

Oral Questions

two Provinces of Saskatchewan and Alberta to pick up, on a shared cost basis, the cost of completing the preconstruction engineering phase, which is about \$90 million, of the upgrader. I believe it shows our commitment to security of supply at a time when energy prices are very chaotic. It shows our commitment to the industry at a time when other investment plans are on hold.

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[Translation]

LABOUR RELATIONS**SECURITY AGENTS' STRIKE AT MONTREAL AIRPORTS—REQUEST THAT MINISTER INTERVENE**

Mr. Jean-Claude Malépart (Montreal—Sainte-Marie): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Transport. I think the Minister will agree, as some journalists proved yesterday on the program *Le Point* on the French CBC network, that security for passengers at Dorval and Mirabel is inadequate. Is the Minister prepared to intervene right away in the security agents' dispute, to ensure that these people are given fair treatment and also to ensure passenger security? Is he prepared to do something today?

[English]

Hon. Bill McKnight (Minister of Labour): Mr. Speaker, I want to inform the Hon. Member that there is a mediator in place—

Mr. Benjamin: Not the one you said.

Mr. McKnight: I am sorry. The Hon. Member has drawn to my attention that I said mediator Doucet yesterday. It is mediator St. Hilaire who is in place. I want to inform the Hon. Member that at this time the mediator has, through his good offices, put forward a proposal from the company to the union which the union is now considering.

[Translation]

REQUEST THAT MINISTER INTERVENE

Mr. Jean-Claude Malépart (Montreal—Sainte-Marie): I have a supplementary, Mr. Speaker. The correction made to the Minister's reply clearly shows he is not well informed on the subject.

Would the Minister who just answered or the Minister of Transport be willing to meet with employee representatives who are here today, in order to settle this dispute? Is one of the two gentlemen capable of acting responsibly and meeting with these people in order to settle the dispute and thus safeguard the security of passengers at Dorval and Mirabel?

[English]

Hon. Bill McKnight (Minister of Labour): Mr. Speaker, I am sure the Hon. Member realizes that collective bargaining takes place between two parties—the employer, and the

employees represented by the bargaining units. I suggest that the Hon. Member wants the Government to intervene in the collective bargaining process.

An Hon. Member: What about security?

Mr. McKnight: We are here to assist both parties and we are available at any time to mediate and use the offices of Labour Canada to assist both parties in coming to a mutually agreeable understanding that can put people back to work and provide the security about which the Hon. Member is concerned.

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ENERGY**OIL PRICES—REQUEST FOR NEGOTIATION OF FLOOR PRICE**

Mr. Ian Waddell (Vancouver—Kingsway): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources. Tommy Douglas once said that in the past, when the so-called market failed western Canadians, western Canadians did not hesitate to use other instruments like co-operatives or the power of the state to turn a dust bowl into a modern economy. If the Minister really wants to help the industry in western Canada why does she not negotiate a made-in-Canada floor price for western Canadian oil producers?

Mr. McDermid: Nobody wants it but you.

Hon. Pat Carney (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): Mr. Speaker, I want to point out that the late Tommy Douglas was also able to participate in the private sector as a director of Husky Oil, so he certainly believed in the free market sector for the oil and gas industry.

VIEWS OF SASKATCHEWAN PREMIER

Mr. Ian Waddell (Vancouver—Kingsway): Mr. Speaker, Premier Devine of Saskatchewan said in his nomination meeting, and later in Toronto, that he favoured a \$15 U.S. floor price for oil. Did Mr. Devine put forward that view at the meeting and, if so, why did the Minister not listen?

Hon. Pat Carney (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to have this opportunity to report to the Member and the House that we had very fruitful meetings yesterday with the three western provinces. Our discussions included eleven Ministers and one Premier and we were able to examine some of the current problems facing the oil and gas industry in some detail.

Mr. Waddell: Did Devine put that question?

Miss Carney: As the Hon. Member knows, the various mechanisms available to Governments at any level have different impacts on different provinces. We are trying to work