

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

FIRST SESSION

THIRTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE

Votes and Proceedings

of the Assembly

Wednesday, 27 April 2005 — No. 143

President of the National Assembly: Mr. Michel Bissonnet

The Assembly was called to order at 10.08 o'clock a.m.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

Business Having Precedence

Debate on the Budget Speech

The Assembly entered upon the debate on the motion by Mr. Audet, Minister of Finance, —That this Assembly approves in general the budgetary policy of the Government.

At the end of his speech, Mr. Legault (Rousseau) moved the following want of confidence motion:

THAT the National Assembly severely blame the Liberal Party Government for having presented a 2005-2006 budget which is that of unkept promises.

Mr. Gendron, Third Vice-President, informed the Assembly that, following a meeting with the House leaders, the allocation of speaking time for the 13 hours and 30 minutes provided for in the first part of this debate had been determined as follows:

The group forming the Government may speak for up to 6 hours and 20 minutes, including the Budget Speech.

The group forming the Official Opposition may also speak for up to 6 hours and 20 minutes, including the comments made by the representative of the Official Opposition last Thursday, 21 April 2005, and his address today.

The independent Members as a group may speak for up to 50 minutes, and any time not used by these Members may be redistributed equally among both parliamentary groups.

Finally, individual addresses shall not be limited and any time not used by a parliamentary group shall be added to that of the other group.

The debate continued on the motion by Mr. Audet, Minister of Finance, —That this Assembly approves in general the budgetary policy of the Government, and on the want of confidence motion moved by Mr. Legault (Rousseau).

At 11.59 o'clock a.m., Mr. Gendron, Third Vice-President, suspended the proceedings until 2.00 o'clock p.m.

The proceedings resumed at 2.06 o'clock p.m.

Moment of reflection

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

Introduction of Bills

Mr. Tremblay (Lac-Saint-Jean) moved that leave be granted to introduce the following Bill:

390 An Act to prohibit the distribution of non-biodegradable plastic bags

The motion was carried.

Presenting Papers

Mr. Couillard, Minister of Health and Social Services, tabled the following:

The report from the Ministère de la Santé et des Services sociaux on the evaluation of the adjustment process with respect to the contribution parameters and to the prescription drug insurance plan premium, dated 20 December 2004.

(Sessional Paper No. 1807-20050427)

Mrs. Théberge, Minister of Families, Seniors and the Status of Women, tabled the following:

The annual management report of the Public Curator of Québec for the fiscal year ended 31 March 2004.

(Sessional Paper No. 1808-20050427)

Presenting Reports from Committees

Mr. Hamad (Louis-Hébert), chairman, tabled the following:

A report from the Committee on Public Finance, which, on 12, 14, 20 and 26 April 2005, held public hearings within the framework of special consultations and gave clause-by-clause consideration to Bill 85, An Act respecting the Centre de services administratifs.

The report contains amendments to the bill.

(Sessional Paper No. 1809-20050427)

Mr. Ouimet (Marquette), chairman, tabled the following:

A report from the Committee on Planning and the Public Domain, which, on 8 February, on 10 March and on 14, 19 and 21 April 2005, held public hearings within the framework of special consultations and gave clause-by-clause consideration to Bill 62, Municipal Powers Act.

The report contains amendments to the bill.

(Sessional Paper No. 1810-20050427)

Presenting Petitions

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 63, the abstracts of two petitions respecting the treatment and living conditions of persons suffering from Alzheimer's disease in private and public nursing homes were laid upon the Table:

 the first, being the abstract of a petition signed by 386 citizens of Québec, by Mrs. Legault (Chambly);

(Sessional Paper No. 1811-20050427)

- the second, being the abstract of a petition signed by 5061 citizens of Québec, by Mrs. Charest (Matane).

(Sessional Paper No. 1812-20050427)

Oral Questions and Answers

The Assembly proceeded to Oral Question Period.

At the request of Mr. President, Mrs. Harel (Hochelaga-Maisonneuve) withdrew certain words deemed unparliamentary.

Notices of Proceedings in Committees

Mrs. Lamquin-Éthier, Deputy Government House Leader, convened the following Committees:

27 April 2005

- the Committee on Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, to continue its clauseby-clause consideration of Bill 93, An Act to amend the Act respecting the Ministère de l'Agriculture, des Pêcheries et de l'Alimentation and the Food Products Act;
- the Committee on Social Affairs, to give clause-by-clause consideration to Bill 38, An Act respecting the Health and Welfare Commissioner.

Mr. Cusano, First Vice-President, gave the following notice:

— the Committee on Education shall hold a deliberative meeting for the purpose of organizing its proceedings.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

Business Having Precedence

Debate on the Budget Speech

The Assembly continued the debate on the motion by Mr. Audet, Minister of Finance, —That this Assembly approves in general the budgetary policy of the Government, and on the want of confidence motion by Mr. Legault (Rousseau).

At the end of her speech, Mrs. Harel (Hochelaga-Maisonneuve) moved the following want of confidence motion:

THAT the National Assembly severely blame the Liberal Government for having failed to respect its solemn commitment to invest \$1.5 billion in health and social services in 2005-2006.

The debate continued on the motion by Mr. Audet, Minister of Finance, and on the want of confidence motions by Mr. Legault (Rousseau) and Mrs. Harel (Hochelaga-Maisonneuve).

At the end of her speech, Mrs. Charest (Rimouski) moved the following want of confidence motion:

THAT the National Assembly severely blame the Liberal Government for having failed to respect its electoral commitments to sufficiently invest in social services.

The debate continued on the motion by Mr. Audet, Minister of Finance, and on the want of confidence motions by Mr. Legault (Rousseau), Mrs. Harel (Hochelaga-Maisonneuve) and Mrs. Charest (Rimouski).

At the request of Mrs. Leblanc, Second Vice-President, Mr. Cousineau (Bertrand) withdrew certain words deemed unparliamentary.

At 6.00 o'clock p.m., Mrs. Leblanc, Second Vice-President, adjourned the Assembly until Thursday, 28 April 2005, at 10.00 o'clock a.m.

MICHEL BISSONNET

President