

Point of Order

Instead of trying to remove the last vestiges of control on foreign investment, will the minister turn his attention to seeking new sources of Canadian investment money for the petroleum industry, thereby ensuring the benefits of that new investment remain in Canada.

Hon. Jake Epp (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): Mr. Speaker, I have read with interest the hon. member's press release, plus the figures he received from my department. Regrettably, he does not tell the whole story.

If he looks at the decade that he uses his statistics for, it is true that there was a lot of investment for Canadian companies. It was done through the taxpayer. It was called PIPS. They received benefits through the tax system greater than the amount of money they invested. There were also such companies known as Dome, and the member knows what happened in terms of the Government of Canada. He also knows what happened in terms of the acquisitions on Petro-Canada.

I simply point out to the member, if you take a look at foreign investment today, you can show the Caroline project for Shell or the Hibernia project where the majors are non-Canadian, or we could take a look at even Hibernia with Husky. I could go on. But I say to the hon. member that—

Mr. Speaker: I think we do have to go on. The hon. member for Markham—Whitchurch—Stouffville, a short question.

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CANADA POST

Mr. Bill Attewell (Markham—Whitchurch—Stouffville): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the minister responsible for Canada Post. He knows that strikes cause great harm to seniors, to charities, to small businesses. I recently put forward a private members' bill that would effectively ban all future strikes with Canada Post. I want to ask the minister responsible if he would adopt a similar initiative by this government that would declare all services essential and bar any future strikes?

Hon. Harvie Andre (Minister of State and Leader of the Government in the House of Commons): Mr. Speaker, there is absolutely no question that Canadians are fed

up with the kinds of strikes we have had from irresponsible union leadership who are pursuing political agendas, such as the leadership of CUPW, and I must say the leadership of PSAC has not distinguished itself recently as well.

I am definitely looking at changes that we can make to ensure that Canadians get the service they are paying for and deserve and we are no longer held to ransom by irresponsible union leaders.

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POINT OF ORDER

COMMENTS DURING QUESTION PERIOD

Mr. David Dingwall (Cape Breton—East Richmond): Mr. Speaker, I am wondering if the Chair could assist members on this side of the House in indicating to us the Standing Order which was violated between the exchange between the deputy leader of our party and the Prime Minister. Perhaps the Chair could advise as to whether or not it was Standing Order 37, subsection (1), Standing Order 18, or indeed under Beauchesne paragraph 359, subsection (6).

I say to the Chair with great respect that we would like to know the Standing Order which has been breached. We would like also to ask if the Chair would reflect in terms of the intervention which was made by the Chair, if in fact it was under the circumstances and in view of the urgency of the question which was asked somewhat hostile.

Mr. Speaker: I do not think it is proper, first of all, on rising on a point of order to the Chair, and asking the Chair for some clarification which I will try to give, and I do not think it helps to make the suggestion that the intervention on the part of the Chair is hostile. I hope that no hon. member in this place would believe that I would intentionally make an intervention in a hostile way.

I say to the hon. member for Hamilton East that I know she was upset at the intervention. I wonder if hon. members could give me a moment until we see the transcript. I may have been in error. If I am I will be the first to say so. But I would like to see exactly what the transcript shows.