

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Friday, October 8, 1971

The House met at 11 a.m.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

PRESENCE IN SPEAKER'S GALLERY OF PRIME MINISTER OF MALAYSIA

Mr. Speaker: May I bring to the attention of hon. members the presence in the Speaker's gallery of a very distinguished guest of Canada, the Honourable Tun Abdul Razak, Prime Minister of Malaysia.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Speaker: Even during his relatively brief tenure of office, the Prime Minister has achieved an enviable reputation as the enlightened leader of a progressive country and of a leading nation in the Commonwealth.

Just a few weeks ago, Mr. Prime Minister, your government and your Parliament hosted the annual meeting of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association. I am pleased to have this occasion to thank you, your fellow parliamentarians and your government for the generous hospitality which on that occasion you extended to the Canadian members and Senators who represented the Canadian Parliament.

[Translation]

On behalf of all my colleagues, I bid you the most cordial welcome.

[English]

On behalf of my colleagues in the House of Commons I extend to you, Mr. Prime Minister, the warmest of welcomes.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

CANADIAN CULTURE

ANNOUNCEMENT OF IMPLEMENTATION OF POLICY OF MULTICULTURALISM WITHIN BILINGUAL FRAMEWORK

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I am happy this morning to be able to reveal to the House that the government has accepted all those recommendations of the Royal Commission on Bilingualism and Biculturalism which are contained in Volume IV of its reports directed to federal departments and agencies. Hon. members will recall that the subject of this volume is "the contribution by other ethnic groups to the cultural enrichment of Canada and the measures that should be taken to safeguard that contribution".

Volume IV examined the whole question of cultural and ethnic pluralism in this country and the status of our various cultures and languages, an area of study given all too little attention in the past by scholars.

It was the view of the royal commission, shared by the government and, I am sure, by all Canadians, that there cannot be one cultural policy for Canadians of British and French origin, another for the original peoples and yet a third for all others. For although there are two official languages, there is no official culture, nor does any ethnic group take precedence over any other. No citizen or group of citizens is other than Canadian, and all should be treated fairly.

The royal commission was guided by the belief that adherence to one's ethnic group is influenced not so much by one's origin or mother tongue as by one's sense of belonging to the group, and by what the commission calls the group's "collective will to exist". The government shares this belief.

• (11:10 a.m.)

The individual's freedom would be hampered if he were locked for life within a particular cultural compartment by the accident of birth or language. It is vital, therefore, that every Canadian, whatever his ethnic origin, be given a chance to learn at least one of the two languages in which his country conducts its official business and its politics.

A policy of multiculturalism within a bilingual framework commends itself to the government as the most suitable means of assuring the cultural freedom of Canadians. Such a policy should help to break down discriminatory attitudes and cultural jealousies. National unity if it is to mean anything in the deeply personal sense, must be founded on confidence in one's own individual identity; out of this can grow respect for that of others and a willingness to share ideas, attitudes and assumptions. A vigorous policy of multiculturalism will help create this initial confidence. It can form the base of a society which is based on fair play for all.

The government will support and encourage the various cultures and ethnic groups that give structure and vitality to our society. They will be encouraged to share their cultural expression and values with other Canadians and so contribute to a richer life for us all.

In the past, substantial public support has been given largely to the arts and cultural institutions of English-speaking Canada. More recently and largely with the help of the royal commission's earlier recommendations in Volumes I to III, there has been a conscious effort on the government's part to correct any bias against the French language and culture. In the last few months the government has taken steps to provide funds to support cultural educational centres for native people. The policy I am announcing today accepts the contention of the other

cultural communities that they, too, are essential elements in Canada and deserve government assistance in order to contribute to regional and national life in ways that derive from their heritage yet are distinctively Canadian.

In implementing a policy of multiculturalism within a bilingual framework, the government will provide support in four ways.

First, resources permitting, the government will seek to assist all Canadian cultural groups that have demonstrated a desire and effort to continue to develop a capacity to grow and contribute to Canada, and a clear need for assistance, the small and weak groups no less than the strong and highly organized.

Second, the government will assist members of all cultural groups to overcome cultural barriers to full participation in Canadian society.

Third, the government will promote creative encounters and interchange among all Canadian cultural groups in the interest of national unity.

Fourth, the government will continue to assist immigrants to acquire at least one of Canada's official languages in order to become full participants in Canadian society.

[Translation]

Mr. Speaker, I stated at the outset that the government has accepted in principle all recommendations addressed to federal departments and agencies. We are also ready and willing to work co-operatively with the provincial governments towards implementing those recommendations that concern matters under provincial or shared responsibility.

Some of the programmes endorsed or recommended by the Commission have been administered for some time by various federal agencies. I might mention the Citizenship Branch, the CFTC and its predecessor the BBO, the National Film Board and the National Museum of Man. These programmes will be revised, broadened and reactivated and they will receive the additional funds that may be required.

Some of the recommendations that concern matters under provincial jurisdiction call for coordinated federal and provincial action. As a first step, I have written to the First Ministers of the provinces informing them of the response of the federal government and seeking their co-operation. Officials will be asked to carry this consultation further.

I wish to table details of the government's response to each of the several recommendations.

It should be noted that some of the programmes require pilot projects or further short-term research before more extensive action can be taken. As soon as these preliminary studies are available, further programmes will be announced and initiated. Additional financial and personnel resources will be provided.

Responsibility for implementing these recommendations has been assigned to the Citizenship Branch of the Department of the Secretary of State, the agency now responsible for matters affecting the social integration of immigrants and the cultural activities of all ethnic groups. An Inter-Agency Committee of all those agencies involved will be established to co-ordinate the federal effort.

[Mr. Trudeau:]

[English]

In conclusion, I wish to emphasize the view of the government that a policy of multiculturalism within a bilingual framework is basically the conscious support of individual freedom of choice. We are free to be ourselves. But this cannot be left to chance. It must be fostered and pursued actively. If freedom of choice is in danger for some ethnic groups, it is in danger for all. It is the policy of this government to eliminate any such danger and to "safeguard" this freedom.

I am tabling this document, Mr. Speaker, but it might be the desire of the House to have it appended to *Hansard* in view of its importance and long-lasting effect.

Mr. Speaker: Is that agreed?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

[Editor's Note: For document referred to above, see appendix.]

Hon. Robert L. Stanfield (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, these are excellent words in the Prime Minister's statement. I am sure this declaration by the government of the principle of preserving and enhancing the many cultural traditions which exist within our country will be most welcome. I think it is about time this government finally admitted that the cultural identity of Canada is a pretty complex thing.

[Translation]

I wish to state immediately, Mr. Speaker, that the emphasis we have given to multiculturalism in no way constitutes an attack on the basic duality of our country. What we want is justice for all Canadians, and recognition of the cultural diversity of this country.

[English]

It is about time the government finally recognized the validity of what we were trying to say in June of 1969 at the time of the debate on the official languages bill in the amendment we put forward then proposing recognition of the right to speak other languages and the importance of assisting in the development and preservation of these other cultures. The amendment said that we can accept the official duality of the country without denying the rights of other cultural groups. Our amendment was put forward for that purpose. It is pleasing to note that the government this morning is recognizing the importance of the rights of other cultural groups, although at that time our amendment was rejected out of hand. I am pleased the government has seen the light. But I must also say that, although this is all to the good, I regret that this statement was not made much more promptly.

Apart from what members of our party, among others, have been saying, it is a fact that the fourth volume of the B and B report has been available since early 1970, and I say in all sincerity that the failure of the government to endorse these principles earlier has created some suspicion, some doubts, in the minds of the members of these other cultural groups about the importance the government of Canada has attached to them. I must say that if the effectiveness of the government's action in encouraging the cultural self-fulfilment of the native peoples of Canada can be taken as any kind of an indication of what the practice will be in this broader field, apart from the

statement of principles, then there is not a great deal of hope for the various non-French and non-British ethnic groups within Canada. With regard to the native peoples, there have been many statements about high principles but very little in the way of results and there is some doubt, to mention one example, concerning whether the government is doing enough in northeastern Alberta to help the native peoples study their own language.

• (1:20 a.m.)

It is fine to announce a principle, but perhaps the most important thing is what the government is going to do to implement this principle. When the Prime Minister uses a phrase such as "within available funds" we must keep in mind the importance of a balance here. There is no indication whatsoever in the Prime Minister's statement this morning that there will be any substantial implementation. I fully agree that a good deal of money must be expended for the encouragement of the development of bilingualism in this country, but I do not think that members of the other cultural groups with other cultural traditions are at all happy with the relatively pitiful amounts that have been allocated to this other aspect of the diversity about which the Prime Minister spoke this morning, multiculturalism.

The Prime Minister has announced the principles. We expect the Prime Minister and his colleagues to give those principles life and meaning, and we will look forward most anxiously to the implementation of these principles.

Mr. David Lewis (York South): I must say, Mr. Speaker, that it is a pleasure to be able to comment on an important aspect of Canadian life that does not have to do with the economy or with unemployment, and it is equally a pleasure to be able to agree with the statement that the Prime Minister made this morning.

As members of this House know, I have not hesitated to criticize government policy, and no doubt a great deal can be said about tardiness and other aspects of the problem which the Prime Minister has put before us. But I propose this morning merely to express our support and our hopes in order to indicate to the people of Canada that this Parliament is united in its belated determination to recognize the value of the many cultures in our country.

