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# NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

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SECOND SESSION

THIRTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE

## **Votes and Proceedings**

**of the Assembly**

**Thursday, 20 November 1997 — No. 136**

**President of the National Assembly:  
Mr. Jean-Pierre Charbonneau**

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**QUÉBEC**



The Assembly was called to order at 10.03 o'clock a.m.

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**ORDERS OF THE DAY**

**Business Having Precedence**

*Want of Confidence Motion*

Mr. Bourbeau (Laporte) moved:

THAT the National Assembly severely blame the Parti Québécois Government, and more specifically its Minister of Finance, for:

- the systematic recourse to parallel accounting;
- the establishment of a multitude of special funds;
- the transfer of part of its deficit, notably to cegeps, universities and hospitals;
- the utopianism of the zero deficit.

Before the debate began, Mr. President announced the allocation of speaking time for the

proceedings with respect to this want of confidence motion: twenty minutes shall be allotted for a reply by its mover and five minutes shall be set aside for each of the independent Members; the two parliamentary groups shall share equally the rest of the time allotted for this debate; within this framework, Members may speak for up to twenty minutes each, with exception for the mover of the motion and the representative of the Prime Minister, who shall each be permitted to speak for one hour.

And debate arising on the motion by Mr. Bourbeau;

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 20, the debate continued beyond 12.00 o'clock p.m.

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At 12.02 o'clock p.m., Mr. Pinard, Vice-President, having left the Chair, the proceedings were suspended until 2.00 o'clock p.m.

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The proceedings resumed at 2.03 o'clock p.m.

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Moment of reflection

## **ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS**

### **Presenting Papers**



**20 November 1997**

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March 1997.

(Sessional Paper No. 1286-971120)

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

The annual report of the Conseil de la santé et du bien-être for the fiscal year ended 31 March 1997.

(Sessional Paper No. 1287-971120)

The annual report of the Ministère de la Santé et des Services sociaux for the fiscal year ended 31 March 1997.

(Sessional Paper No. 1288-971120)

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Mr. Bégin, Minister of the Environment and Wildlife, tabled the following:

The annual report of the Ministère de l'Environnement et de la Faune for the fiscal year ended 31 March 1997.

(Sessional Paper No. 1289-971120)

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Mr. Bélanger, Minister of Public Security, tabled the following:

The annual report of the Bureau du coroner for the fiscal year ended 31 December 1996.

(Sessional Paper No. 1290-971120)

### **Presenting Reports from Committees**

**20 November 1997**

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Mr. Baril (Arthabaska) tabled the following:

A report from the Committee on Public Finance, which met on 18 November 1997 for clause-by-clause consideration of the following Bill:

164 An Act to amend the Act to facilitate the payment of support – Reported without amendment.

(Sessional Paper No. 1291-971120)

**Presenting Petitions**

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 63, Mr. Paradis (Brome-Missisquoi) tabled the following:

The abstract of a petition respecting the reestablishment of the former prescription drug insurance plan and signed by 7920 citizens of the Province of Québec.

(Sessional Paper No. 1292-971120)

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By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 63, Mr. Deslières (Salaberry-Soulanges) tabled the following:

The abstract of a petition respecting the R&D issue from 1989 to 1993 and signed by 18 citizens of the riding of Borduas.

(Sessional Paper No. 1293-971120)

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

The abstract of a petition respecting the social welfare reform and signed by 136 citizens of the riding of Vanier.

(Sessional Paper No. 1294-971120)

### Oral Questions and Answers

The Assembly proceeded to Oral Question Period.

At the request of Mr. President, Mr. Williams (Nelligan) twice withdrew certain words deemed unparliamentary.

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 53, Mr. Landry, Deputy Prime Minister, tabled the following:

A copy of an article published in the Sherbrooke *Tribune* newspaper on 20 November 1997, concerning the situation in emergency rooms.

(Sessional Paper No. 1295-971120)

After having been called to order, Mr. Paradis, Official Opposition House Leader, concurred in the Chair's decision requesting that he withdraw certain words deemed unparliamentary.

### Motions Without Notice

Mrs. Blackburn (Chicoutimi) moved:

THAT the National Assembly, on the occasion of the 2<sup>nd</sup> anniversary of the signing, by the United Nations, of the International Convention on Children's Rights, warmly thank the organizations, citizens and Members who, through their implication, contributed to the success of the book collection for the Jacques-Couture Centre in Madagascar.

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

The debate being concluded, the motion was carried.

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Mr. Chalifoux (Bertrand) moved a motion concerning the wildlife conservation officers issue; this motion could not be debated for want of unanimous consent.

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Mr. Boulerice, Deputy Government House Leader, moved a motion for special consultations on Bill 160, An Act to amend the Act respecting safety in sports and other legislative provisions; this motion could not be debated for want of unanimous consent.

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Mr. Boulerice, Deputy Government House Leader, moved a motion for special consultations on Bill 166, An Act to amend the General and Vocational Colleges Act and other legislative provisions; this motion could not be debated for want of unanimous consent.

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Mr. Copeman (Notre-Dame-de-Grâce) moved a motion concerning a meeting between the Prime Minister and the representatives of the Coalition nationale sur l'aide sociale; this motion could not be debated for want of unanimous consent.

### **Notices of Proceedings in Committees**

Mr. President gave the following notices with respect to the Committee on Public Administration:

- X which shall meet to examine the financial commitments of the Ministère de l'Industrie, du Commerce, de la Science et de la Technologie contained in the lists for the

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months of March 1996 to March 1997;

- X and which shall hold a deliberative meeting for the purpose of concurring in the report on its conclusions and recommendations, after having heard deputy ministers and chief executive officers of public bodies, pursuant to the *Act respecting the accountability of deputy ministers and chief executive officers of public bodies*.

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## ORDERS OF THE DAY

### **Business Having Precedence**

#### *Want of Confidence Motion*

The Assembly continued the debate on the want of confidence motion moved by Mr. Bourbeau (Laporte)

At the request of Mr. Brouillet, Vice-President, Mrs. Leblanc (Beauce-Sud) withdrew certain words deemed unparliamentary.

The debate being concluded, the question was put on this motion; a recorded division was thereupon demanded.

At the request of Mr. Boulerice, Deputy Government House Leader, the division was deferred until Routine Proceedings on the next sitting day.

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By leave of the Assembly, Mr. Brouillet, Vice-President, suspended the proceedings until 6.00 o'clock p.m.

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### **Debates Upon Adjournment**

The Assembly held three debates upon adjournment:

- the first on a question by Mr. Filion (Montmorency) to Mrs. Dionne-Marsolais, Minister for Revenue, about confidential information trafficking at the Ministère du Revenu;
- the second on a question by Mr. Paradis (Brome-Missisquoi) to Mr. Bertrand, Minister for Industry and Trade, on behalf of Mr. Rochon, Minister of Health and Social Services, about the overcrowding of the emergency room at the Institut de cardiologie de Montréal;
- the third on a question by Mr. Chagnon (Westmount–Saint-Louis) to Mr. Bélanger, Minister of Public Security, on behalf of Mr. Bouchard, Prime Minister, about the confidential information leak at the Ministère du Revenu.

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At 6.46 o'clock p.m., Mr. Brouillet, Vice-President, adjourned the Assembly until Tuesday, 25 November 1997, at 10.00 o'clock a.m.

**JEAN-PIERRE CHARBONNEAU**

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*President*