

cities and recreational areas. They will not use hotel and motel accommodation in the north.

The other day the Minister of National Revenue (Mr. Basford) tried to explain to the House how the rebate system will work. I fail to see how we can avoid the sort of bureaucratic bungling which has characterized the Liberal administration. There are too many loopholes. How will the law be enforced? How will you tell if the salesman or doctor is using his car for work, for pleasure, or for a vacation? These people will claim that they drive a certain number of miles in the course of their work; how can you tell? My constituents complain about cars used for business being used for recreation. They know that the people using their cars this way are abusing the tax system. There is bound to be much cheating under the new rules. People will claim a rebate when they are not entitled to one.

To be fair, we ought to rescind the ten cents a gallon provision and raise the necessary revenue by using some of the other methods I suggested. If corporations paid interest on their deferred taxes, the problem would be solved right away.

Before concluding I cannot help noting that the bill rescinds the excise tax on wine imposed in the November budget. In other words the Minister of Finance favours consumers of wine over consumers of gasoline. I was interested the other day in hearing the Liberal member for Niagara Falls (Mr. Young) say how he and his colleagues from the Niagara Peninsula had lobbied for this tax on wine to be rescinded. It is hypocritical that those same Liberal members voted for the November 18 budget that put the excise tax on wine. It is typical of the two-faced attitude of Liberals and their contempt for consumers. They make promises to the sky at election time, but if they get back with a majority they are the same old arrogant bunch who want to fight inflation on the backs of the working poor. I wish Canadians could see the faults and weak arguments put up to justify legislation such as this. It just does not make sense.

● (2030)

I am also disappointed in the members of the Conservative party who, only a few days ago, said that they were going to fight this piece of legislation tooth and nail. They said they would stand up for the Canadian consumer and stay here to force the government to back down. Where are all their speakers? Suddenly there is silence from the Conservative party. They could have had 60 more speakers on this unfair piece of legislation. However, now they want to get home for their vacations at their cottages and swimming holes. I am disappointed that they are not going to stand up and fight this arrogant majority.

We cannot get Liberals to defend this horrendous legislation. Now the Conservatives have also given up. That indicates that if the Conservative party were sitting on the opposite side instead of the government there would not be much change. They would bring in the same kind of discriminatory legislation.

We are prepared to argue against this unfair piece of legislation. If we have to sit here for the next few days, or for another week or two, we are prepared to do it. We believe that when our constituents sent us to Ottawa they

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did so in order for us to defend their rights as consumers. That is what we intend to do by opposing this piece of legislation.

Mr. Arnold Peters (Timiskaming): Madam Speaker, I was interested today to hear the Parliamentary Secretary to the President of the Privy Council (Mr. Reid) explain to members of parliament, and through the story in the *Gazette* explain to people across this country that the only way that members of parliament have any input into changes is to do it loudly, in great numbers, and on successive occasions.

In the discussion the Minister of Finance (Mr. Turner) indicated that he felt boats, snowmobiles and outboard motors should be taxed. After listening to 57 members of parliament and many other representations, the minister received a push from the hon. member for Kenora-Rainy River, who has a great interest in small boats because he represents a tourist area where there is also a manufacturer of boats. He used some extraordinary methods which many of us in the opposition have not taken advantage of, putting pressure on the government in the House of Commons and putting pressure on senior civil servants in private. In that way you are able to have some changes brought about. This was indicated as the only way to change the mind of the Minister of Finance.

As a member from northern Ontario, and like the two previous speakers from northern Ontario, I support a change being made to Bill C-66 with regard to the ten cent excise tax on gasoline. The hon. member for Kenora-Rainy River was quite right in putting undue, and maybe excessive and even unethical pressure on certain segments of the government to have a tax that was highly detrimental to industry in this area removed. There are not very many industries in our northern constituencies. You have to husband each industry very carefully. If you lose one through an unfair disadvantage such as a tax, you may not get another.

Mr. Baldwin: How do you husband an industry?

Mr. Peters: This also applies to the hon. member for Peace River (Mr. Baldwin). He does not have much industry in his constituency. There is not much industry in northern Canada.

The other two members from northern Ontario who spoke joined the hon. member for Kenora-Rainy River in stressing the fact that we must impress on the minister that there must be special concessions for our people or they will be put out of business.

When the minister dropped the tax on wine he was again reacting to pressure that had been applied by some members on the government side. Some members on this side of the House were interested in this as well. One member is shaking his head. It is not quite as simple as saying that only some members were interested in this. Wine sales in Ontario and Quebec dropped off drastically. Because of this the government found that it cannot tax to the extent of having no return. Hopefully we can arrive at that stage with regard to gasoline.

The wine industry in Ontario is very important. The federal government has been very interested in helping its development. We have developed a hybrid grape stock