

Senator Murray: Honourable senators, I want to assure Senator Thériault that I did mention his name in my conversation with Premier McKenna.

I am sorry if Premier McKenna did not follow up on this reference on my part.

Senator Thériault: Honourable senators, could the Leader of the Government in the Senate tell us whether or not Bill C-21 was a factor that led the Premier of New Brunswick to agree to reduce the number of senators representing New Brunswick from ten to eight?

Senator Murray: Honourable senators, I am sure that the Premier of New Brunswick took that initiative in the higher interest of Canadian unity.

EXCHANGES BETWEEN SENATE GOVERNMENT LEADER AND PREMIER OF QUEBEC

Hon. Jacques Hébert: Honourable senators, I would have a question about the news (news to me, in any case!) that Premier Bourassa asked the Leader of the Government in the Senate to put pressure, I suppose, on the Liberal majority in the Senate to pass Bill C-21.

Did Mr. Bourassa seem to be aware that most people in his province are against this bill, that all the big labour unions with which I am in contact are against Bill C-21, that all the unemployment action groups are against it, that religious authorities are against it, that all social groups are against it and that I continue to receive calls and petitions on it?

Therefore, I do not think that Mr. Bourassa is unaware of the very deep feeling in Quebec against Bill C-21.

I would like to know exactly what he asked you and on what support in his province he based his request.

Hon. Lowell Murray (Leader of the Government in the Senate and Minister of State (Federal-Provincial Relations)): Honourable senators, Mr. Bourassa asked me to do everything in my power to ensure that Bill C-21 is passed as soon as possible.

As for Senator Hébert's comments, all I can say is that Mr. Bourassa is the duly elected Premier of Quebec, having won election four times, and he has no lesson to learn from the honourable senator about his responsibilities to his electorate.

Hon. Philippe D. Gigantès: Would the Leader of the Government in the Senate be so kind as to tell us whether he informed the Premier of Quebec that the Liberal majority in the Senate is opposed to Bill C-21 and that the Leader of the Government in the Senate, Hon. Senator Murray, has very little influence on us?

Hon. Jean-Maurice Simard: He knows that the Liberal majority is about to disappear!

• (1540)

[English]

DELAYED ANSWERS TO ORAL QUESTIONS

Hon. C. William Doody (Deputy Leader of the Government): Honourable senators, I have some delayed answers to

[Senator Thériault.]

questions. I ask that the answers be printed as part of today's proceedings.

ENERGY

SCOTIA SYNFUELS PROJECT—INCENTIVES TO PROCEED—GOVERNMENT POSITION

Hon. C. William Doody (Deputy Leader of the Government): Honourable senators, I have a delayed answer in response to a question asked in the Senate on May 17 last by the Honourable Senator MacEachen regarding Energy—Scotia Synfuels Project—Incentives to Proceed—Government Position.

(The answer follows:)

The size of the tax credit as proposed for the Scotia Synfuels project is substantial: approximately \$208 million. Therefore, a review of the tax and fiscal implications needs to be completed by the Department of Finance in conjunction with the Department of Industry, Science and Technology, Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency and Energy, Mines and Resources. The Government House Leader has been advised that the review process is ongoing and a response will be made as soon as possible.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS

ELECTION IN MYANMAR—EFFECT ON PETRO-CANADA DRILLING CONCESSION

Hon. C. William Doody (Deputy Leader of the Government): Honourable senators, I have a delayed answer in response to a question asked in the Senate on May 31 last by the Honourable Senator Hays regarding Foreign Affairs—Election in Myanmar—Effect on Petro-Canada Drilling Concession.

(The answer follows:)

On May 7, The Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources stated in the House of Commons that the position of Petro-Canada in Myanmar would be looked at. There was a review done by the officials of Petro-Canada and the Company has since indicated that it is going to remain in Myanmar and fulfil the terms of the contract.

PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

HUMAN RIGHTS POLICY—EFFECT ON TRADE RELATIONS WITH CANADA—GOVERNMENT POSITION

Hon. C. William Doody (Deputy Leader of the Government): Honourable senators, I have a delayed answer in response to a question asked in the Senate on June 5 last by the Honourable Senator Grafstein regarding People's Republic of China—Human Rights Policy—Effect on Trade Relations with Canada—Government Position.

(The answer follows:)

Under Minister Clark's June 30, 1989, policy statement guidelines, the Government of Canada insisted it would