The Budget

study of those two items. That is the point I am trying to make.

Mr. Murphy: Madam Speaker, for clarification, could the parliamentary secretary indicate exactly which Senate motion or bill that he wants brought forward for discussion tomorrow? Is it S-5 or S-9?

Mr. Cooper: Madam Speaker, it is S-9, an act to amalgamate the two corporations known, respectively, as "The Governing Council of The Salvation Army, Canada East" and "The Governing Council of the Salvation Army, Canada West".

There have been considerable discussions on this bill between the three parties and it was my understanding at the last conversations, although none of them are current to these proposals, that all three parties were supporting the bill and that it would go forward without a vote. I do not think we are proposing anything that causes any problem to any party in the House.

The Acting Speaker (Mrs. Champagne): I thank all hon. members for their help. The problem is as follows: as far as S-9 is concerned, the hon. member in whose name the bill stands has refused for us to proceed as he will not be able to be here. So, that settles the question as far as S-9 is concerned.

Bill S-11, as the House may realize, is in front of the committee. We could not proceed with S-11, which is why I had to instruct the Table that we could not proceed with Private Members' Business tomorrow.

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

[English]

THE BUDGET

FINANCIAL STATEMENT OF THE MINISTER OF FINANCE

The House resumed consideration of the motion of Mr. Wilson (Etobicoke Centre) that this House approves in general the budgetary policy of the government.

The Acting Speaker (Mrs. Champagne): Before Statements by Members and Question Period the Hon.

Member for Rosedale had the floor. He had three minutes left.

Hon. David MacDonald (Rosedale): Madam Speaker, in the few minutes I have remaining I will simply deal with a couple of matters which I had been addressing before we moved to statements and Ouestion Period.

In looking at this budget it is very important to realize that it is a federal budget. It is a budget that recognizes that, in this country particularly, the national management of the country's economic good health cannot happen in some kind of an isolated vacuum.

There are two charts which I think speak loud and clear about the necessity of achieving some kind of fiscal balance in this country which is very important to our future economic and social health. One relates to program expenditures. On page 127 on the English side of this budget presentation, there is a very interesting graph which depicts the statistical situation we are in.

In the course of the last five years, since the mid-eighties, there has been an average increase in provincial expenditures for program activity of some 6.4 per cent, while on the federal side it has been held to 3.6 per cent, which is almost half the provincial average. In some cases, that expenditure has been a good deal higher, particularly in the province of Ontario, where it has been closer to 10 per cent, at 9.5 per cent.

If we look at the opposite page, showing the situation in respect of debt charges, the picture becomes even more dramatic. It is well known to everybody in this Chamber, and in fact now to many in the Canadian public, that our federal debt charges are 35.1 cents; that is one-third of every dollar. But the average on a provincial basis is a little over 10 cents, 11.8 cents. That is a dramatic difference.

The figures on those two charts tells us something. For the better part of the last five years, we have been in a situation where the federal government has been carrying an inordinate load in almost every aspect of program activity and expenditure. What has been attempted over the course of the last five years is to redress that balance in some kind of responsible manner.