

Mines and Resources, and if the Government of Canada wants an agreement with the producing provinces, it has to do away with the greased cobra who gets up in this House and gets on with that kind of nonsense and exacerbates the airways and arouses anger wherever he looks or turns.

With respect to our excise tax, by the way, there was a discount of ten cents a gallon for farmers, a discount of ten cents a gallon for fishermen and for urban transit workers. There is nothing like that for farmers or fishermen or urban transit workers in these 12 increases of the last year. There certainly is not. There is no help for the consumers whatsoever except for the senior citizens, who should have had the help anyway and should not have all those federal tax increases on them. Eighty per cent of the total amount of these increases of the last year and three months goes to federal taxation and does not go to solve our oil situation here in Canada at all.

**Mr. Baker (Nepean-Carleton):** They do not produce another drop of oil.

**Mr. Crosbie:** Heavy oil development has stopped. Tar sands development has stopped. We have high interest rates and poor economic prospects, all because of this fantastic energy betrayal of the Canadian people and of the Canadian industry by gentlemen opposite. In my hand I have the supplementary estimates, and they show that this government is going to tax Canadian consumers this year \$4,808,000,000 in the petroleum compensation charge alone; hon. gentlemen opposite are removing \$4,808,000,000 from the pockets of the Canadian consumer to pay out to the Saudi Arabians, to pay out to the Venezuelans, to pay out to the Mexicans, to pay out to foreigners all around the world; to enrich foreigners.

They will do nothing to help develop our own oil and gas resources here in Canada except fight to the death to give them \$17.75 a barrel while they pay the rest of these people \$43 a barrel. The oil import subsidy will cost over \$5 billion this year. The hon. gentleman talks about deficit spending; that is where the money is that could help the lower income Canadians. That could finance the mortgage interest and property tax credit. That would finance the energy tax credit, and that would still reduce the deficit very considerably if they had a sensible oil pricing policy, a price for the oil, not a price for federal taxation coffers, not a price for the Lalonde-MacEachen series of fantastic tax increases. That is where there would be more than sufficient room to pay for those and reduce the deficit as well.

The Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources and the Minister of Finance are crucifying Canadians on the cross of Saudi oil. They are soaking Canadians to enrich foreign oil producers. That is all they are doing. They are sinking this country because of the stupid series of callous promises they made during the election, and they are now trying to fool the Canadian people into thinking they are keeping them.

The Canadian people know they have betrayed them utterly, and what they want them to do is to adopt a sensible oil policy, reach an agreement with Alberta and the producing provinces, get this behind, get Canada on the right track to energy

### *Energy*

self-sufficiency, stop going on with this criminal subterfuge they entered into in the fall of 1979 and in the election campaign of 1980. The Canadian people know hon. gentlemen opposite betrayed them. The Canadian people want them to stop that betrayal and come on with a sensible policy. That is what we ask them to do.

The Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources and the Minister of Finance are the George III of Canada. They are the greatest taxation raisers in our country's history. They are doing nothing to help resolve this energy crisis. According to Mr. Slater of the Economic Council of Canada:

The first step to a stronger Canadian economy has to be a speedy resolution of the energy pricing and revenue-sharing dispute between Ottawa and the oil-producing provinces—

He gave his evidence before the Senate and said the same. That is from February 17, 1981.

● (2120)

Mr. Bouey goes before the Senate and what does he say? Mr. Bouey's high interest rates are the government's high interest rates. You have left him dangling there without any assistance to fight the battle of inflation. He says:

—a settlement of energy disputes probably ought to be given the highest priority in economic policy these days . . . the settlement might very well help us on the exchange rate and might improve the investment climate.

There is a plea from governor Bouey on May 26 before the Senate. The deputy minister of finance says much the same kind of thing.

**An hon. Member:** Years ago.

**Mr. Crosbie:** They have been saying it, yes, year after year. But this government goes on and has its Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources carry on last week with a scurvy attempt to score a point on Alberta, which is really only a revenue grab of 9 cents a gallon that the Canadian consumers are paying to put more revenue into the Minister of Finance's coffers. It is not going to help resolve this dispute because anybody who saw that devious, scheming minister speaking in and outside of this House, it would raise their hackles. They will say, "by God, that fellow is never going to put it over on us". That is what they will say in Alberta and the other producing provinces. We will never have an agreement while that coiled cobra is in charge of negotiations.

**Some hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Mr. Crosbie:** I heard a member of the New Democratic Party say here tonight that he did not realize what the Liberals were like. The innocents abroad are now back in Canada. The NDP do not know what the Liberals are like. Then why are they jumping into bed with the Liberals on the Constitution? Now that they have learned what the Liberals are really like, why are they cosying up to them and assisting them in their policy to nationalize the oil and gas industry in Canada? Why are they helping the Liberals centralize power in Ottawa through their constitutional proposals? If the NDP have finally learned how devious, deficient, denatured and denaturalized