

expansion, the Alaska pipeline project, and it lost the Arctic gas project. According to their own figures, the Liberals have lost 71,000 jobs in the oil and gas industry and 225,000 Canadian jobs in related industries. A large number of the latter would have been created in Quebec and Ontario.

Moreover, if the Alsands, Cold Lake and other projects were in operation, Quebecers could go and work on site and bring their families or send money back home which would help the economy in Quebec. All these projects have been lost as a result of Liberal policies. Instead of creating jobs, the Liberal government is creating unemployment.

Of course, the government will try to put the blame elsewhere. It will blame the provincial governments. It will blame the Americans. It will blame the oil companies. It will blame the world economy. I am sure they will also blame René Lévesque. But who is governing Canada? The Liberal government. The Liberal government has taken Canada's potential and destroyed it.

The majority of Canadian families have been affected by the failures of the Liberals. Most communities in Canada are going to lose jobs and opportunities for growth, because Liberal policies have stifled energy projects. This evening, we demand that the government change its policy and stop destroying Canada.

I would invite the Liberal members to take part in this debate. They remained silent during the debate on the Constitution and during the debate on the budget. Are they going to remain silent while Liberal policies keep destroying projects and eliminating jobs?

[English]

They will try to blame everyone they can find: the provinces, the oil companies, the United States, the opposition, the international economy.

**Mr. Baker (Nepean-Carleton):** The weather.

**Mr. Clark:** Well, Mr. Speaker, you cannot always blame everyone else for everything. They have to accept responsibility as the first step toward changing the policy, because what is most tragic about this situation now is that if this government will not accept responsibility for the damage it has done, it will not change its policy. It may be that there are ministers who are that blind to the damage they are doing to this country, but I hope and pray that individual Liberal members of the House of Commons will not put up with that betrayal of the potential of this country.

**Some hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Mr. Clark:** Let us ask: what right has this government to proceed with this destruction of the country? Did anyone on the Liberal side in the 1980 election campaign promise a price increase of 77 cents a gallon for gasoline here in the city of Ottawa?

S.O. 26

**Some hon. Members:** No!

**Mr. Clark:** Did anyone in the Liberal party tell Canadians in the 1980 election campaign that they intended to increase the price of heating oil and gasoline 15 times?

**Some hon. Members:** No!

**Mr. Clark:** Did anyone on the Liberal side in that election campaign tell Canadians that they proposed to go out and purchase Petrofina at inflated prices, and then make the taxpayer pay for it retroactively?

**Some hon. Members:** No!

**Mr. Clark:** Did anyone in the Liberal party tell the average Canadian that he or she would be paying at least \$900 more for energy than he or she was paying two years ago?

**Some hon. Members:** No!

**Mr. Clark:** Did anyone warn Canadians about the delay of the Alaska highway gas pipeline? Did anyone warn Canadians about the policy to shut down Cold Lake?

**Some hon. Members:** No!

**Mr. Clark:** Did anyone in the Liberal party warn Canadians about their proposal to stop the expansion of Syncrude?

**Some hon. Members:** No!

**Mr. Clark:** Did anyone in the Liberal party warn about the policies which inevitably led to the loss of the Alsands project?

**Some hon. Members:** No!

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**Mr. Clark:** Quite apart from these policies being so dangerous for this country, they are policies being pursued by this government without any mandate at all. If this government is going to continue the policies, it has one option. It should have the courage to go to the people of Canada and ask for the judgment of the people of Canada on these policies.

**Some hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Mr. Clark:** There are things that can be done to restore growth and jobs to this country Mr. Speaker. If the government cares about creating jobs in Canada, it can withdraw the MacEachen budget and bring in a budget which would encourage growth and incentive in the country.

**Some hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Mr. Clark:** If the government believes in encouraging an energy policy that will let us build the Alsands development, let us get on with developing the energy potential of the country. Let us get on with creating the jobs, the growth and security that energy provides for this country. If the government wants to do it, it can pull back the National Energy Program before it drives yet one more major source of jobs out of this country.