

*Petroleum Administration Act*

I am concerned, above all, about my children, as I think all members here are. It is important that we develop employment opportunities and educational facilities so that our children can enjoy the kind of prosperity which we have been fortunate enough to enjoy in this short span of time. This means we must stop borrowing and squandering the equity of western Canadian resources so that our children will not have to foot the bill later when the country is faced with economic collapse.

Mr. Speaker, the invocation of the Petroleum Administration Act by this government is divisive. It is discriminatory against the producing provinces, low-income Canadians, and particularly young Canadians who hope to find a career in the future of this country. The invocation of this act reflects an ignorance of western Canadian aspirations and feelings.

I do not think my time is up for another fifteen minutes.

[Translation]

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** Order, please. It being 4 p.m., it is my duty to interrupt the proceedings and to put immediately any question necessary to dispose of the motion now before the House. Consequently, the question is as follows:

[English]

The question therefore is on the motion (Mr. Waddell).

Is it the pleasure of the House to adopt the said motion?

**Some hon. Members:** Agreed.

**Some hon. Members:** No.

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** All those in favour of the motion please say yea?

**Some hon. Members:** Yea!

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** All those opposed please say nay?

**Some hon. Members:** Nay!

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** In my opinion, the nays have it.

*And more than five members having risen:*

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** Pursuant to order made Friday, November 21, 1980, the division stands deferred until 9.45 o'clock p.m. Monday, December 1, 1980.

● (1600)

It being four o'clock, the house will now proceed to the consideration of private members' business as listed on today's order paper, namely, notices of motions, public bills and private bills.

**PRIVATE MEMBERS' MOTIONS**

[English]

Motions Nos. 12 and 14 allowed to stand by unanimous consent

**BROADCASTING**

DEBATE AND APPROVAL OF CRTC POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

**Mr. Jim Fulton (Skeena)** moved:

That, in the opinion of this House, the government should consider the advisability of bringing before the House for debate, modification and approval, all of the CRTC policy recommendations regarding northern and remote television and radio broadcasting.

He said: Mr. Speaker, the Minister of Communications (Mr. Fox) has left the House, but I am sure a member from the government and a member of the Conservative party will be speaking, hopefully in support of this motion, this afternoon. The most serious problem at the present time in relation to the communications policy and CRTC policy is that it seems to be developed on an approach best described as "policy by press release".

The communications policy has simply been outstripped by technology and the desires of the Canadian public, particularly in the northern and remote areas of Canada. For example, in Skeena riding such areas as the Queen Charlotte Islands, the Hazeltons, Nass Valley, Telegraph Creek, Dease Lake and the Cassiar and Atlin areas have never had decent television reception. Through local entrepreneurial skills, volunteer labour and community effort, television programming ranging from canned rebroadcasting and local production to satellite dish reception, we have achieved the goal of televised entertainment and new service.

All that has been done with an absolute minimum of bureaucratic government intervention. Serious shock waves have been felt recently throughout the north every time the Minister of Communications puts out another press release, because of the sensitivity to the lack of the government's ability to deliver northern service. One can hardly accept the premise of "Canadian content" for northerners when Toronto, Vancouver, Winnipeg and Montreal and in fact over 90 per cent of the Canadian population has essentially the freedom of choice in television viewing.

The government's brand of Canadianism using northerners as media guinea pigs simply will not sell. We all understand the cultural aspects of good quality Canadian programming. However, there must be debate and agreement to continue northern access to diversified, even if pirated southern broadcasts. The concern of northerners is that cable companies in the south will get the government's ear to sell U.S. and other international programming and allow signal scrambling on the satellite broadcasts.

For example, at the present time in the community of Cassiar in my riding there is a satellite earth receiver which brings in and distributes American broadcasting throughout the community. In fact, it is the first and only ongoing and