

Time Allocation

[Translation]

Mr. Speaker: I wish to inform the House that because of the ministerial statement, Government Orders will be extended by 21 minutes, beginning at 1 p.m. today.

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

[English]

INCOME TAX ACT
**ALLOCATION OF TIME TO CONSIDER REPORT AND THIRD
READING STAGES OF BILL C-28**

**Hon. Doug Lewis (Minister of Justice and Attorney
General of Canada)** moved:

That, in relation to Bill C-28, not more than one further sitting day shall be allotted to the consideration of the report stage and, one sitting day to the consideration of the third reading stage of the bill; and

That, fifteen minutes before the expiry of the time provided for government business on the day allotted to the report stage consideration and on the day allotted to the third reading stage consideration of the said bill, any proceedings before the House shall be interrupted, if required, for the purpose of this order and, in turn, every question necessary in order to dispose of the stage of the bill then under consideration shall be put forthwith and successively, without further debate or amendment.

He said: Mr. Speaker, I rise with a great deal of sorrow to speak to this particular motion because I know that my hon. colleagues opposite had wanted to prolong the debate on this motion *ad nauseam*. Actually, this is a government measure to save them from themselves because we were getting calls from there was this great uprising in the Liberal and NDP parties in an effort to come to the rescue of people with incomes of over \$50,000 who were having their old age security taxed back.

We in this party believe in distributing income to those people who need it.

Mr. Riis: Charity in other words.

Mr. Lewis: I didn't say "charity", I said "income distribution". We are doing that through the modernization of a tax system which was left to us in decrepit shape by a decrepit Liberal party. We are making great strides toward doing that. I know I speak for people on all sides of the House when I say that my hon. friends are waiting

in anticipation of the declaration by the Minister of Finance on the new great services tax which we are going to be bringing in shortly. I am sure that by the time the Minister of Finance is finished there will be a great deal of support for this tax.

While I am on my feet I want to mention that I understand the hon. member from Ottawa Centre is organizing a demonstration against the budget cuts that the President of the Treasury Board announced on Friday. I want him to know, although I know it is rather public to do it here, that if he should in any way contemplate a cross-country tour to speak to this, I want him to come to Orillia, Midland, and Penetanguishene to speak to this important issue. We want him in Kamloops and probably in Peace River. We want this noble quest carried across the country. And if he needs money we will be glad to raise the funds to get him there.

Having said that, we are making good progress on the legislative agenda. Upon passage of this motion we intend to call report stage on Tuesday next, tomorrow, and third reading on Wednesday and complete the debate on this very important tax measure and send it off to the other place for final review and, I am sure, speedy passage.

I do not think I need to speak any further. I am sure my hon. friends opposite will probably see the wisdom of this and, thanks to my words, we will probably be able to vote immediately.

Mr. John Manley (Ottawa South): Madam Speaker, it is indeed a pleasure to have the opportunity to reply so immediately to some of those comments.

On the matter of the cutbacks I feel that I have some obligation to respond to the minister's remarks. I think that the people of the national capital region are indeed aware of the fiscal mess into which the government has got the country. I think they are willing to do their part to try to alleviate the incredible burden that has been thrust upon the nation by five years of fiscal incompetence which has more than doubled the national debt in that time.

I think the government needs to be aware at this time of the importance of national symbols, the importance of realizing, on the part of all Canadians, the fact that we have institutions as well as programs in this country that tie us together.