Order Paper Questions

Employment and Immigration Votes 5b, 10b, 15b, 20b, 25b and 30b Labour Vote 1b

Secretary of State Vote 130b

To the Standing Committee on Management and Members Services:

Parliament Vote 5b

To the Standing Committee on Miscellaneous Estimates:

Privy Council Votes 1b and 15b

Science and Technology Votes 1b, 10b, 15b and 35b

Treasury Board Votes 1b and 35b

To the Standing Committee on National Resources and Public Works:

Energy, Mines and Resources Votes 1b, 5b, 15b, 16b, 45b and 50b

Public Works Votes 5b, 20b, 40b and 45b

To the Standing Committee on Regional Development:

Regional Economic Expansion Votes 1b, 10b, L16b, 25b, 30b, 31b and 46b

To the Standing Committee on Transport:

Transport Votes 10b, 16b, 17b, L40b, 55b, 65b, 75b, 90b, 91b and 110b

To the Standing Committee on Veterans Affairs:

Veterans Affairs Votes 1b, 5b and 20b

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

TWO-DAY ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Pinard: Madam Speaker, I would like to move the following motion:

That, when the House adjourns on Friday, November 7, 1980, it shall stand adjourned until Wednesday, November 12, 1980; and

On Thursday, November 13, 1980 and Tuesday, November 18, 1980, the House shall sit from 11.00 a.m. to 1.00 p.m. for the consideration of Bill C-6.

That is the Bank Act.

[Translation]

Madam Speaker: The House has heard the motion. Is it the pleasure of the House to adopt the said motion?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Motion agreed to.

QUESTIONS ON THE ORDER PAPER

(Questions answered orally are indicated by an asterisk.)

Mr. D. M. Collenette (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): Madam Speaker, the following questions will be answered today: Nos. 725, 1,045, 1,321, 1,562 and 1,569.

I ask, Madam Speaker, that the remaining questions be allowed to stand.

[Text]

GASOHOL

Question No. 725—Mr. Greenaway:

1. Did the government or any of its departments or agencies undertake cost analysis studies to determine the viability of "gasohol" as a substitute for gasoline in the (a) short (b) long term and, if so, what were the results?

2. Did the government or any of its departments or agencies investigate and/or consider (a) exemption of excise tax on gasohol (b) financial assistance of any kind to encourage research and/or development of gasohol (c) benefits which may accrue to the agriculture industry and/or other industries arising from the manufacture of gasohol (d) benefits to the Canadian consumer arising from the development of gasohol and, if so, what (i) was the nature of such investigations or considerations (ii) were the results and/or decisions taken (iii) were the names of any companies and/or agencies which have been involved?

3. If the government or any of its departments or agencies did not undertake such studies or investigations, what is the reason?

Mr. D. M. Collenette (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): I am informed by the Departments of Agriculture, Energy, Mines and Resources and Finance as follows: 1. The government has undertaken several studies during the last three years regarding the economic viability of gasohol in Canada. The findings of these investigations suggest that we can make very limited quantities of alcohol suitable for gasohol blends at costs approximately those of equivalent imported oil. The sources of such alcohol would be the waste streams of certain plants and substandard crops. Larger quantities of fermentation alcohol can be made from grains at substantially higher costs.

2. (a) The Minister of Finance in his April 21, 1980, economic statement announced amendments to the Excise Act to permit easing of licensing requirements for researchers who wish to manufacture denatured spirits for use in experimentation and development of fuels. Among other changes the bonding requirement will be reduced to \$10,000. Persons holding this license are also made exempt from the excise duties levied on spirits. There are no provisions currently in the Excise Tax Act which would impose a special excise tax on gasohol analogous to the excise tax currently levied on gasoline. A decision pertaining to the tax treatment of gasohol will be made in the event that gasohol becomes available for sale in commercial quantities.

2. (b), (c) and (d) The Department of Energy, Mines and Resources, in co-operation with other government departments, is reviewing the alcohol fuels issues facing Canada. This review is well advanced and input from the provinces will be sought in the next few weeks. In addition to fermentation type alcohol (ethanol), Canada has the potential to produce large quantities of methanol (wood alcohol) from natural gas, coal and biomass. The issues involved relate to both production of use of alcohols. When the analysis and consultations are completed, the Minister of Energy,