

*Adjournment Debate*

this extreme drought they are presently facing there. In concluding my remarks, I look particularly to the Northwest Territories and the Yukon for production which is so necessary to the agricultural community and for all of Canada. We must take heed of the lesson that we look to methods and direction of incentive being given to people to produce, in whatever facet of society it may be, particularly as we relate to the agricultural community this evening. Therefore I recommend that we pass this bill because, as I understand it, it will certainly help our farmers and producers in the Northwest Territories and the Yukon.

Motion agreed to and bill read the third time and passed.

## PROCEEDINGS ON ADJOURNMENT MOTION

[English]

A motion to adjourn the House under Standing Order 40 deemed to have been moved.

### ENERGY—PROCESSING OF RESOURCES NEAR SOURCE— POSSIBLE RELOCATION OF SARNIA COMPLEX

**Mr. Blaine A. Thacker (Lethbridge-Foothills):** Mr. Speaker, on June 6, 1980, the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources (Mr. Lalonde) reaffirmed that the reason for the government moving the Eldorado Nuclear Plant from Port Hope to Blind River was to permit raw resources to be processed near their source. He has earlier indicated that the government was prepared to spend millions of public tax dollars to achieve this policy.

On June 9, 1980, I asked the minister when, under this enlightened policy, the government would be moving the huge Sarnia petroleum complex with its thousands of jobs and its millions of barrels of oil that it receives from Alberta, to the province of Alberta. The minister's reply was to laugh and to state that the policy applied only to a "planned or projected installation, not one that existed at the time". That smart alecky reply from the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources concerning Alberta's resources is typical of the total insensitivity of this government to the legitimate concerns of Albertans.

● (2200)

Because of the seven-minute time limit on my remarks I will attempt to convey my deep concern about growing western support for separation. Leading citizens in droves are joining the western separatist party.

First, Eldorado was moved for nothing more than patronage, to a constituency held by a cabinet minister. That is an immoral act, because the policy does not apply across the whole country.

Second, the government is prepared to pay \$35 per barrel for Mexican oil but only \$14.75 to the people of Alberta for their oil. That is 39 per cent of its value. The money being exported to Mexico increases our national deficit and gives Mexico the jobs. Just think of the thousands of jobs there would be for Canada had the government adopted the Progressive Conservative policy of self-sufficiency and funnelled the money through Alberta.

Money paid to Alberta is immediately recirculated through the entire economy. The benefit to central Canada is immediate due to the purchase of technology, pipe, engines, turbines, cars and trucks. Money going to Mexico is lost forever. Surely supply is much more important than price. Under the Clark-Lougheed agreement the whole range of such price, supply and recirculation of money was covered. For instance, the price was staged over several years. This would add billions to the \$17 billion that Albertans have already forgone. The price would never exceed 85 per cent of the U.S. price.

Another way of saying this is that central Canada's industry would always have a 15 per cent competitive edge over its U.S. and the world competitors. Natural gas would be priced at 85 per cent of the price of oil, and for a period of five years at a rate of 65 per cent, in order to encourage conversion. This means that Albertans would pay for that conversion. Alberta would pay the cost of transportation to Quebec City. Alberta would fund the development of at least five alternate energy plants in other provinces. Just think of the jobs that would mean in those provinces.

Alberta would fund the immediate development of more tar sands plants in that province which again would mean thousands and thousands of jobs. As well, Alberta would bear the entire cost of the roads, schools, hospitals and the other amenities following the development of those tar sands plants. Alberta would also bear the cost of the social dislocation involved in building these plants.

The fact is clear that Canada is not self-sufficient in oil. We now import about 450,000 barrels per day at the world price. By 1985 this will amount to over 600,000 barrels per day. It is also a fact that the conventional Alberta oil fields are beginning to lose their production capacity at a frightening rate. Only a few short months ago the rate of production was two million barrels per day, but today it is only 1.4 million barrels per day. Many wells have now been inundated by salt water.

The solution is to co-operate with Alberta, not attack it. My most bitter disappointment as a new member of this House is the total cynicism of the government—the attitude of holding power and retaining power at any price—lies, deceit, misrepresentations—anything to hold power.

The Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources was barely settled in his office when he invoked a force majeure clause to renege on a signed agreement setting the price for syncrude oil. This act of betrayal throws real uncertainty into the industry about the worth of the government's word.