COMPANY OF YOUNG CANADIANS

IMPROVEMENT OF PUBLIC RELATIONS

On the orders of the day:

Mr. J. N. Ormiston (Melville): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Acting Prime Minister. Could he tell the house what action is being taken by the government to improve public relations between the people of Canada and the Company of Young Canadians?

[Later:]

REQUEST FOR CESSATION OF FINANCIAL SUPPORT

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Robert Simpson (Churchill): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Acting Prime Minister which is related to a previous question asked by the hon. member for Melville and not answered. In view of reports that three provincial premiers in western Canada have indicated that they may be interested in requesting that the Company of Young Canadians be withdrawn from their provinces, and in view of reports that the Quebec branch of this organization has broken away from the parent body and is still spending federal funds, will the government take the necessary steps to discontinue this unjustified and unnecessary spending of public funds?

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear.

Hon. Paul Martin (Acting Prime Minister): I will note that question, Mr. Speaker.

TRADE

TOBACCO-IMPORTS FROM SOUTH AFRICA AND RHODESIA

On the orders of the day:

Mr. W. B. Nesbitt (Oxford): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of National Revenue. If I may, before putting the question I should like to congratulate him on his new appointment and wish him every success.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear.

Mr. Nesbitt: The question is one of some urgency but perhaps the minister could take it as notice. Is he in a position to tell the house now what appropriate steps are being taken by his department to deal with the importation of tobacco from the Union of South Africa and from Rhodesia, which is presenting an immediate threat to the if so, when does he expect to make it known Canadian tobacco growing industry?

27053-3653

Inquiries of the Ministry

[Translation]

Hon. Jean Chrétien (Minister of National Revenue): Mr. Speaker, first I should like to thank the hon. member for his good wishes, and I hope to be equal to the task which was entrusted to me by the right hon. Prime Minister.

With regard to tobacco imports, I shall get the necessary information and I shall give an answer to the hon. member in a few days.

[English]

CANADA PENSION PLAN

TOBACCO-INCREASED EXEMPTIONS TO ASSIST GROWERS

On the orders of the day:

Mr. W. H. A. Thomas (Middlesex Wesi): Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the Minister of National Revenue whether he has any plans to assist the tobacco growers of Canada by obtaining from the provinces permission to increase the exemption under the Canada Pension Plan in regard to casual labourers from the present maximum of 24 days or \$250 to the maximum requested of 40 days or \$600.

[Translation]

Hon. Jean Chrétien (Minister of National Revenue): Once again Mr. Speaker, I will take note of the hon. member's question but I think that part of that problem comes under the jurisdiction of the Minister of National Health and Welfare (Mr. MacEachen),

[English]

INDUSTRY

SYDNEY, N.S.-INQUIRY AS TO GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE TO STEEL INDUSTRY

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Donald MacInnis (Cape Breton South): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Acting Prime Minister. Has the government reached a decision in respect of assistance to the Sydney steel industry and is it prepared to make an announcement today as promised?

Hon. Paul Martin (Acting Prime Minister): I am not prepared to do so today, Mr. Speaker, but it will not be very long before we can say something definite.

Mr. MacInnis (Cape Breton South): A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. If I may be permitted to do so, I direct it to the Minister of National Health and Welfare, to whom the Acting Prime Minister turned for information. Has this decision been finalized and. to the house?