

Inquiries of the Ministry

opposed to a constitutional solution to the balkanization caused by the chicken and egg war?

Mr. Baldwin: They do not even recognize it.

Mr. Sharp: Mr. Speaker, this is an extremely difficult constitutional issue and I hope that the House, in order to advance consideration of this particular problem, if not the constitutional issue, will proceed with the bill now before the House.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

INTERPROVINCIAL MARKETING—GOVERNMENT POLICY
RESPECTING FREE TRADE

Mr. Eldon M. Woolliams (Calgary North): Mr. Speaker, I am sorry I interrupted the hon. member for Battle River. I had not heard you recognizing him. I direct my supplementary question to the Acting Prime Minister. Is he suggesting that it is the policy of this government to recommend a constitutional change so as to do away with free trade between the provinces of Canada and undermine confederation?

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Acting Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, as the hon. gentleman knows, there are provisions in the constitution today dealing with trade between the provinces.

Mr. Diefenbaker: Unenforced by the government.

Mr. Sharp: As he knows, some problems have arisen as a result of various provincial enactments. It is our purpose in the bill that is before the House to try to deal with the real problems rather than to engage in the much more difficult problem of constitutional reform. I hope the hon. member understands the priorities.

Mr. Baldwin: The problem sits next to the minister.

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ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE

ALLEGED USE OF ELECTRONIC EAVESDROPPING DEVICES
AT MEETING OF MOVEMENT FOR DEFENCE OF
POLITICAL PRISONERS

Mr. David Orlikow (Winnipeg North): My question is for the Solicitor General. Has the minister investigated the allegations that electronic eavesdropping devices were employed last Saturday at a meeting held in Montreal by the Movement for the Defence of Political Prisoners?

[Translation]

Hon. Jean-Pierre Goyer (Solicitor General): No, Mr. Speaker, I am not aware of that.

[English]

Mr. Orlikow: Will the minister investigate the allegations that the RCMP were involved in such an operation, report to the House if this is so and, if so, whether it was authorized by the department?

[Mr. Downey.]

[Translation]

Mr. Goyer: Mr. Speaker, I am not aware of that and I have not received any such information from people who might be interested.

[English]

[Later:]

USE OF RADIO BANDS FOR TRANSMISSION OF
LISTENING DEVICE SIGNALS

Mr. Mark Rose (Fraser Valley West): I wish to direct a supplementary question to the Minister of Transport. Has any police department, in particular the RCMP, ever requested permission from the Department of Transport to employ specific radio bands for the transmission of signals from listening devices?

Mr. Speaker: This seems to be a rather general question which might be placed on the order paper. If there is an aspect of urgency about it, it can be considered at the time of adjournment.

Mr. Rose: Perhaps I could rephrase the question. Has the Department of Transport set aside any specific radio bands for such purposes?

Hon. Donald C. Jamieson (Minister of Transport): I will take the question as notice and get an answer as soon as I can.

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NATIONAL DEFENCE

ALLEGED REFLECTION ON CANADIAN ARMED FORCES
BY PRIME MINISTER

Mr. J. M. Forrestall (Dartmouth-Halifax East): I wish to direct my question to the Acting Prime Minister. I preface it by saying that I am sure the Prime Minister did not intend to say what he did on television on Sunday night. As his remarks left a very clear implication, does the Prime Minister's office intend to make some form of apology to the Canadian Armed Forces for having compared them with the state militia at Ken State University?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

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TRADE

ACTION TO RESTORE COMPETITIVE POSITION OF
EXPORT INDUSTRIES

Hon. George Hees (Prince Edward-Hastings): My question is for the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce. In view of the statement made by the Prime Minister on the television program "Weekend" on Sunday night that said "the Canadian dollar is so strong indeed that it is hurting our export trade because more people are finding it cheaper to import goods and more difficult to sell them abroad", is the minister going to take specific action or introduce specific measures to restore the former competitive position of, particularly, labour-intensive export industries?