

find that many people will be appointed other than those who are directly involved in this matter and who, with all due respect, may not have the necessary expertise. I shall mention just a few. Clause 4 reads:

The minister shall designate a person to be supervising mining recorder—

That is one. Then, the minister shall also designate one or more persons to be engineers of mines. Who else do we get here? Then we get a deputy mining recorder and a supervising mining recorder.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I regret I have to interrupt the hon. member, but it being four o'clock the House will now proceed to the consideration of private members' business.

PRIVATE MEMBERS' MOTIONS

POWER

BAY OF FUNDY—REQUEST FOR FEASIBILITY STUDY ON DEVELOPING TIDAL POWER

Mr. Robert C. Coates (Cumberland-Colchester North) moved:

That, in the opinion of this House, the government should consider the advisability of taking immediate action to initiate a further study to examine the feasibility of developing tidal power in the Bay of Fundy which would include the papers prepared by experts in this field that were prepared for the International Conference on the Utilization of Tidal Power, held at Halifax from May 24 to May 29, 1970, as well as a full examination of interest rates as they have applied to federal government projects in the capital works field.

He said: Mr. Speaker, it is a rather unique experience for a member of the opposition to rise in his place on a private member's resolution and to be able to say to members of the government that almost everything that is proposed in the resolution has already been accepted by the government and that plans are now going forward to implement these recommendations.

I say this with one thought in mind, that when my notice of motion was prepared and placed on the order paper, this was certainly not the case. Indeed, shortly after beginning the present session of Parliament, on questioning the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) I was informed that the government was not giving further consideration to the examination of the programming board report that covered the basic essentials of harnessing for power the Bay of Fundy tides.

• (4:00 p.m.)

But because we are as we are in the Maritime provinces, that is, very persistent and very determined to see that we have projects undertaken in that area of Canada which will allow us to determine our own future as a viable part of this nation, members of both political parties—I say both political parties because in the Maritime provinces we do not have any members of the NDP—

Request for Bay of Fundy Tidal Power Study

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, are there not two New Democratic Party representatives in the Nova Scotia legislature?

Mr. MacInnis: No; they only think they are.

Mr. Coates: Mr. Speaker, I understand the question of the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre (Mr. Knowles) and I say to him that while at one time, a very long time ago, there was a member—a very good member—of the NDP from the island of Cape Breton, which is part of Nova Scotia, that has not been the case for some time and I do not foresee that it will happen again in the present century. What I am talking about now, so far as the electorate is concerned in the Maritime provinces, is what is happening federally; and federally I believe that in the future, just as at the present time, there will be representatives only from the two major parties in the House of Commons. I may be wrong but I do not think I am.

Members from the Progressive Conservative party and the Liberal party joined together in a manner that I have not known in the years I have been in this House—indeed, I am doubtful if it has happened in the past 100 years—to endeavour to see that a re-examination of the programming board's report on the Bay of Fundy tides be carried out by the federal government in co-operation with the governments of the provinces of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick.

We in the Progressive Conservative party are in a position to make a good deal of noise because we happen to sit in the opposition, but I would not want it to be thought by the people of the Maritime provinces that the Liberal members of this House are not as dedicated and determined as the members of the Progressive Conservative party to see that this re-examination is carried out. In fact, the decision by the government to carry out the re-examination came only after much pressure had been demonstrated to the public by members of the Progressive Conservative party and by similar pressure being applied by the President of the Privy Council (Mr. MacEachen), the Minister of Veterans Affairs (Mr. Dubé) and various other members of the Liberal party in this House, on the minister responsible, the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources (Mr. Greene), to see that such an examination was carried out.

In so far as the government's decision to carry out this re-examination was concerned, I am quite certain it was made only because the President of the Privy Council, for instance, placed the problems of the Maritime provinces and the possible solution of those problems ahead of party politics. Certainly that was the case with the Minister of Veterans Affairs. I feel that their particular and unique knowledge of the problem associated with such re-examination assisted materially in the final determination by the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources to carry out the examination.

I believe that these two cabinet ministers, along with other Liberal members, deserve as much credit as any member of the Progressive Conservative party for seeing that the re-examination is going forward. I think this