

one reason or other, but they continue to be reappointed. I could go on and on about the way the Government is wastefully abusing the taxpayer while cutting back in ways that will be detrimental to the long-term future and viability of Canada, and particularly cutting back on programs that affect the education of young people.

Mr. MacLellan: Mr. Speaker, the young people of Canada and particularly of Atlantic Canada are being left singularly without hope. As my colleague, the Hon. Member for Egmont (Mr. Henderson), has said, not only are opportunities slim but the morale of young people is low and is eroding even further. It is becoming more and more apparent that it is the Government's intention that only the wealthy should be able to go to university and that assistance for universities should be reduced to such an extent that young people who cannot find summer jobs or get assistance from their parents will not be able to attend university regardless of how well they do in school.

With respect to jobs, the picture is equally bleak. The job base in Atlantic Canada is eroding as the Government tends to centralize all its activities in the larger centres. Young people are being trained without having opportunities to find jobs in their fields of expertise. It is a concern for them and for their parents and it is a concern for the future of Atlantic Canada. I think it should be a concern for all Canadians.

Mr. Gagnon: Mr. Speaker, we really do not have to take any lessons from the Liberals on how to look after an energy policy. They brought in a National Energy Program, they brought in the PGRT, and they brought western Canada to its knees. If any divisive program was brought in by the Liberals, it was the NEP, aided and abetted by the NDP. That stands for the No Down Payment group. All they believe in is spend, spend, spend. They are fiscally irresponsible. If you do not have fiscal responsibility, investors, foreign or Canadian, will lose confidence. That will cause a run on the dollar. That happened at this time last year and it caused higher interest rates. Last year interest rates were 4 per cent higher than they are today. People have said that it is not Canadian policies which cause higher interest rates. I say to them, look at Australia. The prime rate in Australia is 18.25 per cent. Ours is 9.25 per cent. We must be doing something a little better than they are doing.

● (1610)

My friend from the Liberal Party was talking about Petro-Canada. That company received \$4.25 billion from the taxpayer. What we got back was \$50 million. We should have received 10 times that amount every year, not just a one-time payment, for the last seven years. He talks about all this fantastic exploration on the frontier by Petro-Canada. He also forgets that on top of the \$4.25 billion that company received from the Government, it was also reimbursed for 80 per cent of its exploration costs through PIP grants. Another hand-out.

Adjournment Motion

The Hon. Member talks about competition. Some of the marketing companies which have disappeared into Petro-Canada are Supertest, BP, Canadian Fina, Pacific 66, Gulf, Royalite, and Purity 99. Those are seven that I can think of at the moment. If you wonder why we do not have competition in the market-place, it is because Petro-Canada has gobbled up all the competitors. When you have competition, you have a fair market price. I can point to Regina which has a co-op refinery, or Calgary with a Turbo refinery. Does my Liberal friend still believe that Petro-Canada is a good instrument for Canadians?

Mr. MacLellan: Mr. Speaker, my hon. friend says the Government does not have to take any lessons from the Liberal Party. To give you an indication of the stubbornness and stupidity of the Government, the lessons are there but it refuses to take them. The Hon. Member implies that because of the NEP we were decimated in western Canada. His Government is now compounding the problem by not having any policy at all. It then wonders why it is not going over well in western Canada. The Tories wonder why the people of western Canada are completely disgusted with them. Not only is there not an unpopular policy, there is no policy at all. The Government has not even tried to find something that would help. It just backs away and snubs those people. That is the worst affront of all.

The Hon. Member says the Liberal Government brought the oil and gas industry to its knees. His Government is not only doing that, it is kicking the industry when it is down. It is incredible that the Government and the Conservative Party do not understand what they are doing. They ask, why is Petro-Canada important? Why did the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources and the Minister of Transport (Mr. Crosbie) fly in a Petro-Canada jet to Newfoundland to announce two delineation wells if Petro-Canada is not important? If Petro-Canada is such a nonentity, why is the Government using it to try to bolster its pathetic position in St. John's East? I do not have to repeat what Petro-Canada has done for this country. The Government, through its Ministers, is demonstrating that daily.

PROCEEDINGS ON ADJOURNMENT MOTION

[*Translation*]

SUBJECT MATTER OF QUESTIONS TO BE DEBATED

Mr. Deputy Speaker: It is my duty, pursuant to Standing Order 66, to inform the House that the questions to be raised tonight at the time of adjournment are as follows: the Hon. Member for Scarborough West (Mr. Stackhouse)—Banks and banking—Chartered banks' interest rates—Spread between bank and prime rate; the Hon. Member for Winnipeg North (Mr. Orlikow)—National Research Council—(a) Future of