

Information Canada

insulted by this statement. We want statements on the War Measures Act, on the right to counsel, the protection of our rights, and on where the Minister of Regional Economic Expansion stands in respect of FRAP.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member will recognize that his comments at this time should be on the statement and not on what might have been, should have been or ought to have been in the statement. I would ask him to direct his remarks to the statement.

Mr. Nowlan: Mr. Speaker, I will conclude with about one sentence.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Nowlan: Words fail me in trying to comment—

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Nowlan:—positively and constructively on this statement. I suggest through you, Mr. Speaker, to the members of the government that the people of this country will understand the relationship between the government of Canada and the people of this nation only when this government produces policies on matters such as social security so that we can get away from paper and get down to policies that the people understand.

Mr. Barry Mather (Surrey): Mr. Speaker, the thought that came to my mind after listening to the minister's announcement about the simple colours involved is that the Minister of Finance must have had some hand in the decision which was made. Apparently the federal government has found a way to be in the red and the black at the same time.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Mather: Actually, I think the announcement is one of the least harmful that the government has made for some time. The minister is in charge of Information Canada. I wish to take this opportunity to urge him to give us and the country as soon as possible more worthwhile and important information as to what Information Canada is actually doing for the benefit of the public. I believe there are 40 requests for the production of papers on the order paper, which would supply information to the members of the House and to their constituents. Instead of concerning itself so much with symbols, colours and other harmless trappings, Information Canada and the government as a whole ought to give the people the kind of information the people want and not the kind of information the government wishes them to have.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Réal Caouette (Témiscamingue): Mr. Speaker, the statement made by the minister this morning follows up, I believe, previous statements made by the Minister of Regional Economic Expansion (Mr. Marchand), in which he said, for instance, that if a province did not want to

[Mr. Nowlan.]

give recognition to the federal government's participation in some project, Ottawa would withhold its contribution.

According to the statement made this morning, the federal government wants its participation in any project to be recognized by the provinces, as, for example, the building of hospitals and technical schools and also the development of eastern or western Canada. Symbols will be used to show people that the federal government has really contributed to the establishment of hundreds of services, something people are often unaware of.

I think that people should be informed about provincial developments in which Ottawa is sharing. They should even be acquainted with municipal and school projects. They should be told what level of government is building roads.

But I wonder if this matter is so important at a time when many other things should be attended to and when legislation should be brought in to boost the Canadian economy.

Let us use symbols to inform people about the participation of the federal government and the provincial, municipal or school authorities in certain projects. Canadians will then know what the federal government is doing. As for the latter, it will do all it can to get the Canadian economy moving again.

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[*English*]

● (11:20 a.m.)

ELECTION EXPENSES**ESTABLISHMENT OF SPECIAL COMMITTEE**

On the order: Government notices of motions:

October 21, 1970—The President of the Privy Council: That a Special Committee be established to consider the question of the limitation and control of election expenses in Canada and to report from time to time its observations and opinions thereon;

That the Committee be empowered to send for persons, papers and records; to sit during sittings and adjournments of the House; to print from day to day such papers and evidence as may be ordered by the Committee; and to delegate to subcommittees any of its powers, except the power to report directly to the House;

That the evidence adduced by the Committee during the past Session in relation thereto be referred to the said Committee; and

That the Members of the Committee be designated at a later date.

Mr. Speaker: Pursuant to Section 2 of Standing Order 21 this government notice of motion stands transferred to and ordered for consideration under government orders at the next sitting of the House.

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PRIVILEGES AND ELECTIONS**AUTHORITY TO STANDING COMMITTEE TO REVIEW REPRESENTATION COMMISSIONER ACT**

On the order: Government notices of motions: