

the position taken by the Canadian government concerning the recognition of communist China?

[English]

Mr. Sharp: Mr. Speaker, we have received from a number of countries comments both favourable and unfavourable to the action that we are proposing to take.

[Translation]

Mr. Asselin: Mr. Speaker, I wish to ask a supplementary question.

Could the minister say he has received notes against the idea from the American government?

[English]

Mr. Sharp: Mr. Speaker, the nature of the representations from the United States was revealed in a public statement which they have issued.

Mr. R. N. Thompson (Red Deer): Mr. Speaker, my supplementary question is to the Secretary of State for External Affairs. It relates specifically to the governments of Japan, Australia and Thailand. Has the Canadian government been in consultation with the governments of those or any other countries of southeast Asia?

Mr. Sharp: Yes, Mr. Speaker. As I have said to the house on a number of occasions, we were very careful to have prior consultations with all friendly countries, including those mentioned by the hon. gentleman, before I made my announcement last Monday.

DRUGS

LEGISLATION TO PROVIDE REPAYMENT OF OVERCHARGES

Mr. Stanley Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Acting Prime Minister. It relates to a question I put to the Prime Minister last Friday concerning substantial payments that drug companies in the United States are making back to people that they overcharged, and whether or not Canada would be doing something like this. The Prime Minister said on Friday that he would take the question as notice. I have been waiting each day since for some other minister, perhaps the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs, to deal with it. Has an answer been prepared; and if so, does any minister have it?

Hon. Paul Hellyer (Minister of Transport): I really could not say, Mr. Speaker, because

Inquiries of the Ministry

this particular matter has not been brought to my attention. But I would be glad to pass my hon. friend's representations along to the Prime Minister's office.

[Translation]

PRIVILEGE

MR. LAMBERT (BELLECHASSE)—OFFICIAL REPORT—TABLING OF PETITION

Mr. Adrien Lambert (Bellechasse): Mr. Speaker, I rise on a question of privilege. I do not know if it is in order, but I rely on your knowledge as well as on your kindness to teach me how to behave in this house, according to the Rules.

In the speech I delivered yesterday, I am quoted, at page 5386 of the French *Hansard*, as saying unpleasant things about doctors. It is an error in transcription because instead of "médecins" (doctors), they make me say "méchants" (wicked people). I would not like doctors to think that I call them wicked people. Therefore, I request that the appropriate rectification be made.

Secondly, Mr. Speaker, I had requested that a petition including 5,000 names be attached as an appendix to *Hansard*. I understand that unanimous consent was required but I thought I had it, since nobody raised any objection.

Anyhow, Mr. Speaker, I repeat my request, if it is in order. In any case, I will comply with your ruling.

Mr. Speaker: With regard to the first point raised by the hon. member, it is usual to make corrections to the official report on motions, when the changes are significant.

As far as the second point is concerned, I must say that it is not the practice of the house to append to the official report private documents as the one mentioned yesterday by the hon. member, and it is evidently for that reason that it has not been possible to agree to his suggestion to the effect that the 5,000 signatures be appended to yesterday's *Hansard*.

Mr. Lambert (Bellechasse): Mr. Speaker, am I permitted to make a remark?

In my opinion, this is not a private document, it is a petition sent to the government.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member may, if he wants, discuss this point of order with the Chair, but the decision was taken after due consideration, I can assure him, and he cannot refer to it again now that it has been made.