

**BANKRUPTCY ACT**

## NEED FOR REVISION

**Mr. Jim Jepson (London East):** Mr. Speaker, as the Minister is aware, the Bankruptcy Act was passed in 1949 and is hopelessly outdated.

In my constituency of London East I have a constituent who recently paid \$1,000 on account at a furniture store, leaving a balance of \$90 which he said he would pay upon picking up the furniture in two weeks. Upon returning to pick up the furniture and pay the final \$90 he found the store closed and the bailiff's lock on the door, the store having declared bankruptcy. It is incidents like this, and many others, which clearly tell us that the bankruptcy laws must be changed to protect innocent victims so they are not taken advantage of by unscrupulous businessmen.

As well, I encourage the Minister to take measures in the new legislation to protect Canadian suppliers and wage-earners. I commend the Minister for reviewing this outdated legislation and urge him to move as quickly as possible in bringing the new legislation to the House.

\* \* \*

**THE ECONOMY**

## TRIBUTE TO ROLE PLAYED BY LABOUR

**Mr. Dave Dingwall (Cape Breton—East Richmond):** Mr. Speaker, labour in Canada has fought a long and tenacious battle to attain today's work standards. In that battle the working men and women stuck together through thick and thin, often in the face of insurmountable odds, to gain a better life for themselves and their families. In doing so there was often suffering, both mental and physical, deaths, hunger and breakdowns, and at the time many a good man or woman would have been unable to stand these pressures without the support of other workers. It is for those reasons that labour has grown so strong and united over the years.

To appreciate the role that labour plays in the running of our nation, try to imagine a Canada without coal produced by coal miners, steel manufactured by steelworkers, fish caught by fishermen and processed by fish plant workers, food grown by farmers, and taxis driven by taxi drivers. The list goes on. With this thought in mind one can easily appreciate the havoc, mass confusion and total breakdown which would occur if our labour force suddenly disappeared or stopped working. Therefore, let us pay tribute to the contributions of the labour movement both in the past and to come in the future, and focus our appreciation of labour on Labour Day next week.

*S. O. 21***THE LATE GERARD LAHAIE**

**Hon. Bob Layton (Lachine):** Mr. Speaker, I rise to salute all those individuals who make us proud to be Canadian. There are many, from national heroes such as Rick Hansen, Terry Fox and Norman Bethune, to our honoured veterans, and those who so bravely fought and died for us, and as well, the many local citizens, those often unsung heroes, who give so much of themselves every day.

One such individual who deserves our special attention is Mr. Gerard Lahaie who this summer was tragically killed on the west island of Montreal when he stopped to help a stranger, a woman, repair a flat tire at the side of the highway. Gerard, said one of his co-workers, died the way he lived, helping someone else. He would have chosen no other way.

I know all Hon. Members, who are often so busy and hurried that they have little time for personal thought and reflection, will join me in saluting Mr. Lahaie and all the other great Canadians of their neighbourhoods. We appreciate their efforts and are proud of what they have done for their community and their country. To Gerard Lahaie and all local heroes, thank you.

**Some Hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

\* \* \*

**FORESTRY**

## BRITISH COLUMBIA—USE OF SOFTWOOD LUMBER TAX REVENUE

**Mr. Nelson A. Riis (Kamloops—Shuswap):** Mr. Speaker, the Government of British Columbia will receive revenues in excess of \$200 million this year from the recently imposed export tax on softwood lumber destined for the United States. It was intended that these new tax revenues would be used to maintain and nurture the forest resource. Yet in B.C. the funds continue to disappear into general revenue while the expenditure for forest management continues to be woefully inadequate.

Provisions for basic silviculture are still below the level required to regenerate all currently logged areas within a reasonable time. Insufficient restocking of newly logged areas is increasing by tens of thousands of hectares per year. Intensive forest management programs, including thinning and spacing, have proceeded by and large under federal government job-creation schemes. In the Kamloops forest district they have accomplished less than 15 per cent of what should be done, leaving a shortfall of more than 8,000 hectares per year. As well, tens of thousands of hectares of forest land are falling before the onslaught of pest infestation.

If we were managing and husbanding our forests as we should, not only would our forest reserves be expanded significantly, but tens of thousands of jobless people would be put to work. I urge the Minister of State for Forestry and