

*The Territories*

elected Northwest Territories council presided over by a speaker rather than by the commissioner. In addition, this motion does not recognize the announcement in March of last year by the then Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development on increasing the number of councillors on the Yukon executive committee by one, and placing two extra councillors on the Northwest Territories executive committee.

The motion of the hon. member for Yukon is effective, however, in that it deals with the current evolution of territorial constitutional development, for that is the responsible course of action upon which we are presently embarked. Progress has been very definite as a result of the Carrothers commission inquiry of 1965 and the resulting report of 1966. One of the most significant recommendations was that territorial administration be moved from Ottawa to Yellowknife, and that was done within one year. Yellowknife became the new territorial capital—which I was privileged to visit not very long ago, at 46 degrees below zero! These two goals were implemented in 1967.

By 1970, the balance of the report was implemented almost in its entirety with a number of amendments to both the Yukon and the Northwest Territories Acts. Of course the Yukon had attained a fully elected council in 1908. The Northwest Territories council was increased to ten elected members and four appointed councillors—the good grey people to whom my friend across the way referred. The life of both councils was extended from a three to a four year term. Coinciding with that extension, the period during which the Governor in Council may disallow territorial legislation was reduced from two years to one. The Commissioners in Council in both territories were given additional powers in relation to sessional indemnities, expenses and territorial elections.

**Mr. Nielsen:** But the minister can veto.

**Mrs. Campagnolo:** I would read to the learned member across the way a comment written here—"Parliamentary Secretaries beware!"

**An hon. Member:** Of what?

**Mrs. Campagnolo:** Elected representatives are in the majority in the Yukon and the Northwest Territories. The administration of Justice was transferred from Ottawa, with the exception of appointments to the high court which, of course, are a federal matter under the British North America Act, and the institution of criminal proceedings under the Criminal Code. There is progress in the evolution of the northern territories' representative and responsive system of government.

• (1750)

Not touched upon in the motion of the hon. member, but of great consequence, is the current negotiation of Indian land claims in the north. I submit that land claims become more difficult to deal with when a third level of government is involved. I can speak forcefully on this, having for some time wanted to find British Colum-

[Mrs. Campagnolo.]

bia at the bargaining table when land claims in my province were being discussed.

**Mr. Nielsen:** Quebec seems to have managed.

**Mrs. Campagnolo:** Perhaps that province had greater incentives. I submit that a third level of government introduced immediately, as the hon. member for Yukon suggests, would result in the same sorts of frustration and impasse as are being encountered at this time in British Columbia. I point out that these negotiations are extremely sensitive, and that progress is easier when the number of jurisdictions involved is lessened.

Recently the minister indicated that oil and gas royalty policies for the north are being formulated. We are near the time when government oil and gas royalty and taxation policies will be debated in this House. The north will be separated from other frontier areas, such as the east coast, for the purpose of petroleum taxation policies. The benefits of the resources will be directly shared with the people from whose land they are drawn. It will be a matter of sharing the cash which is made available from these resources.

At present the Northwest Territories annual budget is about \$150 million, of which \$100 million in round figures is a deficit grant. For the Yukon, the budget is approximately \$58 million, of which about \$19 million is a deficit grant.

**Mr. Nielsen:** That is rubbish.

**An hon. Member:** No, it is the deficit.

**Mr. Nielsen:** It is absolute rubbish. I don't know where those figures originated.

**Mrs. Campagnolo:** I do not want the level of this debate to degenerate, Mr. Speaker. I have the figures.

**Mr. Nielsen:** They are departmental figures.

**Mrs. Campagnolo:** Mr. Speaker, if the hon. member wishes to have a couple of minutes for rebuttal, I will be pleased to cede him my time.

**Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre):** No.

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Penner):** Order, please. Although the parliamentary secretary may wish to give the hon. member for Yukon time for rebuttal, as the hon. member has already spoken, the Chair would not allow it.

**Mr. Nielsen:** On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, I would love a couple of minutes of the hon. lady's time, any time.

**Mrs. Campagnolo:** Mr. Speaker, in the words of the Minister of National Health and Welfare (Mr. Lalonde), why not?

A councillor from the Yukon said in Ottawa last week that if democracy has to be paid for, the council is ready to pay for it. I believe that the hour is near when the Yukon should move to a more senior status; unfortunately, I do not agree that the moment is right now.