

**Mr. Wilson (Etobicoke Centre):** I would like to give one piece of information to the Hon. Member in response to his question. I said that the information which was in the memorandum to me was statistically insignificant.

**Mr. Broadbent:** Let us decide.

**Mr. Wilson (Etobicoke Centre):** I will let you decide. In year one, in 1985, there is a marginal positive increase in employment; in 1986 it is a marginal negative impact on unemployment—both statistically insignificant and not worth worrying about.

#### REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION OF DOCUMENT

**Hon. Edward Broadbent (Oshawa):** Mr. Speaker, the Minister has told us that the situation will get worse in two years. Some of us hope that two years from now things would be better. Considering that the Minister continues to refer to that information in the House, does he not think that he has an obligation to produce that document, and does he not think that as a Member of Parliament I should not have to resort, as I will after Question Period, to the Access to Information Act, and go right over the Minister's head to obtain from the Government information which he should have provided a long time ago?

**Hon. Michael Wilson (Minister of Finance):** Mr. Speaker, the information was provided to me as part of a broad memorandum outlining various policy alternatives. Those policy alternatives should be available to me, and only me, as the Minister of Finance.

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

**Mr. Wilson (Etobicoke Centre):** I want to underline the fact that the information is statistically insignificant. It is more than outweighed by the positive impact of what has generally been regarded as a good economic statement.

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

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#### ENERGY

##### WORLD OIL PRICES

**Mr. Russell MacLellan (Cape Breton-The Sydneys):** Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources. When the Minister was the opposition critic for that portfolio, she left no doubt, either before the election campaign or during the election campaign, as to what her policies would be if she were Energy Minister, or what the policies of her Government would be if they were elected. Now that the election is over, it would seem that these ideas have evaporated. I would like to say that—

#### Oral Questions

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. I must advise the Hon. Member that the purpose of Question Period is not to make speeches or statements, but to ask questions.

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

● (1430)

**Mr. MacLellan:** Mr. Speaker, in view of the fact that the Minister has said that she will not be making any major changes in energy policy until world oil prices have stabilized, what does she feel is "stability" in world energy oil prices? How does she define "stability", particularly concerning the difficult political situation in the Middle East?

**Hon. Pat Carney (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources):** Mr. Speaker, as the Hon. Member would know, the whole subject of oil pricing is currently under negotiation with the western producing provinces. It is a series of negotiations which are going very well. I am not in a position to talk about the outcome of those negotiations months before they are completed.

**Mr. Speaker:** A supplementary question preferably short.

#### IMPACT ON JOBS OF GOVERNMENT POLICIES

**Mr. Russell MacLellan (Cape Breton-The Sydneys):** Mr. Speaker, the Minister herself has said that she wants to use energy policies as an "engine for growth". When is this growth going to take place? When are these jobs going to be created? Just because the Minister is frozen at the switch, does she mean, Mr. Speaker, that these jobs are not going to come forward until 1995 or later?

**Hon. Pat Carney (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources):** Mr. Speaker, the Hon. Member clearly was not present recently when I was able to sign amended gas export contracts which will maintain or create 15,000 new jobs by following a more sensible gas pricing policy.

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

**Miss Carney:** We propose to bring forward similar measures in the next few weeks.

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[Translation]

#### RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

##### INQUIRY CONCERNING POSSIBLE JOB LOSSES FOLLOWING CUTS IN FUNDING

**Mr. Lorne Nystrom (Yorkton-Melville):** Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Finance.

When the Progressive Conservative Party sat in the opposition, they often asked for more federal funds to be spent on research and development in Canada. However, in his economic statement last week, the Minister of Finance announced a