

Oral Questions

Madam Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member for St. John's West does not have the floor just now.

Mr. Crosbie: I wish I had.

Mr. Trudeau: Madam Speaker, this is a novel interjection because the hon. member for St. John's West said that the prices for petroleum that we are bringing down in our energy policy are not less than those requested by the producing provinces. This is complete news to me. I am sure it would be news to the Premier of Alberta that we are proposing prices with which he now agrees. The hon. member for St. John's West has made a complete untruth with that interjection which, as usual, had nothing to do with reality.

Mr. Crosbie: Get the sand out of your head.

Mr. Deans: Madam Speaker, I will read *Hansard* to see if my question was answered.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Deans: My supplementary question is for the Prime Minister. Recognizing that consumer purchasing power has decreased, that the manufacturing sector is on the decline, that unemployment is rising, that there are fewer people who can go into the stores and buy the products which we must manufacture, and that interest rates have contributed significantly to the problem which confronts us in Canada today, is it not realistic to think that perhaps we in the House of Commons and the government should reassume the political responsibility for the setting of interest rates, and that we should establish an interest rate in Canada which is made in Canada, as was promised by the Liberal party during the last election?

Mr. Trudeau: Madam Speaker, the premise of the question is fallacious.

Mr. Deans: It is not, and you are out of touch.

Mr. Trudeau: The hon. member says it is not and that I am out of touch.

Mr. Deans: Try living on it.

Mr. Trudeau: I heard him say that the manufacturing sector is on the decline.

Mr. Crosbie: It is.

Mr. Trudeau: I have here an indication that real output in manufacturing, as measured by real domestic product, increased sharply in December, 1980, a 2.2 per cent advance—

Mr. Crosbie: We are not there yet. That is next month.

Mr. Hees: That is November.

Mr. Paproski: It is November 28, and it is Friday.

An hon. Member: This is Canada, Pierre.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Madam Speaker: Order, please.

Mr. Trudeau: Madam Speaker, I have the figures here for the third quarter which ended September, 1980. If the hon. member or the howling members opposite have the figures for the fourth quarter, I would be very happy to hear them.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

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SPORTS

CANADIAN AMATEUR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION—MINOR HOCKEY CHAMPIONSHIP

Hon. Steven E. Paproski (Edmonton North): Madam Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Labour who is responsible for fitness and amateur sport. It is my understanding since the last exchange we had in this chamber that the Canadian Amateur Hockey Association, Murray Costello and company, has reconsidered its decision with regard to Father Athole Murray's Notre Dame College in Wilcox, Saskatchewan, in connection with its hockey program. Is this true or false, or does the minister have something to add to that?

Hon. Gerald Regan (Minister of Labour): Madam Speaker, I thank the hon. member for the question. There has been no specific announcement by the Canadian Amateur Hockey Association in relation to Father Athole Murray's Notre Dame College at Wilcox, Saskatchewan. However, an announcement was made in Halifax by Brian Wakeland, the national president of the Canadian Amateur Hockey Association for minor hockey, that this year's Air Canada Cup for Canada's minor hockey championship would be played on the basis of last year's rules.

This answer was given in response to some complaints and problems which were affecting other areas besides Notre Dame and indicated that all teams eligible to participate last year, including Notre Dame, would be eligible to participate this year. This is very encouraging news. If the hon. member's question and my response elicits a clarification from the Canadian Amateur Hockey Association, that would be very pleasing; but it is apparent on the basis of the official statement in Halifax that all teams which participated last year, including Notre Dame, will be eligible. If that is accurate, I want to thank the hon. member, members from all three parties who made representations on behalf of Notre Dame's cause and the thousands of Canadians who wrote to me on the subject.