

Mr. Speaker, I seize the opportunity to ask the minister to consider other programs so that the country could be equipped with a merchant marine similar to the one it had a hundred years ago.

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[English]

#### CANADA DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

On the order: Introduction of Bills:

November 24, 1970—Mr. Saltsman—Bill intituled: "An Act to establish a Canada Development Corporation".

**Mr. Speaker:** I think I should bring to the attention of the hon. member and the House that after a quick look at the bill proposed by the hon. member I have serious reservations about it and will not put the motion at this time. The hon. member may wish to give some thought to the possible financial implications of the bill. As he knows, of course, the measure proposed for the consideration of the House under the title "An Act to establish a Canada Development Corporation" is, perhaps by coincidence, substantially the same as the bill assented to on April 24, 1970 under the title "An Act to Establish the International Development Research Centre". As the hon. member is aware, that bill had been preceded by a royal recommendation and I am rather suspicious that this would be required in this instance, although an effort obviously has been made by the hon. member to eliminate the most obvious financial implications of the bill.

● (11:20 a.m.)

If the hon. member will look at some of the clauses, in particular clause 11 or at any rate the clause which provides for the appointment of officers and agents and employees, he will detect, as I do, a faint odour of money in this clause. I have some doubts regarding the opening of a bank account and the payment of sums out of such bank account. I doubt whether the hon. member has succeeded in his imaginative efforts to remove all financial implications from the bill.

I do not want to be unfair to the hon. member. I would like to have a serious look at the bill and, if possible, give the hon. member the benefit of the doubt. Perhaps on Monday next the hon. member might have an opportunity to explain to the House his point of view and indicate why he thinks I may be in error in suggesting that this bill has financial implications.

### ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

#### THE BUDGET

##### FORM OF PRESENTATION

**Hon. Marcel Lambert (Edmonton West):** Mr. Speaker, in view of the rather welcome announcement on motions by the Minister of Finance, would he advise the House

#### *Inquiries of the Ministry*

whether his budget will be in the usual form and contain the usual budget resolutions requiring lengthy legislative consideration by the House?

**Hon. E. J. Benson (Minister of Finance):** Mr. Speaker, it is very difficult for me to say what is going to be in the budget at this time. If resolutions are necessary, of course we will present them in the ordinary way.

**Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West):** Without trying to delve into the contents of the budget in detail, may I ask the minister to advise us whether the budget proposals will include any reference to the white paper on taxation and the subject matters and recommendations contained in that document?

#### CONSULTATIONS WITH PROVINCIAL OFFICIALS—BRIEFING OF PARTY REPRESENTATIVES PRIOR TO PRESENTATION

**Mr. Max Saltsman (Waterloo):** May I ask the Minister of Finance whether he has consulted with the provincial representatives in this matter and, if so, when he commenced his consultations with them?

**Hon. E. J. Benson (Minister of Finance):** The officials of the provincial governments have been here for the last couple of days talking about the meeting of Ministers of Finance which is to take place in a couple of weeks. I believe my officials pointed out some of the problems in the economy and this sort of thing to them but did not refer to the specific matters in the budget.

**Mr. Saltsman:** Will the minister make arrangements for the respective party representatives and research staff to be briefed in confidence prior to the budget presentation, similar to the privilege given to the news media?

**Mr. Benson:** Mr. Speaker, I will follow the same practice that was followed last time when we presented the white paper whereby one or two representatives of each party were briefed. I will try to arrange this. However, I do not think we can move to the stage where we have research staff and other people briefed as well. This would create an impossible situation. I think the question is, who is allowed into the so-called secret press briefing and who is not.

#### EFFECT OF POSSIBLE CHANGES ON UNEMPLOYMENT

**Mr. J. Edward Broadbent (Oshawa-Whitby):** In view of the fact that the spin-off effects of whatever changes in economic policy are made now will not have an effect on unemployment levels this winter, is the government reconsidering its position with regard to the immediate raising of unemployment insurance payments?

**Hon. E. J. Benson (Minister of Finance):** My hon. friend has arrived at an interesting conclusion without knowing what is in the budget. I could not arrive at the same conclusion.