

Oral Questions

on to primary producers who must buy in bulk. This is a disgrace.

I have written to oil company presidents protesting this injustice and I urge affected producers to do the same. If they want to call me at the House of Commons, I will be happy to provide names and addresses so that they, as well, can join in the protest of this injustice.

● (1415)

ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

[*English*]

THE ADMINISTRATION**CONFLICT OF INTEREST GUIDELINES—MINISTER OF REGIONAL INDUSTRIAL EXPANSION**

Right Hon. John N. Turner (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Regional Industrial Expansion. Yesterday, in response to a question from my colleague from Glengarry—Prescott—Russell relating to the Minister having benefited from a conflict of interest, he stated categorically that he received no such benefit. My questions to him are these. Does he deny that he received a benefit from a \$3 million loan from a Korean bank associated with the Hyundai company? Does he deny that he received a net benefit of \$314,000, representing a one year interest-free loan of \$2.6 million? Does he deny that he received a benefit from those two sources?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. Perhaps the Right Hon. Leader of the Opposition could modify that question to one dealing with ministerial responsibility.

Some Hon. Members: It is.

Mr. Turner (Vancouver Quadra): This not only relates to—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I appreciate the seriousness with which the Right Hon. Member takes the matter but I do ask him to bring it into the context of ministerial responsibility.

Mr. Turner (Vancouver Quadra): Mr. Speaker, this not only relates to the conflict of interest guidelines but also to the way this Minister is administering his portfolio, subject to outside benefits and conflict of interest. It goes right to his responsibility as a Minister.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Turner (Vancouver Quadra): He said in this House he had received no benefit so he is open to questions. I want to put these questions to him because he has opened it up.

[*Translation*]

Yesterday, the Minister said he had received no such benefit. How does he know he received no benefit if all his

assets were in a blind trust? Who told him? Is he or is he not aware of the negotiations conducted by his wife to protect his assets? How did he know there was no such benefit?

[*English*]

Mr. Speaker: The Right Hon. Member knows that the Chair can only permit questions regarding ministerial responsibility. I am sure he can find a way to put a ministerial question.

Mr. Turner (Vancouver Quadra): Mr. Speaker, these questions relate to companies doing business with the Minister's Department. They relate to the way he is discharging his obligations. I want to say to you, Sir, having had an opportunity of getting around the country, particularly western Canada, over the last week—

Some Hon. Members: Order!

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The right hon. gentleman is an experienced parliamentarian. He knows the dilemma the Chair is in when questions are put which relate to personal matters. I ask him one more time to put the question in the context of ministerial responsibility, please.

MINISTERIAL RESPONSIBILITIES

Right Hon. John N. Turner (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, what I am asking, and I have to do it through the Deputy Prime Minister in the absence of the Prime Minister, is why will he not let the Minister stand up and clear his name? Canadians are saying that this whole deal smells of corruption.

Some Hon. Members: Order!

Mr. Turner (Vancouver Quadra): That it is a cover-up. I ask the Deputy Prime Minister why will he not let his Minister speak or else cut him loose from the Government?

Hon. Erik Nielsen (Acting Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, the Minister was answering questions fully yesterday and the day before. The right hon. gentleman was not here to hear the answers. I am certainly not preventing the Minister from standing up. He has been the star of the show for two days in a row.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Turner (Vancouver Quadra): He is the star all right.

[*Translation*]

REQUEST FOR DETAILS—ALLEGED BENEFITS TO MINISTER OF REGIONAL INDUSTRIAL EXPANSION

Mr. Don Boudria (Glengarry—Prescott—Russell): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Regional Industrial Expansion himself. Yesterday in the House, in answer to my question about the conflict of interest guidelines, he said that he did not receive, either directly or indirectly, any benefit in excess of \$200. Now if the company that had