[Translation]

Mr. Speaker, it is with a deep appreciation of both aspects of our Canadian cultural life, official bilingualism and multiculturalism, that my party warmly supports the principles set forth this morning by the Prime Minister.

I have often said that one of the most striking wealth of our country is the fact that it has been founded by two distinctive groups having two distinctive languages well known throughout the world. However, another wealth is also important, since we find in Canada some representatives of almost all the cultures in the world. To all Canadians, whatever their ethnic origin, I say that they must be proud of those two enriching aspects of our country.

[English]

Every society has its own cultural treasures which it cherishes with pride. It is a fact of man's history that his preoccupations have been too frequently centred on material development and that his spirit has too often

been embittered by conflict and by prejudice. The result has been throughout the world—and this is true of Canadians as well—a failure to appreciate the values of diversity, a tendency to resent rather than to welcome enriching differences. For Canada this attitude is particularly destructive. The diversity of cultures across the land is a source of our greatness as a people.

To cite a recent example, when I arrived a couple of months ago in that small but great town of New Glasgow, Nova Scotia, I was greeted in literally ten languages, four or five of which I was able to follow without translation. If *Hansard* permitted, Mr. Speaker, I would have liked to express my pleasure at the Prime Minister's statement of principles in at least two or three other languages in which I could do so without breaking my teeth and in one or two others in which I could do so with some difficulty.

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Go ahead.

Mr. Lewis: I say that to emphasize the importance of appreciating the cultural diversity of our land as one of the greatneses of our people.

As a representative from Toronto I could perhaps say that even a serious subject permits of a little lightness. There was a time not so very long ago when there were jokes made all across Canada about spending a month in Toronto last weekend, and other remarks of that sort. But it is a fact that the influx of people of Italian origin, of Greek origin, of West Indian origin, of origins from many other parts of the world, has made Torontonians proud of their city in a way in which they were not before, and makes some of them even suggest that it is now a viable rival to the city of Montreal.

Yet, Mr. Speaker, it is a fact of society that every minority has a problem of survival. It has a problem of assimilation. It has a problem of keeping alive.

An hon. Member: The NDP.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Or the Liberal party in British Columbia.

Mr. Lewis: Mr. Speaker, I must admit that at first I was annoyed by that rapid and rather stupid remark from the other side of the House by the hon. member for New Westminster, but I decided that perhaps the hon. member was trying to be funny and, if he did not succeed, that may not be his fault.

Mr. Hoos: He did pretty well.

Mr. Lewis: Mr. Speaker, if I may become serious again, I suggest that the important point that faces us is that in every society a minority has a problem, the problem of survival, the problem of keeping alive its history, its language, its traditions, its songs, its legends, its identity. When the majority in a society is as cruel as majorities have often been, not only are minorities crushed but the spirit of that society, the soul of that society, is destroyed. It is in that spirit, therefore, that on behalf of my party I welcome the Prime Minister's statement without any reservations.

Canadian Culture

● (11:30 a.m.)

I make only these two short comments in conclusion. I suggest that our failure in this area in the past was not the fault of any one government or any one level of government in Canada. It has been a failure of all our people across this country, a failure of Canadians to appreciate the importance of these things, a failure of Canadians in their neglect of the native peoples of this country. I am not saying this to needle the Prime Minister or the government but I say, because I believe it to be true. The statement of principles will be a mockery and a betrayal of high ideals and objectives unless collectively we provide the funds to make the principles meaningful in the lives of the minorities in Canada, and unless we develop programs in consultation with the minorities, giving them every opportunity to participate in the development of programs rather than imposing such programs on them. Democracy requires this kind of consideration, and with all my heart I hope that the statement of principles will be followed with action which will make us all proud of our country.

[Translation]

Mr. Réal Caouette (Témiscamingue): Mr. Speaker, even if I do not always agree with the Prime Minister on various points, I fully agree with the statement he made this morning. Indeed, I have been repeating for 30 years, to those who will hear me, and those who won't, that we have one Canadian nation and not two, three or ten, that we have two official languages, English and French, and that we have a multiplicity of cultures which are the wealth of our country.

Mr. Speaker, my colleagues and myself are happy the Prime Minister made that statement. However, I find this statement somewhat confusing. The Prime Minister has stated and I quote:

For although there are two official languages, there is no official culture, nor does any ethnic group take precedence over any other. No citizen or group of citizens is other than Canadian...

Mr. Speaker, if there is no official culture in Canada, I do not see how we could succeed in really becoming a nation while we would be endowed with only a few cultures unable to get on among themselves or at war with one another. I am positive that we have in Canada a culture peculiar to us. We French Canadians have one that is not at all that of France, just as English-speaking Canadians have a culture which is different from that of Englishmen from England. We have our own Canadian culture. We have our history. Our traditions and customs may differ from one area or ethnic group to another. However, if we cannot change an Englishman into a Frenchman, or vice versa, we can nonetheless make good Canadians out of members of all ethnic groups in Canada.

