

Government Orders

House—to reject the current proposals for a grief and suffering tax, the goods and services tax, the GST.

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[*Translation*]

QUESTIONS ON THE ORDER PAPER

Mr. Albert Cooper (Parliamentary Secretary to Leader of the Government in the House of Commons): Mr. Speaker, I ask that all questions be allowed to stand.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): Is it agreed?

Some hon. members: Agreed.

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[*English*]

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

Mr. Danis: Mr. Speaker, I would like to advise the House that tomorrow will be an allotted day.

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

[*English*]

BORROWING AUTHORITY ACT, 1990-91**MEASURE TO ENACT**

The House resumed from Monday, May 14, consideration of the motion of Mr. Wilson (Etobicoke Centre) that Bill C-65, an act to provide borrowing authority, be read the third time and passed.

Mr. David D. Stupich (Nanaimo—Cowichan): Mr. Speaker, I welcome this opportunity to stand in my place and debate this borrowing bill, particularly since it gives me an opportunity to talk a little more about Canada's record with respect to interest rates.

I read some time ago that it was the practice in old China, for those who could afford it, to pay the medical practitioners when they were doing a good job; that is, when they kept them well. If they became ill, they cut off the payment to the medical practitioner until such time as they got well again. Obviously, if they became sick under that practitioner's treatment, he was not doing the right job. So they paid him to keep them well, paid him

while they were well, but cut off the payment when the medical practitioner was ineffective in his work.

In Canada, we look at it differently. We have a person who is responsible for economic affairs, the Governor of the Bank of Canada, who admits that he has failed in his announced goal. It has been his goal to reduce inflation to zero. He keeps talking about zero inflation. Inflation keeps creeping up.

He admits that he is failing in his job. In the Bank of Canada report for 1989 he said: "The Bank of Canada actions did not result in any improvement in our inflation performance". There is no one better than he to say that he failed totally in his job.

Instead of punishing him in some way, exhibiting our displeasure at what he has or has not done, we give him a salary increase of 35 per cent over three years. This to the very man who is telling Canadians that they should exercise restraint. To him we give an increase of 35 per cent in a period of just three years.

I think the Chinese approach was better. Perhaps it worked better too. I do not have any details as to just how well it worked, but we all know that Mr. Crow's policies have failed Canada totally in every way, not only in his announced goal of getting inflation down to zero, which he still tells us is his goal, but in the fact that many parts of the country are experiencing a very severe recession. So he has failed us in every way and we should be taking another look at his medicine.

Let us go back to the medical analogy. If you have something wrong with you and you go to a doctor who puts you on some treatment plan and, instead of getting better you are getting worse, then surely you would question the treatment. If he prescribes a medicine which, instead of improving your situation makes you worse, would you not question whether there was something wrong with the medicine or that maybe he was giving you the wrong medicine? Surely, Mr. Speaker, it is appropriate to ask questions like that.

We do ask questions. Mr. Crow is asked questions and his response is always that we must try more of the same medicine, we must make it worse than it has been.

That reminds me, using a medical analogy again, of the days when they bled patients. The thinking was that if they were sick, let's make them worse, let's take some blood out of them so they cannot cope with their illness and then maybe they will get contrary enough to recover.