

Business of the House

In 1951 thermal generation represented only 14 per cent of net generating capability in Canada. In 1961 it reached 19.3 per cent; by 1972 it will represent 31 per cent of our capability, or very close to one third.

The article deals with statements Mr. Beique made with regard to the over-all cost of power as a factor in total manufacturing costs. The article states:

In these days, when competition for international markets is perhaps our most serious problem, the cost of electricity in Canada, for all manufacturing, is but eight tenths of a cent per dollar of product.

In primary manufacturing, it is 1.8 cents, whereas in secondary manufacturing, it is only four tenths of a cent.

These costs are so low that they are insignificant; as a matter of fact, it may be said that even if electricity were free to industry, a small increase in wages or in the cost of materials would annul the gain made.

The point I am attempting to make is that I believe the government must re-examine its policy governing the export of power and bring it up to date. An arrangement should be made under which power may be exported under terms which will allow the recapture of that power, with sufficient safeguards incorporated in the export licences to prevent any part of Canada from which power is being exported suffering from a deficiency of hydroelectric power. If the power is truly surplus there is no reason why five year applications should be reduced to one year, or why a 25 year application for the British Columbia Electric should be cut to five years.

If the power is truly surplus for 15 years and there is a reasonable safeguard placed on top of the calculated requirements, I suggest the board should look at this realistically.

May I call it ten o'clock.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

Mr. Chevrier: Mr. Speaker, I take it that tomorrow and Thursday we will go on with the debate on the speech from the throne. Can some indication be given to us by the house leader as to what we will do on Friday?

Mr. Churchill: The throne speech debate will continue tomorrow, Mr. Speaker. It is one of those debates that may be concluded at any time. I do not think I should go beyond announcing that business for tomorrow.

Mr. Chevrier: Well, should we complete the throne speech debate before Thursday, which I doubt, could the house leader give any indication what the business will be then?

Mr. Churchill: That is a hypothetical question, Mr. Speaker. They are often asked in the house but never answered.

Mr. Hellyer: The minister raised the hypothesis.

At ten o'clock the house adjourned without question put, pursuant to standing order.
