

which we want to talk about a great deal during an election, Bill C-29, an act to amend the Combines Investigation Act. We are looking forward to joining issue with those who make an easy debate on gouging and profiteering and who have easy solutions. We have a bill here that we are prepared to stand on and to put before the country at any time.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Trudeau: The results of the non-passage of this bill will be that the power to roll back prices is lost. If the bill is lost, Mr. Speaker, the government will be denied at this time the ability to deal effectively with foodstuffs such as meat, canned fruit, vegetables, bread, and so on. I am just talking about food, but this also applies to other sectors where gouging exists. It would deny the government the means to apply strong pressure on those who profit unreasonably in the marketplace when competition is lacking.

Then we have Bill C-7, amendments to the Combines Investigation Act. This bill is based on the belief that a vigorous competition policy is fundamental to any anti-inflation program. Countries all over the world have been tightening up their laws on competition in recent years to ensure the lowest possible prices to the consumer. The government, as the House knows, has been pressing for amendments to this law since 1970. The amendments to the Combines Investigation Act now before parliament go a long way toward remedying defects and are an important part of the government's anti-inflation program. The results of non-passage of this bill would be that a powerful antidote to inflation would be lost. Failure to pass the bill would be irresponsible on the part of parliament. Failure to act on these amendments can only favour unacceptable business acts that daily harm the consumer.

Then what about the act to amend the Agricultural Products Co-operative Marketing Act? The present act provides, essentially, to producers of other crops and producers of wheat grain outside the designated areas under the Canadian Wheat Board Act what the Canadian Wheat Board Act provides for western wheat producers. Results of non-passage would be that it might hinder production because of the greater need for cash flow by producers at the present time. It would also prevent the Ontario wheat producers from having some of the advantages now received by western producers.

Then there is Bill C-25, an act to amend the Prairie Grain Advance Payments Act. The results of non-passage would mean less stable marketing of grain and would create a jam in transportation, since the farmers would not be inclined to hold grain on their farms until acceptance and delivery, thus affecting 50,000 producers.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Trudeau: Then in the area of social policy I should just mention Bill C-35 which was given first reading, I believe, only yesterday. This is the omnibus bill on equal rights for women. We on this side are proud of that bill and we will tell the country that the women of this country are equal.

Mr. Nowlan: You have had 11 years to do that.

Mr. Baker: Even the girls don't like it.

The Budget—Mr. Trudeau

Mr. Trudeau: Then there is Bill C-19, an act to amend the Canada Pension Plan. What are the results of non-passage of this measure? First, there would be the loss of increased benefits for survivors of women contributors who have died. That embraces about 30,000 people. Second, there will be the loss, through failure to remove the earnings test, of increased benefits for about 500,000 persons now retired.

Some hon. Members: Shame.

Mr. Trudeau: Then Bill C-34, the National Housing Act amendments to continue and to broaden existing federal assistance for municipal sewage treatment facilities and to make trunk sewer systems eligible for assistance. The results of non-approval of this measure would mean that a major new initiative would be delayed. It is conceivable that the legislation could have had considerable impact on the availability of serviced land for home construction.

I have several more bills I wish to mention, Mr. Speaker, and I apologize for taking the time of the House. I know most hon. members are aware of the subject matter of the bills, but I just repeat that it is important to put these matters on the record so the people of Canada will know that this House has been warned, and warned very clearly, about the effects of dissolution now.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Trudeau: In the area of industrial and regional policy we have Bill C-13, an act to amend the Bank Act. I think the attitude of the opposition is that if this bill is not passed it will only frustrate the wishes of the western provinces which want this amendment to the Bank Act so they can set up banking institutions in their provinces.

Then there is Bill C-20, the Federal Business Development Bank Act. Results of non-passage of this bill, which can be viewed as complementary to the budget statements, relating to small businesses, would mean that an extremely important service to small business would be delayed, to the detriment of an important economic sector. This is of importance to us, Mr. Speaker.

Then there is Bill C-10, to amend the Export Development Act. I am sure many members read the statements in Monday's papers about the effect of the non-passage of this bill, statements made by the Canadian Export Association of Montreal, headed by the president, Mr. J. M. McAvity. At the present time there are a number of major projects totalling \$300 million being negotiated. It will not be possible to sustain these negotiations for lack of authority to make financial commitments. These projects involve manufacturers, a number of suppliers and service industries, and should these projects not proceed there is a possibility of loss of customers and of jobs for Canadians. Once again I repeat, Mr. Speaker, and I quote from Monday's papers wherein the president of the Canadian Exporters Association states—

● (2050)

If the amendment to the act does not go through in the next few months, or if it is postponed by an election, then Canadian exporters would lose business.

Some hon. Members: Shame.