

QUESTIONS ON THE ORDER PAPER

Hon. Doug Lewis (Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada): Mr. Speaker, I ask that all questions be allowed to stand.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Shall all questions stand?

Some Hon. Members: Agreed.

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• (1130)

MOTION TO ADJOURN UNDER S. O. 52

CHEMICAL WASTE IN FUELS

Mr. Jim Fulton (Skeena): Mr. Speaker, I rise pursuant to Standing Order 52 to request an emergency debate on the impact of chemical waste in fuels on the health of Canadians and on our environment.

Just as Governments and the public have reached a heightened state of understanding of the urgent need to keep toxic and hazardous waste out of the environment, we learn of the organized criminal activity of mixing hazardous chemical wastes such as PCBs and solvents into fuel and selling it to various firms and gas stations.

There is a particularly grisly side to this criminal activity. Canadians have been knowingly exposed to materials shown to cause brain, nerve, liver and skin disorders, and of exposure to toxics known to kill.

These are crimes that involve hundreds of millions of dollars in illegal gains. An emergency debate is absolutely necessary to ensure Canadians of the concern of Parliament, to widen public knowledge of the dangers posed by the tainted fuels, to encourage anyone with knowledge of these life-threatening crimes to contact immediately law enforcement agencies, to awaken Parliament to the need for stronger enforcement and compliance procedures for cradle to grave handling of toxics, to awaken Parliament to the need for follow-up health and environmental impact assessments, and to launch the full force of the law against the criminals before they disappear with their ill-gotten gains.

This is an emergency. I believe that debate is required now.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Deputy Speaker: The matter raised by the Hon. Member is no doubt a very important one. Unfortunately,

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ly, the Chair must find at this time that it does not meet the requirements of Standing Order 52.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order. I wish to inform the House that because of the Minister's statement, Government Orders will be extended 18 minutes past one o'clock today.

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

[*Translation*]

THE BUDGET

FINANCIAL STATEMENT OF THE MINISTER OF FINANCE

The House resumed from Wednesday, May 3, 1989, consideration of the motion of Mr. Wilson (Etobicoke Centre) that this House approves in general the budgetary policy of the Government, and the amendment of Mr. MacLaren that the motion be amended by deleting all the words after the word "That" and substituting the following therefor:

"this House regrets that the Government has imposed unfair taxes and has cut vital programs, including child care, regional development and agriculture, in an effort to reduce its annual deficit, despite the fact that this effort has been rendered futile by the Government's ill-conceived high interest rate policy; and

That this House condemns the Government for pursuing these policies that fall most onerously upon lower and middle-income Canadians and that are certain to hinder the further development of the Canadian economy."

Hon. Benoît Bouchard (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, it is a pleasure to take part today in this debate on a Budget that is about responsibility, about the future and about the challenges that Canadians must face in the years to come.

Mr. Speaker, last month the Throne Speech gave us a vision of the future based on economic growth, diminishing disparity, protection of the environment and the preservation of adequate and generous social programs for those who really need them. What we see today in the Budget brought down by the Minister of Finance are the means to achieve those goals.

Today's political reality has changed. Yesterday's politicians—we were not among them, unfortunately—managed abundance. And even after abundance had become a thing of the past, their successors in the early eighties governed as though nothing had changed, which