

Hon. Ralph Ferguson (Lambton—Middlesex): Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute from this side of the House to a former member of this House, Colin Emerson Bennett.

He was born in Grey County, Meaford, Ontario, attended the public and high schools there, the University of Toronto and Osgoode Hall. He was called to the bar in 1936 and practised law in Meaford on his graduation. He served this country with the Royal Canadian Air Force from 1941 to 1945 and attained the rank of group captain. In 1949 he was elected to this House for Grey North and he was re-elected in 1953. From 1953 to 1957 he served as Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Veterans Affairs. On April 15, 1957 he was appointed judge in the County Court of the County of Grey in the province of Ontario.

• (1510)

Mr. Bennett was popular as a politician and a judge. As a judge he was witty but meticulously fair. In the early 1960s he was promoted to chief judge for Ontario. In the early 1970s upon leaving the bench he was made chief executive officer for Victoria and Grey Trust. In 1982 he was made honorary chairman of the board.

Colin Bennett will be missed by his family including his grandchildren. I extend to them our condolences from this side of the House. Colin Bennett spent a lifetime serving his community, amateur sports, his county and his country. His contribution has made Canada a better place for all of us.

Mr. Iain Angus (Thunder Bay—Atikokan): Mr. Speaker, I too want to join my colleagues in offering the condolences of myself and my party to the family of Colin Bennett, a member who served Canada, served Canadians and served his riding.

Clearly, from everything that has been said by the two members who spoke previously, he was one of those Canadians who stood out among his peers. We should all be thankful for his service to Canada and his community.

Supply

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

[*Translation*]

SUPPLY

ALLOTTED DAY, S. O. 81—THE BUDGET

The House resumed consideration of the motion of Mr. Peterson (p. 18849).

The Acting Speaker (Mr. DeBlois): When the sitting was suspended for lunch, the Liberal Party still had up to 10 minutes left.

[*English*]

Mrs. Diane Marleau (Sudbury): Mr. Speaker, it is always an honour and a privilege to stand in the House to address some of the key issues of the day in the name of the people of Sudbury.

I have to say I fully support the motion on the floor today. This budget is an absolute disgrace. I am appalled that the government in power would use its power for political purposes the way it has and that this particular Minister of Finance, this particular government and this particular cabinet would agree to send out the kind of messages they have sent regarding the debt and the deficit. They led the Canadian people and the bond rating agencies into believing we were in an absolute crisis situation. They present a budget which does nothing more than play around with the figures. They try to make themselves look like they are doing things when they have really done nothing except cause more pain for the poorest people of our country.

The cuts they proposed were cuts that were already on the books, at least most of them. One major cut was the \$636 million deferral of payments to the poorest of the poor who receive a GST rebate. They will have to wait an additional three months for cheques to save this government \$7 million in administration fees. At the same time we have an outgoing Prime Minister who is willing to spend over \$1 million of Canadian taxpayers' money to go on a tour around the world.

It is unconscionable that a government, if it takes the issues of debt and deficit seriously, would allow the leader of its party to spend the amount of money that will be spent over the next few weeks to play with the feelings of Canadians. To pretend that it has nothing to