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**Daily Sitting 48**

Wednesday, May 17, 2000.

10 o'clock a.m.

Prayers.

The Honourable the Premier acknowledged the work of the Royal Canadian Legion to honour at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Ottawa those Canadians who died in the service of the country.

The Premier introduced to the House Mr. Leo Johnson, President of the Royal Canadian Legion's New Brunswick Command, Executive Director Glenna Stewart, and Gordon Boyd, a 101-year old veteran of World War I.

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Mr. Huntjens laid upon the table of the House a petition signed by members of Passamaquoddy Branch #8 of The Royal Canadian Legion requesting that the government do everything in its power to see legislation implemented to safeguard the national flag from willful and indiscriminate acts of desecration. (Petition 13)

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Hon. Mr. N. Betts laid upon the table of the House a memorandum from Edna Lloyd, Director of Human Resources addressed to Service New Brunswick employees regarding confidentiality of information.

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At the conclusion of Oral Questions, Mr. Allaby rose on a Point of Order and submitted that Hon. Mr. Lord had used the word "mislead" which could be deemed unparliamentary.

Hon. Mr. Lord withdrew the comment.

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Mr. Blanchard rose on a Point of Order citing Standing Rule 41(2), and submitted that the answers to questions posed during Question Period were often lengthy and not concise or to the point.

Hon. Mr. E. Robichaud spoke on the Point of Order citing *Beauchesne's Fifth Edition* paragraph 409(2), and submitted that the preambles to questions had become more lengthy, thereby requiring more in-depth responses.

Mr. Speaker stated that he had ruled on this matter on at least two previous occasions, and that both questions and answers must be clearly put, concise and to the point. Continuing, Mr. Speaker ruled that as the previous cautions had not been heeded, and as there appeared to be a desire on both sides of the House for a "tightening up" of question period, he would therefore intervene in the future, if he determined that questions or answers were too lengthy.

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Ms. Weir gave Notice of Motion 147 that on Thursday, May 25, 2000, she would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Richard:

That an address be presented to Her Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, praying that she cause to be laid upon the table of the House a copy of the Child Death Review Committee Report dated February 23, 2000.

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Hon. Mr. Robichaud announced that it was the intention of government that the House resolve itself into a Committee of Supply to consider the estimates of the Department of Training and Employment Development.

Mr. C. Thériault stood on a Point of Order and submitted that it was not in keeping with the practice of the House to announce the estimates to be considered on a particular day without having informed the Opposition in advance.

In speaking to the point of order, Hon. Mr. Robichaud advised that the government would attempt to keep the opposition informed of the order in which estimates would be considered.

Mr. Speaker stated that it is within the discretion of the Government House Leader to deal with the order of business of the House.

Continuing, Mr. Speaker suggested that the House Leaders get together on the issue of the order of the estimates.

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The House, according to order, resolved itself into a Committee of Supply with Mr. Ashfield in the chair.

And after some time, the Chairman declared it to be 12.30 o'clock p.m., and left the chair to resume again at 2 o'clock p.m.

*2 o'clock p.m.*

The Committee resumed with Mr. Ashfield in the chair.

And after some time, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Ashfield, the Chairman, after requesting that Mr. Speaker revert to Presentations of Committee Reports, reported that the Committee had had under consideration the matters referred to them, had made some progress therein, and asked leave to sit again.

Pursuant to Standing Rule 78.1, Mr. Speaker put the question on the motion deemed to be before the House, that the report be concurred in, and it was resolved in the affirmative.

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And then, 6 o'clock p.m., the House adjourned.