

Supplementary Estimates (A)

Monday night. It was a contemptuous refusal to explain how this \$1 billion was to be saved by a blended oil-pricing policy.

Then the process continues with this motion before the House, not agreed to by our side, in which the ignoring of our rights, and responsibilities of the government on economic and financial matters, is continued by these estimates, and with interim supply to carry the government until December. These estimates are being washed out of the House. "I am going to wash that man right out of my hair". We might as well say that we are going to wash those estimates right out of our hair and send them on their way. They will be sent right out of the House to a committee and they will come back here for only 15 minutes for voting on May 15.

I will illustrate the process. I am not going to emulate Mr. Rodriguez. How are you, John, out there in never-never land? I am going to finish speaking before this House is adjourned at six o'clock. I am not going to try to carry on any great Rodriguez marathon, not at all. I am going to move our amendment in about five minutes. For example, in our budget of December 11 we said in addition to an employment tax credit program to respond to differences in employment opportunities across the country that we were going to make an amount of \$50 million available to initiate new measures or to supplement existing programs aimed at stimulating employment and economic development in eastern Canada.

We had \$50 million in the estimates, Mr. Speaker. We had increased the estimates to combat employment \$150 million over those of the previous year. That is what was said in the budget speech. There are estimates before this House now tabled last Tuesday that include that \$50 million because the President of the Treasury Board said these were the estimates that we had prepared.

I made inquiries as to what has happened to the \$50 million in the estimates. The President of the Treasury Board said that he had presented the estimates we had prepared, but when I inquired of the minister of fisheries and other people in the government about the \$50 million—\$25 million was going to the Department of Fisheries and \$14 million to small craft and harbours to stimulate construction of wharves, breakwaters, slipways, dredging projects in eastern Canada this year, which would create a lot of employment, money to be spent by the government—I was told that it was not there. I was told that this money is not going to the Department of Fisheries or to small crafts and harbours.

Where is this \$50 million which was in our estimates to create more employment in eastern Canada this year? If that question is not answered here in this House, we will never have the answer. Why has the government done away with the \$50 million stimulus for employment opportunities in eastern Canada where, we all have to admit, unemployment is the highest in Canada?

If this procedure that the hon. gentleman has suggested is adopted these estimates will go off to committee and we will be unable to force any answer from any minister of the government. They can ignore our questions. They do not have to answer any questions in committee. We cannot do them any

harm because we cannot hold up anything in the committees. It all has to come here automatically on May 15. The ministers do not have to come anyway. We will never get an answer to what has happened to this \$50 million additional money for more employment opportunities in eastern Canada this year that we had in the estimates. These very estimates were tabled in the House yet we are told there is no \$14 million extra for small crafts and harbours. The Minister of Fisheries cannot tell me whether they are going to be doing our wharf in Bay Bulls or repairing the wharf in St. Shott's and so on. I moved a motion of Friday under Standing Order 43 that named the various communities where some of these works were supposed to be done, to create employment in an area of high unemployment and so on.

That is the process. Once this motion is passed, this goes out into committees and we may or may not get any answers. We have no way of pressuring the Crown to get any answers as to what has happened to this \$50 million. That is why this process is important. That is why it is important to us to have the President of the Privy Council adopt a different procedure which we hope will commend itself to him.

Because there is so much impatience being shown, and because you are under so much pressure yourself, Mr. Speaker, about relevance and irrelevance—I do not want to cause you any trouble as the presiding officer—I will move the amendment now. Our amendment is from the brilliant brain and intellect of our House leader on this side of the House. It is not debatable. I move, seconded by the hon. member for Nepean-Carleton (Mr. Baker), one of the great parliamentarians of the century:

That the motion be amended by deleting the second paragraph thereof and substituting therefor the following:

"That on May 12, the business of the House shall be the consideration of any motions or bills relating to the said supplementary estimates or interim supply;

That notice shall not be required for a notice to oppose any item in the estimates or for any motion to restore or reinstate any item in the estimates;

That, no later than fifteen minutes before the ordinary time of adjournment on May 12, the Speaker shall interrupt the proceedings then in progress and put, forthwith and successively, without further amendment or debate, any motions relating to interim supply, the said supplementary estimates, the restoration or reinstatement of any item in the said supplementary estimates, or the second reading stage of any appropriations bill based on the said supplementary estimates or interim supply;

That on May 13 to May 15 inclusive the business of the House shall be the consideration of committee of the whole stage of any bill or bills relating to the said supplementary estimates or interim supply;

That, no later than fifteen minutes before the ordinary time of adjournment on May 15, 1980, the Speaker shall interrupt the proceedings then in progress and put, forthwith and successively, without amendment or debate, and notwithstanding the provisions of Standing Order 72, every question that may be necessary for the passage of all remaining stages of any bill or bills based on the said supplementary estimates or interim supply, providing that the ordinary time of adjournment shall remain suspended until all such questions have been decided;"

And by inserting after the last paragraph of the motion the following paragraph:

"That members in opposition to the government may choose the estimates of three departments or agencies which shall be presented to the House in a separate appropriations bill exempt from any deadline in this or any other temporary or permanent standing order or special order relating to the business