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so honestly and intelligently, based and predicated on information that the world price of oil would continue to increase.

What that Minister fails to recognize, Mr. Speaker, is that there were two signers of those agreements. At every opportunity, as on previous occasions, which is characteristic of himself and his Party, that Minister will take every opportunity to try to get a political advantage, I suggest with all respect, which is to pit western Canadians against eastern Canadians. That is a proposition which we think is thoroughly disgusting, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Gagnon: Mr. Speaker, the Economic Council of Canada report *Connections* stated the goals of the national energy policy, and I quote:

First, the megaprojects were supposed to provide the federal Government with substantial revenues—

Second, these projects were to provide substantial economic spinoffs, thereby helping to further alleviate the problems of regional economic disparity. Quebec, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, for example, were to get jobs—

Third, all the capital inflows needed to finance this activity were expected to make the Canadian dollar buoyant.

It goes on further to say:

The agreement had a major flaw: it assumed that the real world price of oil would continue to rise substantially over the next few years.

The result of the national energy policy was two megaprojects which were cancelled, Alsands and Cold Lake, worth \$25 billion. I asked the Hon. Member how many jobs in Windsor, in Orillia and in Hamilton were lost because his Party stuck this national energy policy down our throats?

Mr. Dingwall: Mr. Speaker, I say to the very verbose Member of Parliament who has taken this opportunity to stand in his place and ask a question that no one put a gun to the heads of the western producing provinces to sign agreements. Nobody did.

Mr. Hawkes: Oh yes, they did.

Mr. Dingwall: And to suggest that we in the Province of Nova Scotia did not benefit from the National Energy Program is a total repudiation of the provincial Premier. There is no question but that benefits, as expected and wanted by western producing provinces and by the national Government, were not forthcoming. But that was because, as the Hon. Member, if he is candid enough, will admit, the western producing provinces signed that Accord—

Mr. Taylor: Baloney.

Mr. Dingwall: —because they believed, as the Government of Canada did at the time, that the world price of oil would continue to increase. The truth hurts when Hon. Members hear it.

Mr. Taylor: That is baloney and you know it.

Mr. Dingwall: But those Hon. Members are quite prepared to sell out the consumers, the small western Canadian producers, and to give money to the multinational oil companies.

Mr. Taylor: That's wishful thinking. That's what the Liberals think.

Mr. Dingwall: Shame on the Alberta Members of Parliament.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Resuming debate.

Hon. Michael Wilson (Minister of Finance): Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased to participate in this debate on the motion put forward by the Hon. Member for Cape Breton-East Richmond (Mr. Dingwall). It is a motion which distorts what has been going on in this country over the past seven months, and it distorts what was in the energy Accord. I say that choosing my words very carefully, and I am sorry that the Hon. Member is leaving the House—

Mr. Dingwall: Point of order.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: The Hon. Member for Cape Breton-East Richmond (Mr. Dingwall) on a point of order.

Mr. Dingwall: Mr. Speaker, I would hope that the Minister of Finance (Mr. Wilson), who at one point in his career was noted for some form of integrity, would not impute motive to myself, or indeed any other Member of Parliament. I do not find anything frightfully wrong in going to the lobby to have a cup of coffee and watch his dismal performance on television, as thousands of Canadians—

Mr. Deputy Speaker: I think the point is made.

Mr. Wilson (Etobicoke Centre): Mr. Speaker, I listened to the word "integrity" just used by the Hon. Member. If there is one person who has degraded the word "integrity" in this House today, it is that Hon. Member. I would invite him to come back and listen to these words directly because it is a serious matter to call into question the integrity of people outside this House.

I listened to the Hon. Member distort the words of the Deputy Minister of Energy in the Province of Ontario. He used a distorted press report yesterday as the basis for his speech and, indeed, it is the basis for the motion today. He knows that the Deputy Minister of Energy withdrew that statement. He said that it was a distortion, that it was taken out of context, and I am going to read the telex. I was absolutely disgusted when I heard the Hon. Member, in light of the fact that he knew that the Deputy Minister of Energy had withdrawn that statement, had stated that it was distorted, and persisted in repeating that statement to this House. That is the sort of action by Members of Parliament which degrades the reputation of this whole House. I say to the Hon. Member that he should stand in his place after I have finished my remarks and apologize to the Deputy Minister of Energy for calling into question the words which he said.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Wilson (Etobicoke Centre): I would like to quote from a telex which has been made public. It was sent to my col-