

titude of government agencies, professional groups, official or voluntary agencies which pertain to major policy decisions to be considered by the government of Canada should be reviewed and assessed by this council with the capacity of making appropriate recommendations to the Minister of National Health and Welfare (Mr. Lalonde).

● (1700)

I should now like to say a word or two, if I may, about health research in Canada. The ultimate goal of all health research is to improve the health of each Canadian. Research is linked intimately to the training of professional manpower and a high quality health care system which is further dependent upon viable research. This government has failed to recognize the fundamental truth that medical and health education, medical and health research, as well as the health care systems are linked inseparably to research and health research problems.

To resolve the numerous research problems, I would urge a bold new approach to total health research in the form of an all-encompassing national health research institute. This institute would represent a partnership between the federal government, universities and individual researchers in all fields of endeavour. The board would consist of representatives from universities, administrators and researchers from government and from consumers of health services. This board would report directly to the Minister of National Health and Welfare, and hence to the Cabinet. I can visualize three major components of such an institute: The bio-medical area which is presently under the direction and supervision of the Medical Research Council, and its terms of reference should be expanded; a health care organization to continue the present efforts of the national health grants program, which should be enlarged; and the third area, that of prevention, to include coordination of lifestyle and environmental research components of health.

It is clear that in removing some areas of jurisdiction from government we have effectively asked that universities and the public share the responsibilities for guiding our research destiny. The first task for this new agency would be to establish a national research policy all-encompassing in scope. This body would identify those specific needs and priorities requiring urgent attention, and institute appropriate research programs. Such a body would report to the minister on human and financial resource requirements. Such an agency must promote a higher and more effective dialogue between governments, universities and the public, and there must be periodic evaluation, assessment and recommendations for improvement of the health care system. This agency should link itself in a workable manner with those activities I suggested in respect of a national institute for drug and alcohol dependency. This agency should ensure the academic freedom and present high level of excellence of our researchers, and guarantee stability for those researchers in the health field.

In conclusion, it is the individual Canadian who must capture our concern. When responsive and responsible governments address themselves to health problems and join with an interested and concerned public, as I believe is possible then I have no doubt we can improve the health status of all Canadians.

The Address—Miss Bégin

PROCEEDINGS ON ADJOURNMENT MOTION

[English]

SUBJECT MATTER OF QUESTIONS TO BE DEBATED

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, please. Before recognizing the hon. member for Saint-Michel (Miss Bégin) may I advise the House that pursuant to Standing Order 40 the questions to be raised tonight at the time of adjournment are as follows: The hon. member for Wellington (Mr. Hales)—Industry, Radio Engineering Products Company Limited—inquiry as to sale and recovery of indebtedness to Crown; and the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre (Mr. Knowles)—Veterans Affairs—Recipients of war veterans' allowances, old age security and guaranteed income supplement—Provision of cost of living increases.

SPEECH FROM THE THRONE

[English]

CONTINUATION OF DEBATE ON ADDRESS IN REPLY

The House resumed consideration of the motion of Mr. Stollery for an address to His Excellency the Governor General in reply to his speech at the opening of the session, and the amendment thereto of Mr. Stanfield (p.31).

[Translation]

Miss Monique Bégin (Saint-Michel): Mr. Speaker, before extending the usual wishes, may I convey to the House the pleasure and pride of my fellow citizens of Saint-Michel who have discovered, as it were, our Governor General His Excellency Jules Léger through his interviews on television and have immediately felt drawn to him. As for Mrs. Léger, my colleagues all noted last week that we were so much at ease in the elegant residence of Rideau Hall that I wonder if she did not find it trying when we lingered there.

Mr. Speaker, allow me to convey once again to you and your assistants for that second session of the 29th Parliament, my best wishes in carrying out your very heavy responsibilities.

Before dealing with the main issue, that is the Speech from the Throne, I would like to say a few words on the profession of member of Parliament. On behalf of my colleagues I would like to thank the Speaker and President of the House of Commons of Canada for this co-operation in drafting regulations relating to hon. members' offices within federal constituencies.

The government caucus had laid upon me the responsibility for getting hon. members' opinions on this question and piloting that long awaited project. For the next few minutes I would like to talk a little about hon. member's task at a time when our role is getting greatly discredited, when the importance of the politician in the economic, social and cultural life is more important and real, when there is worry and when it is essential to have a fair