

Yukon and Northwest Territories

money than is proposed for spending, or to increase or decrease taxes, they would have the right, within the limits of proposed expenditures, to say to the commissioner and the rest of the bureaucracy that they want certain things done.

For instance, they could say they do not agree with the way in which money is being spent, that they want it spent in other ways, to meet other desires and other, more important needs. For instance, they could say that they want to spend more money on education and less on road building; more on housing and less on the Commissioner's Ball; more on health, and less for travel on the part of some high ranking civil servant working for the territorial council. If the minister were to make that kind of decision and bring in that kind of proposal, he would have the support of my party and not hear the kinds of criticisms which we have had to make today.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Laniel): Is the House ready for the question? Is it the pleasure of the House to adopt the said motion?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Motion agreed to, bill read the second time and referred to the Standing Committee on Indian Affairs and Northern Development.

[Translation]

PROCEEDINGS ON ADJOURNMENT MOTION

SUBJECT MATTER OF QUESTION TO BE DEBATED

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Laniel): It is my duty, pursuant to Standing Order 40, to inform the House that the questions to be raised tonight at the time of adjournment are as follows: the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre (Mr. Knowles)—Social security—Old Age Security and Canada Pension Plan payments—Possibility of reduction of age of eligibility to 60; the hon. member for Assiniboia (Mr. Knight)—Transport—Shortage of railway cars to move grain and lumber—Return of Canadian cars from United States—Repair of rolling stock; the hon. member for Winnipeg North (Mr. Orlikow)—Transport—Railway freight rates—Provision of information to western premiers.

[English]

It being five o'clock, the House will now proceed to the consideration of private members' business as listed on today's order paper, namely, notices of motions and public bills.

[Mr. Orlikow.]

PRIVATE MEMBERS' MOTIONS

[English]

HOUSING

SUGGESTED REPOSSESSION OF ROCHDALE COLLEGE

Mr. Reg Stackhouse (Scarborough East) moved:

That, in the opinion of this House, the government should act, by legislative or other means, to take over immediate and direct control of the so-called Rochdale College building in Toronto, and thereupon evict the present occupants and arrange for a socially-constructive use of the building.

He said: Mr. Speaker, in rising to speak on this particular motion may I point out that, often, this House follows the adversary system, which works well. Often a matter is well resolved after being condemned from one side and defended from the other. May I point out, however, that with respect to this motion we all have something to gain. It gives all members of the House, regardless of party, an opportunity to declare themselves about an issue of deep concern to the people of this country, particularly in the Toronto area. As well, it will provide the government with an opportunity to gain support for action that it may find is needed. So, I hope we can all take part in the discussion on this motion with that in mind, remembering that this is not primarily a subject of party concern so much as of social concern, a subject on which we can unite and, by debating this motion, declare ourselves and support the government on action which may be required.

We must remember that our primary concern is not so much to attribute responsibility or guilt as to seek a solution. We must consider, together, how we are to arrive at that solution. Certainly, the government made a mistake when it agreed to finance the building of Rochdale College with a CMHC mortgage. The record of Rochdale shows this to have been a mistake. Mistakes can be corrected; that is the point. Rochdale has come; but Rochdale must go. In view of its major involvement originally, the government ought to be determined to see Rochdale College go. If one method fails, the government must try another.

Recently it has been trying one method, the judicial method. News reports of the past weekend say that the receivers in charge of the building, who represent various creditors, are seeking authority to evict the tenants. That action, if successful, would certainly meet one of the objectives of the motion. That application which is to be heard on Wednesday, according to news reports, may fail. In that case I hope that the various authorities concerned, with the government behind them, will try another method. I hope they will keep trying until the ultimate objective of cleansing this building and turning it over for a legitimate social purpose has been achieved.

The need for this determination should be clear to us all. One reason is the contemptible condition of Rochdale itself. It has sickened people across this country. The government must show the people that it is determined to act and achieve the objectives referred to. The second reason is the amazing survival power that Rochdale seems to have had. From its beginning until now, it has demonstrated an incredible capacity for withstanding governments, courts, police, the media and public opinion. This