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# NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

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SECOND SESSION

THIRTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE

## **Votes and Proceedings**

**of the Assembly**

**Tuesday, 7 April 1998 — No. 165**

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

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**QUÉBEC**



The Assembly was called to order at 10.07 o'clock a.m.

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## ORDERS OF THE DAY

### **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 Mr. Bourbeau (Laporte), Mr. Dumont (Rivière-du-Loup), and Mr. Gauthrin (Verdun).

At the end of his speech, Mr. Béchard (Kamouraska-Témiscouata) moved the following want of confidence motion:

THAT the National Assembly severely blame the Parti Québécois Government for its 1998-99 budget, which, in addition to containing no realistic measures to counter the impoverishment of our regions, of the population and more specifically of our youth, offloads onto future generations an increase of more than 16 % in Québec=s debt due to its accounting stratagems.

And debate continuing on the motion by the Minister of Finance and on the want of

confidence motions moved by Mr. Bourbeau (Laporte), Mr. Dumont (Rivière-du-Loup), Mr. Gauthrin (Verdun) and Mr. Béchard (Kamouraska-Témiscouata);

At the end of his speech, Mr. Copeman (Notre-Dame-de-Grâce) moved the following want of confidence motion:

THAT the National Assembly severely blame the Parti Québécois Government for the lack of measures, in its 1998-99 budget, which could improve the living conditions of the poorest members of our society, thus going against the values of compassion and solidarity.

And debate continuing on the motion by the Minister of Finance and on the want of confidence motions moved by Mr. Bourbeau (Laporte), Mr. Dumont (Rivière-du-Loup), Mr. Gauthrin (Verdun), Mr. Béchard (Kamouraska-Témiscouata) and Mr. Copeman (Notre-Dame-de-Grâce);

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At 12.00 o'clock p.m., Mr. Brouillet, 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 2.02 o'clock p.m.

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Moment of reflection

## **ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS**

### **Presenting Papers**

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Mrs. Harel, Minister of State for Employment and Solidarity, tabled the following:

The annual report of the Cree Hunters and Trappers Income Security Board for the fiscal year ended 30 June 1997 (written in French, English and Cree).

(Sessional Paper No. 1552-980407)

Mr. Simard, Minister of International Relations, tabled the following:

The annual report of the Office franco-québécois pour la jeunesse for the fiscal year ended 31 December 1996.

(Sessional Paper No. 1553-980407)

### **Presenting Reports from Committees**

Mr. Sirros (Laurier-Dorion) tabled the following:

A report from the Committee on Labour and the Economy, which, on 10, 11 and 12 February 1998, held special consultations on both the final report entitled "Examen des orientations de la société Hydro-Québec" (Examination of Hydro-Québec's orientation) and the 1998-2002 strategic plan of Hydro-Québec within the framework of the order of surveillance follow-up with respect to the aforementioned agency. The report contains recommendations.

(Sessional Paper No. 1554-980407)

### **Presenting Petitions**

Mrs. Delisle (Jean-Talon) tabled the following:

The abstract of a petition respecting the cutbacks in the college sector and signed by 1984 members of the students' association, on the one hand, and, on the other, the various unions of the CEGEP de Sainte-Foy.

(Sessional Paper No. 1555-980407)

### **Oral Questions and Answers**

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The Assembly proceeded to Oral Question Period.

### **Motions Without Notice**

Mr. Chevrette, Minister for Native Affairs, moved:

THAT the National Assembly invite the Federal Government to join in the establishment of a development fund for the Native peoples of Québec and ask that it contribute \$125 million over a period of five years, which represents an amount equivalent to that announced by the Government of Québec.

The question was put on this motion; a recorded division was thereupon demanded.

The motion was carried on the following vote:

(Division No. 198 in Appendix)

Yeas: **98**    Nays: **0**    Abstentions: **0**

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

Mr. Jolivet, Government House Leader, convened the following Committees:

- X the Committee on Institutions, to continue its public hearings within the framework of special consultations on the report by Mr. Pierre-F. Côté, Q.C., on the effects of the Supreme Court decision with respect to the Libman case and on amendments to electoral legislation;
  
- X the Committee on Transportation and the Environment, to hold public hearings within the framework of special consultations on Bill 416, An Act to amend the Transport Act and the Act respecting transportation by taxi;

And, by leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 143:

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X the Committee on Social Affairs, to continue its public hearings within the framework of special consultations on Bill 404, An Act to amend the Act respecting health services and social services and amending various legislative provisions.

