

tors. I shall quote just one sentence to indicate what the Economic Council was saying:

... there is a need for a broader framework within which it should be possible to say something concrete, from the viewpoint of overall well-being, about the ultimate ends of the socio-economic activity of the nation, the means to achieve these ends, and the degree to which they are being achieved.

I am really amazed because, although I am a long way from being a candidate for appointment to the Economic Council of Canada, I go back to a speech I made a year ago in which I entered the idea of having a social council of Canada which would emphasize social indicators that would help us in an integrated economic and social plan. In other words, it is not enough any longer in our very complex society for us to have economic indicators as the chief criterion for our success in society.

I want to impress upon the minister how much I look to him for leadership in backing up what the Economic Council of Canada is saying about the implementation of social indicators and the integration of them with economic indicators, so that together there can be a better over-all policy aimed at the well being of the human being and the individual.

Now, on the subject of the handicapped I only point out to the minister that despite the programs and various things done for the handicapped, there is not in this country adequate educational, vocational and employment guidance for handicapped people. I know what I am talking about on this subject, because there are in my riding several handicapped groups which are overly dependent for funding on LIP and other politically inspired government programs.

I could make available to the minister correspondence and documents which indicate the difficult time the handicapped people in our country have because they are not plugged into the economic system and have too low a priority. The priorities of the government are geared exclusively to the economic well being—I reinforce what I am saying now by reference to the Economic Council of Canada—and there must be an integration that will improve the quality of life, into which the handicapped will then have a right of access rather than be treated in a paternalistic and patronizing way. I do not blame the minister. I only say I encourage him to get behind the Economic Council of Canada and lend support to the implementation of its ideas, and perhaps more specifically get behind the idea of a social council of Canada which would help implement this.

● (1600)

I ask for an extra minute so I may make my second point. I will do it under sixty seconds because the minister is well tuned into the argument which I am advancing, that is my very extreme objection to the implementation of an air transportation tax. I tell the minister that this is discriminatory in regard to western Canada.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: I had hoped that the hon. member would ask for the consent of the House if he wishes to go beyond four o'clock. I allowed him one minute, but I feel that an extra period of two or three minutes needs the consent of the House.

Excise

Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton): Mr. Speaker, on a point of order may I say that I think the House would grant an extra minute to the hon. member for Edmonton-Strathcona (Mr. Roche), or give him an alternative. As other members would like to speak on clause 1 because there is an amendment to the definition section, if second reading is granted could we have an understanding on the part of the House that the general debate on clause 1 would be carried on in Committee of the Whole?

Mr. Roche: I am willing to wind up in one minute, if the House would agree.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Is it agreed?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Mr. Roche: The minister is familiar with the argument; he does not need to hear it in detail. It was mentioned at the Western Economic Opportunities Conference, and he knows it that the spirit of the Western Economic Opportunities Conference in Calgary was to treat transportation in this country as being for regional development. If we cannot get the National Transportation Act amended immediately so that the principle of it being for regional development is a priority, at least we can avoid taking steps that are discriminatory against western Canadians through a tax that would hurt many businessmen and families in western Canada for whom air travel is a necessity. I think this is an unfair tax which certainly violates the spirit of the Western Economic Opportunities Conference, and I want to put that seriously before the minister.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Is it the pleasure of the House to adopt the said motion?

Some hon. Members: On division.

Motion agreed to, bill read the second time and referred to the committee of the whole.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Does the House agree that we not go into Committee of the Whole now but proceed to private members' business?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: It now being four o'clock, the House will proceed to consideration of private members' business as listed on today's order paper, namely, notices of motions, public bills and private bills.

Mr. Lefebvre: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. I think you will find that there is general agreement that we discuss today private member's notice of motion No. 14 standing in the name of the hon. member for York-Sunbury (Mr. Howie).

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Is it agreed that we stand all motions appearing ahead of motion No. 14, and proceed with motion No. 14?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.