

Inquiries of the Ministry

time for the receiving of representations in cases of countervailing action. He had given a one month period. At our request, and in view of the complexity of the matter that period has been extended for another month until July 12.

MICHELIN TIRE COMPANY—REQUEST FOR INFORMATION ON AMOUNT OF GOVERNMENT FINANCIAL AID, PROJECTED CAPITAL COST AND EQUITY PROVIDED BY COMPANY

Mr. Broadbent: Mr. Speaker, I gave the minister notice this morning of my supplementary question. I hope he has the information. Will the minister inform the House (a) as to the amount of financial assistance the Michelin Company of Nova Scotia has received from the federal and provincial governments in the form of grants and loans, whether already paid or agreed to, (b) the projected capital cost of these facilities and (c) the amount of equity the Michelin Company has actually provided?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. Perhaps I will allow the minister to reply to the first part of the question. The hon. member is asking for statistical information. This is not normally the type of question that is allowable at this time. The hon. member indicated that he gave the minister notice of his intention to ask the question. I am not sure that brings him within the rules. In any event, the minister will be allowed to reply if he has the information.

Mr. Pepin: Mr. Speaker, I answered the previous question because it fell under my jurisdiction. This other aspect of the Michelin case, if you want to call it that, falls under the jurisdiction of the Minister of Finance. He is aware of the hon. member's request which has been made previously. I presume that in due course he will deny or confirm the information available from the press on this subject.

Mr. Broadbent: Mr. Speaker, I asked the minister because I understand his department is responsible, directly or indirectly, for carrying this case before the United States government, and so he may have the answer to my final question. Can the minister inform the House whether or not it is a fact that, of the approximately \$90 million that has been so far allocated for this project of the Michelin Company, less than 10 per cent of the capital was put up by the company itself?

Mr. Pepin: Mr. Speaker, it will be the responsibility of the Minister of Finance to answer that.

Mr. Robert Muir (Cape Breton-The Sydneys): Mr. Speaker, while the minister is securing that information for the hon. member for Oshawa-Whitby would he be good enough to ascertain who is more opposed to industrial progress in Nova Scotia, the straight NDP, the Lewisites, or the Waffle?

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

[Mr. Pepin.]

AWARENESS BY UNITED STATES OF CANADIAN POSITION RESPECTING USE OF COUNTERVAILING DUTIES

Hon. George Hees (Prince Edward-Hastings): Mr. Speaker, has the minister made it very clear to the government of the United States that to embark upon a program of countervailing duties, as might be the case in this instance, would be a very serious step for the United States government to take? Are the Americans quite well aware of our stand in this regard?

Hon. Jean-Luc Pepin (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): Yes. The representations we will make will cover all aspects of this question in terms of what is needed to undertake regional development in Canada, and in terms of comparing the situation of Canadian business with American business. American businessmen can enter the Canadian market much more easily than we can normally enter the U.S. market, in view of the fact that Canadians have to have quite a high export content in order—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

Mr. Pepin: —to develop viable plants.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member for Bellechasse.

Mr. Hees: Mr. Speaker, may I ask a further supplementary?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. We will return to the hon. member in a moment after we have completed the first round of questioning.

[Later:]

Mr. Hees: As a further supplementary, Mr. Speaker, in view of the fact that the government has known all about this very serious case for many months, is it a fact that the government has not already made a very serious presentation to the United States government, or is it waiting until some time in the future to make a vague presentation?

Mr. Pepin: Mr. Speaker, I have in front of me a number of clippings of previous answers where I made that very point.

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[Translation]

AGRICULTURE

EGGS—ADEQUACY OF SUPPLY AND DEMAND—REQUEST FOR EXPLANATION RESPECTING IMPORTATION

Mr. Adrien Lambert (Bellechasse): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Minister of Agriculture.

Referring to an answer published in yesterday's *Hansard* concerning the production of eggs, may I ask the minister to say—without naturally giving any figures—whether the production of eggs in Canada meets the needs of the domestic market?