

Petroleum Administration Act

Let me continue with my remarks later, Mr. Speaker.

● (2200)

Mr. Pinard: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. Earlier I had consultations with House leaders and we agreed to revert to introduction of bills in order to allow the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources (Mr. Lalonde) to introduce an act to amend the Petroleum Administration Act. Therefore, I seek unanimous consent to revert to the introduction of bills for that purpose.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Does the hon. minister have unanimous consent of the House to revert to introduction of bills?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Mr. Andre: Mr. Speaker, I should like to say on behalf of my party that we have had discussions and that we give our consent. I think this is the third time tonight we have had to do this to patch up mistakes on the other side. In the interest of co-operation, as always, we agree.

Mr. Waddell: Of course we are perfect and never make mistakes, so we will agree.

Mr. Pinard: Therefore, the minister is ready to introduce the bill. It is not a mistake; it is to render a service to the opposition.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[English]

PETROLEUM ADMINISTRATION ACT

MEASURE TO AMEND

Hon. Marc Lalonde (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources) moved for leave to introduce Bill C-103, to amend the Petroleum Administration Act and to enact provisions related thereto.

Motion agreed to, bill read the first time and ordered to be printed.

Mr. Lalonde: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. The hon. member for Calgary Centre (Mr. Andre) referred to a mistake earlier tonight. I was informed by the Table officers that there was no mistake on the government side. I expect the Speaker will clarify the situation. It may be that my colleagues on the other side made a mistake in grabbing a bill which was not the right one.

Mr. Andre: No, no, no!

PROCEEDINGS ON ADJOURNMENT MOTION

[English]

A motion to adjourn the House under Standing Order 40 deemed to have been moved.

AUTOMOTIVE INDUSTRY—NEGOTIATIONS OVER IMPORTATION OF JAPANESE MANUFACTURED VEHICLES. (B) REQUEST THAT CANADIAN CONTENT REGULATIONS BE IMPOSED. (C) LENGTH OF NEGOTIATIONS

Mr. Otto Jelinek (Halton): Mr. Speaker, my statements this evening are based upon questions which I put to the Minister of State for International Trade (Mr. Lumley) on March 25, 1982, concerning Japanese automotive imports into Canada and the government's negotiations with Japan. The statements could just as well be made in relation to questions of mine and my colleagues of last week, last month, and indeed over the last two years, because basically the answers are always the same. The Minister of State for International Trade and the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce (Mr. Gray) continually say they are not concerned with what is happening, that negotiations are still underway or that they have succeeded in negotiating with the Japanese, again and again.

This situation has been ongoing for over two years, during which time tens of thousands of jobs in the Canadian automotive industry have been lost and tens of thousands of indefinite lay-offs have taken place within this very important industrial sector of the economy. Obviously this can no longer continue to happen.

My questions to the government are very simple. How much longer is the government prepared to continue to negotiate unsuccessfully with the Japanese, whether in regard to voluntary reductions, quotas, Canadian content, Japanese investment in Canada, or a variety of other factors which come into play? How long will this go on before some unilateral action is taken by the government? The thousands of unemployed Canadians who are suffering as a result of lack of action by the government and the thousands of unemployed Canadians who are suffering as a result of the obvious failure of both the Minister of State for International Trade and the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce in this area, can no longer tolerate this situation. If we are to trade fairly with the Japanese, it is obvious that the government must take a much tougher stance.

● (2205)

The minister just a half hour ago in committee was asked, "Do the Japanese practise fair trade?" The minister replied, "No, they do not practise fair trade." We are trying to practise fair trade with a nation that is not practising fair trade, as admitted by the minister. It is time for the minister and for the government to get tough.