Income Tax Act

PRIVATE MEMBERS' MOTIONS

INCOME TAX ACT

RECOMMENDATION THAT DEDUCTIONS BE ALLOWED IN RESPECT OF COST OF TOOLS

Mr. Don Mazankowski (Vegreville) moved:

That an humble Address be presented to His Excellency praying that the Governor in Council will amend the regulations under the Income Tax Act whereby the deduction in computing income allowed self-employed professionals, tradesmen and workmen in respect of capital costs of tools necessary to their trade and similar property be extended to all professionals, tradesmen and workmen, whether self-employed or otherwise who must purchase themselves such property in the course of their employment.

He said: Mr. Speaker, the purpose of this notice of motion is to draw to the attention of the House what I consider one of the most glaring inequities in the present Income Tax Act, as it relates to certain tradesmen and professional people. At the present time such people, unless they are self employed, are unable to claim any deductions or depreciation for the tools and equipment which they are compelled to purchase and maintain and which are used in conjunction with the discharge of their respective duties and responsibilities. In many cases the inventories of such tools and equipment cost many thousands of dollars, and yet there is no provision in the Income Tax Act for the deduction of the cost of those tools and equipment.

Specifically, I am referring to those people who by occupation are mechanics, plumbers, carpenters, technicians, electricians or any tradesmen who find themselves forced to invest quite substantially in tools and equipment which are necessary if they are to perform their respective tasks. To some degree, perhaps, teachers and professors are similarly affected in that their investment in books and instructional aids amounts to a very significant outlay of capital which directly relate to the discharge of their duties. It is quite true that under the white paper proposals for tax reform, provision has been made for a maximum allowance of \$150 per year as employment expenses for any one who is employed.

• (5:00 p.m.)

However, this provision in no way removes the inequity which this resolution seeks to remove because it does not distinguish For example, an office clerk probably does

(British Columbia) Act. It contains the enabling legislation. A council of three public service employees act as a council of referees. Those in each commodity group hold a plebiscite of all producers who qualify for registration. If the majority of producers within that commodity group favour a marketing board, the producers proceed forthwith to plan the type of operation they feel suits their commodity group within the terms of reference provided in the act.

In other words, Mr. Speaker, the producers themselves study the regulations proposed and submit a plan to council. The council looks at the plan, and eventually approves it. But it is important to note that participation by the council in the administration of the regulations ceases at this point. The producers' organizations elect the board, and in so doing place the responsibility for the requirements of product supply directly into the hands of the producers of the product where, I submit, it rightfully belongs.

Advisory committees are formed and include representation from all interested secondary industry groups. It is the duty of the advisory committee to advise the producer board. It is not their prerogative to be involved in final decisions. Production quotas are increased or decreased according to market demand, plus reasonable inventories. May I call it five o'clock, Mr. Speaker?

PROCEEDINGS ON ADJOURNMENT **MOTION**

SUBJECT MATTER OF QUESTIONS TO BE DEBATED

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. It is my duty, pursuant to Standing Order 40, to inform the House that the questions to be raised tonight at the time of adjournment are as follows: the hon. member for Moose Jaw (Mr. Skoberg)-Trade-grain-suggested permanent foreign sales missions; the hon. member for Brandon-Souris (Mr. Dinsdale)—Veterans affairs—integration of veterans charter with social welfare programs; the hon. member for Halifax-East Hants (Mr. McCleave) Royal Canadian Mounted Police-consideration of payment for overtime.

It being five o'clock, the House will now proceed to the consideration of private members' business listed in today's Order Paper, between the classifications of employment. namely, notices of motions and public bills.

22218-53