

before, and I will table some others when I have the consent of the people involved. I hope to have all these things ready for tomorrow. I had hoped to have them ready for today, but one confirmation is not in yet. I think Hon. Members should appreciate that I have been extremely open in that fashion.

AWARENESS OF DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER OF SYNFUELS
PROJECT

Hon. Elmer M. MacKay (Central Nova): Madam Speaker, I should like to ask the Minister of Finance a question that I attempted to deal with yesterday on a point of order. He will recall, and the House will recall, that last Friday he gave an undertaking to the Hon. Leader of the New Democratic Party to ascertain from his predecessor, now the Deputy Prime Minister and then Minister of Finance, when the Deputy Prime Minister first became aware of the existence of the Synfuels project and the participation of Alastair Gillespie. Is he now in a position to fulfil that undertaking, or perhaps the Deputy Prime Minister would prefer to answer directly?

Hon. Marc Lalonde (Minister of Finance): Madam Speaker, I have checked with the Secretary of State for External Affairs. He indicated to me that, although he has not been able to find any particular, clear record in this regard, his view is that he would have been made aware some time in June of 1980.

Mr. MacKay: Madam Speaker, perhaps we can pursue the antecedents of this fascinating affair somewhere else.

CAPE BRETON DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION—PRODUCTION OF
DOCUMENTS

Hon. Elmer M. MacKay (Central Nova): Madam Speaker, I should like to put a question to the Minister responsible for the Cape Breton Development Corporation, the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce. He will recall that he, as well, indicated last Wednesday in response to a question from the Hon. Member for Wellington-Dufferin-Simcoe that he would, I think he said, "look into" the possibility of producing some of the records, documents and correspondence from the Cape Breton Development Corporation. I wonder if he would be good enough to tell the House what progress he has made on this request.

Hon. Ed Lumley (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce and Minister of Regional Economic Expansion): Madam Speaker, immediately after Question Period that day I contacted the president of the Cape Breton Development Corporation and asked him to forward to me any documents with respect to this transaction. At the present time our officials are looking at those documents for relevant information to give to the Hon. Member.

Oral Questions

AUTOMOTIVE INDUSTRY

CANADA-JAPAN AGREEMENT—CREATION OF JOBS

Mr. Otto Jelinek (Halton): Madam Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of State for International Trade. For the past two weeks the Minister has been boasting about his new six-month automotive agreement with Japan. Yesterday he said in this House, as reported at page 23333 of *Hansard*:

—my first responsibility as Minister of Trade is to create Canadian jobs by the export of Canadian goods.

I should like to ask the Minister a clear and simple question and I hope he will answer it just as clearly, instead of going into his usual diatribe. How many new jobs, and I stress the word "new", has this agreement created in Canada?

Hon. Gerald Regan (Minister of State (International Trade)): Madam Speaker, the Hon. Member asks a very difficult question and I will tell him in a very straightforward manner why he does. The fact that 11,000 fewer cars will come into Canada from Japan in the first six months of this year than last year would presumably create a considerable number of additional jobs in the Canadian car industry were it not for the fact that we are involved in a common market in cars with the United States. Of the cars sold in Canada that are considered to be of domestic origin, 90 per cent are actually manufactured in the United States, while a great number of cars manufactured here are sold in the United States.

Whether the fact that fewer Japanese cars are coming in will mean that more jobs will be created immediately in the Canadian car factories is a matter for Mr. White and UAW to negotiate with the car companies.

Mr. Jelinek: Madam Speaker, it is very obvious that the Minister is as ineffective in international trade as he was in the portfolio of fitness and amateur sport. He knows full well that that agreement does not create one new job in this country.

SALES OF AUTOMOTIVE PRODUCTS ABROAD

Mr. Otto Jelinek (Halton): My supplementary question to the Minister is to ask him what has he done, or what does he intend to do in the domestic auto industry to create jobs in Canada by way of automotive exports, other than exporting Canadian jobs to Japan? Perhaps the Minister will share with us, with the House and with the industry, figures on the sales he has made of automotive products abroad during his extensive travels.

Hon. Gerald Regan (Minister of State (International Trade)): Madam Speaker, I have to conclude that the Hon. Member's condemnation of my effectiveness in various portfolios relates not to my performance but to the fact that he is in the Opposition and wants to have his crowd sit over here. They are not going to make it, but that is the basis for his attitude.