

Government Orders

systems, we take them for granted in our municipalities. But on some of these reserves it is a disgrace. Our government has increased spending to bring those water and sewer systems up to an acceptable standard. We are spending \$130 million a year over the next five years to try and bring that up to standard. We have augmented that through the green plan as well. We have added to that. We are taking care of that type of thing.

I sit here and listen to those in the New Democratic Party saying: "Don't worry about the deficit or the interest payments. Put the money somewhere else". I have news for you. When you borrow money from Canadians, as we have done, they expect the interest payments to be made. A lot of people in this country depend on those interest payments for a living. Those in the NDP here today are saying: "Don't worry about the interest payments". You have to worry about them. That is one of the responsibilities of a government. I know NDPers have not been in power at the federal level and maybe they don't understand these things but I can tell you—

An hon. member: Call an election.

Mr. McDermid: They say: "Call an election". They have been saying that for four years. They sound like a broken record over there. You will have your chance. You will have your opportunity in an election campaign and I look forward very much to campaigning in that campaign. I will assure you of one thing right now. The New Democratic Party of Canada will not form the next government. That is guaranteed. I will even bet on that. I am not a gambling man but I would bet on that.

In any event, I think it is very, very important that people understand why we are doing this in this bill. They asked for it. That is why we are doing it. They will be able to see very clearly where the money from the goods and services tax is going. There will be an audited statement that will be presented to the Canadian people each year. It is very, very important.

I challenge my friends in the New Democratic Party who this morning said that they would cancel our trade agreements and the GST. They would cancel all these things that the Conservative government brought in over the last seven and half years. You know what? They do

not tell the Canadian people in any detail what they are going to replace it with. We are going to cancel the trade agreement with our largest trading partner. Even the Liberals came to their senses and said: "We may renegotiate it, but we are not going to tear it up like our former leader said we were". They have come to their senses. They realize that you cannot destroy a trade agreement that is doing good things for Canada. We never see them on the front pages of the papers. That is why they no longer are going to tear it up. They know it is doing good things for Canada.

Those in the New Democratic Party will tear everything up that they can get their hands on. We have seen what has happened in Ontario over the last year and a half with the New Democratic Party in power there. We know what is happening there.

The other point I want to make this morning is that 48 countries that we compete with have got a value-added tax. Many of them are socialist, democratic countries. They realize that it is a sensible and fair way to get a broad taxation base for their countries. They understand that and so do those in the New Democratic Party. For them to stand up here and say: "We are just going to cancel it" is nonsense. They know they would never do it. The only reason they say that today is that they know they will never be in power.

We are going to oppose this amendment. We think it is a foolish amendment and we will be voting against it.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): Is the House ready for the question?

Some hon. members: Question.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): Is it the pleasure of the House to adopt the motion?

Some hon. members: Agreed.

Some hon. members: No.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): All those in favour of the motion will please say yea.

Some hon. members: Yea.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): All those opposed to the motion will please say nay.

Some hon. members: Nay.