

*Point of Order—Mr. Andre*

these aspects simultaneously. That is what this bill is trying to do. For instance, where oil supply is concerned, I may refer you, Madam Speaker, to the amendments to the Petroleum Administration Act, which will make it possible to establish adequate and sure prices for new supplies, so as to attract investors, and to the petroleum incentives program act, which will provide a direct incentive to investment in this sector. Furthermore, the tax measures contained in the Petroleum Administration Act implement the new system set forth in the National Energy Program and designed to provide adequate incentive to the industry, while avoiding unfair windfall gains. Finally, to continue with the measures contained in the bill that are aimed at improving the oil supply outlook, these include amendments to the Petro-Canada Act that will enable the corporation to act as a leader and catalyst in the implementation of these measures.

Thus, Madam Speaker, we have here a long list of the measures contained in this bill which have to do with oil supply.

I shall now deal with the measures concerned with oil demand. I am referring to the amendments to the Oil Substitution and Conservation Act, which is intended to encourage a reduction in oil consumption by assisting the substitution of more abundant fuels for oil. The same applies to the motor vehicle fuel consumption standards act, which is part of a general conservation and liquid fuels policy designed for Canadian needs and conditions. In addition, amendments to the National Energy Board Act will enable the Board to ensure that oil and gas are distributed fairly across Canada, while amendments to the Energy Supplies Emergency Act, 1979, provide the means for a more effective response to the need for restrictions in emergency situations.

So we have now dealt with the matter of supply and demand. Another aspect of the National Energy Program is concerned with opportunities for Canadian ownership in the industry. Here, Madam Speaker, I am referring to the petroleum incentives program act, which I mentioned earlier, and the Canadian ownership and control determination act. I am also referring to amendments that will make it possible to establish new corporations acting as agents of Her Majesty. I am referring to the establishment of the Canadian Ownership Account and to amendments that will be made to the Canada Business Corporations Act and the energy monitoring act which will enable the Petroleum Monitoring Agency to play a key role in monitoring the financial position and ownership of the major oil companies. Two technical amendments will be made to the Foreign Investment Review Act which will not modify the interpretation of the act by the Foreign Investment Review Agency.

Finally, Madam Speaker, one of the main objectives of the National Energy Program was to establish a system in the energy sector that is fair to all Canadians. And that is the intent of amendments to the Petroleum Administration Act, for instance, in terms of the prices Canadian consumers will be

paying for oil and gas and of sharing oil export charge revenues with the producing provinces. That is also the objective of amendments to the Oil Substitution and Conservation Act, which provide for financial assistance to consumers wishing to convert to fuels in more abundant supply than oil.

Thus, Madam speaker, the components of the proposed legislation are all interdependent aspects of an over-all energy strategy that will make Canada independent of the world oil market and make it possible for Canadians to benefit substantially from increasing revenue from and expansion of the oil and gas industry in Canada.

My colleague has referred to a number of precedents. Most of his arguments, Madam Speaker, were heard during the debate on Bill C-93, and I am not going to discuss the matter again. However, I should like to point out that, as my hon. colleague indicated, there are many precedents for the fact that one bill can include a number of subjects provided there is a single central theme. And as I indicated earlier, this bill has a single central theme, and all components of the bill are closely linked to it. My colleague referred to the ruling made by Mr. Speaker Lamoureux on January 26, 1971. I simply want to remind the House that on that occasion, the Speaker pointed out the long-standing practice of introducing omnibus bills in the House. I want to refer to another ruling made by the Acting Speaker Mr. Honey on May 4, 1971, as reported on pages 5585 and 5586 of *Hansard*, when the Acting Speaker specified that the issues dealt with in a bill must be relevant to the subject indicated in the long title. He also noted that each case must be analysed to determine whether a bill is unacceptable because it contains too many disparate elements. Finally, Madam Speaker, on February 16, 1982, you turned down a request concerning Bill C-93 stating that such provisions could be included in one bill on condition that the required notice be given.

My colleague tried to say that he was shocked by the schedules contained in the bill. I want to point out, Madam Speaker, that the bill was prepared in this way to facilitate its consideration by members of this House. It would have been just as easy to introduce a bill starting with Clause 1 and ending on the last page with Clause 356 and simply to line up one after the other the various elements contained in this bill which, as I have already said, are all interrelated. To make it easier for parliamentarians and the public to examine this bill, we have attempted to group subject matters so that, during the debate, we may truly focus our attention on clauses of the bill instead of simply having a succession of unrelated provisions.

There is no doubt that every provision contained in this bill and the schedules can be debated and amended in the House. As for us, we are willing to debate it without delay. My colleague also argued that the bill is such that some members might be willing to agree to certain provisions while objecting to others, and that they could therefore not be asked to vote on