

Business of the House

Olson) knows what I am talking about—that pulley through which all the farm equipment is steered, whether it be the threshing machine or any other machine. The federal government sales tax of 12 per cent applies as well, I insist to the shovel which is used to load the grain, or fertilizer, or earth.

A while ago, I pointed out in Bill No. C-191, with which we are well acquainted, the following:

—pipes or tubes commonly known as “oil-country goods”, being casing or tubing—

including accessories, all the material required for the development of natural gas and mining. For the development of the agricultural produce required to feed the population, if the farmer can get water by gravity for his cattle, for the house, his home, the 12 per cent tax applies to the pipes. Otherwise, if he needs a pump, again he has to pay the 12 per cent tax on the pump. For all these things I am sorry Mr. Chairman, but the farmer has to pay sales tax.

In election time, the big companies are freed from excise taxes, and sales taxes. The farmer is not allowed to fade into the background: he always has to pay taxes. While our woods companies develop our forests to their advantage and that of foreign financiers, the farmer must purchase trucks on which the federal sales tax will always apply. All this will push him deeper into debt. If he wants to expand, he will have to go into debt. Of course he is not obliged to borrow because nothing forces him to expand his farm, but when time comes to seed, to bring in the crop, if machinery breaks down, he has to borrow. I feel that the Minister of Agriculture should act now and delete Section 8, subsection 2, paragraph (1a) which reads as follows:

“(1a) The Governor in Council may from time to time by regulation prescribe the rate or rates of interest to be paid in respect of any loan made under this Act.”

Mr. Chairman, I do not think this makes sense. I think the farmer should know where he is going. The farmer cannot think that he will always pay beyond his means. He has lived long enough on the depreciation of his buildings. He must now make little profit, otherwise it will be the end of agriculture. The bill under consideration is the best means, the most hypocritical, the quietest, and the most conventional one to enable the government to seize the land of our farmers. Farms were seized in Poland and in Russia by all sorts of means, but today, the way the government does it is so well presented that

it is possible to forget it sometimes. It is really regrettable that one of ours should be forced to come to that, Mr. Chairman.

Ancient history teaches us all sorts of things, and, about treason, one recalls the story of Joseph who was sold by his brothers.

Mr. Chairman, I think it is time for the honourable minister to change his approach so as to prevent our young people and the coming generation to repeat or to think...

[*English*]

The Deputy Chairman: Order. It being 10 p.m. it is my duty to rise, report progress, and request leave to sit again at the next sitting of the house.

Progress reported.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, before we proceed with the late shows, could the government house leader indicate to all of us what the business is for tomorrow?

Mr. Macdonald (Rosedale): Yes, Mr. Speaker. The business tomorrow will be second reading and, we hope, committee stage of the bill to amend the Judges Act, to be followed by second reading stage of the drug bill.

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): And Thursday remains as announced some days ago?

Mr. Macdonald (Rosedale): Thursday remains as announced last Thursday.

[*Translation*]

PROCEEDINGS ON ADJOURNMENT MOTION

A motion to adjourn the house under standing order 39A deemed to have been moved.

CANADIAN NATIONAL RAILWAYS—VICTORIA-VILLE, QUE.—PROPOSED ABANDONMENT OF PASSENGER SERVICE

Mr. André Fortin (Lotbinière): Mr. Speaker, it is unfortunate that many members should leave the house, because I think that all members should be interested in national matters. Mr. Speaker, I would like to draw your attention, as I have done, by asking the members on the other side of the house to give us the chance to fulfil our democratic obligation and to exercise our right to speak.