

Mr. Nowlan: In conclusion, because I know my time is just about up, I will talk about offshore rights which the present government will not honour. I would like to draw attention to an article in the Halifax *Chronicle-Herald* of October 4 which deals not only with the offshore problem today but with some of the history of this country and points out facts which make our offshore situation even more acute and compounds the sense of unfairness which we in Atlantic Canada feel.

As other provinces came into confederation, be it Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta or Quebec, vast territories in the north were given to them by act of this Parliament. We do not begrudge this. But, for example, one of the most important developments in Quebec, the James Bay project, is located in this territory. Much of the development which took place in Alberta and Saskatchewan is found in such northern areas. The size of these territories is immense, with approximately 379,000 square miles going to Quebec, approximately 382,000 square miles to Ontario and approximately 237,000 miles to Manitoba. Alberta and Saskatchewan each received 250,000 square miles of new territory.

If one turns to Nova Scotia, which has only 20,000 square miles of territory in total, one can begin to appreciate why in the deep east, if we have any feeling for the deep east and are true sons of the deep east, we feel there is a double standard. We do not mind other provinces getting the territories which make up their present boundaries because it has obviously helped us with regard to equalization grants.

What we cannot understand is why there is not some recognition of the mineral wealth off our shores since those other provinces, through those extra gifts of land, received so much wealth. I would hope the minister will come back into the House and address his mind to a couple of the matters which I have raised.

The most interesting and ironic situation came up when the minister talked about the third item.

I have a different clock from yours, Mr. Speaker, but since yours is the one that governs us, I gather you are indicating that my time is up. In conclusion, the third item mentioned by the minister had to do with Canadian participation in the oil industry. There are reliable assessments that, based on the known supply in this country at the present time, we will not have any oil within a ten-year period unless we develop non-conventional resources. The interesting thing which the minister did not tell us is that it was the fledgling oil industry in the west, when Turner Valley was first discovered during the 1940s, which came east to look for financing. That industry came to the Government of Canada of the day for financing. It happened to be the same type of government in power, a Liberal government, as is the case now, and has, unfortunately, been the case for so long.

Because of the lack of financing from eastern financiers and the government, the oil industry had to go south of the border for financing to develop its fantastic oil potential. I hope that some of the deception, discord and division which is constantly being sown by the minister on this issue will be directed to resolving problems rather than to creating more problems.

Energy

[Translation]

Mr. Bujold: Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to take part in this very lively debate, but as Your Honour will see, it is six o'clock.

[English]

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Blaker): If that is agreed, the Chair will call it six o'clock. It being six o'clock, I do now leave the chair until 8 p.m.

At 5.59 p.m. the House took recess.

[Translation]

AFTER RECESS

The House resumed at 8 p.m.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Ethier): Order. When the House took recess at six o'clock this evening, the hon. member for Bonaventure-Îles-de-la-Madeleine (Mr. Bujold) had the floor. The hon. member for Îles-de-la-Madeleine-Bonaventure now has the floor.

Mr. Rémi Bujold (Bonaventure-Îles-de-la-Madeleine): Mr. Speaker, I do not know whether you have ever been to the Magdalen Islands but I can see that you have adopted the same attitude as the "Madelinots": you have just said "Îles-de-la-Madeleine-Bonaventure" which will make them very happy because they have been raising Cain with a view to getting a single riding at the federal level; they will be very pleased indeed to see that the Speaker of this House has started speaking of the Îles-de-la-Madeleine riding.

Mr. Speaker, I am indeed very pleased to participate in this extremely important debate and, as my friend, the hon. member for Annapolis Valley-Hants (Mr. Nowlan) was saying this afternoon, this debate is just as important as the other because the two go together. However, my hon. friend took offence at the fact that the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources (Mr. Lalonde) had to leave the House after having heard a representative of each of the two parties of the opposition, in order to get to Toronto and attend the meeting he had convened a few weeks ago, precisely to discuss the extremely important matter that energy is. Our friend took offence at the fact that the minister left his parliamentary secretary to take over in the House; let it be said, in passing, that he does an extraordinary and exemplary job of helping his minister in this tremendous task. But what I find even more regrettable is that our friend, in making such gratuitous affirmations, should have overlooked the fact that his colleague, the energy critic, was not present here in the House. The energy critic of the official opposition is somewhere, in Canada I trust; in addition, the hon. member, his colleague, who presented the motion of non-confidence, left the House immediately after having finished his remarks. He did not even