

*Income Tax Act*

house and when he is given a dressing down by his leaders, he sits down and does not say a word.

**The Chairman:** Order. I ask hon. members to come back to the section now under consideration.

**Mr. Grégoire:** Very well, Mr. Chairman. The hon. member for Drummond-Arthabaska asked that question which, by the way, is quite fair and logical: if we give back to the provinces the entire field of tax resources, what is the federal government going to do?

At the moment, Mr. Chairman, I am entirely in order, because I intend to bring in an amendment to section 9, and I want to justify my amendment.

What is the federal government going to do if we give back the taxation resources to the provinces? Well, it will take care of its own business. It will withdraw from the fields of education, road construction, hospitalization, agriculture, forestry, and all those joint programs which all encroach on the provincial field.

It is clear enough, Mr. Chairman, and I wonder why the hon. member for Drummond-Arthabaska is opposed to the federal government's withdrawing from the fields of education, hospitalization, roads, etc., since they are provincial fields that should come solely under the provinces' jurisdiction.

But no, true to the Liberal party's policy, the federal government persist in levying more and more taxes and entering all other fields, even those which, under the constitution, belong to the Quebec government. We would like the federal government to mind its own business and stop interfering in fields which come under the provincial government. It is quite simple. Deprive the federal government of its sources of revenue, and it will have to mind its own business.

**Mr. Choquette:** Well, let the province of Quebec withdraw from confederation.

**Mr. Grégoire:** Mr. Chairman, the hon. member for Lotbinière (Mr. Choquette) is suggesting that Quebec withdraw from confederation. He may be a fanatic extremist for wanting to get Quebec out of confederation, but I will be more logical and more intelligent than he is: I suggest that confederation be rebuilt so that it will be made up of two associate states, each staying within its own sphere and leaving to the other the fields which come under its jurisdiction.

**The Chairman:** Order. I am sorry to interrupt the hon. member for Lapointe once again, but it seems to me that he is wandering still further from the matter under consideration.

**Mr. Grégoire:** Mr. Chairman, I thank you for calling me to order and I will thank you even more when you call the backbenchers to order—I have not found another word to describe them more vividly—who keep interrupting me. Their interjections are taking us away from the subject. I do not mind at all wandering from the subject, but I must say it is the interruptions from those few hon. members sitting almost in the curtains—

**Mr. Choquette:** At least we are in office. I would rather be in office and sit in the rear—

**The Chairman:** Order.

**Mr. Grégoire:** The hon. member for Lotbinière says he would rather be in office. That sentence might help the committee on privileges and elections to realize what advantage there is in being with the party in office. It would seem that the hon. member for Lotbinière has a fair idea.

**Mr. Pigeon:** He belongs to the government of Her Majesty the Queen.

**The Chairman:** Order. I would remind hon. members on both sides of the house that we are now examining a very serious matter.

**Mr. Grégoire:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If the hon. member for Lotbinière persists in interrupting, I would ask that he be expelled because, many times, since the beginning of my remarks, he disregarded your rulings to keep quiet. Mr. Chairman, if you are unable to reduce him to silence, I would give you some advice: go and get his whip; he knows how to keep him quiet.

Mr. Chairman, to conclude, I would like to make a suggestion to the federal government. At the present time the government seems to direct its efforts towards unity or at least towards good will and harmony in our country. My suggestion is precisely that we take advantage of section 9 of the bill which we are considering at present to make arrangements for giving back to the provinces 100 per cent of the taxation fields before 1967.

Consequently, supported by the hon. member for Roberval (Mr. Gauthier), I move:

That, for 1964, the words "25 per cent" be substituted for the words "21 per cent" in section 9 which deals with subparagraph (iv) of the act, and that in subparagraph (v), the words "50 per cent" in 1965, "75 per cent" in 1966 and "100 per cent" in 1967 be substituted for the words "24 per cent".

**An hon. Member:** Question.

**The Chairman:** Unless members of the committee wish to make some comments on the merits of the amendment moved by the hon. member—

**Mr. Choquette:** It is out of order.