

bers as being now well established components of an integrated national energy policy. That is an interesting statement in itself. It is very cleverly worded. You cannot really tell whether the statement means "we had an energy policy", "we have an energy policy", or "we will have an energy policy".

The question of energy policy is a very interesting one and was the subject of much remark in 1972. In fact I can remember Doug Stewart, the former member for Okanagan Kootenay, speaking about the lack of a Liberal energy policy at that time. I wonder if that is why he decided to retire. In any event the stand of the leader of my party on an energy policy was very clear in 1972: he expressed the need for the development of an energy policy, a policy that did not exist at that time, and which really does not exist today.

Let us look twice or three times at this statement, and let us look at it for what it says, not for what it purports to say. Purporting to speak of energy as oil and gas, and only oil and gas, what it really talks about, in my view, is all sources of energy, be they oil and gas, thermo nuclear, water and its hydro electric end result, or coal and coke fired steam generators. These last two, coal and coke, as well as hydro electric energy, are of considerable interest to me and of concern to my constituents. They are also of concern to the people of the riding of Okanagan Boundary. I mention that riding because of the massive coal deposits which exist in Fernie and the Crownsnest area.

● (2150)

Why are the people of Kootenay West concerned? I do not think there are many senior members in this House, along with the people of my riding, who will have forgotten the Columbia River sellout, the Kootenay Canal with which we are now faced, the Kootenay dams, the Libby Dam with which we have been cursed, and the massive effect on the environment at Kootenay Lake and the Pend d'Orielle River. What is the reaction of the people in my riding to that of playing waterboy to the North American continent? I think it is viewed as a threat to the people that they will be blessed with another damned dam. They have had dams up to their necks.

What are these people doing about the situation? Let us look at the record of B.C. hydro and its proposal to put a dam on the Pend d'Orielle River. The people of Trail and Fruitvale and the surrounding area were sufficiently sensible to do their homework, and they succeeded in bringing that project to a halt until proper studies had been completed on the environmental, hydro electric needs, the end results and so on. I can assure you that the concerns of the people will still be directed in that way, whether it involves hydro electricity or coal.

When the minister addresses himself to a national energy policy I frankly do not know whether he speaks of an oil and gas policy or a truly national energy policy, and I am not sure what are the parameters of such a policy. I do not think anyone knows, except perhaps the minister.

This bill we have before us does not in fact speak for Canada but speaks for an arrogant, self-centred and dictatorial administration. For the record let me again quote from Section 109 of the British North America Act. It states:

#### *Oil and Petroleum*

All lands, mines, minerals, and royalties belonging to the several Provinces of Canada, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick at the Union, and all sums then due or payable for such lands, mines, minerals, or royalties, shall belong to the several Provinces of Ontario, Quebec, Nova Scotia, and New Brunswick in which the same are situated or arise—

As the last speaker said, it is true that they were dealing at that time with a time frame far removed from the present, but that does not remove the responsibility on the part of the government to sit down with the provincial first ministers and do some real hard heart to heart talking. That does not preclude the necessity of some real hard bargaining. It is not good enough to say that a particular first minister will not agree. This all requires further dialogue rather than that type of confrontation.

What are the first ministers' responses now, and what will they do in future as our national policy expands so that we get into considerations of hydro electric generation, coal and thermo nuclear generation? These things are all covered under the general term energy, and this will affect all the provinces. The federal government will be involved, but the question is how, and under what terms?

Clause 36 of this bill is one that I think will give the first ministers of the provinces a future migraine headache. This bill represents a major precedent to the next step. I suggest that the next step, apart from laying the groundwork for policy in areas of energy source, will also lay the groundwork for the Minister of Finance (Mr. Turner) when he entertains the government and the people with his forthcoming budget address. What will he do? The odds are that he will also move into the energy and natural resource fields with future taxation which will bring into effect, again by direct confrontation with the provinces of British Columbia, Alberta and Saskatchewan, the whole question of resource taxation. I suggest the groundwork for that taxation is right here in this energy bill.

One might ask why I should be concerned about this and why the people of my riding should be concerned. I am concerned because of the vast resource of minerals in the riding of Kootenay West and the riding of Okanagan Kootenay, and because of the massive taxation that has already been introduced by a shortsighted provincial government. Reference has been made during the debate on this bill to a passage by Mr. Laskin. I think it deserves repeating at this time:

The respective taxing powers of dominion and provinces may not be used by either of them to sterilize powers conferred by the other upon its functionaries or substantially to impair their status.

My concern is not with the finer technical points or the major economic points to which experienced gentlemen have referred. My concerns are the concerns of the people of my riding whom I represent. May I call it ten o'clock, Mr. Speaker.