

Date: Wednesday, 17 March 1999 – No. 8

Heure: Ten o'clock

Président: Mr. Jean-Pierre Charbonneau

The Assembly was called to order at 10.04 o'clock a.m.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

Estimates of Expenditure

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 87, Mr. Boisclair, Deputy Government House Leader and Minister of Social Solidarity, on behalf of Mr. Landry, Minister of Finance, transmitted the following Message from the Honourable the Lieutenant-Governor, which Mr. Brouillet, Vice-President, communicated to the Assembly and then tabled:

OFFICE OF THE LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR

The Honourable the Lieutenant-Governor of Québec submits to the National Assembly, pursuant to the provisions of Section 54 of the *Constitution Act, 1867*, a portion of the appropriations for the fiscal year ending 31 March 2000 in a sum not to exceed \$433,600,000.00, being 11.4 % of the appropriations for the "Financial Assistance Measures" programme of the "Employment, Social Solidarity" portfolio, 5.7 % of the appropriations for the "Family and Child Services" programme and 9.2 % of the appropriations for the "Family Benefits" programme of the "Child and Family Welfare" portfolio, and recommends these appropriations to the consideration of the Assembly.

Québec, 12 March 1999

Lise Thibault
(Sessional Paper No. 164-19990317)

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Section 1 (Estimates) of Chapter 1 under Title V of the Standing Orders, Mr. Boisclair, Deputy Government House Leader and Minister of Social

Solidarity, moved:

THAT Bill 12, Appropriation Act No. 1, 1999-2000, be brought before the Assembly.

The motion was carried.

Mr. Boisclair, Deputy Government House Leader and Minister of Social Solidarity, on behalf of Mr. Landry, Minister of Finance, then moved that Bill 12, Appropriation Act No. 1, 1999-2000, do now pass in principle and pass.

By leave of the Assembly and on motion by Mr. Boulerice, Deputy Government House Leader, it was ordered:

THAT ten minutes be allotted to the Minister of Social Solidarity and that ten minutes be set aside for the delegate of the Official Opposition during the examination of this Bill.

The motion was carried and, accordingly, Bill 12 was passed.

Business Having Precedence

Debate on the Budget Speech

The Assembly resumed the debate on the motion by Mr. Landry, Minister of Finance, —That the Assembly approves in general the budgetary policy of the Government, and on the want of confidence motions moved by Mrs. Jérôme-Forget (Marguerite-Bourgeoys) and by Mr. Gauthier (Verdun).

At the end of his speech, Mr. Dumont (Rivière-du-Loup) moved the following want of confidence motion:

That the National Assembly severely blame the Parti Québécois Government for having once again let down the new generation by omitting to include a debt repayment plan in its 1999-2000 budget.

And debate continuing on the motion by Mr. Landry, Minister of Finance, and on the want of confidence motions moved by Mrs. Jérôme-Forget (Marguerite-Bourgeoys), Mr. Gauthier (Verdun) and Mr. Dumont (Rivière-du-Loup);

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 20, the proceedings continued beyond

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12.00 o'clock p.m.

At 12.04 o'clock p.m., Mr. Brouillet, Vice-President, having left the Chair, the proceedings were suspended until 2.00 o'clock p.m.

The proceedings resumed at 2.02 o'clock p.m.

Moment of reflection

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

Introduction of Bills

Mr. Chevrette, Minister responsible for Electoral Reform, moved that leave be granted to introduce the following Bill:

- 1 An Act respecting the obligation to identify oneself before voting.

The motion was carried.

Mr. Landry, Minister of Finance, moved that leave be granted to introduce the following Bill:

- 2 An Act respecting the reform of government accounting policies.

The motion was carried.

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Mrs. Harel, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Greater Montréal, moved that leave be granted to introduce the following Bill:

4 An Act respecting Immobilière SHQ.

The motion was carried.

Presenting Papers

Mr. Léonard, Minister for Administration and the Public Service, Chairman of the Conseil du Trésor, tabled the following:

The annual report of the Secrétariat du Conseil du trésor for the fiscal year ended 31 March 1998.

(Sessional Paper No. 165-19990317)

Mr. Brassard, Minister of Natural Resources, tabled the following:

Pursuant to section 111 of the *Act respecting the Régie de l'énergie*, Directive No. 1 given to the Régie de l'énergie, as well as Order-in-Council No. 53-99, dated 27 January 1999.

