

*Oral Questions*

**Mr. Mulroney:** He says "big deal". Maybe he could stop carrying partisanship—

**Mr. Turner (Vancouver Quadra):** Show us the opinion.

**Mr. Axworthy:** Show us the opinion.

**Mr. Mulroney:** —if you were more concerned about the application of the administration of justice, rather—

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

**Mr. Rossi:** You're a joke.

**An Hon. Member:** Cover up.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order. Order. The Hon. Member for Vancouver-Kingsway.

\* \* \*

**ENERGY**

## SYNCRUDE PROJECT—FEDERAL FUNDING INQUIRY

**Mr. Ian Waddell (Vancouver—Kingsway):** Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Prime Minister. On January 7 the Premier of Alberta, Mr. Getty, told an Alberta Legislative news conference concerning the proposed federal loan to Syncrude, the oil sands project: "I know I had the support of the Prime Minister and the Deputy Prime Minister". I repeat what he said: "I know I had the support of the Prime Minister and the Deputy Prime Minister for the federal loan". Did the Prime Minister promise Mr. Getty aid for the Syncrude project or not?

**Right Hon. Brian Mulroney (Prime Minister):** Mr. Speaker, we discussed, among many other things, problems in the energy industry, and that was one of them. Premier Getty put out his view that this, among other ways, would be a very good way for the federal Government to co-operate—recognizing the limited existence of resources federally—that this would be a good way to co-operate with the Government of Alberta.

● (1500)

I think it would be a legitimate way—

**Ms. Copps:** Bye-bye, Alberta.

**Mr. Mulroney:** —and there are others.

I tell my hon. friend from the NDP that I know Alberta is of no interest to the Liberals. They heckle and they laugh when we talk about the problems of Alberta.

I agree with my hon. friend. This is a serious matter, and I am responding in a serious way to his concerns.

## STATEMENT ATTRIBUTED TO ALBERTA PREMIER

**Mr. Ian Waddell (Vancouver—Kingsway):** Mr. Speaker, I thank the Prime Minister. I agree with him. Is he aware that the Premier of Alberta said further that he "wants to find out the reason for the lack of support, after being told it was there"? Am I to understand, then, from the Prime Minister's answer that he acknowledges it was there? Is he now telling the House and, most important, the people of Alberta that he is prepared to reconsider this support?

**Right Hon. Brian Mulroney (Prime Minister):** Mr. Speaker, we are considering, will consider and, hopefully, act again to be of assistance to the troubled and crippled energy industry in Alberta. This is vital to the national interest, within the scope of the fiscal situation that we have.

In that context the Premier and I discussed a number of things, quite obviously Syncrude, and his version of the best way the feds could help Alberta in this project. It is an entirely legitimate point of view. There are others, all of which are designed to help Alberta and Albertans through a very difficult period. Indeed, energy is not only Alberta's problem. It is a national problem. We all have to work together with Alberta to try to bring about a resolution to a difficult problem.

**Mr. Speaker:** I advise Hon. Members that Question Period is nearly over. I will take one more question from the Hon. Member for Nanaimo—Alberni (Mr. Schellenberg).

\* \* \*

**TRADE**

## SOFTWOOD LUMBER EXPORT TAX—APPLICATION TO REMANUFACTURERS

**Mr. Ted Schellenberg (Nanaimo—Alberni):** Mr. Speaker, my question is addressed to the Minister for International Trade. The Minister would be well aware that the Canadian people in general, and British Columbians in particular, are very happy to be receiving \$600 million in reforestation funds each year. But there are some remanufacturing companies which are having difficulty as a result of the export tax. I wonder if the Minister can tell the House what the plans are of our Government—

**Ms. Copps:** Sit down!

**Some Hon. Members:** Shush!

**Mr. Schellenberg:** I am sorry, was I talking while you were interrupting?

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. The Hon. Member will put his question. I have advised Hon. Members that we are already over time. I am trying to accommodate Hon. Members. Will the Hon. Member please put his question?