

Mr. Clark: Mr. Speaker, in answer to what I gather was intended to be a supplementary question, I can assure the hon. member that I now have had an opportunity to see the transcript of the remarks the Premier of Alberta made in Vancouver. The press reports were very substantially exaggerated. The Premier of Alberta indicated that he was prepared to accept various aspects of the proposal we had been putting forward.

Mr. Ouellet: Answer the question.

Mr. Clark: The hon. member for Papineau, who distinguished himself recently with a question on the floor of the House, has asked me to answer the question of his colleague, the other former minister. I have not, personally, been in touch with the Premier of Alberta, but my Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources has been in touch with the minister responsible for energy policy in the province of Alberta. There have been very useful discussions between the two ministers. They encourage me, as they encourage my minister, that we have the very real prospect of moving toward agreement on the question of a national energy package.

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EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

MEETING OF PRIME MINISTER AND PRESIDENT CARTER—
REQUEST AGENDA INCLUDE DISCUSSION OF AUTO PACT

Hon. Herb Gray (Windsor West): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Prime Minister. Will he undertake that when he meets with U.S. President Jimmy Carter later this week, he will raise the matter of the operation of the Canada-U.S. auto pact as part of an effort to ensure that Canada gets its fair share of automotive jobs, production, research and development and investment.

Right Hon. Joe Clark (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I will raise the matter.

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ENERGY

LIMITATION OF EXPORTS TO U.S.—EFFECT ON EAST COAST
REFINERIES

Mr. Bob Corbett (Fundy-Royal): Mr. Speaker, my question is to the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources. With the government's recent announcement that exports to the United States are to be limited to 50 barrels a day of light oil and condensates, can the minister assure the House that this will not adversely affect production with east coast refineries, where employment could be adversely affected.

Hon. Ray Hnatyshyn (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): Mr. Speaker, I thank the hon. member for that question, knowing his long-standing concern with regard to employment matters in his area and province. I want to assure

him that, indeed, the reduction in terms of exports is directed toward the very interest the hon. member raises in his question; that is, to make sure we have sufficient supplies in Canada in order to meet this winter's requirements. I thank the hon. member for his continued interest and assure him that is the direction in which this particular decision has been made.

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IMMIGRATION

REASON FOR CHANGE IN POLICY RESPECTING FAMILY
ADMISSIONS

Mr. Bob Kaplan (York Centre): Mr. Speaker, my question is to the minister of state responsible for multiculturalism. Is the minister aware that his colleague, the Minister of Employment and Immigration, has announced that he is cutting down the proportion of family admissions to Canada in relation to independent immigrants? Does he agree with this inhumane change in Canada's immigration policy?

Hon. Lincoln M. Alexander (Acting Minister of Employment and Immigration): Speaking on behalf of the Minister of Employment and Immigration, Mr. Speaker, I do not accept the premise of the hon. member's question. What has occurred, as I understand it, is that there was some concern about the number of family classes being admitted, as opposed to independents. I can assure the hon. member that the reunification of families, in terms of admitting others to this great country of ours, is uppermost in the minister's mind.

Mr. Kaplan: I believe the document tabled by the minister speaks for itself on the question. I want to know whether the minister responsible for multiculturalism knew anything about this policy. I can see from the fact that he did not stand up that he did not, unless he would care to tell the House where he stands on the admission of family-sponsored immigrants in relation to independents.

Mr. Alexander: Mr. Speaker—

Mr. Kaplan: He doesn't know anything about it.

Mr. Alexander: It is not a question of his knowing anything about it! If the hon. member is interested in an answer, I just gave him the answer. I indicated to the hon. member that the Minister of Employment and Immigration has high on his list, in terms of bringing immigrants to Canada, the policy of reunification of families; which is something that we in opposition made sure that the government implemented by way of a preamble to the present Immigration Act.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Saint-Léonard-Anjou on a supplementary question.