

*Possible Takeover of Home Oil Company*

That Canadian body will be carried to the undertaker's parlour in an automobile manufactured by a United States firm, using oil produced by a United States firm with the services being read from a book manufactured by a United States owned company.

**An hon. Member:** What about the pallbearers?

**Mr. Thomson:** A minister said yesterday that the Liberal government will take care of unemployment and will take care of this takeover by foreigners. Hopefully that poor Canadian will have six feet of Canadian soil which he can claim as his own, but the way things are going today he will likely have to be cremated because he won't even own that.

**An hon. Member:** What about the pallbearers?

**Mr. Thomson:** I suggest a Canadian owned firm should have Canadian interests at heart.

**An hon. Member:** I wonder how much further you are going to go.

**Mr. Thomson:** It may be that the Canadian owned firms are efficient, but I think it would be to our interest to have a strong and viable Canadian firm producing oil in Canada.

There is an advantage to Canadian owned companies. While some companies may have international co-operation with international companies, when they are owned by someone else they do not necessarily have Canadian interests at heart. It is in our interest to have at least one Canadian firm in the oil producing market, and I think it is high time we took some steps to see that this is the case.

The hon. member for Etobicoke (Mr. Gillespie) made some comments.

**An hon. Member:** You mean the hon. member for coke.

**Mr. Thomson:** I had in mind the hon. member for Etobicoke, coke, or coal, but he listed promises in connection with the immediate situation. We do not need a list of these promises or problems which exist as we know them already. He made some minor suggestions in respect of solutions. He suggested we needed more legislation. I suggest he inform the minister that the government is responsible for providing legislation.

Does the hon. member for Etobicoke suggest that we as members should provide the government with ideas by means of private members bills? Does this government have no ideas of its own? I suggest that the government should accept some responsibility.

There are two oil fields in my riding and it may well be that I should have provided some ideas by means of private members bills in order to solve some of these problems. I plead guilty if that is the case. I will give some thought to this idea. There does not seem to be many ideas forthcoming from members on the government side.

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

[Mr. Thomson.]

**Mr. Thomson:** At the present time I am considering a private members bill in respect of another field. It involves a serious matter. Perhaps while I am considering it I should take a little bit more time and provide the government with suggestions in respect of solutions to this oil problem.

The hon. member for Scarborough East (Mr. O'Connell) suggested an immediate problem with which we must deal. One of the reasons it is an immediate problem is that the government has had no policy.

I scold the government for not developing a policy to deal with this problem which now exists.

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** I recognize the hon. Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Labour (Mr. Perrault).

**Some hon. Members:** We don't want Perrault, we want Joe.

**Mr. Perrault:** Mr. Speaker, I hope that the opposition will endeavour to develop the virtue of patience and understanding during this debate.

**Mr. Alexander:** You are confusing us, so carry on.

**Mr. Perrault:** No one underestimates the importance of this debate.

**An hon. Member:** Don't speak in your usual whisper.

**Mr. Perrault:** This matter is of major concern to government members as well as to the hon. members on the opposition side of the House. All of us are concerned with ownership of industry in Canada now and in years to come. Probably no other subject occupies the mind of the public more than the question of the degree of foreign ownership of Canadian resources and industries which may be desirable.

I am one who believes that every effort must be made to maintain as much Canadian ownership as possible. I endorse some of the constructive statements made by my colleagues in respect of proposed methods to be employed to maintain Canadian ownership.

**An hon. Member:** Hip, hip hooray!

**Mr. Perrault:** I have listened with amusement—yes, amazement—

**Mr. Alexander:** Here it comes now.

**Mr. Perrault:** —to some of the ideas advanced with ardent nationalistic enthusiasm and fervour by our friends opposite.

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

**Mr. Perrault:** Especially the remarks of certain opposition members from Saskatchewan.

**An hon. Member:** They are the only ones who have spoken.

**Mr. Perrault:** Some have stated with pride that they have oil wells in their constituencies. Almost none of them were brought in under the auspices of the CCF—