

had to be a certain element of fairness involved because within the program, which that did contain so many fraudulent schemes, or unfortunate instances of people taking advantage of the public purse, there was a certain modicum of proper investment. We could not be arbitrary because we would have disadvantaged innocent taxpayers who had acted in good faith.

\* \* \*

### CANADA SHIPPING ACT

#### NON APPLICATION TO PLEASURE BOATS AND CANOES

**Mr. John A. MacDougall (Timiskaming):** Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Transport. The Canadian Council for Boating Organizations in Canada and many thousands of individual Canadians are very concerned about amendments to the Canada Shipping Act. Could the Minister tell the House whether or not every individual boat and canoe will be levied with an annual fee and whether or not single boat owners will have to meet the standards of the Canada Shipping Act?

**Hon. Don Mazankowski (Minister of Transport):** Mr. Speaker, the short answer to that question is no. I am aware of the statements that have been made by pleasure boat operators and members of the boating public arising from some erroneous and misleading statements perpetrated by the boat lobby. I think it is fair to say that the vast majority of pleasure boats will be excluded from those provisions of Bill C-75. I was before the committee to make that clarification, and I am sure that the Hon. Member will see that in the final legislative form.

**Mr. Shields:** I have a supplementary question, Mr. Speaker.

**Mr. Speaker:** The Hon. Member for Cape Breton-The Sydneys.

\* \* \*

### ENERGY

#### PRICE OF CRUDE OIL

**Mr. Russell MacLellan (Cape Breton-The Sydneys):** Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources. The Minister said that she wants to wait and see what happens to world oil prices before she takes action to help the Canadian oil industry. While she is waiting, western companies like Husky Oil, and Ontario companies like Algoma Steel, are laying off hundreds of employees. What does the Minister plan to do to save these jobs and to save the Canadian oil industry now facing devastation?

**Hon. Pat Carney (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources):** Mr. Speaker, I can assure the Hon. Member that we will not engage in the kind of knee-jerk reaction to price changes in which the Liberal Party engaged when it was in

### Oral Questions

government, a reaction which led to the National Energy Program which devastated western Canada.

#### MINISTER'S POSITION

**Mr. Russell MacLellan (Cape Breton-The Sydneys):** Mr. Speaker, it is the Minister's own policies that have created this uncertainty and feeling of panic in the energy industry.

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

● (1440)

**Mr. MacLellan:** Is she now going to turn her back on the energy industry and set it up for take-overs or even closure, Mr. Speaker?

**Hon. Pat Carney (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources):** Mr. Speaker, the kind of panic and hysteria which the Hon. Member is exhibiting is just the kind of hysteric reaction the Governments of the producing provinces and our Government are attempting to avoid in this price war.

May I point out to the Hon. Member that neither the Governments of the producing provinces nor the industry are asking us to reregulate the industry as the Liberals did. None of them are asking us to go back to reregulation because deregulation of the industry has led to record drilling, record activity, and lower prices for consumers.

**Mr. Blenkarn:** I have a supplementary question, Mr. Speaker.

**Mr. Speaker:** The Hon. Member for Hamilton Mountain.

\* \* \*

### EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

#### NICARAGUA—STATEMENT MADE BY UNITED STATES PRESIDENT

**Mr. Ian Deans (Hamilton Mountain):** Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Deputy Prime Minister. Does the Deputy Prime Minister have any information which would lead the Canadian Government to agree with the President of the United States when he says that Nicaragua poses a mounting danger which threatens the security of the United States?

**Hon. Erik Nielsen (Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of National Defence):** Mr. Speaker, I have to repeat the previous answers that I gave to the Official Opposition and to the Member's own Leader. I can do no better than refer the Hon. Member to *Hansard* for March 13 and to prior occasions with respect to the official position of the Government vis-a-vis Central America.

#### SUGGESTED THREAT TO SECURITY OF UNITED STATES

**Mr. Ian Deans (Hamilton Mountain):** Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question. I asked the Deputy Prime Minister