

*Oral Questions**[English]***CANADA LABOUR CODE****PRESENCE OF FOOD INSPECTORS IN ALBERTA FOOD PLANTS  
DURING STRIKE**

**Mr. Rod Murphy (Churchill):** Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Agriculture. Can the Minister of Agriculture indicate why his Department has ordered food inspectors to go into the struck plants in Alberta despite the very dangerous situation that action imposes on those workers?

**Hon. John Wise (Minister of Agriculture):** Mr. Speaker, that is not the case.

**Hon. Bill McKnight (Minister of Labour):** Mr. Speaker, the call for a decision under Part IV of the Canada Labour Code proscribing dangerous work, made by the employees to whom the Hon. Member refers, was accepted by the Labour Affairs officers. A decision on this call was made by those officers under the assumption that, first, there was adequate assurance from the authorities, and that people would obey the law.

**REPORTED TELEPHONE CALL TO FOOD INSPECTOR**

**Mr. Rod Murphy (Churchill):** Mr. Speaker, my supplementary question is for the same Minister. Can the workers feel that the law is being enforced with all impartiality when a Parliamentary Secretary to the Solicitor General phones one of those food inspectors at one o'clock in the morning and asks her to go to work?

**Hon. Bill McKnight (Minister of Labour):** Mr. Speaker, all I can say to the Hon. Member is that the employees referred to in his original question made a call to Labour Canada with respect to dangerous work. Labour affairs officers, under the criteria established, reviewed that call and found that it was not dangerous work in this case.

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**TRADE****SOFTWOOD LUMBER EXPORTS—U.S. INDUSTRY'S PETITION FOR  
COUNTERVAIL ACTION**

**Mr. John A. MacDougall (Timiskaming):** Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Secretary of State for External Affairs. It is with respect to the decision last Friday of the U.S. Commerce Department with regard to the softwood lumber imports. Will the Minister tell my constituents, and other Canadians who are directly or indirectly involved in the industry, what plans his Department has, in working with both the provinces and the industry, to come up with a solution?

**Right Hon. Joe Clark (Secretary of State for External Affairs):** Mr. Speaker, the jurisdiction in this matter is, of course, primarily provincial, although in our judgment the

federal Government has a role of leadership to play in drawing the parties together.

I have indicated earlier that we are dealing here with a court-like proceeding. We are hoping that the Opposition will refrain from the temptation to inject politics into this court-like proceeding. For our part, what we are trying to do is ensure that there will be the best possible co-ordination of the strongest possible Canadian case. For that reason I am drawing together representatives of the provincial Governments, the industry, the labour unions affected, and the federal Government, in a meeting in Vancouver on Friday.

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*[Translation]***CUSTOMS AND EXCISE****TARIFFS—FRENCH LANGUAGE BOOKS—REQUEST FOR  
CLARIFICATION**

**Mrs. Sheila Finestone (Mount Royal):** Last Thursday, Mr. Speaker, the Minister of Finance did an about-turn and declared that books imported from France into Canada would not be subject to a 10 per cent tariff. The same day, however, over CHRC in Quebec City the Prime Minister said that Canada could not levy a tax only on American and English books, that he had to tax all books, including those from France. My question is directed to the Minister of State (Finance): Once and for all, can the Minister of Finance dispel the confusion stemming from his tariff policy on books? Whom should Canadians believe? The Prime Minister or the Minister of Finance?

*[English]*

**Hon. Barbara McDougall (Minister of State (Finance)):** Mr. Speaker, I think that the Minister of Finance made that clear when he responded in the House last week to the question regarding English language books and textbooks. The answer was totally clear.

**REQUEST THAT BOOK TARIFF BE REMOVED**

**Mrs. Sheila Finestone (Mount Royal):** Mr. Speaker, the Minister did not make it totally clear, and neither did the Prime Minister. Therefore I would like to recommend that the Government withdraw its tariff on books—

**Some Hon. Members:** Question.

**Mrs. Finestone:** Not only is the Government penalizing book-readers—

**Some Hon. Members:** Question.

**Mrs. Finestone:** My question, Mr. Speaker, is will the Government remove that tariff? You are both penalizing English or French—