

of this country. I firmly believe, Sir, that it is the responsibility of the House leader and of the government of the country to get on with that business. But above all, Sir, I think there has been a reflection on my responsibilities and on the way I carry them out here, and I ask the Prime Minister now to retract unreservedly and apologize to the members of the Conservative party.

Mr. Speaker: I suggest to hon. members that this is not the first time that one party has accused another party of delaying the work of the House. This kind of accusation is made all the time.

Mr. Lawrence: Then it shouldn't be.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member has stated his case. I cannot agree with his suggestion that it is a question of privilege. The hon. member may feel hurt or may feel that the statement or suggestion made is unfair or incorrect, but that does not necessarily make it a question of privilege.

While hon. members may be asked from time to time to withdraw a statement that is unparliamentary, I suggest to hon. members that in the cut and thrust of debate in the House many statements are made in relation to the other parties, and even during the current session I have heard serious statements made in relation to other parties, by members of one political group in relation to other political groups, but the suggestion has not been made, at least that I have noticed, that those statements are unparliamentary. They are part of debate. I am not sure whether they should be but they are. It is a practice that I am sure hon. members will recognize has existed for a long time. I doubt that the matter can be considered as a question of privilege.

• (1230)

Mr. Baldwin: Mr. Speaker, may I agree with you and say that we should get on with the business of the House.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Baldwin: That, Mr. Speaker, is the discussion of a tax bill which it has taken the Minister of Finance 11 months to get to the House.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Bell: He is afraid to bring on the corporate tax bill.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

Mr. Howard: Mr. Speaker, I rise with respect to the question that was put forward today dealing with the business of the House. I should like to submit on a point of order that when a government seeks to set up a secret police force, in my opinion that is a good reason to delay the business of the House and find out—

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I think I gave an undertaking a long time ago to the hon. member for Scarborough West that he would be given the right to ask his question, after which I will call orders of the day—with the assistance of hon. members.

Income Tax Act

INDUSTRY

CLOSING OF RADIO PRODUCTION AT DON MILLS PLANT OF PHILCO-FORD—GOVERNMENT ACTION

Mr. John Harney (Scarborough West): Mr. Speaker, my question to myself is—how do I follow an act like that? I must say that after hearing this 20 minute debate on the rights and interests of members of this House, it is with a certain trepidation that I rise to ask a question on the rights and interests of the ordinary working people in my riding. My question would be directed to the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce if he were here but I will direct it to the acting minister, the Minister of Manpower and Immigration. My question concerns the announcement by Philco-Ford of Canada, as it were, that they are going to close down the radio operation of their Don Mills plant, thus throwing 100 or more production workers out of work. In view of the fact that the total production of this unit will be moved to Brazil for re-entry into Canada, would the minister advise the House whether there is anything he can do or that can be done under the provisions of the auto pact to have the company reconsider this decision made with ruthless and impersonal disregard of Canadian interests and the rights of Canadian workers?

Mr. Speaker: The minister will be recognized for the purpose of a reply to the question, and then I shall call orders of the day.

Hon. Robert K. Andras (Acting Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): Mr. Speaker, as acting minister I shall bring the question to the attention of the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce and I am sure he will reply on his return.

Mr. Harney: A supplementary, Mr. Speaker—

Mr. Speaker: Orders of the day.

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

INCOME TAX ACT

The House resumed, from Thursday, April 5, consideration of the motion of Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton) that Bill C-170, to amend the statute law relating to income tax, be read the second time and referred to the committee of the whole.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Roland Godin (Portneuf): Mr. Speaker, before the adjournment debate last night, I had expressed my wish to make a few remarks about the bill now before us, Bill C-170, which some of us consider as a reform of the tax reform. We all recall that the previous reform—

Mr. Speaker: Order please. I regret to interrupt the hon. member, but I would invite hon. members to be more courteous toward those who want to listen to the statement of the hon. member for Portneuf.

Mr. Godin: I thank you, Mr. Speaker.