

question, in English or in French. It is not customary practice in this House.

[English]

Hon. John C. Crosbie (Minister for International Trade): Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and I certainly agree with you that it is odd.

The situation is that there is nothing in the legislation before this House that intrudes upon or impinges upon the powers of the province. But it is a well known tenet of constitutional law that one jurisdiction exercising its authority can affect matters in another jurisdiction's authority in an incidental manner. And, of course, that occurs on all occasions. There is no hiatus between federal law and provincial law. There is no clearly demarked line that one is on one side and the other is on the other side.

In this particular legislation we exercise only the authority given to us by the Constitution of Canada necessary so that Canada can hold its head up in the community of nations and agree to treaties that affect trade and commerce and carry them out as any sovereign nation can.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

* * *

[Translation]

AEROSPACE

QUEBEC'S SHARE

Mr. Jean-Claude Malépart (Montreal—Sainte-Marie): Mr. Speaker, in the absence of the Minister of Regional Industrial Expansion and Minister of State for Science and Technology, my question is directed to the Deputy Prime Minister and concerns the contracts for space research. Last Friday, the Leader of the Parti Québécois, Mr. Jacques Parizeau, stated that never before had Quebec been treated in such a miserly fashion by the federal Government.

Could the Deputy Prime Minister explain why, despite the promise and commitment made on April 21 by the Conservative Government that as part of the Canadian Government's contribution to the U.S. Space Station, Quebec would receive a fair share of the research, that is, 35 per cent, just like Ontario, could he now explain why today, Quebec will get only 18 per cent, while Ontario is getting 78 per cent? Could he explain why Quebecers are once again being deceived?

[English]

Mr. J. M. Forrestall (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Regional Industrial Expansion and Minister of State for Science and Technology): Mr. Speaker, I thank the Hon. Member for his question. The fact is that if he looks at the total expenditures when the program is said and done, he will find that 35 per cent will accrue to Quebec, 35 per cent to Ontario, 10 per cent to, generally, the West, 10 per cent to

British Columbia, and 10 per cent to Atlantic Canada. That message was clearly conveyed, together with the supporting statistics, to that hon. gentleman by the Minister a few days ago.

[Translation]

SPACE AGENCY—IMMEDIATE ANNOUNCEMENT DEMANDED

Mr. Jean-Claude Malépart (Montreal—Sainte-Marie): Mr. Speaker, a similar message was sent to Quebecers about the shipyards. We were going to get everything. We got nothing. We were conned. Two shipyards were shut down in Quebec.

My supplementary to the Parliamentary Secretary is this: Wouldn't it be better for the Government to announce the space agency immediately, since at this rate, all the contracts will be gone, and the space agency will be nothing but an empty shell? Why not announce the location of the space agency right away and let this new group be responsible for contracts, since Quebec is being conned on this whole issue?

[English]

Mr. J. M. Forrestall (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Regional Industrial Expansion and Minister of State for Science and Technology): Mr. Speaker, the hon. gentleman, of course, is speaking from a parameter and point of view that satisfy his political needs immediately. The fact remains, and I will repeat it to him, the balance is there. In the beginning the balance was not there and it was corrected by this Minister. The Minister and this Government will ensure that distribution does in fact take place.

* * *

TRADE

CANADA-UNITED STATES FREE TRADE AGREEMENT— IMPLEMENTING LEGISLATION AMENDING 27 STATUTES

Mr. Lorne Nystrom (Yorkton—Melville): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister for International Trade. I am sure the Minister is aware that the Bill introduced by himself yesterday, and I underline the word "himself", amends some 27 statutes. I am sure the Minister also recalls that back in 1982 when the former Liberal Government introduced the energy Bill amending some 15 statutes, at that time the federal Tories said it was terrible, it was wrong, that it was an awful thing to do, and they rang the bells for almost two weeks in protest to have the Bill split.

Mr. McDermid: You are comparing apples to oranges.

Mr. Nystrom: If the logic of splitting a Bill was right when it amended 15 statutes, why will the Government not do the same thing now when one amends some 27 statutes? Can we have a straight answer? Can the Minister stop playing court jester to the Prime Minister, stop being a buffoon and tell us why he will not split the Bill?