## March 17, 1987

the sub-committee of Parliament on acid rain, of which the Hon. Member is a member, will be issuing an invitation to Premier Hatfield to appear before the sub-committee to discuss some of these concerns in tandem with my own negotiations with New Brunswick. I am sure the Hon. Member will use that occasion to pose a similar question to the Premier.

## [Translation]

## THE CONSTITUTION

#### INCLUSION OF CULLEN-COUTURE AGREEMENT FOR QUEBEC-PRIME MINISTER'S POSITION

Mr. Jean-Claude Malépart (Montreal—Sainte-Marie): Mr. Speaker, my question to the Right Hon. Prime Minister has to do with the constitutional negotiations and a possible solution as he had hoped designed to make Quebecers want to adhere with honour and enthusiasm to the Canadian Constitution. I wish to direct to him a specific question. During this conference, will the Prime Minister of Canada back up the Quebec Premier, Mr. Robert Bourassa, in his efforts to convince his counterparts that the power now enjoyed by Quebec on immigration matters under the Cullen-Couture Agreement should be entrenched in the Constitution? Can the Quebec Premier count on the support of the Prime Minister of Canada in this endeavour?

**Right Hon. Brian Mulroney (Prime Minister):** Mr. Speaker, can anybody count on the Official Opposition's support? Can anybody count on the Ontario Government's support? Perhaps. We shall see. It is important that we should consult in an effort to find an appropriate formula for Quebec to join the Constitution. At the moment there is a precise formula which requires the provincial Premiers' preliminary approval. Senator Murray has initiated a very productive dialogue with all the Ministers, and I intend to do likewise with the provincial Premiers in order to speed up the process somewhat.

#### QUEBEC'S DEMANDS—GOVERNMENT POSITION

Mr. Jean-Claude Malépart (Montréal—Sainte-Marie): Mr. Speaker, the Prime Minister is forgetting that he has a leadership role to play. He is no longer a mediator, but a sort of fireman with hoses but unfortunately, no water. Would the Prime Minister ... The Prime Minister has promised Quebecers to do everything possible for them to adhere with honour and enthusiasm to the Canadian Constitution. The Quebec Government, through its Minister, has made very concrete recommendations. Now, could the Prime Minister indicate first whether he will support the Bourassa Government which is seeking first the power to select immigrants and second full compensation, should it decide to opt out of the new established programs? What is the Prime Minister's thinking on this? What is he planning to do during the constitutional conference?

## Oral Questions

**Right Hon. Brian Mulroney (Prime Minister):** First of all, Mr. Speaker, it is not a constitutional conference. It is quite a regular meeting. The Hon. Member for Hamilton East exclaims: "Ah"! Well, she should read the press release. It is quite a logical follow-up on the provincial Premiers' conference which was held last year in Edmonton. I have asked the Premiers to meet to seek their support and their views on a possible formula which would be acceptable to them and to the Parliament of Canada. We are looking for a solution. Under the previous Government, it took several years. Here, in Canada, finding an appropriate formula took 120 years and now we are precisely seeking the right one for Quebec.

I am questioned about my commitment to Quebec. I make this unequivocal commitment: I can promise you that Quebec will not be sold out deep into the night and kept out of the Constitutional process.

[English]

## HAZARDOUS PRODUCTS ACT

## TOBACCO—GOVERNMENT POLICY

**Mr. Howard McCurdy (Windsor—Walkerville):** Mr. Speaker, my question is addressed to the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs whose answers to questions posed by the Hon. Member for Hamilton East I listened to very carefully. I have the statement of claim that she has. Does the Minister deny that on May 5, 1986, an application was made for an investigation, or is he denying that after that application for an investigation was made no investigation was pursued?

Hon. Harvie Andre (Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs): Neither, Mr. Speaker. There are no provisions under the Act for a formal request for an investigation. The attorneys or whoever prepared that document seem to have that director confused with the director of investigation and research in the Combines Branch. There is within my Department a civil servant responsible for the Hazardous Products Act who reports to me. We had a request to exclude tobacco advertising under the Act. As I reported to Dr. Pipe who heads Physicians for a Smoke-Free Canada, in a letter of last September, an over-all tobacco policy is being developed under the leadership of my colleague, the Minister of National Health and Welfare, and that we are perfectly willing within that context to have the Hazardous Products Act used for those purposes. There was no investigation that I can either turn on or turn off.

# REQUEST THAT TOBACCO BE DECLARED HAZARDOUS PRODUCT

**Mr.** Howard McCurdy (Windsor—Walkerville): Mr. Speaker, I think the Minister would agree that something that kills 30,000 Canadians a year is a hazardous product. My question is very simple. Would it not contribute to a comprehensive policy against smoking to declare immediately that tobacco is a hazardous product?