Committee Reports

Petro-Canada's share from 15 per cent to at least 25 per cent so that Saskoil and Petro-Canada will hold a majority of shares in that upgrader in Saskatchewan?

Hon. Marc Lalonde (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): Madam Speaker, I would like to remind my hon. friend again that I have indicated there is substantial support provided under the National Energy Program for the construction of an upgrader, in the form of a straight grant. Today that is still part of the energy program. Second, the cash flow which will be increased to the industry through the changes we announced last night will help the private sector and Petro-Canada to proceed, if they so desire, with the construction of that particular upgrader. I have not discussed the particular issue to which my hon. friend referred with the Saskatchewan minister. I am not considering making representations for particular changes with regard to actual participation. I would rather leave that to the corporations concerned, that is, Saskatchewan Power and Petro-Canada, to decide the best arrangements.

ASSISTANCE FOR WESTERN SERVICING INDUSTRY

Mr. Bert Hargrave (Medicine Hat): Madam Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources. I am sure that the minister is aware of the very serious situation in the oil and natural gas servicing industry in western Canada, particularly with the near-total collapse of the natural gas servicing industry at Brooks, Alberta, almost totally involving small, independent Canadian operators. Would the minister indicate what specific help is now available for this sector as a direct result of his statement last night, quite apart from the recent Alberta announcement? Would the minister also indicate whether he sees any significant increase in the short-term possibility of natural gas exports to the United States?

• (1500)

Hon. Marc Lalonde (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): Madam Speaker, the announcement last night included \$2 billion. I indicated that over half of that amount would go to the industry in the next 18 months and that a large share of that amount would go to small Canadian companies which have proven to be the most active reinvestors. It is fair to assume that those companies would show the same dynamism in the next few months as they have shown historically in the past. This should have a positive effect on the service industries in Alberta. As a matter of fact, some contact that we had with some representatives of that industry this morning indicated that they were very supportive indeed of the steps that we took yesterday.

As far as the export of natural gas is concerned, I cannot promise my hon. friend that there will be substantial increases very shortly. As my hon. friend knows, the National Energy

Board has approved new ways of determining the surplus and it will consider applications for additional exports. I think we will have to wait until the latter part of this year to know whether the Board will approve the further exports or not.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[English]

COMMITTEES OF THE HOUSE

Hon. Yvon Pinard (President of the Privy Council): Madam Speaker, following last night's discussion on the report of the Standing Committee on Indian Affairs and Northern Development, there has been a discussion with party representatives and we have come to a compromise. If the following motion is accepted by unanimous consent, as seems to be the case, then a member of the committee will table the fifth report of the committee, and not the sixth. I move:

That, notwithstanding any Standing Order, the Standing Committee on Indian Affairs and Northern Development be permitted to table its proposed fifth report after this date, provided that the said report is limited to observations on the main estimates, 1982-83 and does not deal directly with the said estimates, which pursuant to Standing Order 58 were deemed to have been reported without amendment on May 31, 1982.

If we have unanimous consent for this motion, Madam Speaker, the hon. member for Abitibi (Mr. Gingras) will be tabling the fifth report only.

Madam Speaker: Does the House give its consent to this motion?

Mr. Ian Deans (Hamilton Mountain): Madam Speaker, I have no reason to believe that members of this party would withhold the unanimous consent that is necessary, but I do want to express my disappointment that the entire proceedings of the committee are not to be reported back to the House in the way in which the committee handled them.

Motion (Mr. Pinard) agreed to.

[Translation]

INDIAN AFFAIRS AND NORTHERN DEVELOPMENT—
PRESENTATION OF FIFTH REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

Mr. René Gingras (Abitibi): Madam Speaker, as Vice-Chairman of the Standing Committee on Indian Affairs and Northern Development, I have the honour of tabling, in both official languages, the fifth report of the Standing Committee on Indian Affairs and Northern Development.

ENERGY LEGISLATION—PRESENTATION OF SEVENTH REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

Mr. D. M. Collenette (York East): Madam Speaker, I have the honour of tabling, in both official languages, the seventh report of the Standing Committee on Energy Legislation.