

creation of Petro-Canada in 1972. There was a minority government. Lo and behold we ended up with an energy crisis in 1973.

We had the big sisters in the oil industry telling us one day that we had enough reserves for the next 3,000 years. The next day we only had reserves for 10 years. And then the National Energy Board could not provide Canadians with the facts. It had no information about the reserves, and no other information about the way the oil industry operated in this country.

As the price for our support of a Liberal government, we forced upon them the establishment of a national energy company called Petro-Canada. We all remember that well. Liberals were not interested in establishing energy policy in this country. They were not interested in Canada having a window on the energy industry of this country. It was the New Democratic Party. We gave our support to that minority Liberal government and one of the prices was the establishment of Petro-Canada.

The government says that Petro-Canada should be privatized because it serves no public policy role. Can you believe that? In a resource that is so vital to the success of Canadian industry and to Canadians as a whole, this government says there is no public policy. This is a government of ideologues. We saw where the last government of ideologues—Margaret Thatcher's government—ended up.

Mr. McDermid: Are you speaking of ideologues?

Mr. Rodriguez: That is right. The minister has pointed the finger at the NDP, but I want to tell you to look at what your government is doing. All it wants is some corporate agenda. All it wants to do is to run Canada as if it were running the Iron Ore Company of Canada. The last one out will put the lights out. That is not the way it is going to be.

If the minister thinks we are wrong, I wish his government would call an election tomorrow and see where it will end up. It will end up in the ash can of history and never again for the next 100 years will a Conservative government be elected in this country. Ever.

Mr. Langdon: Ten seats. They'd get 10 seats.

Mr. Rodriguez: Not even 10 seats.

Government Orders

Mr. Langdon: I am generous.

Mr. Rodriguez: It is embarked on a corporate agenda. It does not care about people. All that matters is some sort of idea that it is an accounting book and that there is a philosophy that you can have competition. Not only competition within Canada, but it is now talking about global competition. If ever Petro-Canada could play a public policy role, it is now.

Second, the government says: "Oh, we have to do this because we need the cash".

Mr. McDermid: No, the government never said that.

Mr. Rodriguez: Well, you said that. You said you need the cash. There is a thinking out there among Canadians that we sold off Air Canada, that we have sold off de Havilland, that we have sold off Canadair, and that we have sold off a whole host of Crown corporations. Do you know what Canadians think? Canadians really think that when these are sold a cheque is written by the purchaser, it is handed to the government and goes into the Treasury.

• (1230)

I want to say to Canadians who are watching that not one plug nickel has been collected from any of the Crown corporations this government has privatized. It has all gone back to the companies.

Mr. McDermid: That's not true.

Mr. Rodriguez: Your minister says that it is not true. Show me the cheque. Where is it? Get it out of your pocket and show it to us. You did not put it in the Consolidated Revenue Fund. You put it into the consolidated revenue fund of the purchasers of de Havilland; you put into Boeing. That is who has it.

France has a very dynamic role in the financial institutions of France. The government itself owns the bank. In Italy, the government owns the airline industry which employs thousands upon thousands of workers. They are doing the research and development in air-plane design and manufacturing. It is the same in France. They do it.

We have the spectacle or the possibility of de Havilland actually being nationalized by foreign countries. France and Italy might end up buying de Havilland. Do you want to tell me that these people are not ideologically bent? They are so ideologically bent that if they stood behind a corkscrew at noon they would not throw a