

Government Orders

shadow. They are motivated strictly by the board room and some cockamamie concept that you can run Canada as you run a corporation.

We have seen how they run a corporation. Let us look at how they run the CBC? Yesterday, CBC just simply announced lay-offs of people immediately. That is the way that the Incos and Falconbridges of this world run their companies in relationship to their workers. That is not the way a government should be run. It is run by these ideologues from the Stone Age.

The government has also said that it will reduce the deficit. Petro-Canada has been quite a profitable company. Now, after it has written down the value of Petro-Canada, it wants to sell it off.

Here is an example of a government that gives billions to private oil companies to develop Hibernia; \$5 billion, \$3 billion of which we will never see. Now it is handing money out to private corporations. This is a corporate welfare state. This government is handing out to corporate welfare bums a whole pile of money. The government is pretty tough on old age pensioners who have overpayments on their Old Age Supplement. It collects every dollar back and dime back. By the same token, it has all these corporate types lining up at the trough and it simply shells out the money.

In the case of Hibernia, not one litre of that oil will be refined in Canada. We have a refinery at Come-by-Chance. A previous government handed out to a corporate welfare character a whole pile of money to build that refinery at Come-by-Chance.

Mr. Langdon: It was the Liberals.

Mr. Rodriguez: Yes, it was the Liberals. I am talking about that other gang. What is the difference between them? Here we have quite a spectacle.

We remember when Petro-Canada bought Petrofina. We never did get the true story of that. When the Tories were in opposition they were demanding under access to information certain rules. When they became the government, the Auditor General demanded the information, and these guys were as forthcoming as a clam on giving the public the information.

Here we have the spectacle of Petro-Canada being used to pay top buck for a company that maybe was not worth that at the time. We have this gang now selling it off. This government is selling off the family jewels, all of those investments that the Canadian public has made. The Canadian public invested in building up Petro-Can-

ada. It must have put in about \$6.5 billion toward developing Petro-Canada and the government, having written down its value, will sell it off. It is an investment which the people of Canada have made in a national oil company with a role to play in the public interest.

The fact of the matter is the government says it needs the cash. This government knows that it does not receive one penny from all those companies that it has nationalized. It has misled Canadians to think that somehow or other by selling all this off the government is accruing billions of dollars which it can apply to the deficit.

The other question is whether it will reduce the deficit. Look at what it has nationalized so far. This company has made money for the people of Canada. What it wants to do is sell off something that is finally starting to return money to the people of Canada. I think it is a disgrace. It is too bad we cannot put this government out of its misery. I appeal to Tory backbenchers to get up on their hind legs and do to the present Prime Minister what the Tories at Westminster did to Margaret Thatcher.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): I regret the hon. member's time has expired.

Mr. Langdon: Mr. Speaker, we do not have a quorum.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): I will ask the Clerk Assistant to count the members present.

And the count having been taken:

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): Call in the members.

And the bells having rung:

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): There being a quorum, not including the occupant of the chair, debate shall accordingly continue.

Mrs. Barbara Sparrow (Calgary Southwest): Mr. Speaker, I have sat and listened to the members of the two opposition parties this morning. It is quite interesting what they are explaining with regard to the amendments they have put forth to Bill C-84. They talked about, in total, a national petroleum company that is government regulated, government involvement and government controlled.

I would just like to draw to the attention of my colleagues that I come from the province of Alberta. One of the most devastating things that happened to us was the National Energy Program which was passed through this House, with the co-operation of the NDP. It devastated our province in the latter part of 1980 and