

*National Economic Development Board*

**Mr. Speaker:** The point of the matter is that hon. members are talking about different things. I am of the opinion that if the two hon. members could agree on the means of transport concerned, whether it be by airplane or by railroad, these sort of discussions could be avoided.

(Text):

**HOUSE OF COMMONS****INQUIRY AS TO SALARY INCREASES FOR STAFF**

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. Stanley Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre):** Mr. Speaker, may I direct a question to the Minister of Finance. Can the minister say whether the commissioners of internal economy of the House of Commons have yet dealt with the question of salary increases for employees of the House of Commons comparable to those given to classified civil servants before Christmas?

**Hon. George C. Nowlan (Minister of Finance):** The commissioners have dealt generally with this matter. There are one or two details which have yet to be arranged, but the matter will be dealt with within the next day or two.

**NATIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT BOARD****PROVISION FOR DEFINITION OF DUTIES,  
APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS, ETC.**

The house resumed, from Thursday, November 29, consideration of the motion of Mr. Nowlan for the second reading of Bill No. C-87, to provide for the establishment of a national economic development board.

(Translation):

**Mr. Real Caouette (Villeneuve):** Mr. Speaker, to add to the remarks I was making when this debate was adjourned, I now want to reiterate here that we approve the passing of a legislation to establish a national economic development board.

I am not going to delay the business of the house to a great extent, because several hon. members want to deal with the matter. And as we are just coming back from a well deserved holiday, during which I had the privilege of holding 42 meetings without the hon. member for St. Jean-Iberville-Napierville (Mr. Dupuis), it is not only necessary, but urgent that the Canadian parliament pass such legislation at the earliest possible date.

If we members of parliament are unable to see the almost unlimited opportunities for economic development which this country offers, I believe that there are, among our own voters, some people who can easily guess that there are such possibilities.

[Mr. Gregoire.]

As I just said, our opportunities are vast and indeed, unlimited. There is no member in this house nor any Canadian citizen who need fear to be unable to find some sort of production tomorrow, in Canada whether in the field of clothing, food or housing. As yet unsuspected resources are available to us which could be developed at the earliest opportunity. We realize that everything cannot be achieved within a month, or six months, or even a year, but we believe that the time has come to see that those natural resources of ours in Canada are developed, so that we may attain a maximum of employment—I do not say full employment, because I do not believe it possible, but a maximum of security and personal freedom which we crave, and that within the limits of this Canada of ours.

Mr. Speaker, these days, some groups try to convince our people that it is necessary for us to accept nuclear arms on our soil or to equip our forces overseas with those nuclear arms.

I believe that the act establishing a national economic development board would counteract those plans for building up nuclear stocks in Canada.

Instead of preparing this country with only 18 million people for a possible war and building up nuclear reserves, we should all get together and promote the production of butter and bread, and prepare our available potential so as to be able to distribute food to the underdeveloped people of the world who are starving at this time.

We would, then, be an example of peace and freedom for everybody. I believe that this would be the most important role for Canada to play on the international scene, that is to become an agent for peace and freedom for those people who are now in distress and poverty and are letting themselves be slowly submerged by international communism.

Mr. Speaker, we Social Crediters have been for a long time promoting these economic development measures. We believe in our country, we have confidence in our population and, as we have repeated many times, we are convinced that what is physically feasible should be made financially possible.

What is morally desirable, what we can achieve with our talents, our own forces, by means of our social organization, all that should be made financially possible.