

*The Address—Mr. O'Kurley*

**Mr. Milliken:** To answer your question, Sir, in strict legal terms the provisions of Section 30 of the Financial Administration Act do make it possible for the Government to act in the manner that it has.

There are conventions in our Constitution and Hon. gentlemen opposite are well aware of those conventions. They went to court over the Constitution in 1981 or 1982 and discovered that. The Supreme Court of Canada said that there were certain conventions in the Canadian Constitution that must be observed. It is our position that those conventions have been breached in this instance.

Under Section 30, Subsection 4 or 5, it is clear that the moneys that have been appropriated by Governor General's Warrants will be included in the Supply Bills that are introduced and indeed they are deemed to be included in them. Therefore, in a sense, parliament will have an opportunity to vote those moneys and indeed they will be in. We will have to deal with it. However, it is *ex post facto*. It is being done after the event.

My learned friend, the Hon. Member for Glengarry—Prescott—Russell (Mr. Boudria) has indicated that it is being done as of April 1 on Estimates that do not exist. In other words, the Warrants for money are being granted and there are no Estimates here or anywhere else that anybody has seen on which that money is being granted. The normal practice is do it on the basis of the Estimates that already exist.

**Mr. Speaker:** I think that I have heard enough argument. The Hon. Member for Kamloops.

**Mr. Riis:** The question you raise is appropriate. As my Hon. friend has indicated it is after the fact and before parliamentarians have had an opportunity to evaluate what funds were appropriated via the Governor General Warrants, and the breakdown as to those funds again is after the expenditures have already been made.

Our job here as Members of Parliament is to review how the Government plans to spend the taxpayers' money before those expenditures are made, and not after the fact. In terms of enabling us to do our job properly as parliamentarians this matter has to be taken very seriously. If it is not taken seriously, we can begin to conjure up just what type of procedure, perhaps not this Government, but future Governments might use and abuse. As we have seen in this case the use of Governor General Warrants under the Financial Administration Act was never intended.

**Mr. Speaker:** I thank Hon. Members and the Hon. Minister of Justice for their arguments. I will consider the matter very carefully and report back to the House.

**GOVERNMENT ORDERS**

[English]

**SPEECH FROM THE THRONE****RESUMPTION OF DEBATE ON ADDRESS IN REPLY**

The House resumed consideration of the motion of Mr. Richardson for an Address to Her Excellency the Governor General in reply to her Speech at the opening of the session; and the amendment thereto of Mr. Turner, Vancouver Quadra (p. 131) and on the amendment to the amendment of Mr. Broadbent (p. 140).

**Mr. Brian O'Kurley (Elk Island):** Madam Speaker, it is an honour and great privilege to speak to the Parliament of Canada today in support of the Speech from the Throne which was presented so eloquently by Her Excellency the Governor General of Canada.

In those words so graciously spoken, the head of the Canadian Government offered to her people something that is indeed valuable and extremely precious. It was something that the good people of this great nation have come to expect from Government.

The Throne Speech offers Canadians from sea to sea a vision of the future much like that which was held by our parents and their parents before them, and like those visions that were held by the pioneers who built this nation through hard work and determination into one of the greatest societies in the world.

The vision expressed in the Throne Speech is a vision of Canada that is confident, unified, and strong. It is a vision of Canada that holds a unique identity among nations, a Canada that leads the world community with new ideas. It is a vision of Canada that is vibrant and progressive, but also caring and compassionate. As a country and as individuals we as Canadians have achieved many things over the years, but now is the time to build for the future.

• (1600)

My wife and I have been blessed with three wonderful children, the oldest being six years of age. We are pleased to be expecting our fourth child this spring.