I had so many things to say, Mr. Speaker—

Mr. Speaker: I must call the Hon. Member to order. He is wandering far away from the subject matter of the motion which is now before the House. I would ask him to speak to the motion.

Mr. Maltais: Mr. Speaker, since we are discussing the matter of income tax at this period of the year, and since I have been working at my constituency office during the holiday and have been seeing so many people who have been laid off, I could not avoid linking together the whole matter of income tax collection and the people in my riding who are facing a difficult situation. And I would like to suggest that I would be remiss not to bring about the tax problems facing the people of Manicouagan when the debate is precisely on the matter of income tax.

The motion mentions contempt, and I would merely like to indicate that at this time, Revenue Canada officials are not showing any contempt whatsoever toward the people of Manicouagan. Indeed, last week, I had a meeting in my riding office with the three senior officials from National Revenue in Quebec City in order to try and find jobs for people who were laid off.

I wanted to make that point, Mr. Speaker, because I can think of so many cases that are strictly factual without having to start smearing everybody. In particular, Mr. Speaker, I would like to speak about people in Schefferville, Labrador City and Wabush, not only in my riding because Labrador is also greatly affected, but about people in Sept-Iles as well. Members on the other side have been trying from the start to distort the debate by reporting specific cases. Therefore, Mr. Speaker, I think I got literally to the heart of the motion when I said that Revenue Canada officials did not show contempt for those with tax problems, people I meet regularly.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to say before completing my remarks, since I have about three minutes left, that it might be interesting to hold a broader debate on the question of taxation, more precisely on calculation rules, so that ordinary people could understand what it is all about. Furthermore, the proposal made this morning by the Minister of National Revenue, the Member for Charlesbourg, for a study in depth of the different methods used by his Department to collect taxes will be widely acclaimed and I hope that such an opportunity will be taken perhaps to update that legislation.

I think, Mr. Speaker, that everybody will admit that it is necessary to simplify the Income Tax Act, to develop interesting ways for people to fill, themselves, their income tax in an adequate way and, manage as the saying goes, to render unto Caesar the things which are Caesar's and unto God the things which are God's.

Mr. Speaker, this new evaluation will not be done only by simply discussing from a negative approach the whole income tax issue. I am very pleased now to see my friend from Central Nova and I would like him to read my notes relating to the people of Schefferville, Sept-Îles, Labrador City and Wabush, who have income tax problems, Mr. Speaker. Later on, I will be speaking to him, but what I was pointing out, Mr. Speaker, for the benefit of my friend of Baie Comeau, is that it is very easy not to make any suggestion when you are the Hon. Leader of the Opposition. I would like, however, to see the Hon. Leader of the Opposition as a leader when it comes to making suggestions. What I did not like in the motion put forward by the Hon. Member for Wellington-Dufferin-Simcoe (Mr. Beatty) is the fact that he failed to make any concrete suggestion, Mr. Speaker, and I hope that the Hon. Leader of the Opposition will give instructions to the Members of his caucus in order that, in the future, when they raise points of national interest, they do not simply criticize what is being done but make concrete suggestions.

I remember when the Hon. Leader of the Opposition, then President of the Iron Ore Company, came to see me here in Ottawa as the Member for Manicouagan; together we put together proposals for the people of Schefferville and, later on, if he wants to ask questions, he will be able to do it, Mr. Speaker. The current Leader of the Opposition—

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order! It being 5:45 p.m., it is my duty, pursuant to Standing Order 62(9), to interrupt the proceedings and forthwith put every question necessary to dispose of the Supply proceedings.

[*English*]

The question therefore is on the amendment. Is it the pleasure of the House to adopt the said motion?

Some Hon. Members: Agreed.

Some Hon. Members: No.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: All those in favour of the amendment will please say yea.

Some Hon. Members: Yea.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: All those opposed will please say nay.

Some Hon. Members: Nay.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: In my opinion, the nays have it.

And more than five Members having risen:

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Call in the Members.

The House divided on the motion (Mr. Riis) which was negatived on the following division: