

including the dinosaur from Brampton who is otherwise known as the so-called Minister of State for Privatization and Regulatory Affairs. He is dismantling Canada and here he produces a bill which is the classic product of a dinosaur who never learns and who is about to die because the citizens of Brampton will only give him another couple of years. Then he is gone down the drain as all dinosaurs should go and deserve to go.

We hear now this fantastic concern for the public debt. At the end of 1990, all of sudden we have to cut in the interest of the public. What a shame! What a distortion if one looks at the performance of this government, from the time it was elected until very recently, in doubling that very same public debt. Canadians, however, will not be fooled.

In looking at this bill, in particular Motion Nos. 2A and 19, the parliamentary secretary of course feels that these go too far and that these are not measures that ought to be adopted. They sound perhaps too patriotic for this government. I do not blame him because he has to carry out orders on behalf of the dinosaurs over there. He is telling us to be careful, that we should not impose a Canadian presence on the board of Petro-Canada. This is something that you do not do. It is improper. It is not necessary because it is being done through other means, perhaps through an association of some sort, but not through the bill because it could backfire and be counter-productive.

It is really difficult to believe that the section we are examining now, section 9, goes on for six pages to identify provisions, mostly of a technical nature, without statements that relate to the environment, to sustainable development, and without a statement of mandate in general. Actually, it is a bill without a preamble which these days is quite unusual. This is an old fashioned type of bill in which it is not indicated overall in which direction you intend to go. That is usually what a preamble does in a bill. But this government does not trouble to indicate to the public the mandate or the general philosophy which the government intends to pursue. It probably would be too embarrassing to reveal to the public in a few lines what this bill is all about. That is perhaps the reason why we cannot find in the short introduction to the bill what it intends to produce.

Government Orders

We thought that the amendments put forward by the hon. member for Essex—Windsor and the hon. member for Scarborough—Rouge River, whom I congratulate for their initiative, would have fallen on sensitive and receptive ears, particularly the two motions put forward this morning. The reason being that there has to be in an organization, which was launched and funded over the years, which performed a valuable service to the Canadian public, and established a presence which is so popular, as witnessed by the efficient operation of the Petro-Canada stations across the country, a sense of substantial Canadian ownership which would be made a part of this legislative measure.

We never would have thought we would hear an intervention of the kind that the parliamentary secretary made a moment ago in defending the importance of the private sector. The private sector would not be in danger at all if Petro-Canada were to continue under the present mandate. It would not be in danger if the mandate of Petro-Canada were to be expanded, which is unthinkable in the dinosauric mentality of the Tories across the aisle here today and for the past few years. It is inconceivable for them to even think in terms of the fact that Canada needs a long-term energy plan and within that plan to devise a bill of a different content that would fit within the general plan.

We are perhaps the only nation in the industrialized northern hemisphere which does not have an energy plan, policy or sense of direction, let alone the vaguest idea as to what we should be doing to reduce our dependency on fossil fuels. The dinosaurs over there are not even trying to tackle that in their wildest mornings when they wake up with their foggy minds. In fact, they do not have minds. They are just creeping creatures, they have nothing in their brains except spinach, perhaps, at best. On the eve of 1991, we are debating this bill with its puny little sections which are really meaningless in terms of long term environmental and sustainable development and climate change. We are trying to tell this bunch of idiots that they are out of sync with the rest of the world. That's what they are because, Mr. Speaker, at every scientific conference that you attend throughout the world these days scientists are telling us: "Damn it, reduce your dependence on fossil fuels because there is a climate change danger at the door". And what does this government happily do? It just ignores it.