

*Inquiries of the Ministry***TRADE****WHEAT—NEGOTIATIONS RESPECTING SALES TO CHINA AND RUSSIA**

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. R. R. Southam (Ou'Appelle-Moose Mountain):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct my question to the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce at this time in view of the Prime Minister's advice that that minister will be out of the country for some time. In view of the tremendous importance of wheat sales to the prairie economy, can the minister now state when negotiations will get under way with Russia and China regarding the remainder of our present contracts with these two countries?

**Hon. Jean-Luc Pepin (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce):** No, Mr. Speaker. I do not think it is traditional to give this information. I regret that, but it is better that I do not do so.

**Mr. Southam:** Would the minister advise whether or not any new, large wheat sales are in prospect which may alleviate the serious economic problems now facing western Canada?

**Mr. Pepin:** New what?

**Mr. Southam:** New, large wheat sales. Are there any new, large wheat sales in prospect?

**Mr. Pepin:** As I have said three or four times in the last ten days, this is not the market place. I have said that one of the conditions of success in business is not to announce your intentions in advance.

**NATIONAL DEFENCE****NATO—PURCHASE OF COUNTER-MORTAR RADAR EQUIPMENT**

On the orders of the day:

**Hon. J. A. MacLean (Malpeque):** Mr. Speaker, in the absence of the Minister of National Defence and the Secretary of State for External Affairs perhaps I could direct my question to the Minister of Defence Production. Will he request a reconsideration by officials of NATO of the decision to bypass the purchase of counter-mortar radar equipment developed by the National Research Council of Canada in favour of comparable but inferior equipment developed in the United States?

**Hon. Donald C. Jamieson (Minister of Defence Production):** Mr. Speaker, I will be

[Mr. Benson.]

glad to take the question as notice and refer it to my colleague, the Minister of National Defence.

**Mr. MacLean:** Will the minister indicate what representations, if any, were made to the government of the United States regarding its interference in NATO purchasing to ensure the sale of a less suitable United States product?

**Mr. Jamieson:** As I said, I will take the question as notice and discuss it with the Minister of National Defence.

**EXTERNAL AFFAIRS****NIGERIA—CONSULTATIONS RESPECTING CEASE FIRE UNDER UNITED NATIONS**

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. J. Edward Broadbent (Oshawa-Whitby):** Mr. Speaker, would the Prime Minister kindly inform the house whether the government has consulted the governments of Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania and Zambia and the Gold Coast on the question of obtaining a cease fire in Nigeria through United Nations action? If so, would he indicate what the response has been?

**Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister):** Mr. Speaker, I will check on this matter with the Secretary of State for External Affairs and find out whether there have been any such conversations. When the hon. member referred to the Gold Coast I felt he was perhaps thinking of some other country. The Gold Coast no longer exists.

[Translation]

**BRIDGES****CHAMPLAIN BRIDGE, MONTREAL—REMOVAL OF TOLLS**

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. Léonel Beaudoin (Richmond):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the honourable Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce.

In view of the representations made by the Chambers of Commerce and intermediate bodies, especially those from the eastern townships, is the Department of Trade and Commerce considering the removal of the toll on Champlain bridge in Montreal?

**Hon. Jean-Luc Pepin (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce):** Mr. Speaker, that question comes under the jurisdiction of the Minister of Transport.