

Mortgage Tax Credit

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

An hon. Member: Sit and listen, you will learn.

Mr. Evans: Mr. Speaker, the question is: who is going to pay and how? There are essentially three ways that we will all pay for this particular program. First, we will all pay with increased taxes whether they be direct or indirect taxes. There is a widespread fear right now that the so-called energy self-sufficiency tax which the government will be bringing forward will in fact be used to divert current budget expenditures on energy conservation programs and release these funds for the payment of the mortgage interest and property tax credit plan.

Second, we will pay through the reduction of other federal programs. We have already seen an indication of that with the reduction plans that the government has for the family allowance and the child deduction. These will be the areas where we will have reductions in programs. These are the ways in which we will pay for this mortgage interest and property tax credit plan.

Finally, when there is not enough money from the tax revenue for this government to bring forward, it will charge us through the route of inflation. Deficit financing will generate additional inflation. This is all from a government committed to the fight against inflation, committed to the restraint of government spending. It is a sham, Mr. Speaker.

An hon. Member: You got your answer last night.

Mr. Evans: Let no one be misled, this is not a free gift from the government. The people of Canada will pay the price. But in any of the above ways, those who are less well off will be forced to pay for the benefits being given to those who are relatively better off. Like my colleague, the hon. member for Broadview-Greenwood (Mr. Rae), I am not saying that Canadians home owners are well off; I am saying that Canadian home owners are on the average better off than individuals who are not home owners.

The distribution of the impact of this particular piece of legislation is certain to be regressive; there can be no doubt about that. My colleague, the hon. member for Winnipeg-Fort Garry, said last night that only 32 per cent of the households in Canada would benefit. I think what he failed to point out and what it is important to point out is that while 32 per cent of the households in Canada will benefit from the program, 100 per cent of the households will pay for it.

Some hon. Members: Shame.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. McCain): Order, please.

Mr. Evans: May I call it five o'clock?

[Mr. Evans.]

PROCEEDINGS ON ADJOURNMENT MOTION

[English]

SUBJECT MATTER OF QUESTIONS TO BE DEBATED

The Acting Speaker (Mr. McCain): Order, please. It is my duty, pursuant to Standing Order 40, to inform the House that the questions to be raised tonight at the time of adjournment are as follows: the hon. member for Beauce (Mr. Roy)—Federal-Provincial Relations—Request for publication of study on federalism; the hon. member for Laval-des-Rapides (Mrs. Sauvé)—National Unity—Quebec referendum—Request for explanation of statement of Minister of Supply and Services; the hon. member for Mission-Port Moody (Mr. Rose)—The Canadian Economy—Increase in interest rate—Action to avoid small businesses declaring bankruptcy.

It being five o'clock the House will now proceed to the consideration of private members' business as listed on today's order paper.

Pursuant to order made Tuesday, November 13, 1979, the House will now proceed to the consideration of Bill C-216, an Act respecting Family Week.

● (1700)

[Translation]

Mr. David Kilgour (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): Mr. Speaker, would it be possible with unanimous consent to allow all the other bills to stand, except No. 216?

[English]

The Acting Speaker (Mr. McCain): By virtue of the order of the House as read, unanimous consent is not required. I thank the parliamentary secretary.

PRIVATE MEMBERS' PUBLIC BILLS

[Translation]

FAMILY WEEK ACT

MEASURE TO UNDERLINE IMPORTANCE OF THE FAMILY

Mr. Eymard Corbin (Madawaska-Victoria) moved that Bill C-216, respecting family week, be read the second time and referred to the Standing Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs.

He said: Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to introduce in the House of Commons, Bill C-216 concerning the establishment of family week throughout Canada. The purpose of the bill is to underline the importance of the family unit as a basis for society. A national family week would provide Canadians with