(Sessional Paper No. 166-19990317)

Mr. Brassard, Government House Leader, on behalf of Mrs. Maltais, Minister of Culture and Communications, tabled the following:

A classification notice issued by the Commission des biens culturels regarding the founding site of Montréal, pursuant to section 29 of the *Cultural Property Act*.

(Sessional Paper No. 167-19990317)

A classification notice issued by the Commission des biens culturels regarding the archaeological reference collection of Place Royale, pursuant to section 29 of the *Cultural Property Act*.

(Sessional Paper No. 168-19990317)

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Presenting Petitions

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Orders 63 and 64, Mrs. Barbeau (Vanier) tabled the following:

The abstract of a petition respecting the survival of the Petit Séminaire de Québec and signed by 642 Secondary 4 and 5 students as well as those from the college sector of this educational institution.

(Sessional Paper No. 169-19990317)

Complaints of Breach of Privilege or Contempt and Personal Explanations

Mr. President informed the Assembly that he had received, within the prescribed time, a request to rise on a personal matter from Mr. Boucher (Johnson) regarding comments made by Mr. Charest, Leader of the Official Opposition, at the sitting of Thursday, 11 March 1999, concerning the Hertel-Des Cantons project.

Mr. President declared this request in order and, accordingly, granted Mr. Boucher the right to speak on the matter.

Oral Questions and Answers

The Assembly proceeded to Oral Question Period.

Motions Without Notice

Mr. Landry, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of State for the Economy and Finance, moved:

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THAT the National Assembly express its deepest sympathy to the family and friends of Dr. Camille Laurin and pay him a final tribute by acknowledging the extraordinary legacy he left the people of Québec.

By leave of the Assembly under Standing Order 84, a debate arose thereon.

The debate being concluded, the motion was carried.

Mr. President invited the Members of the Assembly to observe a minute of silence.
Mr. Bordeleau (Acadie) moved:

THAT the Québec National Assembly mark the death of Mr. Gratien Gélinas by paying tribute to this noted man of theater whose invaluable contribution will have made an outstanding mark on Québec's cultural life and express its deepest sympathy to his family and friends.

By leave of the Assembly under Standing Order 84, a debate arose thereon.

The debate being concluded, the motion was carried.

Mr. Charest, Leader of the Official Opposition, moved:

THAT the National Assembly mark St. Patrick's Day and express the wish that the Irish community may continue to prosper and thus contribute to the development and progress of Québec.

By leave of the Assembly under Standing Order 84, a debate arose thereon.

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 59, Mr. Payne (Vachon) tabled the following:

The ad hoc interministerial committee report, prepared in January of 1983, on the Grosse-Île project presented by Mr. David Payne, Member for Vachon.

(Sessional Paper No. 170-19990317)

And debate continuing on the motion by Mr. Charest;

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The debate being concluded, the motion was carried.

Notices of Proceedings in Committees

Mr. President gave the following notices:

- X the Committee on Education shall hold a deliberative meeting for the purpose of informing its members of the Committee=s proceedings;
- X the Committee on Institutions shall hold a deliberative meeting for the purpose of presenting its activities and of organizing its proceedings;
- X the Committee on Labour and the Economy shall hold a deliberative meeting for the purpose of informing its members of the Committee=s activities and work and of organizing its proceedings;
- X the Committee on Transportation and the Environment shall hold a deliberative meeting for the purpose of discussing the organization of its proceedings.

Information on the Proceedings of the Assembly

Mr. President informed the Assembly that an end of sitting debate will be held on Thursday, 18 March 1999, between Mrs. Houda-Pepin (La Pinière) and Mr. G. Baril, Minister for Health, Social Services and Youth Protection, regarding certain Montérégie youth centres.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

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Business Having Precedence

Debate on the Budget Speech

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At 6.02 o'clock p.m., Mr. Pinard, Vice-President, adjourned the Assembly until Thursday, 18 March 1999, at 10.00 o'clock a.m.

ROYAL ASSENT

On Wednesday, 17 March 1999, at 11.43 o'clock a.m., in his office at the Québec Justice Building, in the presence of Mr. Bédard, Director of the Secretariat of the Assembly, the Honourable Louis Lebel, Administrator of Québec, was pleased to assent to the following Bill:

12 Appropriation Act No. 1, 1999-2000.

JEAN-PIERRE CHARBONNEAU

President