for all practical purposes this refers to our salmon fishery. In this connection, we recognize that on both coasts one of our richest fisheries and the most highly regarded species is the salmon. Unless we are prepared to recognize the principle that when these salmon are feeding in the high seas they are still considered as Canadian fish, in the long-run we cannot assure their protection, and cannot assure that the money we may invest in developing and conserving their propagation will not be wasted. I feel this is one of the important principles Canadians should be endorsing.

I remember suggesting in this House a number of years ago that we might say when these salmon are in the high seas they carry our brand. We should treat them in the same way as cattle were treated in the days of the old open range. The range lands were open, not the property of any one cattle ranch and, since the cattle were branded with the owner's name, they were permitted to roam. Then, at the appropriate time, they were rounded up. As we can all recall, it was a very serious offence to engage in cattle rustling, and I suggest that Canada should be saying that we do not want anyone rustling our salmon. I understand that our scientists now have the technical ability to identify salmon by their scales in somewhat the same way as human beings are identified by their fingerprints. We can now identify salmon in the high seas as being, in fact, our salmon.

I cannot help feeling that the minister has been unnecessarily using some of our commercial fishermen as pawns in this game, and my opinion is shared by others. I should like to make a brief reference to a letter which appeared in the *Evening Times-Globe*, Saint John, New Brunswick, on February 21 last. It was written by A. G. Huntsman, Professor Emeritus of Biology of the University of Toronto. He is sometimes referred to as the "father of fisheries research in Canada". In that letter he says:

● (1550)

> When the ban on New Brunswick commercial salmon fishing was announced last April, I at once wrote to the minister that he was doing a very foolish thing, to stop the fishing without scientific evidence of overfishing and then to spend public funds to compensate the fishermen.

This may be a debatable point, Mr. Speaker, but from what I have been able to learn, the fact remains that it was not the commercial fishermen of the Atlantic coast who were responsible for the depletion of our salmon. When one considers what may have happened one is led to the belief that the industrial activities of others resulted in the depletion of our salmon. The other day the minister was talking about the amount of money being spent for research and development of the Canadian fishery and the fact, that it is much more than is being spent on agriculture. The minister made two errors. One was that constitutionally the fisheries are under federal jurisdiction, and he ignored what the provinces may have spent on agriculture,

on forestry resources and so on. Second, he ignored the impact upon our fisheries of other industrial activities which quite properly should bear a share of the cost of preserving and expanding our salmon fishery at its source in our rivers.

The only other point I should like to make, if I have time, has to do with the current situation in respect of our Pacific salmon. We have been having some discussions with the United States authorities. According to the minister and other spokesmen who have been following these discussions, the United States has been pretty tough with us. I suggest it is about time we started shoving a few facts down the throats of our United States friends because they refer to the Columbia River as if it were their river.

The United States apparently is not prepared to admit that it has robbed Canada of its share of the Columbia River salmon. If the United States is now producing salmon in hatcheries in the lower reaches of the Columbia River, it should recognize that a fair share of this salmon rightfully belongs to Canadian fishermen. The United States authorities should cease this nonsense of trying to establish their claim to the Columbia River salmon and, at the same time, demand half of the Fraser River salmon. The United States—and this came out in the 1964 hearings on our territorial seas bill—has a solemn treaty with Canada which the then Secretary of State for External Affairs told me was still in effect, the Oregon Treaty, which guarantees us our rights on the Columbia River, our right of navigation forever from the 49th parallel to the mouth. The United States stands in flagrant violation of the terms of its solemn treaty. In that connection, when the Grand Coulee Dam was built it not only cut off navigation on the Columbia River but also, and incidentally at the same time, killed off all the Canadian salmon which previously had spawned in the Canadian part of the Columbia River.

When one starts talking about a respect for the right to the salmon which originate in the streams of a coastal state, this is an important point which we should be making with the United States, and which, in all fairness, I do not see how it can ignore. This issue, I suggest, must be faced in our dealings with the United States and, hopefully, the United States may be prepared to recognize the justice in our position. I believe the United States is concerned with the basic principle which my amendment suggests should be endorsed by the House. If the United States is to have jurisdiction over the salmon which originate in its streams in Washington, Oregon, California and Alaska—I shall not mention the Atlantic salmon because I do not think the United States has any left; they killed them all off quite a while ago—it must also first recognize that Canada must have that same right and, second, that when it talks about the Columbia River it is talking about not a United States river but an international river. I put forward this suggestion in the context of this debate because I think it is the type of issue which will have to be sorted out as we move into the final discussions of the upcoming conference on the Law of the Sea.

[*Translation*]

Mr. René Matte (Champlain): Mr. Speaker, the recent events relating to the problems facing Icelanders and Britishers in connection with coastal fishing have prompted the leader of the official opposition (Mr. Stanfield) to introduce a motion which, I must admit, is timely and deserves our utmost consideration.

In my view, the amendment which the hon. member for Comox-Alberni (Mr. Barnett) has just moved complements the motion of the leader of the official opposition.

Mr. Speaker, it is quite obvious that a country like Canada, which has vast openings on the Pacific and on the Atlantic oceans, needs legislation that can guarantee both autonomy and respect for fishing rights along the coastlines so that they can really be applicable and applied.

As regards the Gulf of St. Lawrence for instance, I happen to know that many fishermen were complaining precisely about the fact that, because of the lack of regulations, anybody could come in these waters and catch the fishes which happen to be there. We have to remedy the absence of regulations or the lack of means of implementation. The motion asks for the recognition of, and I quote:

> . . . the principle that Canada and other coastal states own the fisheries resources on and over their respective continental shelves and slopes, that the management of these fisheries resources are the responsibility of the coastal state, that other states may only fish such resources with the permission of the coastal state . . .

It is obvious, Mr. Speaker. Perhaps it has now become urgent that we get concerned with developing relevant rules which I could qualify as being rather severe.

We know very well that we have here in Canada immense resources of every description, including fishing resources, but we should not be careless and run the risk of losing them progressively simply because of a faltering sense of responsibilities.

It is thus quite natural, as indicated by the motion before us, that we agree to implement this policy of:

> . . . adequate surveillance so that swift action can be taken when Canadian interests are threatened or violated.

Before being driven to major conflicts, it should be very important that we spell out clearly and categorically our country's position concerning coastal fishing rights. And the more quickly we do this, the better we will be able to avoid all kinds of problems like those between England and Iceland.

I therefore think that the government should very seriously consider accepting this motion so that we may be assured that Canadians will really be masters in their own home and will be able to have the whole population benefit from controls guaranteeing our ownership.

This is why I approve the motion moved by the NDP member. In fact, should we accept these two principles, we would have adequate legislation, favourable to the whole of Canada. It would not be a matter of requiring respect from others but by being consciencious and adult enough to take our responsibilities we would deserve the respect of other countries and we would not have to face serious difficulties likely to tarnish our reputation.

● (1600)

[*English*]

Hon. Jack Davis (Minister of the Environment and Minister of Fisheries): Mr. Speaker, I welcome, and I am

sure all hon. members of the House welcome this opportunity to discuss the fishing limits of both our coasts. It is a very important matter, not only for fishermen but for Canadians. It is a matter which verges on sovereignty, but it also has a great deal to do with wise management and conservation of many of the world's living resources of the sea.

Canada has the second longest coastline in the world; it has the world's largest continental shelf, and it is, I believe, the duty of Canadians to manage the living resources along its vast coastline out over its vast shelf, not only in the interest of our own people, but in the interest of all mankind.

The resolution before the House goes some distance down the road toward permitting the wise management of the fish and other wild living things out over our continental shelf. I am glad to see that the resolution mentions the slope as well as the shelf. We must concern ourselves with management of fish over the whole of the shelf and the slope.

The hon. member for Comox-Alberni (Mr. Barnett) indicated that if we confine ourselves to the shelf and the slope we will not include salmon. He is right. This would not include swordfish, tuna, and a number of other species that swim along the margin of the continents. In our measures for conservation, in our management of these resources, we should pay close attention to the life cycle of all our fish stocks. Therefore, we should think in terms of territory which is not simply the shelf, not simply the slope, but also areas close to the slope of the continent or continents where great upwellings occur, where ocean currents bring food to the surface, and where many fish populations congregate and feed. Many of the groundfish which are common to the continental shelf, in fact, swim out over the great ocean deeps nearby.

So in the wise management of those resources we should concern ourselves not simply with the shelf and the slope but with margins beyond that, and our management approach must be that of the geography of the fish and not the topography of the bottom. However, the shelf concept is important because, in a general way although in a somewhat limited way, it describes where 95 per cent of the fish resources spend their lifetime.

I first advocated, in a speech in Boston in 1968, that the continental shelf be the general topographical ambit within which Canada should manage its fish stocks, and within which the coastal nations the world over should endeavour to manage fish resources in the best possible fashion. This because very few fish are found beyond the shelf and the neighbouring waters adjoining the shelf.

I realize that some hon. members from the NDP have advocated limits at the edge of the shelf; they have advocated 200 miles; they have advocated even greater distances at times and have been talking in terms of these extended jurisdictions for a decade or more. They were speaking in those terms in the House. However, they did not have the responsibility of trying to negotiate arrangements with other nations or make sure that those nations observed those limits.

I think that as Canadians we must be doubly conscious of the fact that at least on the Atlantic side of Canada, the Grand Banks, the vast fishing areas off our east coast, have been fished by many nations for centuries. We cannot unilaterally kick them out. We have been moving in that direction but we have been doing so by negotiation and, I hope, sweet reason rather than the use of gunboats.

When I say "sweet reason" I think that the approach we used, for example, at the world conference sponsored by FAO and convened under our leadership in Vancouver this spring, was that kind of approach. Basically, we have stressed conservation. Conservation was the fundamental idea, the fundamental concept which we wanted to pursue, and our management techniques must be designed to ensure that all stocks are kept at levels consistent with a productive fishing effort.

The term used in the industry is sustained yield. It is well known in the forest industry. It is being practiced increasingly in the world's fishing industries. Sustained yield as a term should be further defined. It does not mean the maximum biological sustained yield; rather it is the maximum economic yield. This is a lower rate of catch. It means less pressure on fish stocks than does the maximum sustained biological yield.

In any case, we have been preaching this doctrine, first, to protect the species from extinction; second, to enhance the incomes of fishermen who are so heavily dependent on the health of the fish stocks and, finally, to make sure that in the longer run Canadians do, in fact, get the maximum economic yield from our vast fish resources.

The Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Stanfield) said some of the right things. He is a compassionate gentleman and I know he is a conscientious man. He was pessimistic on one count, however, and I found that distressing. He was pessimistic about our ability to convince the fishing nations of the world that sound conservation was in their best interests, and that management practices which involved the idea of optimum sustained yield would not carry the day.

● (1610)

We have evidence that these are succeeding. This week in Copenhagen the North Atlantic Fisheries Commission is holding its annual meeting. That meeting comprises 15 nations that fish in the north Atlantic and it has been meeting for close to a quarter of a century. For a long time, it was really a scientists' club. It developed data, it developed ideas, but it was not until the last few years that the idea of converting this data into quotas and into management criteria really caught hold. Indeed, it was only in 1972 when they met in Washington that the message we had been preaching for several years turned up in the form of quotas. The result of that developing consensus among the 15 nations, Canada included, was quotas for several of the major fish species taken in many of the major fishing areas of the north Atlantic.

I think it is important to state that scientists had a maximum input. Their evidence on the state of each stock was taken fully into account. The maximum sustained yield was calculated from that evidence and it was evidence from the international scientific community, not simply from a few fishing nations. The maximum sustained yield, having been set as the maximum catch for the north Atlantic, was then divided between nations and

Canada, being a coastal state, got the largest slice of the overall quota, if I may put it that way. Canada got 10 per cent extra for the expansion of its fishery. In fact, we were not able to take up all of the fish allocated to us during the last 12 months. As far as we can determine, all 15 countries lived within their quotas. They did not, in total, take more fish than the scientists indicated could be taken without seriously reducing the stocks. While expanding her catch, Canada still did not in fact take all the fish allocated to her fishermen.

This year we are trying to revise the formula in close consultation with the fishermen and the industry. We hope to get the other 14 nations to agree that in 1973-74 we should be able to take everything we can catch. We will be hard put to take more than the quota allocated to us last year. We seem to have convinced these countries, however, that the coastal state does in fact have a special claim on the resources swimming along its shores, living its life over the continental shelf, over its slope and out into those other waters where the groundfish also feed during part of their lifetime.

One of the fundamental problems that the world fisheries face was largely tackled and overcome toward the end of the middle ages as it concerned agriculture. The great debates over the commons and what would happen to the commons finally resulted in enclosures. Only when land was enclosed and allocated to an owner was it properly managed. Prior to that time, everyone had turned as many sheep, as many cattle, out on the commons as they could. The commons were over-grazed. It was a case of the devil take the hindmost. The stock was in poor shape and, of course, not as many could be maintained under those circumstances as in the enclosed type of agriculture we know today.

This is happening in the world fisheries. Adjoining waters are being divided up so as to conserve their resources. I am not really suggesting that Canada should harvest those resources exclusively, certainly not in the next few decades because there are many species that we do not take yet, although we may begin to take them in time. First of all, we have no taste for them and there is no market on this continent or with the more affluent nations of northern Europe and, second, we do not happen to have the techniques. But where there are resources within these boundaries, which I believe the coastal state should in large measure determine and certainly manage, we should be prepared to give licence under contract or some kind of arrangement to other nations to either come in or to contract with Canadian companies or Canadian fishermen, and fish and process the resources on our shores.

I am optimistic about this because there is a limited supply of fish in the world, certainly in the wild state off the shores of the continent. At the same time, the demand for seafood is mounting steadily and has been for several decades at the rate of 5 per cent a year. The market for fish 15 years from now will be twice as large. As a broad generalization, world fish stocks will not stand much heavier fishing than they are presently exposed to. If the demand is to keep rising and the supply is limited, it is obvious that prices will continue to rise as they have in the last few years, so it is going to pay other countries to enter into arrangements with the coastal states for the coastal states to do much of the harvesting. However, it must be done under sound management, using the best conservation practices so that fish stocks are there forever in quantities which will permit a maximum economic yield from the resources.

Ten years ago Canada's fishing limit was three miles running close along the coast, and that is what it was during the period that the right hon. member for Prince Albert (Mr. Diefenbaker) was prime minister. In 1964, legislation was passed to extend the limit to 12 miles so until the early 70's that was our limit.

Mr. McGrath: Would the hon. member permit a question in the interests of the record?

Mr. Davis: Well, I would like to finish my line of thought—

Mr. McGrath: He is forgetting the 1958 Law of the Sea Conference and the half vote within which we came of getting the 12-mile limit at that time.

Mr. Davis: The hon. member is correct. At the Law of the Sea Conference in 1958, Canada endeavoured to get the 12-mile limit accepted but did not manage it. However, we went from three miles to 12 miles in the mid-sixties and we moved out handsomely in the last several years by drawing a straight base line across our bays and inlets, the straight lines going from promontory to promontory around Canada. We drew several lines which are exceptional, such as that between Vancouver Island and the Queen Charlottes, which is longer than the previous line by some 90 miles. In the north, we drew lines across the Gulf of St. Lawrence and across the Bay of Fundy. As a result of drawing these lines and adding 12 miles outside them, Canada extended the area—

Mr. Deputy Speaker: The hon. member for Comox-Alberni (Mr. Barnett) on a question.

Mr. Barnett: My point is, Mr. Speaker, that the minister refers to the line between Vancouver Island and the Queen Charlottes as a base line. I wonder if it would not be more in order to refer to it as a fisheries closing line since it does not enclose the internal waters of Canada. I wish it did.

• (1620)

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, please. That hardly seems to be a remark that occasions a point of order. It might occasion debate.

Mr. Davis: Mr. Speaker, I admit that I could have used better language. Since members on this side of the House invented the term and since fisheries closing lines are a Canadian invention, I should use the same terminology. In any case, the total area enclosed by drawing these base lines and fisheries closing lines around Canada's very extensive coast—the total area, which became in 1971 the exclusive fishing zones of Canada—added up to over 700,000 square miles. I mention that figure, because members often talk about South American countries and their 200-mile limits, and the vast extent of their unilaterally declared fishing zones. Chile's 200-mile limit added roughly 1 million square miles to that country's fishing area,

300,000 more than our 700,000 square miles. Brazil's 200-mile territorial sea covers about 1.1 million square miles. By contrast, the United States 12-mile limit, which follows its coastline closely, has added only 131,000 square miles, as compared with our 700,000. The United Kingdoms limits which go out 12 miles added 33,000 square miles compared with our 700,000. Italy's zone includes 39,000 square miles, and so on. But few other countries have extended their fishing limits to the extent we did.

Our extension of exclusive fishing zone limits is a recent happening. Our closing lines are years old. While we draw them to some degree unilaterally, we also entered into negotiations with half a dozen nations for the phasing out of their fishing operations. For example, with respect to the Gulf of St. Lawrence, we now have agreements with all the countries which fish there, and those agreements see an end to the operation of their fishing fleets in our exclusive fishing zones. These zones, as I have mentioned, are very large in extent.

We, among other things, brought to an end a more than 200-year old treaty with France. In a few years fishing vessels from metropolitan France will no longer be coming to the Gulf of St. Lawrence for example. Such countries, as a result of signing agreements for phasing out fishing with Canada, really recognized, for all time, the extent of our exclusive fishing zones as we know them, as they now appear on our maps, as they now appear on the charts of captains responsible for the navigation of fishing vessels owned by other nations that come close to our shores. Those are our limits today.

Many of the fish stocks we have harvested have been taken far out, beyond the Gulf of St. Lawrence, or well outside Queen Charlotte Sound on the west coast. We must be concerned about the total life cycle of the fish, about their lifetime habitat, which includes the shelf and the slope as well as those adjoining waters of the ocean which supply great quantities of food for our fish stocks, and which are therefore important to their management. I am speaking of a biological map, if I may call it that. That is the area in which these wild living things spend their lifetime, and is the area within which we have to manage fish stocks. The approach we must take, in my view, at the next Law of the Sea Conference, is that we must endeavour, first, to conserve these stocks and, second, that as we are the coastal state most closely involved, with the greatest concern and interest, that the responsibility should rest with us. That is a principle which should operate around the world, with all coastal states having that responsibility. It should not be exercised to the total exclusion of other nations, because at times, there will be a surplus for harvest and because other nations will have an appetite for many of the fish which the coastal state would not ordinarily take for its own use.

I am optimistic about the future of our fishery, even though there has been great pressure from foreign fleets off our shores. This optimism is shared by our industry. A large number of fishing vessels are being built at the present time. Confining my comments to the Atlantic coast, the total value of vessels under construction is about $18 million, of which roughly $5 million is for small boats in the 35 to 75 foot category and $13 million for those in the bigger trawler category. Plans have been announced for next year. They see a total of $46 million allocated, of which $16 million is for boats from 35 feet to 75 feet in length, and $30 million for large trawlers over 75 feet in length.

This is by far the biggest fishing vessel building program this country has ever seen. I cannot believe that our fishermen are wrong, that the fishing companies are wrong or that the fishing industry does not know what it is doing. They have some faith in ICNAF. They have some faith in our ability to manage our fish out to the edge of the continental shelf and beyond. It acknowledges our recent achievement in establishing an inside track position for the coastal state and it knows, as well, and this has been reported to the Fisheries Committee by representatives from the fisheries service and of the Department of External Affairs, that the consensus developed among the members of the United Nations is that the coastal state must have a major say over its coastal resources. There is a consensus about extending limits 200 miles seaward.

I prefer always to talk in terms of conservation in areas where the fish live and over which they travel as well as into the areas through which they travel during their lifetime. Any figure regarding limits, whether it be a three-mile limit, 12-mile limit or 200-mile limit, I find arbitrary.

According to my reading, the large majority of fishing nations, indeed, of the underdeveloped and other nations of the world which will be going to the Law of the Sea Conference, will have made up their minds and opt for the 200-mile limit. As it happens, 200 miles roughly covers our eastern shelf and slope and most productive near-by waters, with the exception of the Flemish gap; the 200-mile limit, as a generalization, would be a lot better from our point of view than a 12-mile limit or a 50-mile limit. Certainly, I would be surprised if Canada were to vote contrary to a resolution which advocates 200 miles and has built into it the philosophy of sound conservation and good management.

There are several tough questions which we may have to face in the not too distant future. One relates to port closures. This prickly question and has come up before. We used it on the west coast to force the Russians to talk to us about over-fishing off the west coast. We may have to use that kind of leverage on the east coast. I hope not. We are studying the effects on the merchants in our ports of invoking emergency measures of this kind. There are many other issues that have to be faced in detail.

The least discussed and potentially most controversial is that relating to joint ventures with other countries with large populations and rising standard of living, countries prepared, eventually, to pay almost any price for fish. Faced with a likely 200-mile limit, or some such limit, they want, somehow, to get a corner on production which may involve possibly a number of coastal states.

I know the Japanese have been making inquiries. I know that several companies in this country have held discussions with the West Germans and Japanese on joint ventures, under which Canadians would do the fishing in Canadian-owned vessels, and Canadians would do the processing in Canadian-owned plants, but the production would be tailored for certain foreign markets. The joint

venture would be arranged in such a way that the country putting up, say, 50 per cent of the capital or 50 per cent of the working inventory would have a claim on the supply of fish over a period of years. This verges on foreign ownership. It raises the question as to how long these contracts or agreements should be allowed to run. But they are compatible with the idea of coastal states having control over the living resources off their coasts and responsibility for the wise management of these resources, more than some other arrangements we could enter into. They are far better than the first come first served arrangements, if I can call them arrangements, which now exist off our shores.

● (1630)

As I say, we are developing a system of quotas in the North Atlantic, but we need to improve them. We need to expand our own effort and increase our Canadian take. We should be doing the catching because we are far more efficient than foreigners are. We are two or three times as efficient as the Russians with their big trawlers. Processing on shore is much more economic than on ships at sea. When the vessels only have to go a few miles, or at the most 200 or 300 miles from shore, obviously their travel time and expenses for fuel and so on are much less than those of nations which have to send their fleets half way around the world. The economics are in favour of the coastal state doing the fishing and the processing as well.

The Leader of the Opposition referred to an article in the London *Economist* which I have not read. It indicated to me that the United Kingdom was in the process of throwing up its hands and suggested that it should exploit its own shelf or 200 miles or some such concept and buy its extra fish abroad rather than to fish close to countries with a coastal fishery. They should get into joint ventures of the type I already envisaged. I can imagine the United Kingdom getting into joint ventures, not only with Canadians, but with other countries, developed and underdeveloped in Africa, South America and around the world.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, please. I regret to interrupt the hon. minister, but the time allotted to him under Standing Order 58(13) has expired.

Mr. Lundrigan: Will the minister accept a question?

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Questions can only be asked with unanimous consent, because the maximum time allotted to the minister has been used. Is it agreed that questions to the minister be permitted?

Mr. Munro (Esquimalt-Saanich): May I ask that questions be asked after I have spoken?

Mr. Deputy Speaker: The hon. member for Esquimalt-Saanich.

Mr. Donald W. Munro (Esquimalt-Saanich): Mr. Speaker, I wish to compliment the hon. member for Comox-Alberni (Mr. Barnett) for proposing his amendment to the motion before us and indicating the support of our party for that amendment. We in this party also believe we should assert ownership over anadromous fish spawned in our inland waters and our exclusive right to the harvest of those species.

Others in this debate will be dealing with the origin of the continental shelf treaty to which Canada is a party, how and when it came into being and what it provides to Canada. Mention has already been made of it.

In the few minutes available to me, I would like to say that it was concluded in 1958. I underline the date, 1958. It confers on coastal states sovereign rights over the continental shelf for the purpose of exploring and exploiting its resources.

Mr. Davis: Minerals only.

Mr. Munro (Esquimalt-Saanich): I agree that is what it confers. However, we must remember that by a very short margin Canada missed obtaining the 12 mile limit for which the minister is claiming sole responsibility. I say this only to get party lines straight at this particular stage.

Having said that, I wish to turn to those areas of the problem on which I will base my remarks. I have, of course, a vested interest in this debate. I am proud to have that vested interest and I intend to represent it fully here. In my area there are deep-sea fishermen, inshore fishermen and sports fishermen. I wonder whether the present government is doing enough to sustain, maintain and expand those enterprises which are so much a part of Canada's heritage. We rely on the living resources of the sea for our way of life and our food. I maintain that not enough is done for that interest. The government claims it has great plans afoot but relating their comments to their actions, one is permitted to wonder and be confused.

I propose to deal with only two aspects because of the limited time allotted to me; first, the fishing safeguards and, if time permits, pollutions safeguards which are, of course, closely inter-related with our fishing safeguards.

As far as the fishing safeguards are concerned, the Minister of Fisheries (Mr. Davis) recently talked bravely about going out 200 miles. He said, and I quote:

> We will go, flat out, for an exclusive fishing zone which will include the fringes of our Continental Shelf... Whenever our continental margin reaches out more than two-hundred miles from shore, it is the continental margin which will form our fishing limit—

He said more along these lines, all of it in the context of exclusive fishing rights. Those were brave words. I notice that recently he has toned down these claims a bit and is now only talking in terms of management. This brings me to a point I made even before hearing the minister, namely, that I find claims of this sort hardly credible. They are even less credible now because he has backed off from that claim to a large, exclusive fishing area. The map which the minister circulated along with the text of his comments on that particular occasion bravely extolled the nationalistic and sovereign delights of these vast claims, but is this truly credible? Is this claim of his one that, through the actions or plans of his government, he can substantiate in practical or even theoretical terms?

In a debate last February, I referred to the size of Canada's coast guard. On the basis of the latest statistics I could find, May 1972, I stated that we had some 32 vessels in Canada's coast guard designated as patrol vessels. Let us say we have 40 today. That is being most generous.

Also, let us assume all of these vessels are fit and ready to proceed.

Where do we stand on fisheries patrol vessels? It is not always easy to find out just how many of these we have. I did a bit of research and came up with some figures. The minister announced a five year program in February. According to the press release which he issued at that time, he was aiming for scientific and fisheries patrol vessels capable of operating 100 miles or more off the coast for extended periods. How did he get out to 200 miles between February and May?

● (1640)

Mr. Davis: Ever heard of aircraft?

Mr. Munro (Esquimalt-Saanich): But the minister did not say 200 miles at that time. I suspect that what he was out to catch on that occasion were some fish in the St. Andrews area where he was talking, presumably, to supporters. Perhaps he was looking for non-supporters to convince, but I doubt they would be convinced.

Mr. Haliburton: A fisher of men.

Mr. Munro (Esquimalt-Saanich): That's right. With a $50 million program for one 200 ft. offshore patrol vessel to operate off Newfoundland, in 1975 and 1976, plus two other similar vessels, one for the Pacific and one for the Atlantic, completion in 1978, and a 95-footer due for completion in 1974-75, and three 48-footers. And, it is stated in the press release, some 17 vessels which are to be replaced in the course of this five-year program. Finally, the press releases announced there were 78 vessels engaged in fisheries patrol work in February of 1973. We have some 30 coastguard vessels and some 78 fisheries vessels.

The minister spoke just now, and I will accept his figures, that the extension of our fishing limits covered some 700,000 square miles. Going further, I was doing a bit of calculating and I arrived at a figure of about 2 million extra square miles to be patrolled by some 120 vessels. I find this is asking a good deal of crews, particularly when we cannot find them as indicated by the fact the Minister of National Defence (Mr. Richardson) had to lay up some of our vessels because he cannot man them. There is nothing in the program of the government which encourages the native heritage of Canada, which is going to sea. We cannot find mariners for our naval vessels and we are doing everything to discourage our fishermen. This clearly indicates how non-credible is the minister and the policies he is advocating.

Let us look at the situation in another light. What are the officials who advise the government saying about exclusive fishing rights? Not long ago in a committee we heard a lengthy statement on territorial sea matters by one of the government's most knowledgeable and practised advisers. After dealing with the rights of coastal states to the continental shelf, and even to the continental margin, a matter which for many purposes was settled by international convention in 1968, this specialist said:

> As to fisheries, we have asserted that the coastal state must have the power to manage the fisheries resources including the right to determine quotas.

[Mr. Munro (Esquimalt-Saanich).]

I note that the minister has backed up so that he will be able to fall in line with the advice he is getting.

Mr. Davis: On a question of privilege, Mr. Speaker. The hon. gentleman has said several things which are a flat contradiction of my speech. I said during my speech that we must manage the fish over our continental shelf. His last words were that I backed down from that.

Mr. Munro (Esquimalt-Saanich): You did back away from your speech in New Brunswick. What I suggested in my last comment was that the minister backed away from the statement he made in New Brunswick. I have the text in front of me and I am prepared to table it if necessary. He has backed away from that statement because he has found he cannot get support from the people who know how to negotiate treaties, people who are aware of the problems faced when trying to persuade others. I just cannot foresee, at this stage, and I am sure the minister doesn't either, the problems involved in saying "That's it"—certainly not with 120 vessels to defend our limits.

Mr. Lundrigan: We do not have five.

Mr. Munro (Esquimalt-Saanich): I made a calculation and I arrived at a rough figure of 120, that is if they were counting all at sea at the same time for 24 hours a day and never had to put into port. In any event, the witness who was giving this testimony knows the difficulties of negotiating even management rights. As for exclusive fishing rights, with all due respect, the hon. minister stepped way out of line.

So, we find the minister out of step with his advisers and, I suspect, out of step with his colleagues in the cabinet. Therefore, he moved back to the position he outlined just now.

All in all, the government is not doing enough to protect our fisheries, or to encourage our youth to garner the harvest that is theirs. It is not doing enough to encourage fishermen to go to sea, or to build a viable coastguard. It shames me to hear that when there is an accident off our shores the United States Coastguard is called in to pick up survivors. Why does Canada not have a coastguard worthy of the name? We do not have sufficient fisheries patrolmen, either. Our tradition as seamen is not being upheld.

This is not all. We are faced with the knotty problem of split or undecided jurisdiction in the area of maritime control. We have been told here and there in the question period and in committee about the hopes of the fisheries department to wrest control of harbours from transport and to get public works to do the building and maintenance of the facilities within the harbours. This I consider to be business management run wild. Divide and misrule, I call it.

Then, the defence department gets into the act. Listen to this. In the course of questioning the Minister of National Defence only two weeks ago, on May 22, we went into the question of the environmental protection and surveillance responsibilities allotted to our naval and air forces. As reported at page 29 and 30 of the minutes of the 13th meeting of the Committee on External Affairs and Defence, we heard the deputy minister of national defence outlining the problems of multiple jurisdiction or co-ordinated command. All we got out of that discussion was

that a complex study of this question had been undertaken but because the inquiry would involve matters touching on security it could not be made public. This suggests to me that we are still nowhere near determining, in a crisis, which authority goes to sea and for what purpose. Is it a fisheries patrol vessel, is it a coastguard, is it a naval vessel or is it an RCMP vessel? The fisheries and environment people and the coastguard are clamouring for definitions, but the government has not provided any of the answers. So, there we are. We are expected to accept, on faith, that a government which cannot understand national priorities will act in a responsible way to co-ordinate the activities of the many jurisdictions operating for 200 miles out to sea and using all of our 120 vessels. I will not even mention the decision of the government to lay up, or even sell, several of our naval vessels because of inability to man these ships.

● (1650)

Mr. McGrath: Mr. Speaker, may I now have the consent of the House to ask my question of the minister?

Mr. Deputy Speaker: This is a somewhat irregular procedure, but if the House wishes to consent, the hon. member could ask his question.

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Mr. McGrath: The minister failed to address himself to that very important part of the resolution dealing with adequate surveillance. May I ask the minister, and my question is prompted by this very serious omission on his part,—he seems to be suffering from amnesia these days—why he cannot use Canadian Armed Forces ships, just as we are now using Canadian Armed Forces aircraft for surveillance? As the minister well knows, aircraft have very limited ability in respect of surveillance because of weather conditions and their ineffectiveness at night. It would help if they were supplemented by ships of the Canadian Armed Forces. Is it the intention of the government to utilize Canadian navy vessels in this regard?

Mr. Davis: It could well be the government's intention, especially when we have exclusive limits reaching out to the continental shelf and in some places beyond. But it has not been necessary yet. The hon. member downgrades aircraft. Possibly he has not been out on any of the Armed Forces aircraft which can tell through fog, and at night, how many vessels there are, how large they are, whether they are fishing and so on. I would not downgrade the role of the Armed Forces which can carry out surveillance efficiently. I would also suggest that having negotiated quotas with other countries, and especially if we get into joint ventures where the catch is landed on our shores, the problem of surveillance would not be as difficult as it was in the past.

Mr. Lundrigan: Mr. Speaker, the minister did not reflect on the motion which is before the House, when he was speaking. Does he accept the motion which we presented? Secondly, does he still stand by the position he took at St. Andrews, on Saturday, May 26, when he said that the position of the government next year at the Law of the Sea Conference will be that we will go flat out for an exclusive fishing zone which will include the fringes of the continental shelf?

Mr. Davis: Dealing first with the last question, Mr. Speaker, I am personally going flat out for it.

Mr. Lundrigan: I am not talking about you personally.

Mr. Davis: I believe we should go further where 200 miles does not encompass the shelf, and we should include these broader shelf areas as well.

Dealing with the first question, I agree with the intent of the resolution but it does not go far enough. It does not include waters adjoining the slope, which are important fishing waters over which we should have authority, and it should cover salmon and other species which swim far beyond it.

Mr. Lundrigan: Will this be the position of the government next year, the position the minister announced at St. Andrews?

Mr. Davis: I believe it will, and it is my job to make sure it is.

PROCEEDINGS ON ADJOURNMENT MOTION

[*English*]

SUBJECT MATTER OF QUESTIONS TO BE DEBATED

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Before calling on the Parliamentary Secretary to the Secretary of State for External Affairs (Mr. De Bané) perhaps I could announce at this time that, pursuant to Standing Order 40, the questions to be raised tonight at the time of adjournment are as follows: the hon. member for Coast Chilcotin (Mr. Olaussen)—Transport—Subsidy to Foreign Registered Vessel, MV "Travetal"—Suggested requirement of Canadian registry; the hon. member for Red Deer (Mr. Towers)—Post Office—Alleged delay in delivery of first class mail.

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

[*English*]

BUSINESS OF SUPPLY

ALLOTTED DAY S.O. 58—REQUEST FOR STATEMENT OF OWNERSHIP AND ACTION TO PROTECT FISHERIES RESOURCES OVER THE CONTINENTAL SHELF

The House resumed consideration of the motion of Mr. Stanfield:

That this House accepts the principle that Canada and other coastal states own the fisheries resources on and over their respective continental shelves and slopes, that the management of these fisheries resources are the responsibility of the coastal state, that other states may only fish such resources with the permission of the coastal state; and,

This House agrees that, in implementation of this policy, Canada must provide adequate surveillance so that swift action can be taken when Canadian interests are threatened or violated.

And the amendment thereto of Mr. Barnett.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Pierre De Bané (Parliamentary Secretary to Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, the motion which has just been introduced in the House bears on an issue which for a very long time, in fact since the very beginning of Canada, has been of great significance for the economic life and the welfare of the population. Besides being one of the first resources to be developed near the North American coasts, fishing has long been one of the most sturdy supports for our dawning economy. Since our fishing resources are also at the limits of our country, they have brought us into contact with our next-door neighbours and many other countries, and that has rapidly led us to conduct, in that field, more and more extensive activities and assume our own responsibilities. Every member recalls, for example, that the first treaty concluded and signed by Canadians was a convention concerning halibut fishing and our bilateral relations with the United States of America.

In a way, it is fair to say that the situation has not changed much, because fisheries remain a very important area of our national and international activities and that, once again, we must consider how Canada can turn to the best account the biological resources along our coasts and how to defend our interests in the light of new circumstances prevailing in the world today. So, Mr. Speaker, I should like to describe briefly the present situation concerning the matter of national jurisdiction over maritime fishing.

We will recall that for centuries fishing was part and parcel of the concept of the freedom of the sea, and that consequently the fishermen of the whole world could, without restraint, give free course to their talent and their boldness on all the seas of the world. It is only in recent years that we have realized that this total freedom could lead to serious impoverishment and in some cases to complete extinction of biological resources of the sea and that it became imperative to set up new rules if we wanted to preserve those important natural resources.

As the hon. Minister of Environment and Fisheries (Mr. Davis) recalled earlier, Canada was one of the very first countries to propose, in 1958 and 1960 at the Geneva Law of the Sea Conference, that beyond the traditional three-mile territorial sea it was advisable that coastal states should obtain certain rights over a wider area for the exploitation of their resources.

As early as 1964, Canada set up a nine-mile fishing zone beyond the three-mile territorial sea and thus contributed to develop a new concept to guarantee better control over fishing by coastal states.

● (1700)

In 1970, this control was enlarged to even more important areas by extending the territorial waterline to 12 miles and creating exclusive fishing zones in the gulf of the St. Lawrence, Fundy bay, Dixon entrance, Hecate's Strait and Queen Charlotte Strait.

[Mr. Deputy Speaker.]

