

Mr. Lundrigan: Mr. Speaker, if hon. members to my right would be agreeable, we would be delighted to hear the hon. member's question.

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. I do so in the hope that during the Christmas recess something might be done about the situation. May I call Your Honour's attention to the fact that the sound system today is working very poorly.

Mr. Speaker: I hope this will be looked into during whatever recess there is, but certainly this will be brought to the attention of the appropriate officials of the House.

Orders of the day.

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

INCOME TAX LAW AMENDMENT ACT, 1971

The House resumed from Wednesday, December 22, consideration of the motion of Mr. Drury (for Minister of Finance) for the second reading and reference to the Committee of the Whole of Bill C-275, to amend the statute law relating to income tax.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Vancouver-Kingsway.

Mr. Lundrigan: Mr. Speaker, on a question of privilege, before the Minister of Manpower and Immigration leaves the House I wonder if it would be in order to raise a point which certainly is an important one. Today we had tabled in the House the job vacancy survey—

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member knows that Orders of the Day have been called. The Chair has recognized the hon. member for Vancouver-Kingsway and there is no way, unless there should be unanimous consent, that the hon. member can raise this matter. The hon. member for Vancouver-Kingsway.

Mr. Lundrigan: Mr. Speaker, on a question of privilege—

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member for Gander-Twillingate on a question of privilege.

Mr. Lundrigan: Mr. Speaker, I understand we are on Bill C-275 and, despite Your Honour's unique capabilities, I am surprised that you would rule out my question of privilege. I am raising a question specifically in respect of Bill C-275 in view of the job vacancy survey tabled in the House today.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member knows he has the right, as have other hon. members of the House, to speak on the order of business that is before the Chamber now, but the hon. member for Vancouver-Kingsway also has her rights in this Chamber and she has been recognized. The hon. member for Vancouver-Kingsway.

Mr. Lundrigan: Mr. Speaker, I am on a question of privilege.

Income Tax Law Amendment Act, 1971

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, please. The Chair has ruled on the question of privilege of the hon. member. If the hon. member is indicating to the Chair he wishes to speak on the subject now before the House, the hon. member for Vancouver-Kingsway has been recognized by the Chair. If the hon. member for Gander-Twillingate can indicate to the Chair that he has a legitimate question of privilege then I will hear him, but to this point he has not so indicated. However, I shall hear him.

Mr. Lundrigan: Mr. Speaker, if you are not prepared to hear my question of privilege, how can you rule on it? The minister is in the House and is about to leave. A document has been tabled that is directly relevant to Bill C-275 and which makes direct references to the manpower training program. I am sure my colleague from Vancouver-Kingsway, who is an outstanding member of this House, would be quite in agreement with my request. I should like to know whether the minister would stay during this period of debate on Bill C-275 and avail himself of the opportunity to make a brief statement on the job vacancy survey to the House.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, please. With respect I suggest the hon. member is making a representation to the minister. The Chair recognizes the hon. member for Vancouver-Kingsway.

Mrs. Grace MacInnis (Vancouver-Kingsway): Mr. Speaker, when the House adjourned last night I was expressing our repudiation of the government's view of society which is only too clearly reflected in certain sections of the bill now before us. This view of society divides people into "haves" and "have nots" and it is quite obvious from this bill that the government intends to keep it that way. The first part of the bill reflects that intention only too clearly by its tax reduction of 3 per cent for individuals, right across the board without any regard to their income, and 7 per cent for corporations. I wonder, Mr. Speaker, if we might have a little more order in this House.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, please.

Mrs. MacInnis: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, I would suggest that some of these caucuses should be held outside, if that would be all right with hon. members. I know we are all getting weary at this time, but at least we want to be able to make ourselves heard.

The first part of this bill embodies the age old "trickle-down" theory or recipe for dealing with difficult times in this country. It follows the idea that what you have to do is to make corporations and business concerns strong, and that by doing so you strengthen the entire economy. In my view this is putting the cart before the horse.

I was interested in the remarks of the hon. gentleman who was trying to get the floor a few moments ago, the hon. member for Gander-Twillingate (Mr. Lundrigan), who referred in the debate last night to the need for the development of human resources. Yet as he went along not even he could see that this bill is just simply the old idea of backing the industrial and economic resources of the country, completely neglecting the development of human resources which I think is very important. When it is a question of stimulating the economy, I think the