

2. *Page 14, Schedule I to Part I:* Strike out item 4 and substitute the following:

"4. Kidnapping, forcible seizure, hostage-taking, abduction, child abduction, false imprisonment."

3. *Page 24, Schedule I to Part II:* Strike out item 4 and substitute the following:

"4. Kidnapping, forcible seizure, hostage-taking, abduction, child abduction, false imprisonment."

Respectfully submitted,

RICHARD A. DONAHOE
Chairman

The Hon. the Speaker: Honourable senators, when shall this report be taken into consideration?

Senator Donahoe moved that the report be placed on the Orders of the Day for consideration at the next sitting.

Motion agreed to.

THE BUDGET

NOTICE OF INQUIRY

Senator Olson: Honourable senators, I give notice that on Tuesday next, December 18, I will call the attention of the Senate to certain items in the budget presented by the Minister of Finance on December 11, 1979.

Senator Flynn: You are certainly the one qualified to do so.

Senator Perrault: Hear, hear.

TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS

CHANGE IN COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

Senator Macdonald, with leave of the Senate and notwithstanding rule 45(1)(i), moved:

That the name of the Honourable Senator Balfour be substituted for that of the Honourable Senator Yuzyk on the list of senators serving on the Standing Senate Committee on Transport and Communications.

Motion agreed to.

QUESTION PERIOD

[English]

THE BUDGET

STATEMENT BY PREMIER OF ONTARIO

Senator Perrault: Honourable senators, last night the Canadian people and the Parliament of Canada were presented with the first budget of this new government. For the sake of Canada, all of us hope that the budget is a successful one

[Senator Donahoe.]

and achieves the objectives which have been set forth by the government. But may I say, on behalf of many members of this chamber and, I suspect, a good many Canadians, that there are some concerns in our minds with respect to that budget. It is because of those concerns that we hope to have a full budget discussion in this chamber in the next few days.

Our concerns are shared by some of the outstanding leaders in this country, including certain supporters and friends of this government. My question this afternoon arises from a statement made by one of the leading supporters of this government and a person who worked perhaps more zealously than any other provincial premier to assure its election, the Honourable William Davis, Premier of Ontario. I shall first quote briefly from his statement, issued in response to the budget, following which I shall put my question.

● (1415)

Premier William Davis of Ontario has stated that the new budget "takes billions of dollars away from the consumers and fails to use it to finance energy saving measures." He went on to say, and again I am quoting his words, that he had:

"grave concern" about the oil and gas price increases in the budget. The province had warned that huge price increases will cost Ontario jobs.

He said:

What in fact appears to be happening is that billions of dollars will be taxed from people across Canada and transferred to the treasury of the federal government and the governments of the producing provinces. These massive new revenues are not being adequately returned to consumers and the economy.

He went on at great length to say: that this budget would "place a severe financial hardship on many people." He concluded by saying: "Among the wealthy it will not promote conservation. Among the disadvantaged it will cause serious financial hardship."

In view of the fact that this statement has been made by the leading provincial Conservative premier in this country, surely the government must be concerned, and I ask this question: Apart from the vague assurances that have been given that the additional revenues will be used for energy-related projects, how does the minister believe he can convince the Canadian people when he has not been able to convince the Conservative Premier of Ontario that he has any tangible and useful plans for spending this money? Is he in a position this afternoon to describe for the Senate some of the specific alternate energy projects that are going to be the recipients of additional funds to be realized by this budget? Perhaps a positive statement now will reassure the Premier of Ontario as well.

Senator de Cotret: Honourable senators, I would certainly hope, first of all, to reassure the honourable senator opposite who referred to "vague statements in the budget" that the budget was very explicit in saying that all revenues to be received by the federal government from the new energy tax would be recycled in the economy in the form of investments