

## CANADIAN WHEAT BOARD ACT

### AMENDMENT TO SET DATE FOR FINAL PAYMENT IN POOL PERIOD

**Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Justice)** moved the first reading of Bill S-6 (from the Senate), to amend the Canadian Wheat Board.

Motion agreed to and bill read the first time.

## ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

[English]

### ENERGY

#### OIL—SUGGESTED ANNOUNCEMENT OF CONSERVATION MEASURES AND SETTLEMENT OF LAND USE REGULATIONS

**Hon. Robert L. Stanfield (Leader of the Opposition):** Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources. In view of widespread reports about our country becoming less than self-sufficient in oil in a few years time, I should like to ask the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources, instead of concentrating on fighting over the spoils, when he is going to announce to this House a program of conservation and development of our petroleum resources? In particular, when is the minister going to announce to the industry and to the country in general a settlement of the land use regulations question, which has been all up in the air in the north since as far back as 1970?

**Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources):** Mr. Speaker, I anticipate putting before parliament, prior to our rising for the Christmas adjournment, the details of the conservation program which we hope will be effective in changing the attitude of Canadians, over a period of time, toward their use, particularly of petroleum and natural gas.

With regard to the oil and gas land regulations, one of the principal obstacles to a final conclusion in this regard has been the fact that these same regulations apply to the east coast offshore and apply to the north. The desire for some time was to have an identical set of regulations, including rent collection, for the two areas. As the hon. gentleman knows, it has not been possible to come to an agreement with the five easternmost provinces as yet with regard to the east offshore. I will be suggesting to my colleagues that we proceed separately on the two different issues, proceeding in advance with the regulations in the north. If legislation should be necessary, as indeed it may be, that could be introduced in the House during the current session.

● (1440)

**Mr. Stanfield:** I have a supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. With regard to the land use regulations has there been any effort by the minister or the federal government to obtain an agreement with regard to that aspect of the conflict with the five eastern provinces? Is the minister telling us there has been a refusal by those provinces to

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agree to the land use regulations proposed for the north, or is it other aspects of the eastern off-shore contract about which there has been disagreement?

**Mr. MacDonald (Rosedale):** Of course, the basic disagreement is with regard to the question of jurisdiction. What the federal government has proposed to at least the four provinces which have agreed is that the jurisdictional question should be put aside and we should work out an appropriate regime to cover both the revenue question and the administration of the resource which may be there, both in terms of the operational practices as well as rent collection. So, the rent collection apparatus with regard to the permit and leasing arrangements has been an integral part of the whole discussion. We have not attempted to go ahead and solve a particular issue but were rather hopeful that the entire arrangement might have been concluded before this.

**Mr. Speaker:** The Leader of the Opposition on a final supplementary.

**Mr. Stanfield:** In view of the urgency of the settlement of the question with regard to land regulations, the urgency in respect of the settlement of that question offshore and the urgency in the north, what possible excuse has the minister for at least not having had this question settled so that the question of land regulations would be cleared up for the north and presumably for the offshore as well.

**Mr. Macdonald (Rosedale):** If the hon. gentleman has been following the public reports of this question he will have noticed that the question of land regulations is one of the points on which the government of Newfoundland in particular has been most critical of this government.

In respect of the land regulations, the administration of the resource is really the fundamental and basic question involved in the over-all administrative arrangement. It therefore, I think, does not make much sense to talk about settling that particular question until one can settle the over-all regime, whether it is to be carried out by the federal government under its jurisdiction, as we think would be the appropriate legal position, or whether it is to be carried out co-operatively, as we think is the appropriate political solution.

**Mr. Speaker:** The hon. member for Regina East on a further supplementary.

**Mr. Balfour:** My question is not a supplementary, Mr. Speaker, so I will defer it.

#### OIL—POSSIBILITY OF CRISIS SUPPLY SITUATION—REASON FOR FAILURE OF GOVERNMENT TO CURTAIL EXPORTS TO THE UNITED STATES

**Mr. T. C. Douglas (Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands):** Mr. Speaker, may I direct a question to the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources. According to the figures which are purported to have come from the National Energy Board report, which the minister has not yet made public, it is estimated that even if Canada were to cut off its supply of crude oil to the United States we will be in a position of non-self-sufficiency in less than eight years and if we do not cut off supplies to the United States we