

[Translation]

Recognizing that there are regional disparities, it is proposed that various provinces shall have the right to impose variations within the social programs set forth, to better assist those in need in their respective areas of jurisdiction. In matters of urban affairs, those who—and they are the majority of Canadians—pass their lives in cities and metropolitan areas are recognized as having special problems.

[English]

With land assembly programs and rehabilitation of older neighbourhoods, we should be able to assure Canada that its cities will not be desecrated as have so many others throughout the rest of the world by unplanned expansion. With co-operation between the federal government and the provinces in matters economic, the recommendations of the Economic Council, proposals in the fields of health and education, the foreign ownership of land, together with a suggested western Canada conference on the economic future of the area as well as an extensive set of programs to assist business and the Canadian private entrepreneur, there is every reason to expect that Canadians will enjoy an economy which leaves no man downtrodden by ill luck or disadvantage occurring through no fault of his own and, at the same time, an economy which encourages the businessman, both extensive and small, to develop his business and to show a profit for his ingenuity and capacity.

[Translation]

Mr. Speaker, I am honoured to have been given this opportunity to second the motion of the hon. member for Nipissing. May I thank the Prime Minister and his cabinet, as well as yourself, for your courteous patience with a freshman Member of Parliament.

[English]

I take pleasure in seconding the Address in Reply to the Speech from the Throne.

On motion of Mr. Stanfield the debate was adjourned.

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BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

PROCEDURE FOR MOTION ON VIET NAM WAR

Hon. Allan J. MacEachen (President of the Privy Council): Mr. Speaker, may I turn now to the question of the resolution standing in the name of the Secretary of State for External Affairs (Mr. Sharp). Our consultations have resulted in an agreement that would permit the House to deal with this resolution at 2 p.m. and that the debate be confined to one spokesman per party with a time limit of 15 minutes. We could then complete that debate at the end of an hour and dispose of the question. I should like to suggest that this agreement be put in the form of a House order and that we resume at two o'clock.

Mr. Speaker: Is this agreed?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

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Viet Nam War

Mr. Speaker: It is agreed and so ordered. Is it the wish of the House that I call it one o'clock?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Mr. Speaker: It being one o'clock, I do now leave the chair.

[Translation]

The House will resume at 2 p.m.

[English]

AFTER RECESS

The House resumed at 2 p.m.

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

VIET NAM WAR—CONTINUATION OF HOSTILITIES

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs) moved:

That this House

1. Has noted with grave concern the continuation of hostilities in North and South Viet Nam as well as in Cambodia and Laos, and deplores the recent large-scale bombing in the Hanoi-Haiphong area;

2. Is aware of the possibility that Canada will be called upon to play some new supervisory role following cessation of hostilities in Viet Nam;

3. Welcomes the resumption of the negotiations for a cessation of hostilities in Viet Nam;

4. Welcomes the cessation of the bombing of the Hanoi-Haiphong area;

5. Requests all the parties involved in the conflict to refrain from acts of a warlike nature that could jeopardize the success of the present negotiations;

6. Requests the government of the United States to refrain from a resumption of the aerial bombardment of the Hanoi-Haiphong area;

7. Requests the Government to convey the text of this resolution to the participants in the Paris negotiations on Viet Nam.

He said: Mr. Speaker, the Canadian people, this House and the government have for many years now been distressed by the continuation of hostilities in Indo-China and by the suffering that events there have wrought upon all those concerned. As I said on December 17 last, when the negotiations between the United States and North Viet Nam appeared to have broken down, the Canadian government deeply regretted that the negotiations had not yet reached a successful conclusion. We welcome the fact that those negotiations have resumed this week.

In the interval, however, we were shaken by the large scale bombing in the Hanoi-Haiphong area. We found it very difficult to understand the reasons for that bombing or the purpose which it was intended to serve. We deplore that action and we have communicated our view of it to the United States authorities.

When at the end of December the United States government decided to stop the bombing in the Hanoi-Haiphong area, we welcomed that. We said so to the government of the United States and we expressed our hope, as friends and neighbours, that the bombing would not resume. That bombing, terrible as it is, is only part of a larger situation