Income Tax

the speeches from the other side of the House on almost every clause. I was moved on more than one occasion to interject a comment but I bit on my tongue. I listened very carefully to some of the suggestions made on the other side, some of which reflected in appropriate amendments.

Mr. Baker (Grenville-Carleton): Let us get on with the vote.

Mr. Cullen: Having extended that courtesy, as I have over this long period of time, I think one should be entitled to make a few comments on some of the representations that have been made.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Lawrence: You have been up for 20 minutes now and you have not said anything yet.

Mr. Cullen: Once again, Mr. Chairman, the hon. member for Northumberland-Durham, who is half asleep, says that I have not said anything. I thought we would hear from the hon. member again. In view of the pressure of the public press I thought we would have him bounding to his feet asking more questions on allegations that are unfounded.

I think that the department, through the Minister of Finance, has endeavoured to listen to each and every address. The minister responded this afternoon to many of the questions raised, not only by those who are making such noise now but by the quiet members of the New Democratic Party who asked questions and, I think, were sincerely looking for answers. This afternoon the hon. member for Sault Ste. Marie was so stunned at the excellence of the responses that he nodded his head in agreement with the minister, indicating that he was correct in what he said.

Mr. Douglas (Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands): That is what astonished him.

Mr. Cullen: The problem is that hon. members are not prepared to listen. We sat here for two weeks, and when the minister was responding that hon. member was sitting in his seat. It will come as a surprise to no one, Mr. Chairman, that I intend to vote against the amendment proposed by the hon. member for Qu'Appelle-Moose Mountain. Surely what the industry is looking for is the passage of this bill so it can live and work with it. There are many advantages built into the bill, something which even the industry is prepared to concede, even though members opposite are not.

• (2020)

We have moved a series of amendments, many of which have been technical, but I suggest with respect that if this amendment moved by the hon. member for Qu'Appelle-Moose Mountain is allowed to carry the industry will again wonder where it stands. If we pass this bill and do not proclaim these clauses until some date after April 15, what will be the situation? If we proclaim the clauses after April 15 does the effect go back to the May 6 budget or the November 18 budget, or just what will be the situation? How are these energy companies and producers supposed to operate in this state of limbo, wondering [Mr. Cullen.] where they stand, how they should plan, what the provinces will do, and what the federal government will do? Surely the industry deserves better than being left in the kind of limbo suggested by the mover of this amendment.

Mr. Blais: Mr. Chairman, I rise on a point of order.

Mr. Nowlan: You have got your trip, what are you working on now?

Mr. Blais: Mr. Chairman, I would hope that your ruling of sometime ago, which somewhat shortened my intervention on the point of order being discussed by the hon. member for Peace River, was not the result of some preference to a member with the seniority of that hon. member for Peace River. I do not intend to allege that, but I wanted to point out that I thought that the point of order was not well taken. In my riding the people are beginning to feel that the delay tactics we have watched during the debate on this bill are now turning against those who are using them, and they are now trying to rush the bill through the House.

Mr. Baldwin: Mr. Chairman, now that the government whips have awakened all the halt, the lame, the blind and the others on that side who have spoken to hold up these proceedings long enough to get a majority, let us get on with the vote and get done with this matter.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Cullen: Mr. Chairman, I should have recognized that something was up when I saw that unholy alliance being formed when the hon. member for Calgary South was talking with the hon. member for Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands this afternoon.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Guay (St. Boniface): I rise on a point of order, Mr. Chairman.

The Chairman: Before recognizing the parliamentary secretary I must advise the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Finance who had the floor, of the fact that his time has just expired.

Mr. Guay (St. Boniface): Mr. Chairman, in view of the comments—

Mr. Fairweather: Speak up.

[Translation]

Mr. Guay (St. Boniface): Mr. Chairman, I rise on a point of order.

The Chairman: The hon. member for St. Boniface (Mr. Guay) on a point of order.

Mr. Guay (St. Boniface): In view of the comment-

An hon. Member: Speak French!

Mr. Guay (St. Boniface): Mr. Speaker, in view of the comments made by the hon. member for Peace River (Mr. Baldwin) referring to our side—he was present in the House a few moments ago—I would like to bring to the