

*Inquiries of the Ministry*

wants to take the course of removing a statement of that kind from the record because it was out of order is another matter, and it would be only as a result of a decision of the house that I would take that responsibility.

**Mr. Hees:** All I was doing, Mr. Speaker, was pointing out something that is obviously true, as is apparent every time we hear these statements made in the house.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order.

**Hon. L. B. Pearson (Leader of the Opposition):** Mr. Speaker, may I ask the Minister of Trade and Commerce whether he has any comment to make on a report in a recent edition of the *Financial Post* attributed to Ottawa trade officials, presumably officials of the minister's department, to the effect that no export licence is required by a Canadian manufacturer to ship to Cuba if the products are non-strategic and are made in Canada.

**Mr. Hees:** Mr. Speaker, there are certain export control lists with which I have dealt in the house at some length and if products are not on any of those export control lists then a licence is not required.

**Hon. J. W. Pickersgill (Bonavista-Twillington):** Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a supplementary question to the minister and ask whether export credit insurance is available for these cash transactions with Cuban importers.

**Mr. Hees:** Mr. Speaker, export credit insurance has not been requested by the buyers who came from Cuba. As I pointed out on several occasions, these transactions are cash transactions, engaged in between the Cuban buyers and the Canadian producers. The government does not enter into them in any way, shape or form.

**Mr. G. H. Aiken (Parry Sound-Muskoka):** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Trade and Commerce. Has the minister learned of any country other than the United States which has placed an embargo on Cuban goods?

**Mr. Hees:** I am not aware of any other country that has done so, Mr. Speaker. It may interest the house to know that the United States is almost daily exporting large quantities of food to Cuba.

OTTAWA CONFERENCE—INQUIRY AS TO  
PREPARATIONS

On the orders of the day:

**Hon. J. W. Pickersgill (Bonavista-Twillington):** Mr. Speaker, if I have the floor I should like to put to the Minister of Trade [Mr. Speaker.]

and Commerce the question which I put to the acting minister yesterday and which the acting minister recommended I put to him. My question is, and I put it in exactly the terms I put it to the acting minister: Were any plans or preparations made or any steps taken whatsoever with a view to having the meeting of trade commissioners that recently took place, before the change in ministers? I may say that the acting minister declined to answer the question.

**Hon. George H. Hees (Minister of Trade and Commerce):** The answer is, not to my knowledge, Mr. Speaker.

(Translation):

CANADIAN BROADCASTING  
CORPORATION

BUDGET SPEECH—COMPLAINT RESPECTING  
COMMENTATORS

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. J. N. Tremblay (Roberval):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Minister of National Revenue.

Could the minister ask responsible officers of the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation to investigate the choice of the budget speech commentators who were heard last night over the English and French television networks?

(Text):

**Mr. Speaker:** Order. If I understood the question correctly the hon. member was asking for an exercise of administrative responsibility which the minister does not undertake.

(Translation):

**Mr. Tremblay:** Mr. Speaker, may I respectfully submit that my question is absolutely within the responsibility of the Minister of National Revenue.

(Text):

DEFENCE PRODUCTION

INQUIRY AS TO SALE OF AIR CARGO  
PLANES TO U.S.

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. C. W. Carter (Burin-Burgeo):** Mr. Speaker, may I direct a question to the Minister of Defence Production. Would the minister advise the house what progress has been made in securing an order from the United States government for the Montreal-built air transport cargo plane, the CL-44?

**Hon. Raymond O'Hurley (Minister of Defence Production):** Mr. Speaker, I have no comment to make on the progress of this deal. No definite answer has been given, and I have no comment to make.