

*Energy Supplies Emergency Act*

my view, is ineptitude, inefficiency, and no profits. Excessive profits, ill-gained profits, undue wealth without social responsibility are indeed sinful in my view. There is no reason why we cannot increase Canadian equity participation in this process which I suggest. I think we should encourage it, even insist upon it, and perhaps buy at least leverage control, such as we did in Texas-Gulf through the Canadian Development Corporation. At least we would have control of something good rather than ownership of something that does not exist.

As a matter of fact, I am getting a little tired of the insufferable self-righteousness and arrogance of some of my NDP friends and their crowing, strutting and posturing. Their claims that everything done by this government is because of them make me tired. They cover the waterfront of things we are likely to do, and when we do some of them, they say "we showed them; we forced them to do it." I can assure you, Mr. Speaker, that recent moves in the energy field have been Liberal moves from start to finish. No set of policies has more reflected the expressed views of our caucus, both in concept and in detail. Now the hon. member for Oshawa-Whitby (Mr. Broadbent), I hear, is strutting around the countryside threatening to withdraw his support if we do not do things we might very likely do even if he were back in his classroom. His leader is so inflated with delusions of power that he is telling the people that he has not finished with us yet. If we were not in the House of Commons and I was not such a gentle and polite soul, I would call it what it is in eight letters.

Those pious gentlemen think they are the sole repository of virtue, that they are making parliament work and that they are keeping the government in office. Well, it is our views, our policies and our actions supported by the divisions and ineptitude of the Conservative Party that are keeping that small band of NDP in parliament at all. They support us because they find it in their own self-interest to do so. I will grant that they recognize the fact that even a minority Liberal government is far better for Canada than any Tory government, but they also know that an election will decimate their ranks. They are divided between their leader, their caucus, and the various factions of their party, very much like the Tories. It is this government with this Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) that is carrying the responsibility of government in this most difficult of times, but we are doing it with thoughtfulness and determination in what we believe to be the best interests of Canada and the vast majority of Canadians.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Danson: I challenge the NDP to defeat us in favour of that sad band of Tories over there made up of refugee Liberals and bewildered Social Creditors, plus a hardcore of Neanderthals—that is where fossil fuel comes from—who cannot figure out which way is up or who really speaks for them. I know that we are a unified party.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Danson: We are ready to take them on in any election, winter, summer, spring or fall. But I would rather get on with doing the serious job that needs to be done now, and that Canadians want us to do in this most

[Mr. Danson.]

serious of times, and which we wish to do in the best interests of all Canadians.

Mr. Cyril Symes (Sault Ste. Marie): Mr. Speaker, before I comment on the bill before us may I say that I listened with interest to the remarks of my friend, the hon. member for York North (Mr. Danson). I wondered why he was smiling during the last few minutes when he was talking about the unity of his party and the Liberal policies. I suspect he got flak from his constituents about the Liberal's capitulation to NDP demands.

We have before us Bill C-236 to provide an emergency allocation of energy supplies in the event of a crisis. It seemed before Monday that certainly this country was in for a crisis of the ineptitude of the government and the lack of any concrete energy policy. To some degree, that has been changed by recent events and by the demands of the NDP being met by the government to a large extent. We are still in a rather critical situation in this country so far as energy is concerned. We talk about an energy crisis. Really, what we mean is a crisis with two aspects, one of supply and one of price. The supply aspect cannot be solved overnight. We cannot wave a magic wand and make it disappear.

● (1530)

Because of the oil policy initiated by the Conservative government in 1961, the country was divided into two regions, east of the Ottawa valley line being dependent on imported foreign oil, and west of the Ottawa valley line being dependent on western Canadian oil. But, Mr. Speaker, much of that oil was being exported. In fact, at present we are importing a million barrels of oil a day and exporting an equal amount.

Now, people in the oil industry who previously over-estimated our supplies of conventional crude are admitting that we have only about ten years' supply of conventional crude left in Canada. Yet, we still continue to export oil at the fantastic rate of one million barrels per day. Because we have only ten years' supply of conventional crude left in Canada, we must seriously look at the Athabaska oil sands. Their development will have to take place soon if we are to avoid a supply crisis ten years hence.

The second aspect of the so-called energy crisis is that of price. Over the past few months we have witnessed a government being dragged, kicking and screaming, into an admission that there was no justifiable reason for an increase in the price of western Canadian crude oil. If we look over events during the past few months we find that the stand taken by the New Democratic Party has been vindicated. The Liberal government, faced with the threat of an election, was forced to accept our policy, and it has won widespread support from the Canadian people.

What did the NDP demand? Months ago we asked for export controls to be placed on crude oil. As I have said, we were exporting oil at a fantastic rate, and the United States was demanding even more of our oil. As the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) admitted a few days ago in his televised speech, our exports of oil this year to the United States had increased by 18 per cent. Because we foresaw this problem, we demanded that there be a curtailment of