

*Regional Development Incentives Act*

plant to produce the potato chips should be established in the United States close to the market or in Canada. In this case, I think the incentive program worked as well as it has in any project. It has been explained that there was no reason why we should have had to pay these people that money because they were capable of getting it themselves, but I am not objecting to that. The resource was already there, so we were helping a secondary industry.

• (12:40 p.m.)

How can this minister, who is a provincialist and I suppose a nationalist, justify the decision taken in the province of Ontario to provide the maximum grant in two cases to Texas Gulf, an American corporation?

**An hon. Member:** Shameful.

**Mr. Peters:** This corporation has more money than the government of Canada. If Texas Gulf wanted to buy the government they probably could—in fact, they have and we are paying them for it. The Ontario government, rather belatedly, decided that the smelter was going to be established in Canada, period. They did not go so far as to say it was going to be in Ontario but anyone using their head would not see much sense in moving it to Manitoba—unless Manitoba was going to give an immense grant as well. So, we were going to have that smelter somewhere in Canada because Ontario passed a law which, in effect, said: “If you do not put it in Canada, you are not going to put it any place. This is our mineral and we have the right to make that decision.”

We could have used that money for other purposes, Mr. Speaker. This company does not need it. A smelter is not a mine of course, and it is not a resource, but it is certainly related. Here was a wonderful opportunity for the minister to say, “We will participate and build your smelter; never mind the grant. We will build it provided we control it and own it or we will build half of it and get an equity in the plant because we are going to decide what to do with the material.”

In Canada, we have control of all the nickel for the world through Sudbury. We have a smelter in Sudbury, and we could control most of the stainless steel of the world if we wished. We could control most of the fabrication involving nickel, which is expensive, in hundreds and hundreds of by-products. We could control this, Mr. Speaker, if we were willing to make the decision.

We will play around with this bill and pass it because the government members will feel that since cabinet introduced it they have to vote for it. Is it not time that we took a look at the over-all problem and decided we are going to put a similar smelter in the town of Cobalt, that it should be sufficiently developed so it can handle platinum and all the raw earth metals. It should be the only one in Canada because the minerals come from that area, then we will no longer need to send part of our raw material to Norway and other countries? Is it not time to make that decision? It is not a big decision that would cost immense amounts of money. I have no objection to

[Mr. Peters.]

free enterprise operating that plant. I am not particularly interested in extending the civil service into the field of industry but I think it is time we decided where the plant should be, what it should be and, in fact, whether it is going to be.

Until we make these decisions, Mr. Speaker, we are going to chase the donkey all over the country with the carrot. We are going to go to some very odd places and get some odd results, but we are not really deciding we are going to have Canadian industry rather than foreign controlled industries.

In the committee hearings my colleague from Oshawa-Whitby mentioned Turkey and everybody laughed about it. I presume I laughed, too, because I do not know what they are doing in Turkey but he mentioned that country had decided it wanted 49 per cent control of its industry. We were concerned about using Turkey as an example because we are not too familiar with it, so let us take a better example.

In the field of resources, Japan is dealing extensively with this country yet it says that foreign countries going into Japan must be controlled by the Japanese. They must think we are idiots in Canada because we give them full control of any of our natural resources and allow those resources to be taken out of the country and processed in Japan. This creates so many jobs in that country that they require one million more workers. If Canada wanted to export the unemployed for the next year or so, they could go to Japan. I am quite sure they would work out some arrangement with us for such a program because they need the workers. And what would they be working at, Mr. Speaker? At the raw material bought from Canada for almost nothing because we, as Canadians, do not have the brains to decide to develop it in our own country.

**Some hon. Members:** Right, right!

**Mr. Peters:** We are going to sell all our material to another country and then that country will ask our people to go over there and work in their secondary industries so that they can make a profit.

**An hon. Member:** Shame!

**An hon. Member:** And sell the product back to us.

**Mr. Peters:** Yes, and we will buy back the product. I am driving a Japanese car, Mr. Speaker—

**An hon. Member:** Shame!

**Mr. Peters:** They will sell the nuts and bolts and things that we should manufacture.

**An hon. Member:** Why don't you buy a Canadian car?

**Mr. Peters:** There is no Canadian car, Mr. Speaker. You are stupid enough, Mr. Speaker, to think I should go out and buy a Canadian car—there is no such animal.