

Why is it that only the government can have amendments accepted when we all know there are other mistakes in the bill?

Look at what the National Energy Program, the tax and the PGRT are doing to the province of Saskatchewan. Sixty per cent of the Saskatchewan producing wells have been rendered uneconomic. Fully one third of the wells in Saskatchewan are now shut in, not because the producers want that, but because of the insidious 8 per cent tax.

In 1980 the tax on Saskatchewan heavy crude alone gave to the federal government \$600 million. That is \$600 per man, woman and child in the province of Saskatchewan. It is more money than the province and the producers combined received. Even if the federal government took half from the producing province, it would not be overreaching. However, as I said, it is taking more than the province and the producers received in total.

In southwestern Saskatchewan, a 100 barrel a day well loses 13 cents a barrel, a 45 barrel well loses 13 cents a barrel and a 10 barrel a day makes \$1.46. This government thinks we should have all ten-barrel-a-day wells, which are strippers, virtually worthless. The minute there is a problem well, the producer refuses to bring in an overworked rig, which runs around \$1,400 to \$1,500 a day. That is why the wells are shut in. No company wants to continue to lose money.

This government says this province should remove its tax and bring it in a better perspective, but the oil resources belong to the provinces. We received that right in Alberta and Saskatchewan in 1931 and, I may say, under a Progressive Conservative government. This government has decided to remove that by taking an additional 8 per cent after the producers and the province had jointly reached an agreement on how to share the wealth of the resource of that province.

If this continues, we will not reach energy self-sufficiency by 1990. This is the second time in the last ten years that a Liberal government has made a commitment to self-sufficiency. The last time was in 1973 when the then government brought in another energy program. At that time the prime objective was "to reach before the end of the decade self-sufficiency in oil and oil products". That was in 1973, so it meant self-sufficiency in 1980.

Now we have another National Energy Program brought in by a Liberal government. It now says we will reach energy self-sufficiency by 1990. With the present program and the grab by the federal government of the resources which belong to Saskatchewan, Alberta and other producing provinces, we will not reach energy self-sufficiency by 1990, and, in all likelihood, not by the year 2000. I do not see any reason that the people of Canada should expect this government to honour its agreement to have energy self-sufficiency by 1990, any more than it was able to reach energy self-sufficiency through the last energy program by 1980.

● (2100)

Some hon. Members: Order.

Excise Tax

Mr. McKnight: I see that everyone is looking at the clock, Mr. Speaker. I believe the time is nine o'clock.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: It being nine o'clock p.m., pursuant to the order made on Wednesday, June 17, 1981, it is my duty to interrupt the proceedings and call for the yeas and nays on all questions necessary to dispose of Bill C-57 at the report stage. The first question is on motion No. 45. All those in favour of the motion please say yea.

Some hon. Members: Yea.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: All those opposed will please say nay.

Some hon. Members: Nay.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: In my opinion the nays have it.

And more than five members having risen:

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Pursuant to agreement made earlier the vote stands deferred.

The next question is on motion No. 46.

Hon. Michael Wilson (for Mr. Blenkarn) moved:

Motion No. 46.

That Bill C-57, an act to amend the Excise Tax Act and the Excise Act and to provide for a revenue tax in respect of petroleum and gas, be amended in Clause 76 by striking out lines 18 and 19 at page 72 and substituting the following therefor:

"any person or group of persons or corporation who have complied with this act, where".

Mr. Deputy Speaker: All those in favour of the motion will please say yea.

Some hon. Members: Yea.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: All those opposed will please say nay.

Some hon. Members: Nay.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: In my opinion the nays have it.

Some hon. Members: On division.

Motion negated on division.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: The next question is on motion No. 47.

Hon. Michael Wilson (Etobicoke Centre) moved:

Motion No. 47.

That Bill C-57, an act to amend the Excise Tax Act and the Excise Act and to provide for a revenue tax in respect of petroleum and gas, be amended in Clause 76 by striking out lines 19 to 27 at page 72 and substituting the following therefor:

"Act where denatured spirits manufactured under the licence are used for the development of a fuel and are produced in quantities which do not exceed 1,500 litres per day or 350,000 litres per year."

Mr. Deputy Speaker: All those in favour of the motion please say yea.

Some hon. Members: Yea.