

Energy Supplies

rations everything they wished in the form of subsidies because some day they would come here and control the government.

And if that member ever had a chance to come back to this House, I am sure he would rise today and tell you, Mr. Speaker, and to hon. members how right he was to warn the government to beware of those companies which have always tried to dominate and rule our country. I think we may realize the seriousness of the remarks of the hon. member for Témiscamingue, Mr. Réal Caouette, when we see this government forced to introduce Bill C-42.

Mr. Speaker, on the one hand we agree with the minister when he says that the government should continue to encourage people to use energy wisely by avoiding waste to the maximum extent. I agree. I have here a letter from a company which has a branch in my Villeneuve riding, a manufacturer of windows, doors and storm doors which spent hundreds of thousands of dollars trying to find a product that would save energy. We can appreciate the lack of seriousness of ministers and government members when a study was made by the Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation at the request of that company to establish the quality of their windows. For a 71 by 39 $\frac{3}{8}$ -inch window the heat loss is 0.18 per foot of opening. For a 60 by 36-inch window the heat loss is 0.16 per foot of opening. Given a 69 by 79-inch patio door, the heat loss reaches 0.19.

We all believed in the honesty of the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources and that of the Minister of Consumer Affairs (Mr. Allmand). The president of that company wrote a letter to the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs and the office of the minister sent us a copy. I quote the letter of the minister:

The office of Mr. Allmand sent us a copy of a letter you wrote to the minister on January 10, 1979 and a copy of your letter to Mr. Rémi Guérin, an engineer with the Quebec Housing Corporation, also on January 10.

The minister read your letter and asked me to send a copy of it to the Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation to inform them of the products you sell on the market—

And again, as I said earlier, this company used, not government subsidies but its savings, to invest almost \$400,000 to demonstrate that it was ready to co-operate with the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources to reduce the demand for energy. Again I quote from the same letter:

—to inform them of the products you sell on the market, and which might promote our energy conservation policy in the housing field.

Sincerely yours,

Marcel C. Vienneau,
Executive Assistant.

Following this, Mr. Speaker, the company sent me a letter which stated, I quote:

Concerning your recent letter regarding windows, we wish to inform you of a letter received from the Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation.

[Mr. Caouette (Villeneuve).]

This letter clearly states that the idea is to heat outside air rather than conserve energy inside, so why such waste by adding insulation in the walls and the ceilings.

Furthermore, we enclose an article published in "Quebec Construction" mentioning the creation of Crown corporation to develop new energy sources. The budget at its disposal might exceed \$10 million.

We are wondering whether instead of spending taxpayers' money to develop new energy it would not be better to carry out research to find away of ventilating or purifying stale air a house whose windows are of a superior quality and therefore reduce the loss of energy.

By analysing these two facts whose end results are contradictory in nature, we can only conclude that we (private enterprise) have spent money uselessly to come up with a window of superior quality because our air infiltration tests show a .18 maximum factor and a framing with a durability of five times and more over a wood window.

● (1600)

Mr. Speaker, these are not the people who carried out the tests, as I said earlier, the tests were made by so-called experts of the department of the Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation.

We believe that it is time we stop contradicting ourselves and find short-term solutions to conserve energy in our buildings and therefore save money for the consumers.

Mr. Speaker, these people are investing thousands of dollars; we only need to refer to what the Minister of Finance (Mr. Chrétien) was saying some time ago in his budget speech when he announced that the 5 per cent tax on doors and double-doors would be re-instated. I think that doors and double-doors do not provide insulation and I also think that not only the minister but also the people of Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation who approved this decision because they just realized it.

But on the other side we have a minister in "economic format" who gives subsidies to companies which make triple pane windows while the minister responsible for the Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation said the following in a letter addressed to the head of Fenêtres arctiques Inc., following the correspondence they exchanged with the minister, and I quote:

We acknowledge receipt of a copy of the letter you sent to Mr. Rémi Guérin of the QHC concerning the quality of windows installed in QHC and CMHC projects.

Although the window made by J. B. Charron Ltée has very reduced air leaks per foot, our government, through the National Research Council (NRC), thought it is not the best way to save energy.

They recognize the fact that the window can save a considerable amount of energy, Mr. Speaker, but because, according to the National Research Council of Canada, that window does not let enough air in and, as I said earlier, cannot warm up the air outside, it is not regarded as a good window.

Again I quote:

In a recent document entitled "Measures to save energy in new NRC buildings", the emphasis is placed on the reduction of the total window surface in relation with the total floor surface (the maximum permitted being 15 per cent) and on the installation of triple pane windows in areas where the number of degree-days is over 11,700.