

*Oral Questions*

will now be up for renegotiation. The Parliamentary Secretary speaks of The Consumers' Association. The Consumers' Association appeared before the committee and was very critical of this agreement.

## UNITED STATES EXPORT ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM

**Mr. Bill Blaikie (Winnipeg—Birds Hill):** Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Secretary of State for External Affairs who indicated in this House that the American Export Enhancement Subsidy Program violated the spirit of the agreement. Why is this not an item that the Canadian Government brought back to the Americans as something that they must stop doing? Why are we always submissive? Why are items like this not raised in this new climate of renegotiation?

**Mr. John McDermid (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister for International Trade):** Mr. Speaker, one of the reasons for getting into the negotiations was because of the protectionist mood in the United States. That is exactly why we are into this process and why we have initialled a very good agreement. The Hon. Member says that the United States wins all these, but just last week a GATT panel came down in favour of Canada against the United States on customs user fees. The theory of the Hon. Member is all bunk.

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## MULTICULTURALISM

## PROPOSED LEGISLATION—REQUEST FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF SEPARATE DEPARTMENT OF GOVERNMENT

**Mr. Sergio Marchi (York West):** Mr. Speaker, in the absence of the Minister of State for Multiculturalism, my question is directed to the Prime Minister. Yesterday's Multiculturalism Bill comes on the heels of a Liberal Bill in 1984, three different Conservative Ministers of Multiculturalism, three years of promises and consultations on this Bill, and an all-Party committee which unanimously recommended to the Government that it introduce a comprehensive forward looking Bill that would go far beyond the general principles.

Why did his Government simply introduce a piece of legislation that is rooted exclusively on general principles and past laurels? Why did he not entrench a separate line Department or a Commissioner for Multiculturalism so that it would meet the aspirations of communities? Canadians are simply getting tired of your fine speeches on your summer ethnic picnic circuit.

**Mr. Speaker:** Ministers may reply if they wish, but I must point out that the Hon. Member is out of order, certainly in the last words he used. I invite him to put his supplementary question. There does not seem to be any response from the Government.

**Mr. Marchi:** I do not know what was out of order, Your Honour—

**Some Hon. Members:** Oh, oh!

**Mr. Speaker:** The Hon. Member will probably remember that he was using the personal "you" and, to the degree that that is used, it evokes a response which creates difficulty. I would ask him not to do that.

**Mr. Marchi:** Mr. Speaker—

**Mrs. Finestone:** Thank you, Your Honour.

**Some Hon. Members:** Oh, oh!

**Mr. Marchi:** I do not know why the Government finds it so funny.

**Mr. Epp (Provencher):** Listen to Sheila.

**Mr. Speaker:** The Hon. Member has put a question. The Chair has corrected the last few words and the Hon. Member has accepted that. The question is certainly in order, except for those words, and I remind Hon. Members that the reasons we are strict about this is that it leads to disorder. However, the Hon. Member has the floor and is putting his question. He is entitled to the appropriate courtesies. The Hon. Member.

**Mr. Marchi:** Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

[*Translation*]

## GOVERNMENT POSITION

**Mr. Sergio Marchi (York West):** Mr. Speaker, I want to ask the Prime Minister again, considering the political effort put into bilingualism during the sixties and the seventies, why he failed to incorporate in this Bill the energy and political will of the 80s to enhance multiculturalism, with the same government mechanisms used many years ago to support the policy on bilingualism, instead of expecting ethnic groups and all Canadians to swallow a bunch of platitudes.

**Mr. Vincent Della Noce (Parliamentary Secretary to Secretary of State and Minister Responsible for Multiculturalism):** Mr. Speaker, in the absence of the Minister I would like to answer on his behalf, and I want to thank the Hon. Member for giving me this opportunity. Since yesterday, Canada has a Bill on multiculturalism, and I think Canada is the first country in the world to table legislation of this kind. It was not only a special day for Canada and Canadians of other ethnic origins like myself, it was an historic moment. Canada is the first country in the world to do something like this, and as a Canadian I am very proud.

[*English*]

## COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

**Mr. Sergio Marchi (York West):** Mr. Speaker, the Parliamentary Secretary expects that this is a big Christmas gift to the ethnocultural communities. Let me tell him that it is gift