

from Saskatchewan, we have developed the potash industry with a heavy government involvement so that it is a world leader. The potash industry in Saskatchewan can compete hands down against any other potash supplier in the world. We have seen the same thing happening in the minerals industry and the uranium industry. Government can be efficient if it so chooses. I might point out that Saskatchewan also has one of the lowest civil service-to-population rates in Canada, indicating that the provision of government services is done in a very efficient way as well when you apply productivity levels as a means of measuring that efficiency.

I think I would like to spend a couple of minutes discussing another extremely productive area in this country, namely, farming. I think it is productive in part because we have had government interference through the Canadian Wheat Board and in the form of the Canadian Dairy Commission. To quote some members of the House, with that extreme level of government interference, we have not ended up with low productivity in the agricultural sector. In fact, when you look at the last ten years from 1971 to 1979, you see that productivity in agriculture increased 23.4 per cent. When you look at productivity levels in the same period in the non-agricultural area, you find that productivity increased a mere 8.2 per cent over the ten-year period. The free enterprise system has not been doing as well as sectors where there has been heavy government involvement.

So using the free market as the basis for operating an economy needs a good, hard, second look. We think the idea should be rejected and that policies should be formulated without that fallacious beginning. We should look at the situation as it exists, treat it with solutions which can be of help, and provide a made-in-Canada policy which will give us made-in-Canada interest rates and provide the kind of funding we need for this country. We have been told that if we do not raise interest rates, capital will flow out of the country. We have been raising interest rates, we have been letting them float along with the U.S. rates, yet we have seen a net outflow of capital in the last two or three years. Maybe it is time we started looking at some of the European and Japanese experiences. They did not hesitate when they were trying to rebuild their economies. We must think in terms of rebuilding our economy. They did not hesitate to enforce currency controls as part of their industrial strategy. Those currency controls were part of the system for many years until those economies developed into the strong industrial economies they became after the devastation of the Second World War. I think it can be done. We know it can be done. It is a matter of starting from the right base point and making the right decisions.

● (1220)

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Bill Clarke (Vancouver Quadra): Mr. Speaker, in the 16 hours of continuous debate we have heard a lot of numbers. At least my colleagues on this side know that I am a numbers man. But today I should like to talk about principles, principles which the government is sorely lacking. I cannot say that

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the government has no principles, because we know about one; that is, the principle of power. Perhaps the government has a few others as well, but if so, they have been borrowed or stolen from this side of the House, either from the Progressive Conservative government when it was in power, or from its bedfellows in the New Democratic Party, in order to help the government stay in power. I do not think there is any wonder about it, because the party opposite is led by a man who said he would wrestle inflation to the ground nearly a decade ago. What a laugh that was! The same man said that separatism was dead in Quebec at the moment separatism was reaching its peak in Quebec. That party is led by the man who said that separatism has not yet been born in the west. In saying that, he only displays his ignorance of the west, or he has not been out there. The party is led by a man who in 1979 resigned as its leader. I guess that was the only way he could hear any nice words said about him. That same man led his party to defeat a government which was good for Canada. His party defeated the Progressive Conservative government with false commitments, and I say that advisedly.

I have found a ten-month-old full-page advertisement which appeared in *The Vancouver Sun*. It contains some of the Liberal programs which were major commitments. The first commitment was that the Liberals would set a made-in-Canada pricing policy to secure adequate supplies of energy at reasonable prices. I question very much whether we have anything like adequate supplies of energy in Canada. Certainly, Canadians living in the constituency of the hon. member for South Shore (Mr. Crouse) will know that they do not have energy at reasonable prices. At the same time the policy created billions of dollars of expenditures on hidden subsidies. It was a false commitment.

Another commitment read as follows:

"Joe Clark has almost personally destroyed Petro-Canada, one of Canada's greatest energy assets."

History proves that to be false. Petro-Canada is not destroyed, nor was it the intention of the Right Hon. Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Clark) to destroy Petro-Canada.

Another commitment read as follows:

"Liberals will ensure that Canada's energy sector becomes more Canadian owned and controlled."

What happened in British Columbia last month? Petro-Canada spent \$10 million and bought a chain of service station outlets in British Columbia. Did that make the energy business any more Canadian owned? It was owned by Canadians who lived in Vancouver; now the taxpayers own it.

Perhaps we can look forward to the government buying up various businesses. That will make them more Canadian owned. Instead of letting Dominion stores, a Canadian company, sell groceries, perhaps the government would like to take it over. Of course the list is endless.

The group opposite defeated a government which in its first seven months took major steps to do a number of things to which I should like to refer. It took major steps to develop a comprehensive energy self-sufficiency program, to reduce the