

*The Budget—Mr. Buchanan*

the key to success of the sports policy will be money. The policy paper points out on page 44 that "we have a number of new projects to finance, and our budget level is the same as it has been for several years now." It was my suggestion in this House in November, 1968, that contributions to amateur sport be brought within the definition of charitable donation and made tax deductible. I urged that the appropriate section of the Income Tax Act be altered as quickly as possible. Much to my amazement, it was not done.

I am, however, gratified to learn that the proposed sports policy attaches a priority to this proposal, and that the federal departments involved are being consulted about "the formulation of an additional charitable tax deduction clause for donations towards a furtherance of sport and recreation in Canada." I believe that granting tax relief on donations to sport will spur contributions to individual sports groups and will enable sports in Canada to focus its limited resources more effectively. I would urge that the charitable deductibility clauses not be as restrictive as is suggested in the white paper on tax reform, which proposes that national amateur athletic associations only be added to the list of eligible charitable organizations. I believe that many local organizations are deserving of the same treatment and support.

A perceptive individual remarked that man is a peculiarly constructed animal who cannot read the handwriting on the wall until he has his back to it. That is precisely the position in which man finds himself today with the world population explosion. We live on a smallish planet with a strictly limited supply of everything, including air, water and places in which to dump sewage. There is no conceivable way in which it can be made bigger. Yet we are adding 180,000 people to the globe's humanity each and every day. We are now at more than three billion, and within 30 years it is estimated that we will have over seven billion people on the face of this earth. The figures into the twenty-first century are staggering. However, they are academic since this gross overcrowding will not come about; it will be solved by mass starvation, war or family planning. Hopefully, thoughtful, concerned humans will opt for the third alternative.

I realize this is a difficult area for many people from the point of view of conscience, but I would like to urge a couple of minimal steps. The first involves research only. Canada could perform unique service to

international research in population control and family planning, a field which has not been thoroughly explored. This should be a top priority item on the agenda of our new International Development Research Centre.

The second method in which Canada could assist is by providing money for the existing multilateral funds—the International Planned Parenthood Federation and the United Nations Fund for Population Activities. These are not organizations which try and foist family planning on anyone or any nation. They are responsive in nature; they meet requests from countries which seek their assistance—developing countries which are becoming more and more alarmed as they see minimal economic progress vanishing under the impact of burgeoning populations. I would strongly urge on our government action in these two areas. I am afraid that if we do not, by default we will have to share the responsibility for uncontrolled population growth which will impair individual rights, jeopardize national goals throughout the world and threaten international stability.

In conclusion, Mr. Speaker, I would urge that our government take immediate steps to increase the guaranteed income supplement for senior Canadians and, if required, make adjustments in the present family allowance payments to compensate for this outlay. I believe that the act and regulations providing loans to university students should be amended to permit needy part-time students to receive assistance as well. We should allow donations to organizations sponsoring amateur sport to be tax deductible. I am convinced that they have as legitimate a claim to tax deductibility as some of the organizations and groups which currently enjoy this status.

• (8:50 p.m.)

In addition, it is my understanding that recent studies have indicated young people who are actively involved in sports are far less likely to become involved with drugs and drug addiction. By encouraging the financing of amateur sports we would not only be improving the health of Canadians but would be helping to solve another major problem facing our country. Finally—and this is significant for the long-run survival of mankind—I would urge that the government take immediately the minimal steps I discussed earlier to assist the International Development Research Centre and the UN organizations involved with population research and planning.