

Oral Questions

of countervailing duties, but we are watching the situation very closely and examining the incentives program with a view to achieving something along the line the hon. member has suggested.

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TRADE**CANADA-UNITED STATES—ACTION TO ENSURE
ADJUSTMENT BY NEGOTIATION**

Mr. Lloyd R. Crouse (South Shore): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce. Is the minister aware of indications in the United States that the U.S. government may resort to unilateral action to improve its trade position? If so, can the minister tell the House whether the government has taken any direct action to ensure that Canada-U.S. trade relations will be adjusted by negotiation, so that the Michelin case will not be a preview of things to come?

Hon. Alastair Gillespie (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): Mr. Speaker, there will always be news reports speculating on what the United States may do or may not do. I consider that a hypothetical kind of question. The fact of the matter is that our two nations are enjoying trade of the order of about \$23 billion. There will be irritants from time to time, but that is in the nature of things. In the meantime, we have made strong representations with respect to the Michelin case and we are awaiting the reply of the United States on that matter.

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ENERGY**JAMES BAY HYDROELECTRIC POWER PROJECT—QUEBEC
INTENTION RESPECTING SALE OF POWER TO UNITED
STATES**

Hon. Alvin Hamilton (Qu'Appelle-Moose Mountain): Mr. Speaker, my question is addressed to the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources. In view of the fact that the Quebec National Assembly's Bill 82 of 1972 respecting Hydro-Quebec calls for exportation of power to Consolidated Edison or the New York State Power Authority beginning in June, 1977, for a period of 20 years, would the minister reconsider his answer to my question last Monday, namely, that Quebec does not intend to sell any power from the James Bay power project to the United States?

Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): Mr. Speaker, I would be happy to repeat the statement I made, which was that we have received no notification from Quebec that they have any intention to sell James Bay power in the United States.

Mr. Hamilton: I have asked the minister this but I will repeat it. Is it a fact that the minister has no knowledge and no information that the Quebec government has changed its position?

[Mr. Jamieson.]

Mr. Macdonald (Rosedale): Mr. Speaker, the information that we have from the Quebec authorities is that they intend to use the James Bay supply for the purpose of meeting the domestic load.

REQUEST FOR STUDY TO ASSESS RESOURCES

Mr. Eldon M. Woolliams (Calgary North): I have a supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. In light of the fact that there is considerable propaganda at this time to the effect that there seems to be a shortage of energy not only on the North American continent but throughout the world, will the government take the lead, separate from the National Energy Board which does not have the facilities, to study and reassess energy supplies, particularly natural gas, crude petroleum and electrical energy, so that we may know just what supplies are on hand?

Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): Mr. Speaker, studies such as this have been under way for some time now and I expect to be laying them before the House in several months time.

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IMMIGRATION**STATUS OF FOREIGN STUDENTS—NECESSITY TO SEEK
WORK PERMITS**

Mr. R. Gordon L. Fairweather (Fundy-Royal): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Manpower and Immigration of which I have given him notice. What are the government's plans to alleviate the hardships that are being worked on a significant number of students from overseas who are in various stages of their university careers and are caught by the new regulations regarding applications for landed immigrant status and employment?

Hon. Robert K. Andras (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, foreign students who have come to Canada came on the basis and understanding that they were, unless otherwise declared specially exempted, capable of supporting themselves. Generally speaking, most of them will be required to seek employment visas. However, that is not to say that they will be unable to get employment visas, provided that the jobs they are seeking cannot be filled by Canadians. As I say, there are some exceptions to this. I cannot give them from memory, but special exceptions are made in cases where people were brought over under special international arrangements. Nevertheless, generally speaking we do require these non-immigrants to seek employment visas and I hope they are able to find work, provided Canadians are not displaced.