

Mr. Speaker: I suggest to the hon. member that this is strictly a question of debate between the minister and the hon. member. I do not think it is a legitimate question of privilege.

[Later:]

[Translation]

Mr. Marchand (Langelier): I rise on a question of privilege, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: The Minister of Regional Economic Expansion on a question of privilege.

Mr. Marchand (Langelier): It is not that I do not want to answer the question, Mr. Speaker, but this is a rather complex case and I cannot answer with a yes or a no, nor can I give a brief reply.

So, should the hon. member like to receive some information, I shall be happy to supply it. However, in my opinion, his statement is not accurate.

[English]

Mr. McIntosh: Mr. Speaker, will the minister make a statement on motions in regard to this question so that the whole matter can be clarified?

TRADE

IMPORTATION OF MILK POWDER

Mr. W. B. Nesbitt (Oxford): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Agriculture which relates to a question I addressed to the minister about two weeks ago, and also to the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce, concerning the importation of milk powder into Canada from Ireland and New Zealand. At that time the minister indicated that he and his colleague would look into the question and reply at a later date. I was wondering if the Minister of Agriculture is now in a position to inform the House as to the extent of the importation of milk powder into Canada from foreign sources?

Hon. H. A. Olson (Minister of Agriculture): Yes, Mr. Speaker, I have had this investigated. I am not able to give the hon. member, at this stage in our proceedings, exact amounts as we know them. However, there is one thing I should like to clarify. I said I did not know whether any of the milk powder that had been exported from Canada was coming back into the country. I can now say categori-

Inquiries of the Ministry
cally that no Canadian skim milk powder subsidized for export has been re-imported into Canada.

Mr. Nesbitt: A supplementary question—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I interrupt the hon. member for Oxford because I believe the hon. member for Swift Current-Maple Creek is rising on a question of privilege.

[Later:]

Mr. Nesbitt: Mr. Speaker, my question is supplementary to my original question to the Minister of Agriculture concerning the importation of milk powder. Would the minister and his colleague, the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce, pursue their investigations into this matter of the importation of milk powder, because I have here, Mr. Speaker—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

Mr. Nesbitt: No, no.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member knows that a long standing practice prohibits him from bringing into the House or using in the House exhibits which may be used in courts of law. This practice has been ruled out of order in many instances, and the hon. member cannot pursue his question with the use of exhibits.

Mr. Nesbitt: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker. I was only trying to make sure that I was accurately reading what is on the label of the container. Perhaps Your Honour will permit me to paraphrase what it says. The label on the container shows that this is a product of the Borden Company. It is milk powder imported from Ireland, and is a fairly large quantity. In view of that, I was wondering if the minister would pursue and use—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

Mr. Nesbitt: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker. I was just finishing my question. I was asking if the minister could pursue his studies, and if he would use the powers under the Export and Import Permits Act to stop the importation of milk powder into this country.

Mr. Olson: Mr. Speaker, I think I can clear this up. There are three principal classes of milk powder. There is dry skim milk powder, there is dry buttermilk powder and there is whole milk powder. Dry skim milk powder has been under import controls, as I recall it, since 1958. Whole milk powder has not been