

Mr. Whelan: Shame! We took two days and I have been here nearly all the time for two days while they have run in and out of the House—

Mr. McKnight: You didn't say anything during the time you were here.

An hon. Member: How many Liberals are there?

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Whelan: Most of them, although not all of them, made good suggestions, in my opinion, good contributions to the debate on agriculture, but I must say—we made many notes as we went along—that there was not really any severe criticism of the minister or of the department or of the officials here.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Whelan: There were some suggestions that perhaps we could do some things better, but that is what we are striving to do at all times. The hon. member for St. Catharines—I will go back to the wine industry, and I do not know why I am thinking about it this late at night, but perhaps a little spirited liquid would not hurt at this stage of the game—spoke about who was taking taxes from the wine industry and who was hurting the grape production industry. He forgot to mention the province of Ontario in which the wine is produced. The province takes more than double the take of the federal government from the wine industry, yet it seems to be fair ball to zero in on the “feds” for what they are taking and let the Ontario Conservative government get away with taking double what we take federally for taxation. It is even more than double what we take.

● (2355)

Mr. McKnight: You are dividing the country, Eugene.

Mr. Whelan: What has the province done to assist the grape industry? It has been insignificant compared to what we have done.

I see the hon. member is back in the House now. He talked about doom and gloom in the wine industry. That is not what I hear from them, and “by their actions, ye shall know them.” The expansion of the wine grape-growing industry in Canada has been tremendous. A new variety of grapes will be coming out as a result of the research which has been conducted. Millions of pounds of table wine grapes will be provided for the industry.

The hon. member for Qu'Appelle-Moose Mountain indicated that we were not allowing people to make energy on their own farms. That is not true. There is provision in the ways and means motion that the Minister of National Revenue be authorized to grant a special temporary licence to any person who has complied with the provisions of the act to engage in the manufacture of denatured spirits for use solely in experimentation and development of fuel, for the denatured spirits in fuel are for the person's own use and not for sale or distribution.

Supply

Mr. McKnight: What about the next page?

Mr. Whelan: It is there, whether they are aware of it or not. Earlier this evening another member made a speech about energy allocation. I do not know where they are at. The Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources has already made an announcement that fuel for food production, primary production, food processing and transportation, is in the top “A” category. That is what we said we would do, and that is what we have done. That is where it is at.

The hon. member for Elgin talked fuel prices and whether we would cushion them. What about the rock in the Crosbie budget which was given to farmers for fuel? What we have done is a pretty soft cushion alongside what he would have done for farmers in the use of alcohol and various kinds of fuel in agriculture. The benefits for farmers in the budget of the Minister of Finance and in the energy policy will save farmers, using 6,000 gallons of fuel a year over a period of four years, \$8,220, compared with the Crosbie budget.

Mr. McKnight: That is untrue.

Mr. Whelan: The hon. member knows it is true. I would say the hon. member for Kindersley-Lloydminster has—

Mr. McKnight: Mr. Chairman, I rise on a point of order. The hon. minister mentioned, if I understood correctly, that I said the Crosbie budget was more expensive. I think the minister would recognize that the Crosbie budget—

Some hon. Members: Order, order!

The Deputy Chairman: Order, please. That is not a point of order.

Some hon. Members: Sit down!

The Deputy Chairman: Order, please. It being twelve o'clock midnight it is my duty, pursuant to the order made on Tuesday, April 29, 1980, to interrupt the proceedings and put forthwith every question necessary to dispose of the Committee of the Whole stage of the bill.

Clauses 2 to 6 inclusive agreed to.

[Translation]

Schedule agreed to.

Clause 1 agreed to.

Preamble agreed to.

Title agreed to.

[English]

Bill carried.

The Deputy Chairman: Shall I report the bill?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.