

**Mr. Speaker:** I declare the motion lost.  
Motion No. 8 (Mr. Darling) negatived.

**Hon. Mitchell Sharp (President of the Privy Council)** moved:

That Bill C-44, to amend the Senate and House of Commons Act, the Salaries Act and the Parliamentary Secretaries Act, as amended, be concurred in.

**Mr. Speaker:** Is it the pleasure of the House to adopt the said motion?

**Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre):** On division.  
Motion agreed to on division.

**Mr. Speaker:** When shall the bill be read the third time?

**Some hon. Members:** Now!

**Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre):** No!

**Mr. Speaker:** At the next sitting of the House, then.  
Shall I call it ten o'clock?

**Some hon. Members:** Agreed.

● (2150)

## PROCEEDINGS ON ADJOURNMENT MOTION

[English]

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

### FINANCE—REQUEST FOR INCREASE IN EMPLOYMENT IN AGRICULTURE EXEMPTION

**Mr. G. H. Whittaker (Okanagan Boundary):** Madam Speaker, I welcome this opportunity to speak to the question that I asked the Minister of Finance (Mr. Turner) the other day about the exemption of \$250 and 25 days for farm workers. I welcome the opportunity because I should like to explain the situation further; I do not really believe too many understood the question that I was asking.

### Adjournment Debate

A farmer does not have to collect income tax from anyone who works for him who makes less than \$250 or works less than 25 days. Nor does he have to make out a T-4 form for such worker. The reason I bring this matter to the House is that these regulations were made a few years ago, at a time when farm workers were paid between \$10 and \$15 a day. Today wages and piecework rates on the farm are much higher, and therefore I am requesting that this exemption be raised higher than the \$250. I do not think 25 days makes that much difference because a worker on a farm can make \$500 in 25 days quite easily now, especially if he is on piecework.

We realize that there can be abuses of any of these regulations and I do not really believe that anyone wants intentionally to abuse these regulations. Certainly the farm workers are upset about such a regulation. I say this because the worker comes to the farm, and when he gets close to earning \$250 he wants to leave and go to another farm. What has happened, and what is happening, is that it is making these workers much more mobile. They are not staying long enough on a particular farm. In many instances, within five or six days they are coming close to \$250 and they know there is a job down the road so why should they stay and have to pay income tax? In many instances the farmer is accommodating them, because why should he go through all this exercise of making out a T-4 form? So I am asking that this amount be raised to \$600 and maybe the days to 30 days. I do not think the 25 days requirement is too critical.

I know from experience of this regulation, and because of the fact that some workers do not want to have to go through paying income tax, that when they do pay, when it is deducted at source, because their earnings are not that high they have to make out an income tax form, so they do things to make sure that they are not kept on. In some instances it could be picking apples; they know how to have themselves released by bruising or doing other things with the apples that are not really the way they should be handled.

We also realize that there is a shortage of seasonal farm workers today. We know that many people on welfare can and should be working at these seasonal jobs, but why should they go off welfare and go out and spend 25 days, or 20 days working and then have income tax deducted? They are not going to make enough wages or money during the year to have to pay income tax at any rate.

The same thing applies to UIC. We know that the people in the unemployment insurance offices are reluctant to say to a man who is on unemployment insurance, "You must stop getting unemployment insurance, go and work on the farm or do seasonal work, but when you come back the regulations say you cannot go back on again, you have to get enough days".

The whole thing is very confusing and it leads to not giving us a big enough work force for seasonal types of work. We should take away as many roadblocks as we can to get these workers on to the farms. We hear quite a lot