

Mr. Fairweather: That you wanted an excuse.

Mr. Lewis: —that on two or three occasions in the last couple of weeks the Leader of the Official Opposition has raised peripheral issues in order to cover up.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

An hon. Member: And you're the latest gas well in this country.

Mr. Lewis: As far as I am concerned, the only people who bring disunity to this country are those who want to gouge the rest of Canada.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The Chair has procedural doubts about the validity of both points of order. This is obviously debate. I would hope that all hon. members would try to restrict themselves in asking questions and making replies to straight inquiries and straight answers, without argument.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Lewis: May I then ask the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources to inform the House whether he has indicated to the government of Alberta the intention of the federal government to eliminate the price freeze on January 31, and has the government of Canada agreed with the government of Alberta to permit increases in the price of conventional crude oil in Canada after January 31, whether in one increase or staged increases?

Mr. Macdonald (Rosedale): Mr. Speaker, as I have said, at the moment there has been no agreement between the two levels of government. We have had discussions with regard to both the question of pricing in the Canadian market, whether before or after the date stipulated, and the question of economic rent and appropriate royalty and tax structures for Canada. There have been exchanges in this regard. Our preference obviously would be to arrive at an agreement which would meet the regional ambitions of the government of Alberta and at the same time protecting all Canadians. I must say that at the moment such an agreement has not been reached.

[Later:]

Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Prince Albert): Mr. Speaker, arising from the questions posed by the hon. member for York South, I should like to ask the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources whether he will do his best to get an answer to the questions asked by that hon. member before Friday, or not later than Friday, so that the leader of the NDP and those following him will be able to swallow themselves on Monday?

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Baldwin: If you don't give them some oil, give them some castor oil.

Oral Questions

[Translation]

IMMIGRATION

SUGGESTION THAT DEPARTMENT ADVISE CHILEAN REFUGEES TO GO TO COUNTRIES WITH SIMILAR IDEOLOGY

Mr. Réal Caouette (Témiscamingue): Mr. Speaker, I should like to put a question to the Minister of Manpower and Immigration.

The minister stated yesterday that the Department of Manpower and Immigration would be strict enough with Chilean immigrants who wish to settle in Canada. Is the department considering the advisability of suggesting to Chilean immigrants to go rather to the USSR, Cuba, the People's Republic of China and Algeria where ideologies would be more in keeping with their deep convictions and yearnings?

[English]

Hon. Robert K. Andras (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): No, Mr. Speaker.

[Translation]

Mr. Caouette (Témiscamingue): Mr. Speaker, I should like to put a supplementary question to the Prime Minister.

He may not have heard the news on Saturday that people like Chartrand, Pépin and Laberge had made a call to arms to liberate the Canadian people. Is the government taking any steps to find out how serious are the comments made by these fellows in Montreal?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, it seems that the question is not put properly. These are not serious but rather weird statements.

[English]

Mr. Nielsen: Throw the War Measures Act at them, Pierre.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

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ENERGY

DESIGNATION OF TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT REPRESENTATIVE TO SERVE ON TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON PETROLEUM SUPPLY AND DEMAND

Mr. Don Mazankowski (Vegreville): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Transport and it arises from a question posed by the Leader of the Opposition in respect of the technical advisory committee on petroleum supply and demand. Has his department designated a representative to serve on this committee, and can the minister provide the name of that individual or individuals to the House at this time?

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, there are meetings held between the departmental officials and officials of the oil companies and the railway companies in order to—

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!