

● (1500)

[English]

Would the minister tell the House what precautions he took to ensure that our national sports organizations which were supported by Loto Canada will continue to receive support after the disappearance of Loto Canada? Also, what level of support can they expect to receive in 1980 as opposed to what they received in 1979?

**Hon. Steven E. Paproski (Minister of State for Fitness and Amateur Sport and Multiculturalism):** I have a question today. I should like to take this opportunity to thank the hon. member for his question.

I would like the hon. member to know, through you, Mr. Speaker, that after the wind-down of Loto Canada, as of December 31 there will be \$12 million coming from the provinces from the wind-down, the full amount of which fitness and amateur sport will be getting, which means they will be receiving three or four times as much money as they have in the past three or four years. In the past, we have been averaging about \$2.7 million, although we were promised at least \$6 million annually from the lotteries. Now we will be receiving half of the \$24 million which we negotiated, in 1979 dollars, connected with CPI.

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### THE BUDGET

#### CEILING ON GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURES—EFFECT ON SOCIAL SECURITY PROGRAMS

**Mr. Bob Ogle (Saskatoon East):** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Finance. The minister is forecasting an 11 per cent inflation rate next year, yet the government has adopted a 10 per cent ceiling on all government expenditures. Since this will mean a \$500 million cutback, can the minister indicate to the House what specific programs will be cut, and can he give us an unequivocal assurance that there will be no further cutbacks on health and social programs which are already being eroded by previous government decisions?

**Hon. John C. Crosbie (Minister of Finance):** Mr. Speaker, the hon. gentleman's question points up the fact that we are tightening expenditures and that under the regime of my friend next to me, the President of the Treasury Board, through his fierce efforts a considerable amount of money will be eliminated from the budget which was previously wasted on cost overruns and the like.

I can also reassure the hon. gentleman that we are not planning any cutbacks in the health or social services. There will be a review to see whether funds can be better directed to those who need them most, not necessarily on a universal basis. This will be studied. It is one of the things we intend to do to better direct the funds. But as for cutbacks, there will be none.

### Privilege—Mr. Chrétien

**Mr. Ogle:** Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct my supplementary question to the Minister of National Health and Welfare. Since the minister is not a member of the inner cabinet, can he find out from the Prime Minister what programs of his department, if any, will be affected by last night's budget; and will he inform the House and the Canadian people whether senior citizens and low income people will be further cut from government programs?

**An hon. Member:** He has not been told yet.

**Some hon. Members:** Oh, oh!

**Hon. David Crombie (Minister of National Health and Welfare):** Mr. Speaker, I can assure the hon. member that there is absolutely nothing in the budget of last night—

**Some hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**An hon. Member:** You won't even be in the outer cabinet from now on.

**Mr. Crombie:** Mr. Speaker, it is obvious that members opposite have so little to occupy their minds that they would halt me in the middle of a sentence. I can assure the hon. member and all members of the House that nothing in the budget of last night will adversely affect any health program or, indeed, any social service program. Also, I would like to remind the hon. member that the reviews now being carried out—which we have talked about in the House previously—will continue to be carried out through 1980. Indeed, the way we have approached it so far is to look for ways in which we, as the Minister of Finance has indicated, will be able to provide funds for those most in need.

I am sure the hon. member has already had an opportunity to read the report which has come from the National Council on Welfare entitled "In the Best Interests of the Child". On a number of occasions in the House I have indicated the importance of making sure there is sufficient income for low and moderate-income people. This report gives support to that kind of review, and I thank the hon. member for the question.

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[Translation]

### PRIVILEGE

#### MR. CHRÉTIEN—ALLEGED BUDGETARY LEAK

**Hon. Jean Chrétien (Saint-Maurice):** Mr. Speaker, I rise on the question of privilege I raised last night after the budget speech. The confidentiality in which the details of a budget are kept is a constitutional practice which forms an integral part of a parliamentary system. Such practice is based on the principle that no individual, whoever he may be, must know in advance the details of a budget which he could use for personal gain.