

Government Orders

Mr. Speaker, when you go to your doctor with the flu and he tells you: "Well, you should not have gone out without wearing something on your head. You should have put on your boots. You should have worn a coat but I have no pills for you, no remedy, nothing." Only a very peculiar physician would act like that! That is somewhat like what is going on with the opposition here. We never have the right cap, the right footwear, the right coat, but at the same time they never have remedies to offer, Mr. Speaker, no constructive suggestions to get this country moving again instead of advocating, as the Liberals do in particular, that the GST be abolished and that taxes should be collected from other sources. It is easy to say "we would collect taxes from other sources", but that is not what the Canadian people want to hear and it does nothing to help the government either, Mr. Speaker. What does help is constructive ideas.

The criticism from the NDP does not help either. They keep saying that many people do not pay taxes. That is absolutely not true, Mr. Speaker, and we know it, you and I. Companies pay their fair share of taxes—

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): I am sorry to interrupt.

Mr. Vincent: Mr. Speaker, I thought I was allowed more time.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): There is a 10 minute question and comment period and the time allowed for the debate is 20 minutes. Is there unanimous consent to let the parliamentary secretary complete his remarks?

Some hon. members: Agreed.

Mr. Vincent: Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleagues. I must admit that I was under the impression that I had an unlimited time as second speaker.

Mr. Milliken: The standing rules were changed for 40 minutes. In any event, you are not the second speaker, nor the first.

[*English*]

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): The hon. member has only 20 minutes plus 10 minutes questions and comments. The Minister of State lost his turn. Then the number two speaker had 40 minutes. There were two 40 minute speakers and now you are the number three speaker which is 20 minutes plus 10 minutes questions and comments. I regret it but I think that is the way we are going to have to go. We will let you have two more minutes and then questions and comments.

• (1540)

[*Translation*]

Mr. Vincent: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to conclude by thanking my colleagues for allowing me to prolong my speech and by urging them to vote in favour of Bill C-21.

[*English*]

Mr. Ray Skelly (North Island—Powell River): Mr. Speaker, the speech astounds me. If I can summarize quickly my understanding of it, it says everything in the world that is wrong has been the responsibility of the Liberal Party. Although there is some truth to that, the rest of the argument is: "I would rather be unpopular than follow any other advice that is given in here".

I have to say that the Conservative Party is truly unpopular and from that point of view it is an outstanding success. It would rather impose the GST than be popular. It would rather impose the Canada-U.S. trade agreement than be popular. It would rather impose the North American free trade agreement than be popular. It would rather be unpopular and not reduce the interest rates. It would rather be unpopular and not allow the dollar to go down. It would rather be unpopular and not put in a municipal infrastructure system. It would rather be unpopular and not put in an inheritance tax or a minimum corporate tax or a fairer corporate and income tax. These things were all positive ideas and suggestions put forward in the House. It does not accept them.

He wonders what we can offer from this side of the House to a party that has been as successful as the Conservative Party in this government in becoming the most unpopular government in the history of Canada.