

[English]

**Hon. Bill McKnight (Minister of Labour):** Mr. Speaker, I learned long ago not to comment on what could be attributed to the press because nine times out of ten the press happens to be lacking in accuracy.

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[Translation]

#### ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE

REQUEST FOR COLLECTIVE BARGAINING WITHOUT RIGHT TO STRIKE MADE BY MEMBERS IN QUEBEC—GOVERNMENT POSITION

**Mr. Svend J. Robinson (Burnaby):** Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Solicitor General. Eighty six per cent of all RCMP personnel in Quebec have voted for collective bargaining without right to strike, as suggested by the Association of 17 Divisions. Could the Minister assure RCMP personnel in Quebec that he is not going to oppose this essential request?

[English]

**Hon. Perrin Beatty (Solicitor General of Canada):** No, Mr. Speaker.

[Translation]

LABOUR RELATIONS—MINISTER'S POSITION

**Mr. Svend J. Robinson (Burnaby):** Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question. In view of the fact that the Charter of Rights grants all Canadian men and women the freedom of association, and also the fact that the RCMP is the only—

[English]

**Mr. Speaker:** A question, please. This is a preamble.

[Translation]

**Mr. Robinson:**—why does the Minister insist on maintaining this paternalistic approach to labour relations?

[English]

**Hon. Perrin Beatty (Solicitor General of Canada):** Mr. Speaker, it is interesting that the Hon. Member, who comes from a Party that purports to speak for working people, has not listened to the expressed wish of the majority of members of the RCMP.

The Hon. Member should know that, across the force, the divisional representatives who are elected by the rank and file, oppose unionization.

Instead of showing contempt for the wishes of the vast majority of members of the force, members of the New Democratic Party should be supporting their views.

*The Budget—Mr. Darling*

● (1500)

## SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

### FUNDING OF RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

**Hon. Chas. L. Caccia (Davenport):** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Finance. Will he dispel the confusion that was created last Friday by way of his reply to the Member for Laurier, and admit that the amount of money which he indicates will be available for research and development already exists and is not an addition to the budgets of the research and development community across the nation?

**Hon. Michael Wilson (Minister of Finance):** Mr. Speaker, the Hon. Member should be careful about the questions he asks. The budget was clearly reduced by the previous Government. We were left with a budget which was decreasing for those three granting councils. We have reinstated the amount of money to the previous level and have provided for an additional 6 per cent matching increase if the private sector wishes to support these programs. The way in which we have done this allows for a growing integration of the efforts of both the private and public sectors, which will result in much better research and development.

SITTING SUSPENDED

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. I am in a dilemma. I am in receipt of notice of a question of privilege and a point of order which an Hon. Member has indicated he is prepared to present later. The House indicated that it was going to adjourn at this time. Therefore, we are under a House order. We will, therefore, honour that House order and I will recognize the Hon. Member for Bourassa (Mr. Rossi) at 4.30 on a question of privilege arising out of Question Period.

Pursuant to order made Thursday, February 27, 1986, this sitting is suspended until 4.30 o'clock p.m. at which time the House will proceed to Government Orders, subject to my previous comments.

At 3.02 p.m. the sitting of the House was suspended.

SITTING RESUMED

The House resumed at 4.30 p.m.

## GOVERNMENT ORDERS

[English]

### THE BUDGET

#### FINANCIAL STATEMENT OF THE MINISTER OF FINANCE

The House resumed consideration of the motion of Mr. Wilson (Etobicoke Centre) that this House approves in general the budgetary policy of the Government; and the amendment