HOUSING

IMPROVEMENT OF FACILITIES ON NATIVE RESERVES—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. Jack Shields (Athabasca): Madam Speaker, the Canadian government has announced its intention to provide Barbados with a \$6.5 million loan to improve its water supply system so that 98 per cent of all households on that island can receive water service by 1985. While most Canadians should be proud of their ability to aid less fortunate countries in this way, they should also be aware that less than 50 per cent of the homes in native communities across Canada are properly serviced, and even where running water is available the quality is often so poor that it contributes significantly to the already appalling health conditions found on most reserves. I therefore move, seconded by the hon. member for Wetaskiwin (Mr. Schellenberger):

That this House condemn the government for its disgraceful lack of priority setting where native people are concerned and direct the government to act immediately to improve and upgrade housing and water services on Canada's native reserves, which are currently trailing well behind national standards.

Madam Speaker: Is there unanimous consent for this motion?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

MINING

CALL FOR TABLING OF DEVELOPMENT POLICY—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. Bill Yurko (Edmonton East): Madam Speaker, I rise under the provisions of Standing Order 43 to put a motion before the House. The prospects of expansion in the Canadian mining industry are favourable if sufficient growth capital can be found and made available. As much of the growth capital is self-generated, the House welcomes the policy statement by the Minister of State for Mines (Mrs. Erola) in an address to the Alberta chamber of resources recently in which she stated, and I quote: "Further, the government has no plan to increase the tax burden of the mineral sector at this time."

As this appears to be firm government policy, I move, seconded by the hon. member for Hastings-Frontenac-Lennox and Addington (Mr. Vankoughnet):

That the government table in this House within the next several weeks an over-all current mining and mineral development policy paper, including a long-term taxation policy, mineral lease policy, transportation policy, safety policy and manpower upgrading and supply policy.

Madam Speaker: Is there unanimous consent for this motion?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

Oral Questions

• (1115)

EMPLOYMENT

AFFIRMATIVE ACTION PROGRAMS FOR THE DISABLED—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. Neil Young (Beaches): Madam Speaker, I rise under the provisions of Standing Order 43. In view of the fact that the Government of Canada has obviously not been listening to the concerns of disabled Canadians, as witnessed by the wage subsidy program announced yesterday by the Minister of Employment and Immigration, I move, seconded by the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre (Mr. Knowles):

That the Government of Canada immediately bring before this House legislation providing that all employers having contracts with the government make a provision for affirmative action programs to employ disabled Canadians that will provide them with real job opportunities and promote the realization of the full participation of disabled persons in the social life and development of Canada.

Madam Speaker: Is there unanimous consent to this motion?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

[English]

ENERGY

REQUEST FOR RENEWAL OF NEGOTIATIONS WITH PRODUCING PROVINCES

Hon. Don Mazankowski (Vegreville): Madam Speaker, I should like to direct my question to the Minister of Finance. Yesterday in the House the minister indicated, in response to a question from the hon. member for Athabasca, some willingness—and accordingly gave a ray of hope on the part of the federal government—to modify the government's rigid position with respect to the oil and gas pricing agreement and to certain provisions of the National Energy Program. At the same time, the colleague of the Minister of Finance, the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources, was in the province of Alberta escalating further the confrontation and widening the rift by indulging in yet another vicious attack upon the industry in the province of Alberta, which I must say casts a rather bad reflection upon the sincerity of the minister and indeed of this government.

Since the Minister of Finance now seems to have opened the door somewhat, may I ask him, in the interests of all concerned and particularly in the interest of improving the atmosphere, if he would use his good influence in urging his colleague to refrain from using his traditional inflammatory tactics, and to establish a negotiating stance of common sense and practical reasoning so that negotiations can be renewed and an energy agreement concluded.