

*Energy Resources Policy*

**Mr. Speaker:** There is not unanimous consent.

[*Translation*]

I very much regret to advise the hon. member for Témiscamingue (Mr. Caouette) that there is not unanimous consent. The House will be happy to hear him at eight o'clock.

It being six o'clock, I now leave the chair until eight o'clock p.m.

At six o'clock the House took recess.

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**AFTER RECESS**

The House resumed at 8 p.m.

**Mr. Réal Caouette (Témiscamingue):** Mr. Speaker, I regret that I was not allowed to make my comments after the other political leaders. I thank the Leader of the Official Opposition (Mr. Stanfield) for his kindness, when he came to apologize for his colleague. Another member told me that it was normal for the hon. member for Crowfoot (Mr. Horner) to deny his consent, because he had to leave immediately before the closing time of the Liquor Board at 6.30 which enabled him to carry on.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order. The hon. member will recognize that his comments are out of order. I hope that he will immediately come to the matter now under consideration.

**Mr. Caouette (Témiscamingue):** Mr. Speaker, I was only reporting what a colleague of the hon. member for Crowfoot told me.

I now come to the subject matter we are considering tonight. I very carefully read the French translation of the English speech I heard last night on channel 7 of the American network in which President Nixon announced the restraints imposed upon the American people. The minister read this afternoon the French version of the speech delivered last night. I see him laugh and he knows that I tell the truth.

Mr. Speaker, in this—

**An hon. Member:** This is a delayed reaction.

**Mr. Caouette (Témiscamingue):** Yes, a delayed reaction.

**Mr. Lewis:** This is true and amusing at the same time.

**Mr. Caouette (Témiscamingue):** Mr. Speaker, I know it is true. Once more I can see, as all my colleagues in this House, that we are somewhat aping the Americans. If they decide something, you can hear the same thing repeated in Canada the following day. If the discount rate of American banks is increased by ½ or 1 per cent, "His Excellency" the Governor of the Bank of Canada does exactly the same the following day, and the Minister of Finance (Mr. Turner), responsible in a sovereign government, repeats what the Governor of the Bank of Canada said.

[Mr. Speaker.]

Mr. Speaker, I do not believe one single word of all the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources (Mr. Macdonald), the Leader of the Opposition, the hon. member for Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands (Mr. Douglas) said about the oil shortage. I heard the people from Alberta say that we had in that province enough petroleum products for the next hundred years. I heard as well Premier Bourassa of the province of Quebec, about two weeks ago say that there would not be any shortage in the province of Quebec. He changed his mind when he met with the right hon. Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) a few days after his statement.

**An hon. Member:** After the election.

**Mr. Caouette (Témiscamingue):** The Prime Minister of Canada made him change his mind.

Mr. Speaker, I have here a book just given us and written by the hon. Joey Smallwood, former Liberal Premier of Newfoundland for many years and who is surely not a Crétitiste. He writes and I quote:

What else does Mr. Smallwood have to say? In Chapter 24, page 471, we may read the following:

[*English*]

This is in "I Chose Canada", the memoirs of the Hon. Joey Smallwood.

**Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre):** En français.

[*Translation*]

**Mr. Caouette (Témiscamingue):** That is in eastern Canada, not in Alberta: "we are drowning in a sea of oil".

And the minister recommends that we tighten our belts. This reminds me of the years 1929 to 1939. Then, in the name of the world-wide economic crisis, both the Right hon. Mackenzie King and the Right Hon. R. B. Bennett told Canadians: Tighten your belts, this is a world-wide crisis and there is nothing that we can do about it. At the same time, mountains of wheat were burned in western Canada, potatoes were soaked in laundry bluing in New Brunswick, milk was thrown away, and the production was destroyed. This happened in 1934 and 1935.

**Mr. Corbin:** I was born in 1934.

**Mr. Caouette (Témiscamingue):** That is possible. The hon. member was not there at the time, so he did not need potatoes. But this does not explain why he has stayed in the potato fields all his life.

Mr. Speaker, in those days, people were told: Starve, even though you are sitting on mountains of wheat! This afternoon, in 1973, the minister told us: We have too much oil, you will freeze! We shall freeze because we have too much oil. The minister makes recommendations. He is an intelligent man, but I believe that those who wrote the speech which he gave this afternoon are not, far from it, and I wonder if it would not be better if some of them were in Saint-Jean-de-Dieu, in Montreal, rather than at the service of the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources.

Mr. Speaker, how can one imagine the recommendations that we heard this afternoon concerning motor vehicles?