

its attitude toward women, until it recognizes they have equal status with men. It is the old story of which comes first, the chicken or the egg, or, to put it in other terms, a new attitude on the part of society toward women or leadership in changing our laws and regulations. I think there is a very real possibility that social attitudes are ahead of us now, and that our job is not to sit back and wait until those attitudes are so far ahead of us that we are forced into action. Instead, we should be providing real leadership. I say again in the spirit of most of the speech made by the minister that we welcome his statement about the things the government is doing. We welcome the acceptance throughout the House of our having brought this subject forward today but I earnestly plead that it be not just one days' debate, which goes on the record and that is that, but that it be the beginning of serious consideration of specific changes which we can and must make without delay.

Mr. Cullen: Will the hon. member permit a question?

Mr. Deputy Speaker: The hon. member's time has expired, but if there is unanimous consent he could reply to a question. Is there such consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Mr. Cullen: I should like to ask the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre (Mr. Knowles) whether, in all the years he has been in the House, he has ever known students other than male students to be hired as guides in Parliament during the summer recess?

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): The hon. member talks about all the years I have been here, but it is only in recent years that students have been hired as guides. I believe all of them have been male students but I do know that in recent years there have been two or three occasions when students were hired for various other purposes, and that women were included among them. I am happy to say that even though this has been done by the Canadian Political Science Association, which is outside our immediate jurisdiction, there are women among the student interns who are with us during this present session. But the point the hon. member made is well taken. This, too, is an area in which we must improve our own record.

PROCEEDINGS ON ADJOURNMENT MOTION

SUBJECT MATTER OF QUESTIONS TO BE DEBATED

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Before I recognize the hon. member for Don Valley, may I deal with the proceedings on the adjournment motion? It is my duty, pursuant to Standing Order 40, to inform the House that the questions to be raised tonight at the time of adjournment are as follows: The hon. member for Hillsborough (Mr. Macquarrie)—Trade—Development of U.S. markets for At-

Status of Women Study

lantic Provinces products—transportation facilities; the hon. member for Brandon-Souris (Mr. Dinsdale)—Radio Canada—Action respecting alleged separatists and terrorists on staff; the hon. member for Comox-Alberni (Mr. Barnett)—Pollution—Contamination of west coast of Vancouver Island by oil—responsibility for cleaning up beaches.

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BUSINESS OF SUPPLY

ALLOTTED DAY S.O. 58—STATUS OF WOMEN IMPLEMENTATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS OF COMMISSION

The House resumed consideration of the motion (Mr. Brewin):

That in the opinion of this House, the government should immediately designate a minister of the Crown to co-ordinate the implementation of the proposals contained in the report of the Royal Commission on the Status of Women which come under federal jurisdiction, and that it should give special and urgent consideration to the implementation of those recommendations designed to establish a basic equality of rights between men and women, including the recommendation for the inclusion of housewives in the Canada and Quebec Pension Plans, the provision of maternity benefits under the Unemployment Insurance Act, the adoption of a National Day Care Act, the initiation of a family planning program and certain amendments to the Criminal Code, and equal treatment in the federal public service; moreover that the government should convene a federal-provincial conference to consider the implementation of the recommendations of the commission which fall within provincial jurisdiction or which are the joint responsibility of the parliament of Canada and the legislatures of the provinces.

Mr. Robert Kaplan (Don Valley): Like other speakers, I welcome this opportunity to discuss a subject which was, I suppose, most recently brought to public attention by the speech of the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) in Toronto last week. I wonder why the opposition has failed to attach a vote to this particular resolution, because they could have counted on the support of many members on this side of the House for the motion which has been put forward. They would have obtained my support for almost everything that has been proposed.

I am afraid, though, I cannot agree with the proposition put forward by the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre (Mr. Knowles) that the Canada Pension Plan should cover women in respect of their role as mothers and housewives. The Plan is one which, as he knows, has an actuarial basis, and his proposal would result in the inclusion of, I suppose, double the number of people presently covered without the housewives and others having any responsibility to make contributions. This would greatly change the nature of the scheme. The hon. member seemed himself to recognize the weakness of his argument when he suggested that sooner or later a guaranteed annual income program might take care of the situation.

Mention has been made of the recommendation that a minister of the Crown should be designated to take particular responsibility for this subject. The Prime Minister