

REQUEST THAT EXPORT OF PROPANE BE LIMITED TO
ENSURE ADEQUATE SUPPLIES FOR DOMESTIC NEEDS

Mr. Randolph Harding (Kootenay West): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources or his parliamentary secretary. In view of the fact that propane is used widely in rural homes and communities, especially in western Canada, and is becoming increasingly difficult to obtain or to afford because of unprecedented demand from United States buyers and the sharp increase in price, is the National Energy Board taking steps to limit the export of propane to ensure that there are adequate supplies to meet our domestic needs and, if not, what action is being taken by the government to ensure adequate supplies for Canadian users?

Hon. Alastair Gillespie (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the minister I will be pleased to take note of that question and refer it to him.

EXPORT CONTROLS ON REFINED PETROLEUM PRODUCTS
FROM UNITED STATES

Mr. Randolph Harding (Kootenay West): I have a supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Has the minister received any information from United States authorities on two questions asked yesterday, the first whether Canada was included in the export controls banning shipment of refined petroleum products which began last Friday, as announced by the United States energy czar, Mr. William Simon, and, second, as to the possible curtailment of the shipment to B.C. of oil products from the Atlantic Richfield refinery at Cherry Point which means no shipments from December 16 to January 1 and after that date shipments cut to 80 per cent of normal flow?

Hon. Alastair Gillespie (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): Mr. Speaker, I think I can on behalf of the minister reply to the first part of the question. I think the minister answered that question in the House yesterday, or at the end of last week, when he said there had been discussions with the United States authorities on this particular point and, indeed, that representations had been made by Canada. I do not think the situation is fully clarified yet. As to the second part of the question, I will take it as notice.

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[Translation]

WELFARE

DAY-CARE CENTRES—INQUIRY RESPECTING
WITHDRAWAL BY QUEBEC OF VETO ON FEDERAL
SUBSIDIES

Mr. Adrien Lambert (Bellechasse): Mr. Speaker, I would like to put a question to the Minister of National Health and Welfare.

Since the Quebec Minister of Social Affairs declared before the Legislative Assembly that the Quebec government is financially helpless in the face of the day care centre problem, could the minister tell the House whether the veto of the Quebec government to prevent the federal

Oral Questions

government from subsidizing day care centres under LIP has been withdrawn?

Hon. Marc Lalonde (Minister of National Health and Welfare): Mr. Speaker, I think that the problem of the financial helplessness of provincial governments depends on the priorities established by them. As to the second part of the question, I think it concerns the Minister of Manpower and Immigration who is responsible for local initiative projects.

Mr. Lambert (Bellechasse): I would like to direct a supplementary to the Minister of National Health and Welfare.

Could he tell whether he had discussions with his Quebec counterpart during the last six months on the veto I referred to in my previous question? If so, is there any agreement on this matter?

Mr. Lalonde: Mr. Speaker, I think I remember I had an informal discussion on this subject during the last six months. The agreement was that the federal government would not approve local initiative projects for day care centres unless it had some guarantee that they would be financed by the provinces upon termination of the LIP financing. Quite a few projects were approved under LIP on the basis of that understanding, I believe.

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[English]

ENERGY

USE OF CANADIAN SHIPS TO MOVE WESTERN OIL TO
EASTERN CANADA

Mr. J. M. Forrestall (Dartmouth-Halifax East): Mr. Speaker, my question is supplementary to questions I have previously directed to the Minister of Transport on this subject. I thank him for the detailed information he sent me today respecting the registry of ships carrying oil from the west coast to the east coast. In view of the fact that of the 12 ships being used for this purpose none is of Canadian registry, is the minister considering any program that might be introduced rapidly to stimulate Canadian activity in the movement of oil from British Columbia to the east coast?

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, I wrote a letter to the hon. gentleman in answer to his question yesterday about the number of ships being used to transport oil. There are only two such Canadian ships, which are not available at this time. For the future, all depends on government policy regarding a merchant marine.

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CAPE BRETON DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

PROPOSED STRIP MINING OF COAL—REQUEST THAT
MEASURES BE TAKEN TO PROTECT ENVIRONMENT

Mr. Robert Muir (Cape Breton-The Sydneys): Mr. Speaker, I direct my question to the minister responsible