

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, please. Perhaps the hon. member might make his comments later.

[English]

Mr. John M. Reid (for Mr. Anderson) moved that the bill be concurred in.

Motion agreed to.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: When shall the bill be read a third time?

Some hon. Members: By leave now.

Mr. Reid (for Mr. Anderson) moved that the bill be read the third time and do pass.

[Translation]

Mr. Deputy Speaker: The hon. member for Matane could make his remarks right now.

[English]

Mr. De Bané: I simply wanted to say to the hon. member for Peace River that the British Columbia Telephone Company—

British Columbia Telephone Company is owned by the same people who own the telephone company of Gaspé. I understand that the president of Quebec Telephone, which is the company in our region, has just been appointed president of British Columbia Telephone Company, thus representing two different parts of the country. I am very happy about this. I should like to place on the record my compliments to British Columbia Telephone Company for having accepted, without any hesitation, the French name. I think that more and more we should ask private business to do what the federal government is doing.

In my opinion it is quite unreasonable that only the federal government takes on the burden of projecting bilingualism. I think the provincial departments of education and private business should support this as well, because otherwise it does not make any sense. Perhaps on another occasion the Chair might permit me to expand on that subject. However, I commend the British Columbia Telephone Company. I think it has taken an enlightened position in respect of the Canadian fabric.

Mr. G. W. Baldwin (Peace River): Mr. Speaker, I just want to say how much I appreciate what the hon. member has said. I am glad to see the zeal with which hon. members on the other side take into account the constitution and the rights of people in this country under the constitution. I hope the way in which members on this side have co-operated with the hon. member in getting this through will persuade him, and some of his colleagues, in turn to take exception to what the government is doing in respect of oil resources, by stealing from the provinces resources which belong to them. I hope the people in Gaspé, in an appreciation of the rights of people in other provinces, will take strong exception to the deceitful actions of the federal government in taking from the provinces things which belong to the provinces.

Mr. Stuart Leggatt (New Westminster): Mr. Speaker, I shall be very brief. I entered the chamber a little late so I must apologize for having missed part of the debate. I might say that I do not rise to delay the passage of this bill. I appreciate the objective of allowing this private

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monopoly to expand and continue to serve the people of British Columbia over the next ten years, which I see is the objective of the bill. However, I think there are a few things which should be placed on the record in respect of that particular oligopoly. My colleague from Burnaby-Richmond-Delta suggests that we are making it a little richer for the people of British Columbia to take over. I think the people of British Columbia are probably concerned to see telephone service expand even in this innovative and expensive way.

I believe the people of British Columbia would prefer to see a public corporation, and I hope in the future it will become a public corporation, as is the case in respect of most other telephone companies. The people are very satisfied with the kind of service they receive from these other corporate telephone services, but the people of British Columbia are not very satisfied with the kind of service they receive from the British Columbia Telephone Company.

I am concerned about this oligopoly being allowed to expand, to go into the market and obtain sufficient funds especially when there is a source of funds which I submit this company has failed to tap. I refer to the funds available to this company from the subsidiary companies of the British Columbia Telephone Company, companies such as Lenkurt Electrical and Western Electric which supply services to British Columbia Telephone Company. My colleague from Burnaby-Richmond-Delta says they are good, free enterprise companies.

There is nothing further from free enterprise in this case in respect of the relations Western Electric or Lenkurt Electric have with the parent company for the services they provide and the material they supply to the parent company. If British Columbia Telephone Company would look at the profits of its subsidiaries and plow back some of those profits into the parent company then this company could get along with less money than it needs to go to the market for now.

In British Columbia the structure of a company is determined by the type of service it renders and not by the magnificent performance of its subsidiaries which are not regulated by government agencies. I want to place on the record the fact that the time will come when the people of British Columbia will not stand for this kind of rip-off. Madam Speaker, I have said enough. I do not wish to say any more. Thank you.

[Translation]

Mr. C.-A. Gauthier (Roberval): I do not want to prolong this discussion any further but I would simply like to congratulate all hon. members. While listening to those who spoke before me I was thinking that from 5 to 6 o'clock would be the proper time to present all the bills which must be passed quickly. I think it is the best hour to work in this House to put an end to our differences and to stop getting into empty discussions.

The member for Peace River (Mr. Baldwin) managed to get across his message on Alberta oil. I call him the "oiler" from Alberta, but he acted well in calling it to our attention and it is also his right to praise his province. As always, the member from the NDP would like to see everything nationalized. We respect his ideas but I must