

What I want for Christmas is an opportunity for this country to show its mettle without the degradation of excessive taxation. I want a government that will sit down with the provinces and municipalities and determine under what tax level this country can prosper. I want a long-term and intelligent assessment of this nation's capability to pay taxes. I want a government that understands that over-taxation and over-expenditure is degrading and debilitating to this country.

This situation is probably like the little girl blowing out the candles on her cake. She is told to make a wish. She knows damned well she is not going to get it, but at least she has the right to wish. That is all we in this House have left, the right to wish for an intelligent appraisal of the capability of the nation. That is all we have left to wish for this Christmas.

I regret very much there has been a House agreement which requires that we stop this debate and proceed to finish this bill, which really does little if anything for Canada. However, it is a principle we will espouse. In co-operation with that agreement, I thank you very much.

**Mr. Lapointe (Charlevoix):** Mr. Speaker, I understand that we will go through all stages and pass this bill before six o'clock, so I would now ask you to go into Committee of the Whole.

*Small Businesses Loans Act (No. 2)*

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Blaker):** There is no difficulty with what the minister proposes. We will dispose of that accordingly. Is the House ready for the question?

**Some hon. Members:** Question.

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Blaker):** Is it the pleasure of the House to adopt the motion as amended?

**Some hon. Members:** Agreed.

Motion agreed to, bill read the second time and, by unanimous consent, considered in committee, reported, read the third time and passed.

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Blaker):** I want hon. members to appreciate the fact that the Chair was so speedy that the Sergeant-at-Arms had to run to keep up with the Mace!

**Mr. McDermid:** Mr. Speaker, may I call it six o'clock.

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Blaker):** With the unanimous consent of the House we will call it six o'clock. I do now leave the chair until tomorrow at 2 p.m.

At 5.48 p.m. the House adjourned, without question put, pursuant to Standing Order.

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