Employment Tax Credit Act

ing of Canadian-made interest rates with those of the United States.

What could be more relevant to this amendment, Mr. Speaker?

Some hon, Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Yurko: The premiers agreed that a realistic energy-pricing policy is the key to energy self-sufficiency and the creation of jobs. Canadian energy prices must rise to reduce the disparity between domestic and international prices, they said, in order to create jobs. They agreed that the increased revenue generated by such price increases should be recycled into investment in Canada to reduce our reliance on outside capital and foreign energy sources. To create jobs, Mr. Speaker—a massive number of jobs which would result from self-sufficiency in energy, and we have the potential to do it in this nation.

What has the minister done? The Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources (Mr. Lalonde) has thrown punches in every direction even before the negotiations on pricing have begun. Indeed, he came out with a report by officials called "Analysis of the Impact on Oil Prices of the December 11 Budget Proposals"—I want to deal with that document later on and indicate the intellectual dishonesty of that report. That minister exercised the *force majeure* clause in a Syncrude agreement which put into jeopardy the Imperial Oil heavy oil plant at Cold Lake. If there ever was a project which would create jobs, that was it—jobs across the nation from one end to the other; machinery is going to be fabricated in Toronto and Montreal, across the nation for that project to create jobs for native people and Canadians in all areas. What bothered me about that decision was its timing. The timing was terrible.

This heavy oil project is the first of this kind. The Syncrude plant was the second of its kind. The Great Canadian Oil Sands plant, or Suncor, was the first. It proved the technology. Syncrude was the second. The Alsands plant is going to be the third. Then we are going to have a fourth, a fifth, and a sixth, and so on. But the Imperial heavy oil plant at Cold Lake Alberta was the first of a kind, the initial commercialization of an in situ extraction of heavy oil from 2,000 feet and lower in the ground. It was vital for this nation that that project go ahead, and no impediment of any kind by any government should have been put in place to delay it or bring it into question. Indeed, the fate of this nation in terms of energy self-sufficiency is dependent on that process for the extraction of heavy oil.

So we have a minister on that side of the House, just about the time it was necessary to approve that plant, throwing punches before he had even begun to negotiate pricing policy. Mr. Speaker, I have a lot more to say and I have a few more minutes left, but I would like to call it ten o'clock, and I therefore adjourn the debate on Bill C-19.

• (2200)

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

Mr. Kempling: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, I wonder if the Parliamentary Secretary to the President of the Privy Council (Mr. Collenette) could advise us on the business for tomorrow.

Mr. Collenette: Mr. Speaker, since the debate on this bill seems to be winding down, we plan to continue with it tomorrow.

PROCEEDINGS ON ADJOURNMENT MOTION

[English]

A motion to adjourn the House under Standing Order 40 deemed to have been moved.

ENERGY—OIL PRICING PACKAGE—DISCUSSION WITH PROVINCES

Hon. Ray Hnatyshyn (Saskatoon West): Mr. Speaker, I rise at this time in relation to a question which I posed earlier today to the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources (Mr. Lalonde) with respect to the proposal he put forward, together with the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau), during the course of the election campaign, on the so-called blended oil price. Many of us and many Canadians have been trying very hard over the last few months, especially during the time after this particular concept was first announced, to get an idea of exactly what this blended oil price was all about. It was very difficult to find out, because almost any Liberal spokesman one approached on this formula had a different idea.

After we had an opportunity of considering what this meant and what exactly it would cost us, we put a question to the Prime Minister and the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources on what it would mean, in terms of dollars and cents, to the average Canadian. The Prime Minister, the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources, and Liberal candidates in the course of the last election campaign went across the country saying that, in any event the Liberal government was going to assure the Canadian people of an oil supply at a lower price than that proposed by the Conservative government in its budget which was brought down by my colleague, the hon. member for St. John's West (Mr. Crosbie) last December.

We listened with great interest to find out exactly what the price would be, and again, depending on which Liberal candidate was approached, we got a different figure. It was certainly not going to be over \$4 this year and it would not exceed \$4.50 for the next three years, because that, of course, would