

*Old Age Security*

**Mr. Winkler:** I am aware, Mr. Speaker, that you will consider the admissibility of the motion. I think you will find that it in no way contravenes the rules of the house if one considers what has happened in the past in this respect. I base this argument on a very firm premise, that in 1950 when we had a joint committee of this and the other house it was agreed unanimously that the old age security pension should be paid to all those over 70 years of age, without any kind of qualification with respect to the pensioner. This was agreed by all parties, which is a further argument for allowing the motion to come before the house.

That thinking was carried forward in the committee, and I will read from the final report of the special committee of the Senate on aging where the following is stated in clause 3 subclause (a) on page 18: "That the only condition for eligibility under the Income Guarantee Program be age".

• (3:30 p.m.)

I think we have to recall all the representations that have been placed before the government, not the least of which are the ones I placed before them, of which I have evidence beside me. I have made over 53 representations in the course of this session, and I have done this not, as the minister suggested at a previous time, for my own benefit in the sense of issuing my own propaganda, as he did. The representations that I made to the house were in regard to an article that appeared in the *Toronto Star* which was, beyond the shadow of a doubt, an official leak from the minister's office.

I further support the views which were expressed in a statement made a few evenings ago by my hon. friend from Winnipeg North Centre (Mr. Knowles), which he based on a question he had placed on the order paper and to which he received an answer.

He said that a tremendous amount of money had been transferred out of the Old Age Security Fund, and we believe that this necessitates some scrutiny by the house. We also believe that this transfer would certainly enable the government to comply with the request placed before the house in my motion.

Mr. Speaker, we have made it abundantly clear in the course of this session that the senior citizens of this country require the type of support for which we are asking. Without dealing with the specifics with which I have been involved in my previous questions or speeches, I will revert to the questions which I placed before the Secretary of State for

[Mr. Speaker.]

External Affairs (Mr. Martin). At that time, I made reference to the amount of money which the Canadian government anticipates spending in external aid programs to underdeveloped countries and to others. This is a very substantial sum of money, and will continue to grow for the next ten years or more. When we think of the money which is currently in the Old Age Security Fund, gathered I might say on the basis of the principle established in 1950 by the committee to which I referred, we can say with assurance that this money was collected for the people for whom I am asking consideration.

This consideration can be given today, without any further cost to the government or taxation which, it had been hinted, might be imposed. As a matter of fact, if the present situation were to continue the government would be guilty of over-taxation, as I believe they currently are and as I believe they also are in regard to the Canada Pension Plan Fund. I therefore ask you to accept my motion.

**Mr. Speaker:** I have been considering the situation for a few minutes and I appreciate the comments made by the hon. member for Grey-Bruce (Mr. Winkler). I wonder whether hon. members, who have also had a few minutes to look into the procedural aspect of the motion made by the hon. member for Grey-Bruce, may have comments which might be useful to the Chair. Hon. members know very well that there are a number of considerations which are very relevant and which they might keep in mind in making comments for the guidance of the Chair. Of course the basic one is that we cannot have a debate on a matter which has already been resolved by the house. I am sure the hon. member for Grey-Bruce remembers that the Leader of the Opposition made a motion on January 20 which, at least in my limited understanding, is related to some extent to the matter which we now have before us in the motion of the hon. member for Grey-Bruce.

In any event, I would certainly be very pleased to hear comments or suggestions from hon. members for the guidance of the Chair.

**Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Leader of the Opposition):** Mr. Speaker, this question was very fully considered before the amendment was brought before the house, and on the basis of that examination I believe there can be no question whatsoever that this amendment is in order. You have referred to the fact that the house is not permitted to deal