

*Canada Oil and Gas Act*

ment of Newfoundland and by appropriate legislative action and constitutional change.

Perhaps the issue which the hon. member for Burin-St. George's was raising was the comprehension of Mr. Peckford that if perchance, and that chance did arise, the Liberal party should take over the Government of Canada, he wanted the further commitment of a Conservative government that those resources would in fact be lodged with and be the property of the province of Newfoundland.

**Mr. Simmons:** That is where Clark reneged. I have those letters and he reneged. He flip-flopped, just as he did with Jerusalem.

**Mr. McCain:** He did not renege.

**Mr. Simmons:** He did an about-face.

**Mr. Kempling:** You are a Newfoundland sewer pipe.

**Some hon. Members:** Order, please.

**Mr. McCain:** I wish the hon. member for Burin-St. George's would be as silent and polite while I speak as I was when he spoke.

**Mr. Simmons:** You were not here.

**Mr. McCain:** I was in this House and I heard every word of the hon. member's speech.

**Mr. Simmons:** You didn't understand it.

**An hon. Member:** Talk about slow learners.

**An hon. Member:** Order.

**Mr. McCain:** A lot of slow learners were brought into the House who are sitting on your right, Mr. Speaker. It is regrettable for the good of Canada, but some of the loudest complaints come from those who are the slowest learners.

**Some hon. Members:** Oh, oh!

**Mr. McCain:** A whale off the coast of Newfoundland would not make as much impolite noise as the hon. member for Burin-St. George's is making right now. He would understand the difference between blowing and sucking.

**Mr. Kempling:** He sucks and blows at the same time.

**Mr. Siddon:** The yappy dog over there.

**Mr. McCain:** I repeat, the Premier of Newfoundland understood that he could not trust the Liberal party, and the epitome of his cause of mistrust has been vocally expressed here tonight by the hon. member for Burin-St. George's who has failed to be a loyal Newfoundlander by not supporting the concept of coastal provinces in Canada in general, owning the resources, as the Right Hon. Leader of the Opposition said, "as if they were resources on land".

The committees had been established to do the negotiating. A cabinet committee had been established. Members were assigned to the committee to take in the necessary parts of their particular portfolios as the particular portfolio concerned an agreement to be made. The total negotiating package had been set up and was in place. Negotiations were about to begin. That is a far cry from the misleading remarks which have come from the hon. member for Burin-St. George's.

**Mr. Simmons:** What is misleading? I referred to the same letters you did. He reneged on it.

**Some hon. Members:** Order.

**An hon. Member:** Mr. Speaker, can you not keep that fellow quiet?

**Mr. Kempling:** Who has the floor?

**Mr. McCain:** If the students of a former teacher of this House had been as diabolical in the interruption of his work as he is now, how would he have dealt with them as a disciplinarian? How can he expect you, Mr. Speaker, to deal with him as a disciplinarian of this school? I am sure he demanded more consideration from his class than he is willing to give to this House of Commons.

A number of things cause great concern in this House. It has been proposed that a pipeline be built from Montreal to Atlantic Canada. We are now in the process of passing a piece of legislation which, in 55 instances, allocates to the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources (Mr. Lalonde) ministerial discretion. I am concerned about that because it has been ministerial discretion and the tardiness of the various agencies of the Liberal government of this land which have created the present situation. Should the pipeline be built to take gas from Sable Island to central Canada or should it be built from Montreal to take western gas to eastern Canada? If we have not had such greed for political profile on your right, Mr. Speaker, we would know in which direction to build that line. There would have been sufficient exploration and development off Sable Island to enable us to say today where that line should go. If present exploration is indicative of what is there, then the line should definitely be built from east to west in eastern Canada rather than from west to east. We may be getting ourselves involved, as a result of procrastination, deliberation and over-regulation, in the construction of a line which may cost \$100 million or more to reverse if and when the dreams, aspirations and reasonable hopes of those drilling off Sable Island are realized.

● (2100)

We are in a position where the government has said, and it has been repeated here today, that the assets of Canada should be shared. I am rather concerned about the approach of the hon. member for Ottawa Centre (Mr. Evans) who indicates that the central government of Canada should exercise all the authority. In the country from which he came there was nothing any stronger than the constitutional rights of the States. Nothing more was carved in stone than the right of