July 2, 1975

COMMONS DEBATES

MacDonald (Egmont) MacDonald (Miss) (Kingston and the Islands) MacKay MacLean Mackean MacLean Maclone Mashall Masniuk Masniuk Matte Mazankowski McCain McCleave McCrath McCRath

Abbott Allmand Anderson Andras (Port Arthur) Andres (Lincoln) Baker (Gander-Twillingate) Basford Béchard Bégin (Miss) Blais Boulanger Breau Bussières Caccia Cafik Campagnolo (Mrs.) Campbell (LaSalle-Émard-Côte Saint-Paul) Caron Chrétien Clermont Collenette Comtois Condon Corbin Corriveau Côté Cullen Cyr Danson Daudlin De Bané Demers Dionne (Northumberland-Miramichi) Douglas (Bruce-Grey) Drury Duclos Dupont Dupras Duquet Ethier Fleming Flynn Foster

Messrs. McKinley McKinnon Muir Munro (Esquimalt-Saanich) Murta Neil Nowlan Oberle Orlikow **O'Sullivan** Paproski Patterson Reynolds Ritchie Roche Rodriguez NAVS Messrs Fox Francis Gauthier (Ottawa-Vanier) Gendron Gillespie Goodale Goyer Gray Guay (St. Boniface) Guay (Lévis) Guilbault Haidasz Herbert Hopkins Isabelle Jamieson Joyal Kaplan Lachance Laioie Lalonde Landers Lang Langlois Laniel Lapointe Leblanc (Laurier) LeBlanc (Westmorland-Kent) Lee Lefebvre Lessard Loiselle (Chambly) Loiselle (Saint-Henri) Lumley MacDonald (Cardigan) Macdonald (Rosedale) MacEachen MacFarlane MacGuigan Maine Marceau

Rynard Saltsman Schellenberger Scott Smith (Churchill) Starfield Stevens Stevart (Marquette) Towers Whiteway Whitaker Wise Woolliams Yewchuk—94.

Marchand (Langelier) Marchand (Kamloops-Cariboo) Martin McIsaac McRae Milne Morin (Mrs.) Nicholson (Miss) O'Connell Quellet Parent Pelletier (Hochelaga) Pelletier (Sherbrooke) Penner Philbrook Pinard Portelance Poulin Prud'homme Railton Reid Richardson Roberts Robinson Rompkey Rooney Roy (Timmins) Roy (Laval) Sauvé (Mrs.) Sharp Smith (Saint-Jean) Stanbury Stewart (Cochrane) Stollery Tessier Trudeau Turner (London East) Turner (Ottawa-Carleton) Watson Vanakis Young-125.

• (1800)

Mr. Speaker: I therefore declare the amendment lost.

Amendment (Mr. Stevens) negatived.

Mr. Speaker: Pursuant to special order made in the House on Friday, June 27, it being after six o'clock I do now leave the chair for the House to resume at eight o'clock this evening.

At 6.10 p.m. the House took recess.

Petro-Canada **AFTER RECESS**

The House resumed at 8 p.m.

PETRO-CANADA ACT

MEASURE TO ESTABLISH CROWN CORPORATION

The House proceeded to the consideration of Bill C-8, to establish a national petroleum company, as reported (with amendments) from the Standing Committee on Natural Resources and Public Works.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. There are four motions by way of report stage amendments. Upon examination, at least in a cursory way, motions Nos. 3 and 4 appear not to give the Chair any problems in terms of procedure. However, subject to argument which the hon. member for Calgary Centre (Mr. Andre) may want to put forward and in which other members may wish to participate, it appears, aside from whatever difficulties may exist with regard to the recommendation and the financial initiative of the Crown, that there may be a question with respect to the first two with which I may have some difficulty.

Since the capitalization remains constant in both the bill and the hon. member's amendments, that is not a problem. However, clause 3 of the bill reads:

The purpose of this Act is to establish within the energy industries in Canada a Crown owned company with authority—

To support that, clause 5 of the bill states that the capital stock is \$500 million, divided as set out, and that the Crown will own all the shares. Motions Nos. 1 and 2 in the name of the hon. member for Calgary Centre seek to change that. The first motion seeks to change, not the gross amount, but the capital structure in order to give effect to the hon. member's second motion, which is to make the shares available for purchase by the public. That seems to change the very character of the corporation from a Crown owned to a public corporation.

As I said, that gives the Chair great concern, particularly at report stage. Perhaps the hon. member who has moved the motions might want to contribute something to the discussion at this point.

Mr. Harvie Andre (Calgary Centre): Mr. Speaker, I confess that upon hearing that the acceptability of these motions might be challenged, I was somewhat surprised. I did not feel that these motions in any way detracted from the intent of the government to establish a Crown corporation. In fact these amendments were proposed from the point of view of making this Crown corporation, Petro-Canada, more similar to existing Crown corporations. Indeed that has been the thrust of most of the debate, discussion, and argument of our party during second reading and particularly at the committee stage.

It is our feeling that certain clauses of the bill make Petro-Canada resemble a branch or division of the Department of Energy, Mines and Resources rather than a Crown corporation in the context of what the public of Canada perceives a Crown corporation to be. In my humble opinion, that perception is that a Crown corporation is basically a public corporation except that the Crown owns all of the shares. As a prerogative of ownership, it is able to direct the corporation into undertaking certain ventures