

*Business of Supply*

cent over last year. That would be an example to all governments in Canada.

● (2140)

Total government expenditures in Canada increased by 48 per cent this year, as compared with last year. It is small wonder there is inflation, given that kind of government expenditure. To me, neither the government nor parliament have been concerned enough about the economy. If it were the business of the opposition to initiate legislation, we should have talked much more in this House about the economy of the country. But our role is not that of initiating legislation. That is the government's role. We try to change legislation, improve it, or interpret it in such a way that the legislation will meet conditions existing in the country.

The government is busy setting up all sorts of little authorities or bodies which are to be active inside or outside parliament. For example Bill C-2 is to set up another commission, Bill C-32 another board, and Bill C-50 another council. In addition the government now has appointed four Whips. Recently the fourth Whip was appointed in the government party. I noted an announcement in a western Canadian newspaper saying that the hon. member for Assiniboia is now the fourth Whip. To me that would be a degrading position. I would not bother writing home and telling my constituents I rank as number four.

This afternoon in committee, the hon. member for Mississauga moved a motion which he was good enough to refer to the steering committee. He proposed that a member should be allowed to speak once, for ten minutes only in committee.

**An hon. Member:** A good idea.

**Some hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Mr. Horner:** If that is the concept of responsible government—

**Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton):** You have one more minute to kill, Jack.

**Mr. Horner:** And I don't need any help from you. If that is the concept of responsible government, it is pretty shady. Surely that is not the concept we have adhered to in the past 100 years. Why, it would not be worth a member's while to walk into a committee if he could speak only ten minutes. He could not even earn his pay in ten minutes. How can you examine legislation in such a short time?

The Prime Minister spoke about the research bureau of the Conservative Party and suggested he is worried about the quality of questions. I wonder what the government party does with its \$260,000 in research funds? In committee all I hear government members say is, "Pass it, agreed, shall clause 1 carry, shall clause 2 carry, pass it."

**The Chairman:** Order, please. It being 9.45 p.m. it is my duty, pursuant to section 9(a) of Standing Order 58, to interrupt these proceedings and to put forthwith every question necessary to dispose of the proceedings.

[Mr. Horner.]

The hon. member for Peace River gave notice of his intention to propose an amendment to Vote 1 of the Privy Council estimates. His time expired before he could formally propose his amendment to the committee. Therefore, in accordance with Standing Order 58, subsection 9(b), it is my duty at this time forthwith to put the amendment to the committee. Accordingly, the hon. member for Peace River moves:

That Vote 1 of the Privy Council estimates be reduced from \$18,484,200 to \$17,600,000.

The question is on the amendment.

Amendment (Mr. Baldwin) negatived: Yeas, 71; nays, 91.

The Chairman: I declare the amendment lost.

Shall Privy Council—Vote 1 carry?

**Mr. Baldwin:** On division.

Privy Council—Vote 1 agreed to.

**The Chairman:** Shall I report the resolution?

**Some hon. Members:** Agreed.

Resolution reported and concurred in, on division.

OLD AGE SECURITY ACT—SUGGESTION AMENDING BILL  
INCLUDE PROVISION FOR SINGLE PERSONS

**Mr. Stanley Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre):** Mr. Speaker, thanks to the hon. member for Peace River (Mr. Baldwin), we now have a short grievance period before us. When I staked out a claim the last time to raise a grievance the next time around, so to speak, I did not realize that the basis for raising a grievance would occur this very day. I say to the government House leader that I will not use all of the time available, in the hope that I may be given a favourable reply. This afternoon, when we were—

● (2150)

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** Order, please. Maybe we should proceed in the same way as the last time, which was by consent, to make sure the requirements are met. There has been no real change in our procedure. Although this grievance procedure was accepted the last time, it was by unanimous consent. I think we should pursue this approach until a decision is made by the House to modify the Standing Orders. Is it agreed that we proceed with the grievance procedure as we did the last time?

**Some hon. Members:** Agreed.

**Some hon. Members:** No.

**Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre):** Mr. Speaker, to those who are trying to say no, may I remind them that if they tried to call it ten o'clock, some of us might say no. Some business has to be done during these ten minutes, so it might as well be my grievance.

This afternoon when we were dealing with the future business of the House I asked the government House leader how soon we could look for the bill to amend the Old Age Security Act, which has been promised for some time. The government House leader replied, I think using