Those efforts have already brought us important benefits but our offshore fisheries are still subject under international law to a freedom which does not seem to us adequate. We believe that the Great Banks of Newfoundland for instance which for four centuries have attracted fishermen from all over the world, must from now on be governed by new regulations, new concepts. Obviously, the matter does not come under the exclusive jurisdiction of Canada and as is the case in all the seas of the world, fishing must be submitted to regulations universally recognized and applicable to everyone. These concerns are, of course, shared by most states of the world and this is why studies were undertaken under the auspices of the United Nations to develop adequate solutions to this problem.

The United Nations sea bed committee who is now preparing the third law of the Sea Conference is developing a fisheries system that will allow hopefully a better use and conservation of biological resources of the sea. it should be noted that in the same time, this committee also works on problems that have a direct impact on fisheries such as defining the rights of coastal states on the continental shelf and the rights and duties of those states with regard to prevention of pollution. Canada is no doubt one of the countries which were most actively involved in these studies and which contributed most to the development of an almost general agreement not only on the goals to be reached but also on the approach most likely to ensure the success of the operation.

Being aware of the importance of fishing in some areas of our country—including the constituency of Matane which I have the honour to represent—and, in a wider sense, for the whole of Canada, but realizing—which I feel is the most important—the interdependency of all nations of the world, we wish to emphasize that besides being tinted with economic egotism our policy but would above all take into account the primary importance that must be given to this vital resource and its conservation. it might therefore have been easier, but much too simplistic, to propose to the community of nations that they simply share the oceans and their resources and draw more or less arbitrary off-shore limits. Instead, we have decided that the only defensible position under these circumstances, was to treat fishing in a functional way, taking into account not only the geography and the very nature of the various species, but also the related economic and social factors and the necessity to maintain rational control over these activities. We must be delighted that that functional approach now seems to be meeting the acceptance of most countries. Indeed, when considering the concepts put forward by some countries in the context of the law of the sea, like those of the off-shore sea and the economic zone, one can only conclude that that reflects in different ways a practical implementation of that functional policy. Once again I must point out that Canada has been innovative when establishing three years ago its exclusive fishing zones where are already found in fact the main elements of the proposals now under serious consideration by the United Nations, that is the establishment within a certain zone of the rights and privileges in favour of coastal states, in connection with fishing resources, continental shelf resources and the prevention of sea pollution.

As you know we already have this jurisdiction over the Gulf of St. Lawrence, the Bay of Fundy, Hecate Straight, Dixon Entrance and Queen Charlotte Sound.

This policy has a double objective: First, it is obvious that those guidelines should lead to a workable system that should ensure our fishermen and the Canadian people the protection required for the maximum exploitation and conservation of our biological resources. On the other hand, the interests of the international community should obviously be taken into account and it would be a mistake to ignore the human and political context we are living in and to deny to others rights obtained through tradition or which are theirs by the very nature of things. Many countries which are not endowed as we are and which cannot find near their coasts the fish resources required for their survival and trade have been, for years, intensively exploiting the biological resources of all the oceans and, in several cases, quite far out from their own coastal regions. Quite naturally the coastal nations have responded to this mass intrusion of foreign fishing fleets over banks situated near their territories. In view of the modern technology now used by those fleets it became obvious that pure and simple competition between coastal nations and remote fishing nations would have quickly entailed the loss of major resources. No one would have won anything in the long run. It goes without saying that a solution should be found to this confrontation and that we must urgently reconcile the views and interests of all nations involved.

The current negotiations should therefore take into account the opposition of certain very important countries which do not agree with coastal states extending their jurisdiction over large regions. An ideal policy consisting in a coastal state assuming outright control over all resources off its shores would be hardly negociable. It is also obvious that purely and simply maintaining the traditional fishing freedom would not constitute an element of fruitful negotiations either.

Therefore, what is to be done? Considering the positions developed by our natural allies in that field, namely those coastal states that are concerned above all with the resources adjacent to their shores, one realizes that a good number of them chose to secure rights and privileges over a zone up to 200 miles off-shore. As things are now, one can say that those states now represent a majority within the international community. But the kind of rights and privileges to be enjoyed by the coastal state over such a zone have yet to be defined. Some would like those rights to be exclusive, which would entail of course the automatic exclusion of fishermen from other states over large sea areas. Now very few states can say they are able to fish all the resources of those areas. Setting aside for themselves the exclusive right to such resources would be neither practical nor reasonable, given the protein needs throughout the world especially in the underdeveloped countries.

On the basis of scientific statistics, the Canadian government on the one hand deems essential that the coastal state keep for itself the exclusive administration of fishing resources and, on the other hand, firmly believes that the coastal state, while setting aside for itself a preferential share of the production, must allow other states to use the surplus of such resources that it cannot or does not want to take itself. Obviously, the coastal state must have all the necessary latitude to determine, on its own, what share it has coming to it, and to regulate the activity of other countries so that its own activity will not result in a serious decrease or the complete destruction of its stocks.

The question of knowing whether the rights of coastal states will be exclusive, totally or only partly, still remains to be decided at the next Law of the Sea Conference, but there is another equally important matter to which I alluded a few moments ago and which is particularly important to Canada, namely, the question of the limit of the jurisdiction to be exercised by the coastal state. I said that there is a tendency now to grant the coastal state some jurisdiction over fisheries up to 200 miles. Of course, in the case of most countries that distance covers the entirety of so-called coastal species since in most cases the continental shelf of those countries where those species live does not extend beyond 200 miles. However, the situation is entirely different in the case of the East Coast of Canada where the continental shelf of Newfoundland extends beyond 400 miles. On the same scientific grounds that led us to adopt a functional policy, it was normal for Canada to claim rights over that whole area, that is to say up to the limits of the continental shelf since that is where fish is found. It would be foolish to suggest that a state can manage, conserve and exploit adequately stocks lying within an arbitrary limit of 200 miles, without taking into account the elements of those stocks to be found in adjacent areas. A single stock must therefore come under one regulation because, otherwise, the effect of uncontrolled activity in one part would of course be disastrous for the other part of the stock. That is the position Canada defended and continues to defend because we think it is the only defendible position if a rational plan is to be established with respect to coastal fisheries.

Up to now, Mr. Speaker, I have only referred to the so-called coastal species, those which are found mainly on the continental shelf and which depend upon it for their conservation and development. Needless to say, the Canadian government was also concerned with other species of fish, some of which are of prime importance to Canada. I refer in particular to anadromous species, such as salmon. We took the stand, and we intend to maintain it, that salmon should be restricted, wherever it may be found, to the fishermen of the state where it was spawned. Without the large amounts of money and numerous efforts devoted to the reproduction of this species by the state where it is spawned, salmon could not exist, but of course, it is quite natural for it to happen to be, at some time or other, in territorial waters other than those of its country of origin. In such circumstances, interceptions are inevitable, and that problem naturally lends itself to bilateral solutions. Otherwise, there is no doubt that only the state of spawning should be entitled to catch this species.

Non-migrant species which live on the continental shelf are already covered by the Continental Shelf Convention of 1958, which Canada signed, the sovereign rights of coastal states.

In closing, Mr. Speaker, may I say that this government has advocated the most appropriate policy to guarantee Canadian fishermen all the necessary protection for the

development of their industry, and to ensure that their individual welfare and their contribution to national welfare continue to improve. A policy based exclusively on sovereignty concepts would only emphasize the disputes which already take place amongst some nations of the world. We developed legislation and regulations to protect our fisheries, but we have also reached agreements with given countries whenever necessary. We will continue to assert our rights at the international level, but we will also endeavour to ensure that proper consideration is given to the legitimate interests of other States and the international community as a whole.

● (1710)

[*English*]

Mr. Walter C. Carter (St. John's West): Mr. Speaker, I am very happy to rise to take part in this debate to support the motion presented this afternoon by my leader dealing with the principle that Canada and other coastal states own the fisheries resources on and over their respective continental shelves and slopes, that the management of these fisheries resources is the responsibility of the coastal state and that other states may only fish such resources with the permission of the coastal state. I naturally support that motion.

Before I become too involved, I should like to take exception to the remarks made by the Minister of Fisheries (Mr. Davis) in the course of his speech in New Brunswick last week, because I am sure the minister must be aware of the position taken by our party in this matter on September 22, 1972 at a meeting of our Atlantic caucus in Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island. At that time our party stated its position with regard to our marine resources. I should like to read into the record a part of the release which came from that conference concerning our marine resources. It reads:

> . . . under this new department, launch a new, aggressive program to extend Canada's managerial control to the extremities of its continental shelf, for conservation and management of its marine resources;

I think the minister must have been aware of that resolution. Certainly, the people of Atlantic Canada were well aware of it. I am at a loss to understand why he would so deliberately try to misinterpret the views of our party and or our members in respect of our position regarding the continental shelf. I am rather surprised also to see the tug-of-war which obviously is taking place between certain members of the government.

The Minister of Fisheries in his speech at St. Andrews mentioned the continental shelf and came out with a program whereby we would go all out or flat out for exclusive fishing rights including the fringes of the continental shelf. However, a few days later, I believe on Monday, May 28, the hon. member for Gander-Twillingate (Mr. Lundrigan) introduced a motion in this House under Standing Order 43 in which he called upon the House to stand behind that principle. The motion was not allowed unanimous consent. I understand the Secretary of State for External Affairs (Mr. Sharp) is one of the members who refused this unanimous consent.

Some hon. Members: Shame.

[Mr. De Bané.]

Mr. Carter: This did not surprise me, and I am sure it did not surprise most people in Atlantic Canada, because we know where the Secretary of State for External Affairs stands when it comes to fishing. As a matter of fact in 1953, in a speech, the minister stated that the fishery represents poverty and should be allowed to die. This is a statement made by the man who now occupies the position of Secretary of State for External Affairs. He outlined his attitude toward the fishing industry and the fact that it represented poverty and should be allowed to die. I am concerned that if a tug-of-war is in the making our Minister of Fisheries, as good as his intentions are, in all likelihood will lose the war because we have seen the influence the Secretary of State for External Affairs can exercise on the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau), and we have seen how well he can represent the views of his Bay Street constituents in respect of policies made by the Prime Minister and this government.

I feel that if there is to be a battle between the Minister of the Environment and Fisheries and the Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Atlantic area and indeed Canada, could very well come out on the wrong end of the stick. If that should happen, it would be extremely regrettable because we all know that our fish stocks are seriously declining to a point where it is now almost uneconomic to fish. Surely, if the present situation is allowed to prevail much longer it will be uneconomic to fish and a large segment of our population will be deprived of an opportunity to derive a livelihood from that industry. I make that statement in the light of figures which were released to the effect that in 1971 our catches represented, I believe, two and a half billion pounds. This figure was reduced in 1972 by almost 300 million pounds, despite the fact that the capability of our fishing fleets had increased due to improved technology, improved gear and so on.

This situation, of course, is all the more alarming in Atlantic Canada because we find that approximately 75 per cent of all the fish caught in Canada come from the Atlantic area. This is a rather shameful situation. I believe it is a very serious indictment of the present government which has allowed this situation to continue and worsen. We find that in respect of the Atlantic area—I have said this before in committee and in the House—there seems to be a complete and utter indifference to the fishing industry. We find that the government is totally insensitive to the needs of the area in respect of harbour and marine facilities. I am sure the records of the Committee on Public Works and the sub-committee on public works in respect of small craft harbours contain some very interesting and very alarming statistics which reflect the attitude of this government toward the fishing industry, particularly in Atlantic Canada.

We find that the expenditure on public works, such as harbour and wharf facilities, this year is to be 25 per cent of what it was in 1951. These are not my figures but rather are figures that were quoted at the meeting of the subcommittee to which I have just referred by highly placed officials of the Department of Public Works. We find, according to their testimony before the committee, that this year it would cost approximately $30 million to properly maintain and service our facilities in Atlantic Canada while in fact they are this year spending I believe a little over $15 million. I think this is pretty indicative of the

attitude of the present government in respect of the fishing industry, particularly in Atlantic Canada. It is a very alarming fact when we realize that so many of our people depend on the fishing industry for a livelihood.

Earlier I mentioned my views in respect of the Secretary of State for External Affairs and the fact that I believe the gentleman in question has no compassion whatever for the fishermen, and no optimism in respect of the fishing industry. I think that attitude has been reflected in the statement the minister made in 1953 when he referred to the fishing industry as representing poverty. He no doubt made that statement in view of the fact that according to official statistics the fishing industry accounts for less than 2 per cent of the gross national product of Canada. I think, therefore, it has become a political question.

● (1720)

The question, of course, is: why should we cater to the people involved in the fishing industry? Why should we cater to the regions in Canada where the fishing industry is important, when it represents such a small percentage of our gross national product? That question is very misleading in that the fishing industry represents much more than the reported 2 per cent. In fact, according to an economist with the Memorial University in Newfoundland, a man who has spent considerable time studying the effects of the fishing industry in Canada as a whole, the fishing industry is seventh in importance among all Canadian industries. When one realizes that a number of service industries are connected with the fishing industry, employing a number of people who derive a living from the fishing industry but yet never go out to the sea to fish, one cannot help but be surprised at the fact that so little attention has been paid to it by the government, and in particular by the Minister of Fisheries.

In my riding, fishing plays a very important part in our economy. There are communities in my riding where the fishing industry is all important and if the fishing industry were to die, the community would die. In the province of Newfoundland which I represent, if the fishing industry were to fail, the economy of our whole province would be shattered to such an extent that I doubt we could survive economically. That is why those of us in particular who represent Newfoundland are so anxious that action be taken immediately to adopt a sane approach to the management and control of our marine resources.

Of course, it is laughable to observe the government's attitude with regard to surveillance and control. I was amused the other day when in the House we were questioning the Minister of National Defence (Mr. Richardson) and trying to impress upon him the need to make the four destroyers to which reference had been made available to the Department of Fisheries, rather than mothballing them, so that a proper job of patrolling our coastal waters could be made to protect our fishermen. The minister's reply was that he was quite satisfied we were doing a good job of patrolling our waters. If he were to tell that to the fishermen in my riding, I am sure he would get a laugh out of them.

It is obvious to all of us, particularly to the people who are affected, that this government is not doing its duty in properly patrolling our waters and protecting our fishermen from the ravaging of foreign fishing ships. Not only do these foreign fishermen rob our fish stocks and contribute to the depletion of our marine resources, but in the process in many cases they destroy the fishing gear of our fishermen. Then, they just thumb their noses at our fishermen and fade out into the sunset, not giving a thought to paying any compensation and with no respect for authority and law. This is a sad situation because fishing gear is vital to the operation of fishermen. Without it, they cannot fish. In many cases, fishing gear represents a substantial sum of money, certainly an amount which fishermen should not be expected to forfeit as the result of actions by foreign fishing fleets.

One alarming effect of the activities of foreign fishing vessels is that, for years now, we have noted an abrupt decline in our fish stocks. For the past number of years we have found that the catches of our fishermen were seriously declining. Yet, we have been prodding this government, and particularly the Minister of Fisheries, to try to bring about some method of control and management of our marine resources. However, I am afraid that our pleas have fallen on deaf ears, and very little action has been taken by him to protect our fish stocks. He has imposed other regulations on the advice of his colleague, the Secretary of State for External Affairs with respect to seals. There are times, it seems, when the minister is quite willing, indeed anxious, to impose certain regulations. This is so often the case that at times we think perhaps he should be called minister of the environment, fish restrictions and regulations. Yet, when it comes to protecting that all important species, our groundfish, he seems unwilling to take any action that would have the effect of staving off the day when the extinction of this species would occur.

We have seen the minister take steps to curb the killing of baby seals. We all realize that it is not a pretty sight to see animals being killed. Yet, those of us in Atlantic Canada continue to hold very strong views concerning the wisdom of the minister's regulation with respect to that animal. We know how it came about. The Secretary of State for External Affairs and our ambassadors in foreign countries could not stand the thought of being badgered by the sob sisters of SPCA at their cocktail parties. Imagine that, they could not go to a cocktail party in European capitals or in New York without being approached by some lady wearing her mink stole and her kid gloves who, after having eaten a full sized meal of calves' liver and bacon, would come up to them and make objections to the killing of baby seals. Of course, the Secretary of State for External Affairs could not allow his staff to be harassed by such people, and consequently the Minister of Fisheries agreed to impose these restrictions, the effect of which was to pretty well ruin our sealing industry.

We have seen the minister impose other regulations with regard to whales, swordfish and salmon. This seems to be a government that is more concerned with imposing regulations on our own people, on our own fishermen, restricting their area of activity, than with talking sternly to the Russians, the Cubans, the French, the Spaniards, the East Germans and the Portuguese. You name them and they are there. What we want is a minister of fisheries, a government, and a secretary of state for external affairs who would be prepared to take off their gloves, if

they have to, and tell these people that fish in our waters belong to this country and that they can fish them only by Canada's leave and licence.

Mr. William Rompkey (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of the Environment): Mr. Speaker, this is an interesting motion. The minister has already said that he can find little to disagree with in the motion except for the fact that it does not go far enough.

There are certain points in the motion which interest me. It reads:

> That this House accepts the principle that Canada and other coastal states own the fishery resources on and over their respective continental shelves and slopes.

In other words, what it is really saying is that basically the opposition is adopting the same position as this government will be taking at the Law of the Sea conference. Yet, if it is that, on the one hand, members of the opposition are saying that basically they agree with the position that Canada will be taking at the Law of the Sea conference and, on the other hand, they are expressing pessimism regarding whether in fact this position can be improved. They say it is a good position to take, but can we actually do it?

Mr. Lundrigan: We are not accepting that position, my friend. Tell the House the truth.

Mr. Rompkey: You people have thrown cold water on ICNAF and on the Law of the Sea conference. The only alternative, then, is gunboat diplomacy. I think the opposition should come out clearly and say whether they are in favour of our ships firing on vessels of foreign nations and having them fire back on our ships.

Mr. Carter: Stick to teaching.

● (1730)

Mr. Rompkey: I had better classes when I was teaching, I can tell you that; they were much more orderly.

I think the Conservative party should come out quite clearly and say whether they are in favour of ships firing on other ships and precipitating an international incident. There are two alternatives; either gunboat diplomacy or "walk softly, and carry a big stick," in the words of Teddy Roosevelt. I think it should be clearly stated which of the two alternatives the opposition favours.

In many ways, the fishing industry in this country is in good shape at the present time. There are many indications of this. We have talked about the federal contribution to shipbuilding in the Atlantic provinces. In Newfoundland alone this means a federal contribution, for 1973-74, through a 50 per cent construction subsidy of $5 million. In addition there is the possibility of construction at the Marystown shipyard of ten 65-foot, steel, multipurpose units with a capacity of landing another seven million pounds. This represents jobs for 305 men for one full year. When in operation these ships will provide continuing employment for 272 crew members on a year-round basis. This contribution to shipbuilding is important to the fisheries as well.

There are other indications that in general terms the industry is in good shape. Fish prices have increased. For instance, cod blocks have risen from 21 cents per pound in 1969 to 62 cents per pound in 1973. The Salt Fish Corporation, even though cold water was thrown on it in committee by members from Nova Scotia, has put money in the pockets of fishermen. Choice, light-salted cod was selling for $27 per quintal in 1969; it is now selling for $49. It is true that in the last couple of years landings have gone down, but from 1953 to 1971 landings per fisherman increased from 29,000 pounds to 45,000 pounds. The available statistics show that in the last two or three years there has been a reduction, but looking at the broad picture it is evident that landings have in fact increased.

The position we are taking at the Law of the Sea Conference is increasingly geared toward improving the fisheries in this country. I want to speak particularly about the Atlantic area, which I represent and which is very much concerned with the fisheries. As a matter of fact, my province of Newfoundland has been historically and traditionally dependent upon the fishery to provide a living for its people, and I am sure it will continue to depend upon the fishery as a prime source of income in its economy.

The two major themes of this government are national unity and the elimination of regional disparity. We have already shown that the government is interested in improving the economy of the Atlantic area to the point that it is self-supporting. As I see it, our position at the Law of the Sea Conference is fulfilling that aim. If we can ensure increased earnings for our inshore fishermen, there will be less need to find alternative employment for them; in other words, DREE need not provide as many alternatives to jobs in the fishing industry if we concentrate our efforts on that industry.

One issue covered at the Law of the Sea Conference is that of control to the end of the continental shelf. If I understand the motion correctly, this is what it calls for. Our position at the conference seeks control to the end of the continental shelf whether it be 200 or 400 miles and, indeed, to the bottom of the continental slope. This is very important because there is a danger of depletion of stocks and only the host nation could have adequate control over those stocks. First of all, we must make sure that we have adequate stocks from which our fishermen can draw.

I was pleased with the appointment of Dr. Arthur May to the marine biology laboratory in St. John's. For some years he has given valuable aid to Canada at Law of the Sea conferences and I am sure that his knowledge will be valuable to the province in carrying out adequate research programs. It is not as easy to do research beneath the surface of the ocean as it is above the surface of the ground; it is not as easy to count fish as it is to count trees, and you cannot predict the same kind of maximum sustained yield in the water as you can on land. But we must go as close to it as we can.

Another point is that, as the host nation, we must have a preferential share in our fisheries' resources. This means that we should be able to fish to the limit of our resources. If we can establish such a policy, our next important point is to make sure that we have the capability with which to carry it out. The minister pointed out that we have not been fishing up to our established quota. If we can achieve control over the continental shelf and ensure preferential

fishing rights, our next job is to make sure that our people have adequate technology to enable them to take those stocks. We must not emphasize, as this motion does, limits to the exclusion of facilities; we must view both aspects in context. It is one thing to set a limit and control stocks, to have maximum sustained yield and quotas; but we must also ensure that we have the proper facilities, inshore and offshore, to harvest that yield. This means improvements in technology. I have already pointed out that the government has been putting money into ships and gear; it is subsidizing these areas of the industry in order to help fishermen take more of the resources which, of course, means more money in their pockets.

We have discussed a small craft harbours program in various ways, and at length. There is no point in having quotas and controls if fishermen do not have the facilities with which to reap the proper harvest. We must ensure that breakwaters and other fishing facilities are in good shape, that boats are protected and able to harvest the resources properly. We must bear in mind the program announced recently whereby the department would provide a subsidy for freezing and chilling facilities in small craft harbours throughout Canada. This is important because usually a great deal of the catch is lost due to deterioration.

We must be careful, too, that while we are improving the facilities we improve the infrastructure—water supply, housing and all other facilities. I would like to see many of the OFY, LIP and other programs which have been up to now on an ad hoc basis put on an ongoing, comprehensive basis so that communities can plan ahead and thus make sure that the infrastructure is improved. I would like to see an ongoing program of winter works in connection with our small craft fishing harbours.

In a committee meeting recently my colleague from Bonavista-Trinity-Conception (Mr. Rooney) mentioned the effect that unemployment insurance has in encouraging people to leave the inshore fishery. It has been pointed out that the inshore fishery is possibly the most economical of our fisheries because it is less capital-intensive and therefore brings greater return to individual fishermen. We must make improvements in the unemployment insurance program as it applies to fishermen if we are to ensure that they remain inshore fishermen.

● (1740)

Proposals are already under way, through the proper authorities, to bring about necessary changes in unemployment insurance for fishermen. The only alternative would be some sort of catch insurance or, if I may put it another way, we must ensure a guaranteed annual income for firshermen. The form that this help is to take, whether it be unemployment insurance, catch insurance or any other form, is really a matter for debate and for the government to decide. We must ensure that there is some sort of guaranteed annual income for our fishermen. The other point that came up in our committee meetings recently had to do with greater communication with those in policy-making positions. Indeed, we must provide in future for more input from fishermen at the lower level.

All this, Mr. Speaker, is very important in view of the fact that we have a food problem in the world. We recently debated in this House the rising cost of food. Only a small percentage of the world's food comes from the sea. In future a great deal more of its food will come from the sea. This means that we must place greater emphasis on the fisheries and emphasize greater returns for our fishermen.

Naturally, I am very concerned about the northeast coast of Newfoundland, that part of my riding which is almost wholly dependent upon the fishery. In a year such as this, when ice conditions have been bad, our fishermen have no income to fall back on. Many have been without income since the middle of March. We all hope that the fall fishing will be good. When the ice has been bad at the beginning of a year it is said that the fall fishery will be good. In the meantime we must provide some form of income for our fishermen.

Mr. Lundrigan: How will you do it?

Mr. Rompkey: There are at the present time proposals before the government to do this very thing. I have tried to show that the government has increased its spending on the fishery and I have tried to indicate the areas in which it has done that. I have also tried to indicate some of the problems which remain, which some hon. members have tried to discuss within the context of the motion before the House.

Really, what I am trying to say is this: the first thing we must be concerned about is stocks off-our shores. We must improve our technology to ensure greater returns for our fishermen. We must try to improve market prices. We have done this. We must ensure that with improved market prices all the profits do not remain in the hands of the middleman but that the price paid to the fisherman is improved. We must continue to improve facilities in small craft fishing harbours. Finally, we must attempt to provide a guaranteed annual income of some kind for our fishermen.

The position as set out in the motion varies little from the position of the government. However, if we approach this matter from the point of view of the motion alone we will find it is not enough. We should not consider the motion out of context; I think we must be concerned about the broad spectrum of our fisheries' problems.

Mr. Lundrigan: Mr. Speaker, may I ask the hon. member a question?

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Laniel): Order, please. The hon. member wishes to ask a question. This can only be done with the unanimous consent of the House.

Mr. Lundrigan: I will ask him privately.

Mr. Lloyd R. Crouse (South Shore): Mr. Speaker, it is with considerable pleasure that I rise to participate in this debate for it provides me with an opportunity to place before the House some of the problems faced by our own fishermen and those engaged in the fish processing industry. Seldom in our history have the people of Atlantic Canada been more concerned over the future of the fishing industry, and they cannot help but question the federal government's role and its future development policy as it concerns this industry. The previous speaker, the hon. member for Grand Falls-White Bay-Labrador (Mr. Romp-

key), made some comment about the healthy aspect of the industry. Although I do not wish to engage in any long controversy with him, I suggest that he read the annual report put out by Environment Canada in which he will find these words:

> Canadian landings of fish and shellfish in 1971 amounted to 2.5 billion pounds, 6 per cent less than 1970 and 12 per cent less than the peak year of 1968. The total value to Canadian fishermen at $190.7 million was, however, only 1 per cent lower than in 1970.
>
> On the Atlantic coast, total landings have been declining since the peak in 1968.

I could go on, but I think that is sufficient to show what is happening in Atlantic Canada. The fishing industry is vitally important to Atlantic Canada and it is especially important to Nova Scotia where the landed value last year of all species brought our fishermen a total of approximately $60 million. These species had a market value of approximately double this figure. However, this amount when distributed among our offshore and inshore fishermen still leaves them with an income far below the national average. This situation does little to encourage young men to consider fishing as a vocation. This, I submit, is unfortunate and is a situation which must be changed, and changed very quickly, if the fishing industry is to take its rightful place in Canada's over-all development.

In recent years it would appear that our fishermen and their activities have received a very low priority rating from this government. This fact was recently highlighted when fishermen from Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Newfoundland, Prince Edward Island and Quebec appeared before the subcommittee on public works, where all of them without exception deplored the lack of consideration given their requests, as presented by petition through their Members of Parliament, for improved wharves, skidways, dredging and breakwaters.

It is utter nonsense for the government to say that it has not been alerted to the fishermen's needs, for in my own constituency the file is fat with copies of petitions forwarded to the government in support of fishermen's requests. The file from the Minister of Public Works (Mr. Dubé) is equally fat; his communications state that the requests of the fishermen have been noted but no action can be taken at the present time due to shortage of funds. I wonder, Mr. Speaker, what is the real reason behind the lack of action on these requests. I wonder why these people, whose requests are so small and reasonable, are denied assistance in order that they may earn a livelihood and add to the gross national product and to our economy. Why were these requests denied while at the same time this government made available millions of dollars in the form of grants, which in some cases do little for society and often are highly questionable?

The Minister of Finance (Mr. Turner) cannot boast about a $445 million surplus for the financial year ending March 31, 1973, and at the same time ask us to make any sense whatever out of the statement of the Minister of Public Works that he cannot provide funds for skidways and wharves because there is no money available. You simply cannot have it both ways. And to judge from discussions I have had with fishermen, they are not being fooled by the manner in which the government is attempting to fog the issue. Surely the Minister of the Environment and Fisheries (Mr. Davis) must be aware of these situations, and surely he could support pleas for funds made by the Minister of Public Works in cabinet, pleas which would lead to some improvement in the present disastrous and inadequate situation.

This may be one way in which the Minister of the Environment could polish his tarnished image among the fishermen. Having taken away their fishing bounty, their sick mariner's benefits, their swordfishing, salmon fishing and whaling industry, to name but a few, the minister—I can assure him—holds about as much respect among the fishermen as a faulty compass which they know will never lead them in the right direction. Perhaps if the Minister of the Environment spent more time with his colleagues devising policies for our fishermen, rather than attempting to make cheap, partisan politics out of our need for fishing limits on the high seas, as he tried to do at St. Andrews, New Brunswick, our fishermen would have more faith in this government than is now evidenced.

The minister is well aware that our party stated as a matter of policy that we, as a government, would adopt and recognize the principle that Canada and other coastal states own the fishing resources on and over their respective continental shelves and slopes, that the management of these fisheries resources is the responsibility of the coastal state, that other states may only fish such resources with the permission of the coastal state, and in implementing this policy Canada will provide adequate surveillance so that swift action can be taken when Canadian interests are threatened or violated.

That, Mr. Speaker, is our policy. That is our stand. That is our position. That is where we have stood for many years. And what did the minister try to do? He said in his speech that the Conservatives are boldly talking about a 50-mile limit. In effect, Mr. Speaker, Conservative spokesmen were asking this government to support Iceland's stand which is, in my opinion, the same in principle as our own. The only difference is that their continental shelf is approximately 50 miles wide, while ours is 200 miles in some areas and much more than this when one considers the Grand Banks off Newfoundland. The minister fooled no one in New Brunswick. He certainly did not fool any of the fishermen in Atlantic Canada. He fooled no one because there is no record of any action taken by this government to support the principles of continental shelf management as enunciated by Iceland.

• (1750)

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Crouse: That is the point we are trying to establish. When the minister and his parliamentary secretary say this is their position, I would like to know where in this House they have enunciated that position and placed it on the record. It is nowhere to be seen. By not showing any backbone, this minister and this government have made a mockery of their pledges to Canada's fisheries. They have made a mockery of their proposals for the upcoming Law of the Sea Conference scheduled for November in New York, and for Santiago, Chile, in 1974. They have robbed us of support for our proposals from Iceland and other countries, which support will be sorely needed if we are to obtain control of the fishing resources on our continental shelf.

Partisan politics will never be a substitute for practical policies. Instead of trying to intentionally mislead the fishermen and the fishing interests of Atlantic Canada, as the Minister of the Environment tried to do at St. Andrews, I suggest that he should try to remember we are still in opposition and that he and his colleagues, as long as they are the government, share the responsibility of proposing a policy that is acceptable to the majority of countries in attendance at the Law of the Sea Conference.

I remind the minister that the problems of the fishing industry are not only the concern of his department: they are also the concern of the Secretary of State for External Affairs (Mr. Sharp); the Minister of Transport (Mr. Marchand); the Minister of Public Works; the Minister of National Defence (Mr. Richardson), for surveillance; the Minister of Manpower and Immigration (Mr. Andras), for unemployment insurance; the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce (Mr. Gillespie), for marketing; the Minister of Regional Economic Expansion (Mr. Jamieson), for plant development; and the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs (Mr. Gray), for pricing and quality control. These are but a few of the ministers directly involved. Each one of these ministers has a relatively important role to play in the over-all development of our fishing industry.

There is every indication that there will be more government activity in the future; this is something which will have to be worked out between the government and the industry. In my opinion the government has certain responsibilities to this industry, such as the enforcement of regulations, conservation, biological research and the negotiation of international agreements. However, the industry should be permitted to assume certain responsibilities, such as the proper way in which to utilize the resource, the type and size of the ships required to catch the fish, the location of processing plants and the marketing of the catch, as well as the right to research new markets.

There should be one common goal to this over-rall policy; that is, the achievement of an adequate return for our fishermen and processors in relation to the effort made and the capital invested. To bring this about we need to process high quality fish in a form acceptable to the market. For far too long our fishermen have been treated as second-class citizens.

The prime requirement, of course, is some assurance that the fishing resource will always be available. Therefore, in my opinion the results obtained at the upcoming Law of the Sea Conference are vitally important to Atlantic Canada. In this regard I am concerned that the Minister of the Environment may not have the wholehearted support of his cabinet colleagues for his proposal to manage the fisheries on our continental shelf. I cannot help but wonder about the stand that will be taken at this conference by Canada's Secretary of State for External Affairs. From the answers given this afternoon by the Minister of the Environment, obviously he has personal views on the course to be followed but he does not have the backing of the government. In my opinion he misled his audience in St. Andrews and he is misleading Canadian fishermen today. Until his stand is backed by the entire cabinet we will not have a clue as to where the government will stand when it comes before the Law of the Sea Conference.

The Minister of the Environment speaks about continental shelf management of our fishing resources as though it is something new which he has conceived. What arrogance and what nonsense! I remind him and the House that it was in 1952 that Chile, Ecuador and Peru, in their Santiago declaration, asserted full jurisdiction over the sea to 200 miles from their coasts or to such greater widths as might be necessary to protect in full the rights and well-being of their nationals as the three governments concerned might see fit. Perhaps it is only fitting that the next Law of the Sea Conference will be held in Santiago, because the Santiago declaration did more than any other action or document to launch the nations of the world on a course seeking an acceptable revision of the law of the sea.

In my opinion it is vitally important that the government of Canada, with the support of the opposition, present a united front at the next Law of the Sea Conference so that meaningful progress can be made. We must know who owns the sea bed, who has the right to exploit the minerals of he sea bed and how, where and to what depths this will be done. We must know how far out to sea the living resources of the sea belong to the coastal state. None of this will be easy. I say this, for in the preliminary consultations very few governments have shown any real concern about their sharing or about the whole world's interest in protecting the marine environment. When taking this stand they are only enforcing their present actions on our own continental shelf.

At present we know that some 2,000 fishing vessels are operating in the ICNAF area off the east coast. This increased fishing effort is, in effect, robbing us blind and is contributing to our declining fishery resources. The minister can claim that the countries belonging to ICNAF have agreed to fixed quotas—and I understand the quotas that have been established—but I believe it is our responsibility, as the coastal state, to carry out surveillance of these ships in order to monitor the quotas and also to inspect the fishing equipment to see if it is in accordance with ICNAF regulations.

It is for this reason I suggested to the Minister of the Environment, and the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau), that the minister's department take over the four surplus destroyer escorts of the Canadian armed forces. This is not a new idea. Last year, when announcing control of its waters up to 200 miles from its coast, Mexico negotiated the purchase of ten fleet mineweepers, 215-feet long, from the United States navy. These World War II ships were mothballed at San Diego. They are being used as offshore patrol vessels on both the Gulf and Pacific coasts of Mexico. This type of surveillance off Canada's east coast is long overdue. I hope the minister will take immediate steps to beef up our surveillance capability.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. It being six o'clock, I do now leave the chair.

At six o'clock the House took recess.

AFTER RECESS

The House resumed at 8 p.m.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Albert Béchard (Bonaventure-Îles de la Madeleine): Mr. Speaker, 50 or even 25 years ago when marine resources were or seemed endless and when our fishing fleets were almost at the handicraft level, the motion presented today by the leader of the Official Opposition (Mr. Stanfield) would have been of very little interest and it might not have come to the mind of hon. members to discuss such a matter, at least in the way we are discussing it today. But in recent years, with the advent and development of technology in the fishing industry as in all other industrial sectors, with the appearance of those fishing fleets and floating plants that invade our international and domestic waters, with the advent also of this technology used by our own Canadian fishing fleet, and the very great importance of the fishing industry for the Canadian economy, it has become necessary to change the criteria, since with all the development of this modern technology, we are beginning to fear desperately that our once endless resources be wiped out.

● (2010)

And in recent years it has become evident that the international law was less and less adapted to the new problems and needs deriving from the accelerated development of that technology. That is particularly evident as regards marine environment matters. And when we talk about environment we must not think only in terms of water pollution. The marine environment covers everything concerning the fishing industry.

About 400 years ago, Grotius wrote that most things were getting depleted through excessive use, but that such was not the case with the sea. The sea, he said, could not be depleted either through shipping or through fishing, in other words, through either of both uses that could then be made of it.

The traditional concepts of the law of the sea are unavoidably based on the hypotheses reflected in that assertion from one of the most emminent publicists of the law of the sea. Unfortunately, the nature itself of problems calling for regulations through the law of the sea has been radically changed by modern technology and the development of the law failed to keep pace with the development of technology.

Therefore, Grotius has excuses for not having foreseen the long range implications of technological progress as regards the law of the sea. In his time, since he lived towards the end of the XVIth century and in the beginning of the XVIIth, he could not ask himself for instance, whether nuclear ships and super tankers could be included in the definition of the "innocent passage", whether radioactive waste and nerve gas could be thrown into the sea under the principle of high-sea freedom, whether some protection should be a prerequisite to the drilling off our shores and whether modern fishing fleets more impressive than the Spanish Armada should be free to fish at will in the open sea.

As for us, we would have no excuse for ignoring modern technology's consequences on regulations devised in the remote ages of sailing boats and old empires. Uses of the sea have been multiplied since Grotius' time. Today, the sea can be depleted through over-fishing, as the one that is unfortunately practised every day, and it is up to us to develop a new law to prevent such a catastrophe.

