

Government Orders

Mr. Barrett: I will not be the first to go to Alberta and report their answer, but I may be the second. There is not a single provincial government that endorses this, unless it is Social Credit in British Columbia, and they do not know from day to day what the heck they are doing anyway.

As for Alberta, Don Getty has got all of these guys on a separate list, under the list known as the H-I-T list, including my good friend from the tar sands, who will be in bigger glue and bigger tar if this goes through. I challenge him to get up along with that member—

Mr. Shields: Point of order.

Mr. Barrett: Wait. Wait, I will give you your chance. There is no point of order.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): A point of order, the hon. member for Athabasca.

Mr. Shields: Mr. Speaker, I was challenged to state my position, whether I support the goods and services tax legislation that is now going through the House. I absolutely, positively do. I have absolutely no reservation whatsoever on that.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): I will let the hon. member have another 30 seconds in order to put a question.

The hon. member for Calgary Northeast.

Mr. Kindy: Mr. Speaker, I am rising on a point of order because I do not support the GST. I am from Alberta. I am trying to represent the views of my constituents as well as the province of Alberta.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): The hon. member has 20 seconds to put his question.

Mr. Barrett: Mr. Speaker, two words: Goodbye, Jack; hello, Alex. One of them is going to last and the other one is going down the tube. Mr. Speaker, I will leave it to you to guess what is happening. I speak for the west. We are opposed to this tax no matter what the government says.

Mr. Reid: Mr. Speaker, I do not know where to start. I do not know whether to say: "social worker, counsel thyself". Talk about insulting Newfoundlanders. One thing the hon. member should know is how to pronounce 'Newfoundland'. It is about time he, as a former premier, recognized that.

If you are going to talk to me about insulting my constituents, if you stand up here and say to my constituents you are going to put on a new tax, my constituents know damn well there is a tax in place now. For you to stand in this House and pretend there is no tax and all of a sudden we have a new 7 per cent—

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): On a point of order, the hon. member for Okanagan—Shuswap.

Mr. MacWilliam: Mr. Speaker, I think it is procedural precedent in the House to direct the comments through the Chair and not to other members of the House.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): I believe that is what the hon. member intended on doing.

Mr. Reid: Mr. Speaker, I stand corrected. The hon. member, of course, is absolutely right.

Some hon. members: Oh, oh.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): It is getting awfully close to five o'clock. The Chair does see all these things happening, but I just do not like to get involved in the debate. I am sure the hon. member realized what he had to do. I knew he was going to get to the point of saying "Mr. Speaker". I appreciate the hon. member for Okanagan—Shuswap bringing it to the attention of the House. If any member has any other complaint to bring to the Chair, I would appreciate hearing it rather than just sitting back and not saying anything.

The hon. member for St. John's East has the floor.

Mr. Epp: Mr. Speaker, a number of members clearly heard the member make a reference to the Chair and I ask that he withdraw it.

Mr. Samson: Mr. Speaker, if I made any comment that offended the Chair or any of the other members, I certainly do withdraw the comment.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): The hon. member for St. John's East has the floor.

Mr. Reid: Now, where were we. Mr. Speaker, my hon. friend opposite has suggested that I purport to stand in this House and suggest to this House that every one of my constituents support this tax. I said quite clearly that this tax is controversial. I would be an idiot to stand here and suggest that all of my constituents support this tax.