

*Oral Questions*

**Mr. Darling:** If, as the minister indicates, these people will be eligible for the grant, will the hon. gentleman tell us whether or not he considers this to be appropriate, bearing in mind the fact that they have already received housing assistance?

**Mr. Danson:** Well, Mr. Speaker, there are a large number of people who receive housing assistance in one form or another because so many programs have been initiated by the federal government with a view to helping those who need housing. But they will, nevertheless, be eligible for further benefits, except in certain circumstances where people have received more than 100 per cent financing.

\* \* \*

**CANADIAN NATIONAL RAILWAYS**

MACDONALD HOTEL, EDMONTON—POSSIBLE SALE TO CONRAD HILTON CHAIN

**Mr. Arnold Malone (Battle River):** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Transport. Does Canadian National intend to sell any of the CN hotels? Specifically, is the Macdonald Hotel in Edmonton up for sale to the Conrad Hilton hotel chain?

**Mr. Cliff McIsaac (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Transport):** I do not have the answer to that question but I will take it as notice and obtain a reply for the hon. member.

\* \* \*

● (1450)

**ENERGY**

OIL—PROPOSED COMMITTEE INVESTIGATION OF REASON DRILLING RIGS LEAVING ALBERTA

**Mr. Eldon M. Woolliams (Calgary North):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask a question of the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources. In view of the fact that drilling rigs in Alberta are now leaving in droves and Canadian geologists and technical know-how people are leaving for the United States, all caused by the devastating policies of the federal government and the uncertainty, is the minister now prepared, as he does not seem to accept the real facts, to give a direction, with the co-operation of the members of the House, to the Standing Committee on Energy, Mines and Resources, or to the standing committee that looks after this matter, to go to Calgary, Edmonton and other places in Alberta and in Saskatchewan to get the facts immediately, so as to reverse these policies and secure a supply of petroleum for Canada in the future?

**Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources):** Mr. Speaker, I might suggest to the hon. gentleman that he start off by reading the speech of Premier Lougheed last week, when he pointed out that while there may indeed have been rigs leaving Alberta, they were going in some cases to federal territories. Perhaps he might like to look into the policies of the provincial government first.

[Mr. Danson.]

**Mr. Woolliams:** Perhaps the minister is prepared to send some people from his department to the ports of entry of Canada and the United States, where they would see drilling rigs leaving Alberta for the United States. Just as an aside, the last one out last week put the lights out in Calgary.

**Mr. Macdonald (Rosedale):** Mr. Speaker, I must say I am inclined to take the judgment made by the premier of Alberta regarding the reasons for the drop in drilling in that province, and, of course, he does not ascribe it in any sense to the reasons stated by the hon. gentleman.

DISALLOWANCE OF ROYALTIES AS DEDUCTION FROM INCOME TAX—GOVERNMENT POSITION ON ROYALTIES IMPOSED BY FEDERAL LEGISLATION IN YUKON AND NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

**Mr. Erik Nielsen (Yukon):** Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question for the minister.

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

**An hon. Member:** Welcome back.

**Mr. Nielsen:** Mr. Speaker, I am always overjoyed at the welcome back given to me, but hon. members do not seem to realize that I and the hon. member for Northwest Territories come from a jurisdiction under the absolute control of the federal authority and we have to run around after dozens and dozens of boards and commissions.

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

**Mr. Nielsen:** My question to the minister of energy is this. With respect to the policy of the government on disallowance of royalties as a deduction from income tax, does the government intend to apply that same policy to the royalties imposed by federal legislation in the federal jurisdictions of the Yukon and Northwest Territories?

**Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources):** Mr. Speaker, the hon. gentleman might like to pose that question to my colleague, but my answer is that I believe that is also the policy.

\* \* \*

**EXTERNAL AFFAIRS**

SUGGESTED AFFRONT TO BRITAIN BY PRIME MINISTER ENTERTAINING MR. GRESKO, AN ALLEGED SOVIET SPY—PROPOSED REFUSAL OF ENTRY TO MR. GRESKO

**Mr. Otto Jelinek (High Park-Humber Valley):** Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the right hon. Prime Minister and deals with the Soviet espionage agent Alexander Gresko. Can the Prime Minister offer any explanation why he would have his picture taken in his office with Mr. Gresko, a well known senior Russian spy already ejected from Great Britain for high level espionage activities, and does not the Prime Minister consider it a political affront to Britain if he entertains a person who is declared by that government persona non grata?