Ukrainians, Italians and Germans must be able to attain self-fulfilment in Canada.

I am absolutely convinced that Canadians in general share the views expressed this morning by the Prime Minister. So there is no reason to worry. There is trouble in Quebec and elsewhere in Canada. Some say that if things are going wrong, it is the fault of French Canadians or English Canadians, or because we welcome too many immigrants, and so on.

[Mr. Lewis.]

[English]

What I said in French was that we do not want to have in Canada a little France, a little England, a little Italy or a little Russia. We want in Canada a great country for all the people of Canada, for all the ethnic groups in our country. Through that channel we will achieve unity and we will reinforce our position in the whole world.

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UNITED NATIONS

ALBANIAN RESOLUTION TO EXPEL TAIWAN—REQUEST FOR UNANIMOUS CONSENT TO MOVE MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. Heath Macquarrie (Hillsborough): Mr. Speaker, under the provisions of Standing Order 43 I seek the unanimous consent of the House to propose a motion dealing with an important aspect of the conduct of this country's foreign policy, namely, the announced intention of the Canadian United Nations delegation to vote for the Albanian resolution calling for the expulsion of a member of the United Nations.

I move, seconded by the hon. member for Halifax-East Hants (Mr. McCleave):

That, before Canada's vote is cast on this very serious, important and portentous resolution that the question be referred to the Standing Committee on External Affairs and National Defence for full discussion and consideration.

Mr. Speaker: Hon. members have heard the motion proposed by the hon. member for Hillsborough. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

Mr. Speaker: There is not unanimous consent and the motion cannot be put.

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ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE

INCREASE IN MURDERS IN MONTREAL AND PROVINCE—REQUEST FOR UNANIMOUS CONSENT TO MOVE MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. Warren Allmand (Notre-Dame-de-Grâce): Mr. Speaker, I would like to move a motion under Standing Order 43 regarding an extremely important matter and I would ask for unanimous consent to put the said motion. As of this date 40 violent murders have taken place in Montreal during 1971, which constitutes an all-time record for that city. At the same time, 78 murders have taken place in western Quebec and the province as a whole is also moving toward a record in this regard. A good many of these murders appear to have been carried out by organized criminal groups. I might point out that the same thing is taking place in other provinces but I do not have the statistics. I would therefore move:

That the Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs be instructed to conduct an inquiry into the causes and nature of violent crime in Canada, and that recommendations be formulated for the amendment of the appropriate criminal law statutes.

APPENDIX

Federal Government's Response to Book IV of the Report of the Royal Commission on Bilingualism and Biculturalism

The purpose of this document is to present a survey of the principal policies relating to the maintenance and development of multiculturalism throughout Canada and to provide a summary of government decisions on the recommendations made in Book IV of the Royal Commission on Bilingualism and Biculturalism.

The document outlines in Part A the federal government's response in general to the recommendations of Book IV of the royal commission report and gives some of the reasons for its belief in multiculturalism.

In Part B are outlined the policy objectives which will serve to guide the federal government's programs in this area.

Part C contains a general description of the programs to be undertaken by the federal government and its agencies to implement and advance the policies resulting from acceptance of the recommendations of Book IV of the royal commission's report.

A summary of the recommendations of Book IV of the royal commission's report and the government's response to them is in Part D.

PART A

Federal Response in General

Book IV of the Royal Commission on Bilingualism and Biculturalism contains 16 recommendations (listed in Section D) of which eight are addressed specifically to the federal government or its agencies. Three deal with matters under exclusive provincial jurisdiction. One of the recommendations urges federal financial aid to linguistically handicapped children in public schools. Another is concerned with conditions for citizenship, the right to vote, and the right to stand for election to public office and thus is addressed to both the federal and the provincial governments. One appeals to agencies at all three levels of government to provide support to cultural and research organizations. The remaining recommendations are addressed to Canadian Universities.

The government accepts and endorses the recommendations and spirit of Book IV of the Royal Commission on Bilingualism and Biculturalism. It believes the time is overdue for the people of Canada to become more aware of the rich tradition of the many cultures we have in Canada. Canada's citizens come from almost every country in the world, and with them every major world religion and language. This cultural diversity endows all Canadians with a great variety of human experience. The government regards this as a heritage to treasure and believes that Canada would be the poorer if it adopted assimilation programs forcing our citizens to forsake and forget the cultures they have brought to us.

The federal government hopes that the provinces will respond positively to those recommendations which the commissioners addressed to them. The Prime Minister has written to each of the provincial premiers outlining the policies and programs which the Federal Government is initiating and asking for their co-operation. Some provinces have already taken initiative and are responding to the recommendations directed to them.

