country. We are not going to have what is considered the ideal social situation in that country, which is a genuine community where men and women and children have a chance to work and to lead a community life. Many of the companies, especially the Marathon Corporation and Ontario-Minnesota Paper Company, have made earnest efforts to provide family facilities in their camps but at the present time these efforts cover only a very small portion of the working force and the fact remains that now, and for many years to come, the man who cuts the pulp, which is the basis of our main industry, is going to be separated from his family. The families will live in the cities and towns of the areas and at the moment the scope of the pulp and paper operation is so large that it is inconceivable that men could get home regularly, except for perhaps the odd weekend.

I think of the Port Arthur community where the nearest large pulp and paper camps are anywhere from 40 to 75 miles away.

Now with this situation you can be sure that we are going to have married men working in our camps, enabling many companies to operate, but which companies cannot provide them with the facilities and they cannot provide themselves with the facilities to bring their families to live with them. So they are in the position of having to keep a household going in a city or in a town and also look after their own expenses. I would suggest that they are in an even more awkward position than the construction worker, because construction work by its very nature is much more shifting and there are opportunities for the construction worker to work, at least occasionally, near his home. But this very rarely happens to pulp and paper workers in northern Ontario.

In addition one has to look at the working force in the industry and realize that the backbone of the pulp and paper industry, in terms of national background, are Finnish and French speaking Canadians, both having devotion to bush work which shows itself in the way in which they head for work in these camps where they make the best of employees. And while they are doing this work in the bush they are supporting their families in the towns and cities of the area. Their numbers are fairly large. The largest local of the lumber and sawmill union is in northern Ontario and has over 9,000 members, that is, there are 9,000 bush workers in the camps west and east of Port Arthur. Of that 9,000, the estimate I have been given by the union is that about 1,500 are married men who must keep their families in the towns.

Now the working force engaged in this long-term operation is becoming more and more stable, exceptionally stable in comparison with the position a number of years ago when the pattern was that there would be a winter cut, a spring drive and then a spring booze-up in the town, after which the lumberjacks would be on the streets for a while until things got going again in the fall. That kind of pattern is gradually changing in many ways, attributable to the mechanised revolution which has taken place in the pulp and paper industry. It is no longer feasible to keep a lumberjack on just for a short time and then let him go back to the city while these companies have so much money tied up in high-priced equipment. We can now see the type of situation which is likely to exist in the camps for the next 20 or 30 years at least. We can see that there is going to be a proportion of men in these camps who must keep a family in the cities and we feel, as they feel and as they have informed me through the representatives of their trade unions, that the present section 5 of the Income Tax Act is not fair to them. We see no reason at all why the amendments which are going to be of advantage to the construction workers should not be applied to them.

Mr. T. S. Barnett (Comox-Alberni): Mr. Speaker, I am glad to see that the Minister of Finance (Mr. Fleming) is back in the house and I am also glad to find that I have an ally in the new hon. member for Port Arthur (Mr. Fisher) with regard to a matter I have been attempting to bring in in this house for several years. I completely fail to understand why the Minister of Finance, if he is going to introduce an amendment to section 5 of the Income Tax Act, should have seen fit to do it in the rather slaphappy fashion which apparently he has in mind.

This is a matter which I know has received considerable attention in his department over the past year. This was certainly indicated by the previous minister of finance shortly before the end of the last session, and I am very glad to support the representations made by the hon. member for Port Arthur who has outlined the pattern of activity in the pulp and paper industry in northern Ontario. This is very similar to the situation in the logging industry in British Columbia, as it has existed for a good many years, and I hope the Minister of Finance will give very careful consideration before the measure with which he