

POSSIBILITY OF NEW AMENDING FORMULA AT TIME  
CONSTITUTION BROUGHT TO CANADA

**Mr. Andrew Brewin (Greenwood):** I would like to ask the Prime Minister whether in any proposal to bring back the constitution from Great Britain by means of a federal unilateral action a new amending formula will be substituted for the present power of the parliament of the United Kingdom in such a manner as to protect and entrench the basic language and civil rights within the provinces and to ensure that no further amendments would be made without at least some reasonable consensus of the provinces on all changes affecting provincial legislative powers.

**Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister):** I can assure the hon. member that it would not be the intention of the government to see in Canada a constitution which could be amended unilaterally by the federal government once it is back. I think I should make that quite clear, and I believe that is the essence of the question of the hon. member. But I would go further and say that there is no intention on the part of the government to ask parliament by joint resolution to even contemplate such limited action without further consultation with the provinces.

As I indicated in January of this year, I believe, negotiations had been going on for almost a year with the various provinces in the hope that we would find agreement on a way to amend the constitution and repatriate it. I think that we are now about to reach the conclusion that it is unlikely that we will get unanimous agreement. My next step would be to report to all the provinces on the status of the discussions as we see them now. I would just add what I said in my statement on Friday night, and it seemed to have escaped attention. I said that I did not despair of even Quebec agreeing to that. I even said that I hoped there would be unanimous agreement, and we still hope for it. But at this stage I will contact all premiers and report to them on the status of the negotiations.

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EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

POSSIBILITY OF ARRANGING FREE DELIVERY OF MILK  
POWDER PURCHASED BY RELIEF ORGANIZATIONS

**Mr. Dean Whiteway (Selkirk):** Mr. Speaker, in the absence of the Secretary of State for External Affairs I wish to direct my question to the right hon. Prime Minister. It has to do with surplus milk powder in Canada. In view of the fact that several world relief organizations, including Food for the Hungry, have attempted to buy surplus powdered milk and have experienced the usual bureaucratic runaround ending back with CIDA, I wonder if the minister would indicate to the House whether or not the government of Canada would make the same arrangement as did the Netherlands, that is that upon purchase by world relief organizations the milk would be delivered free anywhere in the world.

**Hon. Mitchell Sharp (President of the Privy Council):** Mr. Speaker, I will take the question as notice and inform the minister.

Oral Questions

REQUEST FOR COMMITTEE STUDY OF POLICY ON NUCLEAR  
SALES

**Mr. Douglas Roche (Edmonton-Strathcona):** Mr. Speaker, my question is for the right hon. Prime Minister and it goes back to the question raised by the hon. member for Kingston and the Islands. In answer to the last question asked by the hon. lady, the Prime Minister said it was not the custom of the House to report to the House on international agreements before they are signed. Bearing in mind that that is in opposition to the policy announced by his predecessor twice removed, the Right Hon. Mackenzie King, may I ask the Prime Minister now, because of the public confusion over who is making the policy on nuclear sales for this government—

**Some hon. Members:** Question.

**Mr. Roche:**—whether it is a representative of the Prime Minister's office or representatives of the Department of External Affairs, will the Prime Minister make an immediate reference to the Standing Committee on External Affairs and National Defence to review the decision making process on this subject which is of extreme importance to world safety?

**Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister):** Mr. Speaker, the question seems to have many parts. The delegation in India engaged in these negotiations is there of course with the authorization of the Secretary of State for External Affairs. They are his appointees and they are acting in complete agreement and in co-operation with the high commissioner in India. As to the other reference, I do not know what my predecessor twice removed did. I was just quoting what has been current practice since I have been in parliament. I will try to establish contact with the Right Hon. Mackenzie King and report to the House.

**An hon. Member:** How about Ivan Head?

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

MOZAMBIQUE—CLOSING OF BORDER WITH RHODESIA—  
REQUEST FOR REPORT

**Mr. Howard Johnston (Okanagan-Kootenay):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct my question to the minister responding for the Secretary of State for External Affairs. Subsequent to the declaration by Mozambique closing the border with Rhodesia, which put the country on a war footing, and following reports of increased shipments of Soviet supplied armaments reaching Mozambique, is the minister able to give any report to the House concerning this immediate threat to world peace?

**Hon. Mitchell Sharp (President of the Privy Council):** We do not have any direct contacts which would enable us to confirm or otherwise these reports. However, we do share the general anxiety about the situation in southern Africa, and I think it reinforces the view we have had that there should be no intervention by outside powers in that part of the world.

**Mr. Johnston:** Has Canada made any commitment, either individually or with other countries, to aid in com-