

the country, will the Minister withdraw the Bill? Will he not admit that the price that he is asking this country to pay for the trade deal is far too high? Canadians do not want their health care system ruined by this trade deal.

**Hon. John C. Crosbie (Minister for International Trade):** Mr. Speaker, it will not be long before Canadians will be warned that there will be an invasion of killer bees because of the Canada-U.S. Free Trade Agreement, or that American typhoons will come up and wipe out Canada. The Canadian people are not buying the cry wolf stuff.

Might I refer to something that was said by the Honourable Donald Macdonald. He said that the deal signed by the Tories with the U.S. "is consistent with the policy of the governments of which Mr. Turner and I were members." The Government "has taken great care to respect the jurisdiction of the provinces," and "it has made every effort to ensure compliance with the agreement in a manner that is both consistent with federal jurisdiction and also respectful of provincial concerns".

That was stated by a Liberal, an impartial and truthful Liberal, not now in active politics, prostituting himself as the Hon. Member is.

**Some Hon. Members:** Oh, oh!

**Mr. Axworthy:** Mr. Speaker, that is a strange and curious observation from a Minister of the Crown on politics, a profession that he has practised throughout his entire life. I would say to him, Sir, that it does not speak well for a Minister to cast aspersions on all Members of the House in that manner.

**Some Hon. Members:** Oh, oh!

#### EFFECT ON CANADIAN LAWS

**Hon. Lloyd Axworthy (Winnipeg—Fort Garry):** I wish to ask the Hon. Minister the following question.

Section 8 of the trade deal clearly indicates that the Canada-U.S. Trade Agreement will prevail over all laws passed by this Parliament. At the same time, the U.S. Congress yesterday decided that the trade agreement with Canada will be subservient to U.S. law.

Why is it that the U.S. Congress states very clearly that the trade agreement does not override its laws, but that Canada is prepared to make a totally different decision and have the trade agreement supersede all the laws of this Parliament? Why the imbalance? Why the distortion? Why are we caving in to those types of American demands? What is the Minister going to do about that major disparity between the two pieces of legislation on either side of the Canada-U.S. border?

**Hon. John C. Crosbie (Minister for International Trade):** There is a simple explanation. The Americans have their statutory draftsmen, we have ours. We have our legislative precedents, they have theirs.

#### Oral Questions

In the United States legislation there is a clause that states that its legislation implementing the free trade agreement will override every inconsistent piece of state legislation. The hon. gentleman did not cite that. Would he like us to have that in our Bill, overriding every inconsistent provincial legislation? No, of course not, because the Hon. Member is now trying to pretend that he is for provincial rights when he was one of those who imposed the national energy policy on western Canada in an attempt to crush Alberta and the rest. He is a Johnny-come-lately to the provincial rights league. Well, you better come over and join us.

**Mr. Axworthy:** No, that's your trick, John. You crossed the House, not me.

● (1425)

#### [Translation]

CANADA-UNITED STATES FREE TRADE AGREEMENT—BILL C-130—PROVINCIAL JURISDICTION

**Mr. Jacques Guilbault (Saint-Jacques):** Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister for International Trade, and I want to say that although he insists on denying that Bill C-130 does not impinge on areas of provincial jurisdiction, his denials do not change the facts. The Premier of Quebec said there was an impingement on provincial jurisdiction. The Premier of Ontario said so, and some of the other provinces have expressed reservations. However, what I fail to understand is why the Minister included Clauses 6 and 9 in Bill C-130, although he had been warned that the provinces did not agree. Mr. Speaker, I want to ask the Minister whether he would confirm that two weeks ago, the Government of Quebec specifically asked him to withdraw Clauses 6 and 9, and I also want to ask him whether he would confirm that other provinces also disagreed with the presence of these two clauses. Finally, would he also confirm that in response, he said he could not withdraw the clauses because the Americans wanted them in?

#### [English]

**Hon. John C. Crosbie (Minister for International Trade):** Mr. Speaker, I wonder whether the hon. gentlemen when they were in power checked all their legislation with the provinces to see whether the provinces agreed with every clause they had in their legislation? They didn't do that with the national energy legislation which they later had to divide into eight sections because of its violation of the rules of this House.

What does the Premier of Quebec say? Quebec continues to support the free trade agreement. Quebec's objectives have, by and large, been achieved. The Premier of Quebec says that Quebec will proceed to legislate to protect provincial jurisdiction of with respect to wine and distilled spirits, so that Clause 9 will not need to apply to Quebec. This is the role and position which the Premier of Quebec has taken—most sensible, most conciliatory, and most disappointing to the hon. gentlemen opposite, Mr. Speaker.