

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Wednesday, November 30, 1983

The House met at 2 p.m.

● (1405)

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order. I hope that it will be possible for Hon. Members to join me in the chambers of Madam Speaker after the events of this afternoon for the usual reception.

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MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

Mr. Deputy Speaker: 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 the following Bills, without amendment:

Bill C-96, an Act to amend the Financial Administration Act;

Bill C-171, an Act to amend the Garnishment, Attachment and Pension Diversion Act;

Bill C-170, an Act to authorize investment in and the provision of financial assistance to the Atlantic Fisheries for the purpose of restructuring fishery enterprises; and also

Bill C-173, an Act for granting to Her Majesty certain sums of money for the Government of Canada for the financial year ending the 31st March, 1984.

THE ROYAL ASSENT

[English]

Mr. Deputy Speaker: I have the honour to inform the House that a communication has been received, which is as follows:

Madam,

I have the honour to inform you that His Excellency the Governor General will proceed to the Senate Chamber today, the 30th day of November, 1983, at 1400 hours, to give Royal Assent to certain Bills and for the purpose of proroguing the First Session of the Thirty-Second Parliament.

I have the honour to be
Madam,

Your obedient servant,
Edmond Joly de Lotbinière

Administrative Secretary to the Governor General

Mr. Domm: I rise on a brief point of order, Mr. Speaker. I wonder how you could have all of this information. I am sure I heard the bells ringing in the Senate when I came into this Chamber.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Statements pursuant to Standing Order 21. The Hon. Member for Winnipeg-Assiniboine.

STATEMENTS PURSUANT TO S.O. 21

[English]

PROVINCIAL AFFAIRS

MANITOBA FUNDING OF HOSPITALS—CALL FOR INVESTIGATION

Mr. Dan McKenzie (Winnipeg-Assiniboine): Mr. Speaker, I wish to call on the Minister of National Health and Welfare (Miss Bégin) to launch an immediate investigation into the manner in which the New Democratic Government of Manitoba is mismanaging its funding for health care. Three tragedies have occurred at the Manitoba Health Sciences Centre because of the NDP restraint policy of reducing staff at hospitals, which results in unacceptably low staffing and overcrowding. In one instance a nurse at the Health Sciences Centre had in her care 24 babies in the nursery. It was in this overcrowded nursery that two infants died.

The staff of the Health Sciences Centre are not able to perform their duties effectively under these conditions. In response to the obvious need for increased hospital funding the NDP Government announced a 3 per cent spending limit on hospitals and ordered the obstetrics unit at the Seven Oaks and Concordia hospitals to be shut down, adding an even greater burden to the Health Sciences Centre and a greater risk to the patients.

There is no public confidence in the administration of health services by the New Democratic Government. Clearly this is gross mismanagement on the part of the NDP, and an immediate investigation by the Minister of National Health and Welfare is necessary to make certain that funding for health care facilities in Manitoba is of an amount to ensure a standard level of safety, and that this funding is not misdirected.

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THE ADMINISTRATION

NEWSPAPER REPORT OF STATEMENTS BY MEMBER FOR YORK WEST

Mr. John McDermid (Brampton-Georgetown): Mr. Speaker, the people of Canada had their suspicions. We in the Opposition have been saying it for years, and now the truth is out. The Liberal Government and Cabinet are controlled by the bureaucrats and do not listen to the people of Canada.

Let us review the facts presented by the Hon. Member for York West (Mr. Fleming), and I quote from the Toronto *Star* of November 30: