INSURANCE

LIABILITY COVERAGE—DIFFICULTIES EXPERIENCED BY SMALL BUSINESSES

Mr. Alfonso Gagliano (Saint-Léonard-Anjou): Mr. Speaker, 20 insurance companies agreed to form a voluntary association in Ontario to provide liability insurance to small businesses and non-profit organizations that cannot otherwise get coverage. This group should be praised, but they cover a maximum of only a million dollars in liability insurance, which is not enough to help a Windsor, Ontario, machine tool manufacturing company with 300 employees needing \$5 million liability product insurance.

The Minister of State for Finance (Mrs. McDougall) is not coming forward with any solution to this national crisis. We need Government action immediately. The pretext of provincial jurisdiction is a way to do nothing to help small businesses and institutions get liability insurance. When is the Government going to act? Is it going to act right away?

[Translation]

ENERGY

PRICE OF GASOLINE

Mr. Vincent Della Noce (Duvernay): Mr. Speaker, this week I was very suprised to hear questions from the Opposition about the price of gas, and I realized how little these people know about the subject, or else they are putting up a good show.

I fail to understand why the Leader of the Opposition and the Hon. Member for Saint-Jacques (Mr. Guilbault) are asking why the price of gas in Montreal is 59 cents a litre and in Boston, 43 cents. Yesterday, Mr. Speaker, I was talking to one of my friends in the State of New York, who has a child that has been ill for several years. He told me he would be glad to swap the U.S. price of gas for our Canadian social services, because his son's illness has already cost him over \$200,000 in medical expenses.

Mr. Speaker, he has no money left, he has lost his home, his son is still sick, but his gas still costs 43 cents a litre.

The other point I would like to make about the price of gas is that anyone who tells Quebecers that the price of gas has gone up is wrong. Mr. Speaker, the price has gone down, and this will continue, thanks to the Conservative Party and its policies.

I can assure the House that gas was selling for 59.9 cents a litre in September 1984 and even after the increase of 2.04 cents per litre in the Wilson Budget to pay for our social services. On January 28, 1986, the price of gas was 58.3 cents a litre. This means that the present price is lower than the price of gas when we were elected.

Oral Questions

Mr. Speaker, I therefore want to make it clear that we have been-

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): Order. I am sorry to interrupt the Hon. Member, but his time has expired.

AVIATION INDUSTRY

PROSPECTS FOR DE HAVILLAND

Mrs. Claudy Mailly (Gatineau): Mr. Speaker, Canadians are proud of the accomplishments of de Havilland. The invention of the Dash-8 and the unbelievable potential of the stretched Dash-8 give Canada a world-wide lead in a highly competitive industry. That is why the Government of Canada wanted to guarantee the successful marketing of these aircraft by giving a new lease on life to de Havilland and enabling the company to prosper.

So far Canadian taxpayers have contributed \$850 million to this Crown corporation. It would need hundreds of millions of dollars more just to survive, yet it would not necessarily be competitive.

As a result of the unbeatable alliance between Boeing and Canadian engineering resources, de Havilland will become Canada's jewel on the international scene. Thanks to the design, manufacturing and development of the Dash-8 and the stretched Dash-8, Canadians will crown their achievement by securing a significant share of the promising field of 20-to-50-passenger aircraft.

[English]

Fokker Corporation and the F-50: "Eat your heart out"!

• (1415)

ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

[English]

CROWN CORPORATIONS

SALE OF DE HAVILLAND

Right Hon. John N. Turner (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Prime Minister. Now that the evidence has been submitted to the parliamentary committee reviewing the de Havilland sale, it has become clear that in addition to the question of price the Boeing Corporation will also receive from Canadian taxpayers about \$246 million—

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): Order, please. I believe that this matter is still in committee. I do not know whether I should really interrupt the Right Hon. Leader of the Opposition, but questions about anything in committee should not be asked in the Chamber until it comes out of committee.