

GUN CONTROL

Ms. Mary Clancy (Halifax): Mr. Speaker, this morning the Minister of Justice announced the long awaited gun control bill.

The minister laboured and brought forth a maybe. While the intentions may be honourable, we are worried on this side of the House about the follow-through. Much of the heart of the matter will be left to subordinate legislation, that is regulation.

I call on the minister today to present with the greatest of speed her proposed regulations so that all sides of the House may study them and so that she may show to us that her much vaunted statements about public security and public safety are backed up in the appropriate manner.

We also call upon the minister to reduce the life of the firearms acquisition certificate from five years to two years, to impose its acquisition for each firearm acquired, and to extend its use to the purpose of ammunition.

We on this side of the House look forward to discussion on this vital issue. We look forward to the passage of a bill which shows Canada taking its place as the country on earth with the sanest gun laws.

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TAXATION

Mr. Greg Thompson (Carleton—Charlotte): Mr. Speaker, every member in this House shares the view that measures have to be taken to strengthen the Canadian economy and has his or her own theory as to the best manner by which to accomplish this.

Let us throw this one out for discussion: a tax reduction, and more specifically a tax cut, in the level of Canadian income tax.

• (1410)

The United States tried this in the 1960s with great success and in fact spurred the strongest period of sustained economic growth in the history of that country.

In 1981, when the same strategy was again implemented, there was an economic resurgence that lasted eight years.

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A 10 per cent cut in the Canadian income tax rate would go a long way in boosting investment and economic strength in this country.

Let us open it up for discussion. Would it work? Should we try it? Let us debate it.

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FEDERAL SUPERANNUATES

Mr. Rod Laporte (Moose Jaw—Lake Centre): Mr. Speaker, federal superannuates across the country have been waiting for over five years for this government to make desperately needed reforms to their pensions. The government has promised but has not delivered.

There is presently close to \$70 billion sitting in federal pension funds and increasing at a rate of about \$3 billion a year. At the same time surviving spouses' benefits are largely inadequate, and it has been years since the death benefit payment has been raised.

Is it any wonder that federal superannuates want an independent pension management board with the power to manage the pension fund.

They also want the government to remove all forms of discrimination based on such factors as age and marital status. This is necessary to bring the legislation in line with the Charter of Rights and Freedoms, the Pension Benefits Standards Act, and the House of Commons committee on equality rights.

Federal superannuates like other pensioners in this country have contributed much to the development and growth of this nation. Pensioners everywhere deserve to receive pensions that will allow them to live with dignity and respect. The federal government should be leading the way. Let us give pensioners the proper recognition they so rightly deserve.

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ALLERGY AWARENESS MONTH

Mr. Bob Corbett (Fundy—Royal): Mr. Speaker, the month of May marks allergy awareness month and I wish to take the opportunity to salute the Allergy Information Association, the largest voluntary agency in this field. For over 25 years it has alerted Canadians to the hidden dangers of living with allergies by promoting awareness, by lobbying for accurate textile labelling, and by provid-