

Government Spending

income was not sufficient to cover their production cost, and that had lasted for a year. Such measures do not lead them to congratulate the government. And it is still going on.

I think we must realize the economic failure the government is facing at the moment. The Department of Economic Regional Expansion made incredible efforts. To what extent did it make sure that it had sufficient funds to maintain existing industries and to modernize and improve those that could stay in the market, while trying to create new ones?

I feel that while good work was done to create new industries, the jobs that already exist were somewhat neglected. It is all very well to create new jobs; but the basic principle should first assure that present jobs are maintained. And so, the more we have inadequate legislation, the more our modern social climate degrades a concerned people. Of course, we will be accused of making political hay with such allotted days, but I feel that it behoves us to ask the government to introduce measures capable of solving present day problems.

Thought should also be given to the economy we could build. The Solicitor General speaks increasingly of improving the prisons and the parole system, and what it would cost the government. To my mind, we have the right to ask that the people on welfare, the handicapped, be taken care of before making our prisons into living rooms. I think that would be a good investment too. Those are as many things that explain why the people are losing confidence in the government.

And we saw recently that the Canadian people loses confidence in the government. Today the Canadian people want bread and butter on the table. For ten years Canadians have been satisfied with what they had, the majority of Canadians were patient perhaps because of the good image the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) could give on television, because of a few interesting measures, which could also be pleasing, but I think that the honeymoon of the government is now over. The government must put some bread and butter on the table of Canadians and I think they will demand this. I think this is a warning for this government.

Personally, I take the opportunity to ask them to introduce measures which meet the needs of society.

Mr. Béchard: This is demagogy!

Mr. La Salle: This is demagogy, Madam Speaker! And they would like us to congratulate the government when we know full well that the Canadian people suffer. This is demagogy.

Mr. Stanfield: Hochelaga!

Mr. La Salle: I did not want to mention it but it demonstrates that people want the government measures geared to their needs and the Hochelaga election may prove to be a first class example of a constituency where the voters turned down a minister to warn the government it had better come back down to earth and present legislation to correct the situation.

[Mr. La Salle.]

Mr. Béchard: It was only one riding. The hon. member is making a big fuss over nothing!

Mr. La Salle: I hope today's speeches—and we heard some very smart ones from both sides of the House—will make the government understand that people will put up with things for only so long and can kick the government out if the situation does not improve.

[English]

The Acting Speaker (Mrs. Morin): Order, please. It being ten o'clock it is my duty to inform the House that, pursuant to Section (11) of Standing Order 58, the proceedings on the motion have expired.

PROCEEDINGS ON ADJOURNMENT MOTION

[English]

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

GRAIN—SUGGESTED DEFERRAL FOR INCOME TAX PURPOSES OF INTERIM PAYMENTS

Mr. Bert Hargrave (Medicine Hat): Mr. Speaker, my remarks tonight in this adjournment debate refer to my question to the minister responsible for the Canadian Wheat Board on October 17 as recorded at pages 8302 and 8303 of *Hansard*. The question concerned the adjustment payments by the Wheat Board announced on October 9 of this year.

Earlier the Wheat Board had issued an urgent plea for early and large deliveries of grain, especially wheat, in western Canada, to help the Wheat Board meet some of its export commitments. This was an understandable request in view of the very low position of our grain stocks in storage anywhere in Canada available for export. Western grain farmers responded very positively to the Wheat Board's call for stepped-up deliveries, to the extent that approximately three times as much grain has already been delivered to country elevators as compared to a year ago.

It seems obvious to me that this excellent response by western farmers was to a considerable degree due to the understanding that they would have at least the option of deferral of these adjustment payments for income tax purposes. Current tax regulations do permit deferral of the initial grain payment, but the minister's response indicated this is not possible for the adjustment payments due to a need for a "change in the law". In his response the minister said, "—it should be clear that the increase in initial price can in fact be deferred in relation to grain delivered after October 9 when the increase took place".

● (2200)

After October 9 of course the initial price includes the adjustment price, and this higher initial price can indeed be deferred. Surely, Mr. Speaker, for the period prior to October 9, just because the farmer receives two amounts