

people on middle, lower and fixed incomes who are hardest hit by the fuel price increase?

Hon. Marc Lalonde (Minister of National Health and Welfare): Mr. Speaker, as I told the House before, I sent a telegram last week to my colleagues. I have not had an answer from my colleague in Newfoundland but I have received one from my colleague in Prince Edward Island. It seems that the provincial ministers concerned are taking appropriate steps at the present time to make sure that those in need are not going to be caught short of the money necessary to meet their needs with regard to fuel.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I will recognize the hon. member for Oshawa-Whitby on a supplementary, and then the hon. member for Perth-Wilmot.

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INDUSTRY

SURVEY OF COMPANIES ON CONSEQUENCES OF ENERGY CRISIS—PUBLICATION OF FINDINGS

Mr. Edward Broadbent (Oshawa-Whitby): Mr. Speaker, may I direct a question to the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce. Last Friday I asked the minister whether he was going to make public the analysis of the survey his department is doing among 1,000 corporations in Canada on the consequences of the energy crisis. At that time the minister did not indicate clearly whether the government would or would not do so. I therefore ask the minister now, does he intend during the present week, for example, to inform the House of his findings from that survey?

Hon. Alastair Gillespie (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): Mr. Speaker, I think, at this stage of the analysis, it is still too premature to make any announcement of that kind.

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ENERGY

REQUEST FOR ASSURANCE OVERLAND OIL MOVEMENT WILL BE IN OPERATION WHEN SEAWAY CLOSES—SURVEY OF FACILITIES

Mr. Bill Jarvis (Perth-Wilmot): Mr. Speaker, may I direct a question to the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources. Having regard to the fact the Montreal-Lake Ontario section of the seaway will close two weeks from today on December 16, can the minister give any assurance that overland oil movement will be in operation at that time when the St. Lawrence movement is curtailed?

Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): Mr. Speaker, I cannot give assurances in the kind of figures with which I responded to the hon. gentleman last week. As I mentioned at that time, there will be considerable investment required in both loading and unloading facilities and also in the repair of existing rolling stock. We certainly hope that some part of this will be available. We are actively considering additional meas-

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ures that the government of Canada can take in order to enhance overland oil movement.

Mr. Jarvis: Mr. Speaker, may I direct a supplementary question to the Minister of Transport. On November 28 the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources indicated that the Minister of Transport was completing a survey with regard to the overland system from Sarnia. Has the minister completed this survey and, specifically, has he been in touch with the appropriate trucking firms?

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): Excuse me, but I did not hear the first part of the question. Could the hon. member repeat it?

Mr. Jarvis: Mr. Speaker, my supplementary question is for the Minister of Transport. On November 28 the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources indicated that the Minister of Transport was completing a survey with regard to the overland supply system from Sarnia. Has the minister completed the survey and, specifically, has he been in touch with the appropriate trucking firms?

● (1420)

Mr. Marchand (Langelier): Yes, Mr. Speaker. We are in touch with the trucking firms as we are in touch with the railways to see what can be done next winter if we have to transport oil from Sarnia to Montreal.

Mr. Jarvis: Will the minister tell the House what specific steps he is taking to ensure that overland oil supply will be in operation before the St. Lawrence freeze-up?

Mr. Marchand (Langelier): Mr. Speaker, I do not know if that is a wise thing to do. The first thing we have to do is find the rail cars and trucks that will be in a position to move the oil as soon as it is necessary to move it.

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EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

PROTECTION OF CANADIAN VISITORS TO UNITED STATES AGAINST BEING STRANDED IF GAS RATIONING INTRODUCED

Mr. Perrin Beatty (Wellington-Grey-Dufferin-Waterloo): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Secretary of State for External Affairs. It arises from the possibility of gasoline rationing in the United States. Has the minister consulted with his American counterparts to get an agreement from the Americans to ensure that the interests of Canadians abroad will be protected so they will not be stranded there if gasoline rationing is introduced in that country?

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, I would not think that Canadians who wish to travel in the United States would be exempted from those kinds of measures. I should think they would want to comply.

Mr. Beatty (Wellington-Grey-Dufferin-Waterloo): What specific measures will the minister be taking on behalf of the Canadian government to protect the interests of Canadian nationals travelling abroad who find them-