

with that export, of course, goes thousands of jobs needed by Canadians today.

There is no distinction made between foreign corporations and Canadian ones. Already more than 60 per cent of Canada's mining industry is owned or controlled by non-Canadian interests. We are therefore providing vast amounts of taxpayers' money in developing these resources, in providing incentive and tax exemption plans to encourage numerous foreign corporations to develop Canadian resources for export. Canadian are being deprived of jobs which could be provided by the processing of minerals in this country. Canada is then forced into the position of re-importing the finished products at higher prices.

• (3:50 p.m.)

It seems to me, Mr. Speaker, that it is time thoughtful Canadians began to look at the whole approach of government to resource development. We are gradually losing economic control of our country. We are gradually losing economic control of our vast stores of natural resources. Regardless of what individuals say, once you lose the economic control of your country, you lose political control. This is the position in which we find our country today, Mr. Speaker, and it is high time Canadians in every walk of life began to demand that the government take measures to restore this economic control to Canadians. At the same time, our people should insist that there be a major change in economic policy as far as the processing of raw materials is concerned. Far more of this processing must be done in our nation. It is in the processing of raw materials that the real job producing possibilities lie.

Canada has the raw materials. It has the workers. It has the educational and the technical skills. Yes, it also has the capital with which to start an accelerated program for this type of development. If this Liberal government is unwilling to move along these lines, then the people of Canada should turn them out of office and call for a new approach to the solving of unemployment and the stabilizing of industry in our nation. I suggest, Mr. Speaker, that in the bill before us there should be a clause which should insist upon the processing in Canada, preferably in the Yukon Territory itself, of all the minerals mined in that area. I urge that the members of this House study this proposal and make amendments to the legislation before us which will at least give us a start in this direction.

Mr. Gordon Ritchie (Dauphin): Mr. Speaker, in rising to speak on Bill C-187, an act respecting minerals in the Yukon Territory, I think it is important to examine the climate for investment in the Yukon. I am speaking, of course, of climate in its broadest sense, that is, social, economic and political. In attempting to come to an understanding of the government's policy concerning the political climate for the development of our natural resources in the Yukon Territory, I should like to draw to the attention of all hon. members some very interesting remarks on this subject which were made by the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development (Mr.

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Chrétien) at the 1971 symposium on "Petroleum Economics and Evaluation", sponsored by the Dallas section of the Society of Petroleum Engineers, to whom the hon. minister spoke on Tuesday, March 9, 1971.

The minister's office was, of course, kind enough to issue a press release of his remarks and I should like to quote from a paragraph on page 5:

For over a century, Canada has avoided establishing barriers to the flow of this investment, except in certain limited fields, and has offered a stable environment for investment. This investment, of course, must operate within controls which protect legitimate Canadian interests. At the present time, some Canadians are asking themselves if there are ways of increasing their own investments in their own economy, or if the present controls are adequately protecting Canadian interests. The point I want to emphasize to you today is that foreign capital need not fear such questioning, for we will remain an open country seeking positive, not negative, answers to these questions.

That particular quotation ends here, Mr. Speaker. However, I should like also to quote a remark made earlier in the same speech:

We will continue to require large amounts of capital to maintain our pace of development and expansion. While much of this investment will come from within Canada, a significant part of it will have to come from outside our country.

The remarks which I have quoted, which were made by the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, would, I think, lead any reasonable person to conclude that Canada was seeking and welcoming foreign investment as a means of developing our vast natural resources since this appears to be, as indeed the minister clearly suggested, beyond the present capacity of Canadians themselves.

Notwithstanding the very forthright encouragement and invitation to Americans in particular to continue their participation in the development of our natural resources, the same minister, when addressing this House on second reading of Bill C-187 in the same month of March, had this to say regarding non-Canadian participation in the development of the mineral resources in the Yukon Territory:

Mr. Speaker, regarding Canadian ownership and participation requirements, you will note that such provisions are being included in the new act. This will ensure that new mines in the Yukon meet reasonable requirements of Canadian ownership.

The quotation ends here, Mr. Speaker. It is interesting to note, in contrast with the minister's speech in Dallas, just what he regards as "reasonable requirements of Canadian ownership". The proposed act, unlike the existing act, introduces Canadian ownership requirements which in effect state that a lease to mineral rights can be granted only to a Canadian citizen or to a corporation incorporated in Canada, and that 50 per cent of the outstanding shares of such corporations must be issued and beneficially owned by Canadian citizens or other such Canadian corporations. While this stipulation does not apply to leases and claims existing prior to the date on which this new act may come into effect, it nevertheless effectively discourages any future development of such existing claims or leases by foreign corporations or the development of new claims or leases by them. While it is possible for a company to circumvent the 50 per cent