

Hon. Michael Wilson (Minister of Industry, Science and Technology and Minister for International Trade): Mr. Speaker, first of all let me say that I have not been keeping this matter a secret. I do not know where my hon. friend has been. I have referred to this text on a number of occasions.

This, I should say to my hon. friend, has not been made available to members of the Mexican Congress as I think he was saying yesterday.

The final point that I make is that there is nothing in the automotive chapter in the agreement. We have yet to come to a set of negotiations on which we can base a chapter on the automotive industry.

Mr. David Barrett (Esquimalt—Juan de Fuca): Mr. Speaker, I know that the minister does not wish to misinform the House, but it is my information that the Mexican government, through its negotiator, Mr. Blanco, has shared with members of the Mexican Congress the draft bracketed treaty which Carla Hills' office acknowledged exists.

During the discussions leading up to the free trade discussions with Mexico, United States and Canada, the government's negotiator, Mr. John Weekes, said that full consultation would take place with all Canadians including labour and including manufacturing sectors.

This document is in existence. It is being discussed by Mr. Blanco with Mexican senators. Why is the document being kept secret from Canadians? Why is it not tabled in front of members of this House who are responsible for at least being aware of what this government is selling us out on?

Hon. Michael Wilson (Minister of Industry, Science and Technology and Minister for International Trade): Mr. Speaker, as I have said on many occasions, there is a draft text that has been developed. It has been consolidated. There are now a number of differences that have come to light between the three countries in that text. That is why it is called a bracketed text, because those differences are in brackets. This I have made clear on many occasions and I am sorry that my hon. friend has not been aware of those.

I also say to my friend that we have had full discussions with the SAGITs, the sectoral advisory groups on international trade, plus the International Trade Advisory

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Committee, as well as the provinces, in developing negotiating positions that we have on this.

As my hon. friend is aware, I am going to be appearing before the external affairs committee on trade and I would be happy to discuss the matter further at that time with him.

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NATIONAL PARKS

Mrs. Louise Feltham (Wild Rose): Mr. Speaker, on July 14, 1988 Treasury Board directed the Ministers of Public Works, Environment and Transport to address the question of which department should be responsible for making expenditures on highways in national parks.

My question is to the President of the Treasury Board. When will this decision be finalized so that highways throughout the national park system can be given the attention they deserve?

Hon. Gilles Loiselle (President of the Treasury Board and Minister of State (Finance)): Mr. Speaker, the hon. member for Wild Rose is very right. There have been ongoing discussions between the three Departments: Transport, Environment parks service, and Public Works.

I can tell her that a number of scenarios have been established and we are now presently looking at them. We have to reconcile this with a lot of other pressures in the system. The discussions are ongoing and I should be able to come back to her soon.

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[*Translation*]

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

Hon. Lucien Bouchard (Lac-Saint-Jean): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of State for Agriculture. The government was committed to defending the four pillars of Quebec agriculture and to reinforcing GATT article XI. The minister even said that he would rip up his shirt and put his seat on the line if any of these five components were affected. On January 13, Canada's ambassador to Geneva accepted the Dunkel report which destroys those four pillars and abolishes article XI. How can the minister justify this betrayal, this outright breach of promise?