

*Oral Questions*

**Hon. Harvie Andre (Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs):** Mr. Speaker, I have indicated that every drug now on the market, generic and brand name, will remain on the market. There will be no change. Therefore, what will cause this tremendous price increase that the Member is projecting?

In terms of drugs not yet discovered, one has to make assumptions about what will happen to price. If you assume today is Tuesday, you can prove that tomorrow will be Wednesday. But what does that prove?

**Mr. Gray (Windsor West):** Today is Friday.

**Mr. Andre:** The assumption can give you any number that one wants.

## REQUEST FOR PUBLICATION OF STUDIES

**Mr. Neil Young (Beaches):** Mr. Speaker, the Minister should understand that the critic I referred to was the Conservative Member for Hamilton—Wentworth who, on April 11, 1983, said exactly what I just said in the House.

The Minister has just told us that he cannot determine what the cost impact will be. I made an application under Access to Information to get that information and the Minister said that cost impact studies of the proposed policy are cabinet confidences. Will he not come clean with Canadians and release these cost impact studies so that we can see very clearly how much this policy will cost the average Canadian consumer?

**Hon. Harvie Andre (Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs):** Mr. Speaker, if the New Democratic Party would allow this Bill to go to committee—

**Some Hon. Members:** Oh, oh!

**Mr. Andre:** —we could have those discussions and he would know the facts. Let me quote a statement made by the Consumer and Corporate Affairs critic of the New Democratic Party, the Member for Winnipeg North, who said: "If the higher prices went into a fund which would really be used for research and development, I think that consumers could live with that". That is what we are doing.

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## REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT

## DISTRIBUTION OF EXPENDITURES

**Mr. Dave Dingwall (Cape Breton—East Richmond):** Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Regional Industrial Expansion. The orgy of expenditures to improve the political standing of the Conservative Party in Quebec and Ontario has taken place at the expense of the poorer regions of the country.

**Mr. Wilson (Etobicoke Centre):** Absolute nonsense.

**Mr. Dingwall:** Will the Minister explain to the House and Canadians why his Department, the lead Department for regional economic development, has intentionally gone out and cut adrift the people of Manitoba, Newfoundland, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island, and the other poor regions of the country? Why?

**Hon. Michel Côté (Minister of Regional Industrial Expansion):** Mr. Speaker, obviously the Member is not aware of the assistance that has been given to all the regions. I will point out to him some of the most important ones. For instance, there is the \$1 billion in assistance we have given to farmers in the west. There is the \$580 million for the stabilization program. I could go on to the removal of the PGRT. There is the Atlantic Enterprise Program that cost \$600 million, as well as the Atlantic Accord. These are examples of assistance to the regions.

• (1130)

## REGIONAL DISPARITIES—REQUEST FOR NEW POLICY

**Mr. Dave Dingwall (Cape Breton—East Richmond):** Mr. Speaker, I tell the Minister sincerely that by 1984 the number of jobless in Nova Scotia increased by 4,000. Per capita income in 1984 was 81 per cent of the national average. In 1986 it is less than 78 per cent. Will the Minister introduce a policy to address regional disparities instead of pork-barrelling his friends in Quebec and Ontario?

**Hon. Michel Côté (Minister of Regional Industrial Expansion):** Mr. Speaker, no Government has helped the regions more than this Government has since 1984.

**Some Hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Mr. Côté (Langelier):** Just to help my friend so that he is aware, I invite him to read the record of our accomplishments since 1984. It is available for him.

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## TRADE

## CANADA-UNITED STATES NEGOTIATIONS—AUTO PACT

**Hon. Edward Broadbent (Oshawa):** Mr. Speaker, in the absence of the Minister responsible for trade my question is directed to the Deputy Prime Minister. I have here a secret cabinet document—

**Some Hon. Members:** Oh, oh!

**Mr. Broadbent:** —dated October 27. The subject matter—

**Mr. Siddon:** Sticky fingers again.

**Mr. Broadbent:** —is Canada-U.S. trade negotiations and the automotive agreement. Will the Acting Prime Minister now confirm that the Canadian team negotiating a deal with