

Privilege—Mr. Stevens

Therefore, I think our first priority should be to continue to seek a much higher level of Canadian content in Japanese vehicles sold in Canada, North America generally and in world markets, and continue to monitor the situation in light of what U.S. authorities might do and the level of Japanese imports. Increasing Canadian content should be our first priority.

Mr. Gamble: Madam Speaker, the minister will recognize the non-tariff barriers of which I spoke are supported by the government of Japan and encouraged by that government. They have been very successful for years in keeping out the importation of Canadian manufactured goods. The minister will also recognize that France has imposed a quota. There is a bill in the U.S. Congress to impose a quota on the importation of these cars. I should think the minister would be very concerned about the interest of Canadian auto workers, some of whom live in his own riding. When will the government take it upon itself to form a lead in this area rather than act like a jellyfish able to be pushed around by a foreign government and its commercial interests?

Mr. Gray: Madam Speaker, the Japanese government, like other members of the GATT, did agree to codes to move the level of non-tariff barriers. I am sure we expect Japan to comply with that code to a no lesser extent than any other member of the GATT. With respect to the matter of quotas, if the U.S. Congress legislates quotas, in my view it will be necessary for the Canadian authorities to consider taking parallel action within our own legal framework and in light of our own circumstances. That is why I said we are watching the Canadian situation and the American situation very closely. Because we have an integrated industry on a North American basis, I think we must be very careful about the timing and extent of our actions.

At the present time I think our priorities, in the interests of Canadian workers, should be to strive to increase the level of Canadian content in Japanese vehicles sold in North America and around the world and, in the meantime, to keep in touch with the situation so that we are ready to take other action in the interests of Canadian workers and the Canadian economy should circumstances make that necessary.

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PRIVILEGE

MR. NIELSEN—NOTICE OF INTENTION OF MR. STEVENS TO
RAISE QUESTION OF PRIVILEGE

Hon. Erik Nielsen (Yukon): Madam Speaker, I rise on behalf of the hon. member for York-Peel (Mr. Stevens) who addressed a matter last Friday concerning the conduct of the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce (Mr. Gray) which the hon. member for York-Peel feels is contemptuous of this House. He has asked me to file notice in his name, as he undertook to do last Friday, of his intention to raise a question of privilege. He is unavoidably absent today. He intends to raise it at the first opportunity. In the meantime I have filed a

notice in the form of an intended motion which, if after listening to the hon. member for York-Peel you find there does exist a question of privilege, he will be moving. This motion may not be in the precise terms of the motion filed today by way of notice, but in similar terms.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[Translation]

PETITIONS

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDING FORMULA

Madam Speaker: I have the honour to inform the House that the Clerk of the House has laid on the table the thirty-eighth report of the Clerk of Petitions stating that he has examined the petition presented by the hon. member for Calgary West (Mr. Hawkes) and finds that it meets the requirements of the Standing Orders as to form.

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[English]

CANADA ELECTIONS ACT

MEASURE TO AMEND

Mr. Hal Herbert (Vaudreuil) moved for leave to introduce Bill C-627, to amend the Canada Elections Act (use of contributions).

Some hon. Members: Explain.

Mr. Herbert: Madam Speaker, the purpose of this bill is to amend section 13 of the Canada Elections Act so that where a political party has provincial or municipal parties affiliated with it, its registration pursuant to this section shall have effect only in respect of the activities of the party in its federal capacity.

Motion agreed to, bill read the first time and ordered to be printed.

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QUESTIONS ON THE ORDER PAPER

(Questions answered orally are indicated by an asterisk.)

Mr. D. M. Collenette (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): Madam Speaker, the following questions will be answered today: Nos. 1,192, 1,624, 1,884, 1,885, 1,886, 1,887, 1,888, 1,889, 1,890 and 1,933.