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rightly drew attention to the special barriers facing older workers who have lost jobs or whose jobs are radically changing.

Older workers, perhaps more than any others, can find themselves facing insurmountable difficulties in adjusting to technological and other change, and many are in need of more government assistance.

The federal government's Labour Force Development Strategy is one measure that can help older workers, and provides in the order of \$100 million for new training and adjustment programs tailored to their needs.

I urge all hon. members to fight for that assistance and to help convince the other place that Canada's older workers need the new programs that depend on passage of Bill C-21.

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INCOME TAX

Mr. Nelson A. Riis (Kamloops): Mr. Speaker, today is the last day for about 18 million Canadians to file their income tax returns for last year. After agonizing over their tax returns, most of them are wondering why their taxes have increased while the richest 1 per cent of Canadians had a tax cut averaging \$3,570.

While hundreds of thousands line up at food banks every week, they are wondering why the government allows certain Canadians to deduct the cost of their martini and caviar lunches.

While low and middle income families struggle with their mortgage payments to stay out of homelessness, they are wondering why the government continues to allow billions in capital gains to go untaxed.

The 18 million taxpayers are wondering why businesses can deduct the expense of having accountants calculate their tax while ordinary Canadians cannot. They also wonder why thousands of profitable corporations still do not pay any income tax year after year.

Canadians are wondering why this government is bankrupting the nation with its high interest rate policies which cannot but lead to high income taxes in the future.

The answer is clear. This government is itself bankrupt of any ideas for running our economy, save one—give to the privileged and make the poor pay.

CANADA POST

Mr. Robert D. Nault (Kenora—Rainy River): Mr. Speaker, the Standing Committee on Consumer and Corporate Affairs and Government Operations is recommending that Canada Post be sold to the private sector. Privatizing Canada Post is the last thing that this government should be thinking of, unless of course it wants to continue to alienate the regions of this country.

In my riding, more and more post offices are being closed in favour of contracting out services to retail outlets. Constituents living in rural communities view the post office as part of the Canadian identity. If Canada Post is sold, that identity will be lost.

My constituents do not agree with the recommendations of the committee. In fact, over the weekend, I was told repeatedly that they support the recommendations of the Liberal minority report. They told me to tell the government to leave Canada Post alone.

Canadians want to keep their rural post offices. They want door-to-door delivery in all areas within an urban community, and they want to continue to identify the post office as a symbol of being Canadian.

It is clear that the Conservative government continues to make decisions which are not reflective of the aspirations of Canadians living in the regions. It is clear that this government's days are numbered.

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THE ENVIRONMENT

Mr. John A. MacDougall (Timiskaming): Mr. Speaker, there were more dark days for the residents of Timiskaming last week—more dark days for resource-based regions and rural Canadians.

After three years of hard lobbying the environmentalists have finally succeeded in closing down Temagami's sawmill.

With the closure announcement 80 employees have had their livelihoods stripped from them, and over 100 families are directly affected and the communities of Temagami and Latchford have been delivered another fatal blow.