

Oral Questions

bault and that the study has perhaps gone on quite long enough?

REQUEST FOR REFERENCE OF REPORT ON KINGSTON
DISTURBANCES TO COMMITTEE

Mr. Andrew Brewin (Greenwood): Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question for the Solicitor General. In light of the fact the minister himself has stated in connection with the Swackhamer report that public understanding of correctional problems would be enhanced by a study of the report with a view to protecting the public and providing opportunities for rehabilitation, would the minister take steps to see that the report is referred to the Standing Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs for further discussion?

Hon. Warren Allmand (Solicitor General): Mr. Speaker, that is an interesting suggestion and I will take it under consideration. May I say that I will also take note of the last suggestion that was made, to which I did not have a chance to reply.

KINGSTON—REQUEST THAT CITY BE REIMBURSED FOR
ADDITIONAL EXPENDITURES NECESSITATED BY RIOT

Miss Flora MacDonald (Kingston and the Islands): Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question for the Solicitor General. In view of the fact the city of Kingston incurred direct costs of \$22,000 in overtime pay for local police during the period of the Kingston penitentiary riot and that this was a service requested by the federal authorities, and that an additional \$100,000 was spent on local police services for protection and investigation purposes during the period of the trial, would the minister consider very seriously reimbursing the city of Kingston for this outlay of \$120,000, which was directly attributable to a major disturbance in a federal institution and did not result from any local situation?

Hon. Warren Allmand (Solicitor General): Mr. Speaker, I cannot recall having received a request to that effect up until this time, but I would be glad to give the hon. member's suggestion serious attention.

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• (1140)

ENERGY

NATURAL GAS—ALLEGED SALE FOR EXPORT AT LOWER
PRICE THAN ALTERNATIVE SOURCES IN UNITED
STATES—POSSIBLE LOSS TO CANADIAN ECONOMY

Mr. T. C. Douglas (Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands): Mr. Speaker, may I direct a question to the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources. Since National Energy Board regulations require the board to review prices of export gas and to report to the cabinet when these prices fall below alternative sources of energy in the United States, and in view of the fact that last Wednesday at page 1750 of *Hansard* the government in answer to my motion for production of papers No. 157 indicated no reports had been received from the National Energy Board since Sep-

[Mr. Fairweather.]

tember 29, 1970, I should like to ask the minister whether he is aware of the fact that the Alberta Resources Conservation Board in its report of August, 1972, stated that Canadian gas was being sold at an average of 15 cents per m.c.f. below alternative sources? I should also like to ask the minister whether he asked the board for a report, why no report was received and why no action was taken?

Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): Mr. Speaker, I have been discussing this question in respect of regulation 11(A) to which the hon. member referred with the board and the chairman has advised me that when the parliamentary committee gets to the question of gas pricing he will be in a position to make a very full report of the rather complicated circumstances surrounding gas pricing in the export market.

Mr. Douglas: Mr. Speaker, on the assumption that the Alberta finding applies to the whole export of Canadian gas, this dereliction of duty on the part of the government represents a loss of \$140 million a year to the Canadian economy. I should like to ask the minister to explain to the House why he was derelict in this respect, and we will let the chairman of the National Energy Board explain when he appears before the committee in due course.

Mr. Macdonald (Rosedale): Mr. Speaker—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The Chair will allow the minister to reply to the hon. member's question, but the hon. member may agree with me that this is more of an argument than a question. That having been said, the minister might reply briefly.

Mr. Macdonald (Rosedale): Mr. Speaker, I was about to say that I did not accept the hon. gentleman's premise.

Mr. Douglas: Irrespective of whether the minister accepts the premise of my question, Mr. Speaker, I ask him now whether the Canadian economy sustained a substantial loss as a result of Canadian gas being sold on the United States market below the price of gas from alternative sources, and why no action was taken by the government with regard to that matter?

Mr. Macdonald (Rosedale): Mr. Speaker, as I indicated, the response to the question of gas pricing into export markets is a very complicated response and I do not really think I can go into it on orders of the day. As I have already indicated to the hon. gentleman and the House, we will be prepared to go into this very fully in the committee when we get to the question of gas pricing after the current discussion of oil exports.

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[Translation]

TRADE

IMPORTATION OF SNOWMOBILES—REQUEST FOR
EXPLANATION

Mr. Adrien Lambert (Bellechasse): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce.