

*Election Expenses Bill*

Messrs:

Cafik	Lewis
Chappell	L'Heureux
Clermont	Loiselle
Cobbe	Macdonald Rosedale
Comtois	MacEachen
Corriveau	MacInnis (Mrs.)
Côté (Richelieu)	Mackasey
Côté (Longueuil)	McBride
Cyr	McNulty
Davis	Marceau
Deachman	Mather
Deakon	Munro
De Bané	Murphy
Drury	Noël
Dubé	Nystrom
Dupras	O'Connell
Faulkner	Olson
Forest	Osler
Forget	Otto
Francis	Ouellet
Gendron	Pelletier
Gibson	Penner
Gilbert	Pepin
Gillespie	Perrault
Gleave	Peters
Groos	Prud'homme
Guay (St. Boniface)	Richardson
Guay (Lévis)	Roberts
Guilbault	Robinson
Hellyer	Rochon
Hopkins	Rose
Howard	Rowland
(Okanagan Boundary)	Roy (Timmins)
Howard (Skeena)	Roy (Laval)
Jamieson	Saltsman
Kaplan	Serré
Knight	Smith (Saint-Jean)
Knowles (Winnipeg)	Stafford
North Centre)	Stanbury
Lachance	Stewart
Laing	(Okanagan-Kootenay)
(Vancouver South)	Sullivan
Lajoie	Trudeau
Lang (Saskatoon-)	Trudel
Humboldt)	Turner (London-East)
Langlois	Walker
Leblanc (Laurier)	Watson
Lefebvre	Weatherhead
Legault	Whelan
Lessard (LaSalle)	Whiting—114
Lessard	
(Lac-Saint-Jean)	

• (1550)

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Laniel):** I declare the motion lost.

[Translation]

**Mr. Fortin:** Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order.

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Laniel):** The hon. member for Lotbinière on a point of order.

**Mr. Fortin:** Mr. Speaker, the Créditiste members refrained from voting because this was a waste of time and a silly game on the part of the Progressive Conservatives.

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Laniel):** Order. Obviously, the hon. member will agree with the Chair that this point of order is groundless.

[English]

**Mr. Baldwin:** A point of order, Mr. Speaker—

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Laniel):** The hon. member for Peace River (Mr. Baldwin)—order please.

**Mr. Baldwin:**—the taxpayers' money.

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Laniel):** Order, please. The hon. member for Peel South (Mr. Chappell).

**Mr. Hyl Chappell (Peel South):** Mr. Speaker, as Chairman of the committee may I remind all hon. members how the report on election expenses came about. The Barbeau Committee, consisting of Mr. Alphonse Barbeau, the Honourable M. J. Coldwell, Mr. Gordon R. Dryden, Mr. A. R. Smith and Dr. Norman Ward, and which included representatives from the major parties, was appointed in October 1964 and submitted its report on election expenses in October 1966.

In the last session, pursuant to an order of the House dated October 8, 1970, a special committee considered the comprehensive two volume report of the Barbeau Committee, the new election expenses legislation of Quebec, Nova Scotia and other jurisdictions, held 45 meetings, heard dozens of witnesses including representatives of the main political parties, the legislative assemblies of Quebec and Nova Scotia, the government of Puerto Rico, the Canadian Labour Congress, the Canadian Association of Broadcasters, the CBC, the CRTC, Chief Electoral Officers of Canada, Quebec, Nova Scotia, and many others.

In considering the report and Bill C-211, Mr. Speaker, I suggest that one must start with four basic principles. First, a candidate cannot hope to be elected unless he spreads his message effectively. With today's costs and more populous ridings, this can be quite expensive and perhaps prohibitive. Second, there is an advantage to a candidate with wealth, whether inherited or earned. Effective controls on spending and a modest financial contribution to a candidate's expenses would substantially remove this inequity. Third, all costs cannot be paid by the public treasury; the greater proportion of funds must continue to come in the form of voluntary donations from supporters of the candidate and the party. Research has indicated that if a great deal of money comes from the government, people are reluctant to give because they feel the candidate is well looked after. Fourth, it is a myth that large contributions lie waiting for willing receivers. Funds are difficult to obtain both for the individual candidate and the parties. Legislation must be clear and positive to encourage contributions through tax incentives, protection of the name of the donor and protection of the candidate against overcharge by radio, T.V. and the press and by controls on the amount which he can spend both in respect of an over-all ceiling and the period of time during which he may spend money during a campaign.

The Barbeau report was an excellent and comprehensive document, but it is five years old. Many changes have taken place since it was submitted, and we have had the advantage of hearing comments on its proposals and on the Quebec and Nova Scotia legislation. While the committee digressed from the report considerably, I hope we have come up with something good. After complete study