

## INDUSTRY

STE-THERÈSE—MEASURES TO AVOID LAY-OFFS AT  
GENERAL MOTORS

**Mr. Francis Fox (Argenteuil-Deux-Montagnes):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to put a question to the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce.

Could he tell the House whether he is aware of reports that General Motors has definitely dismissed a great number of workers at the Sainte-Thérèse plant while increasing the production of Vega at its Lordstown plant in Ohio?

**Mr. Herb Breau (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce):** Mr. Speaker, I thank the hon. member for asking that question.

General Motors has told the department that there has been no transfer of its production from Sainte-Thérèse to Lordstown, Ohio.

**Mr. Fox:** Mr. Speaker, I should like to put a supplementary question.

Would the minister consider the possibility of communicating with the company in that connection, so as to endeavour to improve the employment situation at the Sainte-Thérèse plant?

**Mr. Breau:** I shall bring that matter to the minister's attention, Mr. Speaker.

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[English]

## CONSUMER AFFAIRS

ALLEGED FAILURE OF MERCHANTS TO PASS ALONG TAX  
CUTS TO CONSUMERS—INQUIRY AS TO MONITORING  
MECHANISM

**Mr. Allan Lawrence (Northumberland-Durham):** Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs. In view of the very clear undertaking given by the Minister of Finance to the House that a monitoring system would be set up by the government to make sure that the tax cuts contained in his budget would be passed along to the consumer, and in view of the publication today in Ontario of a directive by a major chain of convenience stores ordering its management not to pass along those cuts to consumers, at least in respect of chocolate Easter eggs, could the minister tell the House what his department or what the government is doing about this revelation today in the *Toronto Star*?

**An hon. Member:** He is going to lay another egg.

**Hon. Herb Gray (Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs):** Mr. Speaker, I would be happy to help the hon. member lay another egg, as one of his colleagues suggests, but in any event I shall try to get further information about this and report to the hon. member.

**Mr. Lawrence:** I wonder if the minister could tell us what monitoring machinery or apparatus actually exists in his department to monitor these tax cuts?

## Oral Questions

**Mr. Gray:** Mr. Speaker, we are putting a mechanism in place to gather further information about the results of the budget tax cuts, and I would be happy to give the hon. member further information about this in due course.

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## EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

VIET NAM—POSSIBLE WITHDRAWAL OF CANADIAN  
SUPERVISORY PERSONNEL IF BOMBING RESUMED—  
PROSPECTS FOR PEACE

**Mr. Doug Rowland (Selkirk):** Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct a question to the Secretary of State for External Affairs. In relation to his statement today I would like to ask him whether one of the conditions for Canada's immediate withdrawal from Viet Nam would be a resumption of bombing by the United States?

**Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs):** Mr. Speaker, probably I would have to add a word of caution in advance that we would want to look at the circumstances, but I could not imagine any circumstances under which there would be a resumption of bombing by the United States that would not result in the immediate withdrawal of our force.

**Mr. Rowland:** Mr. Speaker, I wish to attempt to elicit a more complete definition of what the minister would consider a substantial improvement in the situation, or a substantial improvement in the prospects for peace. Perhaps I could just put the question to him in those general terms. What specific conditions would he consider to constitute a substantial improvement in the prospects for peace?

**Mr. Sharp:** Mr. Speaker, my hon. friend can probably answer the first part of the question himself. These would be better prospects for the operation of the International Control Commission itself, a more co-operative attitude on the part of members of the commission, and more access to the various parts of South Viet Nam than it is now enjoying. These would represent a substantial improvement in the situation. As to the prospects for peace, they would be signs that the discussions that have now opened in Paris seem to be resulting in a greater spirit of reconciliation and concord than now exists.

[Translation]

VIET NAM—POSITION OF GOVERNMENT ON RESOLUTION  
ON ORDER PAPER CONCERNING PEACE AGREEMENT  
AND SUPERVISORY COMMISSION

**Mr. Claude Wagner (Saint-Hyacinthe):** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the hon. Secretary of State for External Affairs.

[English]

In view of the open invitation the Secretary of State for External Affairs issued to the House a few moments ago, and in view of his wish to seek the advice and confidence of parliament, will he tell the House if he wishes to bring to a vote his own resolution of February 1, 1973, which