

Oral Questions

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member for Sault Ste. Marie.

OFFERING OF COME-BY-CHANCE REFINERY PRODUCTION
TO CANADA—POSSIBLE IMPOSITION OF "FORCE
MAJEURE" CONTRACT PROVISION—DISCUSSION WITH
UNITED STATES

Mr. Cyril Symes (Sault Ste. Marie): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Secretary of State for External Affairs and it regards the Come-By-Chance refinery situation. Has the government consulted with the government of the United States regarding citizen Shaheen's offer, and can the minister inform the House of the attitude of the American government to the prospect that *force majeure* provisions of Mr. Shaheen's contracts with the American oil companies will be exercised with the apparent approval of the Canadian government?

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs): No, Mr. Speaker, I have not had such discussions with the United States.

Mr. Symes: Does the minister intend to have discussions with the United States to find out the attitude of the American government on this situation?

Mr. Sharp: It may be desirable to have such discussions.

TAR SANDS OIL—INQUIRY AS TO AGREEMENT TO ENABLE
SYNCRUDE PROJECT TO PROCEED

Mr. J. H. Horner (Crowfoot): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Finance. Can he assure the House and the country that he, the Alberta government and the Syncrude people have nearly reached an agreement regarding the go-ahead for that project?

Hon. John N. Turner (Minister of Finance): Mr. Speaker, the present stage of the matter, as far as I know today, is that in view of the reaction I gave earlier, namely, that the agreement as then drawn did not meet federal taxation policy with respect to resources and mining, the province of Alberta and the Syncrude consortium, according to my understanding, have been renegotiating that contract. Both my colleague, the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources, and myself have had certain reactions to it. I do not yet know what the reaction is of the parties to the contract.

CONSIDERATION OF CONSTRUCTION OF PIPELINE FROM
SAINT JOHN TO MONTREAL

Mr. Tom Bell (Saint John-Lancaster): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources. In view of the Portland pipeline difficulty and the ice in the St. Lawrence to which reference has been made in a previous question, has the government under any consideration at the moment the construction of a pipeline from Montreal to Saint John where the largest refinery in Canada and the first deepwater facility are located and, if not, why not?

[Mr. Hellyer.]

Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): Mr. Speaker, I have had a number of discussions with Premier Hatfield on the question of a possible deepwater port at Saint John and a pipeline connection into the St. Lawrence valley. At the moment there has been no final decision by the government.

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CANADA ASSISTANCE PLAN

SUGGESTED FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO PROJECTS
DESIGNED TO HELP INVALIDS AND INFIRM IN THEIR
HOMES

Mr. P. B. Rynard (Simcoe North): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of National Health and Welfare. In view of a report stating that certain local initiatives programs will be cancelled, particularly those dealing with the care and help to the infirm, invalids and the aged in their own homes, I should like to ask the minister, as this involves the pressing social problem of the aged and infirm, whether there are any arrangements to cover such programs through the Canada Assistance Plan or otherwise with the provinces?

Hon. Marc Lalonde (Minister of National Health and Welfare): Mr. Speaker, if the program is as the hon. member has described it, I would think that this is a program that could be cost-shared under the Canada Assistance Plan. However, it is up to the provinces to take the initiative and recognize it as a welfare service.

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● (1450)

MANPOWER

LOCAL INITIATIVES PROGRAM—FORMULA FOR
ALLOCATION OF GRANTS

Mr. W. C. Scott (Victoria-Haliburton): Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question for the Minister of Manpower and Immigration. In light of the vast discrepancies in allocation of LIP grants for the various ridings, can the minister inform the House what formula was used in arriving at these amounts?

Hon. Robert K. Andras (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, that formula was tabled when the allocations were tabled and made available to members a week or two ago.

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GRAIN

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION ON ABILITY OF WHEAT
BOARD TO FULFIL SALES COMMITMENTS AND
DEFERMENT OF SALES

Mr. Jack Murta (Lisgar): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the minister responsible for the Canadian Wheat Board. Since at the present time our export sales are down some 100 million bushels and we have very small amounts