

try and convince us that privatization is a good thing. It seems to me, Mr. Speaker, that there are several evident ways that one could reduce the Budget.

Mr. Thompson: Mr. Speaker, I would like to point out to the Hon. Member for Yukon (Ms. McLaughlin) that since the election of the Mulroney Government in 1984, there has not been a Government in the country that has spent more money in her area than our present Government. We have spent money to help her people, especially the native people. We have done it in a number of ways. But we must pay our bills and gather the revenue necessary for this country to operate. I agree that it is unfortunate that we must pay tax, and it is unfortunate that we must have a federal sales tax, but I really cannot see the basis for her argument when she discusses the federal sales tax and the goods and services tax that we are going to implement. She should realize that we are going to reduce the amount of federal sales tax. Regarding the 13.5 per cent example to which she referred, it is going to be reduced to 9 per cent. So where is the logic in her argument? Is it going to be more burdensome for the Canadian people to carry 9 per cent versus a 13.5 per cent rate of tax?

It is great to complain, but let us have some solid suggestions. There is an old expression "Everyone wants to complain about the weather, but no one wants to do anything about it". It is the same with taxation. Members opposite complain about taxation. However, they do not want to do anything about it. The bills in this country have to be paid. The Minister of Finance (Mr. Wilson) has taken steps to ensure that we are taxed fairly and evenly across this country from one end to the other. No area has benefited more than the northern areas under the present taxation formula that the Minister of Finance has put forward. He will continue to put it forward to ensure that the northern peoples, all people from one end of this country to the other, are treated fairly, equitably and receive the types of services and programs that they deserve.

In relation to the argument on the child care Bill, we all know what happened to the child care Bill in the last Parliament. We passed the legislation. We brought it forward. It was passed here in this House of Commons. However, it was killed in the Liberal Senate, her friends to her right. The Minister noted last week that we will bring that legislation forward in the Thirty-Fourth Parliament. I am sure that when parliamentarians see that legislation, read it and interpret it, they will be very

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proud of it. Many of the concerns that the Member for Yukon has expressed will be addressed in this Thirty-Fourth Parliament.

Ms. McLaughlin: I do not believe, Mr. Speaker, that I heard a question, but I did hear something about proposed alternatives. I would say that there are a number of alternatives that could be proposed. This Government should support the aspirations of aboriginal people. It should ensure that land claims are settled, ensure that the compensation through land claims is carried forward so that aboriginal groups can become self-sustaining, can develop economically as they wish to. That is a very large part of what this Government can do.

In terms of the child care Bill, I would remind the Member that at the standing committee which heard submissions on child care, not one of the 39 groups that appeared before that committee approved of the Government's child care Bill. There was a general community consensus of professionals and others who work in that field that this Bill would not address the child care needs of this country.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Kindy: Mr. Speaker, I listened with interest to the speech of the New Democratic Party hopeful. I would like to have her comments on how the national sales tax and the goods and services tax would affect the northern people. I personally believe that there is an inflationary component to that tax, and the compliance costs would be extremely high for Canadians, probably about \$4 billion. It would put small farmers and small businesses at a disadvantage compared to big businesses. Small farmers would be required to issue invoices on all sales, and maintain records of taxes paid on all inputs. This would create a lot of cost to them. It would as well put in difficulty small businesses compared to big businesses which already have excellent accounting systems. I would like her comment on that.

Ms. McLaughlin: I basically agree with the comments of the Member opposite. We do not have many large corporations, other than perhaps mining, in many of the northern and more remote areas. They have a very narrow profit margin. They also have a great profit problem. I believe last year there was a study by the Canadian Federation of Independent Businesses trying to have them identify their major problems. Something like over 70 per cent said that their major problem was paperwork for the Government. This will increase substantially, and many businesses in my area certainly would not be able to hire extra accounting services. It is a very severe concern for people in that area. When I say small business, we could be talking of a two-person