

*Oral Questions*

to ask the minister whether the question of a two-price system, which he has said on a number of occasions is being considered, is now coming to fruition in his consideration so that Canadians will not have to pay the escalating prices that exports can obtain in the United States?

**Mr. Macdonald (Rosedale):** Mr. Speaker, the papers indicated, and I am sure my officials indicated, that a two-price system would have very different impacts on various parts of the country. It is for this reason that we think it is important to have consultations with the provincial governments to ascertain the impact of either a two-price system or other policy choices which are set out in the document, so that we may know what kind of impact they would have on the economies of various parts of the country. It seems to me fundamental that, as in the case of the national oil policy of ten years ago or the trans-Canada pipeline arrangements, we should have acquiescence, if not accord, on the part of all parts of the country in the kind of policy we should be following.

**Mr. Lewis:** Mr. Speaker—

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. I see that a considerable number of members are seeking supplementaries. The hon. member for York South will be recognized and then the hon. member for Calgary North, after which I will recognize the hon. member for Abitibi and return to supplementaries on the first and second questions, which ought to take a good part of the question period.

**Mr. Lewis:** Mr. Speaker, in view of the fact the question of exports which I raised and which my colleague, the hon. member for Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands, dealt with last night, the question of price for Canadians and the question of economic rents, which the study shows Canadians are not benefiting from but which are benefiting corporations, are all problems that are clearly coming to the point where they are serious for Canada, can the minister now state when the House and the people of Canada may expect a statement of policy from him instead of a study of statistics?

**Mr. Macdonald (Rosedale):** Mr. Speaker, I will repeat to the hon. gentleman that many of the responsibilities in this area do not lie within the control of the federal government, that it is important that a major policy of this kind should be based on the agreement of other regions of Canada which have legislative jurisdiction here, and that at such time as we can obtain such agreement on policy course, we will, of course, announce them in the House.

**Mr. Lewis:** How long will that take?

**Mr. Macdonald (Rosedale):** How long will it take to get agreement from the provincial governments?

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. The Chair recognizes the hon. member for Calgary North.

OIL—PRIORITY OF EXTENSION OF PIPELINE FROM  
ALBERTA TO ONTARIO INTO QUEBEC

**Mr. Eldon M. Woolliams (Calgary North):** Mr. Speaker, for a number of years we have imported more crude

[Mr. Lewis.]

petroleum than we have exported. My question arises out of a statement by the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources. Was the minister stating government policy when he said at a certain press conference it is not the first consideration to extend the crude oil pipeline from Alberta to Ontario into Quebec—

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. The hon. member knows, I am sure, that when he asks a question about a statement made outside the House by a minister and wants to ascertain whether it is government policy, it is normally directed to the Prime Minister. Perhaps the hon. member might ask the question directly rather than by reference to what was said outside the House.

**Mr. Woolliams:** I did not hear Your Honour's last remarks.

**Mr. Speaker:** If the hon. member is asking a question relating to a statement made outside the House, he should inquire of the Prime Minister whether that statement represents government policy.

**Mr. Woolliams:** Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I am pleased to direct my question to the Prime Minister. Was the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources stating government policy when he said it is not the first consideration to extend the crude oil pipeline from Alberta to Ontario into Quebec but rather to build greater storage tanks for storing crude petroleum imported from other countries?

**Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources):** Mr. Speaker, in response to the question, I said that the priority in dealing with security of supply for eastern Canada—

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. The Chair has to take exception to what is now being done. The hon. member for Calgary North asked a question of the Prime Minister. I suggested it would be much easier if the hon. member would ask the question directly of the minister without reference to a statement made outside the House. This would save all the complications. Perhaps we might assume that the question has been asked directly of the minister without reference to what may have been said outside the House and the minister can respond on that basis. It will be much simpler.

**Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister):** Mr. Speaker, I will inquire to see exactly what the minister said and perhaps I can report at a later date.

**Mr. Woolliams:** Mr. Speaker, I am sorry I have caused such dissension and division in the government. I wish to ask the minister whether it is now the intention of his department to build more storage tanks and bring in more imported crude petroleum rather than extend the pipeline from Alberta to Ontario into Quebec? Is that now the intention?

**Mr. Macdonald (Rosedale):** Mr. Speaker, the priority in dealing with the security of supply problem will be, first, to seek possibilities of a higher level of storage in eastern Canada for offshore supplies; second, to seek by international agreement, either multilaterally through OECD or,