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Supplementary Borrowing Authority

Mr. Blaikie: I never mentioned Sweden.

Mr. Evans: Then I could take any other socialist country he wants and see what the attitude and morale—

Mr. Blaikie: You go to Sweden; I want to build a Canadian socialism.

Mr. Evans: —of the youth is in those socialist countries where Government has said: you take your responsibility some place else because Government knows best. That hon. gentleman down there is so far to the left, Mr. Speaker, that I think he has come almost full circle to the fascist right.

Some Hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Evans: The second part of the over-all program, it seems to me, was after the Prime Minister had set the stage. As soon as we got back to the House, the Minister of Finance put forward his financial statement giving the financial and economic facts of life which we face in this country, in which he proposed to reallocate as much as possible funds from lower priority programs to higher priority programs. Certainly, dealing with the unemployment problem and trying to create new jobs through stimulation of the private sector has to be given the absolute highest priority in these times. What his statement did was to clear the decks, so to speak, with regard to the uncertainty surrounding many other issues outstanding and, in so doing, to alter policies which had been in place or proposed in light of consultation which both the previous and current Ministers of Finance have had with all sectors of the economy. It was necessary to take into consideration the very fine work that was done by my colleagues on the Standing Committee on Finance, Trade and Economic Affairs during the month of September in examining the income tax bills. The Minister of Finance took some very bold decisions to clear the decks and eliminate the uncertainty surrounding those outstanding issues so as to facilitate the resumption of policymaking in a very positive vein.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I see the process continuing with our own party convention next week, continuing consultation with labour unions, with the private sector, with individual Canadians. Hopefully there will be positive input from all Members of this House in debates such as we are having now, all of which will culminate in a Speech from the Throne which will put forward the kinds of policies and broad policy thrusts and the future direction which the Government intends to propose for the country. All of that, Mr. Speaker, is to be put into practice at the time of the Minister's next budget, which he says will be brought down early in the spring. So I see the process in four stages. The Prime Minister led the way with a broad outline, the Minister of Finance with his financial statements, the Speech from the Throne will give new directions, and the budget will implement those new directions. I suggest that is the process we are in now.

• (1600)

If I may, Mr. Speaker, I will continue my remarks on Monday and call it four o'clock now.

[Translation]

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Corbin): Order please! It being four o'clock, the House will now proceed to the consideration of Private Members' business as listed on today's Order Paper, namely public bills, notices of motions and private bills.

PRIVATE MEMBERS' PUBLIC BILLS

[Translation]

Is there unanimous consent that all items preceding No. 411 be allowed to stand?

Some Hon. Members: Agreed.

[English]

GUNDERSON SLOUGH HARBOUR ACT

MEASURE RESPECTING TRANSFER OF CONTROL OVER LANDS

Mr. Benno Friesen (Surrey-White Rock-North Delta) moved that Bill C-611, to transfer control over certain lands commonly referred to as Gunderson Slough from the Fraser River Harbour Commission to the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans under the Fishing and Recreational Harbours Act, be read the second time and be referred to the Standing Committee on Fisheries and Forestry.

He said: Mr. Speaker, I think it is safe to say that passage of this Bill would not alter the course of the country. I do not see the galleries filling with interested spectators waiting in anticipation to see this Bill passed. I do not see the Chamber filled with expectant Members waiting for the outcome for the country if we pass this Bill.

The Bill may not have national importance but it certainly has a great deal of local importance. It is very important to several hundred fishermen who live in the area of the Gunderson Slough, which is a winter harbour. Not only is it a winter harbour but there is a lot of service work for the fishing industry going on in that harbour.

This Bill is not a radical proposal. It is not trying to strip away from the Government any kind of powers. It is not trying to denounce the Government in any kind of way, or change the course of Government in any kind of way. It is simply asking that the administration of one small industry in Canada be transferred from one Government Department to another Government Department. It is a transfer of responsibility from the Fraser River Harbour Commission, which presently