

tain a NATO force level which is accepted by our allies as being adequate in size and effective in character, when does he plan to increase Canada's contribution, since our allies in general, and U.S. Defence Secretary Schlesinger in particular, feel that Canada's contribution is inadequate?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I will be making a statement on the subject later. Perhaps the hon. member would prefer to hold his question until then. I will certainly deal with this and other aspects of the NATO meetings.

Mr. McKinnon: Mr. Speaker, I have already read the right hon. gentleman's statement, and it does not answer the question I had in mind.

Mr. Speaker: The right hon. Prime Minister has indicated that he proposes to make a statement later this day. The subject should surely rest until then.

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● (1430)

AGRICULTURE

CANADIAN EGG MARKETING AGENCY—REQUEST FOR REPORT ON SUPPLY-MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

Mr. Bill Jarvis (Perth-Wilmot): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Agriculture. Last Tuesday in response to my question the minister informed the House that he was to get a report late on Tuesday regarding the Canadian Egg Marketing Agency's attempt to get its supply-management program in proper order. Would the minister take time today to tell the House the general nature of the report he received last Tuesday?

Hon. E. F. Whelan (Minister of Agriculture): Mr. Speaker, I received the report on Friday. After discussing it with my officials and the National Farm Products Marketing Council, we decided to call a meeting of the provincial ministers and signatories as soon as possible to go over the final position of the proposed agreement.

Mr. Jarvis: A supplementary question. Is the minister telling the House today that despite the optimistic reports received by him earlier last month, the agency has unfortunately not solved this one aspect of its problem, that is, the supply-management aspect?

Mr. Whelan: No, Mr. Speaker. I think if I were to say any more about the agreement before it is signed it would be that I am very optimistic that they are getting their house in order even better than I thought they were, and better than a lot of hon. members were aware. They have the problem under better control than it was before it seems to me, but there are some areas that need to be discussed further. We feel we can do that more quickly by bringing them all to Ottawa and discussing it here.

Mr. Jarvis: A further supplementary, Mr. Speaker. Last Tuesday in reply to a question from the hon. member for Vegreville the minister indicated that he would check his records to determine which provinces have not been able

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to bring their numbers of birds into line. Has the minister had an opportunity to check the records and is he in a position to tell the House which, if any, provinces have been unsuccessful in bringing their numbers into proper order?

Mr. Whelan: Mr. Speaker, I do not think any province has been unsuccessful. Some provinces have been more successful than others.

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INDUSTRY

EFFECT OF FOREIGN COMPETITION ON MANUFACTURERS OF HOME ENTERTAINMENT PRODUCTS—GOVERNMENT ACTION

Mr. Frank Maine (Wellington): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce. In view of the fact that RCA Limited plans to divest itself of two of its five Ontario manufacturing plants by no later than the end of this year, and that other manufacturers of home entertainment products such as Canada Cabinet and Furniture are also seriously suffering from competition from foreign manufacturers, will the minister consider reviewing the situation in the hope of finding a solution to this important problem?

Mr. Hees: Just tell him everything is fine the way you usually do. It is the cycle—the fault of the United States—the weather.

An hon. Member: Read the brochure.

Hon. Alastair Gillespie (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): Mr. Speaker, may we have order. I can understand that the opposition would not be interested in the question; they did not ask it.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Hees: How about the one he asked on Thursday?

Mr. Gillespie: Mr. Speaker, there are some concerned people on our side who are interested in policies which will deal with real problems—

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Gillespie: —and who are not just interested in tomorrow's headlines.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Gillespie: Mr. Speaker, I met with the representatives of that industry a short while ago with the hon. member present—

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Hees: So it is a set up question.

Mr. Gillespie: —and with a number of other members of the House, Mr. Speaker—