

Resources. With regard to the recent pronouncements by the government of Quebec on the development of that province's petrochemical industry and the minister's statement in the House yesterday that Quebec has shown no evidence that it can protect its position from a security and cost standpoint in light of events in the international oil market, does the minister still agree with the Prime Minister's statement on September 4 that an oil pipeline to Montreal would provide beneficial competition and security for Canadian consumers?

**Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources):** Yes, Mr. Speaker.

[Later:]

**Mr. Symes:** Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question for the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources. In light of the minister's affirmative reply to my question, does he not agree that the federal government should extend pipeline facilities to Montreal, regardless of the Quebec government's—

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. The hon. member's question, asked in those terms, is argumentative or debate and is not in order.

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## HARBOURS

### INQUIRY AS TO APPROVAL OF EXPENDITURES AT PORT OF CHURCHILL RECOMMENDED BY NATIONAL HARBOURS BOARD

**Mr. Keith Taylor (Churchill):** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Transport. In view of the recommendation of the National Harbours Board that \$12.6 million be spent over a six-year period at the port of Churchill, would the minister advise whether he has approved that recommendation and, if so, when will the project get under way?

**Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport):** Mr. Speaker, no decision has been reached yet. I sent a report to the government of Manitoba and I hope that we will be in a position to make a decision soon.

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## ENERGY

### PROPOSAL TO UNITED STATES RESPECTING SUPPLYING OF CANADIAN OIL TO PUGET SOUND REFINERIES

**Mr. John A. Fraser (Vancouver South):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the right hon. Prime Minister. In light of the statement by the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources over the weekend that he would be prepared to discuss supplying Canadian oil to U.S. refineries at Puget Sound in order to keep U.S. tankers from unloading oil in those waters, can the Prime Minister advise what steps have been taken to make this proposal to the United States and whether such a proposal is now government policy?

## Oral Questions

**Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister):** Yes, Mr. Speaker, on the latter part of the question, this matter has been stated by the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources and by the Secretary of State for External Affairs on previous occasions.

**Mr. Fraser:** Can the right hon. Prime Minister assure the House that such a proposal will be made forthwith to the appropriate U.S. officials?

**Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources):** Mr. Speaker, I am expecting to see Governor Love, the President's energy adviser, within a matter of weeks and this will be one of the matters on the agenda.

**Mr. Peter C. Bawden (Calgary South):** Mr. Speaker, I also have a question for the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources. May I ask where he proposes to get the oil that he is intending to offer in his coming meeting?

**Mr. Macdonald (Rosedale):** Mr. Speaker, since the hon. member obviously was not listening to the testimony given last winter in the committee, perhaps he might reread it.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. The hon. member for Northumberland-Durham.

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## THE CANADIAN ECONOMY

### UNEMPLOYMENT—EXCLUSION OF STRIKERS FROM FIGURES

**Mr. Allan Lawrence (Northumberland-Durham):** Mr. Speaker, mine is a supplementary question to the Minister of Finance relating to the very first answer he gave this afternoon. In light of the assumption of many people across the country when they have read the Statistics Canada reports on unemployment in the past that the figures specifically did not include strikers, and in view of the fact that the legal definition of those unemployed in this country specifically excludes strikers, would the minister tell the House if his answer indicated a change in the position or a change in the policy of the government?

**Hon. John N. Turner (Minister of Finance):** Mr. Speaker, maybe I did not make myself clear to the hon. gentleman.

**Mr. Trudeau:** He did not understand.

**Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton):** What I said was that during the reference week ending August 19—

**Mr. Stanfield:** Stick to the weather, John.

**Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton):** —there were 80,000 men and women on strike in this country including the rotating strikes. While the hon. gentleman is perfectly correct that those 80,000 are not included in the statistics, there were obviously lay-offs in those concerns that depend on supplies from those companies on strike. So there is a peripheral effect which would obviously apply to such companies.