

*Government Orders*

they say. I ask you, Madam Speaker, you being the non-partisan person that you are, if you had \$25.5 billion, would you give it to those folks across the way? Surely not after the incompetent management that they have provided to the people of Canada and to the public treasury during recent years.

The government across the way has so mismanaged our country that it has succeeded in convincing just about everyone in Canada to vote for someone else. Today a public opinion poll by Gallup came out. I will say this so that the members can understand very clearly.

I see a few members of Parliament from Ontario and they will know that the Conservative Party in Ontario enjoys the support—and I use the word “enjoy”—of some 13 per cent of the Canadian population. That tells us what a good job the government has done. There are probably 13 per cent of Canadians who still believe that Elvis Presley is alive. Those people across the way think that we, the representatives of the people, are going to give them \$25.5 billion while only 13 per cent of Canadians think that they can actually run the show. The short answer is, no—*nyet*.

• (1600)

[*Translation*]

—not one cent to the Conservatives opposite.

Madam Speaker, not long ago, the government brought down its Budget. In that Budget, the government claimed—the government, how shall I say it, was stretching the truth. I wouldn't go so far as to say it was lying, although I suppose I could, as long as I don't say an individual member is lying, of course. The government was stretching the truth, and I would even say it has an almost morbid tendency to try to embellish the truth for Canadians. They even tried to make Canadians believe the present Budget does not raise taxes. That, Madam Speaker, is not really true. Look, I have some evidence might here of tax increases in the Budget.

[*English*]

The Minister of Finance in his budget has frozen for two years transfers to the provinces for post-secondary education and health care. Consequently, that is going to

cause the provinces to increase taxes. So there is an indirect tax in that measure right there.

In the budget there is also reference to the goods and services tax and the intention of the government to proceed with this item.

On page 135 of the budget it indicates very clearly that the government will end up with a surplus of over \$1 billion by replacing the existing manufacturers' sales tax with the goods and services tax. In other words, there is \$1 billion tax increase right in the budget on the goods and services tax alone.

We will have to remember that there is deindexation of personal income taxes, which is the same as a 3 per cent increase in taxes, or close to it, every year. There is the clawback of family pensions. I see the Minister for International Trade across the way who will know about the clawback of pensions. That will generate an extra \$2 billion. That is \$2 billion of tax increases. The government across the way is not telling Canadians the whole truth and nothing but the truth in regard to taxes.

The government tells us we should give it more money, \$25.5 billion, because it needs it to run the affairs of state. What did the Tories do with the money we gave them last time? What did they spend it on? Let me give you a few examples.

**An hon. member:** Give us some examples.

**Mr. Boudria:** The members across the way are insisting that I give them some details on those expenditures. I can tell that they want us to elaborate on what the government across the way did with the funds.

The government did use funds for things other than building strip joints and locking priests in jail. But it has done both of those things as well. That is just some of the expenditures. And, yes, that does cost money. Incarcerating priests and building strip joints is very expensive. But those are two activities that the government has decided to undertake over recent days and months.

I have an article from *The Ottawa Citizen* of March 9, 1990, entitled “\$111M tax tab well spent, Wilson says”. It reads:

The \$111-million tab this year for the proposed goods and services tax was money properly spent, Finance Minister Michael Wilson said Thursday.