

The Governor General-Designate

around eight o'clock, I suppose. I have mentioned that to the Minister of Finance. He is considering it and will be in a position to make his announcement tomorrow after Question Period.

Mr. Nielsen: I thank the House Leader for that information. He is aware, as all of us are, that the traditional hour for the delivery of the Budget is eight o'clock in the evening, but because of our provisional rules, when the last Budget was delivered it, of course, had to receive the consent of the House. I say to the Government House Leader now so it might assist his planning that we on this side are pleased to consent in advance to the Budget being delivered at eight o'clock next Wednesday evening.

Mr. Pinard: Mr. Speaker, I welcome this offer of co-operation. But we must also weigh the old traditions against the new spirit of parliamentary reform and the elimination of night sittings. On the other hand, I said earlier that we are very flexible. I want however, to hear from the Minister of Finance. If the Budget is not to be delivered at eight o'clock, we will not need consent to have the speech at three o'clock after Question Period. As I said previously, the Minister of Finance will make his decision between now and tomorrow and he will be informing this House of it at about noon tomorrow.

Mr. Deans: Mr. Speaker, I am not in a position to give consent at the moment until I hear exactly what the Minister of Finance has in mind. In discussing the matter with my colleagues, we are not absolutely clear yet why we would want to have the Budget delivered at eight o'clock at night, although we did discuss it, I admit to that.

Mr. Nielsen: It has always been at eight o'clock at night.

Mr. Deans: Therefore, I would like to hear some reason that we ought to have the Budget delivered at 8 p.m. rather than during the normal sitting hours of the House.

Mr. Nielsen: It has always been at eight o'clock at night.

Mr. Speaker: Three Hon. Members have given me notice of matters. The Hon. Member for Winnipeg North Centre, the Hon. Member for Montmorency-Orleans, and the Minister of Labour, I believe, who wants to make a statement.

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THE GOVERNOR GENERAL-DESIGNATE

EXPRESSION OF GOOD WISHES TO HON. JEANNE SAUVÉ

Hon. Stanley Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, I am very grateful to you for permitting me to express a concern which I am sure is shared by every Member of this House of Commons. We have been deeply concerned for a long time about the health of our former Speaker, Madam Jeanne Sauvé. We are sorry about the ill health she suffered here and the ill health she has suffered since being appointed Governor General-designate. We were very pleased

to hear the report from the CBC last evening to the effect that good progress is being made and that there is now hope that very soon her health will be fully restored.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Knowles: We welcome the report of the CBC, we welcome the news here. We wish to do everything we can for her to help her achieve good health. We wish her the very best. God bless her.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Speaker: On behalf of the entire House of Commons, I will be pleased to transmit these good wishes to Madam Sauvé.

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[Translation]

FINANCE

ALLOCATION OF JOB-CREATION GRANT TO JUDO CLUB

Mr. Louis Duclos (Montmorency-Orléans): Mr. Speaker, during Question Period yesterday and even today, the NPD Members for Yorkton-Melville (Mr. Nystrom) yesterday, and for Vancouver-Kingsway (Mr. Waddell) today, have suggested that a grant given in my constituency to a recreational organization from the Giffard sector in the City of Beauport was awarded without the required authorizations from the Job Creation Branch of the Department of Employment and Immigration.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to deny as forcefully as possible such falsehoods as are being peddled by these Members.

Mr. Speaker: The Hon. Member has made his statement. I must say that he did not have a genuine question of privilege, but rather a point of order. However, he has made his statement and I know that all of us have understood what he said.

The Hon. Minister of Labour (Mr. Ouellet).

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[English]

PRIVILEGE

MR. COOPER—ALLEGED INTIMIDATION BY CANADA POST OFFICIAL

Hon. André Ouellet (Minister of Labour): Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to respond to the remarks made last Monday by the Hon. Member for Peace River (Mr. Cooper) concerning the alleged misconduct of a Canada Post officer which resulted in what the Hon. Member called "an attempt to inhibit my freedom of speech in this chamber". Those words can be found on page 1102 of *Hansard*.

The main thrust of the Hon. Member's intervention dealt with the allegation that he had been threatened by an official of Canada Post. I promised, if you recall, to look into this