The government while responding positively to the commission's recommendations, wishes to go beyond the spirit of the Book IV to ensure that Canada's cultural diversity continues.

Cultural diversity throughout the world is being eroded by the impact of industrial technology, mass communications and urbanization. Many writers have discussed this as the creation of a mass society—in which mass produced culture and entertainment and large impersonal institutions threaten to denature and depersonalize man. One of man's basic needs is a sense of belonging, and a good deal of contemporary social unrest—in all age groups—exists because this need has not been met. Ethnic groups are certainly not the only way in which this need for belonging can be met, but they have been an important one in Canadian society. Ethnic pluralism can help us overcome or prevent the homogenization and depersonalization of mass society. Vibrant ethnic groups can give Canadians of the second, third, and subsequent generations a feeling that they are connected with tradition and with human experience in various parts of the world and different periods of time.

Two misconceptions often arise when cultural diversity is discussed.

(a) Cultural Identity and National Allegiance.

The sense of identity developed by each citizen as a unique individual is distinct from his national allegiance. There is no reason to suppose that a citizen who identifies himself with pride as a Chinese-Canadian, who is deeply involved in the cultural activities of the Chinese community in Canada, will be less loyal or concerned with Canadian matters than a citizen of Scottish origin who takes part in a bagpipe band or a Highland dancing group. Cultural identity is not the same thing as allegiance to a country. Each of us is born into a particular family with a distinct heritage: that is, every individual has French, English, Italian and Slav included—has an "ethnic" background. The more secure we feel in one particular social context, the more we are free to explore our identity beyond it. Ethnic groups often provide people with a sense of belonging which can make them better able to cope with the rest of society than they would as isolated individuals. Ethnic loyalties need not, and usually do not, detract from wider loyalties to community and country.

Canadian identity will not be undermined by multiculturalism. Indeed, we believe that cultural pluralism is the very essence of Canadian identity. Every ethnic group

has the right to preserve and develop its own culture and values within the Canadian context. To say we have two official languages is not to say we have two official cultures, and no particular culture is more "official" than another. A policy of multiculturalism must be a policy for all Canadians.

(b) Language and Culture.

The distinction between language and culture has never been clearly defined. The very name of the royal commission whose recommendations we now seek to implement tends to indicate that bilingualism and biculturalism are indivisible. But, biculturalism does not properly describe our society; multiculturalism is more accurate. The Official Languages Act designated two languages, English and French, as the official languages of Canada for the purposes of all the institutions of the Parliament and government of Canada; no reference was made to cultures, and this act does not impinge upon the role of all languages as instruments of the various Canadian cultures. Nor, on the other hand, should the recognition of the cultural value of many languages weaken the position of Canada's two official languages. Their use by all of the citizens of Canada will continue to be promoted and encouraged.

PART B

Policy Objectives in the Federal Sphere

The government is concerned with preserving human rights, developing Canadian identity, strengthening citizenship participation, reinforcing Canadian unity and encouraging cultural diversification within a bilingual framework. These objectives can best be served through a policy of multiculturalism composed of four main elements.

1. The government of Canada will support all of Canada's cultures and will seek to assist, resources permitting, the development of those cultural groups which have demonstrated a desire and effort to continue to develop, a capacity to grow and contribute to Canada, as well as a clear need for assistance.

The special role of the government will be to support and encourage those cultures and cultural groups which Canadians wish to preserve.

The stronger and more populous cultural groups generally have the resources to be self-supporting and general cultural activities tend to be supportive of them. The two largest cultures, in areas where they exist in a minority situation, are already supported under the aegis of the government's official languages programs. New programs are proposed to give support to minority cultural groups in keeping with their needs and particular situations.

However, the government cannot and should not take upon itself the responsibility for the continued viability of all ethnic groups. The objective of our policy is the cultural survival and development of ethnic groups to the degree that a given group exhibits a desire for this. Government aid to cultural groups must proceed on the

basis of aid to self-effort. And in our concern for the preservation of ethnic group identity, we should not forget that individuals in a democracy may choose not to be concerned about maintaining a strong sense of their ethnic identity.

2. The Government will assist members of all cultural groups to overcome cultural barriers to full participation in Canadian society.

The law can and will protect individuals from overt discrimination but there are more subtle barriers to entry into our society. A sense of not belonging, or a feeling of inferiority, whatever its cause, cannot be legislated out of existence. Programs outlined in this document have been designed to foster confidence in one's individual cultural identity and in one's rightful place in Canadian life. Histories, films and museum exhibits showing the great contributions of Canada's various cultural groups will help achieve this objective. But we must emphasize that every Canadian must help eliminate discrimination. Every Canadian must contribute to the sense of national acceptance and belonging.

