

island of Newfoundland is mainly rock with the resources in and under the sea. The livelihood of the people is related primarily to the sea, as has been the case for many years. We in this party recognize that and have put our policy position around that recognition.

Throughout this entire debate, Mr. Speaker, I have been struck by the lack of participation on the government side by members from the Atlantic provinces. I have asked myself where the members from Newfoundland, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island have been during this debate. We have not heard from the Minister of National Revenue (Mr. Rompkey). He is listening now and I hope—

Mr. Rompkey: Check *Hansard* for last year.

Mr. Wilson: We did not hear from him on Bill C-48. I hope we will hear from the Minister of National Revenue on this particular amendment regarding jurisdiction as it relates to the province of Newfoundland.

Mr. Rompkey: I am on record publicly and in this House.

Mr. Wilson: Let us hear from the minister in this debate and on this amendment. Where is the Minister of Finance (Mr. MacEachen)? Where is the Secretary of State (Mr. Regan)? Where is the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans (Mr. LeBlanc)? We have not heard from any of them. Who from the provinces is defending the government's position? I think we heard from the hon. member for Burin-St. George's (Mr. Simmons), but I do not see him in the House today. All members would recognize that his contribution to the debate was but a frivolous interlude and nothing more. It was a little bit of humour one evening, which is all we normally get from him. That is all we have had from him in this debate. We need to hear from the heavyweights so I hope the Minister of National Revenue will make a contribution later today.

As a Member of Parliament from Ontario my position is very clear. I am concerned about future supplies for this country. I am concerned that we will be able to settle this jurisdictional dispute so that we can get on with development and reduce the imports that we are so dependent upon now. I also see this as an opportunity for development that will involve the manufacturing industries of Ontario and Quebec to a very great extent.

● (1610)

Ontario and Quebec are very major resource provinces today. They have vast wealth. I am prepared to share this, as I am sure the residents of the Atlantic provinces would wish to share; but we need to get a balanced development of these resources to ensure the development that we need in the future. The potential is great but we must get on with it. I want to see all the Atlantic provinces share in the development of this country, but not through the transfer of payments and equalization. I want to see them share in the development of their resources, the resources of their own economies. The goal is to make them the "have" provinces. The federal government and the rest of Canada will share, in an extensive way, in the

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development of these resources through the new energy taxes as well as through income taxes. Therefore, let us have less transfer of payments needed to be paid to those provinces by such development.

Another reason for sharing is the very major impact of this development on the local economy and local society. Let me just recount to the House a story which was told to me when I was in Newfoundland. It was about the early part of the seventies, 1972 or 1973. About a dozen businessmen, competitors but all concerned about the development of the oil industry in the province of Newfoundland, got together and asked, "What is likely to happen to our province if this development goes ahead?" They felt that the best thing they could do was to go over to Scotland and Norway to talk to people who had been directly affected by the developments which had taken place over there. They completed a two-week trip, made a report, and sent the report to Ottawa.

The Department of Energy, Mines and Resources, having seen the report, summoned them to Ottawa for some discussion. What they got when they arrived here was a very condescending, patronizing approach by the department. The province of Newfoundland had just hired the first geologist ever to advise the government. The Department of Energy, Mines and Resources berated the representatives of Newfoundland for having hired this geologist. The department said, "You do not need a geologist. You can rely on us, on the Department of Energy, Mines and Resources. We will look after you; leave it to us."

But what happened? This is the key. What happened was that over the next two years of development, the only moneys which came through the local economy of the province of Newfoundland were customs fees—not customs revenues, just fees—to pass goods, duty free, through the port of St. John's and back out to the offshore rigs. No equipment, food, or otherwise, was purchased from the local economy.

That is what has made the people in Newfoundland so upset. It was after watching two years of this and having been told by the Department of Energy, Mines and Resources "We will look after you", that they have taken action and such a strong position in ensuring that the development of their resources will be controlled by themselves and will have the optimum effect on their local economy and their local society.

The impact on their society will be great. Projects of the magnitude of Hibernia will cost about \$6 billion to \$8 billion. There will be an economic impact as a result of this development, as well as a social impact through urban development, through crime and social problems. We have heard from the hon. member for Athabasca (Mr. Shields) about the problems which have occurred in Fort McMurray as a result of the major developments there. The people of Newfoundland are concerned about these developments and their effects on the local economy and local society. They are also concerned that local individuals are trained to participate in local industry. Finally, they are concerned about the impact on the environment. That is why it is very important that the jurisdictional