

which they were made were valid, the hon. gentleman would accuse me of being negligent in discharging my responsibilities.

● (1430)

#### MINISTER'S ANNOUNCEMENT

**Hon. Bob Kaplan (York Centre):** Mr. Speaker, it is one thing to check statements that are made at conferences but to announce publicly, as the Minister did, that the Mounties and the security service are going to interrogate the speakers with whom he disagreed, is quite another. Will the Minister agree that that is a wrong approach and that it does not serve public debate in Canada to announce that people will be interrogated for expressing views?

**Hon. Perrin Beatty (Solicitor General of Canada):** Mr. Speaker, I wish I could say that I expected better of the hon. gentleman with regard to the sort of question he just put. Unfortunately, I cannot do so on the basis of experience.

The hon. gentleman should know that I did not say to the press that I would be sending in the police to interrogate people with whom I disagreed. Otherwise, they would have been around to see him by now.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order.

**Mr. Tobin:** Pompous toddler of the Cabinet.

**Mr. Gauthier:** Throw the bum out for this nonsense.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order.

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#### AGRICULTURE

##### CANADA-UNITED STATES TRADE NEGOTIATIONS—ATTITUDE OF UNITED STATES

**Mr. Vic Althouse (Humboldt—Lake Centre):** Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Secretary of State for External Affairs. In last week's meetings with the United States Department of Agriculture officials to discuss the effects of the Farm Bill, 12 Members of Parliament from Ottawa were present to hear what would be the United States' approach to bilateral trade talks. In view of the fact that senior American agriculture officials told us that Canada is going to get the message "just like we sent the Libyans a message", what is Canada's response to this scorched earth attitude on the part of the United States?

**Right Hon. Joe Clark (Secretary of State for External Affairs):** Mr. Speaker, the Hon. Member is referring to a conversation which he alleges took place with American officials when I was not present. If he is asking about the position of the Government on the U.S. Farm Bill, we have made it clear frequently and intend to continue to make it

#### Oral Questions

clear frequently, that we believe that the United States Farm Bill, coupled with the trade war in agriculture developing between the European Community and the United States, poses very grave threats to the interests of Canadian agriculture. We intend to make that case generally and we intend to make that case specifically, particularly in defence of traditional Canadian grain markets.

#### CANADIAN POSITION

**Mr. Vic Althouse (Humboldt—Lake Centre):** Mr. Speaker, the Americans went on to spell out four specific irritants that they called "logs, hogs, spuds, and suds" which must be dealt with to the satisfaction of the United States before any serious negotiations—

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. Does the Hon. Member have a supplementary question?

**Mr. Althouse:** What position is our Government taking, given this apparently new attitude by the Government of the United States?

**Right Hon. Joe Clark (Secretary of State for External Affairs):** Mr. Speaker, I take it that the persons to whom the Hon. Member was speaking were involved in a conversation that took place before the U.S. Senate had its vote last week. The Hon. Member was talking about conditions before negotiations would begin. He will know that negotiations have begun, and he will know that those negotiations have begun absolutely without preconditions.

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#### ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

##### TOXIC RAIN—BAN ON DISTRIBUTION OF *STORM WARNING* PAMPHLET

**Hon. Chas. L. Caccia (Davenport):** Mr. Speaker, in the absence of the Minister of the Environment my question is directed to his Parliamentary Secretary. A report was published today saying that a new form of rain called toxic rain is affecting our health by way of contamination of the food chain. This report confirms the finding in an Environment Canada pamphlet called *Storm Warning* which the Minister banned last December as non-factual. Will the Minister face the facts and lift the ban on the distribution of *Storm Warning*?

**Mr. G. M. Gurbin (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of the Environment):** Mr. Speaker, the publication *Storm Warning* contained a good deal of information, much of which has been understood and dealt with by Environment Canada over a long period of time. The removal of that particular publication was as a result of the Minister of the Environment and the Department of the Environment wanting to ensure that the public information that was brought forward was