

Income Tax Act

Hon. Member after I hear first from the Hon. Member for Northumberland-Miramichi.

Mr. Dionne (Northumberland-Miramichi): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This points out the foolishness of giving unanimous consent to continue the question period. Since it has been given, though, I am taking advantage of it.

I wish to put a final question to the Hon. Member for Waterloo, who has finally got around to saying that he is not worried about the \$100 deduction for charitable donations but rather about other donations. I will put a very direct question to him. Has his Party come to this decision on the same basis that they have come to the decision on medicare, that it is politically expedient to take a position against the removal of the \$100 donation not because the donation was good for charities—in fact, it was bad for charities—but because it sounds politically sexy? Is that the position of the Opposition?

● (1530)

Mr. McLean: Mr. Speaker, that provocative question will not draw bait. I have been reflecting the concern of the NVO Coalition. Its concern was that the provisions in the Budget and the tax matters we are debating today reflect only half the proposals. The proposal to withdraw the \$100 automatic tax deduction without any incentive to that sector is not adequate. The question as to whether or not we are in favour of reinstating that provision is not the issue in front of the House today.

Mr. Dionne (Northumberland-Miramichi): Yes, it is the issue. Answer the question.

Mr. McLean: We are dealing with proposals which have been put forward by the Government and the question of whether or not they represent the interests and concerns of national voluntary agencies. In the Budget Speech it was suggested that they did represent such agencies, but the agencies themselves have indicated that they were tied to a scheme of tax credits which would bring some incentive to the sector. This is a position which our Party endorses and will seek to advocate with the hope that the Government in its dying days will implement it.

Mr. Dionne (Northumberland-Miramichi): Mr. Speaker, I agree that the Hon. Member has endured a long question period. If he had not given such a flawed speech, he would not have required such endurance.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Blaker): Questions, answers, comments?

Mr. McCain: On debate, Mr. Speaker.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Blaker): Debate.

Mr. Fisher: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. It would have been the Hon. Member's normal privilege to give a 20-minute speech followed by a 10-minute question and answer period, had we not extended the preceding question

period. Therefore, Mr. Speaker, I ask that you seek the unanimous consent of the House to restore that full privilege to the Hon. Member for Carleton-Charlotte rather than limit him to a 10-minute speech.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Blaker): I would certainly want to seek understanding as to whether the Hon. Member for Carleton-Charlotte (Mr. McCain) wishes to have that privilege.

Mr. Forrestall: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order to draw to the attention of the Chair that the House is operating under a House order. I think we should stick to that. Debate has been called, the Hon. Member has risen and I think he should be recognized.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Blaker): I am not clear as to what the Hon. Member is suggesting. The motion, if I might call it that, is a faulty one because it has not been seconded.

Mr. Fisher: I did not put a motion.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Blaker): I propose to recognize the Hon. Member for Carleton-Charlotte. That Hon. Member ought to be heard for a period of 20 minutes rather than 10 minutes. That is a change from our Standing Orders because at this point in time more than eight hours of debate has passed and accordingly all speeches have to be limited to 10 minutes.

Mr. Fennell: He ought to be given 20 minutes.

Mr. Heap: No.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Blaker): In order to understand the mood of the House, perhaps I should be a bit more formal. It has been moved by the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Finance (Mr. Fisher), seconded by the Hon. Member for Ontario (Mr. Fennell), that the Hon. Member for Carleton-Charlotte but no other Hon. Member be granted debate time of 20 minutes.

Mr. Fisher: I was not moving a motion.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Blaker): Is there unanimous consent?

Some Hon. Members: Agreed.

Mr. Heap: No.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Blaker): Is the Hon. Member for Spadina (Mr. Heap) rising on that point?

Mr. Heap: Yes, Mr. Speaker. We have witnessed a charade for the last hour in which certain Hon. Members on both sides of the House have flagrantly abused the principle involved in the ten-minute question and comment period.

Mr. Fisher: I just wanted him to have his allotted time.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Blaker): Order, please. Whether or not the Chair agrees there has been flagrant abuse, I