

portion of industries and services is owned by the state than is the case in Great Britain. So I suggest to him that Great Britain's difficulties do not stem from the fact that the means of production in that country have been socialized, nationalized or whatever he wishes to call it. Britain is in difficulties for entirely different reasons. Also, the reason countries like France, in which a large proportion of industry is owned by the state, are doing well is entirely different from that suggested by the hon. member. If the hon. member wished to talk about power in Canada, which he did not, he should have looked at the record. It is not at all what he said it was.

Mr. Bigg: Mr. Speaker, would the hon. member permit a question? I wonder if the hon. member would explain to me why the flow of immigration is all one way. Why are people leaving those havens of socialism and coming to this terrible North American, private enterprise economy?

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, please.

Mr. Erik Nielsen (Yukon): Mr. Speaker, I cannot let the debate close without commenting on some of the remarks which were made, particularly by the hon. member for Skeena (Mr. Howard) and the hon. member who has just resumed his seat. It is refreshing to see the Secretary of State (Mr. Pelletier) in his seat with his chin held high, lording it over the empty front benches. He reminds me of his colleagues in cabinet and particularly of the Minister of Finance (Mr. Benson) who is now behind the curtains and is treating the situation in Canada as if they were on an ego trip. They are completely oblivious to the situation. The hon. member for Calgary South (Mr. Mahoney) was objecting vociferously when my colleague and friend, the hon. member for Pembina (Mr. Bigg), was speaking. If I knew half as much about anything as he knows about everything, I would be on the backbenches behind him on the other side of the House.

The NDP members really amaze me, Mr. Speaker. The hon. member for Skeena, who is aspiring to the leadership of that great national party, has been acting like a chameleon and distorting everything completely, as is typical. The hon. member for Winnipeg North (Mr. Orlikow) tried to do the same. Nobody is arguing about the existence of NCPC in the north. I am expressing the views of all segments of the Yukon population and not just my own. Surely the views of the population of the Yukon should reach even the feelings of the hon. member for Winnipeg North. These people do not want to pay for the losses of this system in the Northwest Territories. What could be a fairer position than that? They do not want the surpluses, which these amendments would take away from them, applied to losses throughout the whole system; they want the surpluses applied to reducing the rate in the Yukon.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Nielsen: The hon. member talked about public power in the Yukon. He said that the Crown agency was established in 1948, 22 years ago, to provide power in those places of the north where private capital was unwilling or unable to go. He also said that private

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capital has not been doing the job and now, just because there is a huge development in the Yukon in terms of mining, they want to go in and skim off the cream.

Mr. Ryan: They are robbing the Yukon; that is what he said.

Mr. Nielsen: He said the NCPC could provide power more quickly in the Yukon. Tell that to the people of Old Crow who waited 20 years for power from the NCPC. Tell that to the people of Keno Summit, of Stewart Crossing and Pelly Crossing. Are these people not provided for by private enterprise, having waited 20 years for power from the public agency set up to do that job? Tell that also to the people of Carmacks, Burwash Landing, Destruction Bay, Haines Junction, Carcross, Watson Lake and Upper Canyon.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Nielsen: In all these communities Mr. Speaker, the public agency was set up, yet private enterprise went in and supplied the power. And the hon. member says that the public agency can do this more cheaply and quickly! The government specifically asked private enterprise to go into Old Crow. The hon. member could not have been here this afternoon when I quoted the rates. The government conducted the survey and came up with the answer that it would cost 27 cents per kilowatt to supply power to the community of Old Crow. They did not want to do it because it was costing too much, and they asked private enterprise to do it.

Private enterprise went in on the provisional basis of 25 cents per kilowatt, and private enterprise is now supplying power to this community at 15 cents per kilowatt, away below anything that public power could offer and below any rate that public power could be offered for in the Yukon. If you really want to go into the merits of the argument, you will see that power was first supplied at Watson Lake at six cents and it is now being supplied at 3.6 cents. At Whitehorse, power was being supplied at 6 cents and is now supplied at 1.6 cents. Do not tell me that private enterprise cannot compete, because it has supplied cheaper power to many communities of the country.

Regardless of the argument about public versus private enterprise, surely to consider the example quoted by my friend for Winnipeg North we must remember that it is the people of the provinces who make the decision regarding conversion; they have the right to make that decision. Surely we have the right in the Yukon to make the same kind of decision, instead of having it foisted upon us by another bureaucratic arm of government.

Some hon. Members: Shame!

Mr. Nielsen: This reminds me of the contribution made by the member who is now behind the curtain, the hon. member for New Westminster (Mr. Hogarth). He reminds me of a former Liberal member from British Columbia, Mr. Byrne. The only time he opened his mouth when he was a Liberal member of the House was when he wanted to change the position of his feet. I think the feet of the