

two tier rate structure. I put this to the House and to the government for consideration. Very simply, it is based on a 50 per cent maximum insurable earnings structure without dependants, whereas clients who have families or dependants would remain at the 66½ per cent level or possibly be reduced to the suggested level of 60 per cent.

The saving in New Brunswick alone is estimated at something in the vicinity of \$26 million for this year, which is worthy of note. Of course the saving across the nation would be much greater.

I was pleased to hear that the Standing Committee on Labour, Manpower and Immigration has apparently agreed to allow provincial ministers to participate. I am sure they will benefit from the experience and knowledge of those ladies and gentlemen who will be contributing to the proceedings.

The lower regions of the riding encompass the bedroom communities of New Brunswick's largest city, Saint John, and includes Kennebecasis Park, Renforth, Riverside, Kinghurst, Rothesay, Fairvale, Gondola Point, Quispamsis and Hampton, on the Kennebecasis River, and Grand Bay and Westfield on the Saint John River.

Mr. Speaker, Fundy-Royal is, as I have outlined, a diversified constituency which depends, to a great extent, economically, on the intuition and ingenuity of the people who make up the population. There is within its borders a goodly number of small business people, including a high portion of the productive farmers of New Brunswick. There are fishermen along the Fundy coast who depend on the seas for a living. There are small manufacturers, not so small manufacturers, service industries, and household managers, commonly known as housewives. All of these people have to try to make it in an economic environment which, thanks to the present government, is totally incompatible with the aspirations, hopes, and ambitions of an ambitious, conscientious and arduous population.

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From the standpoint of the household manager, what has been offered in this budget for her? A paltry one dollar per week maybe! As for the rest of the small business community, nothing. There is absolutely nothing except a promise to professions, such as medical doctors and lawyers, that if they previously used a vehicle developed by the government to their advantage, which is what any prudent business person would do, be it someone running a multi-national company, or a small country doctor, then they were labelled as bad scamps, unfair, cheaters of the government, and they must be stopped.

Let us deal with a typical rural doctor. First of all he is regulated in most provinces across this nation by a medicare program, which regulates and dictates his schedule of fees, whether it be for the administration of a common laxative, or the delivery of a baby in a hospital 30 or 60 miles away from his office. He is, in most cases, on call 24 hours a day and tends patients in a hospital most every day miles from his office.

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He maintains a telephone system, which is sophisticated enough to transmit and respond pertinent information to him when he is away from home. He inserts ads in local newspapers when he will be away from his office for more than a few hours. He maintains an office which is completely equipped with enough medical paraphernalia that would make most small hospitals of a decade ago look antiquated. He maintains a staff of at least two, that is, if he wants to clean up the office himself. He maintains records that are suspiciously similar to most legitimate businesses including accounts receivable and accounts payable. He attends seminars and continuing education programs to ensure that he is kept up to date with the latest technology. He often is a dispensing physician, which means that he must maintain an inventory of drugs and medications accounting for same, just as a druggist would. His salary, after expenses, is probably \$30,000 to \$40,000 per year, much less than that of many of the bureaucrats gracing this hill.

This is the villain, Mr. Speaker, that this government says is no different managerially speaking than the guy who goes to work at 9 a.m. in the morning and returns at 5 p.m. at night, and who collects his pay cheque every week. This is the villain, Mr. Speaker, that this government probably considers as another enemy. If it is the government's intention to discourage, and scourge society of this particular rascal, the family doctor, it is doing a particularly efficient job of it. Before the present measures that effectively ensure that a legitimate businessman is eliminated from taking his rightful place in the business community, the situation for MDs surgeons and others in their related fields, was unpalatable enough. This government knows they have been leaving the country in droves for greener pastures in the United States. It will be interesting, and I predict tragic, for this country to witness what the present measures brought in by this government will do to aggravate further an already serious situation.

But this is the attitude that this government has toward small business. They are to be used and intimidated. Not destroyed, yet, because they are the largest group of taxpayers, producers, and employers in the country. But they are certainly to be intimidated.

The Department of Justice keeps on staff a "stable of legal beagles" paid for in the most part by the labour of small business, whose sole purpose it is to prosecute, persecute, and short of execute whoever the Department of Justice can get their clutches on, as long as the villain is from the private sector.

Woe befall "chump citizen, small businessman", if he does not have resources equal to the Bank of Canada to take on this battery of would-be deputy ministers. Although admittedly that is not as ridiculous a thought today as it might have been in better times. No, I suspect the facts will bear me out that the majority of Goliath and Tom Thumb legal engagements end up with a hasty capitulation by Tom, not because he knows he is wrong, but because of the sheer financial terror with which he is not so gently faced.