

paying our respects to a very fine, distinguished, great Canadian, whom we honour in death as we did in life.

Senator Frith: Honourable senators, I make the following suggestion for your consideration. Before we adjourn today until our next sitting, I will, pursuant to a message that His Honour the Speaker will read, be moving that the Senate adjourn during pleasure to resume at the call of the bell at approximately 4.50 p.m., because royal assent is scheduled for 5 o'clock. I suggest that we try to complete our business by 4 p.m., which will give us almost an hour in which to pay our respects. The record will show that we are adjourning to resume at the call of the bell, and that in the meantime it is our intention as senators to pay our respects to the late Jules Léger.

Senator Asselin: The Northern Pipeline Committee is sitting at 3.30.

Senator Frith: That is a problem. You will have to make arrangements with your committee. I cannot do much about that.

Senator Macquarrie: The Deputy Leader of the Government, who I think is a very reasonable man, has said that the record will show that we did not go casually to pay our respects, but that we adjourned with that properly and decently in mind, and that is what I had in mind.

Hon. Duff Roblin (Deputy Leader of the Opposition): I should like to associate myself fully with remarks of my colleague, Senator Macquarrie, and with the suggestion of the leader of the house that we adjourn at 4 o'clock for the purpose that has been mentioned.

In connection with the rest of the business, I should like to offer this suggestion to the government. I suggest that we call as the next item of business the resumption of the debate on the government's energy policy, item 6 on the order paper, to which Senator Balfour would like to make a contribution. If he finishes before 4 o'clock, I would request that we revert to Question Period for the remainder of the time available.

ADJOURNMENT

Hon. Royce Frith (Deputy Leader of the Government): Honourable senators, I move, with leave of the Senate and notwithstanding rule 45(1)(g), that when the Senate adjourns today it do stand adjourned until Tuesday next, December 2, 1980, at 8 o'clock in the evening.

Motion agreed to.

STANDING RULES AND ORDERS

NOTICE OF MEETING

Hon. Royce Frith (Deputy Leader of the Government): Honourable senators, Senator Molson has asked me to advise honourable senators that he would like to have a meeting of the Standing Committee on Standing Rules and Orders at 5 o'clock in the afternoon next Tuesday. I hope Senator Mac-

donald will be able to attend, because it will be a continuation of the meeting last week.

ENERGY

GOVERNMENT POLICY—DEBATE CONTINUED

Leave having been given to proceed to Order No. 6:

Resuming the debate on the inquiry of the Honourable Senator Argue, P.C., calling the attention of the Senate to Prime Minister Trudeau's constructive energy policy, in particular

1. the advantage to Canadians of having prices for oil and gas in Canada lower than O.P.E.C. prices;
2. the advantage of Canadianizing the industry;
3. the advantage of the provisions to encourage large numbers of Canadians to invest in the industry;
4. the advantage to Canada of the provisions concerning conservation; and
5. the advantage of other aspects of the policy.—
(Honourable Senator Balfour.)

Hon. R. James Balfour: Honourable senators, I should first express my appreciation for this accommodation to my schedule.

I welcome the opportunity to participate in this debate on the so-called constructive energy policy of Prime Minister Trudeau. I listened with care, and have since read with care, the remarks made in this chamber last Thursday by Senator Argue. I have to say, honourable senators, that in the eight years I have spent in the Parliament of Canada I do not recall ever listening to a speech on an important subject like Canadian energy policy so riddled with inaccurate statements of fact. Let me cite a few examples.

In the opening paragraph of his speech the honourable senator stated:

One element of surprise came about because the government did not impose an export tax on natural gas. I take it that was a welcome surprise for many people.

I wonder if the gas producers of Canada felt relief when the Government of Canada, in lieu of a tax applicable only to gas exports, imposed a tax on all gas produced, whether for export or domestic production.

● (1500)

Then there is the table of energy prices the honourable senator included in his speech as reported in Senate *Hansard*. He refers repeatedly to Premier Lougheed advocating world prices or OPEC prices for Canadian oil. I do not believe the honourable gentleman would deliberately mislead his colleagues on this question. I prefer to think that he was merely careless in marshalling his facts.

Premier Lougheed is clearly and unequivocally on record as saying that he is seeking not OPEC prices, but rather 75 per cent of OPEC prices, or the Chicago price, which ever is lower. That is a significantly different price regime from that described by Senator Argue.