

*Oral Questions*

the Chair and hon. members, but we reach the end of the question period without the Chair having been able to see as many members as I am sure all hon. members would want the Chair to recognize. That is why I thought I would invite hon. members to reflect on this aspect of the question period. I am still trying to see the hon. member for South Shore.

**Mr. MacDonald (Egmont):** On a point of order, Mr. Speaker—

**Mr. Speaker:** I will recognize the hon. member on his point of order.

**Mr. MacDonald (Egmont):** I agree with you, Sir, about the lack of progress that has been made in the question period, but I would hope Your Honour and other hon. members would analyse the impact of the Prime Minister insisting continually during the question period on dealing in a facetious way with essential questions on important matters.

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

**Some hon. Members:** Order!

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. The hon. member's comment is not helpful at all. I think we should try to finish the question period on another note. I am sure the hon. member for South Shore will have an entirely non-controversial question to ask, and following the answer I will call orders of the day.

\* \* \*

**GRAIN****STEPS TO OVERCOME SHORTAGE OF FEED GRAIN IN ATLANTIC PROVINCES**

**Mr. Lloyd R. Crouse (South Shore):** Mr. Speaker, I do have a question dealing with an urgent and pressing problem of the people of Atlantic Canada and I should like to direct it to the right hon. Prime Minister. Having regard to persistent reports that many feed grain users in eastern Canada now have only one week's supply of feed grains or less, can the Prime Minister tell the House what specific plans the government now hopes to implement to help in this serious situation?

**Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister):** Mr. Speaker, I will take notice of that question.

**Mr. Speaker:** Orders of the day.

**Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre):** Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order, and I hope the government House leader will not walk out.

**An hon. Member:** Come back here, Allan, and sit down.

**Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre):** My point of order arises out of comments I have heard from members in all parties during the last 24 hours. In view of the fact that at four o'clock today we shall be dealing with public bills, I wonder if there could be agreement to a House

[Mr. Speaker.]

order that at that time we proceed to order No. 86 which is my Bill C-10 calling for the abolition of the Senate.

**An hon. Member:** Do we have one for the abolition of Stanley?

**GOVERNMENT ORDERS**

[English]

**ENERGY SUPPLIES EMERGENCY ACT****MEASURE TO PROVIDE FOR ALLOCATION BOARD, MANDATORY ALLOCATION OF SUPPLIES AND RATIONING OF CONTROLLED PRODUCTS**

The House resumed from Thursday, December 13, consideration of the motion of Mr. Macdonald (Rosedale) that Bill C-236, to provide a means to conserve the supplies of petroleum products within Canada during periods of national emergency caused by shortages or marked disturbances affecting the national security and welfare and the economic stability of Canada and to amend the National Energy Board Act, be read the second time and referred to the Standing Committee on National Resources and Public Works.

**Mr. Bert Hargrave (Medicine Hat):** Mr. Speaker, last night when I called it ten o'clock I was commenting on how important historically and currently energy in the form of natural gas is to my constituency of Medicine Hat and in particular to the city of Medicine Hat. I had given some specific examples of what natural gas had done for my city, and I had concluded at ten o'clock by saying that all of Canada will benefit from the end product of this activity plus the export of surplus natural gas to central Canada. I added that it is not an exaggeration to suggest that both the city and the rural communities served by Medicine Hat and Redcliff have waited some 70 odd years for this pay off.

I want to give hon. members a personal glimpse of what energy means to me as a landowner. Thanks to the foresight of my grandfather and my father I have been most fortunate in that I presently own the mineral rights to a section of my cattle range. The deed or title to this land not only signifies my right to the surface, but with respect to the minerals under that surface it reads something like this, and I am paraphrasing here from memory. It gives me the rights to all mines and minerals except gold and silver which may be found to exist within upon, or under, and includes precious stones but excludes all coal, which is reserved for the Canadian Pacific Railway.

That is the way in which a deed reads in Alberta with respect to the mineral rights on lands which some of us who are fortunate still own. For 42 years, since our natural resources were returned to the province, mineral right taxes have been paid on this land just like the surface land tax, both payable to the government of Alberta.

There is a very important and fundamental issue at stake here that strikes at the very roots of private enterprise. This is a pillar of my own personal way of life. I refer to the fact, Mr. Speaker, that that land title gives me