

We know the hon. member for Calgary Northeast will speak very clearly and concisely. He will not have to scream and yell because his case will be perfect. He will know exactly what he is talking about. Even though we did not grant permission for him to speak now, we will certainly hear from him tomorrow.

It will be very interesting to be here next January because no area of our country will be hit harder by this tax than Newfoundland. They already have a sales tax of 11 per cent, the highest in the country. It is the most regressive kind of tax. By this time next year there will be another 7 per cent added to that unless the Tories listen to the hon. member for Calgary Northeast and withdraw the tax. They may well do that because they know his arguments are right. They know that the people are with him not only in Calgary Northeast but throughout Alberta and throughout the country.

I do not think that the hon. member for St. John's East will be nearly as confident next year at this time because his people in that constituency and in that province will be bearing the most onerous tax burden they have ever had to bear. Not only will they be paying 18 per cent sales tax on every meal they buy in a restaurant, it will apply to practically every good and service in that province. No province will be hurt more.

We are not talking about just one new regressive tax because during the last five years we have had a succession of regressive taxes; some 25 cents a gallon on gasoline, massive taxes on liquor and all kinds of non-prescription cosmetics; 31 different new taxes in the last five years. It would be very interesting if we could replay what we have seen this afternoon about the third or fourth week of next January and see how the hon. member for Athabasca, the hon. member for St. John's East and the hon. member for Calgary Northeast react.

There may be a draft movement by then to make the hon. member for Calgary Northeast leader of the party. It could well happen. He may be the only member who could be elected. Obviously, if he is the only member who can be elected he will be the leader of the Tory party.

The poll that was just published reinforces exactly what the member for Calgary Northeast has been saying, that the vast majority of people are opposed to the sales

tax. They are definitely opposed to the 7 per cent sales tax. In fact, 79 per cent are opposed to the sales tax; 16 per cent are in favour of it and 5 per cent have not heard of it.

It is amazing, because of all the issues I have ever seen come before Parliament in the last 20 years, I have never seen so many petitions as the ones on this issue. It is unbelievable. There were never so many petitions on any of the controversial issues which came before Parliament. This government is clearly moving against the wishes—

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): It being 5 p.m. the House will now proceed to the consideration of Private Members' Business as listed on today's Order Paper.

PRIVATE MEMBERS' BUSINESS

[English]

ABORIGINAL PEOPLES

NEEDS OF YOUTH

The House resumed from November 27, 1989, consideration of the motion of Mr. Anawak:

That, in the opinion of this House, the government should consider developing special initiatives, in consultation with aboriginal peoples, to respond to the serious employment, education and health needs of aboriginal youth.

Mr. Dave Dingwall (Cape Breton—East Richmond): Mr. Speaker, I rise today to support the private member's motion of my colleague with regard to the situation which is facing our aboriginal people. In fact I wish, for clarification, to read the motion which I think would be deserving of the support of all members of this House, namely:

That, in the opinion of this House, the government should consider developing special initiatives, in consultation with Aboriginal peoples, to respond to the serious employment, education and health needs of Aboriginal youth.

That particular motion and, indeed, its substance I think can be concurred in by all members of Parliament. If one has taken the time to examine the situation of the aboriginal young people in this country, one would quickly recognize that their particular needs cry out for special initiatives by the Government of Canada.