Canada has a prime interest in all aspects of the law of the sea; this is readily evident when one considers the length of our coast and our dependency on high sea transportation because of our position as an important trading nation. Everybody knows that Canada has taken part in all efforts aimed at establishing new and better adapted rules in line with the new uses of the oceans. Canada's involvement in the 1958 and 1960 conferences is well known, but on many occasions since then we have tried to find solutions to yet unsolved problems, including the limit of territorial waters, as well as the nature and extent of the rights of coastal states over fisheries resources. Even though some progress has been made on those questions at the international level, we have a long way to go before unanimity is achieved. Some states are advocating strictly regional and even domestic solutions; others want a single limit with regard to the maritime sovereignty and other forms of maritime jurisdiction, but this, of course, is a potential source of conflict.

A complete review of all the principles of the 1958 Convention is not desirable and could lead to a return to anarchy and chaos. It remains that the third Conference on the law of the sea scheduled for next fall and the summer of 1974 in Santiago, Chile, will have to study a number of problems that have never been settled satisfactorily. I am thinking more specifically of the review of the rights and duties of the states in the area of conservation and management of maritime living resources, in the light of the growing depletion of those resources as the fishing techniques became more industrial, as I already indicated at the beginning of my remarks. I find it abnormal that some nations should make heavy investments to protect their spawning rivers, as in the case of the Atlantic and Pacific salmon, and that in so doing they should sacrifice the enormous profits they would have made by developping the hydro-electrical energy of those same rivers to find that this very fish which they tried to protect is being caught without any discrimination, by anyone at all, as soon as it starts migrating. Canada believes that the coastal and long distance fishing states should realize that a rationnal system of conservation, management and exploitation of fisheries is necessary in the interest of all. On the one hand, to allow fishing until the last fish is caught would be insanity while, on the other hand, the conflicts and chaos that total prohibition by a coastal state would entail should be avoided.

From Canada's point of view, first of all the international community must provide for special rights and duties of coastal states and set up at the same time new regulations for high sea fishing which will take into account both the need for an equitable distribution of profits and the importance of a rational development of resources.

Mr. Speaker, do I have to refer my colleagues to the stand taken and the suggestion made—which Canada approved—during the environment conference in Stockholm? The material that was published and released to all

members during this conference is proof of it and is available to all hon. members.

The freedom of the seas cannot mean "freedom to exhaust the resources of the sea". Mr. Speaker, I repeat that marine resources are very important, not only for a large number of Canadians but for all our country, and in particular for those I am most concerned about, for most if not all of the constituents of the riding I have the honour to represent. It is a vital industry for these people and I suggest that it is the responsibility of both our leaders and those who exploit these resources to do it in a rational manner.

Fisheries are not the only area, Mr. Speaker, in which we have realized, unfortunately a bit too late, that our natural resources are being unconsideredly exploited. The same thing happened to forests in the province of Quebec, for instance, where there used to be numerous and very thick forests. They were exploited unconsideredly so that we find ourselves today in an alarming situation and that is why our governments have dealt with this issue, perhaps a bit late. The national development of our resources is the only way to conserve them for future generations.

Of course, I cannot blame the hon. member for South Shore (Mr. Crouse) and the hon. member for Gander-Twillingate (Mr. Lundrigan) for taking a strong stand on such a crucial problem, and I understand their feelings because they are the feelings of their constituents and the fishermen in the areas they represent.

However, this does not mean that the government has done nothing and ignores the problem. Never has a Canadian government concerned itself so much with our fisheries, and I would ask my colleagues, without meaning to reproach them what did the tory government do about ten years ago in the area of fisheries, and particularly in the field of fisheries within our territorial waters, whereas right after Mr. Pearson's government came to power, Parliament passed legislation extending our fishing zone to 12 miles.

Fishing is now prohibited to foreigners in the gulf of St. Lawrence and many other steps and initiatives were taken by the government, which proves its great concern about this particular area of fisheries.

I realize that everything has not been done and if everything was done at the same time, I wonder what would be the use of having successive parliaments. Fisheries have evolved like any other area and that is why every successive Parliament is faced with problems and must find solutions to the best of its ability in the best interests of the people.

Mr. Speaker, we must therefore take the necessary steps to protect those resources. As I said earlier, I am very concerned with fisheries and on the matter of the depletion of those resources, one cannot remain silent.

That is why, Mr. Speaker, we must protect those resources on which a large number of Canadians depend, including my fellow citizens from Bonaventure-Iles de la Madeleine, while acknowledging that other countries are interested in establishing a functional system offshore under which Canada would have priority rights, a system that will also recognize that others are entitled to a fair share of the benefits.

• (2020)

[*English*]

Mr. Crouse: Mr. Speaker, the hon. member asked what our party had done in respect of fisheries when—

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, please. I do not think it would fall within the realm of proper debate for the hon. member for South Shore (Mr. Crouse) to now make a second contribution to the debate.

Mr. Crouse: Mr. Speaker, I simply wanted to ask a question.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: The hon. member has used up the time allotted by the Standing Order. However, if there is agreement in the House that the hon. member be allowed to ask a question, he will be recognized. Is it agreed?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Mr. Crouse: Mr. Speaker, the hon. member for Bonaventure-Îles de la Madeleine (Mr. Béchard) asked what was done by the Department of Fisheries during the period the party to which I belong was in office. I should like to ask whether he is aware that during this period an immense subsidy program was put into effect under the Diefenbaker regime, during which the coastguard was established to provide protection to Canadian fishermen. Also, is he aware that in 1958, under the Conservative government, steps were taken enabling Canada to control and manage its continental shelf? Is he not aware that these progressive steps were taken under that regime?

[*Translation*]

Mr. Béchard: Mr. Speaker, he answered my question, but he is asking me whether I was aware of it. I am; I did not say that the members of the party of the right hon. member from Prince Albert (Mr. Diefenbaker) had remained idle, but as far as the resolution introduced by the Leader of the official Opposition (Mr. Stanfield) is concerned, it deals with fisheries limits. Well, I say to him that if something was done, we were not aware of it; everything has been done since 1963.

[*English*]

Mr. Harry Olaussen (Coast Chilcotin): Mr. Speaker, the very important motion before us for debate gives us the opportunity of speaking on this subject. The government is being urged by members of the House to implement policies that are in the best interests of this country and our fishermen. The motion deals with fishery resources on and over the continental shelf and slope, as well as adequate surveillance.

First of all, I must mention that before implementing any policy or considering anything that will improve our fishing industry it is important to consider our air and sea rescue operations, particularly in British Columbia. These operations have proven to be rather ineffective at times and have been criticized in respect of poor performance and lack of immediate action. Steps must be taken to bring about improved air-sea rescue operations. I am sure hon. members of this House are agreed that something should be done in this direction in order that Canadian fishermen can operate in an effective and safe manner while harvest-

ing one of the most important resources of this country. It is imperative, if we are to expand our fishing operations and if we want safety for our fishermen, that this be treated as a priority matter. Fish stocks have been declining over the years, not because of Canadian fishermen but because we have allowed our territorial waters, just as has happened with the territorial waters of Iceland, to be gradually depleted by foreign fishing fleets.

I welcome, also, the amendment to the motion before us, which I seconded, to the effect that this House assert ownership by Canada of anadromous fish spawned within our borders and the exclusive right to harvest the same. The views expressed in the House today will go a long way toward the formulation of policies that will bring long-term benefits to this country.

The question of the extent of a country's territorial boundaries has arisen many times in many parts of the world. Many countries which depend on fishing and the fishing industry as a major source of revenue and as a matter of national interest are taking action to protect this interest. We have recently witnessed the action taken by Iceland to extend its territorial waters in order to preserve its fishery resources. With the gradual depletion of these resources, Iceland now clings precariously to the edge of an economic precipice, as it finds no alternative to taking such Lilliputian action as is necessary against Great Britain in order to preserve the economic health of its country.

We have also witnessed the action taken by Uruguay, Ecuador, Peru and Chile to extend their territorial waters and fishing rights to 200 miles from shore. We witnessed an earlier declaration by Argentina to extend its fishing rights over the Patagonian shelf. This is the kind of action these countries find necessary to preserve their resources and prevent other countries from depriving them of their livelihood.

Here in Canada we are also faced with the encroachment of foreign fishing vessels within our waters, contributing to the gradual depletion of our fishery resources. It is not sufficient to have a 12-mile limit as this is merely an invitation to other countries to take advantage of our ground-fish resources which extend to the edge of the continental shelf, or of our salmon and herring which are spawned in this country and are the resources of Canada.

There is no doubt that the fishery resources in the waters adjacent to our coastlines must be conserved and developed in the interests of Canadians today and of future generations. The rapid increase in the world fishing effort and efficiency has focused attention on the fact that unless adequate safeguards are taken the marine resources which have played such a vital role in the development of the Canadian economy will be harvested by foreign fishing fleets.

Fishing resources harvested by Canadian fishermen in or out of Canadian territorial waters are also exploited by fishermen of other countries in the high seas adjacent to Canadian territorial waters. Unless positive action is taken by the Government of Canada to enforce the Canadian maritime boundaries and to extend these boundaries beyond the present 12-mile limit, there can be no planned program of fisheries management and conservation. If, however, action can be taken by this country to preserve its interests, then Canadians engaged in the primary fishing operation and in the many processing industries will be assured of a means of livelihood for many generations to come.

As a member representing a large coastal section of British Columbia it is in my interest and in the interest of fishermen in my constituency to ensure that steps are taken now to safeguard the marine resources which are adjacent to the coastlines of Canada. One of our weaknesses is that we cannot compete economically and on the same scale as the Japanese and/or the Russian fishing fleets. As a result, we must develop and implement a policy that will give us jurisdiction over our fishery resources in the waters adjacent to our coastlines, to the edge of the continental shelf and slope and if necessary to the limit of 200 miles in order that we can conserve and develop these resources.

● (2030)

There is no doubt that the principle of the 200-mile limit must be enforced, not only to 200 miles but also farther than that because the contintental shelf off the east coast of Canada extends in some cases 300 or 400 miles. We must develop a policy by which we can direct our attention toward better conservation to sustain yield operations, toward enforcement of anti-pollution laws and toward measures that will ensure that our fishery resource will continue to be a healthy sector of the Canadian economy.

In conclusion, I insist that this country must enforce its authority in defending the rights of Canadian fishermen to fish unmolested in their own waters. It must also be prepared to enforce its authority up to the edge of the continental shelf and slope, and even up to the limit of 200 miles which is the limit we may have to impose in order to preserve our fishery resources.

Mr. Jack Marshall (Humber-St. George's-St. Barbe): Mr. Speaker, I welcome the opportunity to contribute a few minutes to this debate on the welcome motion by the leader of our party. He made clear the policy we stated at the Atlantic conference in September of last year and specifically one of the many recommendations to the effect that we would extend Canada's managerial control to the extremeties of the continental shelf for conservation and management of our marine resources.

It was pleasing, also, to note that the Minister of the Environment (Mr. Davis) welcomed the position of our leader. I congratulate him on following the lead of the Minister of Finance (Mr. Turner) who also has the habit of stealing some of our policies. Now all the minister has to do is to get together with the Secretary of State for External Affairs (Mr. Sharp) and pound some sense into his head so that the government can move forward to make its clear case at the Law of the Sea Conference.

Since many former speakers have been taking credit for what they did and said over the years even before we Newfoundland members arrived in Ottawa, I am glad to see that the minister is finally coming around to listening to the many pleas we have made to him in the last five years on conservation of our resources and on the provision of meaningful surveillance. It took us five years, Mr. Speaker, and after a few battles I think he is beginning to see the light.

However, the leader of our party said, and rightly, that because the Law of the Sea Conference was finally taking place we should not get too confident that the minister will have his policies or objectives accepted immediately. It took a couple of years even to get agreement on an agenda from the other nations. But I am sure everyone in the House who is interested will wish him well. I mention this because our fishing industry is deteriorating even though the minister has such high hopes, which is indicated by the reams of releases which come out of his office. I must say that of all the paper coming out of government offices giving members glad tidings of great things to come, his office must hold the record. I mention this also because we have a problem on our hands right now which must be corrected immediately.

If I might refer to my own province, Mr. Speaker, our patrol capability leaves much to be desired. The foreign draggers must have a great time teasing the Cape Friels, for example, which could not catch a dory at low speed. Even the tracker squadron surveillance operation of the Department of National Defence is meaningless because they fly at predetermined hours and are not available at the time when foreign draggers are fishing within our boundaries. The minister and his department, for some reason or other, in respect of the reports coming in from the district officials take the word of these officials rather than the word of the fishermen.

I had a phone call from a fisherman last year who, while he was talking to me, was watching a foreign dragger tie up at a CNR dock and dump its offal when reports were coming in that all draggers were outside the limits. The department made a token arrest, however, of a Canadian dragger. I wonder what political implications were inherent in this instance. While we are waiting for the extension of our continental shelf, what are the 17,000 fishermen in Newfoundland to do?

This year the ice blockage along much of our coastline delayed the execution of the fisheries for many hundreds of fishermen. When I bring the matter to the attention of the minister he tells me this is not so because his officials have told him it is not so. And while he does not believe the representations of members, and in turn the fishermen, for some reason or other the government has not been able to come up with an unemployment or catch insurance plan to satisfy the industry, under the guise that fishermen are self-employed. I wonder what we are waiting for. Do we wait until the Minister of National Health and Welfare (Mr. Lalonde), who is here, comes up with his master plan which will take from three to five years to complete?

The minister also mentioned earlier the direction of his department's effort, and particularly that he is putting another $46 million into a vessel-building program. Fine and dandy, I say, But we have a good vessel-building program now whereby Newfoundland fishermen can get, through federal and provincial programs, 90 per cent of the cost of a longliner; but on the other hand, the Minister of Public Works (Mr. Dubé) does not have enough money in his budget to provide the necessary wharfage facilities for these longliners. This emphasizes the lack of, and need for a comprehensive Canadian fisheries policy, which is now a patchwork system of various departments, both federal and provincial, going off in different directions and wasting millions of dollars.

The fishermen of Newfoundland are a completely frustrated lot of citizens, wondering what kind of legislators we are in Ottawa. Newfoundland joined confederation in 1949 because of the great benefits of our nation. True, there have been many benefits and I am glad this has come about, as are most Newfoundland citizens. But the Fathers who made the deal up here in Ottawa did not realize that the federal government would brush aside our little fishing industry as a little speck in their national goals. They did not realize, and evidently did not convey the idea that fishing was our basic resource and that it dictated our unique way of life. Those who governed after 1949 caught the industrialization disease, a disease which even today we cannot get rid of in our greed and our search for oil and other minerals. Unfortunately, we in our proud province still do not realize the environmental value and peacefulness of our lifestyle, a quality of life that is fast disappearing in our greed for wealth regardless of the cost.

The fishing industry in Newfoundland is our basic resource and we must protect this industry at all costs. We must protect the small fishing communities and the fishermen citizens who are as good Canadians as those whom we push to the big cities, citizens who because of fisheries policies have tried to relocate to growth centres to their detriment and disturbance. The fishery in Newfoundland is analogous to that of Iceland because we are fighting for survival. Iceland, as an independent nation, is dependent for 80 per cent of its economy on the fisheries. Can anyone blame it for the action it took to reinforce its survival?

The Minister of the Environment keeps repeating that we do not, and should not have to resort to gunboat diplomacy to protect our livelihood. I ask him: What do we do. Do we wait for the countless studies and programs he has announced? Do we wait for support facilities, the responsibility for which will be handed over by the Department of Public Works to the Department of Fisheries? Do we wait for the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) to sign the transfer of responsibilities so that the minister can get on with the job of providing small craft harbours to our fishermen? Do we wait for the minister to believe the members of the opposition from Newfoundland who are on his side but he does not know it? Do we wait for him and his government to show some backbone and tell the foreign nations that we were not aware of the value of the fishery resources and did not provide the factory ships and the trawlers necessary to compete for this lucrative resource?

● (2040)

Is it any wonder that the fishermen of Newfoundland have lost their hope of regaining their livelihood in the fishing industry? Is it any wonder that my colleague the hon. member for Gander-Twillingate (Mr. Lundrigan) had to make an issue of the political speech the minister made in New Brunswick a short time ago? Is it any wonder that I as a Member of Parliament, in my frustration when foreign draggers were raping the shores of my district two years ago, reluctantly threatened to take up arms together with my fishermen to keep these foreign draggers from ravaging our shores and denying our citizens their rights?

No one in Canada wants to resort to gunboat diplomacy. The minister is either being partisan or is still not aware of what poverty is. He is not aware of what frustration is and what the consequences might be of denying Canadians their rights: if he had been, he would not have made the statements he did.

Since time does not permit me to go on much longer, let me conclude by saying to the minister that all he has to do is trust Canadians regardless of their political leanings. Let him bring his case to the Law of the Sea Conference with our support. Let him bring Bill C-4 before the House of Commons so as to provide the support facilities necessary for the fishermen of the Atlantic region. Let him bring in his new programs for the provision of vessels to allow Canadian fishermen to take advantage of our resources. He should get on with the job of supplying the new patrol vessel which he announced. But let him remember the pledge of this government to guarantee equality of opportunity to all Canadians wherever they may live, which should include the fishermen of the Atlantic region and will benefit all Canadians.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Alexandre Cyr (Gaspé): Mr. Speaker, since I have decided to take part in the debate on the motion presented by the Leader of the Official Opposition (Mr. Stanfield), you will permit me to say that the government took action quite a long time before the idea of protecting the fisheries resources on our continental shelves and slopes ever crossed the mind of the Leader of the Progressive Conservative Party.

The opposition days in the House, designated to deal with ways and means resolutions, do not offer the Canadian people anything new. We have already studied in its minute details the subject presently before the House in the Standing Committee on External Affairs and National Defence, as well as in that on Fisheries and Forestries. Because what we heard today had already been said on many occasions by ministers and department officials, I say this is stale news.

The opposition is really limited in the choice of measures it wishes to suggest to the government. How lucky the Canadian people are, Mr. Speaker, to have had, since 1963, a government which is so concerned with their welfare and which presents legislative measures, not only for this generation but also for future ones. I would like to quote only the legislation passed by this Parliament on our territorial limit of 12 miles, and I remind this House that we have shown the way to a number of other countries by passing a legislation to protect our environment as far as 100 miles off our coasts, north of the 60th parallel.

With regard to the limits beyond territorial waters, several proposals have been made by various countries during the international conferences that have taken place, in order that the state may exercise its jurisdiction over the off-shore resources as far as 200 miles.

In addition to the jurisdiction over the off-shore resources, some states also want to broaden their jurisdiction over fisheries, and others would be prepared to take into account fishing done on the high seas for generations. There are some treaties to be considered and Canada, through its Secretary of State for External Affairs and its

[Mr. Marshall.]

Department of Fisheries has signed protocols with several countries concerning provisions to control fisheries within the 12-mile territorial limits. The negotiations were not easy, and we are grateful to those two ministers for the achievements. There is another type of jurisdiction with which we are concerned and that is pollution control. The Canadian government has already indicated that it advocates very strict regulations. On the other hand—that is well-known—our neighbours to the south, the United States, hardly accept the policy of the Canadian government in the area of pollution control on our coasts.

The Canadian position is known to everybody, since it has been outlined a number of times at the UNFAO, to the effect that we want to be the owners of the fishing resources on our continental shelves and slopes. We even went further in defining a continental shelf, since we have always maintained the position that the Canadian continental shelf extends to the continental limit, that is the shelf itself plus the slope or part of it.

In fishing matters, the government has defined two kinds of jurisdiction: that which the coastal state can exercise on fishing resources, as there is no longer a question of sticking to the previous system of non-interference, according to which anyone can fish at will. The coastal state must preserve the right to manage resources, including the right to set quotas. The government proposals still go further; it is asking that the coastal state be the sole beneficiary of certain marine species.

The Minister of Fisheries (Mr. Davis) has already pointed out that some anadromous species such as the Atlantic salmon should not be fished in open sea, lest it become depleted. We are endeavouring on the Atlantic coast to preserve the salmon—especially the Gaspé salmon—and the countries practising that fishing should be more conscious of the conditions. This is why, Mr. Speaker, we must continue to prod the northern countries into preserving that species and we know that the Minister of Environment has performed significant work to that effect.

The motion of the Leader of the Official Opposition (Mr. Stanfield) reads as follows and I quote:

> . . . the management of these fisheries resources are the responsibility of the coastal state, that other states may only fish such resources with the permission of the coastal state;

As for the Gulf of St. Lawrence, we are facing a very special problem: the presence of the Islands of Saint-Pierre and Miquelon, which belong to France.

During an external affairs and national defence committee debate, Mr. Alan Beesley, legal adviser and general manager of the Bureau of legal services, in answer to a question asked by the hon. member for Dartmouth-Halifax East (Mr. Forrestall), concerning the islands of Saint-Pierre and Miquelon, had this to say about the negotiations, and I quote:

> They are in abeyance at the moment . . . Our problem is that we have had a series of negotiations and over the course of years, literally, that these negotiations have taken, the position has developed to the point where we could be on the verge of an agreement. The problem is, in simple terms, that the French government originally took the position that St. Pierre and Miquelon were entitled to a shelf such as any other piece of land and therefore the equidistance principle must apply in determining the boundary line between their continental shelf and ours.

We took the position that the convention on the continental shelf to which both countries are party clearly envisages special circumstances, refers to the problem as special circumstances in which the equidistance principle would not be deemed to apply, and they said this is a classic case for the application of the special circumstances rule. So that meant we then had to get into negotiations to bring the two positions together.

The tentative outline of an agreement which has been worked out and which both governments must consider is rather complex because it is not based on a simple territorial acquisition. It is based on an attempt to determine what the real needs of the respective parties are, what the real interests are and where the point of accommodation lies. In other words, it is not simply a case of drawing a line on a map and saying there is the edge of the continental shelf.

It is conceivable, for example, that France might accept a lesser continental shelf if it could obtain certain types of benefits which we would normally not be willing to grant. So this is about all I really can say at the moment because the negotiations are confidential.

As you can see, Mr. Speaker, the government ensures an appropriate control so that swift steps may be taken to safeguard the interests of Canadians, especially those of fishermen on the Atlantic and the Pacific coasts.

The association which exists in France concerning the islands of Saint-Pierre and Miquelon in the Gulf of St. Lawrence is an excellent example of the complexity of negotiations at the international level. Hon. members of the opposition blame the government for not taking immediate action concerning the fishing rights on the continental shelf of Canada.

What a calamity for Canada if diplomatic negotiations were the responsibility of the hon. leader of the opposition. How would he succeed in having Canada's positions accepted at the international conferences since he cannot even sell his own ideas on national policy to members of his own caucus.

With regard to negotiations on the international level, it is not an easy task and the government must take the lead in the conservation of our territorial waters and fisheries resources on and over the continental shelves and slopes.

● (2050)

[*English*]

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Crouse: The speech is not worth applause. That is bigotry over there.

Mr. Charles E. Haliburton (South Western Nova): Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to rise this evening to support the motion of the hon. Leader of the Official Opposition (Mr. Stanfield). When one thinks of the power at the negotiating table mentioned by my hon. friends across the way, one wonders what power the Minister of the Environment (Mr. Davis) may have when he arrives at an international conference without even the blessing of the Secretary of State for External Affairs (Mr. Sharp) for the proposal that he plans to present. Not only can he not get the consent of all his confrères to put forward this proposal, but he cannot get the consent of the minister who is particularly charged with that responsibility.

At this stage of a debate, Mr. Speaker, pretty well all that can be said has been said. I might take a moment, however, to review what I consider to be that situation as far as the Canadian fishery is concerned, or at least to speak of that with which I am familiar, the Atlantic fishery. The fishermen on the Atlantic coast are filled with uncertainty. We have seiners encroaching upon the territory of the weirs, big vessels encroaching upon the territory of little ones, foreigners encroaching upon the territory of Canadian vessels, lobstermen facing the depletion of lobster grounds by the encroachment of foreign vessels, lobstermen faced with broken promises by this government with regard to research which was to take place on the effect of fishing of offshore lobsters on inshore grounds. We have the effective loss of the whaling industry, the swordfishing industry, the salmon industry and the sealing industry. There is a good deal of uncertainty in the industry about the future of scallops and herring because of recent measures taken by the department.

New standards for fishing vessels have been brought in without any meaningful consultation with the men who operate them. The regulations involve not only those aspects of vessel construction and management which concern the quality of fishing but also changes which recently came into effect in regard to steamship regulations and the measurement of vessels. The regulations now require extremely small vessels to undergo the same type of rigorous inspection as steamships. Last, but not least, is the uncertainty of our fishermen about whether they are going to have a harbour big enough to hold their vessels once they acquire the new vessels that will be needed to comply with the requirements.

As we have learned in committee, in Atlantic Canada wharves are in a deplorable state of disrepair and require many millions of dollars to bring them up to standard. The future of the small fish plant operators in my riding is very uncertain. There are inconsistent inspection procedures, and apparently ad hoc standards. A fish plant and the product may pass inspection one day but not the next. There is an absence of meaningful help or guidance from the Department of the Environment as far as fisheries are concerned, and there is apparent callousness on the part of those charged with this responsibility toward small fish plant owners.

The vocabulary of this administration includes such words as "regulation", "protection", "inspection", "service" and "rationalization". Very seldom do we hear officials of the Department of the Environment or the minister speak of the promotion of the fisheries, encouragement of the fisheries, assistance to the fisheries or diversification of fish plants and fishing operations. This resolution, Mr. Speaker, can go some distance toward securing dependability of supply for our fishermen and fish plants. Within this context, however, there must be harbour facilities for big vessels, small vessels and intermediate vessels. Also, we must provide assistance to fish plants: there clearly is a need for large, small and intermediate operators.

Mr. Speaker, I heartily endorse the amendment of the hon. member for Comox-Alberni (Mr. Barnett). The amendment falls into line very well with the context and import of the motion of the leader of our party. I was encouraged, too, by the minister's statement about the changing attitude of various countries toward the imposi-

tion of control of our continental shelf to a 200-mile limit. I was concerned, however, by the answer he gave this afternoon to questions which indicated that the Secretary of State for External Affairs has not been won over to that view.

● (2100)

The ICNAF agreement on quotas represents a forward step in protecting and controlling our fishery resources off our coasts. Whether the Canadian fishermen will benefit in fact has yet to be decided. So far the result has been that fewer herring and haddock have been landed than would have been landed if the ICNAF agreement had not been reached. Contrary to the minister's statement this afternoon, not enough herring were provided for in the quota to keep our fishing fleet or our fish plants operating. In the Bay of Fundy there is a seiner fleet potentially able to catch some 200,000 tons of herring on our traditional grounds but now, under the ICNAF agreement, they are limited to 5,000 tons which is barely enough to supply one vessel with an adequate annual catch. Also, the over-all catch, as several hon. members have mentioned, has been declining annually. Our fishermen believe that this is the result of the rape of our resources by the vessels of foreign fleets operating off our coasts.

Despite the minister's assurances to the contrary, we have no way of knowing how much fish is actually being caught by many of these foreign vessels. There are 2,000 such vessels operating off our coasts. Until there are practical controls or controls which are negotiated with respect to the size of catches, the means of catching or the technique of catching the ICNAF agreement will be suspect so far as our fishermen are concerned.

What of the 200-mile limit? Here I am talking of Canada's surveillance capability. There is little use proposing a 200-mile limit or a continental shelf limit unless Canada has the capability to patrol this area at sea to make sure that our sovereignty is not abused. At the moment, on the east coast we have one vessel capable of providing surveillance and enforcement. We have heard proposals respecting another vessel which will come into being some years hence. I am astounded at the press release issued by the minister on May 11 which said in so many words that Canada has increased its aerial surveillance to the point where we will now have one flight per week of a tracker aircraft.

Mr. McGrath: Big deal!

Mr. Haliburton: That is right; it is a big deal. They will fly 1,400 hours per year, or roughly three hours per day if you average it out.

Mr. McGrath: Or one day per week.

Mr. Haliburton: That is a very token effort and it is certainly not one designed to provide an adequate means of obtaining knowledge of the location and size of catch of foreign vessels which regularly fish off our coasts. I suppose, if you work it out, that the tracker aircraft by the time it flies from one ship to another will spend about ten minutes in surveillance of each foreign vessel off our coasts.

Mr. Lundrigan: That is a misleading statement. It is about 60 seconds.

Mr. Haliburton: True, it is about 60 seconds. Tied in with that we must consider our rescue capability. To me, a maritime Canadian who has confidence in the ability of our seamen, who is proud of our maritime heritage and knows the capability of our seamen to cope in the worst weather conditions as well as in the best weather, it is particular galling to find that almost always when one of our vessels gets into trouble, or one of our fishermen needs to be rescued, the rescuer is either one of our own fishing vessels or the United States Coastguard.

The situation will be totally ridiculous if one considers it in the light of a 200-mile territorial sea limit. Certainly, if we are to have a 200-mile territorial sea we must have the ability to do the necessary lifesaving and patrolling that will be needed. A worth-while suggestion in this regard was made by one of my colleagues last week. He suggested that serious consideration should be given to taking over the four destroyer escorts which have been mothballed in Halifax. These destroyers are admirably suited to this task. They are fast and seaworthy and can carry a helicopter, which could be of vital use in the event of a disaster at sea not only in rescuing people but in flying them back to the coast where they can receive medical attention.

Much has been said about the 12-mile limit and the fact that the Liberal government of the 1960s was responsible for declaring it. Taken as a bald fact, that may be so. However, such statements ignore that the concept was advanced by the Conservative government at the Law of the Sea Conference in 1958, and that the idea very nearly won international acceptance. That was the ground-breaking episode with regard to that matter. The Liberal government of the sixties was merely following suit, merely following the line that had already been established by the former Conservative government.

What has been the effect of that unilateral declaration of the 12-mile limit? In many instances the declaration has not had any effect because every nation wants to protect its own interests. But is has affected our lobstermen who are unable to fish on their traditional grounds while American boats fish there, because presumably those American boats have some traditional right to fish in Canadian waters. I do not know whether a solution could be found, but if one is not found shortly there will be another shooting war because the Nova Scotia lobster fishermen, faced with declining catches and knowing the effect of the offshore lobster catches, are in no mood to sit idly by. They do not appreciate trying to catch haddock, halibut or hake while American fishermen are inside our 12-mile limit catching lobster which they may not be able to take.

I want to say in closing that I am proud of my country and proud of its maritime heritage. We cannot, as Canadians, stand by and see our maritime resources depleted by others who come to our shores. We can share. We have enough resources that we can share with other countries, under proper management, a portion of them. But we, the members of this House, must protect our citizens as well as the various species of fish. Whales, scallops and lobsters may need protection; but so our fishermen. Independent

fishermen and independent fish plant owners are in danger of extinction as well. I believe that is something this House and this government ought to be concerned about. We must declare our title to the continental shelf and/or the 200-mile limit. We must agree to persuade others to recognize our ownership and right of control. We must have the capability, as well, to control that area. The resources of the sea are ours, but we must act soon to ensure our continued right to lay claim to them.

Mr. Ian Watson (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of State for Urban Affairs): Mr. Speaker, I wish to join with others in welcoming this positive motion put forward by the official opposition as it clearly puts the official opposition on record as supporting the position which this government has taken, at least since the present minister made his hard-hitting speech in Boston in the autumn of 1968, when he claimed Canada's right to manage the marine resources on or over our continental shelves and slopes.

This is not to say, Mr. Speaker, that individual members of the opposition such as the hon. member for Humber-St. George's-St. Barbe (Mr. Marshall) have not been ahead of their party in supporting the control of Canada's marine resources on and over the continental shelf. I think it is accurate to point out that before today neither the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Stanfield) nor the fisheries critic of the official opposition have addressed themselves to this particular question. They did so today, and all members welcome this.

● (2110)

The hon. member who preceded me raised a very important point, the need for better surveillance facilities. Last May a delegation from parliament attended a NATO meeting in Brussels. They followed up a resolution which had been adopted by the NATO assembly the previous autumn. This resolution, which was sponsored by the hon. member for Humber-St. George's-St. Barbe (Mr. Marshall), the hon. member for Gloucester (Mr. Breau) and myself, put forward the difficulties which most nations of the North Atlantic face on the question of surveillance. We asked the NATO council to examine areas of potential collaboration among members of the North Atlantic community in using the full range of surveillance facilities, including satellites, to monitor fish migration and pollution dangers.

As a result of this resolution I was named as a special raporteur to report back to the assembly on this question. In preparing my report to the assembly I called upon the expertise which is available within our government. A very excellent report was prepared on the subject of surveillance facilities, describing the latest developments, by Dr. L. W. Morley, director of the Canada Centre for Remote Sensing, Department of Energy, Mines and Resources. I presented this report on remote sensing to the NATO assembly meeting on May 19, 1973.

I do not know precisely the formula which should be followed, Mr. Speaker, but I feel that this report which was prepared by an outstanding Canadian civil servant is worthy of being attached to today's *Hansard*. I ask for the unanimous consent of the House to do this. I feel the report would be of sufficient general interest to justify this being done. I have not had your attention for the past two or three minutes, Mr. Speaker. I wonder if Your Honour could address yourself to the question I asked, whether this very excellent report which has been prepared by an outstanding civil servant can be added to today's *Hansard*. It sets forth in a way which has not been done before the latest developments in satellite surveillance. Is this possible, Mr. Speaker? I ask for Your Honour's guidance.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Boulanger): The Chair will first have to determine whether there is any objection. I will certainly need the—

[*Translation*]

—unanimous consent of the House to table such a document.

[*English*]

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Boulanger): The hon. member can only do this with the consent of the House.

Mr. Lundrigan: Mr. Speaker, under the rules the hon. member is not competent to table anything.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Boulanger): There is not unanimous consent; therefore I cannot accept the suggestion of the hon. member.

Mr. Lundrigan: Only a minister can do that.

Mr. Watson: Am I to understand I cannot do that, Mr. Speaker? While welcoming the motion on the subject of fisheries resources on and above our continental shelves and slopes, I wish this could have been a more general motion dealing with all resources on, under and over our continental shelves because this is an area where the position of the official opposition is cloudy, to say the least.

The position of the federal government on the question of resources, hydrocarbon and mineral resources on and under our continental shelves was to propose a formula whereby there would be a 50 per cent revenue-sharing arrangement with the provinces off whose coasts these resources exist. My own position on this is perhaps at odds even with that of the government. It has long been my contention that the resources of the Northwest Territories, the Yukon and our offshore resources, whether they are offshore in the Arctic, the Pacific or the Atlantic, are the patrimony of the Canadian people as a whole. I have not hesitated to express my opinion in this regard in the Yukon and I would not hesitate to express this opinion on the west coast or the east coast. That is my own view.

The government has gone further than my own feelings on the subject. It is prepared to share the revenues of offshore resources on a 50-50 basis. Presumably these are offshore resources within the 12-mile limit. I am not sure whether it includes the resources extending from the 12-mile limit to the limits of the continental shelf and slope. Presumably it does. In any event, the government has taken a clear position. The opposition has not taken any clear position on the question of these resources.

Mr. Lundrigan: You've got rocks in your bloody head. I will tell you what it is in a minute. You've got rocks in your skull.

Mr. Watson: I would like to know the position of the opposition on the subject of resources under the continental shelves. If that position is clear, I would certainly like to hear about it.

Mr. Lundrigan: Then sit down.

Mr. Watson: I would like to know that position. The Canadian people have a right to know whether any party in this House is about to sell out the Canadian patrimony which I feel exists in these resources. As far as I am concerned, these resources, whether in the north or off our coasts, are the heritage of the Canadian people from coast to coast, regardless of the province in which they live. That position has not been clearly stated in this House by anyone. I hope the various political parties will begin to at least take some clear position in this regard.

● (2120)

It was the official policy of the Conservative party in the last election to make the Yukon a province within five years of taking office. This was in Conservative campaign material. I feel strongly that for the Yukon, which has a population of 20,000, to turn over the immense resources of that territory—everyone familiar with the Yukon realizes that the economy is controlled by perhaps 15 to 30 individuals—would be tantamount to creating a Canadian Kuwait in our north.

We ought to consider seriously in relation to our northern resources a system different from that which was adopted when the provinces were first created. The situation has changed dramatically. We now realize that resources are limited. They are a much more important element in our economy; they have a greater potential for the country's future well-being than any other factor. Surely all parties in the House should be giving this subject much more reasoned attention than has been the case up to now.

There is one way in which we could do something about these resources. Unfortunately it is a matter which has been neglected by this government. I refer to the apparent helplessness of the Canada Development Corporation to act in areas where attention is badly needed now. If we had a resource development corporation which could invest heavily in oil and mineral resource development and exploration in the Northwest Territories, in the Yukon and offshore the whole question whether Canadian or provincial jurisdiction applies would become less important. We would see, in effect, a strong resource development corporation controlling a key portion of these resources in the name and on behalf of the people of Canada.

This would be a solution, but apparently the government is not yet ready to create a development corporation which could do these things. The corporation which presently exists is designed to assist manufacturing industries in southern Canada. It is designed to provide a safe return to shareholders and to pay out dividends. It cannot contemplate the kind of risk which a natural resource development corporation would have to undertake if it were to explore, develop and bring mines and oilfields into production in the north or offshore. For this I have no one to criticize but my own side of the House.

In my view we must move toward control, if not by agreement with the provinces then at least through a resource development corporation to ensure an interest for the Canadian people as a whole in the offshore mineral and oil resources as well as of our mineral and oil resources in the Northwest Territories and the Yukon. There is no constitutional conflict involved here. This is a field in which we can act without treading on anyone's toes.

I would point out to the official opposition that their motion today talked solely about fisheries. It should be talking about marine and undersea resources in general. I should like to hear an official declaration of policy from the opposition, not five years from now as they have done on this issue—it is five years since the minister made known his clearcut position on the fisheries—but within the next few months.

[*Translation*]

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Boulanger): Order. I regret to interrupt the hon. member but the time alloted to him has expired.

[*English*]

Mr. John Lundrigan (Gander-Twillingate): Mr. Speaker, the first think I want to say is that I did not intend to speak today for the very simple reason that there is little I can add to what my colleagues have already said. For the last five years, if you count all the 2,000 interventions I have made in the House, many of which might be classified as irrelevant to the major interest of Canada, you would find that the majority of them involved fisheries. The reason for this is, I suppose, that there are few subjects on which I have any background or what might be called gut conviction.

On this subject, however, I have been persuaded to become involved, and if I were to look back over the last five years—it is only a matter of a few weeks from now when I will celebrate my fifth anniversary as a member of parliament—I would have to admit that today has been the most memorable I have spent in the House of Commons. There are two reasons why I say this. First, my colleague from St. John's East (Mr. McGrath) tells me that he cannot remember another occasion in the House when we have debated an opposition motion specifically applied to fisheries. Second, I can think of no other occasion when the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Stanfield) or anybody else in a position of such importance and distinction has stood in his place and led off a debate. To my way of thinking, this has shown that I have achieved in my five years something that I did not expect to see—that fisheries has been placed in a very high position of priority in this House of Commons in contemporary parliamentary history.

I was very pleased to see the leader of our party stand up in the House and present a firm and definite position with no equivocation on the issue of our fisheries on both coasts of Canada. I am very pleased that the debate has taken place. The hon. member from South Western Nova (Mr. Haliburton) and the hon. member for South Shore

(Mr. Crouse), particularly the hon. member for South Shore because of his long tenure in the House of Commons, made notable contributions. The hon. member for South Shore made one of the most spirited, aggressive and straightforward statements I have heard for a very long time on the subject of fisheries. As a matter of fact, I would be satisfied if I were to do nothing but second his observations. I have to say that the minister will go down in parliamentary history as one of the great stickhandlers—the Max Bentley of the House of Commons.

Mr. Stanfield: He lost the puck toward the end.

Mr. Lundrigan: Yes, he did lose the puck toward the end; that was because he was speaking without conviction. I must say I do not expect the national press to pick up the debate. I should be quite frank about this; I might as well get it off my chest. Our national press are so ill-informed about the fisheries issue in Canada that one could say just about anything in the House of Commons and it would be accepted.

With the greatest respect to our national press, very few people, especially those in central Canada today, are able to understand the complexities of the issue. Consequently, people like the Minister of the Environment and Fisheries (Mr. Davis) can present any kind of argument and if they are smooth enough and subtle enough they can convince the country that they are sincere and honest. It takes somebody who has a maritime background to be able to recognize that what the minister said today represented a serious withdrawal; the minister was retreating from Moscow. I will return to this in a few moments.

I shall have to excuse the presentation made by the hon. member for Laprairie (Mr. Watson) on the basis that he did not know what he was talking about. I do not expect him to do so. I cannot speak on the serious problems in the Montreal area because I do not have the necessary background. He got involved in the issue of our resources, both inshore and on the continental shelf, and the subject of decisions in international law back in 1958 and later.

● (2130)

These are Canadian resources. They belong to Canada. The difference is that the hon. member has stated in less sophisticated fashion, in less calculating fashion, the position of his government. Therefore we now know that if the present government has a long tenure of office in this country we in Atlantic Canada have had it so far as concerns using our continental shelf resources to our advantage. We will be imprisoned in a form of economic slavery if the philosophy he expounded today is ever accepted as long-term economic policy. I am very disturbed about this.

As a matter of fact, with respect to what he put on the record today I suggest that every member from Atlantic Canada should see it is repeated and sent to all our constituents to allow them to understand the condescending, narrow-minded approach that he and his government have toward our continental resources. As I say, if that policy is accepted we in Atlantic Canada are doomed to a form of economic slavery for the next and succeeding generations. Our party is unequivocal in the position, in the stand we have taken toward using the continental shelf resources. That stand has been stated publicly. I challenge the hon. member to repeat it. It is a very aggressive policy that will give Atlantic Canadians and other Canadians who have continental resources the best chance to use them.

An hon. Member: What is it?

Mr. Lundrigan: Don't ask me what it is. It is on the record. It is clear. It is unequivocal. It is stated formally. It is stated in no equivocal terms in our policy decisions. But I excuse the hon. gentleman for not knowing. The Minister of the Environment certainly knows the attitude which we have expressed, the stand which our party has taken with respect to continental marine resources, but he says that this has never been firmly established in international law.

I point out to the minister that our party's stand goes back a number of years. In December, 1971, approximately two years ago, one of the few resolutions to be unanimously accepted by our party at a meeting of 1,500 delegates from every constituency in Canada upheld the rights of the Canadian nation to the marine resources of the continental shelf, slopes and other areas in proximity to the continental shelf. As a national party we have been very progressive in our position, and had we had the responsibility we would have implemented that policy. The minister expressed a personal position in New Brunswick a few weeks ago.

Mr. Davis: And in Boston in 1968.

Mr. Lundrigan: The minister talks about 1968. I agree with him on that; he did express a personal position in 1968 too. But unfortunately the minister does not have the confidence of his government; he does not have the backing of his government.

Mr. Stanfield: He pretends to be expressing the government's view.

Mr. Lundrigan: In his speech a few days ago he said that we would go flat out for the adoption, at the international Law of the Sea Conference, of the 200-mile limit, and where the continental shelf extended beyond 200 miles to include the extremities of the continental shelf. He did not say, "I will go all out" or "my department"; he said, "We will go all out." Then when we brought him back to parliament where he had to be honest, straightforward and show a bit of political integrity we found that the government does not support him.

I would like to tell you, Mr. Speaker, that a week last Monday, after his speech in New Brunswick, we moved a resolution in this chamber that was properly drafted. We presented it to the House of Commons for acceptance and it was rejected. Right now I can say without fear of contradiction and with all due respect for the Minister of the Environment that the reason it was rejected was because thumbs were turned down by the Secretary of State for External Affairs (Mr. Sharp). I have proof of what I am saying.

Mr. Davis: You did not mention 200 miles.

Mr. Lundrigan: We did not mention 200 miles. We mentioned the continental shelf and the continental slopes, which are in the same context. Two hundred miles happens to be the sexy, "in" language in international affairs today, but we mentioned the continental shelf and the continental slope even though we haven't the scientists to back up the position we have taken, scientists that are available to the government.

We moved a second resolution to have the House of Commons express support for the Canadian delegation to the ICNAF conference that began in Copenhagen on Sunday. The Leader of the Opposition is expressing pessimism about imposing quotas, but he did not express any regret that we continue to support ICNAF save with the qualification that Canada may have to determine its own jurisdiction and take its own initiative.

The Minister of the Environment was quite willing to accept our resolution. I can tell Your Honour now that I had discussions with several members of the Canadian delegation, which is led by the former deputy minister of fisheries, who told me they would feel better at ICNAF if they had the expressed support of the House of Commons, the highest court in the land, behind them. But that resolution was rejected. I rose the next day in the House and asked the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) if he would be prepared to bring a resolution before the House expressing support for Canada's position at the ICNAF conference, and that request was rejected. If we can achieve the position—and it is an important principle—that Canada is able to catch whatever fish it can under our quota, it is a step in the right direction. We are not pessimistic there. However, we are pessimistic about enforcing some of the quotas established, with the kind of surveillance which Canada up until now has shown on the east coast.

It is very restrictive for a member to have only 15 minutes in which to present a position on this issue. The minister had 40 minutes in which to speak, and I have only 15 minutes to present my argument. I cannot do it in that time but I do want to leave one more impression with the House. It is that what happens in ICNAF, at the Law of the Sea Conference or in the provision of marine facilities is in one way or another irrelevant to the main issue in this debate. The main issue at stake in this debate and the reason why this resolution is before the House is to challenge the attitude of the federal government toward the fisheries of the nation. This is the most important problem we have. It has nothing to do with the continental shelf or 200 miles. The main issue is the attitude that is developing in this part of Canada toward our marine resources. This is something we would like to change.

Coming in the aftermath of the proceedings on yesterday's resolution when there was a lot of debate about national unity, I would like to make this one last plea, Mr. Speaker. If I could be a bit small, a bit parochial in my comments I would like to mention something originally put forward by my colleague from the west coast of Newfoundland. We are a province, as my colleague mentioned, of 500,000 people. Iceland is a country, a nation of 220,000 people.

When we became part of Canada 24 years ago we gave up our right of self-determination in the fishing industry

because we wanted to become part of Canada and to enjoy the thousands of benefits that flow from being part of such a beautiful country. As I say, we gave up that right in the expectation that Canada would take up the cudgels and protect our rights as part of the Canadian nation.

Now, in Canadian terms fisheries are relatively unimportant. We can accept the statement of my colleague from St. John's West (Mr. Carter) that the fisheries represent only 2 per cent of the gross national product, or the statement by an economist who said the fisheries were the seventh largest industrial endeavour in the hierarchy of the Canadian industrial structure. But the fact remains that in New Brunswick, Newfoundland and Prince Edward Island the fisheries represent the most important economic endeavour in our nation. Consequently, it is vital that Canada stand up for our people, that it take an aggressive position, that it show some leadership.

However, we are very afraid that this matter has been pulled down to a political issue within the last few years. We in the Atlantic area are relatively unimportant politically. It will not make very much difference to the national scene whether the Liberal party wins two seats, three seats or five seats in our region in the next election. Consequently, to the party in power today, and possibly to any future government, we may seem to be a very unimportant piece of political real estate. This is what has had a greater impact than any other force on what has happened to our fisheries.

• (2140)

We ask the Canadian government to amend its attitude by even a few degrees on the compass and look at this issue, not as just a cheap, little political move, not in terms of economic importance to Canada but in terms of the livelihood and well-being of the people on the east coast. We want a change in the attitude of the Canadian public and a change in the attitude of this government in terms of the fishing industry on the east and west coasts of Canada. This is our plea. We are not asking for separatism, we are not talking about breaking our ties with Canada—but unless we can get the Canadian nation to change its course substantially and recognize that because we have lost our self-determination to make our own decisions in respect of trade, commerce and all the other aspects of international relationships and agreements, then we have to be a little bit unhappy to be associated with a government that will not stand and be recognized as protecting our rights.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Boulanger): Order, please. I recognize the hon. member for Skeena (Mr. Howard).

Mr. Watson: Mr. Speaker, I wonder whether I might be permitted to direct a question to the hon. member for Gander-Twillingate (Mr. Lundrigan).

Mr. Lundrigan: I would be delighted to answer the hon. member's question.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Boulanger): In view of the fact that the hon. member's time has expired, I do not feel that a question would be in order.

Mr. Frank Howard (Skeena): Mr. Speaker, like others I feel it is very difficult to put forward all my ideas in respect of this matter in 15 minutes. For that reason I will try to shorten my remarks and the expression of my thoughts on this motion and the amendment. Let me say that I am extremely proud and honoured to belong to a political party which has had a consistent view about this question for as long as I have been a member. The party which preceded the NDP, namely the CCF, was persistent and constant in its concern about fisheries and the 12-mile international limit. It was consistent in its concern about the international question concerning the continental shelf.

We appreciate the opportunity of speaking on this motion put forward by the Conservative Party. We regret that the motion is deficient in that it does not refer to the salmon fisheries off the Atlantic and Pacific coasts, although we are happy to note that this has been corrected by the amendment proposed by the hon. member for Comox-Alberni (Mr. Barnett). There is not another anadromous fish involved in this, but that is not at the moment a matter of commercial fishing importance. Anyone who has dealt with this subject matter over the years knows it has been an uphill fight. We also know that the motion put forward by the Conservative party is another move in that fight. I must state that the most difficult time we have had in respect of this whole matter was when the hon. member for Malpeque (Mr. MacLean) was minister of fisheries. We met during those years absolute obstinacy coupled with indifference and lack of concern.

I think we should pay our respects to a very tiny nation in this world for its approach to the matter of preserving its fisheries. We should express our appreciation for the tenacity and the foresight of Iceland in this regard. Coastal nations of the world owe a debt to Iceland which they will never be able to repay because it is an emotional debt and a debt with future consequences. It was Iceland that set the precedent for coastal nations in respect of a 12-mile limit. It declared unilaterally a 12-mile limit, and it had to contend with Great Britain in this respect. There was not another nation in the councils of the world that support that position. For all the brave words of the Minister of Fisheries (Mr. Davis) in recent days and weeks, it is a matter of national regret, on my part at least, that Canada has not declared openly and publicly support for the position of Iceland in its desire to preserve the fisheries of that coastal nation.

Iceland is now talking about a 50-mile limit because that circumscribes an area around Iceland and is an easy way to measure the continental shelf and slope. That 50-mile circumscription pretty well coincides with the continental shelf and slope in relation to Canada. I wish every success to Iceland in its contest with Great Britain.

Precedents in international law have traditionally and historically come about by unilateral action on the part of a state. Very rarely has international law been established by agreement between nations. Britain, or whatever it was called in the early days, unilaterally established a three-mile limit because that was the distance they could cover with their coastal guns. Britain was able to exercise that territorial jurisdiction by saying it could fire three miles offshore and if foreign fishing vessels came within that distance they were in jeopardy.

It was Iceland that established the 12-mile limit, and this was accepted in the world. Some years ago Peru established a 200-mile fishing zone limit, but that limit had other complications than are conceived in respect of our territorial seas fishing zones. After Canada had consulted with the United States it unilaterally declared a nine-mile fishing zone. This was only after failure at two international conferences on the Law of the Sea and a discussion about putting this subject on the agenda at the United Nations.

Canada's position has been historically weak in the area of establishing authority over our own resources, especially those of the sea. Generally speaking, with one exception, and that was only after approaching the late President Kennedy and guaranteeing that United States, fishermen would have the right to fish within that nine-mile fishing zone and after we had committed ourselves not to infringe upon the so-called historical position of the United States, we have not taken a unilateral position. Apart from that we have sought consensus, agreement and accommodation from other countries to do those things which we ourselves should do for our own preservation and self-respect. Even in respect of the negotiations that took place a short while ago on the U.S.-Canada, or Canada-U.S. agreement, namely, the reciprocal fishing agreement, we knuckled under. We refused to stand up and be firm in our position. Unfortunately, that has been the attitude of Canada for too long in matters such as this. What we need is a determination, a strong unilateral declaration, not in fancy words or statements written by speechwriters for the Minister of Fisheries, but actions and declarations which mean something.

● (2150)

Mr. Speaker, if the government wishes any guidance or any advice in respect of how to approach this matter, it need go no further than look to the father-in-law of the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau), Jimmy Sinclair, because when he was minister of fisheries of this country we knew where we were going in respect of fishery matters. Ever since he left that post and was defeated, Canada's position on fishery matters on the international scene has gone downhill. Had it not been for people like Jimmy Sinclair and George Clark, the deputy minister of fisheries, and their determination we would not have had the Fraser River agreement with the United States, because that agreement was the result of our standing up to the United States and telling it what our position was.

I contrast the position at that time with the weak, lily-livered position taken by the government in respect of the current negotiations which apparently have just concluded with the United States. We do not need fancy speeches by the minister about 200 miles or any other number of miles. Rather, we need a declaration of intent. We need to take action as a nation in so far as our own fisheries are concerned. We must do so for our own integrity and for the sake of our respect and unity.

We have an obligation to future generations in this matter insofar as the food resources of the world are concerned. Up until now, very regrettably, we have treat-

ed this obligation as a bargaining item to be dealt with and dealt away in the niceties of our diplomatic relationships with other countries. What that approach has meant for us is that we have been made suckers by other nations of the world. We need a declaration to unify us, a unilateral declaration so that other people will know what we intend to do. In that regard let me read the motion and then ask the House a question. The motion asks that this House accept a certain principle; then it enumerates what it is.

In addition, there is an amendment by my colleague the hon. member for Comox-Alberni in respect of an assertion of ownership by Canada of anadromous fish. The motion states, however, that to implement this policy we must provide adequate surveillance, and so on. All the motion is asking for is a declaration of principle by the House of Commons concerning what our intentions and ideals are. Regardless of the position in respect of the Standing Orders, I would submit to you, Mr. Speaker, that if the motion were put by you now it would receive unanimous consent. I do not think anyone in this House disagrees with what it says. I would ask, through you, Mr. Speaker, that the proposition be put to the House that by unanimous consent we call a vote on the amendment and on the motion so that all parties can declare themselves with one voice for Canada.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Boulanger): The hon. member knows that we are dependent on the rules and there is no way in which the Chair has the privilege or power to do what he suggests. I recognize now the hon. member for St. John's East (Mr. McGrath).

Mr. McGrath: Mr. Speaker, on a point of order—

Mr. Howard: Mr. Speaker, if I might I should like to say I realize exactly what the rules mean, and that is why I asked if you would inquire whether there is the unanimous consent of the House to have a vote on the motion.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Boulanger): I cannot seek the unanimous consent of the House in respect of a proposition which is not in order.

Mr. McGrath: Mr. Speaker, on a point of order I suggest to Your Honour that if you would ask for unanimous consent to waive the Standing Order, the House would give unanimous consent and we could pass the resolution, which would have the effect of giving very substantial support to our delegation which is now negotiating at the ICNAF conference.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Boulanger): What is being put forward now is a very unique request. Without a specific rule I do not see how the Chair could consider an arrangement of this nature. The Chair is being asked to do something in this House which is irregular.

Mr. Lundrigan: Mr. Speaker, one of the greatest complaints in this House involves debates which lead nowhere. Today we have had a debate in which the minister has expressed support for the resolution presented to the House earlier today. I would think the minister, the government and our country would be in a very strong position if we were to support this resolution of the House of Commons. I believe the House would do itself a great honour if the debate did not end in the usual manner and if we endorsed the resolution and the amendment proposed by our colleague from the west coast.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Boulanger): As I have said, I am willing to listen to any explanations but the Chair has no choice in the matter unless members express suggestions to me, because right now I have no power.

Mr. Lundrigan: Ask for unanimous consent.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Boulanger): I have said already that I will entertain any assistance.

Mr. Faulkner: Mr. Speaker, I should like to make a small point in respect of the procedural impasse. The fact is that the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Stanfield) in putting forth the motion had the option of moving two types of motion. One would have lead to a vote and the other would not. That option was at his disposal. He chose to put the motion in the form in which it is now before us. This was clear to hon. members opposite at the time the motion was put. The choice was made at that time and I do not see how they can change it at this stage of our proceedings.

Mr. McGrath: Mr. Speaker, the minister and his colleagues will be saved by the clock. I would just like to suggest that the impression on this side of the House is that the minister of fisheries and the environment stands all alone over there. He does not have the support of the Secretary of State for External Affairs (Mr. Sharp), he does not have the support of his colleague the Minister of National Defence (Mr. Macdonald), and as a matter of fact he does not seem to have the support of any of his colleagues.

I would suggest, Mr. Speaker, that you ask for unanimous consent. If there is not unanimous consent, and obviously there is not such consent from that side of the House, I would suggest to the minister, through Your Honour, that if he were tomorrow to suggest to his colleagues that he propose a motion under Standing Order 43 couched in the terms of the motion before us tonight, there would be unanimous consent to give the minister and our delegation which is now negotiating at Copenhagen the support they need. I ask, Mr. Speaker, that you ask for unanimous consent.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Boulanger): I must now call it ten o'clock.

Mr. Stanfield: I rise on a point of privilege, Mr. Speaker. I do not wish to become involved in the procedural argument. I must concede that what has been said about the way in which the motion is being put is correct. It has proven to be so popular that a member of another party has asked that it be put to the House. However, I object to what the whip said in respect of the Leader of the Opposition saying no. I want that expunged from the record.

• (2200)

Mr. Lefebvre: You did.

Mr. Stanfield: I want it made very clear that I did not say no.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Boulanger): Order.

Mr. Lefebvre: Mr. Speaker, I rise on the same question of privilege. It is obvious that the Leader of the Opposition, as pointed out by the Secretary of State (Mr. Faulkner), had a chance to put a motion that would or would not lead to a vote. He chose not to. It was his choice, and that is what I said.

Mr. Stanfield: You did not say that.

Mr. Lundrigan: Mr. Speaker, I rise on the same point. We have now gone beyond ten o'clock, therefore we can accept the principle that we are proceeding beyond ten o'clock. I take it that we have accepted what is called jurisdiction beyond the point which would be ten o'clock. I ask Your Honour to ask for unanimous consent so that we can present the motion which could be accepted by the House unanimously.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Boulanger): In order to follow the rules properly, my duty now is to call it ten o'clock. It being ten o'clock—

Mr. Lundrigan: Mr. Speaker—

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Boulanger): Order, please. I have just called it ten o'clock. Will the hon. member resume his seat.

Mr. Lundrigan: Mr. Speaker—

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Boulanger): It being ten o'clock it is my duty, pursuant to Standing Order 58(11), to inform the House that the proceedings on the motion have expired.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Ten o'clock, Mr. Speaker.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Boulanger): Order.

PROCEEDINGS ON ADJOURNMENT MOTION

[*English*]

A motion to adjourn the House under Standing Order 40 deemed to have been moved.

Adjournment Debate

TRANSPORT—SUBSIDY TO FOREIGN REGISTERED VESSEL, MV "TRAVETAL"—SUGGESTED REQUIREMENT OF CANADIAN REGISTRY

Mr. Harry Olaussen (Coast Chilcotin): Mr. Speaker, now that we have some order in the House may I direct my remarks to a subject that has aroused many people in eastern Canada. The matter of the Canadian coastal shipping trade has already been raised in the House and in various parts of the country, so much so that many people feel it is no longer a newsworthy issue. It may no longer be a newsworthy issue to some people but it continues to be a contentious issue among political and shipping circles.

When the government of Canada is willing to finance the operation of foreign registered and foreign manned vessels so that they may participate in carrying out Canadian trade between Canadian ports, it is time for us to question seriously the government regarding the overgenerous subsidies that are given to such ships. We find here in Canada a situation in which Canadian ships are being replaced by ships under foreign registry and in which Canadian crews are being replaced by foreign crews.

I can understand the government's argument against the implementation of the Darling report and the government's contention that the operation of foreign manned vessels is much less expensive, but I do not understand it when a Singapore registered vessel such as the MV *Travetal* is guaranteed new subsidies to operate between Canadian ports. Such a situation does not support the government's arguments in this respect.

The vessel *Travetal* has recently been picketed in Halifax. The operation of this ship owned by Trident Steamships Limited has cost Canadian taxpayers $368,100 in the fiscal year 1972-73 alone. I am not questioning the jurisdictional right of the SIU to picket this particular ship; what I am questioning are the political and legal manoeuvres whereby such ships are allowed to operate at the expense of Canadian taxpayers, and Canadian seamen because they are out of work are forced to sail on ships which do not come under the control of Canadian steamship inspection and marine safety regulations. This is why the SIU or any other seamen's union has the moral right to picket such ships. This is one of the few means whereby our attention can be focused on this issue.

My opinion is that the use of cheap foreign labour and flags of convenience, not only in the coastal trade but also in the future development of offshore and Arctic areas, cannot be tolerated. The oil companies, the shipping interests and the assorted trading companies that control the economics and political life of the Atlantic provinces must be denied the generous concessions that have served their own interests in the past and that cannot contribute to the future prosperity of the area.

In conclusion, I ask the minister—unfortunately he is not here tonight—whether he can justify his actions in permitting the permanent entry into the coastal trade of Canada of the motor vessel *Travetal* and similar vessels, in terms of the provisions of the Alien Labour Act. I would also ask him to consider the views that I have expressed and to tell the House how and when he hopes to implement the recommendations of the Darling report.

Adjournment Debate

Mr. Joseph-Philippe Guay (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Transport): First of all, Mr. Speaker, I would not agree with all the phraseology and the various things said by the previous speaker. If one were to agree with it, it would certainly put things out of kilter. The vessel is a Singapore registered ship, with German officers and a Spanish crew. The owner's address is London, England. In other words, it is owned by the British and the vessel is time-chartered to Trident Steamships Limited of Halifax, Nova Scotia. She carries out a completely roll-on, roll-off general cargo service, the principal cargo being automobiles, between Halifax, Nova Scotia and St. John's, Newfoundland.

While she is permitted, on account of being a British ship, to engage in the coasting trade of Canada, she is also subject to other sections of the Canada Shipping Act. The one causing the problems relates to the certificates of competency of the master and officers which under the act must be Canadian, as the hon. member said, or others accepted by the minister such as certain Commonwealth certificates. The present officers hold German certificates.

Under the authority given to him by the Canada Shipping Act, the minister on March 6, 1973, exempted the *Travetal* from the requirements of carrying officers holding Canadian certificates for a period of three months only until June 5, 1973, on condition that the party responsible for the operation submit proposals for compliance with the act. To date no such proposal has been received. The exemption expired on June 5 and has not been renewed. I should like to emphasize that, Mr. Speaker. The purpose of the exemption was to avoid disruption of the service currently provided between Halifax and St. John's, and representations urging this course were received from the Premier of Nova Scotia and representatives of the local International Longshoremen's Union.

● (2210)

Opposition to the exemption comes from the seamen's unions which are strong advocates of the recommendation that the coasting trade of Canada should be reserved for Canadian flag ships. With the expiry of the exemption, the Seafarers International Union took legal action to prevent its renewal. A telegram has been received from the Halifax local of the International Longshoremen's Union urging that the service be allowed to continue. Premier Regan of Nova Scotia has expressed the same concern.

Today, the Minister of Transport (Mr. Marchand) sent a telegram to Trident Steamships, to the International Longshoremen's Union and to Premier Regan of Nova Scotia stating that the exemption from the Canada Shipping Act provisions cannot be renewed indefinitely and that adequate time has already been allowed for compliance with the act. Late this afternoon, Mr. Speaker, the minister received a new proposal from the operators which is now being taken under advisement.

POST OFFICE—ALLEGED DELAY IN DELIVERY OF FIRST-CLASS MAIL

Mr. Gordon Towers (Red Deer): Mr. Speaker, when I asked questions in the House previously concerning unsatisfactory postal service, the Postmaster General (Mr. Ouellet) said that he required specifics. I will now list a few definite examples of slow delivery. First, I cite the instance of a letter posted on March 30, 1973, in Red Deer, Alberta, destined for Vancouver. It was delivered to a Vancouver law firm on April 6, seven days later. Second, may I mention delivery of letters between Red Deer and Edmonton, and Red Deer and Calgary, a distance in each case of 100 miles, taking two days. Previously these were delivered the next day.

Third, Rosedale Presbyterian church, Toronto, complained directly to the Postmaster General that a letter posted at noon on Thursday April 26 in Toronto, for delivery in Toronto, was not delivered until the following Monday morning. Fourth, a letter addressed to the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) which was posted in Red Deer on May 11 was not received in his office in Ottawa until May 18.

My constituents and others have expressed dissatisfaction also with the handling of mail which has resulted in breakages and other damage to well wrapped and securely tied parcels sent by first-class mail. The question arises whether or not there is any advantage in time and handling when one pays the highest postal rate. Parcels sent out first-class do not seem to arrive any earlier than parcels sent by ordinary parcel post rate, nor are they delivered in any better condition.

It is all very well for the Postmaster General to continue to acclaim the modernization of postal administration with computers and postal codes. Taxpayers are well aware of these changes, if for no other reason than that they pay for them and have had to spend additional hours in adding codes to their mailings both business and personal. When a person receives mail later than within a reasonable delivery period, and in the case of parcels in damaged or broken condition, that person is not interested in hearing again a glorified and detailed description of modern innovations to sort mail, or about the postal code system. On the one hand, the sorting of mail does not mean anything to the recipient or sender if mail is not delivered accurately and on time; on the other hand he is well aware that the computerized equipment is costing taxpayers millions of dollars. He wants to know why mail service has deteriorated to the extent it has over the last two years or so, when can he expect prompt and efficient mail delivery, will parcels be handled with care, as they once were, will letters be delivered to the address on the envelope and not to a residence three or four doors away or to one on the next street, and how long does it take inexperienced employees to become efficient, to read the address and deliver the mail? I do not think these questions are unreasonable or can be passed off with a shrug.

People pay for postal service. They are entitled to efficient and prompt delivery and they are still hoping they will receive the type of service for which they have paid and are paying. Just today I received a letter from a constituent. It is dated June 2, 1973. I should like to read it into the record. It reads:

Dear Mr. Towers:

Someone told me that you had complained about slow-moving mail but needed more proof. I enclose a envelope of the letter I sent to Mr. Reg Johnson whose address is Red Deer, but lives east of Penhold. You might know the person since he is not too far from your place. I sent them a cheque for seed oats on May 4th,

and they were wondering why I did not pay. I was there later on to get some more seed and stopped payment on the cheque since I figured that the wrong person got hold of it, but they got it all right, 26 days after mailing, so maybe this will prove that somebody is not on his or her toes.

People who are using our mail system expect service. If they do not get good service, they will stop using it. If they stop using it, the cost must rise. The easiest way to have cheaper mail service is to give better service. These points are being brought to the attention of the Postmaster General on behalf of the people whom I represent and to help others who have brought their complaints to my attention because they do not have access to the Postmaster General except by mail. Delivery being uncertain, even his letter of explanation might not reach its destination for ten days or longer.

Without making any additional comments, I ask now for corrective action to be taken. The changeover to new equipment and a code system is no longer as satisfactory to the people who are paying for our postal system, the Canadian taxpayers.

[*Translation*]

Hon. André Ouellet (Postmaster General): Mr. Speaker, I asked the hon. member to give a few details about the complaints which he wanted to make. I thank him for doing so. I can assure him that if there is a special problem in Red Deer, we will immediately try to correct it.

I would like, however, to point out that it is somewhat unfair to judge the whole postal service by a few isolated cases. It may happen sometimes that Canadians find that their mail has been delayed. Out of 100 letters which they receive, one or two may be late. This does not mean that the postal service is bad. It means that twice out of a hundred times delivery has been delayed.

[*English*]

Mr. Towers: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Boulanger): Order. The hon. member cannot raise a point of order during the adjournment debate.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Ouellet: I would like to add that of course the Post Office Department agrees that certain difficulties result sometimes in late delivery. In fact, there are four kinds of difficulties against which we come up all the time and which prevent the mail from reaching its destination as fast as we would like.

Firstly, transportation is of prime importance to us, and we largely depend on air service. For sure, our service is to a great extent adversely affected by bad weather conditions and delayed flights.

Secondly, the mail volume varies each day, and an abnormal increase in that volume will overtax our sorting and handling facilities.

Thirdly, we have identified 31 handling operations as sources of errors or delays, from the collection of mail to its delivery, and such inconveniences, I admit, happen.

Fourthly, our postal facilities are unfortunately obsolete in many Canadian cities, which makes the task of our employees quite difficult.

But the important thing, Mr. Speaker, is to say that we are trying very hard to correct and improve the situation.

Finally, I can assure the hon. member that our assured mail program is meeting with great success. I have here figures for the week ended May 25, and the results in his province of Alberta, for instance, are rather outstanding. Our investigation has shown that in Calgary our assured mail service had an efficiency rate of 98 per cent at the national level, namely for mail throughout the country, an efficiency rate of 99 per cent for regional mail, that is for mail in Alberta and of 89 per cent for local mail.

I agree with the hon. member that there may be a problem in the Red Deer and Calgary area. We will attempt to improve the situation.

In conclusion, Mr. Speaker, I would like to say that on the whole, our assured mail service has an efficiency rate exceeding 95 per cent. Since more than 5 billion pieces of mail are handled per year, it can be said that, on the whole, the postal service is very efficient in Canada.

Motion agreed to and the House adjourned at 10.22 p.m.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Friday, June 8, 1973

The House met at 11 a.m.

[*Translation*]

ELECTORAL BOUNDARIES READJUSTMENT ACT

OBJECTION TO REPORT OF COMMISSION FOR PROVINCE OF QUEBEC

Mr. Speaker: Order. It is my duty to advise the House that an objection signed by the hon. members for Bonaventure-Îles de la Madeleine, Montmorency, Montréal-Bourassa, Gaspé, Témiscamingue, Saint-Maurice, Lac Saint-Jean, Berthier, Lapointe, Matane, Lotbinière and Pontiac has been delivered to me under section 20 of the Electoral Boundaries Readjustment Act concerning the report of the Quebec Electoral Boundaries Commission.

[*English*]

If the House agrees, I suggest that the text of the objection be printed as an appendix to the *Votes and Proceedings* of this day. Is it agreed?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[*English*]

AGRICULTURE

Second and third reports of Standing Committee on Agriculture—Mr. Whicher.

[*Editor's Note: For text of above reports, see today's Votes and Proceedings.*]

* * *

[*Translation*]

HOUSE OF COMMONS

REFERENCE OF PETITION OF CENTRE AMUSEMENT COMPANY LIMITED TO STANDING COMMITTEE ON MISCELLANEOUS PRIVATE BILLS AND STANDING ORDERS

Mr. Peter Stollery (Spadina): Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the hon. member for Ottawa Centre (Mr. Poulin):

That the petition of the Centre Amusement Co. Limited tabled after the delay specified by Standing Order 90 be referred to the standing committee on miscellaneous private bills and standing orders with the fourth report of the Clerk of Petitions tabled in the House on Thursday, May 31, 1973, in order that the committee may be in a position to make the recommendations it deems proper.

Mr. Speaker: Is it the pleasure of the House to adopt the said motion?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Motion agreed to.

* * *

[*English*]

AIR CANADA

STRIKES BY EMPLOYEES—REQUEST FOR UNANIMOUS CONSENT TO MOVE MOTION

Mr. David Orlikow (Winnipeg North): Mr. Speaker, under the provision of Standing Order 43 I move, seconded by the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre (Mr. Knowles):

That the government urge the Minister of Transport to discuss with the officers of Air Canada the advisability of making a more reasonable offer to their employees represented by the International Association of Machinists and by the Canadian Airline Employees Association, especially in view of the record profits of Air Canada and the justified request of their employees.

Mr. Speaker: Under the terms of Standing Order 43 the hon. member's motion requires the unanimous consent of the House. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

Mr. Speaker: There is not unanimous consent. The motion cannot be put.

* * *

INCOME TAX

TABLING OF PROPOSED REGULATIONS RESPECTING MANUFACTURING AND PROCESSING PROFITS

Hon. John N. Turner (Minister of Finance): Mr. Speaker, in response to a request from the hon. member for Edmonton West (Mr. Lambert), I wish to table in both official languages a description of the proposed income tax regulations as they relate to manufacturing and processing profits.

Oral Questions

OLYMPIC (1976) BILL

PROVISION FOR ISSUING OF COMMEMORATIVE COINS AND STAMPS AND HOLDING OF LOTTERY

Hon. Allan J. MacEachen (for the President of the Treasury Board) moved for leave to introduce Bill C-196, respecting the 1976 Summer Olympic Games.

Motion agreed to, bill read the first time and ordered to be printed.

ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

[*English*]

● (1100)

TAXATION

POSSIBILITY OF FURTHER PERSONAL INCOME AND SALES TAX CUTS IN LIGHT OF SURPLUS FOR YEAR 1972-73

Hon. Robert L. Stanfield (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Finance who will recall that at the time he presented his budget for the current year to the House in February he was about half a billion dollars out with respect to the fiscal year ending March 31 and as a result overtaxed Canadians during the last fiscal year by nearly half a billion dollars. I should like to ask the hon. gentleman whether in these circumstances he has revised his estimated tax collections for the current year and whether he is now prepared to recommend further personal income tax cuts or cuts in sales tax for the current year?

Hon. John N. Turner (Minister of Finance): I do not accept the substance of the preamble to the hon. gentleman's question. I have explained to the House that the variation had a good deal to do with the House of Commons being unable to enact some of the legislation upon which these forecasts were based. As a result I do not believe the rest of the hon. gentleman's question demands an answer from me at this time.

Mr. Stanfield: Since the estimates of tax collections for the current fiscal year as presented in February were based upon an assumed rate of inflation of not more than 4 per cent, since the minister has now admitted he expects the rate to be 5 per cent, and since this will produce a vastly greater increase in government revenues than in government expenditures because of our progressive tax system, does the minister intend to recommend further tax cuts or does he insist upon collecting this year probably as much as a billion dollars more from Canadians than he forecast at the time of his budget?

Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton): Here again, I do not agree with the hon. gentleman's forecast. He knows, of course, that if there is any change in the fiscal stance of the government it will be announced in the proper and appropriate way.

Mr. Stanfield: Well, I thought this might be the proper and appropriate way. I am not asking the minister to agree with my forecast. I am asking him to face reality, however.

[Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton).]

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Stanfield: In view of the excessive tax collections last year and expected this year in light of what I have alluded to, can the minister give us any reason at all for his insistence on increasing the rate of taxation imposed on most small companies this year compared with last year?

Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton): When it comes to realism, I hope the hon. gentleman will recall the insistence of himself and his colleagues in demanding that, despite a tremendously expanding economy, the deficit should be twice as large as was forecast in the budget. He and his friends wanted a deficit of more than $4 billion in spite of the expansion taking place in the country. If he is talking about realism he ought to read some of his older speeches.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

* * *

CANADIAN NATIONAL RAILWAYS

CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS WITH EMPLOYEES—SUGGESTED REPRESENTATIONS BY MINISTER TO COMPANY CONCERNING PENSION IMPROVEMENT

Mr. Stanley Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, may I direct a question to the Minister of Transport. In view of the number of strikes now taking place against Canadian National Railways and in view of the fact that a major element in the strikes is dissatisfaction with the proposed new pension arrangements, will the Minister of Transport have appropriate talks with Canadian National officials in the hope that these pension arrangements can be improved?

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, there is no doubt I have opportunities to discuss all these problems with the management of Canadian National Railways and I will certainly do so again. I was not sure that this particular one was the main issue at stake at the moment but if the hon. gentleman tells me that it is the most important one I will surely look into it because I think the employees should have satisfaction in that field.

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. I wonder whether I could ask the minister to note that my question referred to the pension arrangements as being one of the major issues. In view of his agreement that this is something that should be resolved, I thank him for his offer.

* * *

[*Translation*]

FINANCE

INQUIRY RESPECTING REQUEST BY PROVINCES FOR TRANSFER OF INCOME TAX PAID BY BELL CANADA TO FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

Mr. René Matte (Champlain): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the right hon. Prime Minister.

Further to my question of May 29 concerning the income tax of Bell Canada, and considering the fact that provincial Crown telephone companies do not pay federal income taxes, could the Prime Minister indicate whether the government would be prepared to transfer to the province of Quebec the income taxes paid by Bell Canada and which come from that province?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, the province of Quebec remains free within the Constitution to levy the taxes it wishes. That is also the position of the federal government. If the province of Quebec wants to levy larger taxes on a company, it is free to do so without the authorization of the hon. member or of myself.

* * *

[*English*]

ENERGY

REQUEST FOR STATEMENT ON NATIONAL POLICY

Mr. Sinclair Stevens (York-Simcoe): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources. Now that Ontario has announced its provincial energy policy, as the province of Alberta did several months ago, when will the federal government state a national energy policy or does the nation simply have to wait for further white papers, discussions—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

Mr. Stevens: —and possibly eight more provincial policies to be set first?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): Mr. Speaker, it seems to me that it might be useful to have discussions on a subject that has been recognized to be a matter of complicated jurisdiction. The hon. member suggests we should proceed unilaterally, but that is not my approach.

Mr. Stevens: While the nation waits for the formation of a national energy policy by the federal government, would the minister at least indicate if the government is willing to allow the construction or extension of a two-way oil pipeline between western Canada, Quebec and the Maritimes, as suggested by the government of Ontario and which the government of Quebec requested some time ago?

Mr. Macdonald (Rosedale): Mr. Speaker, as the hon. member should know, construction of any such line is open to any applicant under the law passed by parliament. This question has been considered repeatedly over the last dozen years and rejected both by the private and public authorities involved. But we would be glad to consider any application that came along.

Mr. Stevens: In short, would the minister indicate whether he is willing to review the Ottawa valley line policy, and when will he make a statement on government policy?

Mr. Macdonald (Rosedale): Mr. Speaker, as I indicated in the debate a little over a week ago, we intend to make the energy studies public and have a public discussion with the affected governments. The government of Alberta is, of course, opposed to any extension of the Montreal pipeline but some other governments favour it. Obviously this is a matter that must be settled by arriving at a consensus among the governments, if possible.

POSITION PUT FORWARD BY GOVERNMENT TO VISITING UNITED STATES SENATORS AND OFFICIALS

Miss Flora MacDonald (Kingston and the Islands): Mr. Speaker, my supplementary question is directed to the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources. In view of conflicting statements made by members of the United States congressional delegation which met with the minister and with his colleague, the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, last weekend to discuss energy matters, could the minister now clarify exactly what was said to this delegation, since not only Canadians but now Americans are totally confused by the statements that are being made?

Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): Mr. Speaker, discussions took place over a period of three hours. As I pointed out yesterday, there were both protagonists and antagonists of the Alyeska pipeline, and each drew from the conversations what he wanted to draw and has made it public.

Miss MacDonald (Kingston and the Islands): Mr. Speaker, I have a further supplementary question which I will direct to the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development. In his talks with the American delegation did the minister make it clear that before any development takes place in the Mackenzie corridor public hearings regarding a right of way under the Territorial Lands Act must be held, and that the granting of the right to construct a pipeline is not automatic?

● (1120)

[*Translation*]

Hon. Jean Chrétien (Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development): Mr. Speaker, I told them, naturally, that public hearings would be held before granting a right of way to the companies that might be interested in building a pipeline along the Mackenzie River. They know that there will be public hearings; each interested party will be able to bring in representations for or against the granting of a right of way.

[*English*]

SUGGESTED URGENCY OF ANNOUNCEMENT OF NATIONAL POLICY

Mr. Eldon M. Woolliams (Calgary North): My supplementary question arises from the answers of the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources this morning. Does the minister not appreciate the urgency at this time of announcing and proclaiming immediately a national energy policy for Canada so as to clear up once and for all what routes the government would prefer for gas pipe-

lines, crude petroleum pipelines and any bothersome constitutional questions prior to any litigation being commenced by one or more provinces of Canada leading to further aggravation of energy demands, supply and price?

Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): Mr. Speaker, I would remind the hon. gentleman that national energy policies have been in effect in all areas for many years: for example, with regard to eastward transmission of natural gas by Trans-Canada, westward transmission by West Coast, eastward transmission of oil under the national oil policy, the ownership and control of the uranium industry and the export or non-export of electricity. In each of these areas there is an existing policy. The real question is, should any of the policies be changed? That is the purpose of laying the facts before the Canadian people by way of the energy studies and, on the basis of discussions following those facts, to arrive at what, if any, changes may be necessary.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The Chair will recognize the hon. member for Calgary North, the hon. member for Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands and the hon. member for Edmonton Centre on supplementary questions. I hope there will not be too many. After the hon. member for Edmonton Centre I hope we can move to the next subject.

Mr. Woolliams: Mr. Speaker, in light of the fact the United States has made up its mind in respect of an Alaska pipeline and tanker route, does the minister not feel at this time there is urgency for a clearcut statement by him on behalf of the government to prevent any situation that could develop on the west coast resulting from wreckage of tankers carrying natural gas, liquified gas or crude petroleum?

Mr. Macdonald (Rosedale): Yes, Sir, and I will repeat the statement again. Our distinct preference is to have a Mackenzie route, subject, however, to an application being made under the law which has been passed by this parliament. The United States administration, of course, insists on handling its own resources in a different way. We have made clear to the United States the possibilities of a Canadian route, but I do not think we are really in a position to direct them as to how they should dispose of their resources within their jurisdiction.

POSSIBILITY OF NEW NATIONAL POLICY NOT BEING ANNOUNCED UNTIL 1974

Mr. T. C. Douglas (Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands): Mr. Speaker, in view of the fact the minister has repeatedly promised to bring down a national energy policy—first it was by wintertime, then by late winter and then early spring, and it has not come yet—may I ask him whether the cabinet has now postponed the bringing down of such a national energy policy until 1974?

Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): Mr. Speaker, I would correct the hon. gentleman. I indicated I would bring forward studies on the question of energy which are now being printed in both official languages and I hope will be available within a matter of weeks.

[Mr. Woolliams.]

Mr. Douglas: Mr. Speaker, the minister had better go back and read some of his statements with reference to that.

Mr. Stanfield: I think he would blush.

Mr. Macdonald (Rosedale): Perhaps you had better go back.

PROPOSED MACKENZIE VALLEY PIPELINE— OPPORTUNITY FOR DISCUSSION BY MEMBERS BEFORE ANY APPLICATION HEARD

Mr. T. C. Douglas (Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands): In light of the statement just made by the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, may I ask whether or not the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources can assure the House that before any hearings are held in respect of a Mackenzie Valley pipeline an opportunity will be given to the House to discuss the benefits if any, which would accrue to the Canadian people?

Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): Mr. Speaker, I have already pointed out to the hon. gentleman that if he and his colleagues had been interested they could have discussed the guidelines which have already been laid down with regard to the Mackenzie corridor. We on this side would be quite prepared to discuss the entire question of guidelines, environmental, economic, social and otherwise. If the hon. member wants to take advantage of the present committee hearings, or is interested in propounding an order of reference for further hearings, for my part I would be delighted to have the forum in which to speak.

Mr. Steven E. Paproski (Edmonton Centre): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Prime Minister. In view of the importance of guidelines and policies regarding pipelines and the export of gas, oil and coal, is the government going to follow this week's precedent by introducing its guidelines in the form of a resolution for parliamentary approval and/or a matter of confidence?

* * *

[*Translation*]

CANADA LABOUR CODE

STUDY ON POSSIBILITY OF REDUCING WORK WEEK TO FOUR DAYS

Mr. Gérard Laprise (Abitibi): Mr. Speaker, I would like to put a question to the Minister of Labour.

Can he tell us whether his department has ordered a study to be made on the reduction of the work week to four days for employees under federal jurisdiction while maintaining the same number of hours as at present? If so, can he tell us if the study is concluded and if he has reached a decision?

[*English*]

Hon. John C. Munro (Minister of Labour): Mr. Speaker, the study has not been completed. I might indicate that we are looking at the implications of a compressed, modified or shorter work week. That, as I say, is under inten-

sive study at the moment but there are no final results as yet.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member for Cumberland-Colchester North rises on a question of privilege.

Mr. Coates: Mr. Speaker, there have been quite a number of questions put to the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources about Canada's energy problems. While I appreciate that the original question and the supplementaries were by many members from both central and western Canada, we also have a problem regarding energy on the east coast of Canada. I do not think it is really fair for members from central and western Canada to have an opportunity to ask questions of the minister about the lack of policy, which becomes more and more apparent every day, without our also having some possibility of asking questions.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. While I appreciate the point made by the hon. member for Cumberland-Colchester North, the hon. member will also appreciate the position of the Chair when after we had had a number of supplementaries we try to move on to another subject. I think it would make the task of the Chair impossible if the Chair were called upon to try to ensure that every province and every part of the country have a chance to ask supplementaries on each subject that is brought up. Hon. members, including the hon. member for Cumberland-Colchester North, will have an opportunity to ask supplementaries during the question period. The competition is not as numerous this morning as perhaps it is on other days, so I can assure the hon. member that he will be recognized in a short time.

* * *

NATIONAL PARKS

GROS MORNE, NFLD.—DECISION ON APPEAL BY PROVINCE CONCERNING TRANSFER OF PROPERTY BY RESIDENTS

Mr. Jack Marshall (Humber-St. George's-St. Barbe): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development. Would the minister indicate to the House whether he has reached a decision regarding the appeal by the provincial government of Newfoundland and the citizens living within Gros Morne National Park to be able to hand over the property and land they own to their successors?

[*Translation*]

Hon. Jean Chrétien (Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development): Mr. Speaker, we have set up our policy in this regard. I met the minister this morning; we did not discuss that matter in particular, but I think we are in the process of solving all the difficulties which could have existed at the two levels of government.

[*English*]

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

RESIGNATION OF NEW PRESIDENT OF CENTRAL MORTGAGE AND HOUSING CORPORATION AS DIRECTOR OF ST. MAURICE CAPITAL CORPORATION—DIVESTMENT OF FINANCIAL INTERESTS

Mr. Edward Broadbent (Oshawa-Whitby): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Prime Minister. In view of the fact that yesterday morning Mr. William Teron was re-elected to the board of directors of the St. Maurice Capital Corporation and in view of the importance of removing all possible doubt concerning potential conflicts of interest since he has been recently appointed as the new head of CMHC, I would like to ask the Prime Minister two questions. First, did Mr. Teron subsequently yesterday resign from his position on that board and, second, would the Prime Minister inform the House of the precise manner in which Mr. Teron intends to divest himself of his financial interests and property holdings and the exact nature of the trust arrangement proposed for that?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, on the question of directorships and so on the arrangement is that Mr. Teron will divest himself of any directorships which are in any way of a commercial interest in the area in which he will be operating. I believe there are some exceptions. For instance, I believe he is and will remain a director of the Ottawa Football Club and perhaps will keep his connection with the National Arts Centre. There are exceptions such as these. I have no knowledge of the election to which the hon. member referred in his question. I am certain that either it is not a fact or not a relevant fact because it is a fundamental part of the arrangement with Mr. Teron that he will resign from such directorships.

● (1130)

As to the other arrangements referred to in the latter part of the hon. member's question, there will be a divestment of property which will be either complete by sale over a reasonable period of time or there will be a putting of property into an arms' length trust composed of a decent part of a well-known public trust and an engagement on Mr. Teron's part to have no input at all into the management of the affairs of the trust.

ACCEPTANCE BY GOVERNMENT OF RECOMMENDATIONS IN WILLIAMS REPORT—ESTABLISHMENT OF RULES RESPECTING TRUSTS AND SUPERVISORY MECHANISM

Mr. Edward Broadbent (Oshawa-Whitby): I hope that in the Prime Minister's busy schedule he will find time to check the relevant facts in this case.

I should like to ask him, on the important question of conflict of interest, whether the government intends, in the Prime Minister's promised legislation and guidelines on conflict of interest, to follow the recommendations in the report of Professor Jeremy Williams submitted to the government in 1969 and, further, whether he intends to establish rules concerning the nature of such trust arrangements to which he has just referred for cabinet ministers and other government appointees as well as an

independent supervisory mechanism to ensure the proper administration of such trusts?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): To get an answer in detail to that question the hon. member will have to wait for our statement in the House and the paper which will be presented by the government suggesting how we propose to deal with matters of conflict of interest not only with regard to members of parliament but for cabinet ministers, members of the public service and, hopefully, eventually also for order in council appointments. The arrangement will be based on a long series of studies, including those to which the hon. member referred, and take into account procedures in other democratic countries. An effort will be made by the government to reconcile the very real desire of the people of Canada to have people of eminence in their service, either as members of parliament or in the public service, with the important principle of avoiding a conflict of interest situation where such a person would serve his own personal interest in serving the public.

Mr. Broadbent: Would the Prime Minister assure the House that we will have the promised legislation before the summer recess?

Mr. Trudeau: Yes, Mr. Speaker, the statement is intended to be made before the recess for this summer.

An hon. Member: What summer recess?

Mr. Trudeau: I want to remind the hon. member that I have not promised that legislation would be passed. We would like to table in parliament the proposals of the government for resolving this problem of conflict of interest by members of parliament, perhaps not only in the form of a paper but as a draft bill. We hope it will be possible for all members of parliament in all parties to improve it, if possible, and certainly to look critically at the suggestions made by the government. If any improvements are suggested, we will probably want to take them into account in bringing in similar improvements to the guidelines for cabinet ministers and public servants.

[*Later:*]

Hon. Ron Basford (Minister of State for Urban Affairs): While I am on my feet, Mr. Speaker, perhaps I might supplement an answer given by the Prime Minister to a question from the hon. member for Oshawa-Whitby, on the basis of information just handed to me. While Mr. Teron was appointed to the board of directors of St. Maurice Capital Corporation yesterday at its annual meeting, the ballots had been sent in before his nomination as President of CMHC and subsequently, after his election, he resigned from the board.

REQUEST FOR PUBLICATION OF ALL STUDIES

Mr. R. Gordon L. Fairweather (Fundy-Royal): Mr. Speaker, my supplementary question is for the Prime Minister. Does the right hon. gentleman think that a discussion of this serious topic would be helped if not only the report of Professor Williams but the other studies that are going on in the office of the President of the Privy Council could be made public? Surely these documents are not internal documents, and it would help not only in responding to the government's belated initiative but would enable us to respond positively and quickly.

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, that seems to be a worth-while suggestion. I will consider the studies that have been made and see whether it is in the public interest to make them public.

Mr. Speaker: I see that practically every hon. member to my left is rising. We have spent quite some time on two questions only. I think we have lost the advantage we had earlier this afternoon by spending so much time on two questions. Many members will be disappointed again. The hon. member for Hamilton Mountain.

* * *

AIR CANADA

ROTATING STRIKES BY MACHINISTS—INTERVENTION BY MINISTER OF LABOUR

Mr. Duncan M. Beattie (Hamilton Mountain): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Labour. In light of the fact that Air Canada faces the imminent danger of a complete shut-down of air services as a result of the gathering momentum of the machinists' rotating strikes, can the minister tell the House whether he is going to take any personal steps immediately to try to settle the dispute and, if not, why not?

Hon. John C. Munro (Minister of Labour): Mr. Speaker, I have taken note of the various suggestions emanating from the official opposition. Let me assure members of the opposition and in particular the hon. member that the government will take every possible action that we think is constructive to resolve this dispute.

ROTATING STRIKES BY MACHINISTS—MEASURES TO ENSURE SAFETY OF PASSENGERS

Mr. Duncan M. Beattie (Hamilton Mountain): Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question for the Minister of Transport. In light of the fact that unqualified persons are often working on some of the vital services connected with plane travel, can the minister tell the House what special procedures his department is taking to ensure the safety of persons still travelling on Air Canada?

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, we have increased the surveillance. We have more inspectors and we have taken steps to see to it that the safety of passengers is assured by Air Canada. As the hon. member knows, Air Canada has an operating maintenance manual which reflects the standards of security of the Department of Transport, and we are ensuring that the instructions in the operating manual are followed by Air Canada.

ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

DUMPING OF RAW SEWAGE INTO OTTAWA RIVER FROM NEW HEADQUARTERS BUILDING IN HULL

Mr. Paul Dick (Lanark-Renfrew-Carleton): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Prime Minister in view of the fact that the Minister of the Environment is not present today and there has been no notification of an acting minister. In view of the fact raw sewage is being dumped directly into the Ottawa River from the new headquarters of the Department of the Environment in the Fontaine building in Hull, when does the government expect the sewage system in the new building will be in operation and this direct pollution of the Ottawa River will cease?

Mr. William Rompkey (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of the Environment): Mr. Speaker, I should like to take that question as notice and bring it to the attention of the minister.

* * *

POWER

STEPS TO ACHIEVE NATIONAL GRID—RE-EXAMINATION OF REPORT ON FUNDY TIDES

Mr. Robert C. Coates (Cumberland-Colchester North): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct my question to the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources. Is it the intention of his department to initiate new moves to try to secure a national agreement on the development of a national power grid as well as bring about a conclusion to the re-examination of the programming board report on Fundy tidal power?

Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): Mr. Speaker, in the last several months we have already made offers, particularly in the Atlantic provinces, to achieve closer co-ordination of power facilities there. It was helpful to find out that with the proposals in Ontario there may be some prospect that their very large semi-autonomous facility will be co-operating in national policies.

With regard to Fundy tidal power, I should like to tell the hon. member that we have not had the report of the programming board which is at the moment considering the matter.

* * *

ENERGY

PROSPECTS FOR AGREEMENT WITH MARITIME PROVINCES ON ALLOCATION OF POSSIBLE OIL ROYALTIES FROM OFFSHORE DEVELOPMENT

Mr. Lloyd R. Crouse (South Shore): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources. In view of the confusion that reigns in Altantic Canada at present over the lack of policy with respect to the allocation of possible royalties from offshore development, and the fact that this indecision could well lead to a delay in developing our oil potential, will the minister

indicate to the House whether any possible agreement has been reached with the four provincial premiers concerned with regard to this thorny problem?

Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): Mr. Speaker, actually the five easternmost provinces are involved. No agreement has been reached at the moment, although I share the optimism of at least one of the provincial premiers that by the end of the summer there may be an agreement. We have had extensive discussions at the official level, and I think it is fair to say that there is some difference of position in the case of at least one provincial premier, but we hope to bring him around.

* * *

● (1140)

AGRICULTURE

REPORTED OUTBREAK OF FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE IN AUSTRIA—EFFECT ON CURRENT CATTLE IMPORTS

Mr. Bert Hargrave (Medicine Hat): Mr. Speaker, I would like to address a question to the Minister of Agriculture. With respect to the report of a recent outbreak of foot and mouth disease in northwestern Europe, specifically in Austria, can the minister confirm the accuracy of this report and will he comment on the implications of this cattle disease outbreak with respect to current Canadian import permits about to be announced this month?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. It is irregular to ask a minister to confirm a report. However, we might assume that the question has been asked directly in order to give the minister an opportunity to reply.

Hon. E. F. Whelan (Minister of Agriculture): Mr. Speaker, we are aware of the fact that there is an outbreak of hoof and mouth disease, particularly in Austria. Naturally we are enforcing all the regulations that we customarily put into effect when there is an outbreak of this disease in any part of the world from which imports come into Canada. We are also asking for restrictions to be placed on tourists coming from that area to Canada. As a matter of fact, we had some difficulties just last week with a plane load of them who came to Montreal.

* * *

MANPOWER

TRAINING ON THE JOB AND TRAINING IN INDUSTRY PROGRAMS—INQUIRY WHETHER PRIVATE CORPORATIONS FAVOURED OVER CROWN COMPANIES IN MAKING GRANTS

Mr. Elias Nesdoly (Meadow Lake): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Minister of Manpower and Immigration. Would he indicate to the House whether it is the policy of his department to favour private corporations to the detriment of Crown corporations when it comes to giving grants under the training on the job program and the training in industry program?

Hon. Robert K. Andras (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, it is generally the practice of the department to favour improvement of the conditions of employees, and that is the basis for giving grants for training on the job to any employer. Generally speaking, there are a great many more such grants and contracts entered into with private corporations than with Crown corporations.

Mr. Nesdoly: In view of the fact that since 1968 the well known corporation of Mr. Roman, Dennison Mines, has received six grants from the Department of Manpower totalling almost $300,000 for the purpose of training its work force, whereas our Crown corporation, Eldorado Nuclear Limited, received only $9,000 for the same purpose, would the minister agree to look into this matter and make a statement clarifying this very peculiar situation?

Mr. Andras: Mr. Speaker, I will be very glad to look into it, but I can assure the hon. member that there is certainly no political patronage involved.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

* * *

[*Translation*]

HARBOURS

PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION OF SUPERTANKER PORT ON ST. LAWRENCE—LETTER OF MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT—GOVERNMENT POSITION

Mr. Roch La Salle (Joliette): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the right hon. Prime Minister.

Since the Quebec Minister of Industry and Commerce expressed yesterday serious concern about the statement made by the Minister of the Environment that it was ridiculous to think of building a port for giant tankers on the St. Lawrence River, and since the Prime Minister said at the beginning of the week that he was not aware of that letter, could the Prime Minister say today if the statement made by the Minister of the Environment reflected the policy of the government, or whether discussions in that regard are still going on as he suggested earlier this week?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Yes, Mr. Speaker, as I have already said, discussions are still going on. The Minister of the Environment, in this case as in others, does his job as Minister of the Environment of drawing the attention of the public and governments on the dangers of pollution, for the protection of the environment of certain developments. His advice has been always taken into consideration in the decisions of the government, together with other advice we receive from the Departments of Regional Economic Expansion, Finance, Transport, Industry, Trade and Commerce, etc. Each minister plays his part and the discussions are not over.

PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION OF SUPERTANKER PORT ON ST. LAWRENCE—DISCUSSION WITH QUEBEC

Mr. Roch La Salle (Joliette): Mr. Speaker, since the Prime Minister informs us that the discussions are not over, could he assure the House that he is prepared to consider the representations made by the Quebec government in that regard?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Certainly, Mr. Speaker.

PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION OF SUPERTANKER PORT ON ST. LAWRENCE—GOVERNMENT PARTICIPATION IN SHARED COST PROJECT

Mr. Jacques-L. Trudel (Montreal-Bourassa): Mr. Speaker, I wish to ask a question of the right hon. Prime Minister.

Has he received a request to the effect that the federal government help or participate in a joint project, under which the private industry, the provincial government and the federal government would build a super-harbour in the Gulf of St. Lawrence?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I know that such questions are in fact discussed and proposed. I cannot say that that question has been submitted to me, personally, but I understand that it is discussed by some ministers of the federal government with ministers of the provincial government.

* * *

[*English*]

AGRICULTURE

SAFETY OF RALGRO AS GROWTH STIMULANT FOR CATTLE

Mr. Gus Mitges (Grey-Simcoe): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Agriculture. In view of the fact that diethylstilbestrol, commonly known as DES, has been banned as a growth stimulant for cattle because of its carcinogenic properties, although certified as safe for use for almost two decades, can the minister assure the people of Canada that the new growth stimulant, ralgro, now licensed for use in Canada, is indeed a safe drug to use for this purpose, so that some time in the future it too will not be banned because of insufficient research?

Hon. E. F. Whelan (Minister of Agriculture): Mr. Speaker, I have been assured by the scientists who were associated with the research done before official consent was given for the use of ralgro in Canada that it is safe. I can only go by what they tell me.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I would hope there would not be too many supplementaries because we are now just about at the end of the question period.

Mr. Mitges: Now that many countries are again accepting our beef exports because of the banning of DES, can the minister state with assurance that these countries will still accept our beef exports if they have been previously treated with ralgro?

Mr. Whelan: Mr. Speaker, I have no knowledge that they would not be.

TRANSPORT

PROVISION OF FREIGHT CARS FOR BRITISH COLUMBIA LUMBER INDUSTRY

Mr. Frank Oberle (Prince George-Peace River): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Minister of Transport. Further to a question I asked his parliamentary secretary about two weeks ago relating to the acute shortage of railway rolling stock for the lumber industry in British Columbia, can the minister today tell the House if his discussions with the provincial government have resulted in a solution for this very serious problem?

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): Is the hon. member referring only to the discussion on boxcars or to the whole discussion with the government of British Columbia?

Mr. Oberle: I am referring to boxcars which are in short supply for the lumber industry in British Columbia.

Mr. Marchand (Langelier): Mr. Speaker, discussions are being carried on not mainly with the government of British Columbia but with the Americans. This is where our boxcars are and the CNR and CPR are trying to get back as many cars as they can.

* * *

REGIONAL ECONOMIC EXPANSION

REQUEST FOR ELIMINATION OF SASKATOON AND REGINA AS SPECIAL AREAS AND PLACING OF ALL TOWNS AND CITIES ON EQUAL BASIS

Mr. Norval Horner (Battleford-Kindersley): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Minister of Regional Economic Expansion. In view of the fact the cities of Saskatoon and Regina are designated as special areas in Saskatchewan under DREE and that this policy discourages and practically prevents industrial growth in all other cities and towns in that province, would the minister consider changing the policy to eliminate these two cities as special areas and put all towns and cities on an equal basis?

Hon. Donald C. Jamieson (Minister of Regional Economic Expansion): Mr. Speaker, a question along these lines has already been discussed at considerable length with the government of Saskatchewan, and a working party is now considering how the objective outlined by the hon. member can be achieved, that is, to make incentive grants and other assistance under DREE available over a wider area, not only in Saskatchewan but in other provinces.

* * *

NATIONAL CAPITAL COMMISSION

ALLEGED NOTIFICATION TO MUNICIPALITIES THAT DUMPING ON ITS LANDS WILL BE PROHIBITED IN 1974

Mr. Walter Baker (Grenville-Carleton): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Minister of State for Urban Affairs. In view of the growing concern with respect to waste management disposal problems in the national capital area, can he say whether it is true that the National Capital Commission has notified municipalities within the area that dumping on its lands will be prohibited in 1974 and, if so, what is the cut-off date for that order?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please, I will take just one second of the time of the House to suggest it is not regular to ask a minister to confirm a statement which is made outside the House. To save time, we will assume that the question has been asked directly.

Hon. Ron Basford (Minister of State for Urban Affairs): Mr. Speaker, I will have to take notice of the question and report back to the hon. member.

* * *

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

PROPOSED NUCLEAR TESTS BY FRANCE—PROTEST BY CANADA THROUGH UNITED NATIONS

Mr. Randolph Harding (Kootenay West): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Secretary of State for External Affairs. What action, if any, is being taken by our Canadian representatives at the United Nations to protest the proposed French nuclear tests in the south Pacific?

● (1150)

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, we have made direct representations to the French government on this question on a number of occasions and I am very happy to say that on the last occasion I was able to transmit the views of this parliament.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The Chair will recognize the hon. member on a supplementary, and I believe the hon. member for Gander-Twillingate and the hon. member for Bonaventure-Îles de la Madeleine have supplementaries to previous questions.

Mr. Harding: Mr. Speaker, the minister did not answer my question. The question was, what action had been taken at the United Nations level by the Canadian representatives? In addition, may I ask whether the Canadian government has considered any further action at the international level in protesting against these proposed nuclear tests?

Mr. Sharp: Mr. Speaker, I think the position of the Canadian government on these tests is extremely well known and, if there had been any doubt about it, we had the full support of the House of Commons. I can think of no stronger protest.

Oral Questions

REGIONAL ECONOMIC EXPANSION

PROVISION OF MAPS SHOWING PROPER BOUNDARY BETWEEN QUEBEC AND LABRADOR

Mr. John Lundrigan (Gander-Twillingate): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Regional Economic Expansion. In view of the fact that two months ago the committee on DREE unanimously recommended that RDIA maps be replaced with maps showing an undisputed boundary between Quebec and Labrador, can the minister indicate what steps he has taken to have the improper maps replaced?

Hon. Donald C. Jamieson (Minister of Regional Economic Expansion): Mr. Speaker, I thank the hon. member for calling this to my attention. The fact is, of course, that the line that is drawn does not indicate or is not meant to suggest that it is a disputed boundary. It is simply an unsurveyed boundary. However, I have had some exhaustive discussions with my colleague, the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources, and it is our intention in future to make it abundantly clear just where the ownership of Labrador lies.

[*Later:*]

Mr. Lundrigan: In view of the fact the maps the minister's department has put out as late as today still show that the only boundary in Canada which is unsurveyed or disputed, whatever the appropriate term may be, is that between Quebec and Labrador, can the minister assure the House that this map will not be sent out to applicants in future and that proper maps will be designed immediately?

Mr. Jamieson: Mr. Speaker, I think it would be quite improper or unfair to people who are looking for maps when we have a large number on hand. What we will do, if it is necessary before new maps are printed, is to put a qualifying note along with the maps to indicate what the position is.

* * *

[*Translation*]

PORTS

PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION OF SUPERTANKER PORT ON ST. LAWRENCE—CONSIDERATION OF ECONOMIC FACTORS OVER POLLUTION

Mr. Albert Béchard (Bonaventure-Îles de la Madeleine): Mr. Speaker, I want to ask a question of the right hon. Prime Minister.

Concerning the decision that the government will have to take concerning the establishment of a super harbour at Gros-Cacouna, will priority be given to the economic welfare of the population of that area rather than to the effects of pollution?

[*English*]

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Acting Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, we will give proper weight to that particular consideration, but I am quite sure no one in this House would feel that the environmental factor should not be taken into account.

[Mr. Sharp.]

[*Translation*]

MANPOWER

LOCAL INITIATIVES PROGRAM—EXTENSION OF CERTAIN PROJECTS ON NORTH SHORE OF ST. LAWRENCE

Mr. Gilles Caouette (Charlevoix): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Minister of Manpower and Immigration.

With reference to the answer he gave me yesterday that his officials would review the possibility of extending local initiatives projects in hard-up regions, can the minister assure the House that the North Shore projects in the field of recreational activities will be duly re-assessed and approved, as requested by his own officials in this region?

[*English*]

Hon. Robert K. Andras (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, I will look into that particular application but, as a general rule, I think I have to repeat that not all projects, not even those projects which are considered eligible for extension, will in fact be extended. There will be, unfortunately, a selection process applied, even in areas where unemployment exceeds the national average.

Mr. Paproski: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker—

[*Translation*]

Mr. Speaker: Order. I apologize to the hon. member for Charlevoix—

[*English*]

The hon. member for Edmonton Centre rises on a point of order, after which I will return to the hon. member for Charlevoix.

Mr. Paproski: Mr. Speaker, I regret rising on a point of order. One week ago last Friday I asked a question of the Prime Minister because the Secretary of State for External Affairs was out of the House. It reads, as reported on page 4346 or *Hansard*:

> In view of the fact that the Minister of Finance for Tunisia has been in Canada to negotiate a loan, would the Prime Minister advise the House whether the loan to Tunisia has been completed and, if so, in what amount?

There was a little discrepancy in what the Prime Minister said, as recorded on the same page:

> I am not sure that the hon. member is talking about the right country. There is a matter of a loan being discussed—but Algeria, Tunisia; who cares.

We do care and I should like to know, and I ask the Secretary of State for External Affairs if he can please explain whether the—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. This is debate on a question asked. The hon. member rose on a point of order, and I cannot see that there is a point of order. I regret that there are only 40 minutes in the question period. The hon. member for Charlevoix, although he was recognized for a supplementary, did not have the opportunity to ask his question. Perhaps this matter might be noted by the Secretary of State for External Affairs and answered on another occasion. The Chair will recognize again the hon.

member for Charlevoix, then the Leader of the Opposition, and then call orders of the day.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Caouette (Charlevoix): Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question for the Minister of Manpower and Immigration.

In view of the unemployment rate in this region and the recommendations made in respect of the projects, as well as the fact that only two projects there have been granted extensions, does the minister intend to consider seriously the applications from that region?

[*English*]

Mr. Andras: Mr. Speaker, I will always take seriously the representations of any region and, of course, those of the hon. member as well.

* * *

PUBLIC SERVICE

INQUIRY AS TO PUBLICATION OF DIRECTIVES ON BILINGUALISM BASED ON CERTAIN GUIDELINES

Hon. Robert L. Stanfield (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Acting Prime Minister. It was to be a question for the Prime Minister who has slipped out, but I am sure the Acting Prime Minister can take care of it. It arises out of the statement of the President of the Treasury Board on December 14 that once the discussions with regard to the so-called Drury guidelines were terminated the council would publish the directives set out to guide departments with regard to the application of the principles. I ask the Acting Prime Minister why these directives have not been published, particularly in view of the assurance in the statement by the President of the Treasury Board on April 12 that they would be tabled at the time of the debate on the Prime Minister's resolution relating to bilingualism?

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Acting Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I regret that I am not able to answer that question unless I look into the undertakings and what the intention of the President of the Treasury Board may be. Certainly, we have nothing to hide in this matter and it would be our desire to make our position completely clear not only to members of the Public Service but also to the members of the House of Commons.

Mr. Speaker: Orders of the day.

Post Office

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

[*English*]

BUSINESS OF SUPPLY

ALLOTTED DAY S.O. 58—ALLEGED DETERIORATION IN SERVICE AND INCREASE IN RATES FOR POSTAL SERVICE AFFECTING SMALL PUBLICATIONS

Hon. W. G. Dinsdale (Brandon-Souris) moved:

That this House regrets the drastic deterioration of the postal service in Canada during the past six years: including the closure of rural post offices; the reduction of urban service from six days to five days; the head-long costly rush to automation and computerization leading to job insecurity and low morale among employees—all this in the face of sharply increased postal rates which have seriously affected smaller Canadian publications, forcing many of them out of business; and urges the Government to take the necessary action to restore this fundamentally important communication system to its former excellence.

He said: Mr. Speaker, in view of the widespread interest on the part of members in this important subject, I wonder if there could be agreement to limit speeches following those made in the first round to 15 minutes?

Mr. Speaker: Is this agreed?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Mr. Speaker: It is so ordered.

Mr. Dinsdale: Mr. Speaker, next to the Unemployment Insurance Commission, I believe that the department of government that has been most seriously disorganized and that has been of the most concern to the public in recent years is the Post Office Department. Hon. members, when they heard this debate was coming up, all wanted to speak, because there is not one who has not found in recent years that the time of a member of parliament has been taken up substantially, every day, in acting as ombudsman for unravelling the confusions, disorganizations and uncertainties relating to Canada's postal service. As the motion indicates, I will make some positive recommendations toward the end of the debate, but at the outset I want to review briefly why I feel that the postal service, during the past six years, has deteriorated and degenerated so rapidly.

The destruction of the Post Office Department began some six years ago under the direction of the then Postmaster General, Eric Kierans, who has gone to other places and other activities. He was one of a succession of Postmasters General who wrestled with this problem. There have been almost as many Postmasters General in the past six years as there have been years in that period. However, I think the low water mark began with the tenure of that office by the hon. gentleman to whom I have already referred.

We now have a new Postmaster General (Mr. Ouellet). He is questioned from time to time in the House of Commons. A standard answer is all that is in the past, everything is now wonderful in the Post Office Department and it is the dawn of a new day as far as efficiency is concerned. He gave that answer as recently as on the late show last night when the hon. member for Red Deer (Mr. Towers) brought some specifics before the minister. The minister's reply in part was as follows:

I would like however to point out that it is somewhat unfair to judge the whole postal service by a few isolated cases.

I would interpolate that these are not isolated cases as the Postmaster General will learn as he hears from various members during the course of today's debate.

It may happen sometimes that Canadians find that their mail has been delayed.

Even the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) discovered that on April 3 when he said everybody knows that the mail delivery in Canada is slow.

Out of 100 letters which they receive, one or two may be late. This does not mean that the postal service is bad. It means that twice out of a hundred times delivery has been delayed.

