

*Energy Supplies Emergency Act*

sit by and watch the government play the political game with the NDP and watch the Prime Minister fiddle while Canada burns. It is hard to say which of the two parties is more afraid to face up to reality, the Liberals or the NDP. But one thing is certain, neither the Liberals nor the NDP has the faintest idea how to cope with the present energy crisis. One faces the issues with faint heart and little or no idea of how to cope with real issues. The other preaches pseudo-socialism, with the knowledge that it will never have to face up to its own preachments, and with the clear knowledge that it will never have to accept the responsibility that goes with running the government.

In conclusion, Mr. Speaker, I would just like to say that the situation I have outlined is a sad one indeed for the Canadian people to have to live with. I had thought that the Canadian electors would have been given an opportunity to express themselves after last Monday. However, when political parties abandon principle for purely partisan gain, then the people are forced to wait. But they are only putting off the inevitable, and if the bill we have here is the best that two parties can come up with to solve a serious human problem, then they are scratching around in the bottom of the barrel. Let us get out of the barrel and get to the business of running the country. The best time to do that is right now.

*[Translation]*

**Mr. Réal Caouette (Témiscamingue):** Mr. Speaker, Bill C-236 is no more or less than the confirmation of the government's temptation to generate a psychosis among people that there is an energy shortage. By the sound of my voice, you realize that this psychosis has certainly generated some energy to make us live in the cool of Parliament. We freeze in the restaurant, in the House, we catch a cold or we lose our voice.

Mr. Speaker, the psychosis generated among the people is having results. Throughout Canada, we witness reactions which, it seems to me, ought to alert Parliament, the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources (Mr. Macdonald) and the government.

At noon, I was talking about some news published today in the newspaper *La Presse* of Montreal in an article by Robert Pouliot which reads as follows:

Quebec exports oil despite crisis.

Quebec is told that there is a crisis. Everyone recalls hearing Premier Bourassa say during the electoral campaign that there was no danger of an oil shortage in Quebec, that we had supplies for 52 days and that there was absolutely no danger of not getting the oil we needed. Four days after the elections, Premier Bourassa met with the Prime Minister of Canada (Mr. Trudeau), and the same night he came out of the Prime Minister's residence, he said on the radio: It is just possible that we might have an energy or oil shortage.

To come back to the news published today, Mr. Speaker, I go on with the article:

Quebec exports oil despite crisis. At the time—

*[English]*

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** Is the hon. member rising on a point of order?

[Mr. Beattie (Hamilton Mountain).]

**Mr. Roy (Laval):** Yes, to make a point of clarification if I may.

*[Translation]*

I feel that the article to which the hon. member for Témiscamingue (Mr. Caouette) refers concerns only the exportation of heavy oil and not of heating oil. This is different. It is an extremely important qualification in the present debate. The situation is such that the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources (Mr. Macdonald) has mentioned it during the oral question period this afternoon.

**Mr. Caouette (Témiscamingue):** If the hon. member wants to be patient enough to listen to the whole text, he will realize that this is exactly what I mean. I continue reading the article for the information of the member who has just risen:

At the time when the province of Quebec is threatened with a petroleum shortage this winter in view of the intensification of the Arab embargo, some refiners in the province, including Golden Eagle in Saint-Romuald, keep on exporting large quantities of heating industrial oil to the United States.

I do not know if the hon. member calls this heavy oil but I know that it is industrial heating oil.

**Mr. Roy (Laval):** Heavy oil.

**Mr. Caouette (Témiscamingue):** Yes, I will continue with my remarks and the hon. member will understand. This oil may be further refined to get ordinary heating oil. This is for the information of the hon. member. If he is not aware of this, I will take him to Golden Eagle Canada Limited so that he can see for himself.

From October 15 to November 26, Quebec was in first place—

—not in second or third—

—in first place among provinces exporting refined products to the American market with shipments of 2.5 million barrels or the equivalent of 87.5 million gallons.

These are refined products.

After the allocation ordered by Ottawa on industrial oil exports—

—not heating oil but industrial oil—

—last October 15, Quebec until October 31 supplied nearly half of the Canadian exports to the United States.

I read: half from Quebec. I do not know if the hon. member understands.

During the next weeks, however, these refined oil exportations should come down not so much to answer the needs of Quebecers in low sulphur bunker fuel but to supply British Columbia via the Panama Canal.

I would like hon. members to know that this does not come from the office of the member who interrupted me earlier but directly from energy officials in Ottawa.

The federal government is getting ready to convince eastern Canada refiners to help British Columbia which this winter will suffer from a serious shortage of industrial oil. In the coming weeks, the National Energy Board will have to issue fewer export permits to the United States to divert the bunker to the Pacific coast.

We can now realize the logic of what is going on. The quotation goes on:

Traditionally British Columbia used to receive two-thirds of what it needs in bunker fuel from Washington state refineries but