

million and be taxed at no more than 25 per cent. Yet the benefits payable to seniors and children this year become taxable at 100 per cent.

This is the year in which the government starts getting the unemployed, the workers and the employers to pay through their fees for obligations that have up until now been the responsibility of the Government of Canada. Even though Bill C-21 is not through the House yet, the government is collecting those extra taxes from the employed. It is collecting those extra taxes from the employers. It is collecting them from the unemployed by not paying them the benefits that they are now entitled to.

Is the government saying to people who are supposed to benefit from this bill: "We will also make your benefits retroactive to January 1, because we have made the charges retroactive to January 1"? No, it is not. It is saying: "We are gouging you starting January 1, but you are not benefiting until this bill gets through the House".

This is the year in which the personal income surtax effectively goes up to 5 per cent. This is the year in which deindexing of personal income tax deductions means a 3 per cent rise in taxes paid and a 3 per cent loss in the value of tax credits.

Eighth, this is the year in which the proportion of taxes from individuals increases again while the proportion of taxes from corporations drops by 3 per cent.

This is the year in which we see an elimination of funding, not to the government's own programs, not to cabinet ministers who now have the ability to pull twice as many people out of government departments to help them in their political offices. We are eliminating funds to those in society who are the least powerful, who most need the support of the government to solve their own problems and to communicate their needs to government. I will be coming back to that.

This is the year in which we see a continuation in the reduction of the corporate tax rate that has taken place in the last couple of years. It will go from 36 per cent down to 29 per cent.

I want to talk about a couple of the changes that are part of the budget which has led to this borrowing bill. I

### *Government Orders*

want to talk about the people who are being deprived of funding and then where some increased spending is going, spending that I really do not think Canadians want to be paying for.

I want to talk about the reduction in funding to native Canadians and in particular the absolutely unforgivable cut to native newspapers and native broadcasting. The very survival of native languages is dependent upon the native languages newspapers that will be wiped out by these cuts. Meanwhile, the government has the audacity to suggest that aboriginal languages should be mixed in with heritage languages, and that it should start spending money on an institute while the languages die in the communities of Canada's native people.

This is the year in which the promotion of tolerance and understanding is being undermined in this budget. Cuts to heritage language programs represent a threat to the preservation and understanding of ethnic languages and cultures, and to the values attached to the preservation of these ideals.

This is the year in which we have seen the cut that has been restored only temporarily to women's centres so that women can act to redress their own inequitable situation in Canadian society. Need I remind hon. members that when the economy suffers it is women who suffer first and suffer most.

On the other hand Canadians are being asked to borrow for these types of things. They are being asked to pay \$1.6 million to redecorate a cabinet minister's drop-in centre in Halifax; \$3 million for ceremonial and state occasions so that politicians can stand up on platforms and get applauded; \$160 million to the Boeing Corporation, although I think it is actually \$166 million; and \$32.6 million to CSIS.

At the same time not one whit, not one cent is going to replace the \$450 million that the government over the last five years has cut from spending on alternative energy and conservation. I think we know where the priorities of this government are.

The most important issue for Canadians is the environment. Yet this government in its two mandates has cut spending on alternative energy and energy conservation—the most important contribution we can make to cleaning up the air that the whole world breathes. That