

Inquiries of the Ministry

Mr. Pepin: Mr. Speaker, we have put this question to the U.S. administration on a number of occasions. We have not yet obtained a firm decision on the subject of the removal of certain tariff items in accordance with Kennedy round implementation.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The Chair will recognize the hon. member for one last supplementary. I think I should remind hon. members that the number of supplementaries makes it difficult for other members to be recognized toward the end of the question period.

Mr. Douglas: Does the minister expect to be able to make a statement to the House, if possible before the recess, on any agreement that has been reached with regard to the removal of the irritants to which he has referred?

Mr. Pepin: I cannot promise that, Mr. Speaker, because I do not really know what the chronology of events will be in the following days.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. For the moment the Chair will try to recognize hon. members who were not recognized yesterday. I think I remember most of them.

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HEALTH

RECONSIDERATION OF CANCELLATION OF GRANT TO NATIONAL CANCER INSTITUTE

Mr. W. B. Nesbitt (Oxford): I have a question for the Minister of National Health and Welfare. In his absence, and because it is doubtful how much longer we will be here, I will direct it to the Prime Minister. It relates to a question I asked the Minister of National Health and Welfare about three weeks ago concerning the cancelling of grants for cancer research. At that time the minister indicated he would reconsider this. Can the Prime Minister inform the House whether these grants for cancer research in Canada have been reinstated? It seems inexcusable that they should have been cancelled.

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I am sure the minister lived up to his commitment. I do not know the result of that reconsideration. Perhaps the hon. member can ask the minister that question when he returns from the meeting he is presently attending with the provincial health ministers.

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INDUSTRY

CANADA-U.S. AUTO PACT NEGOTIATIONS—SUGGESTED CANADIAN PRODUCTION OF CARS PURCHASED IN CANADA

Mr. Edward Broadbent (Oshawa-Whitby): My question is for the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce. In view of the fact that, if Canadians were producing in Canada that percentage of North American automobile products that they actually consume, such production would provide about 30,000 additional Canadian jobs, can

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the minister inform the House if in discussions with the Americans his officials have made a request for a change in the auto pact which would bring this about?

Hon. Jean-Luc Pepin (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): Mr. Speaker, it would take half an hour to deal with the question raised by the hon. member. I hope to do so in due course. In the meantime, I might say that I have already given an answer to that question a few months ago. I suggested at the time it would not be wise to tie ourselves to this particular target. I will make the necessary analysis in the House in due course. I have said on a number of occasions that I will take the House into my confidence before we reach any final agreement with the United States.

Mr. Broadbent: Can the minister inform the House if the state of negotiations on this subject is such that he expects an agreement to be reached before the Christmas recess and, if so, what form of announcement he plans to make in the House? Will it simply take the form of an announcement or is it the intention to have a debate on the issue?

Mr. Pepin: Presumably, Mr. Speaker, I will make a statement. My hon. friend will have a chance to reply, comment and disagree with me, I am almost sure.

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MANPOWER

PETAWAWA WINTER WORKS PROJECT—REFUSAL OF WORK TO CERTAIN APPLICANTS

Mr. A. D. Alkenbrack (Frontenac-Lennox and Addington): My question is for the Minister of Manpower and Immigration. It pertains to the winter works project undertaken by the government at Petawawa in Renfrew County at the Department of National Defence and the forestry station. Can the minister tell me why unemployed people from the Renfrew, Eganville and Killaloe areas are refused employment on this project, despite the fact they are in the same area and same country, while applicants from Pembroke are acceptable?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I respectfully suggest to the hon. member that the question can be interpreted as a representation for the consideration of the minister. To the extent it is a question, I think it can well be considered at the time of adjournment.

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● (2:50 p.m.)

[Translation]

REGIONAL ECONOMIC EXPANSION

CONSOLIDATED-BATHURST LIMITED—MEASURES TO FIND JOBS FOR LAID-OFF EMPLOYEES

Mr. Herb Breau (Gloucester): Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask a question of the Minister of Regional Economic Expansion.

Have the government of New Brunswick or Consolidated-Bathurst Limited made a proposal to the minister in