

*Income Tax Act*

taking an action which breaks the trust which is the basis of this country.

**Some hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Mr. Clark:** The government knows that this defence of the constitution is not limited to the House, and indeed not limited to this side of the House. The Government's proposal has been unanimously rejected by the National Assembly of Quebec. It is opposed by members with a sense of conscience in the government's own caucus—and this debate will last long enough for this House of Commons to hear from the hon. member for Maisonneuve-Rosemont (Mr. Joyal), from the hon. member for Matane (Mr. De Bané), from the hon. member for Compton (Mr. Tessier) and from other hon. members on the Liberal side who know that they cannot in conscience support an invasion of provincial jurisdiction. We will assure them that so long as the rules of the House of Commons allow, we will provide a debate long enough to allow them the chance to stand up and speak in defence of provincial rights.

**Some hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

● (2102)

**Mr. Clark:** The other thing that this government knows which causes government members maximum discomfort now is that before very long they will have to back down on this bill. The question is: how much of the time of the House of Commons does the government intend to waste debating a bill it intends to change before it backs down?

**Some hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Mr. Clark:** I repeat, Mr. Speaker.

[*Translation*]

This bill will not disappear as if by magic. The rights of the provinces have been flouted by the government, and we will see to it that the situation is remedied. Consequently, I advise the government formally of our intention of using all means at our disposal to force it to reverse its position and respect the fundamental rights of the provinces.

[*English*]

**Some hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Mr. Clark:** I suspect that the government already has begun to prepare its retreat and is looking for ways to amend this bill. I hope it is. If the government does not change the bill, then we will introduce amendments to remove the rebate proposal and to respect the right of the province to use the jurisdiction of the province as it chooses. That amendment will come when we are at committee of the whole stage in two, three or four weeks' time.

I suggest that the government not cause that long delay. There is other urgent business before the House of Commons. The Deputy Prime Minister and President of Privy Council (Mr. MacEachen) the other day read off a list of matters

[Mr. Clark.]

which he considers urgent. The amendment now before the House of Commons, the amendment of the hon. member for Oshawa-Whitby, gives the government the opportunity to buy the time it needs to amend the bill, and at the same time to let the House of Commons get on with other urgent business. If this government has its changes ready before a month has passed, I am sure that there will be unanimous agreement in this House to bring the changed bill back early. The ball is very much in the hands and in the court of the government side. If the government acts now and takes the opportunity to take this bill back for consideration, back for the amendment its own members want to see, the government can save the time of the House of Commons and perhaps help to save the future of the country. Thus the choice is with the government. I hope we might have the vote on the amendment very soon.

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Turner):** Is the House ready for the question?

**Some hon. Members:** Question.

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Turner):** The question is on the amendment (Mr. Broadbent) to the main motion. Is it the pleasure of the House to adopt the amendment?

**Some hon. members:** Agreed.

**Some hon. Members:** No.

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Turner):** All those in favour will please say yea.

**Some hon. Members:** Yea.

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Turner):** All those opposed will please say nay.

**Some hon. Members:** Nay.

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Turner):** In my opinion, the yeas have it.

*And more than five members having risen:*

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Turner):** Call in the members.

The House divided on the amendment (Mr. Broadbent), which was negatived on the following division:

*(Division No. 47)*

YEAS

Messrs.

Alexander  
Alkenbrack  
Allard  
Andre  
(Calgary Centre)  
Baker  
(Grenville-Carleton)  
Baldwin

Beatty  
Beaudoin  
Brisco  
Broadbent  
Cadieu  
Clark  
(Rocky Mountain)  
Coates

Crouse  
Dick  
Dinsdale  
Dionne  
(Kamouraska)  
Elzinga  
Epp  
Firth