

*Oral Questions*

What is the Minister doing today—not tomorrow, Mr. Minister—selling out the Canadian film distribution industry like she sold out the Canadian cultural industry before? She is meeting them today. What is she selling them out on?

**Hon. John C. Crosbie (Minister for International Trade):** Mr. Speaker, the Hon. Member should reconsider. The Minister has said that she is meeting with the Canadian film industry tomorrow—

**Mrs. Finestone:** Today.

**Mr. Crosbie:** —today or tomorrow, whichever—

**Mr. Gauthier:** You don't know, John, sit down.

**Mr. Crosbie:** It is tomorrow; once again I am right. She is meeting with the industry. She is making an announcement then. If the Hon. Member then has any questions, surely she can put them about the policy.

I can give the same details that were given yesterday with respect to the \$165 million fund; in publishing we increased assistance by \$65 million. We established a public lending rights program. There is a \$25 million sound recording development program, and copyright legislation which has been stopped by Liberal Senators in the Senate, and interfered with.

Our record is a good one. We are not afraid to defend it. In fact, we are delighted to have the opportunity.

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**HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES****FREON—REQUEST THAT PAM BE REMOVED FROM STORE SHELVES**

**Mr. Dave Dingwall (Cape Breton—East Richmond):** Mr. Speaker, in the absence of the Minister of National Health and Welfare I direct my question to the Minister of Labour who, I believe, will respond on his behalf.

The Minister will know that three Ottawa area teenagers have died in the past four months after inhaling cooking sprays from the product Pam which contains freon. Yesterday an expert in the field of medical toxicology, Dr. Robert Peterson, Director of the Provincial Poison Information Centre at the Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario, stated that this oil spray is too dangerous to be sold to the public.

Will the Minister now act to have this product removed from the shelves, thereby lessening the hazard for Canadian consumers?

**Hon. Pierre H. Cadieux (Minister of Labour):** Mr. Speaker, as I indicated yesterday, these deaths were caused by the abuse of the product which, if it had been used according

to the usual practice, would not have caused any harm to the consumers.

That being said, I have met with officials of the Department of National Health and Welfare. I have been informed that they have communicated with the manufacturer in order to see what can be done about the problem caused by the misuse of this product. I am informed that discussions are being planned in order to accelerate the reformulation to exclude freon.

**REQUEST THAT MANUFACTURER STOP INCLUDING FREON IN PRODUCT**

**Mr. Dave Dingwall (Cape Breton—East Richmond):** Mr. Speaker, my supplementary question is for the same Minister who will know that the issue here is not one of use but one of abuse. The fact of the matter is that the Government of Canada is allowing a highly toxic substance to be sold on the market and that children looking for a cheap high have easy access to it.

Will the Minister do one of two things? Will he either remove this product from the market in its entirety? Or will he now do what is done in the United States, which is to order the manufacturer of this particular product to stop using the ingredient freon? Will the Minister give us an undertaking to do that forthwith on behalf of Canadian consumers?

● (1425)

**Hon. Pierre H. Cadieux (Minister of Labour):** As I have just indicated, Mr. Speaker, there are some technical discussions that are being planned with the manufacturer in order to accelerate the reformulation of the product to exclude freon. On top of that, the manufacturer has a pamphlet which indicates the dangers of misuse of such products as Pam. As the Hon. Member and other Hon. Members in the House know, there are a variety of other products that, if misused, can also cause death.

In this case the unfortunate incident was caused by misuse by teenagers, and differently from what was indicated yesterday, they could read the warning on the label of the can that indicated that if it was misused it could cause death.

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**FILM DISTRIBUTION INDUSTRY****PROPOSED LEGISLATION—MEMORANDUM ISSUED BY UNITED STATES PRESSURE GROUP**

**Hon. Edward Broadbent (Oshawa):** Mr. Speaker, my question is addressed to the Prime Minister. Yesterday on a CBC news report an official from the Minister of Communication's Department was alleged to have said that the proposed compromise Bill on film legislation was a necessary compromise that had to be brought in as the price to pay for the trade deal.