

The Budget—Mrs. Appolloni

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, since the President of the Privy Council has been giving a forecast of House business which runs into two or three weeks, I wonder whether he could indicate to the House when the bill will be presented which has been referred to several times by the Minister of Transport, and which should be dealt with quickly, concerning a requirement that the railways disclose their freight cost structures?

I wonder also if he could tell us when the Minister of Veterans Affairs will be presenting the bill to implement the unanimous recommendation of the Standing Committee on Veterans Affairs having to do with Hong Kong veterans?

Mr. Sharp: Mr. Speaker, I thank the House leader of the New Democratic Party for his representation and I will try to obtain answers for him as quickly as possible.

Mr. Benjamin: Mr. Speaker, if I may have your indulgence before you call Orders of the Day, when I asked the Minister of Transport if he could advise whether the government would live up to the commitment of the Minister of Justice that no railway branch lines would be abandoned without the concurrence of the province concerned, the Minister of Transport said that he thought the Minister of Justice should answer that question. I wonder whether you would allow the Minister of Justice to answer it?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. In accordance with the request of the President of the Privy Council I so designate the day named by him for consideration of the Ways and Means motion.

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, I trust I shall be forgiven for raising a brief point of order. I do so on the basis of certain discussions which have taken place. There having been two recorded votes with regard to the budget I think Your Honour will find there is general agreement that the debate itself can end on a voice vote and therefore that we could use the extra 15 minutes to get in one more speech.

I therefore suggest, if it is the will of the House, that the debate end today not at 5.45 as provided by paragraph (8) of Standing Order 60 but at six o'clock.

Mr. Speaker: If it is so agreed, and members are so disposed, it should be so ordered at this time so that there can be no doubt about it. Is it so ordered?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

[English]

THE BUDGET

FINANCIAL STATEMENT OF THE MINISTER OF FINANCE

The House resumed, from Tuesday, November 26, consideration of the motion of Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton)

[Mr. Sharp.]

that this House approves in general the budgetary policy of the government.

Mrs. Ursula Appolloni (York South): Mr. Speaker, with your indulgence I should like to correct an error in my speech of last night as reported in *Hansard*. It occurred just before the adjournment debate was called. With your indulgence, sir, I will repeat the sentence as it should read. In speaking about the proceedings at the United Nations, I said: "Canada, too, wants peace and strives daily for justice for all. I hope and pray that both can be achieved, and hope that this government of which I am a loyal supporter will continue its efforts and in no way deviate from its path of traditional friendship toward Israel."

Mr. Speaker, at one time in my career I was a member of the air force. There I received training second to none, combined with a sense of duty and discipline which stood me in good stead throughout the following period of my life. May I now take this opportunity to express my deepest admiration for the work done by our armed forces, not only in defending Canada's sovereignty but, more especially, in the peacekeeping activities abroad where they become, for those of us at home, veritable ambassadors of goodwill and political stability. But apart from the other, more widely known roles of our national defence forces, I feel it is incumbent on us all to remind ourselves that the armed forces also provide perhaps the best training school we have in this country. Is it generally known, for instance, that many of our commercial pilots, doctors, engineers, nurses and even tradesmen such as butchers, clerks, cooks, and a long list of others, received their training in the armed forces? And what of our children? I know of few better ways of instilling in them a love of country, dedication to duty, purpose in life and broadening of interests than in the cadet movement.

Mr. Speaker, when I filed my nomination papers during the recent election campaign I gave as my profession that of housewife. I was recently asked what particular qualifications were needed for that profession, and I replied, "A lot of good common sense and patience". The budgets I prepared as a housewife can hardly be compared with those presented here, but there is at least one common denominator: we both had to list our priorities. In this respect, I hope that the Minister of National Health and Welfare (Mr. Lalonde), when setting his priorities, will give a high rating to medical research. Long before coming to this country I had read with great admiration of the work of two Canadian researchers. Diabetics throughout the world now owe their very lives to the studies and efforts of Dr. Banting and Dr. Best. Remarkable progress has been made in medicine and I hope that Canada will continue to promote studies to cure or, better still, to prevent the diseases which still plague mankind.

● (1530)

We have often been reminded that Canada is not one of the big powers. If power is measured by physical might and the quantity of *Bellicose* weapons we possess, then I hope we will never become one of the big powers. I believe, though, that we should broaden our understanding of this word. I believe that power can mean influence for the common good. I believe that by scrupulously following our moral obligations we are fast becoming not a