

THE CANADIAN ECONOMY

UNITED STATES ECONOMIC MEASURES—INQUIRY AS TO MEASURES REQUIRED OF CANADA TO OBTAIN AMELIORATION

Mr. T. C. Douglas (Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands): May I direct a question to the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce. In view of the meeting which was held at the end of last week between high Canadian and United States officials, is he now in a position to convey to the House the measures which the U.S. government is requesting Canada to adopt in order to obtain some amelioration of the economic steps which President Nixon announced on August 15?

Hon. Jean-Luc Pepin (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): No, Mr. Speaker. These conversations will be continuing.

ALLEGED DESIRE OF UNITED STATES THAT CANADA REVALUE DOLLAR

Mr. T. C. Douglas (Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands): In view of the statement which appears in the *New York Times* quoting certain American officials to the effect that the solution of the American balance of payments problem requires a revaluation of the Canadian dollar, may I ask if this is one of the proposals that has been put before the Canadian government, and is the minister able to assure us that the fact the dollar was allowed to increase 9 per cent since May 1970 is all that the Canadian government is prepared to do at present?

Mr. Jean-Luc Pepin (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): Personally I am not aware that this suggestion might have been made to the Canadian government, but I will take notice of the question for the Minister of Finance to answer tomorrow.

Mr. Douglas: May I ask the minister whether he is telling the House that after discussions of last weekend, he is still not able to tell the people of Canada what the preconditions are?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member is asking the same question as he did in the first instance.

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CONSUMER AFFAIRS

DRUGS—RESPONSIBILITY FOR SURVEY OF PRICES

Mr. P. B. Rynard (Simcoe North): I should like to address a question to the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs. In view of the fact a recent survey on drug prices was carried out in Canadian cities by the Department of National Health and Welfare, was the minister abrogating his duties or did he ask the Department of National Health and Welfare to carry out this survey?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I suggest to the hon. member with respect that the question asked in those terms is not in order. I will not go into the details of the question as asked, but it is certainly not acceptable from the procedural standpoint.

Inquiries of the Ministry

Mr. Rynard: May I then ask the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs whether he ordered this survey.

Hon. Ron Basford (Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs): This particular survey was, of course, ordered by the Minister of National Health and Welfare, but the two departments and the two ministers have worked very closely together on this program.

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INDIAN AFFAIRS

CONVICTION OF INDIAN UNDER GAME LAWS OF ALBERTA—REQUEST FOR AID IN APPEAL TO SUPREME COURT

Mr. G. W. Baldwin (Peace River): I should like to ask a question of the acting Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development whose day it is to languish in the House. Is there any intention on the part of the government in respect of a treaty Indian called Cardinal, whose conviction was upheld by the appellate division of the Supreme Court of Alberta for an infraction of the game act of the province, despite the defence of the treaties under which this Indian lives, to facilitate an appeal to the Supreme Court of Canada and help to defray the costs of counsel for the Indian?

Hon. Martin P. O'Connell (Minister of State): I will bring that question to the attention of the minister when he returns.

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REGIONAL ECONOMIC EXPANSION

ALLEGED DESIGNATION OF AREA IN BRITISH COLUMBIA TO FINANCE ROAD CONSTRUCTION AND PAVING OF ALASKA HIGHWAY

Mr. Robert Borrie (Prince George-Peace River): I have a question for the parliamentary secretary to the Minister of Regional Economic Expansion. In view of the special agreements with Newfoundland, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia to finance road and bridge constructions in these provinces, is the department preparing plans to designate north of the 52nd parallel in British Columbia as a special area to provide financial assistance for the construction of roads and paving of the Alaska highway?

Mr. John Roberts (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Regional Economic Expansion): This is not the minister's day in the House, but I will bring the question to his attention. I think I can say, in a general way, that it is the practice of the department to keep suggestions of this kind under constant review.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Bell: They even told him to get a haircut.