

S.O. 21

I support enthusiastically the two motions of my colleague. I trust there will be a change of feeling or attitude on the part of the Government, and that it will support these motions.

Mr. John McDermid (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): I will be very brief, Mr. Speaker, but I think the last few comments should not go unchallenged.

There is nothing in the Bill which prevents Petro-Canada from taking any kind of interest in any one of the exploration agreements, production agreements, or whatever. There is nothing to prevent Petro-Canada from participating. Second, the Bill has a 50 per cent Canadian ownership requirement.

NDP Members define Canadian ownership and ask who as a Canadian should own it. They say that it should not be a large Canadian company, that it should be a small Canadian company or that it should be an individual on the street. By the way, the individual on the street may own a few shares in the Canadian company which may own it. They keep changing the definition of "ownership" in their own minds and confusing the public. Once a company has more than 100 employees, the NDP considers the company to be a big bad brute. NDP Members indicate that they cannot participate, that they are a big company and therefore nasty and should not be involved in the oil industry or in some other industry. That is nonsense, and the Hon. Member knows it. Canadians are not gullible. They do not buy that kind of stuff.

I will reiterate. Under this Bill Petro-Canada has every opportunity to participate in the exploration and production ends of things. There is nothing to prevent Petro-Canada from participating whatsoever, and there is a 50 per cent Canadian ownership requirement in the Bill.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): Is the House ready for the question?

Some Hon. Members: Question.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): The question is on Motion No. 6 standing in the name of the Hon. Member for Vancouver—Kingsway (Mr. Waddell). All those in favour of the motion will please say yea.

Some Hon. Members: Yea.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): All those opposed will please say nay.

Some Hon. Members: Nay.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): In my opinion, the nays have it. I declare the motion lost, which means that Motion No. 7 is also lost.

Motions Nos. 6 and 7 negatived.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): It being one o'clock, I do now leave the chair until two o'clock later this day.

At 1 p.m. the House took recess.

AFTER RECESS

The House resumed at 2 p.m.

STATEMENTS PURSUANT TO S.O. 21

[English]

THE CONSTITUTION

NORTHWEST TERRITORIES—CLAIM TO PROVINCIAL STATUS

Mr. Dave Nickerson (Western Arctic): Mr. Speaker, last August a Bill was passed by the Federal Parliament of India granting to the territory of Mizoram full state status. For 25 years the people of Mizoram had been fighting a constitutional battle for their rightful place in the Indian Federation. They have been successful.

For 25 years the people of the Northwest Territories have been fighting their constitutional battle for their rightful place in the Canadian Federation. Despite considerable gains, they have not yet been completely successful.

We must never forget that there are, even today, north of 60, Canadians who are denied full democratic rights. They do not yet enjoy provincial status. The sooner the Parliament of Canada follows the lead of the Parliament of India in this matter, the better it will be.

* * *

[Translation]

SAINT-MAURICE RIDING

NEW MEMBER'S PRIORITIES

Mr. Gilles Grondin (Saint-Maurice): Mr. Speaker, I simply wish to thank the Government for the opportunities I had during this campaign to make a contribution and receive the support of others, and point out that my priorities will, of course, be the unemployment situation in my riding and the youth problem and training for young people, and I will do everything I can to do something about our social security programs which are also a major problem in my riding.

* * *

[English]

IMMIGRATION

HEAD TAX PAID BY CHINESE IMMIGRANTS

Ms. Margaret Mitchell (Vancouver East): Mr. Speaker, in 1983 as a result of raising past injustices against Chinese