

minister and the deputy minister of public works that the restructuring of DPW would not be included in the legislative program of the government for 1971-72.

With regard to the current situation, we became aware over the last few years that it was necessary to improve the management of government programs and keep Parliament better informed. The Glassco commission, the Auditor General and the Lambert commission, considered those questions and made recommendations likely to bring about improvements. Moreover, the department had to consider those questions because of recent financial constraints. The Auditor General, the Lambert commission and the Standing Senate Committee on National Finance have recognized the necessity to divulge and justify rental costs of premises. Each one of them recommended the billing of rental costs and the management of DPW operations according to revenues as a first step toward that goal. In the spring of 1979 an interdepartmental committee under the Treasury Board Secretariat recommended that a plan be drawn up to ensure management of the DPW space rental program according to the revenues collected.

In view of the foregoing, DPW is currently working on the development of a system to collect from its client departments and corporations the utilization costs for the premises and the services provided to them. This system is supposed to allow DPW activities to become revenue dependent. This revenue dependency will be secured directly by way of changes based on market rates for premises and professional services.

By billing the department for expenses related to premises, management and professional services provided by DPW and its operating costs according to the revenue dependency principle, the efficiency and effectiveness of the department would be improved, as well parliamentary control over premises costs, would be reduced. The proposed system must provide for the management of space leased by the Department of Public Works or belonging to the Crown. The Department of Public Works is responsible for some 9,500 buildings and over 8 million square metres of space leased at an estimated annual cost of \$650 million in 1979-80, with operating and maintenance annual costs of \$492 million. This system must also provide for real property management as well as the management of professional services provided by DPW, such as planning and management of assets, architectural and engineering services, and purchase and disposal of real property. Those services are estimated at \$135 million each year. The assets—

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Ethier): Order. The hon. member for Vaudreuil (Mr. Herbert) on a point of order.

Mr. Herbert: Mr. Speaker, the parliamentary secretary has quoted from a document published in 1970, the very one requested in my motion. I suggest he could now let us see this document as he has read approximately two thirds of it.

Borrowing Authority

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Ethier): This suggestion may be discussed some other time. The hour provided for the consideration of private members' business having expired, I do now leave the chair until eight o'clock tonight.

At six o'clock, the House took recess.

AFTER RECESS

The House resumed at 8 p.m.

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

[*English*]

BORROWING AUTHORITY ACT, 1981-82

SUPPLEMENTARY BORROWING AUTHORITY

The House resumed consideration of the motion of Mr. Bussi eres (for the Minister of Finance) that Bill C-59, to provide supplementary borrowing authority, be read the second time and referred to the Standing Committee on Finance, Trade and Economic Affairs.

Hon. Don Mazankowski (Vegreville): Mr. Speaker, at the commencement of my remarks regarding this particular bill earlier today, I mentioned this country's growing gross national debt, the net debt, the fact that the interest on that particular debt is in excess of \$12 billion annually, and the burden all that imposes upon Canadians. I spoke as well of the failure of the government to act in a responsible manner and of its lack of sound fiscal management.

A year ago this government won an election on the pretext that Canadians could get a "free lunch" when it comes to energy prices. It fought the election campaign on the pretext that this country could continue to borrow against the future. Now we are faced with some harsh realities that are the result of those election promises. We are paying more for energy and we face an increasing deficit over the next few years.

As I pointed out earlier, the combined deficits over an eight-year period amount to some \$92 billion. Energy prices have increased 50 per cent since the defeat of the Conservative government and the country is faced with the prospect of larger deficits.

The government has failed to bite the bullet; it has failed to level with the Canadian people. The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Finance (Mr. Evans) shakes his head in a negative manner, but he knows that is the case; the record speaks for itself.

It is unfortunate that this government still has not learned its lesson. It continues on a policy course that has not changed.