

Income Tax Act

the Small Businesses Loans Act and our incentive programs all together in the same bundle, we still have not eliminated areas of greatest disparity in Canada. On this basis I challenge the Minister of Finance to rethink his tax proposals as he lets them float away down the drain during the next few months. Let him either consider modifying the monetary and fiscal policy of the government on a regional basis or reassessing the direction being taken by the Department of Regional Economic Expansion.

I put that forward as a suggestion, though I do not know that I can back it up with all of the examples that I would have to use to convince the hon. member from Calgary of its merit. But I can tell him that in the province that is most economically deprived and with which I am most familiar, the present tax package put forward by the minister and the programs under DREE are not to our advantage. These underdeveloped areas have great potential, yet they are made to feel like the foster children of the Canadian nation, as if they are having an unhealthy effect on the unification and Canadianization of this country.

I have rambled on for a few moments, Mr. Speaker, but I do want to give the hon. member for Burnaby-Seymour (Mr. Perrault) the opportunity to raise his point of order, which I am sure will consist of a calculated attempt on his part to embarrass me after hon. members opposite have listened to 50 or 60 minutes of a few things which must certainly hurt a little.

Mr. Perrault: Mr. Speaker, I can assure the hon. member that embarrassing him is the last thing in my mind. I have listened attentively to his remarks. The hon. member for Gander-Twillingate is a considerable orator, but some hon. members are somewhat baffled and bewildered by what he has said.

Mr. Stanfield: Question.

Mr. Perrault: My question is this. I took copious notes of what he said and at one point he said, "We are being blackmailed into presenting a positive outlook on this bill". Does the hon. member find it painful to be positive? That is the question.

Mr. Lundrigan: Mr. Speaker, I am assuming in answering the hon. member's question that the House is giving me the time to do so in order that he will be able to understand my reply, though that would take a lot of time. Let me say very seriously that if that is the most serious question that he can ask me, having listened to my feelings for the last 50 or 60 minutes, I am amazed at his intellectual bankruptcy.

Secondly, if he would care to check the official report he would find 50 or 60 places in that report where I made adjectival or adverbial slips. My point is that when one talks from the heart, one really believes what one is saying and one does not worry about whether hon. members get the full adjectival and adverbial meanings that are intended. Quite frankly, that question does not bother me at all.

[Mr. Lundrigan.]

Mr. E. B. Osler (Winnipeg South Centre): Mr. Speaker ...

Mr. Woolliams: The hon. member made "fuddle-duddle" the new magazine.

Mr. Osler: No, I did not. I have not enough brains to think of a name like that. You would have to be much more bilingual than I to think of a name like that. Before I get serious, Mr. Speaker, I should like to point out to the hon. member for Gander-Twillingate (Mr. Lundrigan) that ...

An hon. Member: You are reading.

● (9:10 p.m.)

Mr. Osler: Yes, I am, and I can read my own writing for a change. I made a note that suggests the hon. member for Gander-Twillingate (Mr. Lundrigan) said there was some dire reason why entrepreneurs from central Canada had not rallied to the aid of the oil industry in the west and that there must be some plot on the part of this government or a previous government of the same political persuasion. I do not know much about his part of the world and I respect his judgment in respect of Newfoundland, but in my part of the world a lot of people spent 40 or 50 years trying to convince the people of Canada there was a gold mine in the oil fields in Alberta, but nobody did a thing about it. The Americans came in, started testing and took up land options. If anybody is to be blamed for the situation in the oil industry of western Canada, it is not the Americans. They took what was offered them and prospered as a result of the lack of action by the entrepreneurs in central Canada. I hope you people have more luck in your venture. Perhaps the people have become more sophisticated in the last few years.

I listened with a great deal of interest to the remarks of the hon. member for Dauphin (Mr. Ritchie). I have great respect for him and his opinions.

An hon. Member: Why?

Mr. Osler: Mainly because he is a Manitoban, and they deserve more respect.

An hon. Member: What about Borowski?

Mr. Osler: Borowski was one of the few people in that government with any brains.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Osler: You had better watch out, because before you know it you may get him.

An hon. Member: We wouldn't trade him for you.

Mr. Osler: You wouldn't have the chance, so that is a very academic question.

The hon. member for Dauphin referred to the fact that the personal savings of Canadians were dwindling and they were not being encouraged to save. He suggested this was the result of some mysterious plot fostered by the present iniquitous government. I do not have the