

undue delay in carrying out these projects. We intend to see to it that these projects are implemented as quickly as possible to reduce unemployment in every Canadian province.

● (1420)

[English]

USE OF CANADIAN OWNERSHIP CHARGE—INQUIRY
RESPECTING RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

Hon. Don Mazankowski (Vegreville): Madam Speaker, I have a supplementary question. The budget papers indicated as well that some \$170 million will be allocated under the Capital Projects Fund for resource development. Can the Minister of Finance identify in more detail what kinds of projects will be eligible under the particular section of the Capital Projects Recovery Program?

Also the Minister will be aware, having regard to the fact that he saw fit to extend the Canadian Ownership Charge, that some \$3.4 billion will be generated in that fund over the course of the next three years or so. Will the Minister indicate how he plans to use that money? Will it be used to assist in Canadianizing the energy sector from a private sector point of view, or will it be used as a slush fund to nationalize further the energy industry of Canada?

Hon. Marc Lalonde (Minister of Finance): Madam Speaker, if I may begin by answering the last part of the question, I can tell the Hon. Member that the Government of Canada is not considering any further acquisitions in the oil and gas sector. Indeed, the funds will be used to improve and expand the Canadianization of the oil and gas industry in the private sector, we hope.

The first part of his question concerned projects having to do with the resource industries. The Minister of State for Economic Development is in charge of that program and intends to make announcements in the next few weeks in that regard. I urge my hon. friend to show a little patience. The Minister is finalizing consideration of these projects and should be in a position to make announcements over the course of the next month as they are processed through the system which has been established to speed up consideration of the projects.

Mr. Mazankowski: I am surprised the Minister has not yet decided what sort of guidelines will apply. In reply to a question to his colleague, the Minister of State for Economic Development was not able to enlighten us with respect to that matter yesterday either.

REQUEST FOR REVITALIZATION OF ENERGY MEGAPROJECTS

Hon. Don Mazankowski (Vegreville): Madam Speaker, having regard to the fact that the Minister found some \$200 million Monday evening to add to his budget and that this \$200 million is being allocated to the Capital Projects Recovery Program, have those funds been allocated as yet? If not, when will they be? I suggest to the Minister that he might consider using those funds to revitalize some of the energy projects which were shelved as a result of the National Energy

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Program and his Government's disastrous economic policies. These megaprojects could be undertaken immediately to provide long-term meaningful jobs in the immediate term.

Hon. Marc Lalonde (Minister of Finance): Madam Speaker, I can tell the Hon. Member that I have already had discussions with representatives of the oil and gas industry since my budget. I can report to him that those representatives have spoken in extremely positive terms about the measures contained in the budget, in particular the measure which will allow companies not to pay the PGRT, the Petroleum and Gas Revenue Tax payout, until they have recovered the cost of their investment. It will be a very significant element in the launching of a number of projects during the course of next year.

I have had discussions as recently as this morning with a representative of a major company who said that he was once again taking into active consideration a number of projects which he had in mind. They may not be necessarily of the style of huge megaprojects about which they were talking a few years ago, but I remind my hon. friend that all over the world the oil and gas industry has been reconsidering huge megaprojects and is now addressing the issue by trying to stage its expenditures in a more gradual and less concentrated way. This reaction is quite encouraging and quite positive. I am confident that we will see renewed activity and announcements—as a matter of fact very shortly—in this particular regard concerning at least one or two projects.

My friend has the habit of asking two questions at the same time.

Mr. Mazankowski: The \$200 million.

Mr. Lalonde: As far as the \$200 million is concerned, I suggest that that sum will be allocated to capital expenditures coming under the authority of the federal Government, projects which Departments had been planning for later this decade that can be advanced. As a matter of fact there are several hundreds of millions of dollars of proposed expenditures by Departments which I had to postpone because we came to the conclusion that we should be spending about \$4.6 billion under the recovery program. Our plan was to spend between \$4.5 billion and \$5 billion under the recovery program. Having added \$200 million to the program, this will allow us to speed up a number of expenditures which are quite worth-while and useful in terms of national interest. Again it will mean more Canadians are being put to work in the course of the next two years.

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LABOUR CONDITIONS

PLIGHT OF UNEMPLOYED

Hon. Edward Broadbent (Oshawa): Madam Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Employment and