

*Energy Supplies Emergency Act*

ies. We would know exactly where we stand in such and such a field, where are our petroleum and hydroelectric resources, what are the possibilities both in quality and quantity for our energy resources and this would ensure our stability. There would never be a crisis since, in a system materially based on our real physical possibilities, a crisis is impossible.

In the present system everything is based exclusively on profit instead of needs. We wonder why we have not already begun developing the tar sands in western Canada, Mr. Speaker. It is scandalous. We should not ask this question. We have failed to do so because it is too expensive. We should ask ourselves: Do we need that? If we do, we have only to issue a line of credit. Consequently, we have a human policy. We have needs and we have the physical possibility to satisfy these needs; all we have to do is to take action. It is as simple as that! The right hon. Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) and the government cannot contradict such a thing. Mr. Speaker, we say that our suggestions are mathematical and scientific; we would like somebody to attempt to contradict them, not to make fun of them, it is too easy, because some people usually summarize all arguments against our policy in two words—the money machine. We are far from it but we talk about oil and energy in general.

Mr. Speaker, we do have this energy. We are too stupid to develop it. We wait for capital and investments; how many times have I repeated in the House how stupid it is to rely on investments, on foreign capital and especially on foreign products? We see what that brings with it. And this country still bases its policy on trade, and exclusively foreign trade. We have the proof that we are on the wrong track. When we estrange foreign oil producers we see that when they do not operate neither do we.

If we have an economy based on our potential and our own needs and if we develop our physical potential according to our needs we will never have to call upon Arab countries or Venezuela. And God knows that in the great majority of areas which provide for consumer needs Canada is a totally independent country. We would always be ready, Mr. Speaker, to go and bargain with other countries to get lemons, bananas, pears, oranges and grapefruits since those are the only things missing in Canada.

It is therefore always ridiculous for a country capable of supporting itself, producing everything it needs, not too populated, with nearly infinite reserves, not to be able to develop coherent and stable policies. That is unacceptable. And no matter how hard the government tries to protest by saying that it is doing as good as the others and the latter would not do better, when suggestions so clear, so explicit, so mathematical and so scientific are made, they have no other choice but to accept them.

We understand this government not wanting to accept that. It would seem to displease those who actually control this country—high finance. They are not ready to accept those reforms. If that happened we would actually see this country develop and progress on the sole strength of our real credit and not on the goodwill of foreign investors. Evidently, this is not acceptable to those who have the financial means but such is the situation.

[Mr. Matte.]

Mr. Speaker, in concluding I think that Bill C-236 may help improve conditions. In spite of the various ways to obtain imports, if nobody wants to sell us oil, we will look stupid. This is not the solution to the problem. It has been stated that through that legislation, the matter will be entirely settled, as if production and goods depended on a legislation.

I do not hope so, but in spite of the goodwill shown in the bill I hardly think that something can be done about it. The real solutions should strike at the root in order to make what is financially possible materially feasible.

• (1720)

[*English*]

**Mr. Gus Mitges (Grey-Simcoe):** Mr. Speaker, Bill C-236, the Energy Supplies Emergency Act, in its proposed form and the way it is worded is, in my opinion, just one more retrogressive step this Liberal government is taking to eventually deprive the Canadian people of the effect of the principles of representative government, principles which this government has continuously and progressively eroded over the years it has been in power. If this erosion is not soon abated, the people of Canada will be saddled with a government that will be as effectively totalitarian as some of those now evident in some unfortunate countries around the world.

Immigrants like myself who came to Canada from areas and countries where democratic government is anathema, came not only to better themselves economically but, more important, to regain lost civic and personal liberties and to once more breathe the air of free men. No words of mine would be adequate to describe the emotions of these people when they are no longer challenged in their every day living by bureaucratic dictatorial stooges—there is no better name—who are responsible to no one but themselves. You only have to ask groups like the Hungarians and Czechoslovaks who fled from Soviet military subjugation in their homelands, and the Ugandans who fled the dangerous and volatile General Idi Amin, to confirm firsthand accounts of the terror these people went through. That is why we must be ever vigilant and ready to uphold democracy in Canada, whether an attack originates from sources within or without.

It is imperative that this government take stock of itself if it is to extricate itself from its apathetic approaches to solving the problems of this nation, and its apathetic approach to the important needs and desires of the people of Canada. It is quite evident that this government has not lived up to its mandate, a mandate which is being violated more and more each day this government remains in power, ably aided by the conditional support of the New Democratic Party. The New Democratic Party of Canada, by their actions in supporting this inept government, is doing a disservice to the people of Canada by depriving them of their right to choose their own government and not be governed by confrontation, as is now being witnessed.

When the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources (Mr. Macdonald) opened the debate on Bill C-236, he spoke very casually, even more casually than he does when giving his hazy replies to the many questions on energy put to him during recent question periods. The casualness