

## Oral Questions

[English]

**Mr. Allmand:** I should like to examine that entire question after I have checked with the authorities.

\* \* \*

## ENERGY

OIL—SHARING BY CANADA IN POSSIBLE WORLD  
SHORTFALL OF SUPPLIES—MINISTER'S POSITION

**Mr. Jim Balfour (Regina East):** Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources. The minister has stated that Canada has to be a good international citizen in terms of sharing equally the shortfall in world petroleum supplies. What actual net petroleum shortage in Canada would satisfy the minister's definition of good international citizenship under these conditions?

**Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources):** I think that would have to depend on the circumstances of the case, but I hope the general proposition I have put forward would be accepted even by the Official Opposition. It is that, in certain circumstances, as an international citizen we should assume responsibility within the community to assist countries which experience a greater shortfall than ourselves.

**Mr. Balfour:** Does it fall within the minister's definition of good international citizenship to be taking options for spot purchases of oil products throughout the world in competition with countries whose fuel shortage situation—

● (1140)

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. I am sure the hon. member will appreciate that is debate or argument, certainly not a legitimate question.

OIL EXPORT TAX—POSSIBILITY OF INCREASE NEXT  
JANUARY—APPLICATION TO SYNCRUDE TAR SANDS  
DEVELOPMENT

**Mr. Eldon M. Woolliams (Calgary North):** Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question for the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources or the Minister of Finance. Today notice was tabled of a ways and means motion in reference to the oil surtax. It is now rumoured and believed that the surtax of \$1.90 per barrel will be increased perhaps in January. I wonder whether the Minister of Finance or the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources would care to speak to that?

**Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources):** Mr. Speaker, there has been no decision yet with regard to the month of January in terms of taxation or otherwise. The hon. gentleman may know that there have been discussions with Alberta ministers in regard to this question and those discussions will continue.

**Mr. Woolliams:** Mr. Speaker, may I ask a supplementary which follows along the line of the question of the hon.

[Mr. Caouette (Charlevoix).]

member for York South regarding the cost to the consumer. I notice that the notice of ways and means motion indicates that mixtures of hydrocarbons will also be subject to the tax, which would include the tar sands. In light of the fact that supply has a lot to do with price, is it the minister's intention that the tax will apply to the Syncrude development, that any such measures—we do not know because we cannot get from the government what it is going to do—will apply to oil produced from the tar sands in the same way as to other oil, which will, of course, curtail our supplies?

**Mr. Macdonald (Rosedale):** Mr. Speaker, the law is of general application. I might remind the hon. gentleman that the Syncrude project, if I am correct, will come into operation in 1977 and whatever the tax may be at that time I would think it would, on the whole, be subject to the general law with regard to taxation.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. I will recognize the hon. member for Calgary North when the minister has completed his reply. I thought the minister had completed his reply and I apologize to him, but I would hope we might try to limit the number of supplementaries for each member.

**Mr. Macdonald (Rosedale):** To complete it, Mr. Speaker, in December, 1973, the impact of the export tax will not, of course, relate to the Syncrude project because it is many years from realization.

PROPOSED OIL PIPELINE EXTENSION TO MONTREAL—  
REQUEST FOR INFORMATION RESPECTING APPLICATION  
TO BUILD

**Mr. Eldon M. Woolliams (Calgary North):** In light of the fact that an application has been made, I believe, by Interprovincial Pipe Line Company with reference to the Montreal pipeline, would the minister assure the House that before any decision is made the facts will be bared before the House, including the amount of the anticipated cost, who is going to put up the money, if we have the quantity of steel required, which the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce says we have not, so that everything will be laid before parliament and the Canadian people will know that the government is not bluffing on a project it has announced three or four times?

**Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources):** Mr. Speaker, the hon. member might be aware that for the construction of pipelines in Canada parliament has established a procedure before the National Energy Board which will involve a public hearing. I might add that all aspects of the pipeline will be dealt with. Regarding the question of steel, I am advised that steel will be available for the pipeline to go ahead.

CONSIDERATION OF DEVELOPMENT OF FUTURE ENERGY  
UNDER PUBLIC OWNERSHIP

**Mr. Lorne Nystrom (Yorkton-Melville):** Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question for the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources. Has he given serious consideration, in conjunction with the producing provinces, to develop-