Inquiries of the Ministry

Mr. Douglas: May I ask what may be termed a related question with respect to immigration. May I ask the Minister of Manpower and Immigration or the Prime Minister a question about the statement which, according to this morning's Montreal Gazette, the minister is alleged to have made.

Mr. Starr: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

Hon. Michael Starr (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. The hon. member for Burnaby-Coquitlam is asking two distinct questions. He is trying to sneak in his last question as a related question, thereby depriving those of the other opposition parties of a proper opportunity to ask their questions about the matter during the question period.

Mr. Douglas: Mr. Speaker, I shall leave it to Your Honour to decide.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member might allow the Chair to hear the question, to determine whether it is a related question. The Leader of the Opposition knows that on a number of occasions hon. members ask related questions. The distinction between a supplementary and a related question is fine, but I ought to hear the question before determining whether it may be allowed.

Mr. Douglas: I really wanted to ask the minister about the statement, attributed to him, that he saw no serious objection to giving Quebec control of manpower and immigration policies. Does this represent government policy?

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh.

Mr. Marchand: I never stated that.

Mr. Ricard: That question is related to what?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. This is a distantly related question.

[Later:]

Mr. Starr: Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Prime Minister. The question is based on a statement alleged to have been made by the Minister of Manpower and Immigration, who is reported to have said he could see no serious obstacles to giving Quebec control of manpower and immigration policies. I wish to ask the Prime Minister whether the government is now contemplating policies which are aimed in this direction,

[Mr. Marchand.]

the effect of which will be that immigrants will need permission to cross provincial borders in Canada.

Right Hon. L. B. Pearson (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, my hon. friend may not know that the minister has already denied the accuracy of that statement.

Mr. Starr: May I ask the minister whether he has denied it in the house?

Mr. Marchand: Mr. Speaker, I said I had no objection—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

## TRADE

DISCUSSIONS RESPECTING PROPOSED U.S. IMPORT RESTRICTIONS

On the orders of the day:

Mr. A. B. Patterson (Fraser Valley): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct my question to the Minister of Trade and Commerce; it relates to a matter that was raised in the earlier tabling of a certain document. In view of the serious effects that United States legislation proposing to curb imports may have on Canada-United States trade, has the government recently discussed this important matter at the ministerial level with the United States authorities?

Hon. Robert Winters (Minister of Trade and Commerce): Mr. Speaker, as I informed the house I visited Washington recently and had a number of discussions with Secretary Freeman, the Secretary of Agriculture, and with Ambassador Roth. Other than that our contacts have been through diplomatic channels.

[Later:]

Mr. J. N. Ormiston (Melville): Mr. Speaker, may I direct a question to the Minister of Trade and Commerce. In view of the fact that yesterday bills were introduced in the United States congress to limit potash importations into the United States, is the Canadian government making representations to the United States government concerning proposed United States limitation on imports of potash from Canada?

Mr. Winters: Yes, Mr. Speaker. I think the hon. member will gather from the document I tabled earlier that we have taken up with the United States government all these matters which appear to be in restraint of trade.