

Instead of this the Minister of Finance comes crying to us today, saying we have a terrible problem facing us. Yet he has brought in legislation which restores the resource industries to their former position. In other words, these industries are going to get very largely the same benefits that they have always got out of the Canadian taxpayers. Rather than discourage the outflow of raw materials, we have as a matter of tax policy deliberately encouraged the further development of raw materials which will find their outlet in the United States, thus making us more and more dependent on the United States economy, with all the consequences flowing therefrom.

A third measure that the government should take is to impose a surtax on raw materials exported to the United States. The surtax imposed by the United States does not apply to Canadian raw materials, but I think we should impose a surtax. It may slow down the export of raw materials, but again it will help our exchange rate and lower the value of the Canadian dollar. It will subsequently encourage the development of manufacturing in Canada.

As important as all those things are, the money that we obtain from the imposition of a 10 per cent surtax could be used to provide this compensation. If we are going to have a compensation board to compensate those in Canada who suffer as a result of the United States surtax, then this is where the money should come from. This compensation should not be derived from the pockets of Canadian taxpayers. The United States has created the difficulty, and at the very least they should be asked to provide compensation for the difficulty they have created in Canada. This is one way of providing that compensation.

A fourth measure that we should take relates to products which as a result of the United States surtax are going to be excluded from the U.S. market. In cases where we find a product effectively excluded from the U.S. market we should at the very least make the Canadian market fully available to that product, if necessary excluding United States products from the same market. After all, the United States has a perfect and absolute right as a sovereign nation to determine the kind of policies and economic course it wishes to pursue and we cannot do anything about it. But we in Canada have the same right. The United States would think us extremely foolish if we stood by and did not take action to protect our own citizens and economy.

May I call it ten o'clock?

PROCEEDINGS ON ADJOURNMENT MOTION

A motion to adjourn the House under Standing Order 40 deemed to have been moved.

INDIAN AFFAIRS—LENNOX ISLAND RESERVE— CONSTRUCTION OF LINK TO MAINLAND

Mr. David MacDonald (Egmont): Mr. Speaker, on June 18 last I raised once again, as I had on a number of

Proceedings on Adjournment Motion

previous occasions, with the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development (Mr. Chrétien) the possible commencement of construction of the link—causeway or bridge—to the Lennox Island Indian reservation off the northern coast of Prince Edward Island. At that time the minister informed me that it was necessary to carry out certain surveys in order to ascertain what form of construction should take place and where it might best be located. He also indicated that because of the fire that took place last winter in which the school and teachers' residence was destroyed, perhaps some kind of arrangement might be worked out whereby the Indian community might receive either a school or a causeway, but not both.

In view of the fact, as I pointed out on June 18, that the loss of the school and teachers' residence was very largely due to the absence of firefighting equipment, and that none could be transported because no efficient means of transportation was available, the government then, as it has now, had a very definite responsibility to face up to both of these problems.

I feel that in raising this matter again this evening in the adjournment debate I am raising what must be considered one of the great ironies of this particular Parliament. Just a short while ago this evening the ferry on service to the Lennox Island reservation was burned and completely destroyed. About an hour and a half ago the engine component of the ferry exploded as it was leaving the Lennox Island side. Fortunately, those on board, some half a dozen, were able to make it safely back to shore.

• (10:00 p.m.)

This additional irony can only again point up the continued neglect and callousness of this government in not facing up to and assuming its responsibility to the people on Lennox Island. It is fortunate that no one was injured this evening. The ferry is the last means of communication between Lennox Island and the mainland. It is not so fortunate when we realize the countless number of lives lost over the years, and who knows the toll in human misery and over-all isolation caused the Indian communities in Prince Edward Island because they have no permanent means of transportation to and from their Indian reservation to the mainland.

I wonder for how long we are going to have to badger this government about taking the full share of their responsibilities, in view of the fact we are being treated to a situation in which there seems to be no real interest by the government in answering this basic problem of transportation and communication for the people of this community. I do not know whether it is the direct intention of the government to maintain these people in a ghetto, as it were, but certainly that is the end effect of their policy to date. The people of that community have put up with the situation for years, but I believe they will not put up with it any longer.

The government's answer has been that they need more surveys. For more years than I care to remember there have been surveys of one kind and another. There is the saying that the road to hell is paved with good intentions. It could be said of this government, in this