

Government orders

Mr. Boudria: Is there a point of order, Madam Speaker?

Madam Deputy Speaker: The hon. member for Laurier—Sainte-Marie on a point of order.

Mr. Gilles Duceppe (Laurier—Sainte-Marie): Madam Speaker, the member for Rosemont stood up at the same time as me. I would ask that he be heard.

Madam Deputy Speaker: The hon. member for Glengarry—Prescott—Russell had already started his address. The motion is therefore inadmissible. The hon. member for Glengarry—Prescott—Russell.

Mr. Don Boudria (Glengarry—Prescott—Russell): Madam Speaker, I welcome the opportunity this afternoon to speak to this House and to this important bill. I was anxious to hear what the hon. member for Rosemont had to say, but I am sure that sooner or later we shall have that opportunity. I am certainly looking forward to hearing the hon. member on the subject, as are all Canadians, because as you know—

An hon. member: Sit down!

Mr. Boudria: I suggest the hon. member for Richelieu listen carefully, since he moved the amendment that would allow only Canadian firms to bid on the platform contracts. In fact, the hon. member is to be commended for his spirit of renewed federalism as reflected in his desire to help the industry across Canada. A great federalist, the hon. member for Richelieu, proposed this amendment! I must say it is edifying to see this Pan-Canadian spirit among members of the new party, the *Bloc canadien*. So the *Bloc canadien* moved this Pan-Canadian amendment, seconded of course by another ultra-federalist member, the hon. member for Shefford. He supported the federalist amendment, because we must not forget they want to help Canada as a whole with this amendment.

Madam Speaker, I am sure all our colleagues from Alberta, Ontario, Newfoundland, Nova Scotia and the other provinces will be proud of this renewed interest in Canada, as demonstrated by these two members. We could almost ask some members to renew their oath of allegiance to our country, almost, perhaps, but not quite.

Although it arises from the great spirit of renewed federalism to which I referred earlier, the amendment, notwithstanding its federalist imprint, was not well

prepared. The hon. member for Gatineau—La Lièvre, however, did his homework. He did some research and drafted an amendment to the amendment, to improve the text. I want to congratulate the hon. member for Gatineau—La Lièvre who, I am told, consulted SNC in Quebec as well as MIL and several other organizations.

Following this thorough consultation, the Hon. Member for Gatineau—La Lièvre who, as always, is showing utmost dedication in his efforts to promote the interests of Canadians generally and Quebecers in particular, hastened to move this amendment which certainly has improved the Hon. member for Richelieu's federalist mention.

Once amended, the amendment would read:

f) les autres mesures que le ministre juge souhaitables, notamment l'assurance que les appels d'offres sur les cinq supermodules de la plate-forme—

His proposal would guarantee an optimum Canadian content without delaying the project.

What the hon. member for Gatineau—La Lièvre has done, Madam Speaker, is to move an amendment to the amendment which will help achieve the purpose of the hon. member for Richelieu, this great federalist, while making sure that it will not hinder of the project. As you can see, Madam Speaker, the amendment in question—

Mr. Lapierre: The amendment to the amendment. . .

Mr. Boudria: Yes, the amendment to the amendment, as the Hon. Member for Shefford, who knows the rules, is saying. Because of his regular attendance in the House of Commons, he is well informed of the procedure of the House, Madam Speaker.

I want to praise this new interest for federalism on the part of our colleagues, especially the Hon. Member for Richelieu and the Hon. Member for Shefford. I should like to add, for instance, that a true message of congratulations should be unanimously sent to our colleague the Hon. Member for Gatineau—La Lièvre who, as a result of his dedication, has put together this amendment to the amendment which I hope will be adopted by the House of Commons.

[English]

I join with all my colleagues who, I am sure, want this project to go ahead very soon. It is to the benefit of the great province of Newfoundland and I am sure that all of us want Canada's newest province to achieve a state of