

## REGIONAL INDUSTRIAL EXPANSION

### SUBSIDIZATION OF DOMTAR—PRIME MINISTER'S POSITION

**Mr. Mike Cassidy (Ottawa-Centre):** Mr. Speaker, I also have a question for the Prime Minister which concerns Domtar and the principle defined by the Minister of Regional Industrial Expansion, whose department, according to the Estimates tabled this week, will no longer provide federal subsidies for Crown corporations and corporations controlled by provincial governments. The Prime Minister has been saying that Domtar may get something, but departmental officials have clearly indicated that, according to their interpretation, Domtar would not be entitled to these subsidies. Is this Government policy or is the Prime Minister now saying that Domtar could get a subsidy, thus contradicting the Minister's statement?

**Right Hon. Brian Mulroney (Prime Minister):** You are probably correct in saying that is the interpretation given by the officials, but it is not my interpretation and it is not the interpretation of my colleagues. I would like to point out to my hon. friend that when his interpretation of the policy in question . . . perhaps I may quote from this morning's edition of *La Presse*:

When reporters asked him whether he supported Mr. Stevens' new policy on regional development, the Liberal leader was even more evasive and even tried to put an end to the interview. Literally surrounded by four or five journalists who wanted an answer, he finally said: "I am not against it!"

The Liberal leader approves the policy as stated. Personally, I would say that we in Cabinet have a more "liberal" interpretation.

### SUBSIDIES—CROWN CORPORATIONS—PRIME MINISTER'S POSITION

**Mr. Mike Cassidy (Ottawa-Centre):** Mr. Speaker, does the Prime Minister realize that the policy of the Leader of the Liberal Party and the policy of the party to which the Minister of Regional Industrial Expansion belongs are not the policy of the New Democratic Party? We believe that Crown corporations should be entitled to accept subsidies. Is the Prime Minister prepared to change the Department's policy since, otherwise, the officials will continue to interpret that particular policy?

**Right Hon. Brian Mulroney (Prime Minister):** Mr. Speaker, my hon. friend is well aware that the fact I already announced . . . I have been consistent since the beginning of this week. I have not turned my coat like the leader of the Liberal Party and the Member for Westmount, I beg your pardon, Westmount-Saint-Henri . . . Saint-Henri-Westmount. We have been consistent all this week, but when I returned to the House on Wednesday, I announced that I intended to meet with the Premier of Quebec to discuss the case further. This

## Oral Questions

implied a desire on our part to be of some use and to try and make a valid contribution to the development of the region.

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[English]

## AGRICULTURE

### REQUEST FOR BAN ON ALACHLOR HERBICIDE

**Hon. Chas. L. Caccia (Davenport):** Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Agriculture. It follows a question that I asked last week of the Minister of National Health and Welfare. If it is brought to his attention that Alachlor, a herbicide that is used in crop spraying, has the potential to cause cancer in humans, and that this herbicide has been found in shallow, rural wells in Ontario in concentrations which could significantly increase the risk of cancer in children and adults, would the Minister demonstrate that he is concerned for the health of Canadians and the quality of ground water by immediately implementing an outright ban on the use of alachlor?

**Hon. John Wise (Minister of Agriculture):** Mr. Speaker, I certainly share the concern of the Hon. Member. I want to assure him that my colleague, the Minister of National Health and Welfare, and I, have and will continue to have ongoing consultations. At the moment, though, I have not made that final decision.

### PEST MANAGEMENT ADVISORY BOARD

**Hon. Chas. L. Caccia (Davenport):** Mr. Speaker, when will the Minister announce the establishment of the Pest Management Advisory Board, which was announced by his predecessor in May of last year and confirmed by the present Minister as recently as October, 1984? When will he announce this board?

**Hon. John Wise (Minister of Agriculture):** The answer is very, very soon, Mr. Speaker.

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[Translation]

## FINANCE

### MAIN ESTIMATES FOR 1985-86

**Mr. John R. Rodriguez (Nickel Belt):** Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Prime Minister. Given the promises he made to Quebecers in an address to the Empire Club and the Canadian Club—\$75 million for shipyards and \$100 million to finance farm mortgages—why do the main estimates indicate \$40 million less for shipyard building and \$60 million less for the Farm Credit Corporation?