

The Budget

We need more than that. We need a national will. My goodness, you cannot let this country go down the drain because we are worried about the deficit. "It's only money", as my mother used to say when she was financing her restaurant, borrowing everything she could find. It is only money. It is our money and it is our country and we can do it and we will do it again. I would not make the museum of humour a top priority. If we do not build it for another three or four years, tough cookie.

Mrs. Coline Campbell (South West Nova): Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the hon. gentleman in the House who talks of his last budget but not the last time we will hear from him. I could probably say it might be my last budget in this House too since I am not coming back.

Reading today's *Globe and Mail*, one of the business commentators said: "Infatuation with infrastructure, costly". And he compares it to a sky-deck or something like that in downtown Toronto.

Just for the record, and before the weekend comes and maybe just to enlighten some of the people opposite, infrastructure to me coming from the east might be roads, sewers, water systems, things that affect the environment. It might mean a war. It might mean an improved access for business to go into a community because those services are there. Where Toronto has become so costly it might help someone outside of Toronto to attract business. Would he like to comment on such a stupid statement out of downtown Toronto that would support this government?

Mr. Benjamin: Mr. Speaker, I am sorry to hear that the hon. member is not going to run again because I think she has been a good member. I wish she would run again, but for a different party.

When I listen and read the commentaries of the business community I think we have to tell them as a nation and as a government and as a Parliament of Canada what must be done. You must co-operate and we want you to do it voluntarily. You are going to invest.

If you are not prepared to do that voluntarily, and it might mean you take a little smaller dividend and less in corporate executive salaries and expense allowances, we will give you two choices. It is either compulsory or you have to.

Because we did that during the war. The business community was told in no uncertain terms: "We are going to bust your ass". It was either compulsory or they had to. The War Measures Act covered the whole thing. They did and they did a marvellous job.

The self-serving comments and demands by the business community, most of whom I would not hire to run a chicken coop because they take turns going broke, con lenders into giving them money and they do not know what the hell they are doing. I suspect that half the bankruptcies we have had they brought on themselves. When banks are writing off loans—

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): I regret the member's time has expired.

Mr. Jack Whittaker (Okanagan—Similkameen—Meritt): Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the time of the House for this point of order.

I have spoken to all the parties in the House including the independents and I believe I have the unanimous consent of the House of the following motion.

That notwithstanding any Standing Order and the usual practice of this House, motion M-22 be dropped to the bottom of the order of precedence and the ordinary hour of daily adjournment on Friday, February 28, 1992 be deemed to be 3 o'clock p.m.

The seconder is the member for Vancouver East.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): The House has heard the terms of the motion. Is it agreed?

Mr. Hicks: I would like to confirm that consultations have taken place. The government side is in agreement.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): There has been agreement or are you withholding agreement?

Mr. Shields: It can be brought forward maybe after the vote tonight or before the vote tonight to confirm.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): Is it the pleasure of the House to adopt the motion?

Some hon. members: Agreed.

Motion agreed to.

Mr. Jack Shields (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Employment and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, I was a little bit disappointed in my friend from the NDP who spoke earlier.