3. The Government will promote creative encounters and interchange among all Canadian cultural groups in the interest of national unity.

As Canadians become more sensitive to their own ethnic identity and to the richness of our country, we will become more involved with one another and develop a greater acceptance of differences and a greater pride in our heritage. Cultural and intellectual creativity in almost all societies has been fostered by the interaction and creative relationship of different ethnic groups within that society. Government aid to multicultural centres, to specific projects of ethnic groups, and to displays of the performing and visual arts as well as the programs already mentioned, will promote cultural exchange. The Government has made it very clear that it does not plan on aiding individual groups to cut themselves off from the rest of society. The programs are designed to encourage cultural groups to share their heritage with all other Canadians and with other countries, and to make us all aware of our cultural diversity.

4. The Government will continue to assist immigrants to acquire at least one of Canada's official languages in order to become full participants in Canadian society.

The federal government, through the Manpower and Immigration Department and the Citizenship Branch of the Department of the Secretary of State, already assists the provinces in language training for adults, but new arrivals in Canada require additional help to adjust to Canadian life, and to participate fully in the economic and social life of Canada.

PART C

PROGRAM OF IMPLEMENTATION

Six programs have been developed to implement the policy of the federal government. These programs will be carried out under the administration of the Citizenship

Branch of the Department of the Secretary of State with the exception of those proposed by the federal cultural agencies which will be administered by the agencies concerned but co-ordinated through an Inter-Agency Coordinating Committee.

Program I

Multicultural Grants

A grants program has been developed to meet specific recommendations in the commission report and the demonstrated need of cultural groups. Grants will be made to activities which meet some or all of the four parts of the policy outlined in Part B.

Activities eligible for federal assistance will include multicultural encounters; organizational meetings for new cultural groups; citizenship preparation and immigrant orientation programs; conferences; youth activities; cultural exchanges between groups as well as other projects. Grants will also be made available for multicultural centres in areas where there is a demonstrated need and desire from the community for such a facility. Existing multicultural centres, like that in Winnipeg, have proven their value in providing services to help new immigrants adjust to Canadian life, and in promoting inter-ethnic activity on a continuous basis.

Program II

Culture Development Program

A culture development program will be instituted to produce much-needed data on the precise relationship of language to cultural development. It will provide essential information on the extent and nature of the demands of individual cultural groups for language retention and cultural development. It will examine existing organizations and facilities, including educational institutions, the press, radio and television to determine the part they now play and the potential role in cultural development. The study will incorporate those recommendations directed to the Canadian Radio-Television Commission for studies of the best means by which radio and television can contribute to the maintenance of language and cultures.

The program has been designed to produce results within one year. The data will serve as an information base for some of the other programs and for future long range planning by the Citizenship Branch, the cultural agencies, and other government departments.

The government is initiating steps to help provide textbooks for non-official language teaching, since Book IV of the royal commission's report found there are almost no textbooks suitable for teaching a third language to children living in Canada. The acquisition of the ancestral language is an important part of the process of developing a cultural identity, and the federal government proposes to discuss this with the provinces to find a mutually satisfactory way to meet some of the costs of preparation and production of third language textbooks or audio-visual aids for language teaching.

Although the commission made no formal recommendation regarding the ethnic press, aside from advocating

the continuation of existing government support in the form of advertising and information, the culture development program will also undertake a study of the ethnic press and other media which could be better utilized to carry essential information to those persons who use languages other than English or French. We recognize that the ethnic press plays a very important part in bringing information to recent immigrants and elderly people who have difficulty reading Canada's official languages, as well as in helping to develop Canada's cultures.

Program III

Ethnic Histories

A clear need exists for the writing of objective analytical, and readable histories of the ethnic groups in Canada, and for the distribution of these works to as wide a readership as possible. The Citizenship Branch will commission 20 histories specifically directed to the background, contributions and problems of various cultural groups in Canada. The program will offer visible, effective and valuable recognition of the contribution of our diverse ethnic groups to Canada. It will promote knowledge of and respect for the cultural heritage of the groups concerned, as well as providing invaluable resource material for students, writers and government agencies.

Program IV

Canadian Ethnic Studies

The need exists, and was recognized by the commission, for systematic and continuous study of Canada's multi-ethnic society. The Department of the Secretary of State will therefore undertake a detailed investigation of the problems concerned with the development of a Canadian ethnic studies program or centre(s) and will prepare a plan of implementation.

Program V

Teaching of Official Languages

The federal government already assists the provinces in the teaching of English and French to adult immigrants, and accepts in principle recommendations of the royal commission relating to special instruction in the appropriate official language for children who enter the public school system without a knowledge of that language.

