

Oral Questions

Mr. Trudeau: We cannot determine the price at which Venezuela decides to send the oil to us. The only remedy we or the provinces have if we do not want to pay that price is not to take the oil.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Bell: Wait till Premier Reagan hears that.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member for York South.

An hon. Member: Now we will hear from Sheik Lewis.

OIL PIPELINE EXTENSION TO MONTREAL—INQUIRY WHEN APPLICATION WILL BE MADE AND BY WHOM—FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS

Mr. David Lewis (York South): Mr. Speaker, I wish that some hon. members would stop elevating me. I should like to ask the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources one or two questions about the pipeline. When does he expect an application to be made to the National Energy Board with regard to the extension of the pipeline, and by whom?

Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): Mr. Speaker, one thing I promise not to call the hon. gentleman is a blue-eyed Arab.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

An hon. Member: Explain.

An hon. Member: How cosy can you get?

Mr. Macdonald (Rosedale): Mr. Speaker, I would hope that an application for the pipeline will be made to the National Energy Board early in the new year. I would anticipate that the best way to achieve the construction of the pipeline would be by an extension of the Interprovincial line and therefore the application would be made by that company.

Mr. Hees: Say it with flowers.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Lewis: Mr. Speaker, may I as a blue-eyed Canadian—

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Lewis: My wife has told me I have blue eyes.

An hon. Member: How sweet it is!

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

An hon. Member: You make beautiful love together.

Mr. Hees: Oh David, you are just darling.

Mr. Crouse: Oh, my blue-eyed baby.

Mr. Bell: This is getting unparliamentary. You should go behind the curtains.

Mr. Muir: It is getting a little nauseating.

[Mr. Trudeau.]

Mr. Lewis: Mr. Speaker, may I ask the minister whether the financial arrangements have already been completed, whether the financing of the extension of the pipeline will be done entirely by Interprovincial or will the federal government participate, and if there is any financing by the federal government, will the federal government have any equity in that part of the pipeline?

Mr. Macdonald (Rosedale): Mr. Speaker, the financing details of the pipeline are not yet determined. Indeed, that is one of the questions under intensive discussion at the moment.

[Translation]

POSSIBILITY OF GUARANTEE THAT ARAB OIL WILL NOT BE EXPORTED BY CANADA TO UNITED STATES

Mr. Gilbert Rondeau (Shefford): Mr. Speaker, I wish to put a question to the minister of what energy we have left, the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources.

Since Arab countries are willing to supply Canada with all the oil products it needs, provided those products are not exported to the U.S.A., does Canada intend to continue refusing that guarantee to the Arab countries in the face of the new reductions in Arab exports to Canada from January 1, 1974?

Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): Mr. Speaker, as I mentioned to the House a few days ago, we made inquiries in Saudi Arabia in order to know their opinion and policy with regard to exports to the U.S.A. As yet, we have not exported Arab oil products to the United States but we will continue to export oil products coming from the other countries.

OIL PIPELINE EXTENSION TO MONTREAL—REQUEST FOR ASSURANCE THAT OIL PRICE WILL NOT BE HIGHER THAN OFFSHORE CRUDE

Mr. Roch La Salle (Joliette): Mr. Speaker, I should like to put a supplementary question.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Joliette.

Mr. La Salle: Mr. Speaker, I should like to put a supplementary question to the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources.

Since the construction of a pipeline is taken for granted, in his negotiations with the Quebec government, has the minister asked for the assurance that the prices of western oil products will not be higher than those of products from abroad and if not, can he assure us that Quebec will obtain prices similar to those of imported products?

Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): Mr. Speaker, we have discussed with the Quebec government the price of imported oil and it is one of the main questions which will have to be solved before the construction of such a pipeline.