

*Government Orders*

well, we will keep up the fight. We will not throw childish tantrums.

Perhaps the member would like to comment on my comment.

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski):** Maybe she would. The hon. member for Sudbury.

**Mrs. Marleau:** I certainly would because I feel that the government members have to face reality.

I do not know what kind of lives they have had before, but I can tell them about my past experiences. I was raised by a single mother. I know what she went through to make sure that I had clothing and shoes. I also know what will happen now when a single mother goes to buy a snowsuit or a pair of shoes for her children. She will have to pay more because of this tax. Even more so—and I know because I was born and raised in the town of Kirkland Lake which is far from major centres—we paid more for goods. They still pay more for goods because they are away from a major centre.

I have lived in Sudbury for the last 27 years of my life. We have lived through some ups and downs. When it comes to regional development, we care very deeply about what happens. We care because transportation is key to our regional development. We do not want to see a tax on transportation because we understand that it will make life more difficult for us.

We also know that it costs a lot of money to heat our homes because it is cold in Sudbury. People in Sudbury understand that kind of thing. Perhaps hon. members on the other side of the House should come and visit. Perhaps they should go a little farther north to Kirkland Lake, Moosonee, or Iqaluit and find out what it is really like to be cold, and then return and tell those people that they are going to love this tax, that it is so good for them. Come on, get your head out of the sand. Go on a tour and find out what people really think about your tax.

**Mr. Rodriguez:** Mr. Speaker, I listened to the speech of the hon. member for Sudbury. It was all very negative. It all outlines what the Liberals are against. All I have been hearing from the Liberals is how terrible the GST is.

A party like the Liberal Party owes it to Canadians to tell them exactly what they propose to put in place of the unfair manufacturers' sales tax. We agree that the

manufacturers' sales tax is unfair and discriminates against Canadian exports. We have no problem with that.

In order to fulfil our responsibility and always to give options to Canadians we tabled a minority report. It is not a question of hooking the government. It is a question of laying before the people of Canada an alternative if we are opposed to it: why we are opposed to it and what we propose to put in its place. This is what we have done on this side of the House.

All I hear from the Liberals is the same nonsense I heard from Pierre Trudeau when he argued against Robert Stanfield's wage and price controls, until he got into office and then he put them into place. I say to Canadians: "Beware of members of the Liberal Party. They are wolves in sheep's clothing".

**Mrs. Marleau:** Mr. Speaker, the hon. member to my left has obviously stepped into the trap and is prepared to debate his alternatives rather than keep that particular government, the Conservative government, on its toes defending what it proposes. I intend to keep after the government until the next election.

**Mr. René Soetens (Ontario):** Mr. Speaker, I rise today and am pleased to join in this debate on the goods and services tax.

A headline in *The Toronto Star* of November 30 probably outlined very well some of the concerns I have heard expressed today and on previous occasions. This is from *The Toronto Star*, a well-known newspaper that is known for its support of many good Tory policies. It states: "A lot of nonsense is being spouted against the goods and services tax".

I have listened to the debate, not just here but in the finance committee of which I am a member. I must concur that sometimes *The Toronto Star* states its view very eloquently on the issue and did so very well on that particular instance.

The reason I start out with that particular point of view is that one of the problems the government is having in trying to convince Canadians of the value of the goods and services tax is the misinformation that is being disseminated. Maybe it is not purposely, but somehow it does get out.

• (1650)

For example, *One Voice*, the Canadian seniors network, sent an article out to its members which it kindly provided me a copy of. On page 9 it lists some things that might be taxable under the GST legislation. It lists water. It lists the telephone bill but does not talk about the