

[English]

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs): As my colleague said in reply to a similar question yesterday, the information we have from the government of Saudi Arabia is that Canada is not on the boycott list.

EXTENSION OF OIL PIPELINE TO MONTREAL—ROUTE TO BE FOLLOWED—POSSIBILITY OF GOVERNMENT FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Mr. Sinclair Stevens (York-Simcoe): Mr. Speaker, in the absence of the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources perhaps I could direct my question to the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce. It arises from the statement yesterday by the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources that there is still a serious possibility that the oil pipeline extension to Montreal will follow a route through Sault Ste. Marie. Could the minister tell us today, in light of meetings which were, I understand, held yesterday, whether the Sault Ste. Marie line is still a serious possibility, or does Interprovincial Pipeline now say it is convinced that Sarnia is the only way for the line to go?

Hon. Alastair Gillespie (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): I believe the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources has indicated that he will be making a statement on this matter in the near future.

Mr. Stevens: I have a supplementary for the Prime Minister. Can the right hon. gentleman inform the House whether the government of Canada has offered any financial assistance to Interprovincial to help construct the line and, if so, what is the extent of such assistance offered?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): The answer to that question, Mr. Speaker, is no.

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[Translation]

SOCIAL SECURITY

GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE TO HELP PEOPLE PAY HIGHER COST OF FUEL OIL

Mr. Eymard Corbin (Madawaska-Victoria): Mr. Speaker, I should like to put a question to the Minister of National Health and Welfare.

Can he tell us how the provinces reacted to the suggestion which he made to them three weeks ago that the federal government would share the additional welfare costs for needy persons in order to help them pay the cost of fuel oil this winter?

Hon. Marc Lalonde (Minister of National Health and Welfare): Mr. Speaker, only one Atlantic province, Prince Edward Island, has replied to this date and its answer was that it would increase welfare payments by 10 per cent starting on January 1.

Mr. Corbin: Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask a supplementary question to the Minister of National Health and Welfare.

Oral Questions

Does he intend contacting again the provinces which have not yet replied to his first suggestion?

Mr. Lalonde: I do not think it is necessary, Mr. Speaker. I sent very explicit telegrams to my colleagues and I imagine that, as a result, they are now trying to take action especially in connection with those 175 million dollars for which the provinces will benefit through the increase in equalization payments and an increase of 115 million dollars after the taxation of family allowances.

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[English]

FISHERIES

INQUIRY AS TO AMENDMENTS TO UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE REGULATIONS TO ENCOURAGE FISHERMEN TO REMAIN IN INDUSTRY

Mr. John Lundrigan (Gander-Twillingate): Mr. Speaker, my question is supplementary to a question asked by the hon. member for St. John's West. It is addressed to the Minister of Fisheries. In view of the fact that some of the best fishermen in the Atlantic provinces are turning down the fishing industry altogether—these are men who work mainly in longliners valued up to \$100,000 and carrying a crew of five or six people—can he tell us what progress has been made in connection with amendments to be brought forward to the unemployment insurance regulations as they apply to fishermen, to eliminate the disincentive which presently exists and is driving fishermen out of business?

Hon. Jack Davis (Minister of Fisheries): I am sure that if there are any amendments to be announced they will be announced by the Minister of Manpower and Immigration.

Mr. Lundrigan: Can the minister tell us what has happened in the three years he has been studying unemployment insurance for fishermen? What about the consistent responses he and his colleague, the Minister of Regional Economic Expansion, have given to the effect that they are consulting and planning to bring in changes? Next year he will not get thousands of fishermen to go fishing because of the disincentives which are presently causing so much concern. What changes does he intend to bring about?

Mr. Davis: As the hon. member knows, payments to fishermen under the act have increased substantially, as they have to other workers in Canada.

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PROTECTION OF PRIVACY BILL

REQUEST FOR GOVERNMENT MOTION TO REJECT SENATE AMENDMENT

Mr. Stuart Leggatt (New Westminster): My question is directed to the Minister of Justice. In view of the minister's advice to the judicial committee of the other place that he could live with the notice provision in the wiretapping bill, and in view of the fact the other place gave this bill consideration for only 1½ days whereas this House has given it consideration over a period of years, will the