

*Oral Questions*

man promised on March 4? Second, can the minister tell us whether or not he will permit the director to have access to cabinet minutes so that there will not be a situation in which there is the type of massive government cover-up which is presently going on?

[Translation]

**Hon. André Ouellet (Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs and Postmaster General):** Madam Speaker, I answered the member a moment ago. I did not try to elude his question. On the contrary, I told him that we were having consultations, that it was a working paper and that the views not only of the business community but also of consumer representatives and of members opposite as well were welcome. We have not yet taken any decision or a final position, and any suggestion the hon. member may want to make would be given favourable consideration. As for the second part of his question, however, I would refer him to answers already given in the House in that respect.

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● (1440)

[English]

### NATIONAL SECURITY

#### TASCHEREAU ROYAL COMMISSION PAPERS—REVIEW RECOMMENDATIONS

**Hon. Allan Lawrence (Durham-Northumberland):** Madam Speaker, my question is for the Prime Minister. Because Mr. Ralph Branscombe was retained by the Privy Council Office, could the Prime Minister inform the House if Mr. Branscombe's recommendations about removing the secrecy classification from the transcripts of the Taschereau Royal Commission on Espionage have been presented to the government as yet and, if so, what are those recommendations, and what action is the government taking?

**Hon. Bob Kaplan (Solicitor General):** Madam Speaker, I should like to inform the House that Mr. Branscombe has not as yet completed his work. He is at a stage now where he is obtaining legal advice on privacy matters from the law officers of the Crown. Recently I asked how much more time his work will require, and I understand that he expects to complete it within two or three weeks from now.

#### DECLASSIFICATION OF GOVERNMENT DOCUMENTS

**Hon. Allan Lawrence (Durham-Northumberland):** Madam Speaker, perhaps I can get an answer from the Prime Minister with my supplementary question. At his Friday press conference the Prime Minister indicated a desire to have more specifics about certain security risks that occurred over ten years ago. Because the government is already in possession of these details, I wonder if the Prime Minister would undertake to declassify and make public the reports and documentation

that the government already has relating to these individuals and events?

**Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister):** Madam Speaker, the hon. member is talking about "these" individuals. He did not mention any names and I do not know if he intends to.

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### NATIONAL ENERGY PROGRAM

#### ACCEPTANCE OF PRINCIPLES BY OIL COMPANY EXECUTIVES

**Mr. Jim Peterson (Willowdale):** Madam Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources and is supplementary to that raised by the hon. member for Etobicoke Centre. It concerns statements made in the past few days by Mr. Jack Armstrong of Imperial Oil Limited, and Mr. Robert E. Kadlec, chairman of the Canadian Gas Association, both of whom have accepted, from a corporate point of view, the main principles and goals of Canada's National Energy Program, and have intimated their optimism for the long-term success of the program. My question, therefore, is can the minister indicate whether the reactions of these two gentlemen is typical of those in Canada's energy industry today?

**Some hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Some hon. Members:** Oh, oh!

**Hon. Marc Lalonde (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources):** Madam Speaker, I cannot vouch for all members of the industry, but I think the view expressed by these two gentlemen appears to be shared certainly, by the most dynamic and most enlightened members of the industry.

**Some hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

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### HEALTH

#### FUNDING FOR NATIONAL HEALTH RESEARCH DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

**Mr. Simon de Jong (Regina East):** Madam Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of National Health and Welfare. Considering that the Health Research and Development Program, NHRDP, is the only federal source of funds for applied research into health care, and includes such important areas of research as environmental and occupational causes of disease, disease prevention, and the evaluation of existing health programs, would the minister please tell the House why the 1981-82 budget for the NHRDP has been increased by a paltry 1.9 per cent, an effective decrease of 11 per cent when inflation is considered?