The Postmaster General has been described as a very affable and efficient sort of fellow. Perhaps he hopes to diffuse the continuing disorganization of the Post Office Department with a veneer of affability. However, a smile will not drive away the deeply rooted problems that are a part of our once efficient and adequate postal service.

I am going to review some of the difficulties that all members of parliament encounter. Other spokesmen will be specific on each of the points that I raise. I wish to point out to the Postmaster General there are real problems that have to be dealt with in a forthright manner. I suggest the reason for the decline in the efficiency of the Post Office Department in recent years came about as a result of the managerial approach or the approach of managerial expertise.

There have been many studies and analyses by various consultant groups in Canada. So many of these analyses and reports contradict one another that I am sure the Postmaster General does not know which way to turn. There has been change for the sake of change, as was the case with the Unemployment Insurance Commission which is now trying to put Humpty Dumpty together again by re-opening local offices that were once closed and trying to get the operation of the Unemployment Insurance Commission on a more intimate and efficient basis.

This change for the sake of change has been disruptive, traumatic and, in many instances, counterproductive. The Postmaster General must realize that something has to be done. We do not want a change in Postmasters General, as we had with Manpower and Immigration in order to get the mess sorted out. The Postmaster General must come to grips with these problems with more than a smile and an optimistic assurance that all is for the best in the best of all possible worlds.

Outside management was brought in from the world of business. I think this is one of the difficulties. The post office service used to operate quietly and efficiently. The people of Canada were happy with it. The letter carriers who met the public on a day-to-day basis were smiling. It is much better that they smile than the Postmaster General because they are in touch with the public on a day-to-day basis. The letter carriers are no longer the smiling, happy work force they once were.

The Post Office Department is a public service. When Mr. Kierans laid down the edict that it must pay its way, the fat was in the fire. I wonder what would happen if the same edict were laid down for the CBC, which is another form of communication, although not nearly as basic as the postal service, which is the medium of communication that really holds the fabric of the nation together.

[Mr. Dinsdale.]

Mr. Kierans said the Post Office Department had to pay its way. In order to accomplish this, he began closing rural post offices with wild abandon. No matter how many protests there were, Mr. Kierans was not slowed down in his objective of saving $1,000 here and there. He used to boast about it. He closed down the post office in Little Snoring and saved the Canadian taxpayers $1,000. Out of the other corner of his mouth, he was talking about the $100 million in public funds he was going to expend on building a satellite system that would be the most impressive breakthrough in satellite technology in modern times.

Mr. Kierans failed to realize that when you close a rural post office, the very existence of that community is threatened. This is the trouble of management that is out of touch with the realities of a government that is primarily engaged in serving the public. The rural post office is generally located in the corner store. With the additional revenue gone, the corner store closes. The town begins to disintegrate further. This disastrous phenomenon of urban rural drift that all governments are concerned about at the moment goes on with increasing speed, aided and abetted by the actions of members of the government of Canada.

The amazing thing was that while Mr. Kierans was decreasing the efficiency of the service, he was increasing the postal rates in all categories by a rather alarming amount. He was aware that this would have a deleterious effect on small Canadian publications, such as church and professional group publications and weekly newspapers. Weekly newspapers, like the ethnic press, find it almost impossible to meet the sharp increase in rates in that category which amounts in some instances to as much as 1,000 per cent. It must be pointed out once again that these publications are the real grass root publications by means of which a sense of belonging, of national unity and Canadianism is promoted. We know now what has happened. Many of these publications have gone out of business with highly regrettable consequences.

• (1210)

The solution to all these difficulties was to have been mechanization, computerisation and automation. Canada's mail was to be handled on the basis of coding and computerisation. But the managerial experts forgot that machines will not function successfully unless they are properly monitored by employees. And when the post office set up a wage category for this work which was lower than that applicable to postal workers engaged in normal sorting procedures—$2.90 an hour as compared with $3.64—it automatically created a source of discontent which has resulted in a sad decline in the morale and efficiency of the work force. These are all shortcomings to which attention has been called many times, Mr. Speaker. The minister tells us now they are all in the past and that solutions are forthcoming to all these problems.

I should like to point to one or two current incidents which suggest that his optimism is a case of whistling in the graveyard, and that he is still in great difficulty as far as complaints about the postal service are concerned. Service in the post office is still erratic. Only the other day the following letter appeared in the Edmonton *Journal*:

I should like to draw to your readers' attention the folly of the new postal code which we have been asked to adopt. I used it recently when writing to a correspondent in Raymond which is

only some 20 miles away. The letter took two months to arrive, and it went via Japan. It apparently landed up in the Japanese capital because the postal code for Raymond is T0K 1Y0. I wonder whether other communities across the nation are having like problems.

The letter is signed by Ernest Mardon of Lethbridge. Other hon. members will be speaking about the postal code.

Mechanization is all very well but, as the Unemployment Insurance Commission discovered, computerization and mechanization can give rise to problems; unless properly programmed, these devices can confuse the situation rather than relieve it.

Employee morale in the post office is still low. This is what an employee of the department says, writing in the *Communications* magazine for May, 1973. The employee is from St. John's, Newfoundland, and he says, in the department's own publication:

A new look has arrived at Canada Post with the introduction of Telepost, etc. The employees of the post office can now feel a sense of pride in that they are now part of the finest post office in the world.

I think he is quoting there from one of the speeches of the Postmaster General. He goes on to make this comment.

Refreshing, isn't it? The new look does exist but not entirely in the perspective of the above paragraph. Postal workers are not rejuvenated but still dejected and defiant against management.

Publications are still going out of business in consequence of the almost punitive increase in postal rates. Most of the mail which reaches my desk nowadays seems to consist of complaints about postal services. As an example, let me quote part of a resolution which was forwarded to me by the Brotherhood of Maintenance of Way Employees on May 26. It reads:

WHEREAS our brotherhood journal, labour newspaper and the Canadian Railwaymen, along with other labour publications and periodicals of non-profit organizations and threatened by ruinous postal rate increases; and

WHEREAS the postal rate increases which face us, far higher than those applying to commercial publications, would wreck our vital means of communication with our membership through publications which, unlike the commercial press, have no advertizing revenue and few outside subscriptions, and are financed entirely by membership dues—

There are a few other "WHEREAS" clauses, and then the conclusion—

RESOLVED that we continue to press the issue with the Canadian Post Office Department whenever appropriate to seek a more equitable postal rate for the Canadian *Railwayman.*

A large number of similar journals have also been affected, and the organizations concerned have expressed their continuing concern in almost the same terms. This is why we on this side are bringing up the matter once again today.

The punitive increase in postal rates, as well as the decline in the efficiency of the service, has resulted in a loss of business. On February 12, a reply was tabled to a question in the name of the hon. member for Southwestern Nova (Mr. Haliburton). It indicated that revenue from first class, second class and third class mail has declined continually since 1967-68. Now, how can revenue possibly go down when there have been increases in rates such as I have described, other than because the Post Office Department by its unwise managerial experimentation has driven potential business away from itself?

If members will examine the yellow pages of the Toronto telephone directory they will discover listed there no fewer than 85 private messenger services which are in business competing directly with the post office in parcel post delivery and even letter carrying services. No wonder the deficit of the post office account continues to escalate. Problems in connection with mechanization continue to exist and new difficulties are arising on the labour front, some of which I shall refer to briefly this morning. It has been brought to my attention that recently, in the city of Toronto, a new module system of work organization has been established. Judging from some of the comments I have heard from employees involved, it is not likely to enhance the morale or the efficiency of postal workers. Here is a comment by one of the employees:

The unit leaders and cell members have been selected for each of these modules. Each cell consists of 20 or more employees.

He goes on to refer to Professor Martin Moore's book "Methods of Work" in which Professor Moore describes the module system as a pressure system similar to that used by the Nazis in their slave camps at Dachau, Belsen, etc. How on earth the management of the post office feels that this is going to increase efficiency is beyond comprehension. It is almost as bad as arbitrarily closing rural post offices, as the government did to the tune of about 2,000 within a very short period of time in order to save a dollar here and a dollar there.

● (1220)

The Canadian Union of Postal Workers bulletin of April 17 deals with the introduction of the module system, and here are some of the complaints they make about it:

You can see that we are reduced from five levels on our staff to three. The most interesting point here is that P.O. L7 will be equivalent to a P.O. L6.

I guess that stands for "postal operator".

Best of luck to APOC in justifying that to their members.

They anticipate that there is going to be a great kickback from the employees as a result of the decrease in the number of employee levels. Then, the bulletin goes on in great detail:

Approximately one year ago your education committee published an article on management by objectives (M.B.O.). Reduced to its simplest terms, this horrendous system works by establishing a goal or standard and when the person or group "Module(?) reaches the objective then a new, higher, objective is established. When you link M.B.O. with another of management's favourite procedures—"accountability"—then Ivory Tower Theorists start rubbing their hands together in glee. "Accountability" means each level in the supervisory hierarchy is responsible and required to account for the performance of his subordinates. In other words, each module supervisor would be "accountable" for the performance of his little group (module) of employees/workers. The next link in the chain is to measure production. It is already being done! The basis is group work measurement and does not measure an individual but rather a group (module) of employees on an operation. The unit of measurement is pieces per hour (PPH) and applies to magazines, circulars, letters, etc. . . .

How do we react to all this? The answer is simple—Don't! If you are doing a good day's work now, why should you change your manner of working because management makes changes? If you are not considered a poor worker now then why change? Don't let the so-called team (module) method of playing off one group

against another get to you. Remember individual work measurement.

If morale was low among post office employees before this, you can just imagine, Mr. Speaker, how deeply morale is going to plummet in face of this sort of ad hoc trial and error experimentation with the lives of postal employees who at one time were the best and most enthusiastic of any group in Canada.

Another problem concerns decentralization. Regional areas are being used for the purpose of experimentation in managerial extravaganzas, such as the module system I have referred to, and one region is played off against another. Again, this affects the morale of the employees. As they say when you talk to them, it is like being in a three-ring circus, only in this case there are four rings and each is doing its own thing so there is bound to be disruption in the over-all efficiency of postal employees.

In addition, casual workers are being employed more and more. This was disclosed in the reply to a question to which I have already referred; the number of permanent employees is going down while the number of casuals is going up. Question No. 1544 put on the order paper by myself asked the following:

1. What is the estimated saving to the Post Office Department from the installation of the new postal code?

2. What are the reasons for this saving?

3. How many postal employees have been replaced by the automated system?

The first answer was as follows:

1. Savings over 17 years (beginning in 1971) were estimated at $134,000,000 (discounted dollars).

That sounds like the accountability of the UIC when it was going off into the wide blue yonder.

2. Savings will occur as a result of changes in future hiring patterns and increased efficiency in the department.

The future hiring patterns refers to the increased tendency to hire casuals who will not have their positions confirmed and it will be easy to get rid of them when the time comes. The answer to part 3 was "none". But just wait until automation gets underway. This is the sword of Damocles that will be hanging over the heads of the postal employees and which accounts for the low morale that is all too evident.

Another point I suppose I should make is that the post office is still insisting on operating on a pay-as-you-go basis. The estimates for 1973-74 gives this as the objective of the Post Office Department:

To provide postal services to the people of Canada at reasonable rates and at a standard of service adequate to meet their needs without incurring subsidization from general taxation.

That is to be found at page 19-6 of the estimates.

The Auditor General gets into the act, of course, when a department is as badly disorganized as this one. He refers in his report to attempts by the Post Office Department to deal with its deficit position. He reminds the Postmaster General in paragraph 176 of his report that the royal commission on government organization recommended that "an annual grant be made by parliament in an amount sufficient to cover the costs of the post office in handling second class mail", and of the recommendation by the public accounts committee that "the Post Office Department or Parliament immediately find ways and means of covering the loss of the Post Office Department in handling second class mail". Then he reminds the Postmaster General that these recommendations have not been acted upon. In other words, there is no recognition that the Post Office Department, like the railways, satellites and all the other means of communication, are basic to the well being of Canada as a whole.

His report also deals with the excursion of the Postmaster General into the realm of private enterprise. In paragraph 177 he refers to the fact that, as well as carrying on philatelic and other postal business in many post offices, the Post Office Department, hoping to make an honest dollar and to account for the deficit arising from the loss of legitimate postal business, sells coin sets, commemorative spoons, art prints, Canadian handicrafts, picture postcards, etc. It is almost becoming like a department store.

The Auditor General reminds the Postmaster General that there is no established policy in this regard, and that there is no accounting in relation to this source of funds. Consequently the Auditor General does not know whether it has been profitable or not, but he says it is questionable whether the sale of non-postal items falls within the powers granted to the Postmaster General under the Post Office Act, Revised Statutes of Canada chapter P-14. He feels that this matter requires an opinion for the Department of Justice. I am sure that many members have been receiving complaints from private businesses about this invasion of their field of business. As the Auditor General says, the Postmaster General is acting without authorization in a desperate attempt to meet the deficit of his department, and in so doing is incurring more and more antipathy from the people of Canada, whom the post office is supposed to serve and whom it had served efficiently down through the years until the last six years.

To bring these matters to a conclusion, Mr. Speaker, I said I would wind up on an optimistic note. I suggest that what we need to deal with complaints in the post office is a complaint department similar to that set up by the Unemployment Insurance Commission. This would allow the minister to keep in closer touch with the public and the facts, which I suggest are known at grass root levels.

● (1230)

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. Perhaps I should interrupt the hon. member at this time to bring to his attention and the attention of the House the fact that his time has expired. The hon. member may continue with the unanimous consent of the House.

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Mr. Dinsdale: I can conclude my remarks in two sentences, Mr. Speaker, and I appreciate the generosity of the House. The Postmaster General should, in a meaningful way, consult with postal employees. In this way he might avoid conflicts that result from the arbitrary introduction of the modular system. This is obviously going to be a big issue.

I congratulate the employees of the post office department for their tolerance and willingness to serve. They have been aggravated beyond endurance and, had it not been for their sense of responsibility, we would likely

have experienced another postal strike last fall as a result of the high handed manner of the Treasury Board in negotiating. Let us listen to the employees' complaints. Let us bring the post office department back to the service of the people. This can only be done if the Postmaster General will abandon his ivory tower attitude, communicate with the people and listen to members of parliament. I am sure he will hear plenty from them today.

Mr. David Orlikow (Winnipeg North): Mr. Speaker, the resolution we are discussing today is, to a great extent, the result of the failings and shortcomings of the postal system in Canada. I intend to deal specifically with the problems listed in the resolution, namely "job insecurity and low morale among employees". It seems obvious to me that any person in Canada, not just members of parliament, could hardly avoid noticing the difficulties we have experienced in the postal department in the past 10 years. Let me go over that list of difficulties very briefly.

In 1965, we had a wildcat strike on the part of postal employees. In 1968, we had a legal strike and in 1970 we had a rotational strike. I suggest the reason for this difficulty lies in the fact that the government would not accept the recommendation of the chairman of the conciliation board. This year we almost had another strike, and the reason for that was that the conciliation board members brought in three different recommendations followed by another recommendation by the chairman. The unions accepted that recommendation.

In spite of repeated representations by employees and members of parliament of various parties, the government insisted on misinterpreting the recommendation of the chairman of that board. Only after the government realized the employees would call another strike did they agree to an earlier proposal of the union to go back to the chairman of the board to have him clear up what he meant by his recommendation. When that was done it became obvious, even to the government and its negotiating team, that the interpretation by the union of the chairman's recommendation was correct and the government's interpretation was wrong. That is the record for the last 10 years.

What are the reasons for these strikes which give a clear indication that the employees in the postal department are unhappy? I suggest there is low morale among this group of employees. The fact that this situation leads to difficulties in mail delivery should be obvious to everyone. I suggest that this low morale is the result of a suspicion on the part of employees that they cannot get satisfaction from the minister and senior officials of the Treasury Board during negotiations. There has not been one single, genuine or generous offer made by the Treasury Board or the minister's officials in the past six or eight years so far as postal employees are concerned. Everything the postal employees have been offered has been offered in a grudging, stingy and parsimonious way. Nothing has been offered voluntarily with the result that postal employees, both letter carriers and clerks, know they must fight whenever they want a change. I suggest this suspicion on the part of these employees is well founded.

Let me put on the record what these employees have received as a result of difficult negotiation with the government, two strikes and the threat of more. Let me compare the attitude of officials of the Treasury Board in respect of postal employees with their attitude in dealing with other employees who do not enjoy the benefits of the Public Service Staff Relations Act, and others who do not enjoy the rights of collective bargaining. Let me compare the way in which the Treasury Board deals with senior officials in the postal department and other departments with the almost incestuous way it deals with senior officials in the Treasury Board.

In 1968, the median pay for letter carriers was $5,751. By 1972 that had gone up to $7,701, an increase of approximately $2,000. The pay rate of an E.S.1, that is a starting economist, working for the government in 1968 was $8,280. By 1972 that had gone up to $14,192, an increase of almost $6,000 in those few years. The gap in median rates of pay for a letter carrier and a starting economist had increased by $1,100 in those few years. In 1972 the gap had widened to $2,353. For an ES-4, a senior economist, the pay was $12,000. In 1972, it had jumped to over $16,000, an increase of more than $4,000. Let us compare a letter carrier with an SX 1, a branch director. In 1968, the SX 1 officer had a salary of $13,751 and by 1972 this had jumped to $16,777, an increase of over $3,000.

● (1240)

Then, we might compare a letter carrier with a senior assistant deputy minister in the postal department. In 1968, the gap between their median salaries was $21,000 and by 1972 it had increased to well over $28,000. Or we might compare a postal clerk and the ES 1. The gap between them in 1968 was $822 and in 1972 it had increased to $2,600. Next, we might compare the postal clerk to the ES 4. In 1968, the gap was $11,700 and in 1972 it was almost $16,000. Then, when we compare the postal clerk to the SX 1 we find that the gap in 1968 was $13,400 and in 1972 it was $16,480. In comparing the postal clerk to the SX 4, we find that in 1968 the gap was $20,700 while in 1972 it was $28,486. What does this indicate? It indicates a scale of values on the part of the minister in charge of the Treasury Board and on the part of those he appoints to do the negotiating which indicates that those who have shall get, and that those who have been poor will continue to be poor.

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Or lose what they already have.

Mr. Orlikow: Or, as my colleague from Winnipeg North Centre says, lose what they already have. Let us look at the number of employees in the operational side of government and the number of employees in the senior executive and professional staffs. The figures I have come from Statistics Canada. The number of people in the operational category who work for government, which of course includes postal workers, according to Statistics Canada has increased, from the year 1970 to the year 1972, by 0.8 per cent. That is 8/10 of 1 per cent. However, if you look at the number of employees in the executive, scientific and professional categories the number has increased from 1970 to 1972 by 22½ per cent. Then if you look at the number of senior people in the administrative and foreign service groups, the number has increased by 20.8 per cent.

Let us for a moment look at the Treasury Board, the board which is given responsibility by the government of negotiating with the postal employees. As I have already indicated, this board is tough when it deals with the postal employees. It seems to want to protect every penny the people of Canada pay to the postal employees and to see that there is no waste and no generosity. The Treasury Board wishes to keep our taxes down. Let us look at the situation in respect of the Treasury Board. In January 1970, it had a staff of 443. By January of 1973 it had a staff of 590, an increase, as I make it, of about 25 per cent. In January of 1970, the Treasury Board had 185 people on staff who were earning $15,000 a year or more. In January of 1973, that salary had increased to $18,000 a year. So, allowing for the increase in the cost of living and the inflation about which we are all supposed to be worried, there were 261 people in that group, an increase of 50 per cent. I point out that almost every second employee on the rolls of the Treasury Board was earning over $18,000 a year and that every sixth employee, of which there are 104, was earning over $25,000 a year.

So, Mr. Speaker, you see the picture. Because the employees of the post office have shown they are a militant group they have collective bargaining. They have to be tough. They have their fears and they become involved in long drawn out and constant negotiations, because if they want anything they must go on strike. What about management? I have already indicated the kind of increases management has received which I would say are very substantial, completely unjustified and completely indefensible. Do these people have to go through the process of collective bargaining? No. They could not dirty their hands in that way. They do not have to go to collective bargaining. They are dealt with in a different way. For them, we have an advisory committee which looks at their salaries.

This advisory committee supposedly consults with private industry and makes recommendations to the government concerning what should be done. The advisory committee obviously has done very well for the senior officials of the postal department and other departments, particularly the Treasury Board. Who are some of the people on the advisory committee which suggests to the government what it should do? The first chairman was Mr. Clyne, a former chief justice in British Columbia. At the time he was the chairman of the advisory committee he was also the chairman of the board of McMillan, Bloedel, one of the largest companies in British Columbia, if not in all of Canada. Mr. Clyne has been noted for the speeches in which he has called on governments and employers to watch costs and not be too generous with employees because if the employees are allowed to have large wage increases we will have inflation and will price ourselves out of world markets.

Well, he certainly was not very tough with senior civil servants employed by the Government of Canada. Who is a recent appointee to this advisory committee? Well, it is Mr. DeGranpre. Who is he, Mr. Speaker? He is the President of Bell Canada.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

[Mr. Orlikow.]

Mr. Orlikow: When Bell Canada increases its rates which the people of Ontario and Quebec must pay, it must make an application to the Canadian Transport Commission. What does that commission do with it? I presume it sends that application for study and analysis to its employees. Its senior employees who will be making the recommendation are the very employees who have been dealt with so generously by an advisory committee of which Mr. DeGranpre is a member. They are supposed to be impartial; they are supposed to protect the public interest, and yet the salary increases they will get in the next year or two will depend, to a large extent, on the advice that the government receives from Mr. DeGranpre.

● (1250)

I suggest to you that there is a conflict of interest there. I suggest, that, to say the least, it is immoral and improper for the government to appoint a person who has the stake that Mr. DeGranpre has in decisions made by a government agency and who has a great deal of say with regard to the salaries and working conditions of senior civil servants.

I say to the Postmaster General that if he wants to improve the role of the post office, to improve the service, and to improve the morale of the postal employees, which has, I am sure he will agree, not been very high in recent years, the best thing he could do would be to go back to his cabinet colleagues and insist that the responsibility for the bargaining which must take place between his department and its employees should be taken away from the Treasury Board. The Treasury Board has failed significantly in dealing fairly with the employees of the post office so responsibility for bargaining should be given back to his department because, despite its failings in the past, of which there are many and this is not the time to talk about them, there is no possible way in which his department could do the completely inadequate and disastrous job which the President of the Treasury Board (Mr. Drury) and his senior officials have done in recent years.

I say to the minister—and I say this in a sincere way and wishing him the best—that if he wants to be remembered as a good Postmaster General, the best thing he can do is to get back the right to conduct the negotiation so his employees can be dealt with fairly, honestly, and in a friendly way, rather than in the antagonistic and miserable way in which the Treasury Board has conducted negotiations in these past number of years.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Gérard Laprise (Abitibi): Mr. Speaker, I was a little anxious; I had hoped that the member for Winnipeg North (Mr. Orlikow) would have been a little more voluble and would have continued his speech until one o'clock. I wonder if the House would agree that I call it one o'clock so that I do not have to begin my remarks and stop them right away.

Mr. Speaker: Does the House agree?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Mr. Speaker: It being one o'clock, I do now leave the chair. The House will resume its sitting at two o'clock.

At one o'clock the House took recess.

AFTER RECESS

The House resumed at 2 p.m.

Mr. Laprise: Mr. Speaker, it has been quite some time since the House had the opportunity to scrutinize the postal services. That is why I am grateful to the hon. member for Brandon-Souris (Mr. Dinsdale) for providing us with this opportunity today.

The motion contains several elements and it will be rather difficult, in so short a period of debate, to consider fully all the points it raises. However, I am interested in some of them as they relate to some problems I have come up against.

In the first part of the motion, it is said, and I quote:

That this House regrets the drastic deterioration of the Postal Service in Canada during the past six years: . . .

I have been able to find such a deterioration of the postal services in my large constituency of Abitibi which can be regarded as a rural one. There are some small towns of 8,000, 10,000 or 12,000 inhabitants, but there are also a great many villages, rural parishes, where mail delivery is rather slow and sometimes delayed.

● (1410)

I would like to call again the attention of the minister to some examples I have in mind to prove that some unexplainable delays have occurred, and I refer to those which took place not so long ago, since the beginning of the year. It is said that the deterioration of the mail service has occurred during the last six years. If we go back further, when the mail was carried by the Canadian National Railways, we will remember that we could then receive in Abitibi a piece of mail at most 24 hours after it had been mailed in cities such as Quebec, Montreal or even Toronto.

A lot of people in my area come from around Quebec City and they would like to get the daily papers from that city. But as it is almost impossible to get those papers in time, they cancel their subscription to those dailies because the news come too late. They get their paper only five or six days after they have been published, three of four issues at the same time. So it is an unacceptable solution.

Mr. Speaker, I have in mind a few examples of delayed mail. I have here a letter which had been forwarded from Nipigon, Ontario on November 30, 1972 and it reached Authier, in Abitibi, on December 7, 1972. I believe it took quite a long time to deliver a letter for which an 8-cent stamp had been paid. A parcel sent from Sackville, New Brunswick, on November 27 to the same person arrived in Authier, on December 7, 1972. This parcel included parts to repair a furnace and everyone knows that in Abitibi by the end of November or early in December, it is most important that a furnace be in proper condition. That undue delay in the distribution or movement of mail riles custumers, taxpayers.

I will quote parts of the letter I received from that taxpayer on that occasion:

Dear Mr. Laprise:

For your information, I repeat that the movement of mail since the CNR abandoned it is nothing short of most rotten as far as we are concerned in Authier. I do not blame the postmaster for it.

Post Office

I receive my Quebec newspaper the *L'Action* a couple of times a week, etc.

We are not all millionnaires and we cannot all live in cities.

Does the right to live in rural areas in this big country still exist? Practically speaking, no.

What the signer of that letter, Mr. Adrien Lambert, of Authier, meant is that in recent months, particularly in recent years, it has been considered more important to provide reasonable service to people living in cities and people living in rural areas have been neglected, and they find that quite unpleasant.

I have here a letter addressed to the Department of the Postmaster General and dated January 16, 1973:

Dear Sir:

Today, January 16, I received a parcel that I had been waiting for for at least three weeks and which was sent on December 12.

I cannot understand a service so rotten on the part of your department. Those pieces were very important and caused enormous prejudice—

La Sarre Enr. Farm Agency,

R. Lauzon

The Postmaster General (Mr. Ouellet) investigated that case and gave me an answer after I brought that complaint to his attention.

Here is the reply from the Postmaster General, dated March 29, 1973:

I am being told by our regional representatives that they conducted an inquiry but cannot explain the delay exactly.

They conducted an inquiry without any results, since they could not find anything.

Except for registered mail, we do not keep any record of mail items. So it is seldom possible to find the cause of an irregularity of that kind. Furthermore, Mr. Lauzon told the postmaster in La Sarre that the parcel's wrapping had been destroyed. The wrappings of delayed articles often show marks that enable us to tell how the item was handled and why it was delayed.

However, labour disputes in the Post Office in December 1972 and in early January 1973 might explain the delay.

So the responsibility is shifted on to the postal workers. Simple and easy enough, isn't it?

I keep quoting from the letter:

As you certainly know, we signed about a month ago a labour contract with the union which represent about 30,000 out of our 45,000 employees. However, after the negotiations reached a deadlock, management and the unions had to resort to conciliation. In spite of that, a few workers decided to object to such a measure, and there was some slackening down and a few stoppages in many postal service centres.

That is an explanation. We know that there has been work to rule. But it is rather simple and easy to blame only the postal workers. And the minister adds:

Moreover, bad weather did not help either and transportation services were delayed,—

It depends on the weather now. Cloud seeding may have caused unusual rainfalls or snowfalls. It does not say. Attempts are made to find all kinds of reasons except the real ones.

I shall mention another case which, I think, is not caused by the rotating or not rotating strike, because there was no strike at the time. A parcel mailed by H. Fortier Ltée from Montreal on March 16, 1973 was received in La

Sarre by the Librairie Régent Enregistrée on April 3, 1973, that is 19 days later, and there was no strike.

Mr. Speaker, it is true that distances are long in remote regions, like Abitibi, but such delays virtually never occurred when mail was carried by railway but ever since mail has been carried by truck or by air, there have been similar delays nearly every week, or every month.

Mr. Speaker, I think there is room for improvement and I draw the minister's attention to this in order that service in rural centres might become as rapid as in cities. Taxpayers of our rural centres pay the same rates for mail as taxpayers who live in towns. I think we have a right to ask for the same services.

● (1420)

In the second part of the motion, the closing of small rural post offices is deplored. Mr. Speaker, I must admit that I do not entirely agree with the motion. It is true that small post offices have been closed, but one must indeed realize that when a parish or a community of people is set up somewhere, they ask for postal services; a post office and its related services are then brought in. But when this same parish or community becomes deserted, after all one cannot ask the department to keep a permanent post office when there are practically no more families living there.

In my area, we cannot complain too much since the few post offices that were closed down have been replaced by other kinds of services, and I think the people get the service they are entitled to.

As for the reduction of urban service from six to five days, it created many more problems because small businesses mainly were affected.

Earlier this morning, the Minister of Labour (Mr. Munro), in reply to a question of mine, said that he had ordered a study on the possibility of reducing the work-week to four days in federal services.

If in services such as the postal service the work-week were reduced to four days, two shifts of workers would have to be used to ensure services throughout the week, which would probably entail high expenses. I do not know whether the minister considered this, whether he consulted the Minister of Labour in this connection nor whether the latter consulted him as he did other ministers; but, in my opinion, it is a serious question which will have to be weighed carefully to make sure the post office users do not suffer from whatever decision of Minister of Labour makes following the studies.

I also have another complaint which I find most important and to which I drew the minister's attention last fall. I take this opportunity to bring it to the House's attention.

I am speaking about the delivery of parcels containing valuable objects which are a temptation to thieves. In fact, a jeweller of La Sarre, on September 7, 1972—and this was not the first time it happened to him—mailed two parcels of jewels to Montreal. Those parcels were shipped from La Sarre to Rouyn by postal trucks then transferred later on for transportation from Rouyn to Montreal by Air Canada. In this regard, I had the following question put on the Order Paper under No. 189 and I quote:

[Mr. Laprise.]

1. What was the date of Air Canada Flight 556 between Rouyn and Montreal where the disappearance of postal bags was discovered?

2. Was an investigation carried out and, if so, how long did it last?

The answer of Air Canada was given in the House by the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Transport (Mr. Guay), and I quote:

Mr. Speaker, in answer to question No. 189, Air Canada has not discovered any disappearance or loss of postal bags from Flight 556 between Rouyn and Montreal. Provided with more details, Air Canada might make a more detailed investigation.

This answer was given on February 21, 1973, but earlier, the former Postmaster General (Mr. Côté), who is now a senator, informed me by letter as follows:

We reached by telephone our regional officials in Montreal who informed us that the inquiry is going on this regard. Mr. Giasson's registered items were sent from La Sarre to Rouyn by truck, was forwarded to Montreal by flight 556. According to records, these items were duly received in Rouyn but never reached Montreal.

The parcel disappeared between Rouyn and Montreal. Since the department got in touch by telephone with its regional officials in Montreal, I assume that they had inquired at Air Canada and, on February 21, Air Canada's official informs the House that they were not aware of it. Either the answer given by Air Canada was wrong or the Post Office Department did not carry out a thorough inquiry to find out what happened to this mail bag.

Mr. Speaker, when this mail bag containing these items sent by registered mail arrived in Rouyn and was transferred, from the truck to the plane, someone must have signed to accept responsibility for it. I suggest that it should be quite easy to trace these items and find out who was the last person who signed for these parcels, and that it would also be interesting to know how come mail bags are stolen only when there are valuables in them, and who informs those make those valuables disappear from the mail. Everything indicates, Mr. Speaker—and this suspicion, in my opinion, is justified—that someone takes it upon himself to notify others that valuables are in the mail, and then they are stolen.

Mr. Speaker, I asked another question—

[*English*]

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, please. I regret to interrupt the hon. member, but the 20 minutes allotted to him have expired. He can, however, continue with unanimous consent.

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: There is not unamimous consent.

[*Translation*]

Hon. André Ouellet (Postmaster General): Mr. Speaker, I am indebted to the hon. member for Brandon-Souris (Mr. Dinsdale) for having raised the issue of the Post Office today, because it allows me to make my maiden speech in the House as Postmaster General.

Many times since last December have I had the opportunity of speaking on the problems concerning the Post Office, either by answering questions during the oral

question period or by way of clarification during what is known as the late show. But this is the first opportunity I have had to speak as minister, and I want to take advantage of it to mention how often, through my visits across the country, I have had the occasion of realizing the devotion and the competence of all postal employees all over the country. I noted that dedication and competence at the national level here as well as in areas where thousands of Canadians work, often in difficult conditions, to ensure the best postal service possible to Canadians. And I am pleased to point out today in this first speech that in most cases, I have met and discussed with people who are proud to work with the Post Office Department, who are unhappy to find that often our operation is criticized in an irresponsible or irrational way and to find that, in many instances, the complexity and difficulty of such a postal service are not understood.

● (1430)

Mr. Speaker, I read as other members the resolution moved today by the hon. member for Brandon-Souris (Mr. Dinsdale) who charged the Post Office Department with such a multitude of sins of commission as well as omission that I could not help remembering that big hit movie "Play it again Sam".

Needless to say, Mr. Speaker, that the charge made by the hon. member is nothing but another far-off echo of a series of charges made periodically by the Post Office Department itself for several years as everyone who is interested in Canada's postal service realizes that such an institution must absolutely be modernized. Indeed every postal administration of the world must face the same problems. The increase in mail volume, the facilities, the system itself that has become obsolete, the social disorders and the ever increasing deficits contribute to a reduction in the quality of service and bring criticism upon us.

But the important thing, Mr. Speaker, is that the Canadian Post Office has set out to work energically in order to remedy this situation and is doing everything possible so Canadians can again enjoy a postal service which they can rightly be proud of.

We have two alternatives: on the one hand, the Post Office Department could refrain from bringing basic alterations to its organization. Then, the quality of its service to the public would deteriorate and its annual deficit would surely reach $500 million at the beginning of the 80's. On the other hand, the department can set itself an aim which would surely not be easily achieved, whatever the line of action, and become a stable and modern organization providing to the Canadian people an essential service at reasonable cost while giving interesting work conditions for its employees.

Mr. Speaker, I can assure the House that the Canadian postal service has chosen the second solution and that it is becoming, in spite of the comments of some members opposite, a modern and dynamic organization. Moreover, the list of changes anticipated for that purpose is as important and impressive as long. In its endeavour to provide more efficiency to the postal service, the department has dealt with the first-class mail, which accounts for more than half of the five billion pieces of mail handled each year in the country.

We first provided an assured mail program for first-class mail. The efficiency of this service, with regard to delivery the day following mailing has now reached 95 per cent; quite recently, I read, as every Canadian could have done, in a week-end newspaper, the findings of an independent investigation made by a Canadian newspaper which showed beyond any doubt the efficiency of the assured mail program, which efficiency is over 95 per cent.

I am pleased to announce to the House that, effective next Monday, the Assured Mail Delivery Service will include, in addition to the service already offered at the national and regional levels, a third and last category of service, that is, local delivery.

Therefore, this means that we are trying, through this Assured Mail Delivery Service, to give next-delivery-day service to everyone in about 60 Canadians centers. In order to enforce this Assured Mail, we have a quality control service program. This program provides us with all sorts of extremely interesting data. Yesterday, in reply to a question from an hon. member from Alberta, I spoke in the House about the service provided to the province of Alberta. Since this motion was presented by the hon. member for Brandon-Souris (Mr. Dinsdale), an Alberta constituency—

Some hon. Members: He is not even here.

Mr. Ouellet: Some of my colleagues are saying that the hon. member is not in the House. This morning, while commenting those remarks, the hon. member for Brandon-Souris told us that a multitude of members opposite wanted to contribute to this debate. I would say that if postal service efficiency is proportional to the number of abstentions across the way, I am convinced that we have an excellent postal service.

I wanted to say that our assured postal service in Manitoba, represented by the hon. member for Brandon-Souris who introduced this motion, is as follows: Our domestic service, namely the letters to be delivered within our borders, has reached an efficiency level, for the period ending May 25,—and I would ask the hon. members to listen carefully—of 100 per cent; with regard to the regional service, the level is 99 per cent, and the local service, 98 per cent.

Obviously the department is taking numerous steps to improve this service. Of course, it is not perfect. Several hon. members can, I am sure, mention hundreds of delayed deliveries but I would ask each hon. member to recognize that, even if out of let us say, 100 letters mailed, one, two or three letters are late, that does not mean that our postal service is bad, since 97 pieces reached their destination on time. I wish our hon. friends of the opposition would realize that.

I would add that the department is preparing a set of standards applicable to third and fourth class mail for, admittedly, there is considerable need for improvement with regard to third and fourth class mails. We are now in the process of developing new standards and new techniques to improve this service.

Besides, the marketing branch of the department has developed a wide program of relations with our clients, in order to solve all those postal problems which can create

difficulties in the business world. We are striving very eagerly and aggressively, in co-operation with the business concerns using the post office to a large extent, to find solutions designed to improve that service.

● (1440)

Assuredly it is not possible to bring about overnight substantial changes to the whole postal organization, which comprises more than 50,000 employees in Canada and which spreads out in all parts and all villages of the country.

