

*Oral Questions*

Program failed to bring about fair taxation. It did the opposite. The report says that the National Energy Program has delayed self-sufficiency until well into the next century, if we ever get out of the current recession.

## REQUEST THAT TASK FORCE STUDY BE INITIATED

**Mr. Harvie Andre (Calgary Centre):** Madam Speaker, in view of the incredible damage being done to Canadians through the loss of jobs, will the Minister not put the future of the country ahead of his own pride and at least admit that there is some truth to this report which everyone except the Minister, supports and will he initiate such a study so that corrections can be made and Canadians can be given some hope for the future now, and not have to wait for the next election?

**Hon. Marc Lalonde (Minister of Finance):** Madam Speaker, not only does the Hon. Member's question show that he has not read the report, but it shows as well that he continues to live in his own dream world. I will deal with the three points he has mentioned. Canadianization has been substantially expanded since 1980. The share of Canadian ownership in the oil and gas industry has expanded very significantly and Canada will, within this decade and at long last, own and control 50 per cent of its oil and gas industry.

As to the question of self-sufficiency, I would remind the Hon. Member that the country has been self-sufficient since last August, some seven years previous to the 1990 target date set by the National Energy Program. It is true that there will be some problems as consumption increases, but again everyone recognizes that the target date of 1990 for self-sufficiency is a very modest one, and most people recognize that the country will achieve this well before 1990.

As to the point the Hon. Member made about taxation, I remind my hon. friend that a company such as Total, which had decided to withdraw from Canada and sell its assets, has reversed its position in the last few months and, on the contrary, has decided to expand its investments in Canada because returns on investments in Canada are higher than they are in the United States. Net profits going back to oil and gas companies are higher in Canada than in the United States.

\* \* \*

**CROWN CORPORATIONS**

## CANADAIR—MANAGEMENT PERFORMANCE RECORD

**Miss Pat Carney (Vancouver Centre):** Madam Speaker, my question is addressed to the Prime Minister. The Prime Minister has explained why the Government bought Canadair seven years ago, and he has explained some of his plans for its future, but he has not explained why his Government managed Canadair so badly that it lost \$1.4 billion last year creating the largest corporate disaster in Canadian history. The question that Canadians want to ask is this: since there were at least

two task forces on Canadair, and since the Government does have its own members on the board of directors, why did the Government not know that Canadair was going into such a deep dive and, if it did know, why did it not do something about it?

**Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister):** Madam Speaker, it is because some of the members of the board of directors alerted us to some of their worries that we set up the task forces. It is because the task forces reported that we decided to take over the management of Canadair in a way that would see it become responsible to Parliament. As the Hon. Member knows, the previous situation was one of having a commercial type Crown corporation, one which was not under direct Government management and which did not prevent the same kind—

**Mr. Stevens:** Why not?

**Mr. Trudeau:** Why not, Madam Speaker, the Hon. Member asks? It is because when we took over Canadair and de Havilland, we did it in the hope that we would be able to turn in over to the private sector as soon as possible and therefore—

**Mr. Stevens:** The Prime Minister was the manager.

**Mr. Trudeau:** Madam Speaker, perhaps the Hon. Member for York-Peel will rise on a supplementary question, but I cannot answer two questions at the same time. I am sorry.

**Miss Carney:** Madam Speaker, we are making some progress. The Prime Minister has just told us that his Government, through either cash injections or loan guarantees, committed the Government—

**Some Hon. Members:** Oh, oh!

**An Hon. Member:** Ask the question.

**Miss Carney:** I think the Prime Minister should be allowed to hear my question. He has just told us that he committed Canadians to—

• (1440)

**Madam Speaker:** Order, please. I saw the Hon. Member shake her head when another Hon. Member was repeating an answer. I would urge her to ask her question and not repeat the answers.

## FUNDING AND MANAGEMENT

**Miss Pat Carney (Vancouver Centre):** Madam Speaker, could the Prime Minister tell the House why his Government made either cash injections or loan guarantees totalling \$2.3 billion, or roughly \$1 million per employee at Canadair, without bothering to manage the company, which he has just said they did not do?

**Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister):** Madam Speaker, the Hon. Member will have to understand the type of Crown corporation.