

Canada Oil and Gas Act

Mr. Knowles: Haven't you got any new pages to that speech?

Mr. Lang: Hon. members opposite talk about their energy tax credit. The Liberal energy program will save the consumers 12 times more than the Conservative energy tax credit. In light of that budget of one year ago, for which most of the Conservative members here voted, I really find it hard to understand how these individuals, particularly the hon. member for Rosedale (Mr. Crombie), can now talk in such a self-righteous manner about protecting the little guy. When one looks at the facts—

Mr. Taylor: I rise on a point of order, Mr. Speaker. What has this to do with the bill we have under discussion? In addition, the hon. member has already said all that this afternoon.

Mr. Lang: That is obviously not a point of order, Mr. Speaker, but a point of debate or an attempt to interrupt. I would be glad to enlighten the hon. member as to my reason for mentioning this. The hon. member for Rosedale has been continually trying to posture and present the concern of your party for the little man when in actual fact in your budget there were no measures at all, none whatsoever—

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, please. I would invite the hon. member to address his remarks to the Chair.

Mr. Lang: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I want to enlighten the hon. member about his concern as to why I was putting forward this discussion about social welfare. In light of the fact that when that hon. member's party presented a budget containing no measures whatsoever for the little guy. The hon. member for Rosedale—

An hon. Member: You have said that three times.

Mr. Lang: It is worth saying ten times, Mr. Speaker. That party is trying to present itself as a party with concern for the little man yet that is the party that presented a budget which socked it to the consumers and had no concern at all for the little guy.

Mr. Hnatyshyn: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: I recognize the hon. member for Saskatoon West (Mr. Hnatyshyn) on a point of order.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Deputy Speaker: May I have order, please?

Mr. Hnatyshyn: Mr. Speaker, I think the record should be made clear that while the hon. member for Rosedale (Mr. Crombie) may be small he is a lot larger than that speaker.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Deputy Speaker: With all due respect, that is not a point of order.

Mr. Lang: Mr. Speaker, I am glad you have seen that this is not a point of order. It seems that when the truth is spoken hon. members opposite get a little excited and try to interrupt debate with their frivolous points of order.

An hon. Member: You are the guy that is yelling.

Mr. Lang: I would like to make a point. Let us examine the track record. Let us see who put through social programs in this country.

Mr. Taylor: We are not talking about social programs. Get on the right bill.

Mr. Lang: This bill is concerned with the energy policy being put forward in Canada today. That has a lot to do with the social programs in place today, because this energy policy has much to do with our economy and much to do with the financial stability of the national government and its capability of financing social programs.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: There have been a number of so-called points of order which have not really been points of order. I recognize the hon. member for Surrey-White Rock-North Delta (Mr. Friesen).

Mr. Friesen: Have I ever raised a point of order that was not a real point of order, Mr. Speaker? I wonder whether the hon. member would permit a question?

Mr. Lang: Mr. Speaker, if hon. members opposite would stop their frivolous points of order I would attempt to speak on this policy so they might be enlightened. I will try to clear up their confusion. If the hon. member still has a question at the end of my discussion I will be happy to answer it.

We should look at the facts. The hon. member for Rosedale and a number of other members in the opposition have been trying to make the point that this government does not have a social conscience, as seen by its energy policy and its budget. For a new member of Parliament, a backbencher such as myself, it is very difficult to sit back and listen to this kind of posturing and rhetoric particularly when one knows the track record. Let us look at the track record. What social programs were contained in the budget presented one year ago last Thursday by the hon. member for St. John's West? I suggest that in fact there were none.

What social programs have the loyal opposition put forward? What social programs of significance has that party put forward? I suggest it has put forward none at all. What is the track record of this party in government? We have old age security, we have the guaranteed income supplement.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, please. The Chair is reluctant to call on the rule of relevance, but the bill before us is Bill C-48 and I would like the hon. member to address his remarks to that bill.

Mr. Lang: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am aware that you did not have the opportunity of hearing the first 15 minutes of my speech during which time I tried to outline the purposes of the legislation and the main elements contained in it. I have