

Oral Questions

concerning loans to municipalities; does the minister intend to re-introduce that legislation in the course of this session?

[English]

Hon. Barney Danson (Minister of State for Urban Affairs): Yes, Mr. Speaker; this bill will be re-introduced.

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CONSUMER AFFAIRS**ALLEGED MISLEADING ADVERTISING BY SECRETARY OF STATE IN OFFERING FLAGS TO MEMBERS**

Mr. Bill Clarke (Vancouver Quadra): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question, through you, to the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs. In view of the action taken under the Combines Investigation Act which resulted in General Mills Canada Limited being fined for misleading advertising of pewter beer mugs which were in fact made of aluminum, an offer described by the Justice Department's prosecutor as untrue, misleading and deceptive, will the minister now initiate an action against the Secretary of State, his seatmate, for misleading advertising contained in a letter offering Canadian flags to all Members of Parliament. This letter states that the small flag is on a "gold plated desk set mounting" when in fact it is only gold-coloured plastic.

[Translation]

Hon. André Ouellet (Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs): Mr. Speaker, I should think that the hon. member can refuse such an offer if he so wishes.

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[English]

CANADIAN COMMERCIAL CORPORATION**ALLEGATION CORPORATION FAVOURS CERTAIN REGIONS IN MAKING PURCHASES—GOVERNMENT ACTION**

Mr. John Reynolds (Burnaby-Richmond-Delta): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Supply and Services of which I have given him notice with regard to the Canadian Commercial Corporation. In view of the fact that of the orders placed by this company with Canadian companies six out of ten provinces received less than 5 per cent of the business of this company and eight out of ten of the provinces received less than 15 per cent of the business of this company, can the minister advise the House whether any action is being taken by the government to bring this corporation in line with announced government policy to promote government business across Canada.

Hon. Jean-Pierre Goyer (Minister of Supply and Services): Mr. Speaker, I share the concern of my hon. friend. As a matter of fact the activities of the Canadian Commercial Corporation should be put in the perspective of the total purchasing power of my department. Having that in mind, we acquired last year in British Columbia four per cent of our total needs in goods and services. This is not enough. This is the reason why next week I am going to Vancouver to open a new regional office in order to do

[Mr. Laprise.]

more business in British Columbia and in western Canada generally.

Mr. Reynolds: Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary for the minister. I was not as concerned about British Columbia as the maritime provinces which are receiving a lot less than their share of the action. Is the government taking any action to make sure this business is spread equally across Canada and especially in the maritimes which are not as rich as the rest of Canada.

Mr. Goyer: Mr. Speaker, of course in our purchasing activities we must bear in mind the total industrial output. My department cannot create industries in different regions. This is why we must maximize our purchasing power by regions having in mind their total industrial output.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. Orders of the day.

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EXTERNAL AFFAIRS**WORLD FOOD CONFERENCE IN ROME—TABLING OF STATEMENT BY SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS**

Mr. G. W. Baldwin (Peace River): I rise on a point of order, Mr. Speaker. In view of the great importance of the subject matter I wonder if Your Honour would inquire of the House whether it would give consent to revert to motions so that the Acting Secretary of State for External Affairs might table a very important statement made by the Secretary of State for External Affairs in Rome so all members would be in possession of the facts which would supplement the unusually very terse and abbreviated nature of the answers by the Acting Secretary of State for External Affairs.

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (President of the Privy Council): Mr. Speaker, if I have the permission of the House I would be very happy to table a copy. I have only one copy and I understand the rules require that two copies be tabled, one in French. I have only one copy in the English language but I shall undertake to have both copies laid on the table. I present one copy now in English.

Mr. Speaker: Is that agreed?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, why do we not make it an appendix to *Hansard*.

[Translation]

Mr. Fortin: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a question of privilege. It has just been brought to my attention, as parliamentary leader of the Social Credit Party in the House, that you made the following reply to the Leader of the Social Credit Party of Canada, the hon. member for Témiscamingue (Mr. Caouette), as reported in the *Hansard* of November 4, and I quote:

The hon. member for Témiscamingue will note, I am sure, that there are exactly five creditist members in the House at this time. I intend to