

*Income Tax Act*

**Mr. Langdon:** Mr. Speaker, first, serious economic losses are involved in the tariff which was levied yesterday. Second, no government proposals have been brought to us for reaction as yet, nor indeed have they been contemplated. Third, as far as we can tell we do not have Throne Speech days available to discuss this matter. Fourth, clearly that the issue dominated Question Period today is a demonstration of its significance to the country. Finally, since today we are at a stage between two parts of the free trade negotiations; the first phase has finished and the second phase is not to begin until the Government makes its assessment of the first phase, it seems to me that a thorough debate of this very important decision at this time would be crucial, necessary and of the utmost urgency.

**Some Hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Mr. Speaker:** I thank the Hon. Member for his intervention and the concise presentation of his remarks. As I said, I will make a decision on this shortly, but not before one hour has elapsed.

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[Translation]

#### QUESTIONS ON THE ORDER PAPER

**Mr. Doug Lewis (Parliamentary Secretary to Deputy Prime Minister and President of the Privy Council):** I ask, Mr. Speaker, that all questions be allowed to stand.

**Mr. Speaker:** Agreed?

**Some Hon. Members:** Agreed.

#### GOVERNMENT ORDERS

[English]

##### INCOME TAX ACT

##### MEASURE TO AMEND

The House resumed from Thursday, October 16, consideration of the motion of Mr. Hockin that Bill C-11, an Act to amend the Income Tax Act, be read the second time and referred to a Legislative Committee.

**Mr. Vince Dantzer (Okanagan North):** Mr. Speaker, this is the first time in this session that I have had an opportunity to address this House. It is, therefore, my first opportunity to congratulate you on your reappointment as Deputy Speaker. I have spoken many times in this House, but this is the first time I have had the opportunity of speaking to the House from beside the Speaker's chair rather than before it. Nonetheless, I hope the Speaker will hear me just as well from the position from which I now speak as he did when I was out in centre field as it were.

It gives me a great deal of pleasure to speak on Bill C-11 today. It is a very small but very important Bill. I would characterize it as a "good news" Bill. It is good news because it provides money to people who need it. Later in my remarks I will speak about other good news legislation which the Government has brought forward and some that it will probably bring forward in the future. For the moment I wish to speak specifically about Bill C-11.

This is an Act to amend the Income Tax Act. In the debate which has been ongoing for a day or so it has been said that this Bill puts money in the hands of those who need it most. It has been said on the other side of the House that this is not new money, that it is money these people would get anyway. I say it is new money because these people will get this money several months earlier than they would normally receive it. Anyone will tell you that that is additional funds over and above those which they would receive in the following year.

The Bill provides a child tax credit of \$300 per child to any family which received income in the past taxation year of \$15,000 or less. Even the Opposition has had to concede that this legislation is good news. That is why few opposition Members have risen to speak to the Bill. As a matter of fact, the Hon. Member for Winnipeg North Centre (Mr. Keeper) congratulated the Government for having the foresight and humanity to move this good legislation. Obviously the Opposition must tone down its praise, so the remainder of the Hon. Member's speech concerned the horrible practice of tax discounting. I can assure the House that this Bill will almost eliminate tax discounting with respect to child tax credits.

• (1220)

There has been some criticism that the money received in November of this year may confuse some families. They may be concerned about the purpose of these cheques and whether they should accept them. Let me assure the House that the Government will go to great lengths to make sure that these families understand what is happening.

Let me read from the information that will accompany the cheques when they are delivered to qualified families. It will state: "This is your child tax credit payment. The enclosed cheque is advance payment of the child tax credit for the 1986 taxation year".

It goes on to explain why. It states that these families qualify for this advanced payment because: one, they received a child tax credit for the 1985 tax year; two, their family income in 1985 was \$15,000 or less; three, they receive or are eligible to receive family allowance for a child or children who will be under 18 years of age at the end of 1986.

The pamphlet goes on to say that the amount shown on the cheque is based on the latest information available from the Department of National Health and Welfare. It is \$300 of the maximum child tax credit of \$454 per eligible child for 1986.

Finally, it states that the recipient must file a 1986 tax return to establish, first, the amount of the child tax credit for