Inquiries of the Ministry

of Motions for the Production of Papers be allowed to stand?

Mr. Speaker: Is this agreed?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

TRADE

PROGRAM TO SECURE LARGER SHARE OF JAPANESE MARKET FOR MANUFACTURED GOODS IN AREAS ALREADY LIBERALIZED

Hon. Robert L. Stanfield (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct a question to the right hon. Prime Minister. In view of the increased importance of diversifying the markets for Canadian manufactured products I would like to ask the Prime Minister what specific program his government has to enable Canadian manufacturers effectively to secure a larger share of the Japanese market for manufactured goods in those areas of the Japanese market that have already been liberalized?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, this is an interesting proposal that I had occasion to discuss last Saturday night in front of a section of the Canadian public. I am sure it is something which came up in the ministerial meetings between Canada and Japan. I will ask for a report from the ministers who were at those meetings and see if any progress was made.

Mr. Stanfield: Mr. Speaker, since the Secretary of State for External Affairs was present at those meetings, perhaps I could ask him that question.

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, I think a perusal of the communiqué which I have just tabled in the House would indicate that this was one of the most important subjects of discussion. We believe the Japanese are making progress in the liberalization of their import restrictions. The Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce expressed his eagerness to take advantage of the new opportunities and is pressing Canadian businessmen to do so.

Mr. Stanfield: Mr. Speaker, may I clarify my question and make it very clear to the Secretary of State for External Affairs that I am asking what specific program the government has in mind with regard to increasing Canadian exports of manufactured goods, and therefore creating jobs in Canada, in those areas of the Japanese economy that have already been liberalized, whereas the communiqué related rather to the increase of areas to be liberalized?

Mr. Sharp: Mr. Speaker, the Leader of the Opposition seems to lack confidence in the ability of Canadian businessmen to compete in the Japanese market. I do not share his lack of confidence.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

(Mr. Jerome.)

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I notice that the hon. member for York South is anxious to ask a supplementary, but for the moment the Chair recognizes the Leader of the Opposition.

Mr. Stanfield: Mr. Speaker, I simply lack confidence in this government.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

THE CANADIAN ECONOMY

FOREIGN OWNERSHIP-EXPRESSION OF OPINION BY JAPANESE CONCERNING CANADIAN POLICY REVIEW

Hon. Robert L. Stanfield (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the Secretary of State for External Affairs whether the Japanese officials at the meeting expressed any opinion to the Canadian ministers with regard to the policy review under way with respect to foreign investment in Canada? For example, did they express any concern about this policy review that has been going on seemingly just about as long as the Ziegfield Follies?

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs): No, Mr. Speaker, the Japanese ministers did not express concern. They themselves have been engaged in a review of their foreign investment policy and we have been encouraging them to become more liberal, as we are. I am sure the Leader of the Opposition would agree that this is desirable. We also assured the Japanese ministers that Japanese investment in Canada would be welcome and that we hoped it would be in the form of a minority interest.

TRADE

INITIATIVE BY CANADA AND JAPAN RESPECTING ACTION TO OFFSET UNITED STATES ECONOMIC MEASURES

Mr. David Lewis (York South): Mr. Speaker, I do not know whether my question is supplementary, but I noticed it was stated in the communiqué issued following the Canada-Japan ministerial meeting that the ministers of the two countries discussed the various items of present American economic policy, both those policies which have already been implemented and policies which are contemplated such as DISC, export tax credits and so on. I want to ask the Secretary of State for External Affairs whether the discussion resulted in any agreement by Canada and Japan to take the initiative in international measures by these two countries and the European Common Market to withstand the effect of the protectionist American policies?

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, both Canada and Japan have been very active in the various international forums that have been discussing these matters. I think it is fair to say that the United States has been isolated and the countries of