

Mr. David Dingwall (Cape Breton-East Richmond): Mr. Speaker, I wish to continue my remarks, particularly the comments directed toward the agreement which was consummated by the Government of Canada and the three producing provinces. I suggest, as I did before you interrupted the proceedings, that this was an agreement for the benefit of the multinational oil companies without due regard or due respect for the consumers of this country or the small western Canadian oil and gas companies. This is a terrible benefit to the multinational oil companies. I will read some figures to substantiate my point.

I wish to make it perfectly clear that in no way does Her Majesty's Official Opposition accept the statement of the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources (Miss Carney) that prices will not increase for the consumers. As I was saying before I was interrupted by your predecessor in the Chair, the primary industry levy offset program, which is a benefit of 1.8 cents per litre, the equivalent of eight cents a gallon, will be dropped as a result of the agreement to be consummated between the producing provinces and the Government of Canada. It will affect in a very real way the farmers of southwestern Ontario, the fishermen of Atlantic Canada, the loggers, miners, hunters and trappers in northern Ontario. It will have devastating effects.

The Minister went on to say that the agreement provides harmony, if you will. Where is the harmony? She referred to the compensation granted for the cost of moving domestic crude to refineries east of Montreal. Prior to this agreement, this domestic transfer compensation program provided a benefit. It was designed to create a market for western Canada shut-in crude, \$2 a barrel subsidy on transportation by tanker from Montreal to the Maritime refiners. In 1984, this provided a supplement of approximately \$44 million or 22 million barrels. This has now disappeared and it will be at a commercial rate. The subsidy will continue no longer. That is certainly very harmful and devastating to those of us who live in Atlantic Canada.

● (1540)

What about the Minister's claim that there will be lots of reinvestment? Where are the guarantees from the multinational oil companies? What guarantees have been solicited from them? Absolutely none. In fact, Gulf Oil's profits in 1984 went up by 41 per cent. Imperial Oil's profits went up by 60 per cent. Shell's profits went up by 59 per cent, Texaco's by 23 per cent and Suncor's by 8 per cent. With this agreement in place, not only will it not create the jobs that we all want but it will in fact add in excess of \$1.7 million to the multinationals' revenues beginning in June, 1985.

There will be additional revenues for the multinational oil companies but nothing in the way of a continuation of the subsidies to those individuals in the Maritime provinces and nothing for those individuals who may be engaged in farming, logging or mining. I say shame on the Government for those policies.

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The Ministry of Energy, Mines and Resources did not stop there with its policies. It went on. We have seen the abolition of the Canadian Oil Substitution Program. We have seen the cuts in the Canadian Home Insulation Program. We have seen Canertech abolished by the Minister and we have also seen the cancellation of Q & M Pipe Lines. What about the natural gas laterals program for the Province of Quebec? It is out by \$85 million.

Let us talk about another agreement that was reached several weeks ago. That agreement was referred to by the Prime Minister (Mr. Mulroney) as being a milestone in a new Canadian era. However, Clause 54 of that agreement says: "Similarly, feedstock available shall be insured on commercial terms for new industrial facilities in Newfoundland and Labrador provided such feedstock is in excess to feedstock required to meet the demand of presently existing industrial capacity in eastern Canada." That means that Newfoundlanders will not have an opportunity to play meaningful roles in the oil and gas industry, particularly with respect to refinery capacity, until such time as other areas of the region have that opportunity. That certainly cannot be applauded by Government Members of Parliament and particularly by those from Atlantic Canada. That is certainly not in the best interests of the Atlantic economy. In fact, I think it is outright discrimination against the people of Newfoundland, and Liberal Members of Parliament who are from the Province of Newfoundland have said so.

I shall return to this other recent deal made with the multinational oil companies for just a moment. What about the Canadianization program? Under questioning by those of us in the Official Opposition, the Minister has refused to give us a firm date as to when she would like to have 50 per cent ownership of the oil and gas industry in Canada. There is no fixed date. The Government has abandoned the Canadianization program that we put in place. It has abandoned it so much so that section 7 of that agreement provides no incentive whatsoever to the small Canadian oil and gas companies in western Canada. In fact, they are to be treated equally with the multinational corporations that have had profits in excess of \$200 million. Is that fair to the Canadian consumer who is facing an increase? Is that fair to the small Canadian oil and gas company? Certainly not, but it runs in line with the policies of the Minister of Finance (Mr. Wilson). He is the spokesperson for those individuals who reside outside of Canada, whether they reside in Philadelphia, Ohio or Washington, and he is the spokesperson for the select few from Bay Street in Toronto.

That is the elitism of the Conservative Party. There is nothing for the regions and nothing for the consumers, and the small-businessman in this country be damned. Government Members will pay the ultimate price when Canadians have an opportunity to vote against them in the next federal election.

The motion I have put forward not only touches on energy but on other Government Departments as well. Let us look for a moment at some of those who sit on the front benches. Most