The federal government therefore proposes to undertake discussions with the provinces to find a mutually acceptable form of federal assistance towards the teaching of official languages to children.

Program VI

Programs of the Federal Cultural Agencies

The government asked the federal cultural agencies referred to in Book IV to respond to the recommendations of the report. The programs they will be under-

taking will enable all Canadians to gain an awareness of the cultural heritage of all of Canada's ethnic groups. National Museum of Man

The commission recommended "that the museum receive additional funds to carry out its projects regarding the history, social organizations and folk arts of cultural groups other than the British and French". The government concurs with this recommendation and will fund the following projects to be undertaken by the museum:

- (a) purchase of artifacts representing Canada's ethnic diversity;
- (b) research on the folk arts and music of the various ethnic communities in Canada;
- (c) other museum extension and educational projects designed to reach the public at large.

National Film Board

For many years, the Board has been producing versions of some of its films in languages other than English or French for use abroad in co-operation with the Department of External Affairs. The royal commission recommended that the board advertise that it has films in languages other than English and French and make these available for domestic consumption, and also expand its production of films that inform Canadians about one another, including films about the contributions and problems of all our various ethnic groups. The board has indicated that it will not only respond positively to these recommendations, but that it will also survey the cultural communities in order to determine what types of film they would like produced in their ancestral languages.

National Library

Although many public libraries in Canada do have collections of books in non-official languages, the supply is well below the demand. The Canadian Library Association has studied the problem and has recommended the creation of a multicultural language and literature centre at the National Library. The Library will embark immediately on a preliminary study leading to the creation of this centre. The centre will administer a program designed to deposit in local libraries books in languages other than English and French. The Library will also acquire publications produced by and for non-English, non-French groups in Canada.

Public Archives

The Public Archives in Ottawa has relatively few holdings relating to Canada's various cultural groups and activities. The same is true of most archives across the country. Such material should be collected, since the history of immigration and cultural groups is an integral part of the history of this country.

The Public Archives will be given funds to acquire the records and papers of all the various ethnic organizations and associations which are significant documents of Canadian history.

ADMINISTRATION

Interdepartmental Co-ordination

To enable the Citizenship Branch to fulfill its task of implementing the policy proposed in this document, arrangements will be made for co-ordinating the activities of various departments and federal cultural agencies. All the agencies responsible for the programs proposed have agreed to establish an inter-agency coordinating committee, and an interdepartmental committee will be established to undertake an ongoing review of federal government policies and programmes to ensure that they reflect the cultural groups in our society.

Consultation

The various cultural communities must have an opportunity to influence the decision-making process by a continuing consultative process. A variety of consultative procedures—public conferences, private meetings with group leaders, confidential consultation sessions with specialists, seminars, press analysis, and others—have shown themselves effective, and will be continued and intensified at the local, regional and national levels.

Federal-Provincial Considerations

The commission addresses six of its recommendations to the provinces. Three of these concern education, two deal with human rights and one calls upon the provinces to support cultural organizations. The growing provincial interest and public action in the field of multiculturalism make it imperative that the two levels of government co-operate. Patchwork programs and jurisdictional confusion will result unless an attempt is made to co-ordinate federal and provincial policies at the ministerial level and good relationships are established between the officials administering the programmes.

Once the results of the culture development research program are available it is proposed that the provinces be invited to participate in a federal-provincial meeting at the senior official level, in preparation for a possible ministerial meeting.

PART D

SUMMARY OF SPECIFIC RESPONSE

TO RECOMMENDATIONS IN BB IV

1. RECOMMENDATION 1

We recommend that any provinces that have not yet enacted fair employment practices, fair accommodation practices, or housing legislation prohibiting discrimination because of race, creed, colour, nationality, ancestry, or place of origin, do so and that this legislation be made binding upon the Crown and its agencies. We further recommend that all provinces make provision for full-time administrators of their human rights legislation. (No. 152)*

* (The numbers in brackets refer to the relevant paragraphs in Book IV of the Royal Commission's Report.)

Response

This is directed primarily to the provinces but the federal government has the whole question of human rights under consideration.

2. Recommendation 2

We recommend that the same conditions for citizenship, the right to vote, and to stand for election to public office be accorded to all immigrants, with no regard to their country of origin. (No. 233)

Response

The Canada Elections Act (proclaimed April 12, 1971) and intended amendments to the Citizenship Act now in preparation provide for the equality called for in this recommendation.

3. Recommendation 3

We recommend that the teaching of languages other than English and French, and cultural subjects related to them, be incorporated as options in the public elementary school program, where there is sufficient demand for such classes. (No. 378)

Response

Elementary school education is a provincial concern, but the government plans to undertake a major research project on the relationship of language to cultural retention and development. It also plans to discuss with the provinces and cultural groups ways of assisting in the development and duplication of new teaching aids for languages and cultures other than English and French.

