

government expenditures, it is still much below what it was 15 or 20 years ago. While it is rising now, it is not at a level which has not been sustained or is not sustainable in an economy the size of this country's which will probably reach \$233 billion in the coming fiscal year—that is the total GNP of the economy. The federal public debt is a portion of that but is not, in our view, an alarming proportion at this time.

**Mr. Lawrence:** Mr. Speaker, bearing in mind the well known and traditional propensity of successive Liberal governments to buy their way into power in the province of Quebec, I wonder if the minister could explain to the House the very obvious imbalance, in respect of major capital public works expenditures and the National Capital Region expenditures together total over \$164 million in this election year. In contrast, in the province of Ontario the public works capital expenditures and the National Capital Region expenditures total \$41.5 million, that is, \$164 million against \$41.5 million. Can the minister explain such an obvious imbalance in these figures?

**Mr. Andras:** Mr. Speaker, I would be glad to let my colleagues, the Minister of Public Works (Mr. Buchanan) or the Minister of State for Urban Affairs (Mr. Ouellet), who is responsible for the National Capital Region, note this question and deal with it in great detail for the hon. member. There are many factors involved, however, commitments for the completion of buildings, and obviously there is a fairly major expenditure involved in buildings in the city of Hull, as part of the National Capital which happens to be in the province of Quebec. This is a decision which was made some years ago and on which work is being completed now. I shall ask my two colleagues to reply in detail, and I am sure they will look forward to it.

**Mr. Lawrence:** Mr. Speaker—

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. Introduction of bills.

**Mr. Lawrence:** May I just—

**Mr. Speaker:** First reading of Senate public bills.

**Mr. Lawrence:** Mr. Speaker—

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. I have just finished denying a supplementary question to the hon. member for Richmond (Mr. Beaudoin). If I grant one, I have to grant two. I think there has been adequate questioning.

**Mr. Lawrence:** Mr. Speaker—

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please; order, please.

### Order Paper Questions

#### REVISED STATUTES

##### REFERRAL OF DOCUMENT TO STANDING COMMITTEE ON JUSTICE AND LEGAL AFFAIRS

On the Order: Government notices of motion:

February 20—The Deputy Prime Minister and President of the Privy Council—The following proposed motion:—That the document entitled *Proposals to correct certain anomalies, inconsistencies, archaisms, errors and other matters of a non-controversial and uncomplicated nature in the Revised Statutes of Canada, 1970, and other Acts, subsequent to 1970*, tabled on the 1st of February, 1978, be referred to the Standing Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs.

**Mr. MacEachen:** Stand.

**Mr. Speaker:** Pursuant to Section 2 of Standing Order 21 this government notice of motion is transferred to and ordered for consideration under government orders later this day or at the next sitting of the House.

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#### MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. I have the honour to inform the House that a message has been received from the Senate informing this House that the Senate have passed Bill S-8, an Act respecting Fugitive Offenders in Canada, to which the concurrence of this House is desired.

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#### PETITIONS

##### SECURITY, IMMIGRATION, AND PRIVILEGES OF MEMBERS

**Mr. Elmer M. MacKay (Central Nova):** Mr. Speaker, pursuant to Standing Order 67 I hereby present a petition relating to certain matters of security, immigration, and the privileges of members of the House of Commons.

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#### QUESTIONS ON THE ORDER PAPER

[*Translation*]

(Questions answered orally are indicated by an asterisk.)

**Mr. Yvon Pinard (Parliamentary Secretary to President of Privy Council):** Mr. Speaker, the following questions will be answered today: 56 to 60 inclusively, 550, 694 and 1,298.

[*Text*]

YUKON NATIVE BROTHERHOOD—FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Question No. 56—**Mr. Orlikow:**

1. Was any financial assistance given by the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development or any other department to the Yukon Native Brotherhood since the Brotherhood was organized and, if so, by year, what was the amount?