

and getting in contact with people on specific issues like taxation.

I know that the white paper of 1946 caught my imagination. I was very struck by it, as I had been struck by the concept of democratic socialism in the thirties. But you have to apply the test of experience to these things, Mr. Speaker. When we formed the government in 1957 there was a group of us in the government who during the days of depression and war had planned certain programs to implement if ever, by God's grace, we were to sit on the other side of the House.

We took advantage of the fact that the American republic to the south of us was very worried about the tremendous utilization of their resources during the war. They had produced a six year study in 1950 called the Paley report. Unfortunately for the American people their Congress paid no attention to the Paley report and its five volumes, which warned the United States that by 1980 it would be in a serious position in regard to several strategic resources, including oil and gas. The only thing that has happened which is different from what was projected in this period of 1949-1950 is that the crisis has arisen sooner, and fear has hit the American people.

This brings me to a small but important matter. I think the hon. member for Davenport misunderstood what the hon. member for Edmonton-Strathcona was saying about growth. I know the views of the hon. member for Edmonton-Strathcona; he is for growth. But he is against unlimited growth without a social purpose. That is the difference. He knows about Dennis Meadows and the "Limits of Growth", and how it is completely erroneous in its basic concepts. He knows what the scientists have said about that. He knows what was done by all governments in the world in the International Geophysical Year, 1960-61. Many reserves of the world are supposed to be non-renewable, yet we find they are still growing as the earth changes its forms and its pressures and produces the so-called non-renewable resources. I am not going into details in this regard. I am simply saying that, speaking for this party and, I hope, the great majority of the people of the world, growth is still with us. I am sure that for the next 30 or 40 years growth is going to be more in the form of growing into the utilization of resources with a renewable basis.

● (1750)

I am sure hon. members have heard me say in the House, "Don't worry about energy. There is no shortage of energy. Whenever you get tired of using oil and gas, the farmers will grow it. The farmers of the United States and Canada will grow that energy cheaper and purer than you can get it otherwise out of the earth—no sulphur content." We are not going to do it now. Under the terms of educational practices and policies in Canada, we are not allowed to explore these other ways.

Today in the House of Commons I asked the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources (Mr. Gillespie) if he had in his hands yet the report put out by Middleton Associates of Toronto. He stood up and said, "Yes, I got that last fall." I got it a year ago last April. There was nothing about the security

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of the nation in it. It was a good report. It lists all the various types of renewable energies in Canada in which we lead the world. It lists 18 different types of renewable energy with technology in various parts of Canada. In six of those techniques it lays down where it is cheaper, cleaner, and better to use renewable resources rather than the present oil, gas or electricity. That report should not remain a secret from the people.

My second question to the minister today asked if he would make that report available to the public, and would he make it available particularly to provinces and municipalities that only get the stuff that is coming out of our establishment. According to the mandarins in control of Canada, the way to get over this energy difficulty is to put all the emphasis on nuclear power plants. Nuclear power plants are good, but there is a better way that is cheaper and cleaner, such as solar power, wind power, tidal power, and all the heat reserves in the earth stored for our use. Why should all of this knowledge be hidden from the people? It is because our masters have said we have developed the great CANDU nuclear plant. I played a big part in that during the early days of its formation. It is good, but there is no reason to say that is the only alternative.

In conclusion, I would like to say that the hon. member for Edmonton-Strathcona has served this country well by putting forward the idea that we can have a select committee, as we had before according to the British House of Commons system, through which we make direct contact with the people. It is an idea that should be followed. I am not saying there are no other ways, and here I mention the Resources for Tomorrow Conference which we held in 1961. This is a good idea and would put parliament back into a position where it can give advice.

There was a Senate committee in 1957-58. On the basis of the evidence they produced I, as the minister, developed the ARDA legislation, which is ranked by people who study the social sciences as one of the most radical, progressive types of legislation in any part of the world. It has not been used very much, but the principles are there. That came from a group of Senators calling in people to give advice on land use and water use. A select committee could do the same thing.

I have a long list of things I want to talk about, but the hon. member for Edmonton-Strathcona is saying, "Get a select committee; go out and get these ideas; and try to give this country a national purpose so that we do not spend all our time reacting to events." We need a purpose in looking ahead over the next ten or 15 years. You cannot make it too precise, but you can find out from the people of this country the direction in which they want to go. He believes that in this direction there will be growth, but there will be a national purpose and a social purpose for all of us here because no country can grow unless it realizes its resources of manpower and natural resources. It is a part of the whole world. It is not for handouts but for the self-help approach.

I would like to congratulate the hon. member for Edmonton-Strathcona for putting forward a positive, constructive idea. I would like to congratulate the hon. member for Davenport for