

**Mr. Lalonde:** At the end of my speech I will be happy to entertain a question, Mr. Speaker.

I ask the House and the people of Canada if it is fair that when the federal government, which has to bear all the cost of incentives to the industry to expand its activities in the oil and gas field—

**An hon. Member:** Like DREE programs in Quebec.

**Mr. Lalonde:**—where the federal government has to pay higher equalization costs, where the federal government has to pay for the oil compensation fund, where the federal government has the responsibility to provide the national infrastructure in the field of energy, it should be left with only 10 per cent of what Canadian consumers pay for oil and gas? We say that is not fair.

We must look at what is happening elsewhere—what is happening in the United States and what is happening in Australia. I challenge members of the opposition to look at what is happening in any other federal state in the world. They will find that national governments have a much larger share of those revenues than Canada has in order to fulfil its responsibilities.

**An hon. Member:** But you don't know what to do with it.

**Mr. Lalonde:** Finally, Mr. Speaker, not only are we going to ensure fairness as well as security of supply through this policy, we are going to ensure an opportunity for Canadians to participate in the ownership of the oil and gas industry in this country.

Not only will 1980 be the year that the Constitution of Canada is patriated, it will also be the year when Canada begins, in a systematic and determined way, to patriate the oil and gas industry.

**Some hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Mr. Shields:** Mr. Speaker, the hon. minister would have us believe that when he went to Alberta to talk with the oil companies and the Alberta government regarding the development of the tar sands—first he offered \$32 per barrel to the oil companies—

**An hon. Member:** Question.

**Mr. Shields:** I am getting to my question. Are you afraid to listen?

**An hon. Member:** We want a question, not a speech.

**Mr. Shields:** Your minister wants to listen.

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** Order, please. Remarks should be addressed to the Chair. The hon. member for Athabasca (Mr. Shields) has the floor for the purpose of asking a question.

**Mr. Shields:** The minister would have us believe that the government is not at fault in any way for delaying the tar sands project, but he was told very clearly by the companies

which wish to develop it that they must have world prices. They are saying, "We will refund. All we want as a return on our investment is 12 per cent. You may tax it at the top." That is what is done in the United States. Would the minister not consider that more feasible?

**Mr. Lalonde:** Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the hon. member's interest in this issue. I am happy to tell him that the offer of \$38, plus indexation according to the cost of living, is exactly the request made to me by the proponents of Cold Lake, a request that was also put forward to the government of Alberta. Exactly.

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** The hon. minister's time has expired. I shall recognize the hon. member for Edmonton East (Mr. Yurko).

**Mr. Yurko:** Mr. Speaker, I wanted to pose a question to the minister to get some clarification on figures that he gave, but if his time has expired I shall have to do it some other way.

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** The hon. member may put his question with the unanimous consent of the House. Is there unanimous consent?

**Some hon. Members:** Agreed.

**Mr. Yurko:** The minister quoted the distribution of revenues from oil in Texas as 17 per cent to the state, 48 per cent to the private sector and, I believe, 35 per cent to the federal sector. Could he advise the House of the basis of those percentage figures? Are they based on crude oil at the world price level, or are they on the basis of gasoline at the pump? Perhaps the minister could clarify this.

**Mr. Lalonde:** Mr. Speaker, we used the same basis of comparison for Canada as for Texas. We have not used two different bases. Obviously that would have been very unfair. What we have used for the purpose of comparison is exactly the same basis in the two countries, and the figures obtained are those that I have mentioned.

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** The hon. member for La Salle—Joliette!

[*Translation*]

**Hon. Roch La Salle (Joliette):** You are nearly correct, Mr. Speaker, we could perhaps call it La Salle's constituency!

Mr. Speaker, I would like to make a few comments on an undoubtedly serious matter, and I shall try to do so as modestly as possible since, compared with other members of this House, I am not that knowledgeable when it comes to energy. First of all, I believe I should remind the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources (Mr. Lalonde) that the absence of the official critic is due to the fact that he is now in Paris for a meeting of the Association of French Language Parliamentarians. Moreover, I am happy about it. The member who opened the debate was supposed to be in Toronto this evening, and the