Government Organization

Large capitalizations are realized, on which no tax is levied. There are direct and indirect capitalizations. Some capital is set aside; in fact, the State allows reserves on which no tax is levied. Small wage-earners are taxed; their pay envelope is emptied. They get only the stub of their pay cheque. They have nothing left. Therefore, Mr. Speaker, what is there to improve in Canada?

I have before me an article published in the June 24, 1968 issue of *La Presse*. It is about a report on bankruptcies in the furniture retail business throughout Canada. I quote:

During the first nine months of 1968, last period for which statistics are available from the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, a total of 89 furniture and electric appliances stores went bankrupt in Canada. Their deficits totalled \$6,651,000. This amount is double that of the same number of bankruptcies during the same period in 1967, the value recorded for that period being \$3,430,000.

Therefore, the number of bankruptcies in the furniture business would have more than doubled in a year! How can the industry survive? What is the department going to do in such a situation? Will the department give the people more purchasing power so that they can buy the products and keep the stores from going bankrupt?

Businesses are going bankrupt because they cannot sell their goods. They are compelled to sell them at a loss, and then have to go into liquidation.

This happens all over Canada not only in the furniture industry, but in all industries generally, except big businesses operating with millions of dollars and who are supported by the government and protected by taxes and duties.

There are new departments to deal with regional disparities, but the industries already established cannot operate because they do not know if they will find a market for their products.

Mr. Joseph-Philippe Guay (St. Boniface): Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order.

Mr. Latulippe: What is the trouble, Mr. Speaker—

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Béchard): Order, please. The hon. member for St. Boniface rises on a point of order.

Mr. Guay (St. Boniface): Mr. Speaker, I would like only to point out that the hon. member speaks so rapidly that I have trouble following him. Could he repeat one of the things he has mentioned?

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Béchard): Order, please. I think that the hon. member for Compton has duly noted the remarks of the hon. member for St. Boniface.

Mr. Latulippe: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, I apologize, indeed, for speaking a bit fast. As a matter of fact, one does not always realize that simultaneous interpretation is in progress and that other people want to listen. I am going to try and speak more slowly in order at least to enable hon. members to understand and to catch the main points of my argument on the situation of our economy.

Then, those 21 factors-

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Béchard): Order. Would the hon. member be kind enough to speak more slowly and to limit his remarks to the bill now before us?

Mr. Latulippe: I think, Mr. Speaker, that I am complying with your suggestion, since the bill provides for the setting up of new departments which are intended to administer the nation's business.

Since the state does not produce anything and that its only task is to administer the country, it is only fair that it should do its job equitably, in such a way as to allow Canadians to live reasonably well in a country of plenty.

At all events, Mr. Speaker, I shall try not to depart from the object matter of the bill and if you think I am going off the track you will only have to remind me again.

These 21 factors of our personal, familial, social and national economy must be kept in balance at all times, under the learned guidance of a government aware of its responsibilities, within the framework of our present monetary, economic and political systems and our constitution.

We do not want to change anything, to upset anything, because our present economic system is good, in spite of some abuses that must be corrected. Hon. members on the government side should understand us when we say that we are in favour of credit, rather than ignore us.

• (4:50 p.m.)

They will not listen to us because they think we want to upset everything, but we do not want to upset anything at all. We want to keep everything which is good, which is of service, we want to keep the agencies which are functioning well. When these federal