

*Inquiries of the Ministry*

**Mr. Mazankowski:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Would the minister consider making a statement on motions to the House very soon concerning this very urgent and pressing matter which affects many automobile dealers and employees across the country?

**Hon. Jean-Luc Pepin (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce):** No, Mr. Speaker, but I hope the hon. member can find a way to ask a question to which I can answer.

**Mr. Baldwin:** That is impossible.

**Mr. Donald MacInnis (Cape Breton-East Richmond):** Mr. Speaker, I will try to bring my question down to that level which the minister can understand.

**Some hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Mr. MacInnis:** Does the minister consider it an intrusion on his responsibilities as Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce or on the responsibilities of any other ministers for the Minister of National Health and Welfare to go before the public and suggest that they buy foreign cars?

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please.

**Mr. Mazankowski:** On a question of privilege—

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. The hon. member is now rising on a question of privilege. Although I have suggested that a statement ought to be made on motions, the hon. member for Vegreville seems to consider the matter very urgent and the minister seems anxious to reply. Possibly by agreement the minister might be allowed to reply to the question which has been ruled out of order.

**Some hon. Members:** Agreed.

**Mr. Pepin:** Mr. Speaker, I was going to say that the advantages that Canadian automobile manufacturers and auto parts makers have gained from the auto pact are well known. Even this year exports have increased by 7.7 per cent, as reported in yesterday's *Globe and Mail*. Another very brilliant article in the same paper reported on the tremendous progress which had been made by the Industry. This article was, I am told, written before revaluation. The effects of revaluation are not yet clear. I have consulted with a number of auto parts makers, but they do not know exactly. We think that because of the advantages gained, because of the progress made in previous years and because of the government's programs for general adjustment, etc., they are, I assume, in a posi-

tion to cope rather well with the new situation. We are willing and eager to help if some of them get into difficulty.

**Mr. Mazankowski:** I appreciate the answer of the minister. In view of the fact that sales of domestic passenger cars have decreased by 20 per cent while sales of foreign passenger cars have increased by 27 per cent, does the minister not consider this a matter of great urgency?

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. The hon. member's supplementary question is obviously argumentative. It is not acceptable in those terms.

**Mr. MacInnis:** A supplementary question to the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce. Will the minister explain to the House what advantages there are to the auto pact in the purchase of Volkswagens as recommended by the Minister of National Health and Welfare?

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. Again I think we are engaging in a field of debate. I respectfully suggest to both hon. members that this is the kind of information which ought normally to be included in a statement on motions.

## AGRICULTURE

## AVAILABILITY OF PAPER ON SUPPLY

**Mr. H. W. Danforth (Kent-Essex):** I would like to direct a question to the Minister of Agriculture. Since supply forms the basis of much of the current agricultural legislation, can the minister indicate whether the paper commissioned on supply and not reported in the official task force report can be expected in the near future? Also, will it be made available immediately to the members of the House?

**Hon. H. A. Olson (Minister of Agriculture):** Mr. Speaker, when I understand more clearly what the hon. member is referring to I will see if I can obtain this paper from the task force. Following that, I will see whether it is the type of paper that should be made public.

## GRAIN

## PAYMENT OF ELEVATOR AGENTS FOR ASSISTANCE IN FILING OPERATION LIFT INFORMATION

**Mr. John Burton (Regina East):** My question is for the Minister without Portfolio in charge of the Wheat Board. In view of the fact that