

*Petroleum Products Controls*

time provinces ports, to take advantage of all the resources of the continental shelf will make sense. However, it is clear that if the sole purpose is to receive imports, it is more profitable to move the products further inland because the ports of the Maritimes are well placed to serve the Atlantic coast. They do, and this is a source of satisfaction; in fact we wish them well.

However, the Maritimes do not want to take ecologic risks without benefiting from economic fall-outs because they do not want to ship crude oil, but the refined product and here again—I return to the example I gave a while ago—this would correspond to limiting Quebec to crafts and folklore, leaving peak industries to others.

But after the continental shelf is properly tapped, the pipeline should be extended to Gros Cacouna, and then there will be a link between Alberta and the Maritimes. Then a comprehensive and continental policy can be established to serve all Canadians and, because it is such a huge market, we shall see to it that our resources are developed fully and profitably. In short, with such a large demand, our industries do not run the risk of being unable to operate at full capacity; the greater problem will develop as we expend this non-renewable commodity. We shall have to make new discoveries as economically as possible, and maintain our priorities in this country full of resources and promises.

Mr. Speaker, I think it is possible to reconcile all our interests in this respect. We must have the honesty and courage to say things as they are; the blame must not be put where it does not belong, nor should the progress and development of our country be jeopardized meanly because of small camouflaged interests one does not want to reveal.

A war is being waged against me now about the seaport project, because a citizen has land and a cottage on that site. The whole problem of environment is being brought up, and Isle-Verte is being dubbed "Isle-Noire"; a witch-hunt is being drummed up, and dramas made out of the situation. I say we are much more concerned about environment than any stranger with recently found new vocations.

We have homes there and live there. We want to develop that area and we know what problems have to be solved to do so. We are constantly—

● (2100)

[English]

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** Order, please. I regret to interrupt the hon. member, but the time allotted to him has expired. He can, however, continue with unanimous consent. Is this agreed?

**Some hon. Members:** Agreed.

[Translation]

**Mr. Gendron:** I thank the House for its indulgence and I shall not abuse it.

Still, I would not like to close on a pessimistic note. A sincere, honest survey of our needs, our aspirations should be made. I feel it has been proved generally that the dangers to the ecology have not been added to; on the contrary, they have been decreased. I feel that we are still

[Mr. Gendron.]

capable of conciliating the efforts to conserve beautiful sites, our wildlife and our touristic vocation, with modern technology and the vastness of the territory; those various interests can be reconciled.

[English]

**Mr. Lorne Nystrom (Yorkton-Melville):** Mr. Speaker, it is very interesting to hear the arguments from both sides of the House when debating a question as fundamental as the energy crisis in Canada and in the world generally. I was very amused by some of the arguments put forth by the last two speakers from the Conservative party, particularly the hon. member for York-Simcoe (Mr. Stevens) who was very eloquent in coming to the defence of the oil companies. He said the socialist hordes of this party would frighten off the oil companies, that the United States for sources of supply would turn elsewhere, and that we in this party are anti-American. He criticized us for being so tough on the poor little oil companies.

I remind the hon. member that these poor little oil companies have a gross income approximately three times that of the Canadian government. They are the seven largest companies in the world. The largest, Standard Oil of New Jersey, the parent of Imperial Oil, has a gross income equal to that of the Canadian government. These are the companies the Conservatives, particularly the hon. member for York-Simcoe, seem to be so concerned about and so afraid that we might injure by raising this question in the House.

Another member of that party asked about the terrible NDP, socialist idea of a two-price system. He asked who would pay for this. Would it be the producers? Would they not receive the benefit of increased prices in the United States by increasing the price to Canadian consumers? The oil companies are able to produce their product in this country at a really big profit. I see no reason why the consumers of this country should not have the benefit of the lowest possible price. I maintain that the oil does not belong to the oil companies; it should belong to the people of Canada and the provinces wherein it is situated. It is amusing, and perhaps very revealing, that certain members of the Conservative party should exhibit their true colours and come to the defence of these poor little weak sisters, the huge multi-national oil companies of the world.

During the past few months we have witnessed in this country increasing prices for gasoline, farm fuels and home heating fuels. We have actually seen a shortage of some of these fuels in parts of the United States. This is because the Americans find themselves in a situation where they are running short of cheap energy supplies. This is not only true of that country but of other countries in the world. There is not a shortage in Canada; we have enough reserves of cheap fuel in this country to last for several years. The price in Canada has been increasing because the multinational companies which control our oil are milking Canadian consumers for as much as possible as result of what is happening in the United States.

The issue of energy, gas, oil and pipelines is very important, as the hon. member for Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands (Mr. Douglas) said earlier, not only in the short term but the long term as well. If we play our cards right, if we have a national energy policy and move with real controls on behalf of the people of Canada, energy could