

years. It travelled all across the country, cost \$11 million, and reported in support of free trade. There have been Senate committee meetings, public discussion, a report supporting free trade. There have been provincial hearings and meetings on this issue in several provinces, and more are planned, on free trade.

In contrast, I would like to point out that in 1966, when the Opposition was in power, our Party asked for the Auto Pact to be referred to committee and that Liberal Government of the day refused our request.

**Mr. Mazankowski:** Shame!

**Mr. Tobin:** Mr. Speaker, you would have to be an olympic mental gymnast to follow the Minister's convoluted logic.

#### STUDY OF FINAL TEXT

**Mr. Brian Tobin (Humber—Port au Port—St. Barbe):** My supplementary question is directed to the Prime Minister. Again I quote the Minister with respect to the detailed text this morning on *Canada AM*: "All they're going to get when they do get it—", that is the final text, "—is a bunch of incomprehensible legal language that isn't nearly as clear to understand as what they have now".

**Mr. Hnatyshyn:** Order.

**Some Hon. Members:** Question.

**Mr. Tobin:** It was the Prime Minister who promised a full debate on the final text. Does the Prime Minister agree with his Minister that this final text is going to be nothing but an incomprehensible bunch of legal language that no one can, should, or will understand? Or is the Prime Minister telling us now that his commitment to the House is broken, that Canadians and Members of Parliament are too ignorant to understand the final text, and that in fact they want to bamboozle the nation and this Parliament with this charade of a committee hearing process that is now going on in Ottawa? Is that what he is telling us?

**Hon. Pat Carney (Minister for International Trade):** Mr. Speaker, I also pointed out that the bulk of the final text is going to be about 1,200 pages of tariff schedules.

**Mr. Tobin:** All the more reason to look at it.

**Mr. Mazankowski:** You wouldn't understand it.

**Miss Carney:** I look forward to the Hon. Member's perusal of the tariff schedules. I have already pointed out that those tariffs are known to the SAGITs involved, to the Sectoral Advisory Committee, and that the committee had Mr. Reisman and Mr. Ritchie before it yesterday. They could have asked for them, because I am sure they would have quoted all 1,200 pages of the tariffs.

What Canadians want is information. What Canadians want is—

#### Oral Questions

**Mr. Tobin:** Is the truth. Is the text—

**Miss Carney:** —is for the committee to get on with the job—

**Mr. Tobin:** —not a charade, not a sham, not a propaganda machine.

**Miss Carney:** —of dealing with the free trade agreement, hearing from Canadians, and making its report. That is what the parliamentary process is all about.

#### AMBASSADOR'S COMMENTS ON POSITION OF TRADE AGREEMENT OPPONENTS

**Mr. Steven W. Langdon (Essex—Windsor):** Mr. Speaker, I too have a question for the Minister for International Trade, after listening to Mr. Reisman's comments in which he said: "A great deal of what the opponents are engaging in is the big lie mastered by Joseph Goebbels, the Nazi Propaganda Minister". Here we have a senior public servant, an Ambassador making \$1,000 a day, who is going about the country. These are not his personal opinions when he is paid that kind of sum by the Government, by the taxpayers of this country. Is the Minister in fact afraid to get up and discipline Mr. Reisman for his outrageous attacks?

**Hon. Pat Carney (Minister for International Trade):** Mr. Speaker, I think the record should show that Mr. Reisman was making his remarks in the context of his experiences as an honoured member of the Armed Forces in the Second World War.

**Mr. Rompkey:** The war is over, Pat.

**Miss Carney:** The point he was making as a member of the Armed Forces was that he first encountered this kind of "big lie" technique in the Second World War in which he served for Canada. I see nothing outrageous in that.

**Some Hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

#### APPROPRIATENESS OF COMMENTS

**Mr. Steven W. Langdon (Essex—Windsor):** Mr. Speaker, we now have a situation where the Trade Minister is not just trying to explain away these comments, she is trying to defend them, and I would like to ask the Prime Minister of this country if he thinks it is appropriate behaviour for a senior official, a man who has great sums of money coming to him from the Canadian people, for such a person to use such outrageous, *ad hominem* attacks which draw on the sense of past indignity which people in this country have had to fight against in a world war?

• (1130)

**Right Hon. Brian Mulroney (Prime Minister):** Mr. Speaker, I have not had occasion to read the transcript of the remarks to which my hon. friend refers. I will do so just as