May 21, 1986

COMMONS DEBATES

Oral Questions

Some Hon. Members: Out, out.

Some Hon. Members: Withdraw!

Mr. Allmand: I will not withdraw that.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The Hon. Member knows that I must ask him to withdraw at least part of that. Therefore he should do that and then put his question, please.

Mr. Allmand: I will not withdraw. We are being told all over the country—

Some Hon. Members: Out, out!

Some Hon. Members: Withdraw!

Mr. Speaker: The Hon. Member will resume his seat, please.

Mr. Clark (Yellowhead): And John Turner smiles!

Mr. Speaker: I must ask the Hon. Member to withdraw at least the allegation he has made. I think he knows that is the parliamentary way, and he should then put his question.

Mr. Allmand: Mr. Speaker, I am not going to tell a lie to the House. She is misleading this House.

Some Hon. Members: Order, order.

Some Hon. Members: Out!

Mr. Ouellet: That is his right.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The Hon. Member is an experienced Member—

Mr. Rossi: Mr. Speaker-

Mr. Speaker: Will the Hon. Member for Bourassa at least have some sympathy for his colleague, if not for the House?

I must ask the Hon. Member for Notre-Dame-de-Grâce— Lachine East, who knows our practices, to withdraw the implication that the Minister is lying. I must ask him to do that. Will he please do that now?

Mr. Allmand: Mr. Speaker, if this Question Period is to have any meaning, we have to expect Ministers to tell the truth in answering questions—

Some Hon. Members: Order!

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I have no choice, then. I am given no choice. I must name Mr. Allmand and ask him to leave the House.

[Editor's Note: And Mr. Allmand having withdrawn:]

Mr. Speaker: Next question, please. The Hon. Member for Essex—Windsor.

Mr. Langdon: Mr. Speaker, it feels like the Stanley Cup finals.

TRADE

CANADA-UNITED STATES—EXCHANGE VALUE OF CANADIAN DOLLAR

Mr. Steven W. Langdon (Essex—Windsor): My question is for the Prime Minister. Not content with telling us what to do in our lumber industry the United States has now told Canada to look at raising the value of our dollar in order to ease trade problems between the two countries. In view of this will the Prime Minister request the resignation of his Minister of Finance—

Some Hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Langdon: —since, quite clearly, Washington has decided to direct our financial policies in the future?

• (1450)

Right Hon. Brian Mulroney (Prime Minister): That is a challenging question, Mr. Speaker, a real tough one. I will think about it, but I think the answer is no.

Some Hon. Members: Oh, oh!

STATEMENTS ATTRIBUTED TO MINISTER

Mr. Steven W. Langdon (Essex—Windsor): Mr. Speaker, does the Prime Minister not in fact recognize that we have opened ourselves up to pressure from the United States on our exchange rate by the statements of the Minister of Trade who said that this would be a subject for discussion in the trade talks which opened today? He talked about exchange rates in those terms.

Right Hon. Brian Mulroney (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, it is the vicious "supps" which kill me. The fact of the matter is that the Secretary of State—

Mr. Turner (Vancouver Quadra): Oh, come on. The guy asked you a decent question.

Some Hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Mulroney: The Leader of the Opposition defending the NDP-

Mr. Axworthy: That is right. He is a Member of Parliament.

Mr. Mulroney: Sweethearts on parade again.

Mr. Turner (Vancouver Quadra): A Member of Parliament deserves an answer.