

TRADE

RESTRICTIONS ON EXCHANGE OF GOODS WITH ITALY

Mr. Cliff Downey (Battle River): Mr. Speaker, this question is for the Acting Minister of Trade and Commerce. Have any changes in Canadian tariff or import rates or regulations been made recently which would have the effect of restricting Italian exports to this country, and hence the purchase of Canadian goods, particularly livestock, by Italians?

Mr. Speaker: I would think this question should be placed on the order paper. If it is a matter of urgency it could be placed on the order paper or notice could be given to the Chair for the purpose of debate at the time of adjournment then the question would be given priority.

[Translation]

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

BIAFRA—PROTESTS AGAINST SALE OF ARMS

Mr. Bernard Dumont (Frontenac): I wish to ask a question to the Secretary of State for External Affairs.

Can the minister assure us that representations have been made to every country selling arms to Biafra or Nigeria?

[English]

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, the attitude of the Canadian government on this question is well known to the world, as well as to them, by the statements made by the Prime Minister of Canada.

BIAFRA—STEPS TO IMPLEMENT RECOMMENDATION OF STANDING COMMITTEE

Mr. Lincoln M. Alexander (Hamilton West): Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question. In the light of repeated and contradictory reports on bombings in Biafra, will the Secretary of State for External Affairs say what steps he has taken since November to implement the first recommendation of the Committee on External Affairs and National Defence.

Mr. Speaker: I would think the question as asked by the hon. member is very general. He is asking the minister to make a general statement as to steps which may have been taken by his department or the government. The question as asked is not according to the rules.

Inquiries of the Ministry
HEALTH AND WELFARE

MEDICARE—PARTICIPATION BY ONTARIO IN NATIONAL PROGRAM

Mr. Stanley Haidasz (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs): Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask the Minister of National Health and Welfare whether his department has any special proposal, or is willing to make any concession to meet the objections of the government of Ontario and thereby facilitate Ontario's entrance into the national medical care program as soon as possible.

Mr. Speaker: I would think that this question is perhaps of the same nature as the one asked previously. It is very general. It seems to me the hon. member is asking for a statement concerning policy. I would think in the circumstances the question could not be asked unless put in very specific terms. I would suggest it should be discussed at the time of adjournment.

Mr. Haidasz: Mr. Speaker, may I reword my question. Is it the intention of the Minister of National Health and Welfare to meet the Premier of the Province of Ontario to discuss the problems of that province so far as the national medical health care scheme is concerned.

Hon. John C. Munro (Minister of National Health and Welfare): Mr. Speaker, I would be happy to, if the premier would request it.

SPORTS

NATIONAL HOCKEY TEAM—INVITATION TO CANADIAN HOCKEY ASSOCIATION

Mr. Robert Simpson (Churchill): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of National Health and Welfare. With reference to the meeting which the minister had recently with hockey executives in connection with the future of Canada's national hockey team, could the minister say whether an invitation was extended to officials of the Canadian Hockey Association, and if not why not.

Mr. Speaker: I think this is a question which might well be considered at the time of adjournment.

Mr. Simpson: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker: With great respect, it is a question which deals with Canada's national hockey team, which the government is sponsoring to a certain extent. The minister announced in the house that he would be having a meeting with hockey executives on this question, and I merely wish to find out whether one of the