

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I did recognize the hon. member for Calgary South a moment ago and I apologize to him. I will recognize the hon. member for Calgary North on a further supplementary question followed by the hon. member for Calgary South. I will then seek the co-operation of hon. members to try to limit the number of supplementary questions in order that we may have as many questioners as possible before the end of the question period.

Mr. Woolliams: Mr. Speaker, I will be very brief. I should like to ask the Minister of Finance whether he considers the surtax of \$1.90 an incentive that will stimulate and motivate this project and put it on the map so it will go ahead?

OIL—EFFECT OF GOVERNMENT POLICIES ON
EXPLORATION AND DEVELOPMENT WITHIN CANADA—
TAR SANDS PROJECT

Mr. Peter C. Bawden (Calgary South): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources. In view of the fact the only secure source of oil supply for Canada must come from Canadian oil fields and that Canadian oil reserves at present are down to something in the order of a 12-year life, will the minister say why all of the government's recent policies have aggravated the Canadian energy supply problem and why no consideration has been given to security of future supply by way of stimulating the search for and development of energy reserves in Canada?

Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): Mr. Speaker, I will not accuse the hon. gentleman of a conflict of interest in the situation, but I would point out that in July and again in discussions the government has had with the governments of both Alberta and Saskatchewan we have pointed out that substantial funds can and will be made available for the purpose of developing non-conventional sources of oil particularly and, in addition, for the development of other sources of oil and natural gas, and it is our intention to have this development by and for Canadians.

Mr. Bawden: Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question for the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources. The minister has made some vague statements about the federal government trying to find ways of directing the \$70 million a month that is being creamed from the western provinces into heavy oil development. In view of the fact the National Energy Board projects production from the Alberta tar sands in the amount of some 500,000 barrels a day by 1980, which is an almost impossible target date, will the minister promise that before the end of this year the matter will be concluded so that private enterprise can get on with this job?

Mr. Macdonald (Rosedale): Mr. Speaker, I think it would be desirable to conclude it as soon as possible, and I look forward to early conversations with the government of Alberta in an attempt to nail this down.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member wishes to ask another supplementary question and I will recognize him for that purpose, but I would seek the co-operation of

hon. members in making progress. I will recognize the hon. member and then the hon. member for Northwest Territories.

Mr. Bawden: Mr. Speaker, my supplementary to the minister is related to the policy he announced last week. Will he indicate whether it is correct that he was overruled on his proposal to the cabinet—

Some hon. Members: Order!

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

Mr. Bawden: —and that the cabinet—

Some hon. Members: Order!

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I recognize the hon. member for Northwest Territories.

* * *

NORTHERN AFFAIRS

NORTHWEST TERRITORIES—ALLEGED LETTING OF
CONTRACTS BY HIRE NORTH WITHOUT TENDERS

Mr. Wally Firth (Northwest Territories): Mr. Speaker, in the absence of the Minister for Indian Affairs and Northern Development I should like to direct my question to the right hon. Prime Minister. Is the government aware that the person appointed to head Hire North last year awarded contracts of more than \$250,000, without any tenders being called, some to firms in which he himself has an interest, and will the Prime Minister agree to move a motion to refer this matter to an appropriate House committee?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I certainly did not understand the question. I was wondering whether the subject "he" to which the hon. member referred was myself or some other person. I am certainly anxious to look at the question when it appears in *Hansard* and answer it if possible or ask the hon. member to put it on the order paper.

Mr. Firth: Mr. Speaker, I should like to clarify my question to the right hon. Prime Minister. Is the government aware that the person appointed to head Hire North last year awarded contracts of more than \$250,000, without any tenders being called, some to firms in which he, the project manager, has an interest, and will the Prime Minister agree to move a motion to refer this matter to an appropriate House Committee?

Mr. Trudeau: I thank the hon. member for having clarified the question so far as it concerns myself. I must confess that I am not aware of the answer nor, indeed, of the subject matter. I will take notice of the question and report to the hon. member at a later time.