

# HOUSE OF COMMONS

Friday, March 18, 1983

The House met at 11 a.m.

● (1105)

## STATEMENTS PURSUANT TO S.O. 21

[*Translation*]

### ENERGY

#### HUGE COST OF GASOLINE IN QUEBEC

**Mr. Gaston Gourde (Lévis):** Madam Speaker, yesterday, my colleague from Lac-Saint-Jean (Mr. Gimaïel) indicated that he was very upset about the exorbitant price of gas per gallon in the Province of Quebec. Perhaps I may recall a few facts for the benefit of Canadians and Quebec residents. At the end of 1982, the price of gas per litre was a few cents higher in Canada than in the United States. It was, however, 22 cents less than in West Germany, 30 cents less than in the United Kingdom and France and 48 cents less than in Italy.

In Canada, in January 1983, Quebecers were paying 16.4 cents per litre in taxes to the Government of Quebec, in other words, 40 per cent of the total price. Quebec has the highest gas prices in Canada owing to Mr. Parizeau's sales tax, and this means Quebecers are paying at least 13 cents per litre over and above the average price in Canada. Today, people in Saskatchewan can buy a litre of regular gas for around 33 cents. That is certainly not the case in Quebec.

The Canadian Government has guaranteed security of supply for Canadians, and now stringent measures will have to be taken to guarantee oil prices, in order to prevent the Provinces, and especially Quebec, from taking the consumer hostage.

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[*English*]

### ANTI-DUMPING TRIBUNAL

#### COMPETITION FROM IMPORTED WINES

**Mr. Joe Reid (St. Catharines):** Madam Speaker, the Canadian wine industry is a growing, developing industry, satisfied that, based on fair competition, it can compete in terms of both price and quality. The Canadian wine industry is, however, experiencing other than fair competition from low-priced import wines, notably Italian products.

Canada continues to categorize its wine industry as part of the larger alcoholic beverage industry, while European producers benefit from a system of support subsidies and incentives. Documents and materials were filed with the Department of National Revenue in 1981 showing how Italian wineries have benefited very significantly from such subsidies, and the adverse effect that unrestricted imports of such products will have on the Canadian market.

Since 1981 the officials of the Canadian Wine Institute have been in constant touch with Revenue Canada, the Department of Finance, and the Department of Agriculture. The time has now come for more positive action. The Minister of National Revenue (Mr. Bussi eres) should move the application forward so that the allegations and submissions made might be heard by the Anti-Dumping Tribunal.

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### THE ADMINISTRATION

#### CONFLICT OF INTEREST GUIDELINES—CALL FOR COMMITTEE EXAMINATION

**Mr. Ian Waddell (Vancouver-Kingsway):** Madam Speaker, I want to return to the Cafik affair and make it clear that what I was saying was not that Norman Cafik had breached the guidelines. He did not breach the guidelines. As a former Minister he was dealing with a different Department, unlike Alastair Gillespie. I acknowledge that a former Minister is entitled to full rights, including the right to deal with Government. Former Ministers should not be paupers, as the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) once said.

The fact is that Mr. Cafik did lobby. He used his expertise to get a Government grant that was stuck in the process. I quoted his own words as evidence; I did not get this second hand. I saw it via satellite, using a new satellite dish, as Mr. Cafik was on the Webster show in Vancouver. He said that. Cafik said that he met with the President of the Treasury Board (Mr. Gray). It raises questions about the guidelines as they apply to the former Minister, the present Minister responsible for the Treasury Board and formerly Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce.

Our problem in the House is that we cannot ask any questions of the former Minister, and we cannot get the matter before a Committee. In other words, there is no means of public scrutiny in these matters. That is the fault. The matter is still unresolved. The public is very cynical about former Ministers dealing with Cabinet. I plead with the Government to let us have an open system of Government in Canada. Let us have a Committee to examine these matters and examine