Mr. President gave the following notice:

X the Committee on Labour and the Economy shall hold a deliberative meeting for the purpose of hearing Dr. Pierre Couture in camera.

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## **ORDERS OF THE DAY**

### **Business Having Precedence**

#### *Debate on the Budget Speech*

The Assembly continued 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 Mr. Bourbeau (Laporte), Mr. Dumont (Rivière-du-Loup), Mr. Gauthrin (Verdun), Mr. Béchard (Kamouraska-Témiscouata) and Mr. Copeman (Notre-Dame-de-Grâce).

At the end of his speech, Mr. Johnson, Leader of the Official Opposition, moved the following want of confidence motion:

THAT the National Assembly severely blame the Parti Québécois Government for its lack of vision and means as regards health, education, economy, employment and the future of our youth, which constitute the real priorities of Québec society.

And debate continuing on the motion by the Minister of Finance and on the want of confidence motions moved by Mr. Bourbeau (Laporte), Mr. Dumont (Rivière-du-Loup),

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Mr. Gauthrin (Verdun), Mr. Béchar (Kamouraska-Témiscouata), Mr. Copeman (Notre-Dame-de-Grâce) and Mr. Johnson, Leader of the Official Opposition;

### **Presenting Reports from Committees**

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 53, Mrs. Blackburn (Chicoutimi) tabled the following:

A report from the Committee on Education, which met on 2 April 1998 for clause-by-clause consideration of the following Bill:

401 An Act to amend the Consumer Protection Act with respect to itinerant merchants  
– Reported with an amendment.

(Sessional Paper No. 1556-980407)

### **Business Having Precedence**

#### *Debate on the Budget Speech*

The Assembly continued 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 Mr. Bourbeau (Laporte), Mr. Dumont (Rivière-du-Loup), Mr. Gauthrin (Verdun), Mr. Béchar (Kamouraska-Témiscouata), Mr. Copeman (Notre-Dame-de-Grâce) and Mr. Johnson, Leader of the Official Opposition.

On motion by Mr. Boulerice, Deputy Government House Leader, the debate was adjourned.

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At 5.55 o'clock p.m., Mr. Pinard, Vice-President, adjourned the Assembly until Wednesday, 8 April 1998, at 10.00 o'clock a.m.

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**JEAN-PIERRE CHARBONNEAU**

*President*

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APPENDIX

Recorded Divisions

On the Motion Without Notice moved by Mr. Chevrette, Minister for Native Affairs:

(Division No. 198)

YEAS - 98

Baril ( <i>Arthabaska</i> )	Caron	Houda-Pepin	Ménard
Baril ( <i>Berthier</i> )	Carrier-Perreault	Johnson	Middlemiss
Beaulne	Chagnon	Jolivet	Morin
Beaumier	Chalifoux	Julien	( <i>Nicolet-Yamaska</i> )
Béchar	Charest	Jutras	Mulcair
Bélanger ( <i>Anjou</i> )	Chenail	Kelley	Ouimet
Bélanger ( <i>Mégantic-Compton</i> )	Cherry	Kieffer	Papineau
Benoit	Chevrette	Lachance	Paquin
Bertrand ( <i>Charlevoix</i> )	Ciaccia	Lafrenière	Paré
Bertrand ( <i>Portneuf</i> )	Cliche	Lamquin-Ethier	Parent
Bissonnet	Copeman	Landry	Payne
Blackburn	Côté	( <i>Bonaventure</i> )	Pelletier
Blais	Cusano	Landry	Perreault
Boisclair	Delisle	( <i>Verchères</i> )	Pinard
Bordeleau	Désilets	Laprise	Poulin
Boucher	Dion	Laurin	Rioux
Boulerice	Dionne-Marsolais	Leduc	Rivard
Bourbeau	Doyer	Léger	Rochon
Brodeur	Facal	Lelièvre	Saint-André
Brouillet	Fournier	Léonard	Signori
Campeau	Frulla	LeSage	Simard
	Gagnon-Tremblay	Létourneau	( <i>Richelieu</i> )
	Garon	Maciocia	Sirros
	Gaulin	MacMillan	Trudel
	Gauvin	Malavoy	Vaive
	Gendron	Marois	Vermette
	Harel	Marsan	Williams

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**NAYS - 0**

**ABSTENTIONS - 0**