

Oral Questions

the earliest opportunity, and then I will make the appropriate announcement.

Mr. Berger: A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. When will the Minister make up his mind? He has been dragging his feet for three months now. Does he not know yet that one third of our income comes from our exports and that the cost of the two systems is higher?

Mr. Côté (Langelier): Mr. Speaker, I think it is important not to proceed too rapidly so as to make the most logical and effective decision in the best interests of Canadians. That is what this government will do.

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AGRICULTURE

TRANSMITTAL OF FAMILY FARMS—GOVERNMENT POSITION

Mr. Jean-Guy Guilbault (Drummond): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Agriculture.

Knowing the difficulties experienced in property transfers, such as a farm transmitted from father to one of his children, particularly with respect to tax matters, I would like to know what measures he will take to improve the situation and make it easier to transfer family farms from one generation to the next.

[English]

Hon. John Wise (Minister of Agriculture): Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the Hon. Member's question and his concern. Perhaps his question might be more appropriately directed to the Minister of Finance. However, it is my understanding at the moment that legislation allows for the transfer of the family farm from father to son or daughter, whatever the case may be, without a capital gains payment, providing the actual sale price is that of the valuation day value.

In addition, we now have a Bill before the Senate which would allow the seller to invest up to \$120,000 in an RRSP providing he has been in the farming business for at least 10 years. The Minister of Finance in his economic statement referred the very important matter of capital—

Mr. Speaker: With great respect, the Minister might want to send a letter.

Some Hon. Members: Oh, oh!

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ENERGY

HIBERNIA OILFIELD DEVELOPMENT—PROJECTED COST OF OIL

Mr. Ian Waddell (Vancouver-Kingsway): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources. I want to say to her that all reasonable Canadians

must applaud the fact that the Governments of Canada and Newfoundland have finally come to an agreement over Hibernia.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Waddell: Having said that, given that the world price of oil is between \$28 and \$30 U.S. per barrel, would the Minister tell us what are the most recent projections of her Department for the price of a barrel of Hibernia oil?

Hon. Pat Carney (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): Mr. Speaker, I am glad the Hon. Member welcomes the Newfoundland agreement. I think that he and members of the Opposition should wake up every morning and say: "Thank God we have a Conservative Government in Ottawa."—

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Speaker: Order. Perhaps the Minister would like to answer the question.

Miss Carney: To answer the question, which is extremely timely, all the projections that we have—and I have been briefed on this recently by Energy Ministers of other countries—show that oil prices should start increasing again in the early 1990s. They are in a stable mode now, but they are expected to head upwards in the 1990s. That is why it is important we bring Hibernia on now, so that we have energy security in 1990-92 when we expect the prices will be higher.

GOVERNMENT POLICY

Mr. Ian Waddell (Vancouver-Kingsway): Mr. Speaker, given the fact that some analysts have projected \$60 per barrel for Hibernia oil, if world prices do not rise, are the Government and the Minister's Department contemplating a pricing system in Canada where there will be two prices—a price for the world oil market and a higher price to Canadian consumers for Hibernia oil or tar sands oil? Is that what the Government is contemplating for Canadian consumers?

Hon. Pat Carney (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): No, Mr. Speaker.

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● (1450)

THE CENSUS

CANCELLATION OF 1986 ENUMERATION

Mr. Don Boudria (Glengarry-Prescott-Russell): Mr. Speaker, thank God we have a vibrant opposition in this House.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Some Hon. Members: Oh, oh!