

Tribute to Dr. Ollivier

the opportunity to write his memoirs through which we will be able to learn of his vast and varied experience as Law Clerk and Parliamentary Counsel of the House of Commons.

By the way, I believe that no one is better able than Dr. Ollivier to record for the enlightenment and pleasure of future generations the events which took place in Canada in the last 25 years.

[English]

Hon. Allan J. MacEachen (President of the Privy Council): Mr. Speaker, we are grateful to you for bringing to the attention of the House of Commons this important event and for giving us the opportunity to express our admiration to Dr. Ollivier for the many years of outstanding service that he has rendered to the House of Commons. That he has been able to withstand the vicissitudes and controversies of this place for 40 years and still retain a youthful image that might be the envy of men much younger is no mean record.

I join with you, Mr. Speaker, and with the representatives of the other parties in thanking Dr. Ollivier for his services and express the wish that he will continue his contacts with all of us in future. I also express our good wishes to the new incumbent of the office, Mr. Maingot, in the expectation that he will be here 40 years hence and that the rest of us will also be here to express appreciation to him.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

COMMITTEES OF THE HOUSE

NATIONAL RESOURCES AND PUBLIC WORKS

First report of Standing Committee on National Resources and Public Works—Mr. Hopkins.

REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Second report of Standing Committee on Regional Development—Mr. Morison.

[Editor's Note: For text of above reports, see today's Votes and Proceedings.]

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EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

TABLING OF INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS CONCLUDED BY CANADA

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, I have tabled in English and French a number of international agreements concluded by Canada over the course of the last 16 months.

[Mr. Rondeau.]

ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

TRADE

LACK OF SUPPORT FOR CONFERENCE ON REDUCTION OF TARIFFS—GOVERNMENT POSITION

Hon. Robert L. Stanfield (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce following the questions I directed to him the other day with regard to Canada's trade position. In view of the lack of support by Prime Minister Heath yesterday for another general conference on the reduction of tariffs at the present time, is the government simply going to continue to push for this kind of consultation despite the lack of support from the United States, the European Common Market and Great Britain, or is a new approach being considered in view of these rejections?

Hon. Jean-Luc Pepin (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): Mr. Speaker, I am surprised that the Leader of the Opposition is not aware of the fact that in Europe and the United States the views that I expressed the other day in answer to some of his questions have also been expressed. They are not so extraordinary as to be the exclusive property of the Canadian government. These views are shared by a number of political leaders throughout the world. I have already indicated that among many others, the Director General of GATT supports some of these same concepts. I would not like to say who first expressed these views, but they are so much in the long term interests of the world that it was quite normal that they should be shared by a great number of people.

Mr. Stanfield: Are we to understand that the minister is not considering a different approach despite the rejection of the initiative on the part of the Secretary of State for External Affairs, if one can dignify it in that way? When the minister spoke of bargaining power in connection with these matters, particularly with relation to the Common Market, what did he mean? What is this bargaining power and when does he propose to exercise it?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I hope the minister's reply will be brief. I would not think he should give an extended explanation of what he may have said or may have wanted to say. Perhaps the minister would co-operate with the Chair by making a brief reply to the rather general question asked by the Leader of the Opposition.

Mr. Pepin: It is obvious that Canada is a major world trading power, with \$17 billion in exports and more than \$14 billion in imports. The import market represents a market to which Europe, the Common Market, the United Kingdom and other countries are certainly not indifferent. This means something in international conferences and negotiations.

Mr. Stanfield: Since it is apparent that the minister and his associates are simply making gestures which are not leading to any response, will the minister consider asking his colleague, the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources, to go to Europe on a speaking tour to see what he can do?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.