

*Petroleum Incentives Program Act*

Mr. Speaker, nobody can tell me that the dictates of the market place will prevail with respect to energy when we are facing a cartel and when a handful of foreigners can affect the price Canadians pay for their gasoline or heating oil.

● (1440)

Mr. Speaker, I would say alright, for I believe in free competition and in marketplace, but only when it works. That is why I agree with the marketplace, but I reject the interference of the cartel. If indeed foreigners can decide the future of Canadian consumers and independent producers, I say that if foreigners can do that the Members of this House not only can do the same thing but they must give it top priority. That is why I am a bit upset and quite concerned about the Conservative Government approach, and again I repeat that our national energy policy could have been amended and changed. Some of those benefits could have been limited if they had been deemed excessive, but because of the current world situation, I suggest that a joint intervention of the federal Government and producing provinces is not only desirable but necessary.

Mr. Speaker, why could we not decide ourselves to ensure that oil resources exploration and development—at least most of it, if not all of it—is carried out in Canada by Canadians? As representatives of the Canadian people as a whole, could we not decide democratically here and now, through our tax system and budgetary measures, what is good for our country, our consumers as well as our producers? Mr. Speaker, why could we not, through consultations with the producing provinces, achieve a consensus governing the exploration, development and distribution of these limited and non-renewable resources?

[English]

**Mr. McDermid:** That's exactly what we have done.

[Translation]

**Mr. Garneau:** Mr. Speaker, the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources (Mr. McDermid) has said: "Exactly what we have done". What is it that they have done? They have turned over the whole administration to the private sector under the pretext of a free market system, something which actually does not exist. I challenge the Parliamentary Secretary to argue today that competitive forces are at work in this country and are determining oil prices. I am going to use against him his own argument. It is said today that Petro-Canada is buying oil at the lowest possible world price and selling it to Canadians at the highest possible price. What is the purpose of this policy? To get rid of independent producers and gouge consumers of this country.

**Mrs. Maily:** That is not true!

**Mr. Garneau:** What is happening is that . . .

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski):** Order, please!

**Mr. Rossi:** Mr. Speaker, we will be entitled to a 10-minute period for questioning and comments.

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski):** Order! Order, please . . .!

**Mr. Rossi:** The Hon. Member for Gatineau (Mrs. Maily) is interrupting all the time.

[English]

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski):** Order, please. Order, please. Order, please. There will be an opportunity for questions and comments after the Hon. Member finishes his 20-minute speech. I know it is Friday afternoon and everybody wants to go back to their constituency but I would like to hear the Hon. Member's speech. I would also ask you to hold your questions and comments until after the Hon. Member finishes debate.

[Translation]

**Mr. Garneau:** Mr. Speaker, I submit that Bill C-85—

[English]

**An Hon. Member:** Did you learn that in Quebec City?

[Translation]

**Mr. Rossi:** Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order.

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski):** The Hon. Member for Bourassa (Mr. Rossi) rises on a point of order.

**Mr. Rossi:** Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. The Hon. Member has insulted the Province of Quebec when he said that—

[English]

Did you learn that in Quebec City? Mr. Speaker, we will not stand for that kind of rubbish.

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski):** It is not a point of order. I don't know what happened there but I know that the Hon. Member has the floor. I would appreciate very much if Hon. Members would allow him to finish his debate and then I will recognize Hon. Members for questions and comments.

[Translation]

**Mr. Garneau:** Mr. Speaker, what I wish to emphasize is that . . . I understand, Mr. Speaker, that it hurts the Conservative Members to realize that they are giving away something very important, namely our oil and gas resources. They are giving them away by allowing foreign interests to gain control over them, not in terms of ownership, but in terms of development because the present price of oil lets the cartels control the energy policy of Canada, even though this policy should be set by this very House.

Mr. Speaker, I submit with all due respect that by virtually cancelling all exploration programs and abandoning any national energy policy, we are placing this country at the mercy of decisions made outside Canada. I also submit that, to the