

for a great number of years and I have not been on a 40-hour week during that entire period. I believe I still put in a pretty good week's work even though it is late in my chronological life. I can tell you, Mr. Speaker, that I hope to continue to do so for many years to come despite my age, as long as the fine people of Parry Sound-Muskoka wish to return me to this House.

● (1800)

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

[*Translation*]

Mr. Deputy Speaker: The hour provided for the consideration of private members' business has now expired. I do now leave the chair until eight o'clock p.m.

At six o'clock the House took recess.

● (2000)

AFTER RECESS

The House resumed at 8 p.m.

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

INCOME TAX ACT

MEASURE TO AMEND

The House resumed consideration of the motion of Mr. Crosbie that Bill C-17, to amend the statute law relating to income tax and to amend the Canada Pension Plan, be read the second time and referred to Committee of the Whole.

[*English*]

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order. When the debate was interrupted at 5 p.m., Bill C-17 was under consideration, and the hon. member for Cape Breton-East Richmond (Mr. Hogan) had the floor.

An hon. Member: He is not here.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Lefebvre: Mr. Speaker, I am sorry, but I did not hear what you said. Could you repeat it?

Mr. Deputy Speaker: In French or in English?

Mr. Lefebvre: As you wish, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: When the debate was interrupted at 5 p.m., the debate was on the motion for second reading of Bill C-17, to amend the statute law relating to income tax and to

Income Tax Act

amend the Canada Pension Plan, and the hon. member for Cape Breton-East Richmond (Mr. Hogan) had the floor.

[*English*]

The hon. member for Burnaby (Mr. Robinson).

Mr. Svend J. Robinson (Burnaby): Mr. Speaker, my speech this evening will be my first speech as the member of Parliament for Burnaby, and it gives me a great deal of pride to be the first member of Parliament for the new constituency of Burnaby. I might add that this is the first time in the history of my province that the community of Burnaby has had its own member of Parliament.

If I might just beg the indulgence of the House for a moment, I would like to point out that Burnaby is a very unique municipality in a number of ways. Within our borders we have great diversity. We border on the mighty Fraser River and an ocean inlet. We have rich agricultural land, heavy industry, two large post-secondary institutions, many lovely residential neighbourhoods, as well as a strong commercial area. I am proud to represent the constituency of Burnaby, and I am pleased that my constituents have placed their confidence in me.

The bill before the House this evening is a bill which would amend the statute law relating to income tax, and amend the Canada Pension Plan. The bill, of course, is a holdover, in a sense, from the previous Liberal government. It basically would continue the same kinds of loopholes and inequities, in my view, that the previous Liberal government brought into effect, or wished to bring into effect before it was turfed out of office on May 22 last.

The people of Burnaby, and I am sure the people of the rest of Canada, are tired of the kinds of games which are being played with them through the economic system, and the tax system in particular. The people of Burnaby voted for a change. I was elected as their representative, and the people of Canada as a whole thought that perhaps the promises which had been made by the Conservative Party during the election campaign would be kept. However, that was not to be. There are many examples, but I point to the example of the \$2.2 billion income tax cut about which this government has been strangely silent so far.

Surely the constituents of my riding and the voters of Canada have a right to expect integrity in the political process in terms of the promises which have been made. There was a number of foolish promises which were made, and the government has quite properly turned its face from them. Of course, only yesterday we saw the example of the proposed embassy move.

However, what concerns me is the fact that in this bill which is presented to us today, and which seeks to bring in some more loopholes and some more incentives, as they have been called, to the taxation system, it does nothing to deal with the basic inequities which exist within our tax structure. The share of taxation which is borne by corporate interests today is approximately 17 per cent. The share which is borne by individuals is some 41 per cent. Twenty-five years ago the