

● (1730)

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

[English]

THE BUDGET

FINANCIAL STATEMENT OF THE MINISTER OF FINANCE

The House resumed consideration of the motion of Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton) that this House approves in general the budgetary policy of the government.

Mr. Baldwin: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. I have never seen a more disgusting display of bad faith regarding matters which are the subject of an agreement.

An hon. Member: You are afraid to listen.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Baldwin: The Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) took an hour and a half, and outside of some pablum dealing with inflation which he fed to the open mouths of his devoted followers his speech was filled with nothing but glaring inaccuracies and deceptions.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): It was not even his own speech.

Some hon. Members: Sit down.

Mr. Andre (Calgary Centre): Arrogance in the extreme.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I understood that the hon. member who was just on his feet was to be the next participant in the debate, which would have given him the opportunity to make the kind of interjection he has just made.

Mr. Baldwin: Mr. Speaker, on the same point of order I would ask how it is possible within the space of 12 minutes to answer this mass of inaccuracies and deceptions.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Baldwin: I suggest that it is absolutely impossible, and I should like to know—

Some hon. Members: Order.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. In the ordinary course hon. members will realize that the message will probably not disturb our procedures until closer to six o'clock than 5.45. If the hon. member for Peace River (Mr. Baldwin) commences now, he will perhaps enjoy his full 20 minutes. I assume there are others who will be addressing themselves to the same type of complaint, for example the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre (Mr. Knowles).

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, in rising on this point of order I would make the plea to the House that we practice fairness. There was an understanding earlier today that the debate would not end at 5.45 but, rather, would end at six o'clock. When we made that

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agreement we felt there would be adequate time for at least two 20-minute speeches following that of the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau). I do not complain about the fact that the Prime Minister spoke for an hour and a half, but I think we should now revise the arrangement for today and make it clear that the hon. member for Peace River (Mr. Baldwin) and the hon. member for Oshawa-Whitby (Mr. Broadbent) shall each have 20 minutes.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): To facilitate this, I would suggest that the Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod be asked not to knock on the door until after the two next speakers have had their full 20 minutes.

Mr. Speaker: In light of the challenge that has been put forward by two hon. members in respect of the speech of the right hon. Prime Minister, there seems to be a general spirit of accord that each of those members somehow be provided with 20 minutes in which to make their speeches. I am not able to govern the conduct of the Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod. In any case there seems to be agreement to make an order of the House that however these proceedings finalize today, those two members shall each be granted 20 minutes before the conclusion of the debate.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. G. W. Baldwin (Peace River): Mr. Speaker, 20 minutes will not permit me to deal with all—

An hon. Member: Come on, stick around.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. It was abundantly clear to all members, despite some stimulating comment, that the speech of the right hon. Prime Minister, although an hour and a half in duration, was listened to very attentively and I think hon. members ought to pay the hon. member the same attention.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Baldwin: Time will not permit me to deal with all the inaccuracies; certainly I could never deal with them all in 20 minutes. Never in an hour and a half have we heard so many inaccuracies and so many deviations from the true facts as we heard from the Prime Minister in the course of his speech. Within the time allowed me I will limit myself to dealing with only the most glaring inaccuracies and those areas in which the Prime Minister made a 180 degree departure from the true facts.

I first want to nail down the right hon. gentleman on his statement on the discussion between the first ministers on March 27 of this year, which he said was strictly limited to the question of pricing and dealt with no other issue at all. I have in my hand *Hansard* for March 28 in which is recorded what the right hon. gentleman said in very unctuous words: "We have been great statesmen, I and the other ten first ministers, and have come to an agreement with regard to petroleum products which affect us nationally." He said that the first ministers had displayed extraordinary patience and co-operation and he paid trib-