

that the bill that is passed can co-ordinate the field of oil, although this too might create a precedent from which other difficulties might arise.

That is why I pointed out again last Thursday that we are now up against the problem in the field of energy: today we are dealing with oil, tomorrow we may deal with electricity. And I can foresee the dreadful dilemma we could face if a federal tax were to be levied on exports of electricity. Quebec produces an abundance of electricity; it has to export some and it does so. Again we see the type of conflict that could crop up.

So, before creating a precedent, before taking a step in that field, it is imperative that there be previous agreement with the provinces.

● (1630)

[English]

**The Deputy Chairman:** Order, please. Is it agreed that the committee rise, report progress, and ask leave to sit again later this day?

**Some hon. Members:** Agreed.

Progress reported.

**Hon. Allan J. MacEachen (President of the Privy Council):** Your Honour, the purpose of seeking consent to return to this situation with the Speaker in the Chair is to seek concurrence in a ways and means motion that would have the effect of further amending the excise tax. The wording of the ways and means motion is as follows:

That the Excise Tax Act be further amended to provide among other things that in respect of the export of crude oil from Canada during the period commencing on February 1, 1974 and ending on April 1, 1974, a tax be imposed, levied and collected on each barrel of crude oil so exported, at the rate of \$6.40 per barrel, to be paid by the person holding a licence under Part VI of the National Energy Board Act for the exportation of oil from Canada and under whose licence the crude oil is purported to be exported.

With consent, Mr. Speaker, the motion might be put, and if put we could go back to the committee of the whole and be in a position then to deal with amendments that would be made possible by the acceptance of the ways and means motion.

**Mr. Tom Bell (Saint John-Lancaster):** Mr. Speaker, we are prepared to accept this amendment, as agreed upon earlier in our negotiations.

**Mr. Stanley Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre):** Yes, Mr. Speaker, this is in accordance with the discussions that have taken place. We are prepared to give the necessary unanimous consent to deal with this motion.

[Translation]

**Mr. Matte:** We also agree, Mr. Speaker.

[English]

**Mr. MacEachen:** I move the amendment previously outlined.

**Some hon. Members:** Question.

Motion (Mr. MacEachen) agreed to.

House in committee on Bill C-245, to impose a charge on the export of crude oil from Canada, to impose an oil

### *Oil Export Tax*

export tax under the Excise Tax Act and to allocate certain of the revenues derived from the oil export tax—Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton)—Mr. Laniel in the chair.

**The Deputy Chairman:** When the committee rose to report progress it was considering clause 2.

**Some hon. Members:** Carried.

**The Deputy Chairman:** Shall clause 2 carry?

**Some hon. Members:** Carried.

Clause 2 agreed to.

**Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton):** Mr. Chairman, I would now submit to the committee that clauses 3 to 10 inclusive should stand until we deal with the subsequent clauses.

**The Deputy Chairman:** Is it agreed that clauses 3 to 10 inclusive be stood?

**Some hon. Members:** Agreed.

Clauses 3 to 10 inclusive stand.

On clause 11—*Definitions*.

**Mr. MacEachen:** Mr. Chairman, I have an amendment to propose to clause 11. I move:

that Clause II of Bill C-245 be amended

(a) by striking out the word "and" at the end of line 31 on page 6; and

(b) by striking out line 35 on page 6 and substituting therefor the following:

"of two dollars and twenty cents; and

(d) in the period commencing on the 1st day of February, 1974 and ending on the 1st day of April, 1974, a tax of six dollars and forty cents."

**The Deputy Chairman:** Order, please. In accordance with the provisions of the amended ways and means motion the President of the Privy Council has moved the said amendment. Shall the amendment carry?

● (1640)

**Mr. Andre:** Mr. Chairman, in rising to participate in these deliberations I want, first of all, to say that I am pleased, as are all members of this party, that we have been able to reach this accommodation with the Minister of Finance in respect of this bill. We can only hope that this is the first of a series of steps that are necessary to clear up a chaotic energy situation in Canada.

At a time when Canada, of all countries in the western world, should be in a position to take advantage of being the only country that is self-sufficient in crude oil, we have bickering, arguing, uncertainty and flip-flops by various government spokesmen announcing changes of policy from day to day. There is apparently a constitutional confrontation between the provinces of Alberta and Saskatchewan and the federal government. This commodity is, supposedly, within the jurisdiction of the provinces, yet the initiative has been taken by the federal government; this has caused dissension and uncertainty and instead of looking forward to tremendous opportunities, we find ourselves trying to sort out this chaotic situation.