

good canon of taxation, well recognized by students and writers, that any new tax should grow gradually, and it should not be at its highest point when the machinery is being formed for its collection. My hon. friend may be quite right in saying that the tax upon an income of \$10,000 is too small. It rather has that appearance to me, I admit. But the difficulty is, that if you apply a certain rate on the income of \$10,000 you must carry that rate right through all the higher incomes, and if you did that the disparity with the United States Income Tax would be very much greater than it is at present. However, I am not arguing that our tax should remain fixed at the present rates forever. Circumstances and conditions in the future may make it absolutely necessary that we increase the present rates.

Mr. JOSEPH READ: I want to draw the minister's attention to a fallacy he has been making use of with regard to the question of our people going over to the United States if we increase the income tax. If the income tax is increased and money is collected from our people it goes towards paying the debt. If we have a tremendous debt, much larger in proportion than that of the United States, won't our people go into the United States to the same extent by reason of the debt as by reason of the taxes?

Mr. A. K. MACLEAN: I think people in all communities fear taxes more than they fear debt.

Mr. BUREAU: I would like to remind the Acting Minister of Finance that by the new time, and by the sun, it is now Ascension Day.

Sir ROBERT BORDEN: My hon. friend is quite mistaken so far as the House is concerned. It has been the practice for twenty-five years that if the House should meet on Monday and should sit continuously until Saturday it still remains Monday.

Mr. BUREAU: I appeal to the Prime Minister's sense of respect for all creeds, and he knows the position we are in. Of course, we can remain if necessary.

Sir ROBERT BORDEN: We will be through in a moment. I discussed this matter with the leader of the Opposition (Sir Wilfrid Laurier), and it is important to get these Bills introduced if possible. It will take us only a few minutes. All the in-

[Mr. A. K. Maclean.]

formation that is being asked for now could just as well be asked for when we are in committee on the Bill, so there is really no great advantage in delaying now.

Sir HERBERT AMES: I would like to ask the Acting Finance Minister whether any consideration has been given to certain representations made to him recently by the trust companies. I know that while we have the income tax under consideration other amendments that are desirable can be considered, and while this resolution is being considered seems the proper time to make suggestions: One of the suggestions made is that the date, February 28, is too early, and that March 31 would be preferable. Did that suggestion receive consideration?

Mr. A. K. MACLEAN: It is not proposed to change the date.

Sir HERBERT AMES: The second suggestion was with respect to exacting what is called for in Clause 6 from fiduciary companies. They find that clause extremely onerous. Has that suggestion been considered?

Mr. A. K. MACLEAN: It is proposed to repeal Clause 6.

Mr. LEMIEUX: The acting minister has not answered my question.

Mr. A. K. MACLEAN: Will the hon. gentleman renew his question on the Bill.

Mr. LEMIEUX: All right.

Resolution agreed to.

Resolutions reported as amended and amendments agreed to.

#### REVENUE BILLS INTRODUCED.

The resolutions to amend the customs tariff, of 1907, were read the second time and agreed to.

Mr. A. K. Maclean thereupon moved for leave to introduce Bill No. 81, to amend the Customs Act, 1907.

Motion agreed to and Bill read the first time.

The resolutions respecting Duties of Excise were read the second time and agreed to.

Mr. A. K. Maclean thereupon moved for leave to introduce Bill No. 82, to amend the Inland Revenue Act.

Motion agreed to and Bill read the first time.