Canada Petroleum Resources Act

been for that program, we would not be in the position we are in today in the Province of Alberta.

The situation today is entirely different. It is not an artificial depression. We have a depression. There is a surplus of oil in the world. We have an international situation. The Government had nothing to do with that. It is an international situation and we are suffering along with every other oil producing country.

Mr. Deans: We are suffering.

Mr. Taylor: When the Member talks about security of supply, where were Members of the Liberal Party when they brought in the National Energy Program that literally stopped production in Alberta and Saskatchewan, certainly in Alberta? I saw hundreds of vehicles leaving the province. Hundreds of our people were out of work and hundreds went back to their own provinces because of the policies of the National Energy Program. It was an artificial situation created by the previous Government. As some people say, it was a policy to try to destroy an industry in one part of Canada. I hope we never have that kind of a policy again by any Government.

We have to deal now with an international situation and deal with it as effectively as possible. There will be better times in the oil industry.

I remember when we were looking for people in 1940 to help us develop the oil industry in Alberta. We could not get one red cent out of the Liberal Government at that time. We had to go out of the country to get finances, without which we would not have an oil and gas industry today.

Why did the Liberal Government introduce a policy like the National Energy Program? It destroyed the industry in Alberta and drove many hundreds of people out of the country entirely.

Mr. Rompkey: Mr. Speaker, the Hon. Member has to remember that he supports the Government now. We are not here to debate the pros and cons of the National Energy Program. I would be quite happy to do that, but under the National Energy Program we had rigs off the east coast. Under the National Energy Program we had young Newfoundlanders employed, and under the National Energy Program we had small Canadian companies that were servicing the offshore. Now we do not. That is the reality, Mr. Speaker. Members over there have to deal with the situation. There is a world-wide problem and it is the Government's job to come up with answers to what is happening in Canada. We are not here to fight the battles of the past. That Party is now the Government and it is responsible for finding solutions to the situation in Canada.

People back home in my province and my colleagues and countrymen in Alberta will be laid off because the Government is not doing anything about the situation. If the Hon. Member wants to make his mark he should be talking to his Cabinet colleagues asking them how they are going to deal with the reality of today. Never mind the National Energy

Program. We know what the National Energy Program did and did not do. There were jobs, there were rigs and there were companies operating. Now there are not. The question is not, what was the National Energy Program all about, but what is the Government doing about the situation today. That is the question, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Is the House ready for the question?

Some Hon. Members: Question.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: The question is as follows. Miss Carney, seconded by Mr. MacKay, moves that Bill C-92, an Act to regulate interests in petroleum in relation to frontier lands, to amend the Oil and Gas Production and Conservation Act and to repeal the Canada Oil and Gas Act, be now read a second time and referred to a legislative committee.

Is it the pleasure of the House to adopt the motion?

Some Hon. Members: Agreed.

Some Hon. Members: No.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: All those in favour of the motion please say yea.

Some Hon. Members: Yea.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: All those opposed please say nay.

Some Hon. Members: Nay.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: In my opinion the yeas have it.

And more than five Members having risen:

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Call in the Members.

The House divided on the motion (Miss Carney) which was agreed to on the following division:

(Division No. 258)

YEAS Members

Attewell Bernier Bertrand Blackburn (Jonquière) Blenkarn Bouchard Bourgault Boyer Brightwell Browes Cadieux Caldwell Cardiff Carney Champagne (Saint-Hyacinthe-Bagot) Champagne (Champlain)

Clark (Brandon-Souris) Clifford Clinch Cochrane Collins Comeau Cook Cooper Cossitt Côté (Lac-Saint-Jean) Côté (Langelier) Crofton Crombie Crosby (Halifax West) Darling

Desiardins Desrosiers Domm Dorin Duplessis Fillis Epp (Provencher) Fennell Fraleigh Gagnon Gervais Gormley (Bonaventure-Îles-dela-Madeleine) Greenaway Guilbault (Drummond)