

[Translation]

TRADE**REASON FOR IMPORTS OF BROILERS FROM UNITED STATES**

Mr. Adrien Lambert (Bellechasse): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce.

Last week, more precisely May 4, I was asking the minister whether he could tell the House if massive imports of broilers were authorized after consultation with the Minister of Agriculture responsible for the nutrition of Canadians. At that time, he said he would answer the day after. Is the minister prepared today to give us an answer on that subject?

Hon. Jean Chrétien (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): Mr. Speaker, I looked into that question and there has been indeed an increase of about 5 to 7 per cent in broiler imports in Canada since the beginning of the year, which is about normal according to the expansion of the market. Of course we are concerned about that situation. The Minister of Agriculture and my department are reviewing that problem and I do not know whether we will be able to provide an answer to the House in the near future. So far no action has been nor can be taken in the current circumstances, but maybe we will take some in the weeks to come.

INQUIRY WHETHER MINISTRY ISSUES PERMITS FOR IMPORTATION OF BROILERS

Mr. Adrien Lambert (Bellechasse): Mr. Speaker, this is a very serious question and the producers have been insistently asking us whether the Department of Industry, Trade and Commerce has been issuing import permits or whether there is any control by the department. I would like to get an answer.

Hon. Jean Chrétien (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): Mr. Speaker, I do not know whether I will be able to give a technical answer to the question of the hon. member, but as far as I know import permits are not required. We make a continual survey of import levels. This week the Minister of Agriculture is going to have discussions on this matter with his provincial counterparts and afterwards we will of course take the advice of his department to see whether the situation calls for any urgent action.

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● (1500)

[English]

INCOME TAX**DEDUCTIONS FROM EMPLOYEES RESIDING IN ONTARIO AND WORKING IN QUEBEC—POSSIBILITY OF CHANGE IN REGULATIONS**

Mr. Walter Baker (Grenville-Carleton): Mr. Speaker, I should like to address a question to the Minister of National Revenue supplementary to that posed by my colleague for Esquimalt-Saanich having to do with the deduction of income

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tax from the salaries of public servants living in Ontario and employed in the Public Service of Canada in the province of Quebec. Given the fact that the Minister of Finance, in November 1976, indicated that it was, in his judgment, a matter of regulation—and therefore a change of regulations could cure the situation—is the government of Canada contemplating a change in the regulations? If so, when? If not, why not; and when will the minister be prepared to make a statement with respect to this matter, which has been the subject of public discussion for almost a month now in this House?

Hon. Monique Bégin (Minister of National Revenue): Mr. Speaker, for the last two weeks in particular I have been answering questions in the House on the matter from members on this side and the other side. Representations have been made to me by my own colleagues for more than a month. I have explained to the House in detail the various steps that we are taking and the two solutions I am contemplating with the Minister of Finance. Unless I recommend final approval of the second solution which I said was not an ideal one, I should like the House to give me a few more days to see whether we will receive the positive answer expected from the government of Quebec.

Mr. Nystrom: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a question of privilege. On Friday I gave Your Honour notice of a question of privilege which I wanted to pursue in a very serious way with the Minister of Labour concerning the Finn commission established two years ago following the death of five people in a fire at Burrard terminal, Vancouver. However, since the Minister of Labour is not here today, I think out of courtesy I should wait until he returns and pursue it tomorrow.

Mr. Leggatt: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order which arises from my understanding of today's business. I understood that the government would be calling Bill C-51.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. Perhaps the hon. member would raise his point of order on orders of the day.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[English]

ENERGY**NORTHERN PIPELINE—TABLING OF REPORT OF BERGER INQUIRY**

Hon. Warren Allmand (Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development): Mr. Speaker, I should like to table, under Standing Order 41(2), copies, in both official languages, of the report of the Mackenzie Valley pipeline inquiry prepared by Mr. Justice Berger.