

Oral Questions

selves trapped there? Is the minister not concerned about the interests of Canadians?

Mr. Sharp: Yes, Mr. Speaker, we are concerned. I think we can look after the interests of Canadians in this regard. However, I do not think we should create the impression that we should be free when Americans are subject to rationing.

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AIRPORTS**WINNIPEG—REQUEST FOR REPORT ON PROPOSED RUNWAY RELOCATION**

Mr. Dan McKenzie (Winnipeg South Centre): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Transport. Has the minister reached any decision or can he report on the request for runway relocation at the Winnipeg airport in order to reduce air pollution, noise and for safety reasons?

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): No, Mr. Speaker. We are still discussing this with the municipality.

Mr. McKenzie: Will the government be taking immediate steps to acquire land in preparation for runway relocation?

Mr. Marchand (Langelier): As soon as a decision is reached.

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ENERGY**OIL PIPELINE EXTENSION TO MONTREAL—STARTING OF CONSTRUCTION, FINANCING, OWNERSHIP**

Mr. Lorne Nystrom (Yorkton-Melville): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct my question to the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources. Can the minister give any more information on the extension of the pipeline to Montreal as to when he expects the construction of the pipeline to start, whether financing has been lined up and whether or not it will be publicly owned?

Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): Mr. Speaker, I am afraid I cannot report very much more since my meeting on Friday with the representatives of the pipeline company. I hope to be able to do so within a relatively short period.

Mr. Nystrom: Can the minister assure us there will be adequate steel to construct the pipeline and have it completed by 1975?

Mr. Macdonald (Rosedale): My information is there will be, Mr. Speaker.

OIL PIPELINE EXTENSION TO MONTREAL—AVAILABILITY OF STEEL

Mr. Lincoln M. Alexander (Hamilton West): Mr. Speaker, my supplementary is for the Minister of Indus-
[Mr. Beatty (Wellington-Grey-Dufferin Waterloo).]

try, Trade and Commerce. Has the minister or his colleague, the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce, been in touch with the steel companies of Canada in order to obtain advice whether in fact there will be steel available to commence the pipeline at this time? My information reveals that this will not be possible before March, 1975.

Hon. Alastair Gillespie (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): Mr. Speaker, I met with the presidents of all the steel companies of Canada on Thursday of last week.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Alexander: Now that the minister has advised he met with the presidents of the steel companies, will he take us into his confidence, answer my question and let the House and the people of Canada know whether in fact there will be sufficient steel in order to carry on with this pipeline?

Mr. Gillespie: Mr. Speaker, just 15 seconds ago my colleague, the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources, in answer to another question indicated there will be no problem and that sufficient steel can be made available to build the pipeline. I did not feel it necessary to repeat the undertaking that had already been given.

Mr. Alexander: Can the minister advise us as to the date he indicated to the steel companies when the government wishes to start construction of the line? Can he give us some indication so we may know what time we are talking about and the completion date?

Mr. Gillespie: My colleague has already stated that an announcement will be made in due course.

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EXTERNAL AFFAIRS**SUGGESTED INVITATION TO SAUDI ARABIAN AND ALGERIAN OIL MINISTERS TO VISIT CANADA**

Mr. Heath Macquarrie (Hillsborough): Mr. Speaker, I should like to address a question to the Secretary of State for External Affairs. In view of the fact Canada has no resident ambassador in Riyadh and bearing in mind the importance of obtaining fuller knowledge of Arab oil policies affecting Canada, will the minister consider having an invitation extended to Sheik Yamani, Saudi Arabian oil minister, and his Algerian counterpart, to visit this country after the conclusion of their visits to western Europe and the United States?

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs): I will take this suggestion under consideration.

Mr. Macquarrie: In the same process, would the minister consult with the chairman of the Standing Committee on External Affairs and National Defence with a view to having these gentlemen invited before that committee so that we might enlarge our limited knowledge of the relations between their part of the world and our part of the world?