Naturally it is more difficult still to bring about changes while an adequate level of service has to be maintained day in and day out. I have admitted quite frankly, Mr. Speaker, that there have been problems; problems still exist, but I must add that I am extremely proud of the way both the administration and the employees of the department have responded to the challenge and are working eagerly to solve those problems.

I would like to mention briefly what is probably the most important part of our program to improve the postal service, namely the mechanization of our operations and the implementation of the postal code.

I think that all Canadians will agree that the introduction of the postal code was probably one of the most important decisions ever taken by the Post Office Department. I am convinced that this code will do much to improve mail service. In fact, the code has already been put into service in many regions of Canada. It is already being used in Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta, Ontario and most of Quebec. It will be introduced in metropolitan Montreal in September, in the Atlantic provinces in early October and finally, in British Columbia towards the end of the year so that by the end of the year, all Canada will have been coded. Several persons have asked us why we need a postal code. I think that the code is one of the first steps, probably the most important, towards the implementation of our automation program.

The new code is in a way a new language that will be read by machines, which will help improve and speed up the handling of mail.

The volume of mail has increased so much during the last few years that it is now almost impossible to sort it by hand. Canada being one of the last industrialised countries to resort to the postal code system, we should be in a position to have an excellent code.

We will of course profit by the experience of other countries—such as Germany, the United States, Japan—which already use this code and we will be able to improve it as well as the system that these countries have implemented, so that our code will enable us to meet not only our present demands but our needs until the end of the century.

When we started the implementation of this postal code, we tried to get the opinion of hundreds of Canadian senders, the most important users of the postal service, in order to ensure that the code would not go against the smooth running of business in Canada. Thus, most customers' accounts are logically distributed according to the geographical situation. Therefore, we took care to introduce these data in our code.

[Mr. Ouellet.]

We also tried to keep the position of figures and letters in order to facilitate computer processing and checking of mailing lists. When we developed our code, we felt that it should meet our long term needs.

By a combination of these elements, we can obtain over 10 million codes. This is a hundred times more than the 100,000 possibilities offered by the United States ZIP Code. In this regard, Canadians are ahead of Americans since our system is more flexible than theirs.

And, precisely, our objective in establishing the Canadian code was to facilitate mechanical sorting for the smallest sections of residential streets, large mail boxes, residential buildings, commercial enterprises and government departments.

Therefore, we largely provided for growth in order to be able to keep pace with the unparalleled expansion of cities and the exodus of people from the country to the cities.

Mr. Speaker, I can assert that our mechanization program is now entering its stage of intensive realization. Last year, we installed mechanical sorting equipment in Ottawa; we will now proceed to the installation of an identical system in 14 other important post offices in Canada, in such a way that we will be able to provide all the large cities of this country with modern facilities to accelerate substantially mail sorting, and that with one precise goal in mind, namely to improve the quality of the postal service.

The motion before us states that the postal service has experienced a drastic deterioration, but the author forgets that the Post Office Department is taking extremely important steps to improve the quality of the postal service.

Mr. Speaker, we must not forget that this program of coding, modifying, up-dating and mechanizing involves even more sizeable investments to build new establishments for handling mail. The new techniques and equipment used for handling, transporting and sorting mail require spacious and modern premises. The new centres we will build will meet these criteria. It is on these premises that the mail will be handled in bulk as well as the parcel posts addressed to metropolitan areas or mailed from these, and that the mail will be sorted out by the latest techniques and that we will insure quick delivery to our clients.

Large postal centres are to post offices what factories are to a retail store. Toronto and Montreal already have what is commonly known as a large postal centre. In Mississauga, we are now building what may be the largest centralized mail processing centre.

Another centre is also under construction on Eastern Avenue in Toronto. These two centres will be in operation by the middle of 1974 and, with the new centre in Scarborough, they will be able to process all the domestic mail from and to Toronto.

We also intend to build similar centres in Montreal. And I may mention that another large centre of this type is under construction in Calgary where we intend to provide western Canada with a service comparable to what is provided in Toronto and Montreal.

Thus, through this extensive program of new postal buildings, we want to be in a position to meet not only present but also future needs.

Mr. Speaker, it must be kept in mind, when we talk about this program, that regardless of the plans and the programs designed for mechanization on a very large scale, no full time postal worker will lose his job.

● (1450)

And so I must say to the hon. member for Brandon-Souris when he suggests that automation and the use of computers cause job insecurity, that there is no job insecurity in the Post Office Department, because in the collective agreement which we have just signed with our employees, we have guaranteed job security and income security to all our permanent employees. In my view, to state that in a motion, the hon. member is probably mistaken or misinformed.

All the decisions that we made at the Post Office Department concerning working conditions, salaries, social benefits, job descriptions and related matters, not only affect the Post Office Department as such, but also the whole public sector. With a work force of 50,000 employees, it is inevitable.

The work environment and the young people joining the labour market today are very different from what they were only a few years ago. Constant and rapid change is particular to our technological era in which the search for greater efficiency and improved production, results, of course, in a more and more sophisticated technology. So it is obvious, Mr. Speaker, that the young worker thinks that management tends to make jobs as meaningless, as non demanding and as dull as possible.

It is estimated today that roughly 50 per cent of workers are under 30. In other words, the wide gap between the average age of workers today and that of only a few years ago means that more than half the labour force in Canada belongs to a generation whose attitudes and style of living generally are quite different from those of the previous generation, the one which now holds the reins of politics and the economy.

That is a strength that will have to be reckoned with from now on. I think that leaders must be receptive to the needs and aspirations of the new worker and adjust their attitude to meet those new needs. Work must be revalorized and better means of communication between management and labour must be found. Those are great challenges that the administration of the Department of the Postmaster General will have to take up and that the leaders of any modern business in the public or private sector will also have to take up. As an employer and as a government department the Post Office wants to—and I say so without hesitation—and will show leadership in this new context of staff relations.

Even if it is true that we have new duties to fulfil to satisfy the worker's needs, it is none the less true that we must also fulfil our duty towards the people of Canada. Canadians depend on the Post Office Department to get a quick, reliable and especially inexpensive service.

As far as I am concerned, I shall do my utmost to provide a regular postal service and promote just and fair labour relations within the Post Office Department. However, we must not forget that the department faces the same social problems as private enterprises as far as workers are concerned. It has the same problems to solve when it negotiates with the unions. It is thus unrealistic to expect that the Post Office Department will be able to give the unconditional assurance of an uninterrupted service; no other enterprise can give this guarantee either.

I think we can avoid labour conflicts and come to fair settlements if management and unions stick to the four following guidelines in their negotiations, namely: begin early, do not refuse dialogue, know what you want and what you are ready to give up, and finally, negotiate in earnest.

I did not hesitate, Mr. Speaker, immediately after my appointment as Postmaster General, to go across the country and visit thousands of employees on the spot. I always wanted to keep that kind of dialogue and my talks with the Post Office employees last December were extremely beneficial to me. I keep in touch with union representatives and it is always in a spirit of sincere cooperation that I talk with them. All hon. members surely know that we signed a new collective agreement at the beginning of the year with the Council of Postal Unions. It was, Mr. Speaker, the first time an agreement was signed without a national strike. That agreement will provide us with a climate of understanding during the next two years. I already said, and I wish to repeat it, that it is a profitable agreement. Now that this question has been settled, I am convinced that our employees will cooperate with our officials so as to give Canadians the quality service they are entitled to.

I should like to deny categorically the assertion made this morning by the hon. member for Brandon-Souris that the department's policy is intended to promote an increase in the number of casual employees. On the contrary, Mr. Speaker, we recognized that the casual employees' status must be changed and that far from increasing their number, we wish to reduce it to a strict minimum. Besides, I am happy to report to the House an agreement that was just signed:

[*English*]

Following a series of meetings with the Council of Postal Unions, we have now finalized consultation on our corporate policy on the usage of casual help in the postal operations group.

This policy is as follows:

The usage of casual help is to be reduced to a minimum. Accordingly, the usage of regular full-time and part-time staff is to be adjusted to a level which will maintain service standards for predictable volume and absence situations.

Bearing in mind the terms of the relevant collective agreements and consistent with the above, and in order to meet situations which are unforeseen or where there is not a continuing full-time or part-time requirement, casual help may be used, where this best meets service needs.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Speaker, that means not only that we recognize the need to reduce the number of casual employees but that we are going to take the necessary steps to do so.

[*English*]

In closing, I should like to say that some of those people who consider that our deficit is too high should realize

that the reason we have such a deficit is mainly the result of putting a vast amount of money into the building of new facilities, the very substantial amount of money expended in mechanizing our operations and the larger sum required to pay our employees better salaries. We have done all this without—

Mr. Deputy Speaker: I regret to interrupt the hon. Postmaster General (Mr. Ouellet), but his allotted 30 minutes in accordance with Standing Order 58(13) has expired. He may continue with the unanimous consent of the House.

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Mr. Ouellet: Mr. Speaker, I thank hon. members for allowing me to conclude with a few brief remarks.

We have made these substantial expenditures without increasing the tariff. One should realize that in Canada a letter which travels from one part of the country to another does so at a cost of 8 cents, and that is pretty cheap. If we compare that rate with the rates existing in other countries we must realize that Canadian rates for postal services are low, and much more reasonable than in many other industrialized countries.

I have said, and I repeat again today, that it is not our intention to increase the rates. Quite the contrary; we want to keep these rates and we will try to increase our revenues by performing other services or expanding existing ones.

[*Translation*]

This is why, Mr. Speaker, we will do our utmost during the next few months to enable our Marketing Branch to be more aggressive and test other services yielding new revenues and profits. In order to balance our budget, we will ask our Marketing Branch to make additional efforts to make new revenues, but I must sincerely admit that I do not expect the Post Office Department to become a profit-making undertaking in the near future. I think that the Canadian postal service will still show for several years an appreciable deficit, especially as a result of the mechanization of our current operations and that deficit could even substantially increase as early as next year and still further the year after.

In conclusion, Mr. Speaker, I would like to point out that some measures that we are now taking should have been implemented 10, 15 or even 20 years ago. Had those alterations been carried out 10 or 15 years ago, the Canadian postal service would surely be in a much better financial state and would surely be in a position to assure to the Canadian people the service which they expect.

In spite of that, we will spare nothing to improve the service and I am convinced that we will succeed in giving Canadians the service which they expect and deserve.

● (1500)

[*English*]

Mr. Reg Stackhouse (Scarborough East): Mr. Speaker, I should like to begin by commending the Postmaster General (Mr. Ouellet) for his contribution to this debate. I wish also to say that I appreciate very much the courteous and co-operative attitude he has shown in respect of the inquiries I have brought to him on behalf of my constituents. I regret that I have had to bring so many to him, but I have always been glad of the reception I have received.

I also would like to join the minister in paying a compliment to the people in his department. He may know them at the top executive level, while the ones I know are the letter carriers and those employed in the local post offices, and so on; but I have always been impressed with the way they have undertaken their work. At a time when there is such a great amount of technology, much of life is rather impersonal and I have always appreciated the personal approach taken by those who are employed by the postal department.

I rise in this debate to speak especially on behalf of those who pay so much to their government and get back so little, the urban dwellers who comprise what has become the largest single community in our society. In terms of the Post Office they have become its number one user. In the three major metropolitan centres of Montreal, Toronto and Vancouver alone, 14 million pieces of mail are handled every day. Montreal and Toronto process 80 per cent of the advertising mail of this entire country. What do we find the people of our cities and towns saying about their postal service? Let me quote one of them for the special benefit of the Postmaster General. While this person is not an expert on the Post Office, he has many qualifications that will commend his judgment to the head of our postal services. He is from Montreal, he is a Liberal, he is the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau), and he has told the House, "Everyone knows the mails are slow in this country".

The Prime Minister was never closer to the truth, and on this point he could find such agreement he might think he was back in those halcyon days of 1968. Time after time I have been approached by constituents who wonder why it must be that, while they have to pay more for postal service, they can get only less of it. Pay more, get less, is the policy this department has followed. However much the government may try to divert the public with resolutions on language rights, they will find it is this incredible combination of increased costs and decreased services the people will remember. A typical inquiry from a businessman in my constituency asks why it takes four or five days for mail to travel a distance that should take only two to two and a half hours.

Another constituent wonders why mail between Montreal and Toronto takes a week, and why within Toronto itself it may take three days. A third protests her surface mail between Britain and Canada taking just under two months and her airmail between Britain and Canada taking 17 days. One could speculate that it could have been rowed across the Atlantic faster than it came by mail. All of us appreciate that it has been necessary to increase the price of postal service because we cannot reasonably expect the Post Office to be an island of price stability secure from the turbulent sea of inflation around it. On this point we seem to have the statement of even the Deputy Postmaster General, Mr. J. A. H. Mackay, who was quoted in the press as saying:

> We knew our service wasn't what it should be, but we were perhaps inclined to blame it on weather conditions and inability of airlines to fly from point to point, thereby delaying our mail.

What we found instead was that the weather was a very minimal factor... Failure within our own processing system made up by far the majority of our breakdowns.

Even the Postmaster General will agree with that logic because he himself has written to me that, while Canada once had the best postal service in the world, the Post Office knows it has a long way to go to regain that position. I know the minister is committed to regaining Canada's former excellence, but while I do not question the extent of his achievement, although he may cite surveys which show that 90 per cent of the mail arrives on time, or even 95 per cent. I know he likes statistics; all members of the government do. I remember when the Prime Minister would cite statistics to prove that there was no inflation in this country.

Now we have statistics cited to prove that the mail is not as slow as people from coast to coast are saying it is. I would say to the Postmaster General that he should listen more to the people than to the statisticians. He might begin by listening to the Prime Minister, who said that everybody knows the mails are slow in this country. He has spoken about the complexity of the problem, and I agree that it would be foolish of the opposition to pretend that there is an easy solution, but it would be equally foolish of the Postmaster General to pretend there is no problem.

The solution will not come about by the government trying to substitute a shrug for a solution, or by preferring scorn for the opposition to co-operate with its critics. When the cost of this department is mounting so steadily—its deficit this fiscal year will exceed $100 million—the public has a right to demand that efficiency mount with it. That deficit represents $20 per home and the people have a right to get their money's worth. The minister may ask, "Tell us how?" I would answer that we could begin by examining the recommendations of the Samson, Belair, Riddell, Stead report on postal transportation systems. The minister has refused to table this report. When it comes to dealing with affairs in Viet Nam the government follows an open-mouth policy, but when it comes to looking after Canada it warps itself in secrecy. The report cost $239,473. Surely we should be able to read it. Of course, we have a chance to at least read about it because if one cannot read the report in parliament he can read about it in the press.

Documents seem to leak out from the cabinet and appear in the press. We find from the press that money is being wasted on taxi rides for letter carriers, that airlines are overcharging and underserving in respect of airmail, and that postal distribution services should be contracted out to private firms instead of being carried out by the department at greater cost. Indeed, there are many who wonder if what the report recommends for distribution services should not be done more as a part of the department's program.

This is still enough of a free enterprise country that the government should be searching for ways by which more of its activities could be hired out to competitive businesses which would have to provide service equal to the price they charged. There was a time when the postal service seemed the one enterprise the government should manage, but it may be the time has come for the ultimate revolution—the placing of more of the postal service work into private hands. Certainly the present failure of the government cannot long continue uncriticized; it must either succeed or give place to others who can. We say to the Postmaster General that he should match the higher costs with better service or get out of the postal business and make room for those who can put it on an efficient basis.

In the interests of improved public service I request door-to-door mail delivery for the hundreds of families moving into the Malvern housing area of Scarborough. An official of the Post Office has informed me that July 9 is the target date for this service to begin. I urge the Postmaster General to hit that target. In terms of the quality of service I wish also to speak about another facet of this problem, the need for better regulation of mass distribution mail which has multiplied to an extraordinary degree in the last few years. I ask the question: Cannot steps be taken to prevent the indiscriminate gathering of names for mailing lists? It seems that if a person replies to one advertisement he may find his name on the mailing lists of other companies. This is not only a form of invasion of privacy but can have other consequences.

In my constituency, for example, an 11-year old child was solicited by a sex encyclopedia which clearly labelled itself an adult publication and was certainly unsuitable for the child. Yet into his hands, through no effort of his, through the mails came a lurid, lascivious brochure which was more titillating than educating. While none of us would want to censor what adults may choose to read for reasons good or bad, there should be some safeguard against this kind of indiscriminate mailing to children. Parliament will soon consider the need to control television commercials shown during children's programs, and equally parliament should recognize the need to regulate commercial mail sent to children. Without such regulation an 11-year old can be subjected to sex material which he has not requested and which his parents do not desire.

• (1510)

The present regulations may not authorize the Postmaster General to put this right, but let him seek the authority he needs and he will find the majority of parliament and the people supporting him. We are rightly aware these days of the danger of physical pollution of the environment. We must be increasingly conscious of the danger of the moral pollution of our psychological environment, and the mails should certainly not be a passive instrument of this kind of moral pollution.

Members of this parliament are saying to the government, not on their own behalf but on behalf of a large number of people across this country: You have attempted a reorganization of the postal service. We recognize the sociological changes that have made that kind of alteration necessary. What we are demanding is that the results prove the worth of the effort and the price.

That is the challenge of this debate, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Maurice Foster (Algoma): Mr. Speaker, I am very happy to have an opportunity to speak in this debate on the motion of the hon. member for Brandon-Souris (Mr. Dinsdale) concerning the Post Office service in this coun-

try. I, like the hon. member for Scarborough East (Mr. Stackhouse), would like to compliment the Postmaster General (Mr. Ouellet) on his speech and also on the way in which his department has tried to provide service to Members of Parliament. I do not believe that any member of parliament who serves a rural area such as my own can help but have a great deal of contact with regional post offices, and I would like to say how helpful I have found them to be in my constituency, especially the one located at North Bay. The officials there are very conscientious and deserving of praise for the manner in which they handle the problems of northern Ontario.

The motion before the House suggests that there is a drastic deterioration in the postal service. After reading the motion on the order paper this morning I glanced down at the letters which had just been put on my desk and decided to do my own survey of how long it had taken those letters to come from the various locations. I saw that I had a letter from North Bay dated June 7—the date was on the letter, not stamped on the envelope—and it arrived here today. Likewise, a letter from Gore Bay dated June 6 arrived here today, two days later. A letter from Sheguiandah, a small outlying post office in my constituency, dated June 6, arrived today. One from Desbarats, Ontario, dated June 7, arrived here on June 8. Likewise, a letter from Ottawa, dated June 7, arrived in my office today.

I suppose it is rather significant when letters coming a distance of 500 miles arrive within 24 hours. Also, I had a letter from Sault Ste. Marie, dated June 6, which arrived at my office today. Another one from Bruce Mines in my constituency was dated June 5 and arrived in my office yesterday. It travelled a distance of 470 miles. I think it is especially valuable when we see that letters come from small outlying areas to the nation's capital within one to two days. To say that the whole system does not work is an unfair and unreasonable criticism, especially of people in the postal service who work so hard.

The hon. member's motion goes on to cover many other aspects of our postal service. He mentions the reduction of the urban service from six days to five days. In my constituency, which is rural, we have the full six-day delivery rather than the five-day delivery.

I was interested especially in the comments of the hon. member for Scarborough East. He referred to a statement made by the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) on April 4 and suggested that the Prime Minister was making at that time a serious statement that everyone knows the mail in this country is slow. So I looked back at *Hansard* for that day and noted that the Prime Minister on that occasion was jousting with the right hon. member for Prince Albert (Mr. Diefenbaker) and, as he often does, came out none the worse for wear.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Dinsdale: That is a matter of opinion.

Mr. Foster: The right hon. gentleman, I believe, was trying to determine at that time if there was any plan for an election in June because election equipment had been sent out in April in time to prepare for a June election. The right hon. member for Prince Albert was obviously trying to get information from the Prime Minister, and the Prime Minister in reply made this offhand remark more in jest than seriously.

I think the point is well made in the article from which the hon. member for Scarborough East quoted. The article points out how well the mail service operates. The hon. member mentioned that it contains an excellent pictorial outline of a letter being mailed in Pouch Cove, Newfoundland, and being delivered to Vancouver. The total distance is 3,244.9 miles, and it was covered in 34 hours and 10 minutes at an average speed of 95 miles per hour. This article points out the vast number of people who have to handle a single letter. It mentions the person in the post office where the letter is mailed, the person who has the stage service and who takes the letter from Pouch Cove to St. John's, the sorting that goes on there to other parts of the country, the journey by air to Vancouver and the sorting that takes place in a large post office in Vancouver. It mentions that 31 people have to handle a single letter. I think it is significant that the headline reads: "What 31 people will do for a lousy 8 cents".

I think it is very easy for us to criticize the mail service; it is almost a way of life even though only two or three letters out of 100, or 2 per cent or 3 per cent, are not delivered exactly on time, as my straw poll of the letters that came to my office this morning indicated. The vast majority of the mail arrives on time, but it is always good sport to talk about the letter that does not arrive. Certainly members of parliament can be forgiven for being very critical of the mail service because the only letters they hear about are the ones that do not arrive on time. With a vast complex of at least 100,000 people, with the changeover to a mechanized system and considering the vast distances involved, distances with which those of us who represent large rural ridings are familiar, it is not surprising that the occasional letter does go astray.

● (1520)

The one point of the motion before us today with which many members like myself are sympathetic is that dealing with the closure of post offices in large numbers—I believe 2,000 rural post offices—in 1969 and 1970. As I say, we who represent rural constituencies know the concern this caused people living in small communities. At one time the typical, small community had a church, a school and a store. Within recent years the school and the church were closed down so that on one hand larger central schools could be built and on the other hand so that declining church congregations could be amalgamated. Then often the post office was lost to the small community, resulting in the general store having to close because it depended to a large degree on the general business attracted to it by virtue of the fact that it housed the post office.

I, along with many other hon. members, fought long and hard to preserve many rural post offices, acting as true representatives of our constituencies and trying to assist all groups within them. But on occasion the loss of the rural post office actually meant an improvement in service with the establishment of a rural delivery route reaching from a larger community a few miles down the road. As a result, people had their mail delivered to the door and did not have to drive four or five miles to pick it up.

To a small hamlet the loss of its post office meant it ceased to exist. There was no longer a postal mark for it. Invariably, it was not an organized community and nothing was left of that hamlet which to previous generations had been an important community, a place which they called home. I recall that at the time of the post office closings many delegations from my constituency met the then postmaster general, Mr. Kierans, to seek improvement in rural route deliveries. We were able to get a six-day delivery for the rural routes instead of three or four-day delivery. This is one example where the number of deliveries on some of these routes was improved, whereas in the cities the number of days for delivery was reduced.

As I say, I think we can all sympathize with that part of the hon. member's motion. He seems to be suggesting that we should go back to the good old days, but anybody who looks at matters realistically cannot think of going back to the good old days in face of the volume of mail which is passing through the postal system. In 1840, 133 years ago, mail arriving from England was transported once each month from Halifax to Quebec City. When the mail arrived at the Quebec City post office even the accountants had to become mail sorters. In that era large volumes of mail were the exception rather than the rule. Very simple mail handling methods could be used for such temporary needs.

However, in 1973 and in the years for which we must plan now, enormous volumes of mail arrive every day. There has been a change in the workload, and the Post Office Department is changing too. One part of the attempt to draw the best possible good out of the inevitable change was the postal code which was introduced during the last couple of years. Urbanization and the population increase have resulted in further complications. For example, our 15 largest Canadian cities account for 85 per cent of all the mail. Montreal and Toronto alone account for 44 per cent. Every day Canadians mail about 15 million letters and parcels. In one year this adds up to 5 billion pieces. When this mail is sorted by hand, a letter can be handled up to 21 times between mailing and delivery. It is obvious that the Post Office must change its ways in an attempt to accommodate all this.

Mr. Stanfield: Like the government.

Mr. Foster: Just calm down, I say to the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Stanfield).

We have all seen great changes in Canada in the past few decades. Technological advances, especially in the field of communications, are radically altering our way of life at an ever increasing rate; and this trend will continue. No organization, and the Post Office is no different from any other, can afford to ignore the technological, demographic and sociological changes that have occurred. The Post Office has to keep up with technological change or it will become an expensive, archaic anachronism, out of step with the times and irrelevant to the needs of Canadians. While some may think that the updating of postal operations is proceeding too quickly, large numbers of the public have the impression that it is changing too slowly.

In response to this challenge, and in order to provide Canadians with a postal service that will meet current demands, the Post Office Department is introducing a national program of coding and mechanization. This afternoon the Postmaster General (Mr. Ouellet) has indicated that this reorganization will result in an efficient and cost-effective system for sorting the mail, particularly in our larger centres.

A recent survey indicated that Canada's population will reach 26 million by 1985. The existing trend toward urbanization will continue, to the extent that 22 million of those 26 million people will be living in our cities and larger towns in just over 12 years from now. Canada is not the only nation adopting new methods for handling mail. The United States, Great Britain, Japan—

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Laniel): Order. I regret to interrupt the hon. member, but the time allotted to him has expired.

Mr. Bill Knight (Assiniboia): Mr. Speaker, having listened to this debate I can say that if mothers in the city of Ottawa were having difficulty putting their babies to sleep between eleven o'clock this morning and one o'clock this afternoon, they ought to have brought them to the House of Commons. I was also struck by the fact that we Canadians always have one good whipping boy, and that happens to be the Post Office. Of course, the difficulty is that at times there is considerable justification for whipping the Canadian Post Office.

Mr. Horner (Battleford-Kindersley): Let's sell it.

Mr. Knight: One honourable reactionary from the province of Saskatchewan probably wants to sell it back to private enterprise. To the hon. member for Battleford-Kindersley (Mr. Horner), private enterprise is God. I have never heard anything so ridiculous. We set up the Post Office as a public service and took over that service from private enterpise; now he wants to go back three or four centuries.

● (1530)

In his speech, the Postmaster General (Mr. Ouellet) showed enthusiasm for his job and for the continued improvement of postal service in Canada. For that I commend him. Like the hon. member for Scarborough East (Mr. Stackhouse), I hope the minister will persist in his attempts to solve the problems that exist, including those affecting my constituency of Assiniboia. What surprised me was the mention of 95 per cent efficiency. I should like that explained. Efficiency, I think, should be discussed under two headings. First, how efficient are the new machines that are being used in post offices such as the one in Ottawa? I know that technical and mechanical difficulties have arisen in the sorting of mail in the Ottawa post office. I have listened to postal workers, and according to what they tell me—this they have learned from other postal workers across the country—only certain types of letters will go through the machine: letters of the wrong size will throw off the whole machine. This is the result of our investment of millions of dollars!

Second, how efficient are the new postal codes that we are using? Judging from the mail that comes to my office,

the new postal code is nearly useless. The Postmaster General has not shown evidence that it is any good. The hon. member for Brandon-Souris (Mr. Dinsdale) mentioned a letter which ended up in Tokyo because the postal code resembled the word Tokyo. So apparently difficulties have arisen over the use of the postal code.

Because I represent a rural and urban area I am concerned about rural post offices and the situation of rural postmasters. On a number of occasions I have raised this matter with the Postmaster General; he is aware of it and intends to alleviate the situation, or gives the impression that he intends to alleviate the situation of rural postmasters in areas such as Assiniboia, Saskatchewan. The hon. member for Winnipeg (Mr. Orlikow) has shown how top heavy is the Post Office Department with management personnel. The salary levels of these people increased considerably between 1968 and 1972. He showed that the guy who works directly with the public, that the postie who walks the beat, that the rural postmaster who deals directly with his neighbours has not done as well as people in management. The salary increases of people at lower levels, in percentage terms, have been smaller than those of management people in the Post Office Department.

I have put over 40 questions on the order paper relating to salaries in different departments and to salary increases. For instance, I have asked the following questions of the Post Office Department: How many full time employees were there as of January 31, 1970, in the Post Office Department? How many of these employees were earning more than $15,000 annually, distributed according to $1,000 intervals? How many full time employees were there as of January 31, 1973, in the Post Office Department? How many of these employees were earning more than $18,000 annually, distributed according to $1,000 intervals?

Similar questions were asked of every other department on March 5. Every other department has answered my questions. The Minister of Justice (Mr. Lang) is present today. I believe it is correct to say that the number of employees earning over $18,000 in his department, compared with the number of employees earning $15,000 in 1970, has increased in the neighbourhood of 40 per cent. The Post Office, however, has not yet answered that question. I am interested in seeing the answer and in seeing if Post Office management is top heavy. I suspect it is. On the other hand, I believe that those at the lower level who directly serve the Canadian public have not in many ways been as fairly dealt with by the Post Office and by Treasury Board. My colleague for Winnipeg North adequately dealt with this matter when he cited figures.

In my constituency the local, rural post office is the backbone—or a joint in the backbone, if you like—of local rural communities such as Dahinda, Scout Lake, Bromhead, McCord and Beaubier, which are small with populations of less than 200. The people in those post offices work 40 hours per week at low salaries which seem to be below the minimum wage paid in some provinces. They serve the local community. When they are sick or go on holiday and have to be replaced by someone else, it sometimes costs more to hire the replacement than to pay the absent employee.

[Mr. Knight.]

I hope my meaning is clear. These people have written to me about this situation. They have sent me dozens of letters about it and I am glad they have informed their member of parliament because it is a difficult problem. I hope that in the present round of negotiations the Post Office will improve the salary levels and working conditions of our rural postmen. The Postmaster General has said he is aware of these problems and will look into them. I believe if the department can come to a just settlement with these people it will be a feather in the cap of the Postmaster General. The local post office people will be pleased if their salary level is raised substantially. I am pleased the minister has taken the time to listen to me, and I look forward in the coming months to his attempts to solve these problems.

Mr. Norval Horner (Battleford-Kindersley): Mr. Speaker, I want to use my time to impress upon the minister the plight of the rural postmaster, especially the so-called revenue postmaster. For some reason this government is determined to move people into large cities; no doubt that serves its socialistic tendencies.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Horner (Battleford-Kindersley): The people are more easily served in large cities. The government is trying to centralize service in cities such as Saskatoon and Regina. The Minister of Justice (Mr. Lang), who is in charge of the Canadian Wheat Board, has been talking to experts and trying to convince people that they do not need elevators and the removal of elevators will not affect their communities. He tries to say that rail lines can be removed, that the people do not need the railroad. It seems to me that is the kind of attitude we are now getting from the Post Office Department. The government is trying to discourage the rural postmaster; it hopes that revenue postmasters will be phased out. If that postmaster goes, the people will be left without service. The people be damned—that seems to be the policy of this Liberal government.

Let me say a word about rural areas and the people who are served by revenue post offices. Many people living in rural areas travel ten miles for their mail. If the revenue post offices are removed, or if you encourage revenue postmasters to quit simply by not paying them adequate salaries, if you ask people in the rural post office to work ten hours a day six days a week, or 60 hours a week, they will quit and then the people of the area will be forced to drive 20 miles or more for their mail. The fellow in the city works 36 hours a week and has all the time in the world to get his mail, yet he has it delivered to his door. That is the kind of injustice from which our rural people suffer. These are the people who are raising the cattle and growing the wheat upon which much of the employment of the city dweller depends. Instead of providing rural people with the decent mail service to which they are entitled, we seem to be making them scapegoats.

● (1540)

I have here a public service poster advertising for a postmaster in the town of Hoosier. It offers a salary of $1,660 a year. This post office must be open 24 hours a week. According to my calculations, that works out to

$1.35 an hour. In addition, the 24 hours must be spread over 5½ days. How many city people would be tied to a job 5½ days a week for the glorious salary of $1,660 a year? In view of that kind of offer I do not think the government is serious about providing postal service in that area.

What is even worse is the fact that the rental allowance is $150 a year, which works out to 40 cents a day. I do not know how many members in this chamber would like to turn their home into a post office and have people going in and out for 24 hours a day, seven days a week, for 40 cents a day. In that area in the winter, whatever you earn would be gone before breakfast because of the door opening and closing. The government expects janitor service, a building, heat, light, and so on, for 40 cents a day.

I wish to cite a typical example of the treatment received by people in small towns. A veteran whose health was affected while serving in the army worked in the post office for 20 years. He erected a building and rented it to the Post Office Department for $1,800 a year. One day a work unit survey was conducted and he was advised that this post office was not providing enough revenue and it was changed from a class 1 to a class II. This man was informed that after a certain date he would have to provide the premises, as this was a fair sized town, but they would pay only $480 a year for the rental.

As a condition of employment these people must provide the premises. I do not know how many businesses or city people would put up with that kind of deal. I understand that there are now discussions under way to provide constituency offices and secretaries for members of parliament. It is estimated that this will cost $200 a month for each member, yet the Post Office Department will allow only $480 a year to rent a post office. In some cases people who have been operating post offices for 20 years have received letters stating that because they were now revenue post offices their salaries would be frozen and they would no longer qualify for sick benefits or any of the other benefits they received for years as employees of the Post Office Department. In many cases this involved large families with dependent children. Their post offices have been reclassified and they have had to provide their own premises even though, with inflation, their costs are rising all the time.

In his speech the minister spoke about job security and better salaries. Job security and better salaries for whom? It is certainly not for people in the rural areas. The object seems to be to completely discourage anyone who dares to live in a rural area and tries to carry the rest of the country on his back. I suggest that the minister give serious consideration to a minimum rental allowance of at least $50 a month, $600 a year, to anyone who assumes the responsibility of operating a post office, handling government money and all the rest of it. If the Post Office is going to rent facilities from its employees, it should be prepared to pay a lot more than $10 or $20 a month. Also, the salary of these people should be the minimum wage of the province. In Saskatchewan this is $1.75 an hour. The present situation is ridiculous. If the postmaster hires someone during a period when he must be away, he must pay the minimum wage of the province; but the federal government will pay him only $1.35 an hour, or less.

Post Office

[*Translation*]

Mr. Alexandre Cyr (Gaspé): Mr. Speaker, the motion now before us deals with an issue which has been, for a long time and indeed since the very beginning of the Confederation, much important in daily lives of the Canadian people. The postal service is one of the first public services which was established in Canadian communities.

I do not agree at all with the hon. member for Brandon-Souris (Mr. Dinsdale) who asserts, in his motion, that the Canadian postal service has deteriorated during the past six years. I will not speak as a government member but as a Canadian who knows perfectly well the Post Office Department for having worked there during three years.

Mr. Speaker, the motion covers six different points; it would take too long to deal with all these matters but let me make a few comments about the closure of small rural post offices.

This program was initiated in 1965 in the Gaspé Peninsula which was used as a pilot region, and in the ridings of Gaspé and Bonaventure alone more than 80 small post offices were closed. Thanks to this program, the Department of Public Works built in the riding of Gaspé alone 26 small offices—

Mr. Béchard: In Bonaventure as well.

Mr. Cyr: —and in Bonaventure, as my colleague points out, and this grouping of post offices provided a much improved postal service in the Gaspé Peninsula.

Before this grouping, the postal van had to stop every two or three miles to deliver the mail, but since 1967 it stops only every 10 or 20 miles and the mail coming from Montreal or Quebec City or even Ottawa is now delivered 15 hours earlier than under the old system.

Early this year, I tried to find out what was the real situation within the postal service in Canada and I dispatched two series of letters to 37 postmasters throughout Canada. Mr. Speaker, the results clearly show that Canada has the best postal service in the world.

Mail sent from the Commons' post office to Moncton, Winnipeg, Gaspé, Murdochville, Sept-Îles, Rimouski, Mont-Laurier, Chicoutimi, Rivière-du-Loup, Sudbury, was delivered within 20 hours and in some cases within ten. However, it should be noted that the letter I sent the postmaster in Hull, and mailed at the Commons' post office, took exactly three days to cross the Ottawa River.

Mr. Isabelle: It is still the same thing now.

Mr. Cyr: That well shows the excellent mail delivery service in Canada, even if there is still room for improvement in the service in large centers like Ottawa, Montréal, Toronto and Winnipeg.

The Post Office Department knows that there is a lack of discipline in the larger post offices, and it is not easy to solve that. Outside those large centers, the mail is sorted out more carefully and it seems that the employees of small post offices and rural service centers do a better job than those in the large urban centers.

I know, through a personal experience, that a letter from Gaspé to Sherbrooke is delayed three or four days if it is dispatched to the Montreal Post Office for sorting. This is why, Mr. Speaker, I recommend that the Postmaster General (Mr. Ouellet) open distribution offices outside the larger centers, in order to accelerate the sorting of the mail from rural areas. The sampling method I used has established that delays in mail delivery occur only in the larger centers.

As to the sharply increased postal rates, I must say that paying $0.08 to send a letter, let us say, from Gaspé to Vancouver via airmail is not too much. Thanks to the means of transportation available today, a letter can be delivered from Montreal to Vancouver in only eight hours. I am amazed at the idea that a mere $0.08 stamp can send a letter so quickly and over such a distance, which is the result of the establishment of a domestic service called "All-Up". Canada is the first country ever to offer such a service to its citizens.

Today, the Canadian Post Office has everything it needs to operate at the accelerated pace of life in a modern world. While, thanks to modern techniques and science our geographical boundaries are disappearing and we find ourselves at the crossroads in our history. Postmaster General (Mr. Ouellet) and his department are meeting the challenges of the 1970's. Never in the history of the Post Office Department, have so many innovations been made over such a short time.

