

Government Orders

have been done. The future of this company depends upon its privatization and that is why we are doing it.

Mr. Lee Richardson (Calgary Southeast): Mr. Speaker, I did want to ask a question of the NDP speaker but, as that is not permitted under the rules, I will ask the question of a member who knows what she is talking about. I would like to ask the hon. member for Calgary Southwest first, has Petro-Canada ever discovered one teaspoonful of oil, and second, I would also like to ask about this question raised about foreign ownership. The hon. member said in her comments that there would be maximum of 25 per cent foreign ownership allowed. Even presuming that whole maximum was taken up, what would the effect on the foreign ownership in the country be?

The Acting Speaker (Mr. DeBlois): The hon. member for Calgary Southwest. Very briefly.

Mrs. Sparrow: Mr. Speaker, I want to thank my colleague for Calgary Southeast. First, he asked the question: "How much oil has Petro-Canada found?" It has not discovered any oil or gas. Its assets have all come through acquisitions, buy-outs, and backings.

The hon. member's second question was with regard to the foreign ownership. This is going to be a Canadian-controlled company. If the 25 per cent was indeed taken up by true foreigners, it perhaps might lower the upstream by 1.6 per cent. That is basing the fact on the total 25 per cent that would be allowed to foreign ownership that would completely go that way. It would be 1.6 on upstream.

It is not who owns it. It is who explores, develops, and produces for Canadians and gives jobs in security of supply for this country. That is what this private company is going to do.

NOTICE OF ALLOCATION OF TIME TO CONSIDER SECOND
READING STAGE OF BILL C-84

Hon. John McDermid (Minister of State (Privatization and Regulatory Affairs)): Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. I, too, want to congratulate you. It is the first opportunity I have had to do so.

I have been informed that to date, agreement has not been reached under the provisions of Standing Order 78(1) and (2) with respect to an allocation of time in the second reading of Bill C-84, an act respecting the

privatization of the national petroleum company of Canada. We will continue to try to get an agreement with the opposition parties on a reasonable length of time that we debate this on second reading and get it into committee for an in-depth study.

However, under the provisions of Standing Order 78(3), I give notice of my intention to move a time allocation motion at the next sitting of the House for the purpose of allocating a specified number of days or day for the consideration and disposal of that stage of the said bill.

An hon. member: Shame.

Mr. Harvey (Edmonton East): I rise on a point of order, Mr. Speaker. It could not have been anything else. The Minister of State has already spoken in the debate. It had to be a point of order.

On that point of order let me say that I am little short of astonished that the government after hearing only three speakers in the debate—

Mr. Dingwall: Mr. Speaker, I rise on the point of order raised by the hon. minister. He is certainly within the provisions of the Standing Orders to move notice of his particular motion, but I just wish to draw to the attention of members of the House that this is a real breach of what has transpired between the various—

Some hon. members: Order, order.

Mr. Dingwall:—House leaders concerning business of the House. Once again, the government has gone back on its word.

[*Translation*]

The Acting Speaker (Mr. DeBlois): Resuming debate. The hon. member for York Centre.

[*English*]

MEASURE TO ENACT

Hon. Bob Kaplan (York Centre): Mr. Speaker, we are rapidly approaching six o'clock and I am very pleased to have the opportunity to rise to speak as my colleague did for the opposition and to make it clear to members of the House, and to the government in particular, that the opposition does not support the privatization of Petro-Canada and that we will be voting against this measure.

We oppose very strongly the government's concept of Petro-Canada, that of being a company such as any