

in the session for more deliberate study, as he stated in his economic message last January. These proposals will deal with the permanent structural features of our tax system which in our judgment need early attention.

In view of the fact that this surcharge proposal, as I have stressed in my statement, is one that calls for prompt action, we believe that it would be more appropriate to consider the substantive revision of the treatment of moving expenses in a series of equally important matters in connection with the changes in the tax structure, changes which will be proposed shortly.

Mr. BURKE. Just looking at it from a practical point, in view of the rough road that I can see for this bill—in fact I doubt if any members of this committee are committed at this time to support it, and many of us have many, many reservations about it—don't you think that the administration might look at this in a little more practical way and put some improvements in this tax bill that might gain a little bit of support for it.

Right now I can see a very rough road ahead and I am merely bringing this to your attention and to the attention of the administration because there are many things that will have to be done with this tax bill before it can go through and this is just one of the ways I am trying to lighten your load, Mr. Secretary.

Secretary FOWLER. I don't think you would be lightening the load by adding to it. In this particular case instead of picking up revenue, the end result would be to lose revenue and I am much more interested in seeing the members of this committee and the Members of Congress face up to the present proposals that are in front of them. As the President has stated, they should be voted up or they should be voted down.

The uncertainty that is hanging over the financial markets and the economy as a result of this present situation is one that should be disposed of and I don't think it would be wise to compound that uncertainty by involving these hearings and this bill with a number of permanent changes in the structure of our tax system which experience has always proven are going to take many, many months to consider and dispose of.

Mr. BURKE. I don't think there is any member of this committee that won't face up to his responsibilities and I think it is about time that the Treasury faced up to its responsibilities as far as moving expenses are concerned. This is one of the most unfair parts of our tax structure and it has received a great deal of attention all around the country, and they have been ignoring it for the last 4 years and I think we might have the administration face up to some of its responsibilities and correct some of the glaring inequities that are in the law and possibly this might be the place to do it rather than the promise of something that is going to happen in the land of never-never.

We are getting late in the session and there are some of us who are concerned about this moving expense bill that feel that, while we might get it before the committee and might have a hearing on it, time will run out, and this being a tax bill, and of course you people can do what you want to do about my suggestion, but I think if you want to help the road and lighten the load all the way through you