

*Supply—Mr. Winkler*

hospitalization program, which was the first step in this field. The government should take notice of that experience.

I have had an opportunity to learn some of the methods that will be used. As a matter of fact I have had an opportunity to learn, in a very personal way, some of the projections which the provinces have placed before the government. I might say that one of the conversations I heard took place amid the laughter of people in high places, and for that reason I think the government, for the sake of votes, should not confuse the need that exists with what it may achieve politically.

Let us take account of what the present circumstances are. Let us realize the way in which the funds are raised. I am not speaking politically. I can quote figures from the city of Toronto, where we do not have a Conservative member, but where the circumstances are exactly the same as they are in many other parts of the country. In this connection I have with me an editorial from the *Toronto Daily Star*, as well as one from the *Toronto Telegram*, both dealing with exactly the same subject matter, and on investigation I note that the realty taxpayers of this country still contribute to a community to a greater extent than do both levels of government. Surely this is a regrettable state of affairs when, as it seems, we are moving into an era in which the federal government wishes to socialize medical treatment.

I have before me personal, private statements from two hospital boards in western Ontario which indicate beyond a shadow of doubt that the municipality concerned, and its residents, will have to raise the lion's share of money in order to meet the needs of the community. If we are in any way going to burden the facilities of hospitals, without first supplying the accommodation required, then we are going to make a great mistake and the government will have to bear the responsibility.

● (7:20 p.m.)

I have these two statements with me which indicate that the communities concerned in each case are having difficulty financing these programs. I will give the percentages in respect of one case. The local funds required for the construction of a hospital at this time, and these figures do not represent a five-year projection, is 63.9 per cent of the total funds required and the funds available from both sources of government is 35.9 per cent. There

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seems to be some discrepancy there but these figures have been supplied by the boards concerned.

I say to you and the house, Mr. Speaker, that if there is indeed a national need, it is high time the federal government realized this need and acted accordingly. As the doctor who has written me explains in his letter, every doctor in Canada has had the experience of patients dying because there were no patient facilities available at the time of the patients' needs.

This letter then continues and explains about people who have had to wait three months for a gall bladder operation, and how critical a situation this can be at certain stages of this malady. He specifically writes about a young boy who has suffered a deformity since birth. He states that this deformity could be cured by surgery, but that the boy cannot get into the hospital for that surgery because of a backlog of patients. He states that it will be at least three months before this young lad can be taken care of. The doctor then proceeds to say that medicare is only the concern of politicians because it is a better vote-getter, but that hospital beds in actual fact are much more important to the health of this nation. It is easy to say that under medicare, there will be \$50 extra per capita in the pockets of the taxpayers at the end of the year, but medicare will be no good unless services and proper institutions are available. Once again I must wholeheartedly agree with what the doctor has said.

While it is true that in the case of one municipality 50 per cent of patients come from that municipality, in respect of the other one only 48 per cent live there. I am aware of this situation and know that the ratepayers had to borrow the money to build that institution, because I was president of the board on the occasion of the building of that particular hospital. The other municipality contributed only a very small percentage of the cost.

We have known of many interested individuals in communities who have on bended knee or with hats in hand begged different levels of government, municipal councils, adjoining municipal councils and county councils for funds to build planned hospital institutions. In view of that and the plan which is to be instituted by the government, surely the Minister of National Health and Welfare (Mr. MacEachen) could come out at the conference now being held in Ottawa and assure these