Public Works Act

had spoken with people in my riding who told them to talk with me because I had solved their problem.

I feel as dedicated to those farmers as I do to my own constituents who were ill-treated and mistreated by government. The government should do something for these farmers; I may lead them down here. The land should be sold back to them; they should be given the first opportunity. It should not be sold to corporations set up by the federal government under DREE grants. It should not be sold to friends of the government, and the money should not be lent by the government. There is an inequity in that area and the government had better start to realize that. My friends around Mirabel are starting to realize it. Just like the people in Pickering, they did not want the airport. Unfortunately, the people of Mirabel were not as well organized. If I had been around at that time I think I might have been able to help them.

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While I do not believe in expropriation, it is preferable to what is provided for in Clause I of this bill where expropriation is not required. The reason I do not believe in expropriation is that families who have lived on farms for up to four generations, whose ancestors were the pioneers of this country, are removed from their homes which results in destruction of a whole sector of our culture. Not only does the government expropriate the land from those people but it taxes them for the right to expropriate their land. It is immoral.

More specifically, it is the attitude of the Minister of National Revenue (Mr. Rompkey) that the government can simply grab cash. The government's whole attitude is to get cash. it does not care about Canadians. The government only cares about itself and its friends in the ivory towers.

This bill is a typical example of a whole series of disastrous legislation. I hope we can get a large enough majority to wipe it all out. We will do it as quickly as possible under any means we can use.

This legislation gives the civil service a blank cheque with unlimited sums of money to spend. The reason there is an unlimited amount of money is that it comes from our cheques and will come from our children's and their children's cheques.

The people who are getting the power are those who have never had to earn an honest dollar. They have never had to get their hands dirty. We can use the people in Energy, Mines and Resources as an example. We have the finest experts in the oil industry sitting in Ottawa. They have never been in an oil field, have never been involved in the dirty work on the rigs and have never got their hands dirty. They are in their own esoteric world, learning the philosophies of the oil industry. They may have all the chemical and economic terms—which, incidentally, are all wrong—but they have never got their hands dirty.

My philosophy has always been never to ask someone to do something that I would not do myself. There are many members opposite who are asking many Canadians to go broke when they have never had to go broke themselves. This legislation only returns to the unacceptable legislation that those three who are running the country are imposing upon Canadians.

Mr. Nystrom: And now Jack Horner.

Mr. Fennell: That is one of the best examples. I could not agree more with the hon. member for Yorkton-Melville (Mr. Nystrom). I must admit that I agree on occasion with the hon. member in particular. We now have three examples to boot around the hall; Erickson, Horner and Campeau.

At this time the government has only one choice to make, and that is to resign. It should resign and call an election because there is no question in my mind that the government has lost its mandate. It has lost the mandate given to it by the citizens of Canada. If this situation becomes any worse the government will never return to power.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Fennell: Hon. members may laugh, but just talk to the people. They are hurting. They are going bankrupt. There are many people in the ridings of these members opposite who are being seriously affected by the National Energy Program. Those Liberal members signed their name to the document.

Mrs. Hervieux-Payette: Many are employed by Petro-Canada.

Mr. Fennell: Fine. There are many other people who do not work for Petro-Canada. Petro-Canada is a good example of people who have not really worked and got their hands dirty. I would like to see the chairman of Petro-Canada work on a rig in the west. That would be quite a joke. I do not think a rig would carry him, in the first instance.

Since the hon. member talks about Petro-Canada, I will stray from the subject of debate for a minute. We talk about Petro-Canada as the great benefactor for all Canadians. I suggest to hon. members that they talk to the small drilling contractors and the small service contractors to find out how much drilling Petro-Canada is doing in the west. That huge company of Petro-Canada is drilling three minor wells. I have nothing against the concept of Petro-Canada.

I would like to return to Clause 2 of this bill. I refer to the phrase "sold or leased by tender or at auction after public advertisement, unless it is otherwise authorized by the governor in council". I would call that phrase a pacifier with a hammer over your head. That is exactly how the government operates. It gives the people a pacifier and then suddenly hits them over the head with a hammer.

This legislation has gone too far and I do not know how much further the minister plans to go with respect to land. I know that many tourist operators would be delighted to purchase Parks Canada. There is nothing stopping the government from selling that land to Americans, Germans, Russians or whoever may want to buy it, because this bill does not contain the proper language and has been improperly drafted. So we can sell our parks to the highest bidder. Possibly it may