

to be demand, and there is not going to be the creation of new jobs or the putting back to work of those who are unemployed.

I do not know how much simpler it can be stated. I do not know how we can get this across to the cabinet and to the new Minister of Finance. He has inherited a mess, yet he seems also to have inherited some, if not all, of those archaic philosophies of a rather tired and worn out administration. I am not opposed, for example, to the Registered Home Ownership Plan, the Registered Retirement Savings Plan and so forth. These are plans in which people can invest money for tax deferment purposes, but who invests in those plans? They are the people making \$15,000, \$16,000, \$18,000, \$20,000, \$30,000 or \$40,000 a year. They are not the people whose total family incomes are \$6,000 \$7,000 or \$8,000 a year. Those people cannot afford to take advantage of those plans. In that kind of situation we are not really helping the economy with the programs we are using.

As the hon. member for Waterloo-Cambridge (Mr. Saltzman) said last evening, these plans are in effect aiding and abetting some Canadians to "save this country into a recession". Those who can afford to save are putting their money away for some rainy day. It is not going to circulate at the consumer level, at the manufacturing level or at the retail level. As much as I supported those two programs originally, I think they are coming back to haunt us now and to haunt the government, because they are drying up money. They are not putting money into the community.

My time is nearly up. I simply wish to reiterate that as far as I am concerned personally—and I am sure I speak for my party—the tax proposal to extend concessions to industry to the tune of \$1.2 billion will not create the jobs we will need this winter. It is going to be a cold and gloomy winter. I do not have to say it; the economic experts have already said it.

I know that government policy as introduced in the mini-budget or the economic statement of the Minister of Finance a couple of weeks ago is not going to alleviate the major problem in this country today. That major problem is unemployment, and if it were not for unemployment insurance we would be in a revolution at this time. That is how serious is the situation.

**Mr. Ralph E. Goodale (Assiniboia):** Mr. Speaker, I am anxious to say a few words in this debate this afternoon to underscore the remarks made at the outset on Monday of this week, November 7, by the Minister of Finance (Mr. Chrétien) when he opened the second reading debate on Bill C-11 and made a strong plea for the prompt attention of this House to that bill and for its expeditious passage.

Contrary to a good deal of the rhetoric we have heard from across the way today and on other days in this debate, this legislation is important to Canadians, and particularly to farmers, small businessmen, and others in the constituency of Assiniboia. Indeed many have been in touch with me in recent days to inquiry about the progress of this bill and to urge this House to deal with it as quickly as possible.

Earlier this year, after the presentation of the budget in March, I had the opportunity to conduct a series of public

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meetings across a rather broad stretch of southern Saskatchewan and to talk with people in communities in very many places in southern Saskatchewan about provisions in the federal budget which specifically related to them, and about their views on the economic conditions in the country as they saw them. Those meetings were held in 11 different places at Oungre, Creelman, Estevan, Lewvan, Odessa, Avonlea, Yellow Grass, Mazenod, Crane Valley, Meyronne and Minton. They were well attended, by and large, and people were anxious to hear what the fiscal policy of the government was after the budget speech of last March.

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As I explained to the House a moment ago, I took the time to outline the specific provisions of the budget that related to people living in those areas in southern Saskatchewan. The reception for the provisions in the budget was, by and large, very positive. During the spring, summer and fall I received inquiries about where those specific provisions stood as people were anxious to see them passed into law. They were disappointed that the House was not able to deal with the previous budget bills before the adjournment of the last session of parliament and they were anxious to have the assurance that the provisions detailed in March would be coming back in legislative form as quickly as the House could get to them, and would likely receive the expeditious attention of parliament.

I am anxious to see this bill dealt with as quickly as possible in the House, go through committee and be passed into law. A great many people in Assiniboia are anxious to have the tax changes proposed in the legislation put on the statute books so that they can take advantage of them.

Bill C-11 is a complicated measure, as most fiscal laws are. The essential details have been adequately outlined to the House by the Minister of Finance, the Minister of State (Small Business) (Mr. Abbott), the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce (Mr. Horner), and others. I am not going to take the time of the House to go into the details, but there are a number of specifics which particularly related to my part of the country and I should like to highlight those.

First are the measures relating to small business. Small and independent business entrepreneurs are crucial in an area like Assiniboia. In that part of the country we have none of the great industrial giants or multinationals but we have a great many small independent businessmen who form, with farmers, the economic lifeblood of the villages, towns, cities and rural communities of Assiniboia and a great portion of the prairie west.

That is why I am glad to see this bill put forward a series of tax changes in at least ten different areas which will be of direct benefit to small business operators. It is not a complete package. It will have to be complemented by such measures as the CALURA amendments to ease the paper work for small businessmen and a variety of measures which the government has outlined not only in this debate but on past occasions. This legislation will require a good deal of complementary legislation.