

Canada Oil and Gas Act

[Translation]

Mr. Cousineau: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker. The member who has the floor should observe the custom of the House and refrain from referring to a member by his name.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Ethier): I think the member for Gatineau (Mr. Cousineau) is right. Hon. members should always refer to their colleagues by the name of the constituency they represent, as the member for such and such a riding, but not by name.

The hon. member for Bow River (Mr. Taylor).

[English]

Mr. Taylor: Mr. Speaker, I was speaking in English. It would have been a courtesy if the preceding conversation had been in English too.

Some hon. Members: Order.

Mr. Rossi: Joe Clark doesn't like that.

Mr. Huntington: Can't you control the House?

Mr. Deans: Let's pretend it's ten o'clock.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Ethier): The Chair did not mean to refer to languages spoken. It is simply a rule of the House that when we refer to hon. members, we refer to their constituencies and not their names.

Mr. Taylor: I appreciate that, Mr. Speaker, and I bow to your ruling. That is a rule of the House, and I will endeavour to obey it. I might say that I have no objection to the French language or any other language. I think they are all fine, but when an address is going on and the speaker does not have his earphones on, I think it would be courteous to raise points of order in English so that we know what is going on. I would say the same thing if a member were speaking in French.

Mr. Cousineau: Mr. Speaker, if you will permit me to repeat what I said, I can show the hon. member that I can speak the two languages.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Ethier): Order, please.

Mr. Taylor: I am very proud that the hon. member can. I wish I could handle French as well as he handles English. Some day I might be able to do so.

I want to return to the point with which I was dealing. We have a wealth of oil and gas in this country because we enticed people to come in and invest. They came in and invested because they could make a dollar. They could make a profit. At the same time, they worked under the rules set out by the government of Alberta. They knew the rules were that if they found oil, as they found it at Leduc and several other places in Alberta, they would have a fair share because they spent a lot of money finding it. However, they knew they would not have it all, that the balance would be sold and that that would be the money which would come to the coffers of Alberta. That is what raised our status from that of a have-not province to that

of a have province. It was done by free enterprise, not by taking over, not by nationalization and not by confiscation. I want to emphasize that. Under this bill, the Government of Canada should offer an incentive to companies to go and explore and then tell them they will get a fair share of that. But no, this government plays favourites. It gives 25 per cent of anything found to Petro-Canada, the national oil company. I do not mind Canada having a national oil company, but it should not have favourite treatment. It should work hand in hand with other oil companies and under the same rules. If it does not, we are playing favourites. The government says it is all right to play favourites because the money goes into the pockets of the people. Well, the money does not go into the pockets of the people. The money goes into the coffers of the government, and that is not the pockets of the people.

I believe in Canadianization absolutely, but I believe in the people of Canada owning our industries. The higher the percentage of Canadian people owning our industries, the better I will like it, and we should provide incentives. The greatest incentive any country in the world has found is free enterprise. We should provide the chance to make a dollar. That is not to say anyone should hog, but they should be able to make a dollar, and that is the greatest incentive.

Hon. members here who have great wealth obtained it through free enterprise, not through nationalization and not through government confiscation. This government would be wise to change its policies right away and provide incentive. We need big oil companies. We also need small oil companies, and we should treat them all fairly. We should let them make a dollar, but they should also play fairly with the people of this country so that the people will get their fair share.

I would like to see our industries owned by Canadians. The more the better, but I would like to see some of the profits from our discoveries and from our work going into the pockets of the people so that they can better educate their boys and girls, so that they can have a better standard of living and so that they can buy homes and pay the high interest rates they have to pay now. However, they cannot do that on the ordinary wages of workers today. This government has an opportunity to provide an incentive to millions of Canadians, if it would follow the policy the Clark government was going to follow.

● (2200)

PROCEEDINGS ON ADJOURNMENT MOTION

[English]

A motion to adjourn the House under Standing Order 40 deemed to have been moved.