

gation Ltd. sub-chartered it to Sovfracht for Baltic trading during winter period 1980-81 and 1981-82. (a) Unknown. This is commercial proprietary information of North Water Navigation Ltd. (b) No.

4. No.

PROVINCIAL HEALTH INSURANCE PLANS

Question No. 4,282—**Mr. Herbert:**

What was the amount in the last year for which the information is available of the government contribution in (a) Ontario (b) British Columbia (c) Alberta to the costs of premiums for public service employees under provincial health insurance plans?

Mr. Norman Kelly (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Treasury Board): The total of the government's contributions made in fiscal year 1980-81 to the provincial authorities in Ontario, Alberta and British Columbia, on behalf of employees as a portion of their provincial health insurance premium costs, was as follows:

| | |
|------------------|-----------------|
| Ontario | \$25,938,919.41 |
| Alberta | 3,398,217.62 |
| British Columbia | 9,241,861.05 |

[English]

Mr. Smith: I ask, Madam Speaker, that the remaining questions be allowed to stand.

[Translation]

Madam Speaker: The questions enumerated by the parliamentary secretary have been answered. Shall the remaining questions be allowed to stand?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

* * *

[English]

MOTIONS FOR PAPERS

Mr. David Smith (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): Madam Speaker, I ask that all notices of motions for the production of papers be allowed to stand.

Madam Speaker: Shall all notices of motions for the production of papers be allowed to stand?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Taxation

● (1520)

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

[English]

AN ACT TO AMEND THE STATUTE LAW RELATING TO CERTAIN TAXES

MEASURE TO AMEND

The House in committee on Bill C-112, to amend the statute law relating to certain taxes—**Mr. Bussières**—**Mr. Blaker** in the chair.

On Clause 1—

Mr. Thomson: Mr. Chairman, the latest financial reports of larger Canadian oil and gas companies such as Dome, Sulpetrol, Turbo and a good many of the smaller Canadian-owned companies as well have revealed substantial losses in the first quarter of this year. I would like to ask the Minister of State for Finance to what extent this has been brought about through the petroleum gas and revenue tax which has seriously reduced the cash flows of all oil and gas companies.

[Translation]

Mr. Bussières: Mr. Chairman, the hon. member is making an assumption he has yet to prove, and I think that before drawing any conclusions on the basis of that assumption, he should establish a relation of cause and effect between the facts he is trying to connect. There is no clear evidence that the conclusion he is drawing is valid, and that the effect he is describing is produced by the causes he is willing to identify. So I would ask the hon. member to prove his case if he really wants to get it onto solid ground.

[English]

Mr. Thomson: Mr. Chairman, the losses which have been experienced by the companies engaged in the oil and gas business are self-evident. I would like to ask the Minister of State for Finance if he or his department have undertaken any studies which would show that the PGRT in itself has, in effect, produced cash losses in these companies? That is the question I am asking. There are many gas and oil companies, particularly the smaller Canadian oil and gas companies, that would have had positive cash flows in their financial statements if it were not for the PGRT. I am saying to the minister that in the case of Sulpetro, if he will take the time to look at the financial statement for Sulpetro, he will see that a cash loss in fact occurred because of the PGRT. If it had not been for the PGRT, that company would have had a positive cash flow. In making that statement I want to point out to the Minister of State for Finance that he cannot take the PIP grant as income.

[Translation]

Mr. Bussières: I may remind the hon. member of what I said earlier. If we look at the general state of the economy, it is quite obvious that there are certain enterprises involved in oil and gas exploration or development which are having prob-