

*Time Allocation*

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. McCain):** It being six o'clock I do now leave the chair until eight o'clock p.m.

At 5.48 p.m. the House took recess.

● (2000)

**AFTER RECESS**

The House resumed at 8 p.m.

**GOVERNMENT ORDERS**

[*Translation*]

**BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE****ALLOCATION OF TIME TO CONSIDER COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE STAGE OF BILL C-20**

The House resumed consideration of the motion of Mr. Baker (Nepean-Carleton):

That in relation to Bill C-20, an act to amend the Income Tax Act to provide a tax credit in respect of mortgage interest and home owner property tax, one sitting day shall be allotted to the further consideration in Committee of the Whole stage of the bill; and

That, at fifteen minutes before the expiry of the time provided for government business on that day, any proceeding before the committee shall be interrupted, if required, for the purpose of this order and, in turn every question then necessary in order to dispose of the Committee of the Whole stage of the bill shall be put forthwith and successively, without further debate or amendment.

**Mr. C.-A. Gauthier (Roberval):** Mr. Speaker, I continue what I was saying before supper about the motion introduced by the minister to limit the time of debate on Bill C-20. In my opinion, Mr. Speaker, if all members of this House want to be serious, I believe the discussion on this bill has lasted long enough. This is a bill made up of two clauses, the first one giving the principle of the bill and the second one determining the tax cuts being proposed by the ministry.

We have to be serious; after seven days of debate and so many speakers during those seven days—just on the official opposition side more than 25 members spoke and I think they had the time, Mr. Speaker, to give the lines of thought of their party, as well as those of their colleagues, the Liberals, who voted with us on second reading of this bill. I believe they also agree with us on this bill. I think a lot of people are watching us tonight. A lot of heads of families are waiting for this bill to try to reduce somewhat interests in arrears because of the continuous rise in interest rates.

We have ourselves addressed this bill. Government members as well as members of the New Democratic Party have had the opportunity to suggest amendments to this bill. Again this afternoon I could hear members of the NDP or the official opposition say that they could not get their amendments

[Mr. Jarvis.]

accepted. They knew beforehand that they could not do it, Mr. Speaker, because we had already been warned. The minister warned the House that he could not accept amendments which would increase the budget. Indeed, according to usual practice, an amendment which forces the ministry to increase its budget is not acceptable. It constitutes a finance bill and cannot be accepted. This is why the minister said simply that he would review these amendments and that it would always be possible to come back to this bill after the holidays.

If everyone were sincere and would stop playing politics, we would all agree that it is time this evening to take a serious stand before the Canadian people and to take the action that people are expecting from serious politicians who were elected to help them, at least partially, to solve their problems. It has been said during the debate that this bill provides no extension and is too restrictive. Others have said that it is too costly. It is a great thing to sit here and listen to speeches.

Mr. Speaker, since I only have three minutes left, I would like to appeal to all serious-minded members in this House. As your leader would say, let us stop this nonsense and try to be serious. We, of the Social Credit party, believe, first that this has gone on long enough, and second, that this bill is a priority. We have made our speeches. We have been asking for such a bill for many years, Mr. Speaker, and we now urge the minister to act as soon as possible before he gets discouraged. Mr. Speaker, for the first time in this House, we are witnessing approval of the basic principle of the Social Credit party in the area of housing.

Members are right to applaud because it is true. No one has ever listened to, or wanted to listen to, the housing reforms proposed by the Social Credit party. The opposition members believe that Social Credit is only a matter of dollars and cents. It is not. They should read the reforms proposed by the Social Credit party. It is a complete social reform, the monetary reform represents only one-thousandth of it, a social reform that puts the wealth of our country at the service of human beings instead of giving it to millionaires as you are doing. It is the first time, Mr. Speaker, that a bill will give some help.

In the last 20 years we have been asking that single family unit owners be given the same benefits as the big owners of multiple dwelling buildings. We have been asking for that for a long time. Never before has a government dared to do it. This evening, the party in power proposes a small amendment, I repeat, but at least it is a first step. This is why tonight we urge the minister to make sure by all means that this bill is passed before Christmas to give at least a big gift to family heads for the New Year. People are waiting for it. Millions of family heads, of young couples, are waiting for this.

● (2010)

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** It being 8.10 p.m., the two hours allotted under Standing Order 75(C) for the consideration of the motion before us have now expired. In accordance with