

*Taxation*

couple of years we would have 50 per cent Canadian ownership and some government direction in the economy.

The hon. member who spoke previously talked about control of resources by Ottawa. I am a westerner and I realize that Ottawa and the western provinces have to work together, but due to the importance of the oil and gas sector there must be some direction in that industry.

There must be energy security for Canadians. In order to achieve that security there must be some direction, and it is our policy that this direction should come through Petro-Canada. I believe that Canadians support that policy.

The problem which exists in the House is that we are not radical enough for the people of Canada. We do not see any progressive initiatives taken. We listen to a few dinosaurs from a particular area who represent big oil companies and speak day after day in the House. But very few members stand up to speak on behalf of the Canadian consumer. I suspect that the consumer will opt and already is opting for an expanded Petro-Canada. The increasing sales of Petro-Canada service stations is evidence of that fact. I suggest that we drop some of these other tax programs.

As a westerner I would like to make another suggestion which I believe would be for the benefit of the western provinces. I believe the government is making an error in concentrating the efforts of the National Energy Program on exploration in the Beaufort Sea and the high Arctic. There is oil in Alberta and Saskatchewan that we have not touched. There is oil in the Lloydminster-Wainwright area and that is where we should be looking. Drilling rigs in Alberta could be working. I have a small button which is distributed by the energy services association in Alberta. That association is comprised of small entrepreneurs who help service rigs. Do you think they will get jobs in the Beaufort Sea? It will be the American multinationals that will go up there because they are the only companies that can afford to be involved in those kinds of plays.

We should be producing our oil in Canada. We can produce it cheaply and help the provinces of Alberta and Saskatchewan at the same time. I know that there is a feud, if you like, going on between the federal government and the Alberta government. The federal government is shifting all its explorations to the Canada lands in the north instead of Alberta and Saskatchewan. I believe that that is wrong and I will expand on that point later.

I would like to suggest another positive option, and that is to eliminate the PGRT and the IORT and just have a simple tax on the oil companies so they will not be burdened with filling out many forms for various governments. These companies should pay a royalty to the provinces and the provinces should share that royalty with the federal government. The difficulty which faces this option is that it requires co-operative federalism. That co-operation existed in this country and its principles were eloquently expressed by the Right Hon. Lester Pearson. I quoted him in a previous speech which I made on this bill in the House.

I say to Canadians that they must bring some pressure to bear on politicians in the country, provincially and federally, to

act responsibly. What happens is that a provincial government begins to "Ottawa-bash" and it gets re-elected. Therefore, it will keep doing that because it realizes it is a good way to stay in power. Of course, the federal government responds to this "bashing".

The present Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) has said that co-operative federalism is dead. I think that is a sad statement. I believe that Canadians do not want to see co-operative federalism die. They want a tough federal government and a good provincial government which will stick up for their rights. Canadians do not want to see an end to co-operation because it is part of the federalism that we have developed in Canada.

As I said earlier, I would ask that the people of Canada give us, as legislators, some responsibility. Although this may not be popular with my hon. friends, I must say that I have had a chance to sit in this chamber and listen to some of the shenanigans that have been happening. I have seen the bell-ringing incident and the recent question of privilege brought by the hon. member for St. John's West (Mr. Crosbie). I feel that the official opposition will bring down the institution of Parliament. These acts have spread to Ontario where the Ontario Liberals have foolishly copied the bell-ringing episode. This is not how a government should operate in Canada. The country is in difficulty, people are unemployed and the oil and manufacturing industries are in trouble. We must see some positive measures introduced.

When I speak in Calgary tomorrow I know that some people will disagree with some of the policies I have enunciated, but at least we have made some suggestions. We are prepared to change some of them if they are not pragmatic enough and are shown not to work. However, the government is inactive and is not prepared to change its policies. Therefore, we end up with the National Energy Program.

One of the factors in our society is that conditions change so quickly. The National Energy Program is falling apart because it is based on the premise that oil prices will keep rising in the world market. However, there is a glut in the world market presently. This makes the agreement struck by Ottawa and Alberta unworkable and it will have to be reconsidered. There is nothing to prevent us from looking at the agreement again and there is nothing to prevent us from reviewing these taxes so that we can help small oil companies. Instead of the government remaining inactive while it is faced with a barrage of questions every day, there is nothing preventing it from saying that it will give the old and poor people a break, recycle some of that money to them and stimulate some areas of the economy. This can be done and people will respond to it. If I am wrong I will know when people write to me after I have made this speech.

**Mr. Roger Simmons (Burin-St. George's):** Mr. Speaker, I wish I had time to respond to some of the suggestions made by the hon. member for Vancouver-Kingsway (Mr. Waddell), but I wish to talk about the offshore issue today. This subject continues to dominate events in Newfoundland currently. It