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Alberta problem but a Canadian problem, and we intend to deal with it here in Parliament as a Canadian problem.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

[*Translation*]

Mr. Turner (Vancouver Quadra): Mr. Speaker, in Western Canada we have a crisis of monumental proportions, a crisis that has been neglected by the present Government. Friday, and again today, we talked about the crisis situation with respect to grain. We talked about the crisis in the potash industry. We talked about the crisis in our oil and gas sectors. We talked about the crisis in the mining industry. All these areas are being neglected by the Canadian Government, which wants to ensure Canada's prosperity by concentrating on southwestern Ontario and part of the City of Montreal, while neglecting the entire east end of Montreal, despite eloquent representations by the Hon. Member for Montreal—Sainte-Marie (Mr. Malépart). So what we have here is a very serious and a very acute Canadian problem.

[*English*]

I had the opportunity to meet with Howard Macdonald and senior officials of Dome Petroleum in Calgary last week. It is obvious that time is running out. It is obvious that that debt hanging over the company like an avalanche is ready to be secured. The waivers that the company was granted by its major creditors expire at the end of June. There is not much time left. If a solution is not found, those creditors will be entitled to proceed against their individual securities. The Canadian Government has known these facts, has watched this happen, and has not been astute or careful enough on behalf of Canadians to facilitate a Canadian solution to the problem.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Turner (Vancouver Quadra): We would like to ask a question of the Minister and we hope he will respond with the frankness which we expect of someone in his position. In his opinion, and in that of the Government of Canada, is the Amoco bid binding? Is there still room for other bids? What would the effect of other bids be on Dome Petroleum and on the perspective of the oil and gas industry? I can tell him that other bidders are still available. I ask him whether other bids are still welcome.

This afternoon at the annual meeting of TransCanada, Gerry Maier said that as far as he is concerned TransCanada is still an available bidder. I would hope that there are other Canadian-owned or Canadian-controlled enterprises, in consortium or alone, which would be available to proceed. The Government is refusing to indicate whether other bids are still welcome. Will the Government facilitate a reopening of the situation to assure a Canadian solution? I can tell him that in this quarter of the House we want and will insist upon a Canadian solution, with all the tools available to the Canadian Government.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Turner (Vancouver Quadra): This is not only an academic question. The Government of Canada is the custodian for Canadian taxpayers of billions of dollars already invested in Dome, whether by way of the PIP grants, tax incentives, current tax losses or write-offs. Through its passive attitude the Government is neglecting the fundamental rights and interests of Canadian taxpayers to be represented. That interest is being thrown away.

Before this Government assumed power, Parliament's primary role, that of examining the expenditures of Government and approving the taxation measures of Government, was considered paramount. Because the taxpayer is involved we are demanding that this deal come before Parliament, not after it is consummated, but before the deal is concluded. Bring it before the Committee on Energy, Mines and Resources tomorrow. Our members are ready and the government Members are ready. We are demanding that any deal be brought before Parliament. We want the deal scrutinized before the appropriate committee of the House of Commons.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Turner (Vancouver Quadra): The Minister has been very relaxed about this. His colleague, the Minister of Finance, has been very passive about it. The Minister looks very relaxed and I admire his very benign personality. From time to time I have been soothed by his engaging smile. However, it is never too late, and the people of Canada will insist that Parliament have something to say about the final conclusion of this deal.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Turner (Vancouver Quadra): After all, the Amoco-Dome Petroleum deal must still be approved by the creditors. It is subject to review by the courts and to approval by the shareholders and must be reviewed and approved by Investment Canada. The Minister still has the levers and the authority. I believe that he and his colleagues should consider a Canadian solution to be a priority.

• (2100)

What we are talking about is the largest potential takeover in Canadian history. We are talking about the future ownership of the oil and gas industry in Canada, and about Canadian sovereignty. We are talking about the health of the oil and gas industry in western Canada, and the economy in the western provinces.

No matter who takes over, we want to know about it. We want to know about the guarantees for Canadian jobs. We want to know what the management will be like and what will happen to Arctic drilling. We want to know what will happen to the continuation of Canadian exploration and what will happen to the Sarnia petrochemical plant.

What will happen to Encor Limited? We want to know the Minister's plans for Canadianization of Dome and what the