

Canada Oil and Gas Act

has seen in his 16 years since returning here. This is a major complaint. It is the sort of comment with which we are faced. On top of that, the government is imposing a negative attitude.

Mr. Kelly: How do you explain the GNP?

Mr. Wilson: I am glad the hon. member mentioned the GNP. I ask him to repeat his question in approximately three weeks' time. It will be down the next time the numbers are out, it will be down in the following quarter, and in the quarter following that.

Mr. Kelly: What about today?

Mr. Wilson: We are in a recession now.

Mr. Kelly: I am talking about today, not three weeks from now.

Mr. Wilson: The GNP is down today. The hon. member is looking at the early part of this year. I ask him to bring himself up to date. He should bring himself into the real world and not read history books. The real world today has 8.2 per cent unemployment. In the real world today, there are 900,000 people out of work. The real world today has 21 to 22 per cent interest rates. We are in a recession.

Mr. Kelly: You are all hot air.

Mr. Wilson: We will see who is all hot air. The government has weakened the economy through its proposals in Bill C-48 and its proposals on Canadianization. It is the cause of the problems today. The Minister of Finance (Mr. MacEachen) blamed it on the Federal Reserve Bank, President Reagan, the gnomes of Zurich, and the international monetary community. The problems today are being caused by the government. Hon. members opposite on the back benches should get after the members on the front benches. Perhaps they do not want to do it in Parliament because they would not want to be seen attacking the government. I hope they are doing this in the privacy of their caucus, because the country requires some independent thinking. We are not getting it from the Minister of Finance. There is great cost to the approach of the government on Canadianization, both through Bill C-48 and its other measures.

It makes me sick to hear the hypocrisy of the New Democratic Party. Time and again members of that party say that we must reduce interest rates. They demand that interest rates be dropped. At the same time they propose policies which will force investment money and jobs out of the country into other countries of the world and will force up interest rates. This is totally inconsistent and irresponsible.

Mr. Deans: Do not believe him, Mr. Speaker, just because he said it. It is not so.

Mr. Wilson: If the hon. member will let me, I will develop the point I made in question period the other day. To the end of June this year, there was an unidentified outflow of capital—

Mr. Deans: Who reappointed Gerald Bouey?

Mr. Wilson: A number of individuals have sent out money in amounts too small to be identified by Statistics Canada. The outflow of money has amounted to \$8.4 billion, which is five times the average figure for the same item in the 1970s. This is causing interest rates to be held up. I want the hon. member for Hamilton Mountain (Mr. Deans) to listen.

Mr. Deans: I am listening.

Mr. Wilson: Interest rates are being held up in an attempt to get money back into the country to replace the outflow caused by people who do not have confidence in the policies of the government, policies which are being fully supported by the NDP.

Mr. Deans: Nonsense.

Mr. Wilson: It pushes the government to increase the impact of these policies. What is happening to the relationship between Canada and the United States? This relationship is being severely damaged. The other night I commented on the fact that the relationship between Canada and the United States is at its worst level since 1812. The reason I made that statement was that many times over the past years we have been concerned because the United States has not paid too much attention to us and has ignored the fact that we are up here. The United States is taking action with regard to its problems on the worldwide basis. This has a negative impact upon us, which the Americans do not understand. The United States has been passive, but it is the first time I have even seen a United States government threatening to take active, aggressive action against Canada in retaliation for the problems created by our government.

We cannot afford to ignore our largest neighbour and trading partner when it starts thinking that way. The government is, in fact, ignoring and provoking the United States. Hon. members of the government, such as the Secretary of State for External Affairs (Mr. MacGuigan) and the Minister of Justice (Mr. Chrétien), went to the United States and made provocative statements, which encouraged the retaliatory action which is being proposed down there. I wonder why the government wants to provoke the United States Congress? Does it want to create an outside enemy to deflect attention from the problems in the country? I am less concerned about the actual actions taken by the administration or the United States Congress. I am more concerned about the signals this will send out to many people in the United States who have interests in one form or another in Canada and to individuals in Canada who may decide to move money outside the country. This is what concerns me most. It happened earlier this year, and the government has shown no intention of reversing its decision.

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As I said, this has had a very important effect on the high interest rates that resulted from protecting the outflow of capital. That is the problem we have to fight. But there is