

*Yukon and Territorial Lands Acts*

to as ALUR. On page 7 of the minister's speech we read:

It was evident that we needed a comprehensive, mission-oriented research program dealing with northern land use problems—

There is a companion part to this. The minister today referred to the task force. At page 9 the minister's speech reads:

A task force of noted conservationists and scientists has been formed by my department to undertake a trip to this region.

**Mr. Nielsen:** Everybody but northerners.

**Mr. Howard (Skeena):** The hon. member for Yukon (Mr. Nielsen) said the task force includes everybody but northerners. The committee does not include those who know what they are talking about. The minister said that two of these experts will be senior resource officials from the department. I know they are experts or they would not be in his department. The minister does not disagree that they are experts and are knowledgeable. The minister also intends to have one representative each from Imperial Oil, Shell Oil and Gulf Oil. There is a group which really will be interested in environmental control!

• (4:40 p.m.)

**Mr. Chrétien:** Keep on reading.

**Mr. Howard (Skeena):** I am reading. Don't be impatient. I wish the minister had been as impatient a short while ago with respect to the land use regulations which he is concealing. Other members are to be Gavin Henderson, executive director of the National and Provincial Parks Association of Canada—I wish the government would listen to this association when it comes to action concerning the national parks; we would be a lot better off if it did—Richard Passmore, executive director of the Canadian Wildlife Federation; J. C. Ritchie, professor of botany at Dalhousie University; J. D. H. Lambert, professor of botany at Carleton University, and William Fuller, professor of zoology at the University of Alberta.

I do not doubt, Mr. Speaker, that these gentlemen are intelligent. I do not discount this at all. But I should have thought it was fundamental, in dealing with areas in which people live, to pay some attention to what the people who live there know about them. You can have all the doctors, scientists, university professors, zoologists and any other kind of "gists" you like, going from southern to northern Canada—the sum total of what they know or will discover will not equal the

knowledge of one Eskimo on those matters. Why don't you appoint an Eskimo to your research team—not in a subordinate capacity but as an actual member of the team? Why don't you pay some attention to these people?

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** Order. I invite the hon. member to address his remarks to the Chair.

**Mr. Chrétien:** On a question of privilege, Mr. Speaker, I think the hon. member should be here once in a while to follow what is being done. I said last week that I had asked the territorial council to take up this question of the representation of local people. Now, it seems, the hon. member would like me to impose my authority on the council. He should bear in mind that I have asked the territorial government to seek the advice of local people.

**Mr. Howard (Skeena):** I know now why the minister was taken into the cabinet; he talks with two voices and two faces. The point is that you have a task force set up, and the minister has ignored completely the people who live in the area and who are most familiar with the conditions there. That is the point. No matter what relationship the minister has with the territorial council, the fact is that he has taken outsiders into the north and said, "Consult with anybody you like, especially those recommended by this group or that group, and then come back and tell the great white father what should be done about the situation." Further on, to give an indication of the minister's concept of priorities, he said at page 12:

Our policies are designed to encourage the orderly development of our northern resources to benefit all Canadians and particularly native northerners.

I don't know how many words are in this speech. There are 16 pages of declarations about what is to take place in the north, and there are three lines which refer to native northerners. It is almost as though the minister was preparing a political pamphlet which had to say something about the native population because they were voters, or something of that sort. He talks about concern for the native people of the area, the people who were born and raised there; yet when it comes to doing something worth while, nothing happens.

We have invested \$23 million in Panarctic Oil—45 per cent of it, in any event. There is a tremendous amount of exploration going on in the area. How many native people are working for Panarctic? Duncan Pryde, an