

these oil stocks and, if so, what is the best offer it has received?

[Translation]

**Hon. Jean-Pierre Goyer (Minister of Supply and Services):** Mr. Speaker, the hon. member is not very well informed. I said repeatedly in committee and before this House that we were going to use the oil immediately in federal buildings in eastern Canada. I think it is clear enough.

[English]

**Mr. Balfour:** Perhaps the minister did not hear my question. It was simply this: Has the hon. gentleman's department attempted to resell these oil stocks and, if so, what was the best offer received? Does the minister deny that this has taken place?

[Translation]

**Mr. Goyer:** Mr. Speaker, perhaps my words have been misinterpreted, but I think I clearly said that we were going to use this oil to heat federal buildings.

[English]

**Mr. Balfour:** Mr. Speaker, surely the minister can give a simple yes or no answer to the question.

#### HEATING OIL PURCHASED BY GOVERNMENT FROM ROUMANIA—REASON FOR PURCHASE

**Mr. T. C. Douglas (Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands):** Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question for the Minister of Supply and Services. Why did Shell International insist that in order to purchase the Caribbean oil the minister must accept five million gallons of Roumanian oil? May I ask the minister whether the reason was that, in spite of the fact there was a world shortage, Shell International could not get rid of that oil at the exorbitant price they were asking until they found the two gold dust twins to act as suckers?

[Translation]

**Hon. Jean-Pierre Goyer (Minister of Supply and Services):** Mr. Speaker, in the first place, we are not dealing with Shell Canada Limited but with Canadian Fuel Marketers Limited. During our negotiations, that company wanted us to buy all the Roumanian oil but we finally obtained a two thirds reduction of that purchase. Therefore, we bought only a third of that oil. We have also reduced their commission from 2 to 1½ per cent and we entirely eliminated the commission on the Caribbean oil. Under the circumstances, I believe it was the best bargaining that we could make.

In addition, Mr. Speaker, I would like to say that when that oil was purchased, no official from my department was a member of the technical committee established by the Department of Energy, Mines and Resources.

[English]

#### REQUEST FOR TABLING OF OPTION AND CONTRACT TO BUY ROUMANIAN OIL

**Mr. T. C. Douglas (Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands):** Mr. Speaker, in view of the fact that Canadian Fuel

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Marketers is owned by Shell International, may I ask the minister whether he is prepared to place on the table of the House a copy of the option which Canadian Fuel Marketers had with the Roumanian export trading company and also a copy of the contract which the minister entered into relative to this transaction?

[Translation]

**Hon. Jean-Pierre Goyer (Minister of Supply and Services):** Mr. Speaker, with the consent of the House, I would be pleased to table immediately the contract concluded between the federal government and Canadian Fuel Marketers Limited.

**Mr. Speaker:** Agreed.

[English]

#### HEATING OIL PURCHASED BY GOVERNMENT FROM ROUMANIA—REASON FOR PURCHASE

**Mr. Harvie Andre (Calgary Centre):** Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question for the Minister of Supply and Services. In view of the fact the explanation given by the minister to the hon. member for Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands regarding the Roumanian purchase is at odds with the explanation given by the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources and his officials yesterday in the Standing Committee on National Resources and Public Works, can the minister explain the basis for this difference, and is he assured that the explanation that he has given is correct and the explanation given by the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources is incorrect?

[Translation]

**Hon. Jean-Pierre Goyer (Minister of Supply and Services):** Mr. Speaker, I do not know at all. I have not read my colleague's comments, but I think that what I said surely sticks to the facts.

[English]

#### PRICE AGREED ON BY FIRST MINISTERS FOR CANADIAN CRUDE OIL—ADDITIONAL INCREASE

**Mr. David Lewis (York South):** Mr. Speaker, in the absence of the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources I should like to ask a question of the Acting Prime Minister relating to the story that the average price of \$6.50, which the House was informed was agreed upon by the meeting of first ministers, may not be the average price but that some of the oil may have to be paid for at a higher price. Can the Acting Prime Minister inform the House exactly what agreement was reached at that meeting? No doubt the cabinet was informed by the Prime Minister as to exactly what happened.

**Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Acting Prime Minister):** Mr. Speaker, the price that was agreed upon during the discussions at the meeting of first ministers was \$6.50 at the wellhead.

**Mr. Lewis:** Mr. Speaker, even though the Secretary of State for External Affairs is not as expert in the field as the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources, I am sure he knows there are various prices for various ranges of oil. May I ask him what ranges of oil the \$6.50 was intended to