

## ENERGY

### OIL—CANADA-MEXICO AGREEMENT

**Hon. Guy Charbonneau:** Honourable senators, I would like to direct a question to the Minister of State for Economic Development. In the last few weeks many major oil producing nations have lowered the price of their production, and spot market prices have tumbled. Is the minister able to tell us if Canada's agreement with Mexico provides for downward adjustment of the price to reflect falling international prices?

**Hon. H. A. Olson (Minister of State for Economic Development):** Honourable senators, I will take that question as notice because I want to be very precise in the answer. I cannot give an answer off the top of my head with respect to the terms and conditions of either upward or downward movement.

## PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS

### TEMPORARY RELOCATION OF SENATORS IN EAST BLOCK

**Hon. Martial Asselin:** Honourable senators, last week I asked Senator Perrault a question about the fact that senators located in the East Block were asked to move out and be relocated in a new building. I mentioned that we were told that the members of the House of Commons who were in the East Block were supposed to be treated the same way, or is this a fact. We know now that only senators are going to be moved out. I would like to know from the Leader of the Government why senators have to suffer this injustice.

**Hon. Raymond J. Perrault (Leader of the Government):** Honourable senators, the honourable senator asked that question the other day and it is an important question. Senator Graham was contacted and he has some information on that matter. He is not in the chamber at the moment but I know he is in the building. Perhaps we can defer a reply until later this evening. I believe the essence of his reply will be that he has contacted authorities organizing the economic summit. It is his proposal that these authorities be called before a meeting of the Senate Committee on Internal Economy, Budgets and Administration for cross-examination on certain points. As well, there may be additional information available at the present moment of which I am not aware. However, a message will be sent to Senator Graham's office to ascertain whether he may be able to provide further information this evening.

**Senator Asselin:** Are you aware that the members of the other place will not move out?

**Senator Perrault:** I am not familiar with all of the details. The chronology of events is not completely known to me. However, Senator Graham has given priority to the matter and, as I have said, he may be in a position to provide information for all honourable senators later this evening.

**Hon. Jack Marshall:** Honourable senators, I have a supplementary question. Could the Leader of the Government extract from Senator Graham or those other wise individuals why it is necessary to move senators out of their offices for seven weeks when the summit conference is held within those

[Senator Flynn.]

confines for only one day, and to go to the expense of providing desks for 10 or 12 senators and the added expense of other services when it is so unnecessary, and to relocate them in places which are an embarrassment to their position. These senators are being relocated in offices which are worse than those occupied by the security guards and messengers.

**Senator Perrault:** Honourable senators, those are very pertinent and relevant questions and an opportunity will be found to answer them.

**Senator Asselin:** Who is going to answer them?

## THE ECONOMY

### REGULATION—REPORT OF ECONOMIC COUNCIL OF CANADA

**Hon. C. William Doody:** Honourable senators, I have a question for the Leader of the Government in the Senate. Last week the Economic Council of Canada presented its study on regulations and their effect on the Canadian economy. Some of the conclusions drawn in that study were very far-reaching and serious. Would the honourable senator indicate which minister has specific responsibility for the numerous recommendations of that report, and when those recommendations will be implemented?

**Hon. Raymond J. Perrault (Leader of the Government):** Honourable senators, like all such reports, it is of interest to the government. There is no obligation that all of the recommendations of any report prepared for the government by any advisory body should be implemented by that government. The honourable senator is aware of that fact, in view of his extensive experience in government. I am sure during his period as a minister he did not accept all of the recommendations contained in any royal commission report or in any other advisory report. However, may I suggest that the question be answered by Senator Olson who is doing a magnificent job as Minister of State for Economic Development?

**Senator Roblin:** He sure is.

**Hon. H. A. Olson (Minister of State for Economic Development):** Honourable senators, Senator Doody ought to remember that the reference was made to the Economic Council of Canada by a first minister's meeting. Therefore, I suppose it is in keeping with that that some indication with respect to some of the recommendations for deregulation be considered by both levels of government. Senator Doody asked a couple of other questions that are not applicable. He asked if any minister has been designated to implement those recommendations but, of course, there is no decision at this point in time to implement any of the recommendations. These are recommendations and some of the cost factors as to the studies, and subsequently, the Economic Council itself put forward something less than a majority report. However, the matter has not reached the stage of designating a minister or even which, if any, recommendation ought to be implemented.

**Senator Doody:** I certainly thank the minister for applying himself so assiduously to avoiding the answer to the question. It is the first time I have had two ministers simultaneously