

I am really amazed at this attitude of some of the members from Alberta who do not work for the interests of Alberta. Once they come here, they drink water and they become stooges for the federal government.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. DeBlois): I remind the hon. member that Bill C-51 is on study now in the House.

Mrs. Sparrow: Mr. Speaker, on a point of privilege, I wonder if it would be possible for the House to ask you to review the "blues".

I do think I heard the member for Calgary Northeast make a statement which suggested that members of Parliament come down to Ottawa to drink, which is absolutely not true.

Mr. Rocheleau: To drink water.

Mrs. Sparrow: I would ask you to review the "blues". If that is what he said I think the member should be asked to withdraw those words.

Mr. Kindy: Mr. Speaker, I said they come to Ottawa and drink the water here. I did not mention any other substance, just water.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. DeBlois): Is the House ready for the question?

Some hon. members: Question.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. DeBlois): Is it the pleasure of the House to adopt the motion?

Some hon. members: Agreed.

Motion agreed to, bill read the second time and referred to Legislative Committee B.

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

MEASURE TO AMEND

The House resumed from Monday, March 9, consideration of the motion of Mr. Mazankowski that Bill C-60, an act to amend the Federal-Provincial Fiscal Arrangements and Federal Post-Secondary Education and Health Contributions Act, be read the second time and referred to the Standing Committee on Finance.

Government Orders

The Acting Speaker (Mr. DeBlois): On a point of order, the hon. member for Churchill.

Mr. Murphy: Mr. Speaker, I am seeking clarification. It was my understanding that we were going to Bill C-52 at this point. I know what you have called, I would just—

An hon. member: It is on the Order Paper.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. DeBlois): I remind the hon. member that the projected order of business is subject to change without notice. It is the order of the day. I have no option than to take note of that bill.

Ms. Mary Clancy (Halifax): Mr. Speaker, it is with a certain amount of chagrin that I rise to speak on this bill because there have been so many occasions when I have spoken in this House on this very matter.

This bill is an act to amend the Federal-Provincial Fiscal Arrangements and Federal Post-Secondary Education and Health Contributions Act.

Those are two areas that most particularly in my province of Nova Scotia we are having some difficulties with. I represent, as most members of this House know, the city of Halifax. Within the larger area of the city, my riding and the riding of Halifax West, we have five universities. These are respected and historic institutions of higher education and learning.

We have indeed in the city of Halifax the oldest university in the British Commonwealth outside the British Isles, that being the University of King's College.

We have the largest university in Atlantic Canada with professional schools famous world-wide, Dalhousie University. We have the only women's degree-granting institution in the British Commonwealth of Nations, Mount St. Vincent University. We also have the Nova Scotia College of Art and Design, the Atlantic School of Theology, and of course, St. Mary's University.

Every one of those institutions is suffering. Our universities across the country are suffering, but most particularly in the Atlantic region. We are suffering from the highest tuition fees in the country from the oldest physical plants and from the lowest salaries to our faculty and staff.

There is a great and historic tradition in the province of Nova Scotia with regard to higher education. Indeed, we say with pardonable pride in Nova Scotia that it is graduates of our institutions who have gone across this country to staff other universities.