

Oral Questions

the excise tax was contained in my Budget of last April which was approved by Parliament. The money thus collected will be used to pay for the special recovery projects which have taken place all across the country, including British Columbia where large amounts of money, tens and tens of millions of dollars, have been invested to create jobs and help the British Columbia economy in a very difficult time. My friend should realize these expenditures have to be paid for and it is normal that they should be paid for in the way put forward and which has been, as I said, endorsed by Parliament.

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ATOMIC ENERGY OF CANADA LIMITED

TRANSFER OF CANDU TECHNOLOGY

Hon. Michael Wilson (Etobicoke Centre): Mr. Speaker, my question is to the Minister of International Trade and is supplementary to the questions put by my colleague earlier. The bafflegab the Minister used in his answer to my colleague's question indicates that he either does not know what is going on or he is trying to hide his ineptitude and that of his predecessor in not completing one Candu sale, and presiding over the collapse of another during their term of office. Would the Minister state clearly that any transfer of technology will be clearly tied to the continued use of Canadian suppliers and engineers, and will not simply give away the store and totally undermine the future of that industry with this single deal in order to save his political hide?

Hon. Gerald Regan (Minister for International Trade): Mr. Speaker, I cannot imagine a higher degree of ineptitude than to suggest we should do the negotiating for possible sales of Candus here on the floor of the House. I want to reject most heartily the idea that I outline on the floor of the House exactly the terms I would put on the table or that I would have as the bottom line in any of the negotiations currently under way for the sale of Candus.

TERMS OF SALE TO KOREA

Hon. Michael Wilson (Etobicoke Centre): Mr. Speaker, that is a totally ridiculous response and totally ignores the question I am asking. The industry is interested in saving its jobs and its future. The AECL is interested in selling heavy water and engineering in a way that will sell out the future of the industry in Canada. This Government is interested far more in saving its own political hide in the short-term, and is not thinking of the future of the industry.

Is the Government tying this latest attempt to hide its embarrassment at not selling any Candus to a firm commitment by Korea to purchase on a long-term basis Candus for Korean domestic requirements and in a way that would use Canadian suppliers and engineering talent?

Hon. Gerald Regan (Minister for International Trade): Mr. Speaker, I do not know whether the Hon. Member has much

business experience, but I want to assure him that, whatever his position may be in relation to approaching sales, I am not the least bit interested in any political hide when it comes to the question of creating Canadian jobs through the sale of Canadian goods and services, including Candus. My approach to the question will be that of maximizing our sales in the best interests of Canada, and not in relation to political benefits about which the Hon. Member seems to be concerned.

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FINANCE

ALLOCATION OF JOB-CREATION FUNDS IN HAMILTON AREA

Mr. Geoff Scott (Hamilton-Wentworth): Mr. Speaker, following the lead-off questioning by my colleague from Calgary West, I will direct my question to the Minister of Finance, who was there a moment ago. While he is getting back to his seat I will point out that he is a senior member of a Government which has gone so far that the pork-barrel does not have a squeak left.

How does this Liberal Government base its job creation money on anything but the jobless figures? Since we have an 11.1 per cent unemployment rate throughout the entire Hamilton area, how can the Minister of Finance explain that his colleague, the Minister and Member for Hamilton East, and the Hon. Member for Hamilton West, have received their \$500,000 a piece, but we in Hamilton Wentworth have not heard anything about a \$500,000 grant? I just checked with my friend, the Hon. Member for Hamilton Mountain, and he has not heard anything about it either.

Hon. Marc Lalonde (Minister of Finance): Mr. Speaker, I would like to refer my hon. friend to a circular sent to all Members of Parliament. It is dated February 1, 1984, and I understand it has been sent a few days ago.

Some Hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Crosbie: Not yet.

Mr. Lalonde: Well, I am told it has been sent to all Members of Parliament by the Minister of Manpower and Immigration, and it spells out the criteria of the special employment initiatives program.

Mr. Munro (Hamilton East): Three million dollars went to Firestone. Why don't you do your homework, Geoff?

Mr. Scott (Hamilton-Wentworth): Mr. Speaker, I sincerely hope the Minister of Manpower and Immigration did not put that circular in the mail, because we will not see anything of it.

REQUEST THAT FUNDS BE ALLOCATED TO
HAMILTON-WENTWORTH RIDING

Mr. Geoff Scott (Hamilton-Wentworth): Mr. Speaker, will the Minister of Finance accept my own personal request for