

The simple fact is that we are going to do nothing of the kind. The report in the *Globe and Mail* is out by a factor of 10. I wonder whether the President of the Treasury Board, for the sake of the record of this House and of the understanding by the people of Canada of a very important but nevertheless very sensitive policy of this House, would clarify whether he or his department gave this miscalculated information to the *Globe and Mail* or whether it came from Statistics Canada.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. That is hardly a point of order. It is perhaps a question that might have been raised in the question period. The Chair has no objection to allowing the minister to reply to the hon. member's question, but since the question period has expired this would have to be done with the consent of the House.

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Hon. C. M. Drury (President of the Treasury Board): Mr. Speaker, I think we have been having trouble with our arithmetic today. In this case, as the hon. member has pointed out, a Toronto newspaper, the *Globe and Mail*, has correctly reported information obtained from the blue book and from Treasury Board that roughly \$188 million will be spent in support of a variety of bilingualism policies of the federal government.

However, the author has gone on to conclude that \$188 million out of the total of the estimates represents 8.56 per cent of the total sum, or \$8.56 for every dollar.

Some hon. Members: Wrong again.

Mr. Drury: That is misleading, and perhaps it has misled the Leader of the Opposition. I hope the *Globe and Mail* will make every effort not only to correct but to acknowledge correction of this statement.

Mr. Speaker: Before recognizing the hon. member for Don Valley, the hon. member for York West is rising on a point of order.

Mr. Fleming: Mr. Speaker, I want only to interrupt for a moment, as chairman of the Toronto Liberal caucus, to recognize the mayor of the great city of Toronto who is sitting in the Liberal gallery this morning.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I think I owe it to the House to remind hon. members that it is entirely out of order to bring to the attention of the House the presence of distinguished Canadians or distinguished visitors. This was done yesterday by one of the gentlemen to my right. I thought I should not say anything, but if we are going to get into the habit from day to day of recognizing the many distinguished people who visit our galleries, then we may find ourselves spending as much time recognizing visitors in the galleries as we do on Standing Order 43 motions.

The Address—Mr. Gillies

[English]

SPEECH FROM THE THRONE

CONTINUATION OF DEBATE ON ADDRESS IN REPLY

The House resumed, from Thursday, February 28, consideration of the motion of Mr. Stollery for an address to His Excellency the Governor General in reply to his speech at the opening of the session, and the amendment thereto by Mr. Stanfield (p. 31) and the amendment to the amendment by Mr. Fortin (p. 45).

Mr. James Gillies (Don Valley): Mr. Speaker, I should like to commence my remarks by congratulating the mover and seconder of the Speech from the Throne; by offering my felicitations to the Governor General and wishing him every success in his term of office, and by congratulating the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Stanfield) on his brilliant address yesterday.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Gillies: Indeed, may I also congratulate the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) on his fine performance as well as the other leaders of the parties in this House.

Actually, the question whether or not one is prepared to support the Speech from the Throne really depends upon whether or not one can decide from what is said that this government has the vision and imagination to solve the economic problems that are facing Canada, problems which indeed are prevalent in the world today. There is no question that the world today is experiencing its greatest economic challenge since the 1920's. Clearly this is a period when we need imagination, enthusiasm and the ability to adopt new ideas in order to cope with the current economic situation. I was pleased to see that attention was given to this particular matter in the speech.

The economic difficulties facing the world today are very clear and apparent to everyone. They began to emerge last year when a rapid and dramatic change came about in the supply of energy to the countries of the world. The problem has manifested itself in two ways: in terms of supply and in terms of price. The supply problem is most apparent in those countries that depend upon foreign oil from Middle East sources—countries such as Japan, the countries of the European Common Market, and to some degree the United States. As a consequence of this supply problem, there will probably be a slowing down in the rate of economic growth of these countries during the course of the present year.

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More important, perhaps, in the long run it will lead to a different allocation of resources in those countries. But far more important than the supply problems which are generated by the situation in the Middle East are the payment problems. Under the pricing policy of the Middle East it is clear that payments will be in the neighbourhood of \$75 billion. The simple fact is that those payments cannot be made under any type of conventional system such as has been in the past. Indeed, for some countries, such as India, which is going to have to use half its exports to pay for oil, the payment problem is beyond comprehension.