The Budget

Mr. Milliken: I ask, Mr. Speaker, that the remaining questions be allowed to stand.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Kilger): Shall the remaining questions stand?

Some hon. members: Agreed.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Kilger): I wish to inform the House that pursuant to Standing Order 33, because of the ministerial statement, Government Orders will be extended by 22 minutes.

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

[Translation]

THE BUDGET

FINANCIAL STATEMENT OF THE MINISTER OF FINANCE

The House resumed from February 27 consideration of the motion that this House approves in general the budgetary policy of the government.

Mr. Yvan Loubier (Saint-Hyacinthe-Bagot, BQ): Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to rise again today, the day after the budget, to state the official opposition's views on the budget brought down yesterday by the Canadian Minister of Finance.

The budget before us consists of the usual downloading of the deficit by the federal government onto the provinces, which harms not only the very poor, persons on social assistance, the unemployed, students and senior citizens but also, as of next year, will also harm all Quebec and Canadian taxpayers, all the while— and this is the most unacceptable part—sparing big business, banks which are given a further reprieve, notwith-standing a minimal increase in the taxes they must pay this year.

Businesses and banks benefit from federal tax breaks as well as from the government's subsidies while everyone everywhere, the provinces, the most destitute people, taxpayers, as of 1996, will pay more and more for the laxness and incompetence of this government.

• (1050)

This budget entails first of all a decentralization of the federal deficit, a decentralization of the federal bill starting with cuts in federal transfers for post-secondary education, health and welfare.

This government is definitely proceeding in an underhanded, harmful way in 1995. There will be no cuts in 1995. It is easy to see why, this is the referendum year. There will be no cuts so Quebecers will be led to believe that this government is doing a

nating input from the university research community. These activities were not remunerated; they were done voluntarily.

(e) The director's advisory board for the fisheries and oceans Institute of Ocean Sciences (IOS) was established in 1991, at which time David Brander-Smith was appointed chairperson. The board has conducted an extensive review of IOS programs, defined core programs, and assisted the director with prioritization of the program and development of information exchange with stakeholders. Recently, the board has been active in providing advice on coping with program reduction strategies and budget reductions. The board is composed of individuals from commercial, recreational and native fishing interests, university, other government, environmental and oil and gas sector representatives. The objective of this board is to provide a vehicle for allowing stakeholders an opportunity to input to the development and direction of the department's ocean science program. During the time that Dr. Brander-Smith was chairperson, November 1991 to November 1994, the board provided advice in the following key areas:

Program priority determination for the institute stressing the identification of scientific excellence and productivity, separating core activities from other activities, as well as how well programs address key priorities;

Development of a strategy and implementation of a critical program review (peer review/client review) of IOS;

The need for an external scientific review of programs;

Identification of key IOS clients and contacts and intensified consultation with those clients seeking feedback on client perceptions and needs, and identifying ways of improving service and developing more formal information sharing arrangements;

Development of a communications program aimed at sharing information on program activities with clients, the public and within and between government departments;

Strengthening IOS use of partnerships and networks for co-operation, information sharing and communication; and

Placing high priority on initiatives to encourage efficiency and effectiveness, as well as developing innovative sources of funding.

The remuneration portion of this question has been answered in the response to Question No. 85 tabled February 24, 1995.

[English]

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Kilger): The question as enumerated by the parliamentary secretary has been answered.