

meet them with tested responses, to guide growth by policies and programs that have been proven effective.

Mr. Speaker, I trust that hon. members will agree when I say that Canada has a great opportunity to give world leadership in the fight to guide urban growth beneficially. That leadership has been entrusted to the right minister and to the right federal agency, because the Ministry of State for Urban Affairs is at the centre of our attempts to control urban growth. It is the focal point for federal urban policy. And, through the 1976 conference and exposition, initiatives will be made available to other nations as well.

I thank you, Mr. Speaker, the mover of the motion, the hon. member for Toronto-Lakeshore, and other members of the House for the indulgence afforded me. I trust that in every instance, Mr. Speaker, you have found my remarks to be relevant.

Mr. Charles Turner (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Labour): Mr. Speaker, Canadians are a mobile people. We have a lot of ground to cover and we travel about this land of ours at an amazing rate. National transportation policy is not the concern of the Ministry of State for Urban Affairs, but policies affecting transportation matters in urban areas are definitely within the jurisdiction of the ministry. The ministry is acting on them.

As my hon. friend from Laprairie (Mr. Watson) has pointed out, transportation is one of those urban elements which interact with other elements such as housing. The ministry recognizes this interconnection among urban issues and factors, and that recognition underlies its response to urban growth. The realities of urban transportation are all around us. I shall start with a few statistics, not to impress or to avoid getting into the topic but to set out, first of all, the scale of the problem of best formulating federal transportation initiatives for Canada's urban communities.

Mr. Peters: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. I have listened very carefully to the last couple of speeches. While they stuck fairly closely to housing and the responsibility of the Minister of State for Urban Affairs (Mr. Basford), I suggest that the present speaker, when talking about transportation, is not referring to budgets A, B and X. He is giving a mild lecture to the House, and that is not the purpose of asking for the production of papers. There may be a reason why budgets A, B and X cannot be presented to the House, but I suggest no substitute is going to be the policy as outlined by the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Labour (Mr. Turner).

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, please. The Chair continues to be in difficulty. I am still not clear in my mind about this, and if I had been perhaps I would have ruled more forcefully. With regard to the program forecast of the Ministry of State for Urban Affairs, the Chair has no knowledge whether budgets A, B and X concern only the operations of the department itself or whether what is involved is an overview of the various aspects of the urban problem.

The hon. member for Timiskaming (Mr. Peters) certainly has a point: the issue that was presented to us this afternoon was whether certain information should be put

Parole Act

on the desks of hon. members or should be kept in government filing cabinets. This, as he says, has not been made clear.

It being six o'clock, I do now leave the chair until eight o'clock tonight.

At six o'clock the House took recess.

AFTER RECESS

The House resumed at 8 p.m.

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

[*English*]

PAROLE ACT

APPOINTMENT OF ADDITIONAL AD HOC MEMBERS TO NATIONAL PAROLE BOARD

The House resumed consideration of the motion of Mr. Allmand that Bill C-197, to amend the Parole Act, be read the second time and referred to the Standing Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs.

Mr. John Gilbert (Broadview): Mr. Speaker, Bill C-191, an act to amend the Parole Act, will give the governor in council the right to appoint not more than ten additional ad hoc members to the National Parole Board. The hon. member for New Westminster (Mr. Leggatt) this afternoon set out the position of the NDP on this bill in a clear, concise and convincing way and I will not add much this evening to what he said.

Parole plays an important role in the criminal justice system. It is therefore necessary, after a person commits a criminal offence and is confined to an institution, for us to have the tools to reform, and rehabilitate him, to turn him into a law-abiding citizen and a socially useful person. We must therefore make sure that our parole system is understood not only by the parolee, by the prison inmate and by the prison official, but by judges and by the public. Our experience of the past year has brought about some public criticism which in many cases has been warranted. Nevertheless, the over-all picture with regard to parole in Canada has been good and the results obtained have been good.

As I said to the minister previously, we have almost completed our studies and researches into problems of parole. We have been given the Ouimet report and the Hugessen report. There has also been the study by the Senate of the parole system. As the minister pointed out, the Standing Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs of this House has also been studying certain institutions and the parole of offenders. Also, an ombudsman has been appointed to look into grievances of inmates.

I think the time has come for the study and research to stop and for legislation that will deal with this important problem to be developed. I and the members of the NDP would like to see this bill passed tonight. We want it