

Government Orders

the other income nets and supports that we expect in this country. That is because of the Conservatives' goal to create a North American trade agreement with Mexico on a playing field that is extremely unfair.

It is those three things. The GST is a very harmful tax that this government has inflicted on Canada. The Canada-U.S. Free Trade Agreement is a very harmful agreement that is gutting the economy of Canada and will continue to do so as long as it is in existence.

The true folly of this government is going to of course be the North American trade agreement in which it hands over the balance of jobs in Canada to Mexico at 80 cents per hour.

I consider that we are in a period of choice. We are virtually four years into the term of this government and people have to start making choices. The choice that is being offered by the previous speaker is as clear as I have ever heard it articulated. This is the choice of the previous Conservative speaker in this House who said: "Our government, the Conservative Government of Canada, in this Parliament would rather be right and unpopular". It was pointed out that being unpopular means that you do not enjoy the confidence of Canadians. Canadians do not believe you are right sending their jobs to the United States. They do not believe you right sending the factories to the United States. Canadians do not believe that you are right imposing a tax that destroys business opportunity and business activity and which is a repressive, harsh tax on Canadians.

The Conservatives are truly unpopular. Canadians do not believe that a government is right to join in a trade agreement which would export Canadian jobs in the forest, auto, or textile manufacturing industry, which pay \$10 to \$15 per hour, to Mexico to be worked at by Mexicans at 80 cents per hour without protection and without human rights. It is a disaster.

This government is not only extremely unpopular and absolutely committed to ignoring the will of the people, but it is absolutely wrong.

There is a fundamental flaw in the way the choices are being laid out at the present time for Canadians. I think that Canadians have to realize that this problem is also going to happen with the election or the choice of a Liberal government in the future. The Liberals believe in the GST. They have indicated clearly on each public

occasion that they will keep the GST which is a harsh, repressive tax which destroys business activity and opportunity—

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): On a point of order, the hon. House leader of Her Majesty's Loyal Opposition.

Mr. Dingwall: Mr. Speaker, the hon. member who has just spoken may be suffering from a timely illness and perhaps his medication has overtaken him. He should, in making interventions on the floor of the House of Commons, at least attempt to try to have one scintilla of truth in the remarks that he is making on the floor of the House.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): I will listen to the hon. member for North Island—Powell River.

Mr. Skelly (North Island—Powell River): Mr. Speaker, I expect the Liberal Party to protest this matter loudly and across the country, but that is the state of the matter. It is that the Liberal Party will not reject the GST.

The second thing that has occurred concerns a matter of choice. When members of the Conservative Party stand up and say: "We support the GST, we support the Canada-U.S. trade agreement and we support a North American trade agreement," it is clearly on the record in the House of Commons and in every media outlet across Canada that the Liberals will retain the Canada-U.S. trade agreement. It is a harmful, destructive agreement that creates additional debt in Canada which this GST bill today is supposed to pay.

We have a situation where that destructiveness and that export of Canadian jobs is a policy of the Liberal Party.

Mr. Dingwall: Will the hon. member entertain a question?

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): I think you will have an opportunity to entertain a question after questions and comments.

Mr. Skelly (North Island—Powell River): Mr. Speaker, my hon. colleague from the Liberal Party, the one that—

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): Order please. There will be an opportunity for questions and comments. I would hope that the hon. member would give him an opportunity to complete his speech and then we can get into questions and comments.