

The Budget—Right Hon. Mr. Turner

3. Was the Prime Minister accompanied by any member of his staff and, if so, in each case, what was (a) his/her name (b) the mode of travel (c) the cost (d) the airline carrier involved (e) the hotel cost?

4. Were any automobiles or limousines hired and, if so (a) how many (b) in each case, what was the (i) cost (ii) name of the supplier?

Mr. Len Gustafson (Parliamentary Secretary to Prime Minister): 1. The Prime Minister travelled to Edmonton on September 25-26, 1986 for the purpose of participating in an agricultural meeting and, at the same time made an appearance in the constituency of Pembina at no additional cost to the Government.

2., 3. & 4. In light of the above, there should be no need to answer these parts.

ANIMAL RESEARCH CENTRE, NEPEAN—CARLETON, ONT.

Question No. 68—**Mr. Althouse:**

Is the Government committed to the construction of the Animal Research Centre in Nepean—Carleton, Ontario and, if so (a) when will construction commence (b) what is the current target date for completion of this project?

Hon. John Wise (Minister of Agriculture): (a) The construction of the Animal Research Centre in Nepean—Carleton has been deferred pending a review of the animal productivity research program.

(b) This, together with resource restraints, make it unlikely that the project will go forward until 1990.

[Translation]

Mr. Lewis: Mr. Speaker, I ask that the remaining questions be allowed to stand.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): The questions enumerated by the Parliamentary Secretary have been answered. Shall the remaining questions be allowed to stand?

Some Hon. Members: Agreed.

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

[English]

THE BUDGET

FINANCIAL STATEMENT OF THE MINISTER OF FINANCE

The House resumed from Thursday, February 19, 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. Garneau (p. 3594), and the amendment to the amendment of Mr. Cassidy (p. 3604).

Mr. Doug Lewis (Parliamentary Secretary to Deputy Prime Minister and President of the Privy Council): Mr. Speaker, with respect to the debate today there is a disposition in the House that the Chair recognize the Right Hon. Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Turner) followed by the Hon. Leader of the New Democratic Party (Mr. Broadbent). In the event that their remarks are not completed by one o'clock p.m., the

House will be content that the Chair do not see the clock until they are finished.

Mr. Don Boudria (Glengarry—Prescott—Russell): Mr. Speaker, there have been consultations on this topic. Of course, our Party is quite agreeable to that.

Mr. Speaker: I take it that there is agreement. It is my pleasure to give the floor to the Right Hon. Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Turner).

Right Hon. John N. Turner (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, I rise on this very important occasion to debate the budgetary propositions of the Government. Parliament was created out of our British tradition to test the power of Governments in a free country to tax and to spend. At one time these occasions were high theatre. Due to the focus of an electronic age, we find the House as we do this morning. I can remember, too, when Prime Ministers were in the House to listen to the Leader of the Opposition and the Leader of the other recognized political party. I hope the Prime Minister (Mr. Mulroney) can hear us from West Palm Beach this morning.

I can also recall when Prime Ministers participated in budgetary debates. When I had the honour of holding the high office which the current Minister of Finance (Mr. Wilson) now holds, my Prime Minister was present and did speak. Nothing is more important to a free people than to have the right to challenge a Government on how it taxes and how it spends. Therefore, it is the role of every Member of Parliament, led by the head of Government, to attend and participate.

I wish all Members of the House had been here yesterday to listen to my colleague, the Hon. Member for Laval-des-Rapides (Mr. Garneau). He gave the budget speech which the Minister of Finance should have given on Wednesday afternoon. The Minister is to be judged, not by what he did, but by what he did not do. With 1.25 million unemployed in Canada the Minister did not attempt to create a single job.

[Translation]

Instead of acknowledging the monumental mistakes it made in its first two Budgets and showing consideration for the urgent needs of millions of Canadians, the Government is trying to make them believe they will benefit by the measures announced Wednesday by the Minister of Finance (Mr. Wilson).

[English]

This is another cynical attempt to manipulate public opinion, as if we did not already have enough cynicism in the country arising from recent events.

This third Budget represents phase three of an all-out attack on low and middle income Canadians. It widens the gap between the rich and poor and also between the have and have-not regions of the country. These three Budgets, with their economic approach to government, gave us the largest tax