

*S.O. 21*

ences to extra billing cast unfair shadows over physicians in some provinces, particularly Nova Scotia.

In the late 1960s, when health care only covered hospital services, the federal Government and the Government of Nova Scotia negotiated the extension of the existing plan to physician services. Quite understandably, the negotiation extended to the physicians who were represented by the Medical Society of Nova Scotia.

With limited resources, Nova Scotia could not afford extension of health care services even with federal assistance. The compromise reached was that physicians agreed to accept 85 per cent of the approved fees for services rendered. Physicians were granted the option of charging the patient for the remainder of the fee.

To characterize this process as extra billing is misleading to the public, and unfair to Nova Scotia physicians. The Medical Society of Nova Scotia must have the opportunity to present their case and their position to the parliamentary committee reviewing the Canada Health Act. The real issue in health services is the quality of patient care. Let us not allow the Minister of National Health and Welfare to confuse this issue with empty rhetoric.

\* \* \*

**AIR SAFETY****BAN ON SMOKING IN AIRCRAFT ADVOCATED**

**Mr. Maurice Harquail (Restigouche):** Mr. Speaker, I rise on a subject of urgent and pressing necessity. It concerns the Canadian travelling public. While I commend and congratulate the Minister of Transport (Mr. Axworthy) for setting up the Canadian Aviation Safety Board, with the appointment of Lieutenant-General Thorneycroft to be Inspector General of Transportation Safety for Transport Canada, I do not believe that this goes far enough. When we see recent events, such as the fire in a cockpit of an Air Canada flight when a member of the crew lit his briefcase with a cigarette, they focus once again the urgency of having the Minister take a serious view at least at recommending to airlines that employees such as pilots, co-pilots, and other crew, be prohibited from smoking in the cockpits of aircraft.

I recommended to the House that Members support me in this endeavour to protect the travelling public in Canada by having the Minister of Transport seriously consider banning all smoking on aircraft in this country.

\* \* \*

**BANKS AND BANKING****LACK OF INSURANCE PROTECTION FOR LONG-TERM DEPOSITS**

**Mr. Gus Mitges (Grey-Simcoe):** Mr. Speaker, it has come to my attention that there was a very serious omission when the Canada Deposit Insurance Corporation Act was amended and passed into law on April 27, 1983.

All of us are aware that the amendments, among other things, raised the amount from \$20,000 to \$60,000 that one could have on deposit in an account that would be insured against the possibility of a bank, or trust company, or other lending institutions in which the funds are deposited, going bankrupt.

However, the guarantee is only for funds on fixed deposit for five years or less. In other words, funds on deposit that are locked in for a period of more than five years are not included and are not protected by the Canada Deposit Insurance Act.

I believe the vast majority of Canadians are unaware of this and think that their funds are perfectly safe and protected if the term of fixed deposit is more than five years. Therefore I call upon the Government either to make this information readily available to Canadians or to change the Canada Deposit Insurance Act so that it applies to all deposits regardless of the number of years such deposits are in place.

\* \* \*

[Translation]

**THE BUDGET****ATTITUDE OF QUEBEC GOVERNMENT TO SENIOR CITIZENS**

**Mr. Raymond Savard (Verdun-Saint-Paul):** Mr. Speaker, there are in Canada some 750,000 senior citizens, three quarters of whom are women who live at the poverty level. The Minister wanted to help them by providing for a minimum monthly pension of \$600, or \$7,200 a year. To that end, a Bill will be introduced shortly by the Minister of National Health and Welfare (Miss Bégin) to provide persons living alone with an increase of \$50 a month, in two stages, \$25 a month starting July 1st, 1984, and \$25 more a month starting December 1st, 1984. This means the extra help paid by this Government will total \$460 million on a yearly basis.

The main reason why I rise in this House, Mr. Speaker, is that the Quebec Government does not seem to be greatly concerned with senior citizens, judging from the remarks of its Premier. It is my hope that this increase, so eagerly awaited by senior citizens, particularly those living in retirement centers, will not be pocketed by the Quebec Government, that it will be passed on to those people who built this country and who deserve a healthy, decent standard of living.

\* \* \*

[English]

**PENSIONS****BUDGET MEASURES CONDEMNED**

**Mr. Neil Young (Beaches):** Mr. Speaker, the Budget of the Minister of Finance (Mr. Lalonde) leaves current pensioners out in the cold. One quarter of Canadians over 65 live on incomes below the poverty line. But the Government seems to be content. It has again refused to recognize the eradication of