I think that, to a very large extent, the challenge which the Post Office will have to meet will be in the field of marketing. Our Post Office Department will have to offer services and products approved by their customers and from which we will benefit. Those customers should be treated with efficiency; they should be told how the Post Office will meet their needs which, in an increasingly competitive climate, are becoming more and more important. I know that the Postmaster General and his department are doing their best to achieve this objective.

All the postal administrations in the world are faced with price increases. The Canadian postal service is trying to overcome this problem through realistic planning while trying to meet the ever increasing requirements from its staff.

It goes without saying that uprating requires heavy investments. The request for new services from the postal service's customers should be met but we should never forget that a one-cent increase for a first class letter creates general protests throughout the country.

In closing, I wish to commend the Postmaster General for his good work and tell him that we encourage him to keep it up.

● (1550)

[*English*]

Mr. W. C. Scott (Victoria-Haliburton): Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased to be able to speak on this motion moved by my hon. friend from Brandon-Souris (Mr. Dinsdale). It gives me an opportunity to tell the government that my constituents are fed up with excuses, maladministration and mismanagement. They want, and have a right to expect, the kind of postal service they had become accustomed to until the present government took over the operation of the Post Office Department.

There was a time when the Canadian postal service was one of the most efficient in the world. That time is not too far in the past. Now we have a postal service which is so badly administered that it has become the object of jokes, cartoons and outright ridicule. It is easy to make up jokes about how long it takes to have a letter delivered in Canada today, but it is no joke to people who depend on the mail to conduct their business. It is not a joke to those who rely on the mail to keep in touch with friends and loved ones. We all pay dearly for the postal service, and if there is any good reason why we cannot expect to receive dependable mail service in Canada it is time we were told that reason. It is also time we were told what we must do in order to get the kind of mail service we enjoyed in the past.

I am sure in my own mind that these are serious problems in the operation of the Post Office Department. Everyone is sure we have problems—everyone, that is, except the Postmaster General (Mr. Ouellet). He appears to be more concerned about the possibility that the Conservative Party will form the government in the near future than he is about running the Post Office Department. That is not new, however, Mr. Speaker; the last three postmasters general have had more pressing things on their minds than their portfolios.

The present Postmaster General spends his time condemning our ties with royalty and accusing the Conservative Party of being anti-French Canadian. If his remarks were effective in clearing up the problems in the Post Office Department, we would be willing to accept them. However, he only succeeds in bringing to mind a former postmaster general, Eric Kierans, who spent his time trying to run the finance portfolio while the Post Office Department fell into disrepair and disrepute.

Mr. Speaker, the cost of operating the Post Office in the fiscal year 1970-71 was $343,837,000. The projected cost for the fiscal year 1973-74 is $573,263,000. We are getting close to doubling the cost involved in operating the department in just three years, and during that period our postal services have continued to deteriorate. Everyone in this House and, indeed, everyone in Canada is aware that postal rates have almost doubled since the present government has been in power. The Canadian people have accepted this increase as the cost of getting service, just as they have had to accept increased costs in every other area of government operation. But while they accept the reasons for increased postal rates, they certainly do not accept greatly reduced service from the Post Office Department.

In spite of these greatly increased postal rates and the elimination of certain types of cheap, bulk-rate postal services the Post Office operates at a considerable deficit year in and year out. This House has not been unduly harsh with the government or the Postmaster General for not being able to operate the department without a large deficit. However, when at the same time we are afflicted by one of the world's least efficient postal services, when we find a serious morale problem among employees in the department, and when we are obliged to suffer total stoppage of mail service every year because there is a serious

breakdown in employee-employer relations, then it is our right as well as our responsibility to press the government for answers. And, Mr. Speaker, I mean answers, not excuses.

Over the past couple of years we have seen mail service in rural Canada discriminated against in favour of providing better service for the large urban centres. The urban mail service has not improved and we still suffer from a greatly downgraded service in rural communities. Rural post offices have been closed in the name of centralization. We were told this would improve rural mail service. It has not improved the service in rural Canada, Mr. Speaker: on the contrary, it is worse today than it has ever been.

● (1600)

Mail service is vital to people living in small towns and on farms, just as vital as it is to Canadians who live in large cities. In fact, Mr. Speaker, all of us who have spent our lives in small communities know that communications play a major role in our lives. At the time the government announced it was planning to close hundreds of post offices in small towns and villages across the country, it was pointed out to the Postmaster General that these post offices were more than just places to send or receive letters. These post offices, often run in conjunction with a general store, were places where people could get together socially. There are hundreds of places in rural Canada where distances between towns and farms are so great that the only time some people can see their neighbours on a regular basis is at the post office.

I know that the Postmaster General can make a good case for not being in business to provide social centres for rural Canadians, but I can make just as good a case for the government being in power at the will of the people, and these rural Canadians are people. They have every right to expect the government to provide mail service that is readily accessible and also mail service that is personal.

We have been told that the main reason, if not the only reason, for closing down rural post offices was to reduce costs so that the Post Office Department could provide better service without incurring a deficit. Well, postal service is worse than it has ever been and the deficit for this fiscal year is higher than ever. Is it any wonder that Canadians, especially rural Canadians, are not inclined to believe the government any more?

The government is now in conflict with the Canadian postmasters' union over the great disparity in the rates of pay for postmasters in different areas of the country. I think it is safe to say that the postmasters will lose this round, as they have lost others. All the government has to do is close down the rest of the rural post offices and put the postmasters out of their jobs. In that way they not only settle this dispute; they would ensure that the rural postmasters would not be around to bother them in the future.

In some areas of the country people are required to travel many miles daily just to see if there is any mail in their boxes or to mail a letter. This is one of the results of the new policies of the Post Office to increase efficiency. There are examples every day of letters being delivered two days after being mailed, over a distance that can be travelled in 30 minutes. This is commonplace today. It often takes two to three days for letters to be delivered in the city in which they are mailed.

The government is presently engaged in a multimillion dollar program to automate mail handling, and I am very much afraid that we are again on the verge of a major confrontation between the Post Office Department and the unions. As in everything else, the government has failed to plan properly for this major innovation. I am already hearing reports that the unions are not happy with the way negotiations are progressing with respect to issues such as job classification and job security. This is an old story, and while we should be used to it by now, we certainly should not have to take the same nonsense year after year.

I think it is time for the government to appoint a postmaster general who will take his job seriously. We have had enough of the government's policy that uses the postmaster general's portfolio to reward frontbenchers for good service, or as a means of demoting ministers without actually throwing them out of the cabinet. It is a department that requires a minister who is capable of running it; it requires a minister who is interested enough to give the job his full attention.

We have already seen how much importance the present minister attaches to the Post Office Department and to his portfolio. He would be well advised to start thinking and talking about the Post Office Department and to stop worrying about who is going to form the next government. The Canadian people will decide who forms the next government, Mr. Speaker. I can appreciate the minister's concern that my party is going to form the next government, because there is every indication that this will happen in the not too distant future. But until then the minister has a responsibility that he should start taking a bit more seriously.

The latest gimmick introduced by the Post Office Department is the postal code. We have been told that this is one of the answers to restoring adequate postal service. This new device has already cost millions of dollars and we are now told that it will be several years before it is in full operation throughout the country. We do not know yet what we will get for those millions of dollars, but we know that the mail service is still poor and that there is no reason for the Canadian people to be optimistic about the future prospects for better mail delivery.

The government appears to be determined to operate departments with the same yardstick in spite of the fact that it has been proven to be ineffective over and over again. In the case of the Unemployment Insurance Commission, the government instituted the same policy of centralization as they have in the Post Office Department. The UIC is a shambles, and last year the cost of operating that department was almost a billion dollars more than the forecast deficit.

In the case of the Post Office Department, centralization has increased costs and decreased the quality of postal service. All the post offices that were closed in rural Canada in the interest of efficiency and economy might better have been left operating. The level of service would have been better, many poastmasters would still have jobs and the people would have been far happier.

Reduction in the number of mail service days in the week, cut from six to five, was carried out in the interest of the same things, Mr. Speaker—efficiency and economy. Do we have more efficiency and reduced costs? No, we do not. All we got out of it was reduced mail service. It would appear to a reasonable person that even this government would learn in time that their policies are not working and that it is time to change their whole approach to the operation of vital government services. This would not reflect against the intelligence and the integrity of those who are charged with running government departments and services: it would have the opposite effect. If the government should indicate in even a small way that it is aware that it has been on the wrong track and is willing to heed good advice, then it would begin to look responsible. I doubt very seriously, though, that that will ever come to pass.

Mr. Jim Fleming (York West): Mr. Speaker, we are well on into a Friday afternoon. I am sure that while all of us in this House share a real interest in, and concern for, our Post Office and the job that it does in keeping communications open amongst our people, the businesses of our country, as well of course as our international business, we are also anxious to get home to our constituents and constituencies and to the work at hand. Therefore, I will be brief. It is important, I think, as a government member to rise and speak in defence of our postal department and of what I think is the outstanding job it has done, especially in recent years.

As I see it, the motion strikes at four or five particular areas. It is suggested that there has been a deterioration in the Post Office Department during the last six years. It expresses concern about the closing down of rural post offices. It is always a concern, I am sure, of any member of this House when services to constituents are cut back. The motion discusses the reduction of six-day service to five-day service, and suggests there is a rush to automation that threatens the morale and job security of employees. It then points out that we have had increased postal rates, that these have been to the detriment of the postal service and have imposed a burden upon the public. I should like to discuss those points one by one.

● (1610)

On the issue of the reduction in rural post offices, I must first admit in all honesty that I do not have extensive personal experience in the matter, but when such criticism is put forward in this motion one or two things come to mind. While it should never be taken that this is a reason to cut back a service if it is vital to our people, no matter what numbers are involved, there has been a reduction in rural population and a massive growth in urban population. To some degree, as long as a basic and good service is provided in rural areas, when you are talking about the economy and government, realizing that any service put forward by government is paid for by the taxpayers, you must realize that some reductions in rural service may well be justified so long as the basic standard is maintained. We have better roads, better transportation and better means of moving around in our rural areas, and the service of the Post Office has improved considerably in

that transportation has become much more rapid in recent years.

Taking all these facts into consideration, and realizing the necessity in all areas of government to consider the economy, I have yet to hear any argument which can offset the need for reduction where it is justified. It is very easy to stand in the House, as has happened during the question period from time to time, on this issue of the Post Office and its services and ask the minister to explain why a letter took three and a half weeks to arrive at its destination. Nobody is more of a whipping boy than the Post Office Department, Bell Telephone or the Income Tax Department. These are the easy departments to get at because, in fact, they are vital to our communications and to the function of government with respect to the Income Tax Department. They all interrelated in the ability of one Canadian being able to communicate with another and business sectors being able to function; but they are also easy departments to knock.

During my experience of five or six months as a member of the House of Commons representing the constituency of York West, I have received less than a dozen complaints about the postal service, in spite of the fact that my constituency is one of the largest in Canada with a population of 140,000. The complaints I have received, I have dealt with frankly because I think nothing can operate on a 100 per cent perfect basis.

I have sent correspondence to the Postmaster General (Mr. Ouellet) which must have arrived quickly because I have received expeditious replies. In fact, any inquiry I have made, be it about the need of a senior citizen for a post office box closer to his home, or why it was moved, and complaints about mail being delivered to the wrong address, has been answered quickly. I received a prompt reply from one of my local post offices regarding a sincere investigation, not only from the Postmaster General but from the local level as well. There was co-operation and sensitivity, and the reply was fast. That not only suggests to me sensitivity in the Postmaster General's department but also a properly functioning Post Office.

There are many other areas I might use as an example of the difficulty of achieving 100 per cent efficiency in any service involving people. I am sure if I asked other hon. members in this House whether they had ever ordered goods from a large department store via a mail order catalogue, had they dealt with a credit card company, had they checked the tapes they received with their groceries after they had done their shopping every week and searched for mistakes, they would tell me that there is always evidence of mistakes being made. This is something we must always watch for. We must always be on guard and we must demand a sensitive Post Office Department, even as I realize that in the private sector and in business there is frustration and that in dealing with somebody like Eaton's on a mail order basis there are faults.

There are faults—but the question is, are they answered and are they corrected?

When we consider this resolution and the accusation about the deterioration of Post Office services in the last six years we must face up to the complications and problems of modern technology, our rapid rate of advancement

and just where we sit in the twentieth century. Change not only means disruption; it means tremendous disruption. It also means the need for people to be adaptable. The twentieth century is synonymous with change. "Future Shock" describes the terrific complications that exist as advances become more and more rapid.

I gather from this motion a suggestion that we should deny automation; we should deny this kind of progress and we should go back to the good old ways. But the good old ways were not good at all. The postal service was bad, not good as it is today. Can you imagine one saying: "Let us remain the same"? I do not take it as an acceptable argument that we should continue to have folksy spots in the country where people can go to communicate and where we do not have automation. This would be to deny recognition of all the problems we face as a government today.

Can you imagine the situation if that attitude were adopted, as apparently the official opposition suggests? Can you imagine the terrible situation we would be in a decade from now with our post offices? We simply would not be able to keep up with the demands of modern business.

We must realize that today there must be changes no matter how disruptive they may be. If we do not do that we deny the ability to cope with tomorrow because we cannot imagine what technological advances tomorrow may bring in the way of changes that will improve our situation and assist our people, yet will bring confrontation in respect of the number of people employed, and services. Having regard to the problem of reduced postal service from six days to five days, I think everybody on both sides of the House had some regret when that decision was made. When you look for your mail at a particular time, as each householder does, no matter how good the service you are still inclined to complain and blame the Post Office for not providing the service to which you are accustomed.

I know that people were unhappy when they could not go on Saturday and collect their mail. There was a reduction in service. There were problems in developing workloads when you had a build-up of business mail which hit the Post Office heavily on weekends, making a heavier volume of mail for delivery on Monday. I would like the parliamentary restaurant to open at five o'clock every day. I would like my secretarial staff to be available in the evening when I am here and could dash up to my office to do some work. However, we must be realistic about things.

We are talking about economics and we are talking about a modern society. We are talking about changes that must be made even when there is some regret in making a change that might in a way reduce service which we enjoy. When it is better economics to reduce that service, have it highly efficient and work over a shorter period, then surely that is facing up to the responsibility of making decisions in government that are in the best interests of the people and providing the best economy, particularly when government costs soar as they do these days.

When we talk about increased postal rates this goes back several years to the days of a former member of this House, Mr. Kierans, to whom I think the hon. member for Victoria-Haliburton (Mr. Scott) referred a few moments ago. It is true that costs have gone up considerably, but one of the greatest problems I face today, as I am sure other members do, is trying to make my constituents understand who is responsible for what, and what money they pay in taxes goes where. I am faced with the whole confusion of pinpointing where the money is being spent so that I can say whether it is being spent well or poorly.

We do not get extra revenue in the Post Office Department by charging so much for stamps so that we can pour off that money into another department. In fact, even though those rates have gone up the fact remains that the full cost is not covered by moneys that come in from the sale of stamps or the delivery of mail. A sizeable part of the funds still comes out of tax revenue. But surely that is how government should operate. It is important to me that as more and more we are able to identify for the taxpayers where their dollars are being spent so they can decide whether it is worth while or not, the better off we are.

It is all very easy to go out, as I said, and attack Bell Telephone because you had trouble with one particular phone call, or to attack the Income Tax Department because it is not a pleasant department, or to attack the Post Office because you have sent mail for years and have had no trouble but finally you wrote a letter to Aunt Mame and it did not arrive on time, but postal rates were increased to help match the increase in cost of providing this service today. No one is so naïve as to imagine for a moment that costs have not risen generally—and so have the costs of providing our postal service.

The postal department is still very much labour-oriented. It has a great many employees who have demanded better wages. The government was responsible for paying their wages and giving them increases, and this has increased the cost. Transportation costs have rapidly increased, and surely that must be faced up to and reflected in the price of the service. I think it is folly to pretend that services are not expensive. Increased postal rates reflect the increase in costs, and it is wrong to suggest to the public that it will not have to pay for these costs in higher postage rates, because it will. If it does not pay in postage, it will pay in some other way. If the public pays partially in the form of postage, then at least the people who are using the service will pay the increased costs.

Over the last six years, during my time in the media when I received a great deal of mail and also sent a great deal of mail, and now, when I am especially involved in receiving and sending information quickly and trying to deal with situations, I have come to the realization that we do have one of the most efficient postal systems in the world.

● (1620)

If we are to keep up, we must be innovative. The Post Office has been very innovative. It has tried to keep up, restructure, regroup and not begin something without following through during the period of months or years which sometimes is involved in some of its plans. Along the way it has said that it must move sensibly and quickly and that it must make adjustments. I think in the last couple of years—I have experienced this as a newsman covering some very serious confrontations such as the strikes we had five, six or seven years ago, especially in

Toronto with the postal employees—there has been a very great development in consultation and sensitivity as between labour and management.

The government has kept a very close eye on this department in the realization that there must be sensitivity and that many people who are employed are not skilled workers and have great fears about innovation and new technology. The government realizes that these people must be dealt with, that it must understand the situation, that they must be cared for and paid a decent wage.

I think the minister's initiative since he has taken over this portfolio speaks well for him as a representative of this government. I know he has travelled across this country and has spoken not only to management but also to the postal workers. I do not think I can accept what the hon. member for Victoria-Haliburton said a few moments ago about the minister being interested in other things. The hon. member made an attack on the department as being a place where someone could be shoved down in cabinet seniority or as a place which could be used for the purpose of paying someone off. We do not think of it in that way. He may have those suspicions. I am surprised he has that idea in his mind.

One of the most important means of communication in our country is being carried out responsibly. I believe the minister's record is one of real involvement with and sensitivity toward the people. We have seen consultation develop as never before. We have seen real innovation. We have seen a minister involved with both management and labour. We have seen new methods. We have seen new centres developed. We have even seen the introduction of stamps to promote Canada. I do not see that as a threat to the monarchy—and no one could have a more British background than I have. I have great pride in our heritage and in our country. I think it is time we all recognized this.

The real demand upon modern government is to cope quickly. We do not have time to stand back and give total reflection. We do not always have time to try something for a year and then do it: we must move quickly. I do not think anyone who takes on the responsibility of running government today would dare say we can do it perfectly or that we can be sure we are doing it properly. I do think, however, that we can say this is a direction we want to take, that we will try it and when we make mistakes we will correct them.

Mr. Paul Yewchuk (Athabasca): Mr. Speaker, we have just heard a prolonged Liberal apology full of paradoxes. The hon. member for York West (Mr. Fleming) said it is easy to knock something, and I agree. He seemed to spend a good deal of his time knocking the opposition. However, I do not remember him making any suggestions concerning how the postal service could be improved. On the one hand he said that the service had deteriorated, and on the other hand he said it is the best in the world. Then he went on to portray the usual attitude of his government, of complacency and self-satisfaction in telling the Canadian people they should get used to the situation because they cannot have everything they want. The suggestion is that the people must be happy with the difficulties they are experiencing. The government deals with this situation in the same way it dealt with the unemployment situation,

by saying that because of the difficulties in this country it is impossible to improve things and people must live with the situation.

I do not think that is what we want members on the government side to tell us. We want them to tell us what they are doing in an effort to improve services for the Canadian people, services which are costing the Canadian people more. With this in mind I shall discuss a particular area of difficulty in respect of postal service. I have in mind the isolated communities of northern Canada, such as the northern part of my province, the Northwest Territories and the Yukon territory. I believe the vastness of my riding is fairly typical of the northern regions about which I wish to speak.

In his remarks the minister spent a good deal of time bragging about the tremendous new machinery in the Post Office, such as automatic letter sorters, automatic secretaries and automatic everything. However, he did not impress me very much because these automatic things are in Toronto, Montreal and other large centres. Places such as Peerless Lake, Graham Lake, Red Earth, Little Buffalo or similar places in the north still have not reached the pony express stage of postal service. As a matter of fact many of these areas do not have any postal service at all. I find some humour in hearing members from Toronto or Montreal say that they do not like having the postal service reduced from six days to five days a week, when a place like Peerless Lake does not have service on any day of the week. This is an area which I believe really requires attention. However, it has not been receiving attention.

The motion before us deals with the deterioration of postal service. I am sorry I cannot talk about that matter in respect of the areas I have mentioned because there was no postal service to begin with; therefore it cannot deteriorate. I shall try to convince the minister that he should introduce service into these isolated communities so that the people there would at least be in a position to communicate with him through the mail. These isolated settlements are separated by great distances. In some areas there are post offices from place to place, but in most cases part of the problem is that there are no roads or very poor roads. Another problem in these regions is that there are very few motor vehicles. In many cases the people still use horse and wagon or, if you like, ponies.

Places like Peerless Lake, Graham Lake and Red Earth are about 200 miles north of Lesser Slave Lake. About two years ago there was no post office in that area. One was set up at Red Earth. That post office was to serve the whole region, covering a radius of about 100 miles. The minister in a letter to me recently said with great pride that the post office had been set up at Red Earth, that it was tremendous and that it served the people of the whole region. It could be, in Toronto, Montreal or in any of the other areas where people have motor vehicles and paved highways, that having to travel 20, 30 or 40 miles to mail a letter or pick up mail might be acceptable; but in an isolated community with no roads and with horses for transportation the situation is very different when one wishes to pick up mail, mail a letter, send a postal money order or carry on any other postal business.

When the minister tells me that his department is now modernized, I say to him that this does not impress me. He

should take a serious look at some of the isolated areas and see the very real problems which exist. I suggest to the minister that he spend a month with me at Peerless Lake this summer. I will set up a nice little teepee and have some moose meat dried and waiting for him. I would like him to try to conduct his business from there for a period of a month by means of the mail service his department provides. If he did so, I do not think he would be so quick to pat himself on the back about the greatness of the service of his department.

I would invite him and any other minister or any other member on the government side who is dedicated to speaking as an apologist for the government to go to these areas for a month or so to experience what the people who live there experience all their lives. I am sure we would have fairly speedy action if ministers took the trouble to go down there and look at the situation.

● (1630)

An hon. Member: Such as what?

Mr. Yewchuk: Such as setting up regular post offices and a postal service. It is a very simple solution. Another service that is provided in some of these places such as, for example, small trading posts—this is the best that the minister can do—is simply to have a mailbag which is filled up with letters to people in an isolated settlement picked up by whoever happens to be going that way at some time during the month, and dropped at the store. Then everybody who happens to wander by, scrambles through the mailbag to see whether or not he can find a letter there. That is supposed to be good postal service.

Just imagine what would happen if the people in Toronto had to harness a team of horses and go 40 miles to pick up their mail every day. I wonder if the minister would permit a postal service in Toronto which would consist of a mailbag being delivered to a grocery store at the corner of the street and people within a ten-block radius having to dig through the bag to get their mail.

What I am trying to impress upon the minister is that just because people live in small numbers in isolated areas is no reason for ignoring them and depriving them of services which in southern Canada are considered a necessity, not a luxury, and are taken for granted. This is not the case in northern portions of our country. I would like the minister to spend a little time on that problem. I agree that he always sends back polite letters, but that is not what I want from him. It is the content of the letters that I would like improved. I would like to read in these letters that the minister will do something about the problem. I do not want to see letters in which the minister says he recognizes there is a problem and thanks me for bringing it to his attention; he will see what can be done. That is not good enough.

The minister may be a polite man—and everybody appreciates politeness—but that is not what the job of running the Post Office Department is all about. The minister should concern himself with providing the best possible service to all the people of Canada—and we in the north have not had it. I think it is time a complete reassessment of the mail service to isolated communities was carried out and speedy action taken to correct the problems which I have described. It is time the minister got out of his comfortable chair and visited some of the more remote areas, talked to the people there and asked them whether they are happy with the services he is providing. The fact that, as he stated, he went across the country to various cities, and the people to whom he spoke all seemed happy and seemed to be working, does not absolve him of the responsibility to people in isolated communities in the north, because the picture there is entirely different.

The solution is to establish a series of small post offices a reasonable distance apart so that people can travel on horseback and get their mail in an hour or two. I realize that this would increase the cost, based on the income which would be derived from these post offices, but it seems to me that the rest of Canada should be willing to pay for increased cost of mail delivery to the northern regions because the rest of Canada is benefiting a great deal from the resources in the north. We have all types of resources—timber, oil, minerals and furs. Thus, the northern parts of Canada are contributing a great deal to the country as a whole. In return for that contribution they are entitled to reasonable postal, telephone and transportation services which those in the south have come to take for granted.

The other subject which I would like to speak about for a few minutes relates to the changes that were made in the postal rate, and the reclassification of certain professional journals and newspapers which has taken place in the past three or four years. I will describe the problem by using a particular journal as an example, namely, the journal of the Canadian Medical Association. I am glad to see a member of the medical profession here. I hope he will listen carefully. Perhaps he will be able to influence the minister, because I doubt I will be able to do so. I should like to quote from that journal a few sentences written by A. D. Kelly. I think he is a doctor; he has a British degree and I am not quite sure what it means. I assume he is a medical man who also happens to be the editor of the Canadian Medical Association journal.

Mr. Railton: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a question of privilege. Dr. A. D. Kelly graduated from the University of Toronto with the degree of MB. That was the degree at that time.

Mr. Yewchuk: Mr. Speaker, I hope you will give me an extra 30 seconds at the end of my 15 minutes to compensate me for lost time. Dr. Kelly wrote:

My equanimity has been disturbed, my sunny disposition has been clouded—

That was back in 1969.

—my faith in the Just Society has been shaken and, to put it briefly, I am up tight.

That means he is rather tense over the whole situation.

I am managing editor of Canadian Medical Association publications and things have become unmanageable.

That is his assessment. He goes on to say:

For fifty-eight years the CMAJ has enjoyed statutory second-class mailing privileges and our postal rates were low. We are not alone in this because I understand that 5,200 other Canadian publications are similarly classified. I have been aware that the Post Office was losing money and I expected that an increase in

rates for all classifications would be initiated. I really can't say that I feel it essential that our postal services make money or indeed break even, particularly when I am aware of the very substantial subsidies provided for radio and TV, industry, agriculture, education and social services.

In other words, many areas require assistance from the government, and the Post Office should be no different. Because of the decision that was made in 1969, the Canadian Medical Association journal which was published weekly now can only afford publication twice a month, or 26 times a year.

Mr. Cullen: The doctors can afford it.

Mr. Yewchuk: This is not a remark worthy of the hon. member. I hope he will not try to sidetrack the issue by stating that the doctors can afford it, because that is a ridiculous statement. In any case, the changes which were made by the Post Office Department at that time meant a fourfold increase in the cost of mailing some journals and newspapers. The publishers of other magazines, such as MacLean-Hunter which publishes a paper entitled the Medical Post, and other commercial publications which publish competing magazines or periodicals such as the MD or the Canadian Doctor continue to enjoy second-class mailing privileges. This is not the case so far as the Canadian Medical Association journal is concerned, and the reason given by the Post Office as to why it must pay these high rates—

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Laniel): Order, please. I regret to interrupt the hon. member, but the time allotted to him has expired.

Mr. Charles E. Haliburton (South Western Nova): Mr. Speaker, I would be glad to give a portion of my time to the hon. member who has just sat down. My remarks are very general. The Post Office Department is one of the spheres of government that comes into contact with every Canadian person on a regular basis. Therefore, it is one of those activities of government which should set an example to others in terms of efficiency, courtesy and service. Unfortunately, our Canadian Post Office over the past number of years has arrived at a position where it fails to establish those things in the minds of the Canadian public. Rather, it establishes in their minds a public service which is bureaucratic, inefficient and unresponsive to the needs and wishes of the public.

● (1640)

The Canadian people are no longer willing to accept the exorbitant postal rates which they have to pay for minimal services. This is the crux of the postal crisis in this day and age. Each year, in spite of growing postal rates, the Post Office records a deficit. For the fiscal year 1971-72 revenues increased $71.3 million to a record level of over $500 million, while costs increased $47.9 million, leaving the Post Office again with a deficit of some $77 million. This situation is intolerable, but it does not look as if it will change very radically or very rapidly.

Essentially, the Post Office should be concerned with providing a service to the Canadian public. I submit, Sir, that the stature of the service being provided at this time is not satisfactory. Only a few years ago one of the Liberal

[Mr. Yewchuk.]

cabinet ministers charged with the responsibility of looking after the Post Office determined that he was going to make it a profitable institution. I submit that the Canadian public is not so concerned about whether the Post Office can operate profitably as it is concerned that it should serve the Canadian people in an efficient and proper manner. The Canadian public is prepared to subsidize the Post Office to a reasonable degree. I am not suggesting that the Post Office be given carte-blanche, but the people of Canada would be happy if it provided rapid service, with efficient mail delivery on terms that are convenient to the public, even if it has a deficit.

Here I am thinking of businessmen dealing in large sums of money or in matters which are of extreme urgency and importance. I am thinking, for instance, of doctors sending prescriptions by mail, of drugstores sending drugs by mail, of lawyers sending orders to the courts to be approved by mail and of persons involved in property transactions where large amounts of money may be transmitted by mail. I am thinking about this matter in terms of the cost of sending money and in terms of human suffering where drugs are being sent by mail. These are much more serious matters to the Canadian people than the Post Office suffering a reasonable deficit.

While I am speaking of drugs, I am sorry that I do not have with me a clipping from the Halifax *Herald*. A few weeks ago it carried a story relating to the drop in efficiency of the Post Office in the area of New Caledonia, which is one of the few inland areas of Nova Scotia some 30 or 40 miles from the sea. Between that area and Barss Corner traditionally over the years there had been same-day delivery service. The result was that a physician in one of the centres could prescribe drugs for a patient and the prescription could be sent by mail and the drugs delivered on the same day. But now, even with modern technology, not to mention all the consultants' reports with respect to the Post Office, delivery is not less than four days and generally takes five days. Mr. Speaker, in this case the distance to be covered is approximately six miles.

Another place where there has been a drop in service, which hopefully will be rectified in the near future with the establishment of a new post office, is an area in the Annapolis Valley. It is not in my riding and perhaps I should not be concerning myself with it, but it did gain some notoriety in the newspapers. Minas is a village, approaching the status of a town, which in fact is five or six miles in length. It now takes four days for a letter to get from one end of that village to the other end. The reason is that the mechanism for mail collection and delivery results in a letter having to travel from one end of the village to a sorting centre, from there to a second sorting center and from that second centre back to the other end of the village. That is a ridiculous situation, something which could not have happened in Canadian postal antiquity, which could not have happened back in my childhood when mail was carried by train and the sorting was done during the course of train travel.

I have here a quotation from the *Globe and Mail* of November 16, 1972, which I believe reflects the general attitude to the service being provided by the Post Office. In one paragraph it reads:

There can be no doubt that almost every innovation, announced with fanfare as an important measure to increase efficiency, decreased efficiency.

The assured mail program about which we have heard so much is one such scheme which has been very seriously overrated. In order to obtain assured mail service it is necessary to post a letter before eleven o'clock in the morning, then you are assured that it will get to its destination some time the following afternoon, from certain selected centres. Years ago anybody posting a first-class letter considered that there was an assurance of that sort of service. Certainly, in the province of Nova Scotia we considered ourselves assured of that kind of service.

But what in fact does it mean, if it is necessary for a person to post a letter before eleven o'clock in the morning? It is difficult for any business office to arrange to have a letter dictated, typed, signed by the person sending it and deposited in the postal repository by eleven o'clock in the morning. In fact, that situation pretty well eliminates getting a letter dictated and sent within one day. Of course, the next day, if the letter arrives after three o'clock in the afternoon, it is difficult to have it dealt with effectively, particularly if federal government offices close at four o'clock in the afternoon. It is pretty difficult for any government office or business office to deal with a letter meaningfully in an hour or so with such a deadline imposed.

Again, there is the question of five-day service. I recognize that it was not trumpeted by the postal department, but I wonder what will happen now, since there is talk that the unions are putting on a drive for a four-day work week. Will we be faced with a four-day delivery program? As I understand the situation at present, when one posts a letter from central Canada to Winnipeg, if the letter is sent from Ottawa on Wednesday it may not be delivered in Winnipeg until the following Tuesday. If it is handled here on Thursday, by the time it is sorted and reaches Winnipeg it will be the following Monday. But the five-day week in Winnipeg is arranged so that Monday is not worked. This means delivery takes place on Tuesday. Such variations in the five-day work week across the country bring results such as that.

The five-day delivery program is one aspect of the matter, but the five-day work week is another aspect in terms of handling, transmitting and sorting the mail. It compounds the difficulties and increases the restrictions placed upon people in attempting to deliver mail at a particular time. I am sure the Postmaster General (Mr. Ouellet) has heard informed people talking of letters being sent from one place to another and taking an unduly long time to be delivered. I shall not deal with that, although I might mention a couple of interesting examples.

● (1650)

There is another aspect of Post Office activity with which I want to deal. It concerns non-postal activities of the post office. If I understood correctly, the Postmaster general has serious doubts about whether the Post Office is legally authorized to carry on certain non-postal activities. Certainly, the people in my riding have serious doubts about the propriety of these activities. The book stores are concerned about them and the knick-knack shops are concerned, because the Post Office is in competition with them. The Post Office is established with public funds, yet employees, presumably in their spare time—I suppose it is spare time, because when they work they are supposed to work for the Post Office Department—engage in these activities.

Presumably, the spare time of postal clerks is used in selling, say, special spoons, wrappers for packages, labels, commemorative coins and that sort of thing. They do that when they are free from their necessary duties. At the same time, they do not pay overheads but are in direct competition with private individuals who are in business and trying to make a profit from the sale of similar commodities.

The same might be said about the philatelic service. There has been controversy over the postal service being involved in the philatelic service. It is said the department does not compete fairly with others in that service, that post offices need not pay postage while private individuals attempting to cater to their clients must pay postage. There is also a certain amount of disappointment on the part of philatelists with regard to the efficiency of service, which I am informed leaves much to be desired. I am informed of instances of funds having been held back for a considerable length of time and stamps which have been requested not being supplied. There are instances involving wrong stamps being issued and the miscounting of stamps.

Because the Post Office Department has gone into this sort of business it has been subject to a good deal of the criticism that perhaps a private individual might expect in the normal course of business. That is one kind of criticism which the department need not invite, and it is one area of activity in which the department need not be involved.

Mr. Thomas S. Barnett (Comox-Alberni): Mr. Speaker, while listening to the hon. member for Athabasca (Mr. Yewchuk) talk about places in the country where apparently there is no postal service or mail delivery, I recalled a similar discussion of a few years ago involving one of the minister's predecessors who was later elevated to lieutenant governor of the province from which he came and who was, I was going to say, on the mat. As a matter of fact, he was on the mat, because we were debating item 1 of the estimates of the minister and instead of being able to sit here placidly and appear to listen, the minister had to answer our questions on the spot.

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Hear, hear!

Mr. Barnett: It seems to me that that debate concerned the level of postal services in this country. In such debates we tend to concentrate on the postmaster general and consider postal services, as it were, in a vacuum without considering some of the basic facts with which I have become familiar as a result of representing a coastal section of Canada which according to some is one of the most difficult places in the country to serve. I am referring to the means of transporting mail. I suggest we cannot consider postal service and say whether it is good, bad or indifferent without also considering transportation services in this country. Then we were bragging about ours

being the first country to go all "up" with regard to first-class mail, whenever such carriage would speed its delivery. This brings me to another question.

I think this House increasingly has become trapped in the philosophy enunciated and proclaimed, as it were, in the preamble to the National Transportation Act. Overwhelming emphasis is put on the idea of user service charges. I make this comment in view of the remarks of the hon. member for South Western Nova (Mr. Haliburton) who spoke about subsidizing the postal service. My reaction, having listened to this sort of debate when members of the official opposition were on the other side of the House, as well as on other occasions, is that that remark shows the kind of trap into which Liberal and Conservative members have fallen. When they think of transportation, the Post Office, or mail delivery, they do not think of these things in terms of public utilities and services.

Mr. Yewchuk: I talked about transportation.

Mr. Barnett: They keep harping back to the same theme, that somehow the Post Office or the transport system is essentially competitive in nature and is part and parcel of what they like to call the free enterprise economy and similar in principle, although different in operation, to other aspects of the free enterprise economy, such as a multiple number of retail outlets or a multiple number of plants making lumber. That is why some of the criticism I have heard about the postal service seem to me artificial and shallow.

The Postmaster General, perhaps as a result of circumstances, is playing a rather low-key role. Some of our debates on this topic may have been more exciting a few years ago when one of his predecessors was in office. I would bring to his attention and ask him to look at the preamble to the National Transportation Act which was piloted through this House by the former member for Bonavista-Twillingate who was later elevated to a position from which he could oversee our transportation systems. Then he might examine some of the day to day problems relating to the effective and efficient delivery of mail. Then if he will take a little time to think about it, he may be able to exert pressure on the thinking of his colleagues in the government in a way which may help to resolve some of the problems that many of us mention to him from day to day. In some ways they have become more severe and in other ways, perhaps, there have been improvements.

I think there has been overemphasis on technology in urban centres because many areas of the country are still in the horse-and-buggy days. I think I only need mention, in closing, some of the representations he has been receiving from revenue postmasters to indicate what is in the back of my mind.

Mr. Speaker, may I call it five o'clock?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. It being five o'clock it is my duty to inform this House that, pursuant to Section (11) of Standing Order 58, the proceedings on this motion are deemed to have expired and terminated. This House stands adjourned until two o'clock Monday afternoon.

At 5.01 p.m. the House adjourned, without question put, pursuant to Standing Order.

END OF VOLUME IV