4. Recommendation 4

We recommend that special instruction in the appropriate official language be provided for children who enter the public school system with an inadequate knowledge of that language; that provincial authorities specify the terms and conditions of financial assistance for such special instruction; and that the federal authorities assist the provinces in mutually acceptable ways through grants for the additional cost incurred. (No. 383)

Response

The federal government approves in principle aid towards the teaching of official languages to children of immigrants, and will be discussing it with the provinces.

5. Recommendation 5

We recommend that more advanced instruction and a wider range of options in languages other than English and French, and in cultural subjects related to them, be provided in public high schools, where there is sufficient demand for such classes. (No. 399)

Response

This is primarily a matter of provincial jurisdiction. However the development of new teaching aids (noted in the response to Recommendation 3) and the ethnic histories programme will be useful in the high schools. The Prime Minister's letter to each of the provincial premiers urges a positive response to all those recommendations which touch upon provincial authority.

6. Recommendation 6

We recommend that Canadian universities broaden their practices in giving standing or credits for studies in modern languages other than French and English both for admission and for degrees. (No. 443)

Response

This is primarily a matter for consideration by the academic institutions.

7. Recommendation 7

We recommend that Canadian universities expand their studies in the fields of the humanities and the social sciences relating to particular areas other than those related to the English and French languages. (No. 458)

Response

This is primarily a matter for consideration by the academic institutions.

8. Recommendation 8

We recommend that the CRTC remove restrictions on private broadcasting in languages other than English and French, except those restrictions necessary to meet the administrative and legal responsibilities of the licensee and those that also apply to English- and French-language programs. (No. 538)

Response

The CRTC has agreed to place this matter before the Commission in the very near future.

9. Recommendation 9

We recommend that the CBC recognize the place of languages other than English and French in Canadian life and that the CBC remove its proscription on the use of other languages in broadcasting. (No. 539)

Response

The CBC has not agreed to the spirit of this recommendation. The question of broadcasting in non-official languages will be considered within the major research project.

10. Recommendation 10

We recommend that the CRTC undertake studies in the field of broadcasting in other languages to determine the best means by which radio and television can contribute to the maintenance of languages and cultures and that the CBC participate in these studies. We further recommend that these studies include pilot projects on either AM or FM radio in both Montreal and Toronto. (No. 542)

Response

The CRTC has agreed to undertake these studies, and the CBC has agreed to cooperate. The studies will be carried on within the total framework of the major research project on language retention which will be directed by the Citizenship Branch of the Department of the Secretary of State.

11. Recommendation 11

We recommend that research be undertaken through the CRTC concerning the nature and effects of the por-

trayal of other cultural groups on both publicly- and privately-owned English- and French-language radio and television stations. (No. 546)

Response

This study will be broadened to include all the media and will be carried on within the major research project mentioned above.

12. Recommendation 12

We recommend that the National Film Board undertake to publicize the fact that it produces prints of many of its films in languages other than English and French, particularly in regions where there are concentrations of persons who speak languages other than English and French. In addition, we recommend that the voluntary associations of cultural groups stimulate interest among their groups in the use of these films. (No. 553)

Response

The multicultural programme to be undertaken by the National Film Board meets this recommendation.

13. Recommendation 13

We recommend that the National Film Board continue and develop the production of films that inform Canadians about one another, including films about the contribution and problems of both individuals and groups of ethnic origin other than British and French, and that the National Film Board receive the financial support it requires in order to produce such films. (No. 555)

Response

The multicultural program to be undertaken by the National Film Board meets this recommendation.

14. Recommendation 14

We recommend that the appropriate federal, provincial, and municipal agencies receive the financial means

they require to maintain and extend their support to cultural and research organizations whose objectives are to foster the arts and letters of cultural groups other than the British and French. (No. 642)

Response

The grants program administered by the Citizenship Branch of the Department of the Secretary of State will provide funds to assist such organizations.

15. Recommendation 15

We recommend that the administrative costs of the Canadian Folk Arts Council or a similar body be provided for out of public funds through the Citizenship Branch of the Department of the Secretary of State. (No. 643)

Response

The Canadian Folk Arts Council already receives an annual grant for administrative purposes from the Arts and Culture Branch of the Department of the Secretary of State. In the Citizenship Branch, requests for grants to pay for specific projects suggested by the Canadian Folk Arts Council or similar bodies will continue to receive consideration if they meet the objectives of the multicultural program.

16. Recommendation 16

We recommend that the National Museum of Man be given adequate space and facilities and provided with sufficient funds to carry out its projects regarding the history, social organizations, and folk arts of cultural groups other than the British and French. (No. 646)

Response

The multicultural program of the National Museum of Man meets this recommendation.