Federal-Provincial Fiscal Arrangements Act

In that year, approximately 34 per cent of smoking related deaths in Canada were due to cancer. Total hospitalization and physicians' services expenditures related to smoking that year are estimated by Health and Welfare officials to have been about \$1.5 billion. Using the mortality figures as an estimator of the physician and hospital costs due to smoking related cancer, slightly over half a billion dollars was spent by governments on smoking related cancer treatment in 1982, with costs shared approximately equally between federal and provincial levels of government.

DEATHS ATTRIBUTED TO TOBACCO-RELATED DISEASES Question No. 481 (revised)—Ms. McDonald:

Since World War II, how many deaths in Canada were attributed to tobacco related diseases?

Hon. Jake Epp (Minister of National Health and Welfare): The U.S. Surgeon General's reports on smoking and health are based on critical reviews of world-wide scientific literature by assembled experts. The Surgeon General estimates that 30 per cent of coronary heart deaths, 30 per cent of all cancer deaths and 80 to 90 per cent of deaths from chronic obstructive lung disease (emphysema) are caused by smoking. Applied to Canadian death statistics, these estimates indicate that about 1.3 million Canadians have died since 1946, from coronary heart disease (about 850,000 deaths), cancer (about 340,000 deaths) and chronic obstructive lung disease (about 100,000 deaths) caused by smoking. Smoking also causes many deaths due to birth-related disorders, peripheral artery disease, peptic ulcers, and fires. Similar risk estimates for these conditions are not readily available.

[Translation]

Mr. Lewis: Mr. Speaker, I ask that the remaining questions be allowed to stand.

Mr. Speaker: The question enumerated by the Parliamentary Secretary has been answered. Shall the remaining questions stand?

Some Hon. Members: Agreed.

(1110)

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

[English]

FEDERAL-PROVINCIAL FISCAL ARRANGEMENTS AND FEDERAL POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION AND HEALTH CONTRIBUTIONS ACT, 1977

MEASURE TO AMEND

The House resumed from Wednesday, May 7, consideration of the motion of Mr. Wilson (Etobicoke Centre) that Bill C-96, an Act to amend the Federal-Provincial Fiscal Arrangements and Federal Post-Secondary Education and Health

Contributions Act, 1977, be read the second time and referred to a legislative committee.

Mr. Doug Lewis (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the opportunity to point out to the House that this Bill appeared on the Notice Paper on February 12, 1986. It was debated on Friday, April 25; Monday, April 28; Friday, May 2; Monday, May 5; Tuesday, May 6; and Wednesday, May 7, at length. There has been a great deal of debate from Parties on all sides. In view of that, I now move, seconded by the Hon. Member for Ontario (Mr. Fennell):

That the question be now put.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): The House has heard the terms of the motion. Is it the pleasure of the House to adopt the motion?

Some Hon. Members: Agreed.

Some Hon. Members: No.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): The Hon. Member for Ottawa—Vanier (Mr. Gauthier) on debate.

Mr. Jean-Robert Gauthier (Ottawa—Vanier): Mr. Speaker, I can understand the impatience of the Parliamentary Secretary since he has not spoken substantively to this Bill. We have yet to hear Ministers from that side speaking to this most important piece of legislation which calls for federal-provincial co-operation with regard to transfer payments for education and health. We have heard one bouffon over there, the Minister of Justice (Mr. Crosbie), speak on this subject, but no other. The Minister of Finance (Mr. Wilson) has not spoken, nor has the Minister of State for Finance (Mrs. McDougall). Yet, the Government wants to gag debate by the Opposition. It wants to put the question now. We are not yet ready to have the question put. We want to debate the issue because it is an important issue for Canadians which deals with two subject matters, education and health.

Bill C-96, an Act to amend the Federal-Provincial Fiscal Arrangements and Federal Post-Secondary Education and Health Contributions Act, 1977, is indeed far-reaching and of such importance that we on this side of the House have tried during the debate to bring to the attention of the Canadian public some of the serious, far-ranging, and permanent impacts which will result from the arrangements which the Government is proposing to put forth.

[Translation]

Mr. Speaker, all provinces will be affected by these cutbacks. The federal Government will save \$319 million in 1986-87; \$2.1 billion in 1990-91 and from 1986-87 to 1990-91, it will save nearly \$6 billion. Six billion dollars which the provinces will not get for justified spending on education and health care.