

be taxed on that amount since it will be used to replace dead trees?

[English]

Hon. E. F. Whelan (Minister of Agriculture): Madam Speaker, because it is to replace dead trees it is not taxable.

* * *

PETITIONS

TABLING OF REPORTS OF CLERK OF PETITIONS

Madam Speaker: I have the honour to inform the House that the petitions presented by Hon. Members on Tuesday, December 20, 1983, meet the requirements of the Standing Orders as to form.

* * *

HOUSE OF COMMONS

RETIREMENT OF TABLE OFFICER

Madam Speaker: I should like to let the House know that Mr. Arch MacKenzie, who has been a table officer for the last three years, will retire on December 30.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

● (1500)

Madam Speaker: He joined the House of Commons in September of 1969 after 30 years of distinguished military service, during the course of which he received the Canadian Forces Decoration. In the House he has been Clerk of Committees, Deputy Principal Clerk of Committees and Principal Clerk of Committees. I know the House will want to join me in wishing him well in his retirement.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

SEASON'S GREETINGS

Madam Speaker: This being the last day's sitting before the holiday,—

[Translation]

I want to wish you all a merry Christmas and a happy holiday with your families.

May God bless you!

[English]

We all think of our families because we miss them so much in the course of the year. I hope that the time spent with your families and friends will be a very happy time.

I want to wish everyone a Happy New Year, when all your politicians' wishes will be fulfilled.

Some Hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Business of the House

Madam Speaker: I want everyone back. I also want to invite you, as is usual at the adjournment of this sitting, whatever hour it is, to join me in Room 16 for the usual Christmas cheer. I know that you would want me to extend the good wishes of the season to the Clerk, the Table officers, the pages, the security staff, the reporters and everyone who serves the House so well. God bless you all. Dieu vous bénisse.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

* * *

[Translation]

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

WEEKLY STATEMENT

Mr. Pinard: Mr. Speaker, under the new Standing Orders of the House, we shall be coming back after the Christmas holidays on January 16, and as far as the business of the House is concerned, I wish to inform Hon. Members that the Government intends to proceed on Monday, January 16, with the second reading stage of Bill C-3 which concerns health insurance. Tuesday, January 17, we will move the necessary motions to approve the notices of ways and means now appearing on the *Order Paper*, and following adoption of the motions for approval of the notices of ways and means, we will resume debate on second reading of the Bill on health insurance. Wednesday, January 18, will be an Opposition day, the first Opposition day for the supply period ending March 26 of next year. January 19 will be the fourth designated day for debate on the Throne Speech, the debate to be followed at the end of the day by a vote that will be called at 5.45 p.m.

Mr. Speaker, all of this is of course subject to change, as usual, but for the time being that will be the order of business, and I wanted to inform Hon. Members accordingly, with the usual courtesy we extend at this time of the year.

[English]

Mr. Nielsen: I thank the Government House Leader for informing us of the Business of the House when we return on January 16. I would like, on behalf of Her Majesty's Loyal Opposition, Sir, to associate this Party totally with the remarks of Madam Speaker with respect to the service of Mr. MacKenzie. She left a little too early to hear me personally say that I am sure all of us want to see her back in the very best of health in 1984, and in her usual good spirits.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Nielsen: I have a separate point of order, Mr. Speaker, which I would like to speak to. However, perhaps the Hon. Member for Hamilton Mountain might have something to say with respect to House business before I proceed.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: The Hon. Member for Hamilton Mountain on House business?

Mr. Deans: No.