

presenting to the House an opportunity to end this rule of expediency and to restore a climate in which national unity is not a political game.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Stanfield: Mr. Speaker, I wish I had a little more time to deal with those fellows across the floor. I am thinking particularly of the members from Quebec who sold out their province. I do not know exactly why.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Stanfield: My most charitable assumption is ignorance. Sooner or later, sir, this House must affirm that one Canada in spirit and purpose is more important than one party in power.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for York South (Mr. Lewis).

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Cafik: Mr. Speaker—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I apologize to the hon. member for York South. The hon. member for Ontario rises on a point of order.

Mr. Cafik: Mr. Speaker, I wondered if the hon. Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Stanfield) would permit a question?

Some hon. Members: No, no!

An hon. Member: Tomorrow morning.

An hon. Member: Sit down.

Mr. Hellyer: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Trinity (Mr. Hellyer) rises on a point of order.

Mr. Hellyer: Mr. Speaker, I was wondering if it could be made clear whether the hon. member for York South (Mr. Lewis) is replying on behalf of the government.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Alexander: I think we should say yes to that.

Mr. Lewis: Mr. Speaker—

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, please. I am sorry to interrupt the hon. member for York South again but the hon. parliamentary secretary seeks the floor on a point of order.

Mr. Cafik: Mr. Speaker, I wonder if, with unanimous consent of the House, we could extend the time of the Leader of the Opposition so he could explain where he stands on the oil policy.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Energy

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, please. This would require the unanimous consent of the House and the hon. member for York South has indeed been recognized. I think I will recognize him again.

Mr. David Lewis (York South): Mr. Speaker, all I can say to the hon. member for Trinity (Mr. Hellyer) is that he is no more amusing as a front bench Conservative member than he was as a Liberal member of cabinet.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

An hon. Member: You let him know David.

An hon. Member: He is a sorehead as well as a turncoat.

Mr. Lewis: I just listened to a 30 minute speech by the Leader of the Official Opposition (Mr. Stanfield), most of which was devoted to a defence of the oil corporations of Canada.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Lewis: There was hardly a word about Canadian oil policy and, indeed, there could not be because I understand that a committee of the Conservative party is now sitting and their policy will not be available for four or five weeks at least, and probably not for four or five years. There are only two ways by which we can have in Canada at the present time one oil price for all Canadians.

An hon. Member: One is to get rid of you.

Mr. Lewis: One is a proposition made by the Leader of the Official Opposition in Vancouver that the price freeze should come off on January 31, and that the price of domestic conventional oil should be raised, not up to the world price but a little bit below the world price. That was his policy. Therefore, if you want to have one policy for Canada, you raise the price of conventional oil produced in this country to all Canadians and everyone in Canada will pay a lot more.

But there is another way by which you can have a one price for all Canadians and that is the way we have suggested, namely that a national petroleum corporation be the agency that buys both domestic and foreign oil and equalize that price, pool it and have the people west of the Ottawa valley pay a little more and people east of the Ottawa valley a lot less.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

● (1600)

Mr. Lewis: That is the only way to have one price across Canada that will be fair to all the people of Canada and that will not enrich the international oil corporations which are rich enough.

Step by step, I suggest that the NDP has wrung out of this government an oil policy—

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Lewis: —in the direction of Canadian interests.