

minister advances, that he will give a means test to a married woman, then decide she does need the money, and when the husband dies he will suddenly decide she does not need the money, is unbelievable in my view. One can only worry about the methods which he will adopt, perhaps of watching the obituary columns, to see that no widow deprives the minister of money to which she is not entitled under this legislation.

Mr. Stan Darling (Parry Sound-Muskoka): Mr. Speaker, pretty well everything has been said that can be said on this bill, and certainly much more eloquently than I can say it. I was most interested in the comments of the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre (Mr. Knowles), that expert—as I mentioned in the committee the other day—and great drum-beater for pensions for I do not know how many years. I want to commend him again for his remarks. As the hon. member said, a great many of us are aware of the need for this legislation and I commend the minister for bringing in the bill. I intend to vote for it because it is a step in the right direction. However, a good many of us are well aware of the fact that it does not go as far as it should. That fact has already been spelled out by various hon. members.

The one point I want to make is with regard to persons who qualify for the old age pension, the special old age pension between 60 and 65 and who qualify after October 1. I hope the minister will reconsider his decision with regard to these people and ensure that they are not cut off from receiving benefit when their partner dies, because this would be a tragedy. If this happens, these people who once received the pension cheque and had a feeling of independence will have to go back on relief. I think that would be unconscionable and I hope it will not be done. I am sure the minister will have a tremendous amount of pressure put upon him by his own members and I hope he will reconsider his decision in that respect. It takes a big man to change his mind, and I think he will do it.

I understand this bill will get third reading right now, and it is only proper that it should. This is senior citizens'

Old Age Security Act

week and I know that a great many people are looking forward to seeing the bill passed and become law; but a great many more want to see its provisions extended.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Is the House ready for the question.

Some hon. Members: Question.

Mr. Fortin: Six o'clock.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Deputy Speaker: It is not yet six o'clock. If an hon. member wants to be recognized, he is entitled to it.

[*English*]

Is it the pleasure of the House to adopt the said motion?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Motion agreed to and bill read the third time and passed.

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MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

[*Translation*]

Mr. Deputy Speaker: I have the honour to inform the House that a message has been received from the Senate informing this House that the Senate have passed the following bills to which the concurrence of this House is desired:

Bill S-19, An Act to amend the Food and Drugs Act, the Narcotic Control Act and the Criminal Code;

Bill S-27, An Act to amend the Canadian Overseas Telecommunication Corporation Act.

It being six o'clock, the House stands adjourned until tomorrow at 2 p.m.

At six o'clock the House adjourned, without question put, pursuant to Standing Order.