

Notices of Motions

Mr. Nielsen: Page 167 of the Fourth Edition of *Beauchesne*, citation 200, paragraphs 2, 3 and 4.

Mr. Speaker: The citation referred to by the hon. member is, of course, well known. It is that only one question can be put to the House at the same time. But of course that does not answer the point made by the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre.

It is long established practice, going back at least 100 years, that there can be more than one notice on the same subject appearing on the order paper. As the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre and the parliamentary secretary have indicated, at the present time there are a number of such instances on the order paper as of today, excluding the particular instance to which the hon. member for Yukon has referred, where we have motions in exactly the same terms appearing for consideration of the House. As one of the hon. members said, it is, of course, when a decision has been taken by the House, and when particularly a matter has been under discussion by the House, that the point raised by the hon. member may be taken into account.

The hon. member for Yukon referred to Standing Order 19. Standing Order 19, of course, is quite relevant, but that does not help the hon. member's position at all. Standing Order 19 is to the effect that if a motion placed on the order paper by an hon. member is not proceeded with it falls to the bottom of the order paper or disappears from the order paper. I suggest it is only by consent of the House, and as a result of practice that has been developing, that motions that are not proceeded with immediately are allowed to remain on the order paper. If we agreed, as the hon. member suggests, to put Standing Order 19 strictly into effect, then all the notices which appear on the order paper, including one in the name of the hon. member for Yukon, would have disappeared a long time ago. I suggest to the hon. member that his point is not well taken.

Mr. McGrath: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, now that Your Honour has made a ruling may I say to the House that the two hon. gentlemen could have saved themselves a great deal of trouble because I intend to proceed with my motion on Monday.

Mr. Reid: Why not today?

● (1430)

Mr. Grier: Mr. Speaker, may I say that if the hon. member for St. John's East (Mr. McGrath) had been a little more hasty in proceeding with debate on his motion, which has been standing on the order paper since July 25, it would not have been necessary for other members to move the same motion.

[Mr. Speaker.]

ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

[English]

ENERGY

OIL EXPORT TAX—CONSULTATION WITH AND REACTION OF PROVINCES—SCOPE OF FREEZE ON PRICE OF CRUDE

Hon. Robert L. Stanfield (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, my question is to the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources concerning yesterday's announcement outside the House of an oil export tax. Will the minister tell the House whether he consulted with the oil-producing provinces either prior to or following the announcement, and can he indicate briefly what the reactions of those provinces have been? I am not referring to the reaction of the Alberta delegates at the annual Liberal meeting but specifically to the reaction of the provincial governments of the oil-producing provinces.

Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): Mr. Speaker, we advised the Alberta minister of the decision of the National Energy Board and also the government's decision with regard to the consequences of the National Energy Board decision. I think it is fair to say that they made no substantive comment about it.

Mr. Stanfield: We will await that comment, Mr. Speaker. I should like to ask the minister whether this policy that the government has adopted—

Mr. Guay (St. Boniface): Who is your oil man, Bob?

Mr. Stanfield: I am the oil man.

An hon. Member: There is lots of gas over there.

Mr. Speaker: May we have order, please.

Mr. Stanfield: I certainly do not pretend to be the expert on gas that my friend is.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Stanfield: I should like to ask the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources whether the government's policy with regard to a freeze includes a freeze on the price of crude imported into Canada for Quebec and the Atlantic provinces, for example, as of the same date that Canadian-produced crude was frozen and whether the same general provisions as have been applied to Canadian-produced crude will also apply to imported crude?

Mr. Macdonald (Rosedale): Mr. Speaker, I think it will be obvious to the hon. gentleman that there is no way we could put a price restraint on foreign vendors of crude oil to the eastern Canadian market. Therefore they will be in the situation of offering for sale to Canada crude at prices that will be set by international competition. On this basis, as was indicated by the Prime Minister's statement at the time, crude supplies entering the eastern Canadian market from foreign sources would not be subject to the same restriction as those originating in Canada.

Mr. Stanfield: In other words, Mr. Speaker, consumers of petroleum products in the Atlantic provinces, the prov-