

at the daily statistics that are being supplied. The minister, however, only laughs off these criticisms saying they are nothing to be concerned about, they are merely the big crocodile tears of the vast oil interests in Canada. I ask the minister, who is in his seat in the House today, whether he shares the opinion of Mr. Rowland Frazee, chairman of the Royal Bank, who stated in Montreal, on January 8, 1981, that the federal government should scrap its national energy program and concentrate on drawing up a new policy rather than worrying about the constitution. In the words of Mr. Frazee: "It seems abundantly clear by now that the national energy program is so seriously flawed as to be a non-starter, which should be withdrawn and reconsidered! Canada's number one energy priority should be self-sufficiency in oil, but 'high noon' confrontations between the federal government and the provinces are blocking progress". These are the words of the chief executive of one of Canada's biggest banks, but I doubt whether his advice and his suggestions will meet with any more acceptance by the minister than do the carefully worded suggestions and recommendations made by members of Parliament from this side of the House. It is somewhat like the words of the mother watching the parade go by, turning to dad and saying, "You know, dear, everyone is out of step but our John." That is the attitude of this minister. Obviously, the moves being made by the minister against foreign investment in his attempts to gain great Canadian ownership of the oil industry can only further damage Canada's reputation abroad and cause wasteful bickering at home. I say to the minister, through you, sir, that if he continues to pursue the policies as outlined in this bill, we will continue to see more projects delayed or go down the drain or, more accurately go down south. We will see the Canadian dollar fall still further. We will see the price which we paid for our imports increasing and our inflation continuing its upward spiral.

The clauses and proposals in this bill will never, I submit, help us to settle our domestic problems or our international difficulties. In my opinion, this government's inability to see the tremendous potential of this nation is undoubtedly its greatest weakness. This government, with its preoccupation for the acquisition of still greater power, with its determination to still further socialize Canadian industry and build an even greater bureaucracy is, unfortunately, causing all Canadians to forfeit their opportunity to build on our strengths for the future. That is the crime of this type of legislation. The minister has carefully detailed the powers and the privileges which he considers essential to be retained by the federal government under this bill for control of the Canada lands. Some still ask, "What are these lands?" In fact only a moment ago I placed a question, at his consent, before the hon. member for Davenport (Mr. Caccia) for whom I have a great deal of respect. In his answer he seemed to state that there was nothing about the ownership of lands to which I referred in the bill. I regret that he has not read his own government's "National Energy Program" of 1980, for, if he had, he would see what the minister is talking about when he speaks of Canada lands. They include all of the Yukon, all of the

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Northwest Territories, the Labrador Shelf, the Grand Banks, all of the Scotian shelf which includes Sable Island and the area adjacent to New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island. That is what they intend to take, to rape from the rest of Canada through this type of legislation.

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As a Nova Scotian I believe it is my duty and responsibility to place on the record the position of those I represent so that the minister and the government can evaluate the different points of view and hopefully through debate and discussion resolve the different problems facing both governments on this matter.

The exploitation of offshore oil and gas could be the most important commercial development of the twentieth century for Nova Scotia. Offshore oil and gas could give Nova Scotians the financial resources to attack deeply-rooted economic problems and strengthen weaker sectors of the economy. In our view it is a real chance for those of us who live in Nova Scotia.

Oil and gas production from our own fields would also provide badly needed independence from our presently insecure supply of increasingly costly oil imports. At present all the oil consumed in my province of Nova Scotia is foreign-produced and large federal payments are needed to maintain a uniform Canadian oil price to consumers. Reducing or eliminating oil imports would improve Canada's balance of payments and stabilize the cost of oil to Canadian consumers.

We realize as well that offshore oil and gas developments could also present problems if they are not properly managed and controlled. Experience in other jurisdictions shows us that large oil and gas developments can be highly disruptive. They can lead to inflation because the funds involved are so large in relation to the rest of the economy. They can disturb living patterns, for example, by causing real estate prices to soar. They can also harm the environment, a fact which has been mentioned earlier in the House and is well-known to all Nova Scotians who sadly remember and will never forget the disastrous *Arrow* and *Kurdistan* spills off their shores. Offshore oil and gas developments can overwhelm long-established local industries and small businesses, unless these firms can plan carefully with government guidance and protection to get their share of the action.

As Nova Scotians we believe strongly that the regulators and decision makers must have the closest possible direct links to the communities involved and be responsible solely to the jurisdiction most affected. This is one of the key reasons Nova Scotia insists it would be folly to allow the control and management of the offshore resources of the province to slip away from provincial hands.

Nova Scotia has already passed legislation to ensure that oil and gas activities, on and off the shores of the province, will provide the optimum benefit to Nova Scotians. In four separate acts provision is made by the government of Nova Scotia to determine the extent of employment of Nova Scotian workers and the use of Nova Scotian goods and services in all