

Committee Reports

The Acting Speaker (Mrs. Champagne): The Hon. Parliamentary Secretary.

Mr. Waddell: Is this debate?

Mr. McDermid: No, this is not debate. This is the period for comments and questions. I sat very patiently and listened to the diatribe that came from my friend, the Hon. Member for Windsor—Walkerville (Mr. McCurdy).

Mr. Langdon: You sat, but not patiently.

Mr. McDermid: That is right.

There are a number of things that should be understood by Canadians. The New Democrats do not tell the whole story.

First, the provinces own the resources and control them. The Hon. Member knows very well that the provinces tell people where and when they can drill. If they are lucky enough to find anything, the provinces tell them how much they can pump and ship and so forth. The management and the conservation of those resources is still entirely within the power of the provinces. There is no question about that.

An Hon. Member: Talk about prices.

Mr. McDermid: The New Democrats are yelling for me to talk about prices. If they want to set my agenda for me, then we will talk about prices. There is a world price set for oil. For a number of years because of the policies of the previous Government the West was getting a lot less than the world price for oil. What happened to the West? The West was almost brought to its knees. We sell the West cars at world prices made in the Hon. Member's riding. We do not give the West a special Canadian price for cars made in Ontario that are shipped out. But we want oil here at a cheaper price. That is the way the NDP operates. That is the New Democrats' policy. Nationalize everything and dictate everything to the provinces. That is what they want to do and that is what they are afraid they cannot do any more.

Mr. McCurdy: You want Washington to do it.

Mr. McDermid: And thank goodness, Madam Speaker, they cannot. Let us talk about prices. The New Democrats say we cannot sell our energy across the border for less than what is being charged here. That is totally wrong. The Americans are paying market price for hydro. It is a lot more than consumers are paying in the Province of Quebec, for example. That is allowed under this agreement. There is nothing in this agreement that prevents that, nothing at all.

An Hon. Member: Have you read it?

Mr. McDermid: I have read it. I am willing to wager that I have read it more times than the Hon. Member has. The NDP do not want us to ship energy to the U.S. It wants to keep it to themselves.

• (1220)

Some Hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. McDermid: I struck a nerve over there. They do not want to ship energy to the U.S. Listen to them holler. They want to keep it here.

Mr. Riis: That is untrue.

Mr. McDermid: They want to keep it to themselves. Cut off our best customer. There is absolutely no incentive whatsoever for anyone to do exploration and find more sources of energy if they cannot sell the product they have. Of course they want to sell it. Why shouldn't they? The NDP policy is absolute nonsense. They would arbitrarily cut off their best customer. That is it. We are going to keep it all to ourselves. That is the narrow thinking of the Shirley Carr-Ed Broadbent Party. That is the way they think in the Bob White-Ed Broadbent Party. We know that the policy is coming from the CLC. There are no thinkers over there so they have to get it from somewhere. That is the energy policy of the NDP.

Which oil company are they going to nationalize? Is it Imperial Oil? They will spend billions of taxpayers' dollars nationalizing another oil company. We need that like a hole in the head, too.

The Acting Speaker (Mrs. Champagne): The time for questions or comments has expired, but I will allow a one-minute rebuttal to the Hon. Member for Vancouver—Kingsway (Mr. Waddell).

Mr. Waddell: The NDP policy is to provide sufficient, reasonably priced energy to the people of Brampton and favour the Canadians living in Brampton over the people who live in California. That is our policy.

Mr. McDermid: Gas prices just dropped in Brampton.

The Acting Speaker (Mrs. Champagne): Resuming debate.

Hon. Doug Lewis (Minister of State and Minister of State (Treasury Board)): Madam Speaker, I want to put a few things on the record so that in the future people will know exactly what has taken place here today. Someone in the NDP talked about dimensions. We are seeing a new dimension of irresponsibility here. I want to lay out exactly what has happened today so that when the time comes to wear it, my hon. friends opposite will know how to wear it.

Mr. Waddell: On a point of order, Madam Speaker, I would like to know whether the Hon. Minister is debating my motion. If he is, I suggest he deal with the energy policy.

Some Hon. Members: Sit down!

The Acting Speaker (Mrs. Champagne): The Hon. Member might want to do what the Speaker was about to do, which is to listen to the Hon. Minister and then make a judgment as to relevancy.