

of Canada's payments deficit vis-à-vis the United States. The minister stated that Canada's sales last year increased by 13 per cent, to a point over the \$5 billion mark. In view of Canada's imports reaching 17.1—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The Chair has been very lenient this afternoon, but my leniency cannot extend to the point of allowing this question.

Mr. Korchinski: Mr. Speaker, might I finish the question and ask the minister what positive steps he had suggested at that meeting.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE

SUGGESTED ACTION TO CONTROL ORGANIZED CRIME

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Andrew Brewin (Greenwood): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Justice, which would also perhaps concern the Solicitor General.

Has the attention of the minister been called to what has been described as a three stage national crack-down on organized crime in the United States, in which the President of that country outlined detailed proposals for a national strategy against organized crime, welding together the efforts of local, state and federal governments—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. gentleman is making a statement. He is not asking a question.

Mr. Brewin: With respect, Mr. Speaker, I will come to the question, by putting the basis for the question.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member knows that questions should not be preceded by speeches, however short.

Mr. Brewin: Mr. Speaker, I will come to the question. Will the Minister of Justice study the President's proposals and adapt what is relevant to a similar war on organized crime and its causes in Canada?

LABOUR RELATIONS

ONTARIO—REQUEST FOR STATEMENT ON TRUCKING STRIKE

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Eric A. Winkler (Grey-Bruce): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Labour. I should like to ask the minister if he can furnish the house with any information

in relation to the truckers strike in the province of Ontario and the participation of this department, because I have learned of a very serious situation which may develop later on this fall in regard to rail users.

Hon. J. R. Nicholson (Minister of Labour): Mr. Speaker, that is a double barreled question. Perhaps it would be easier to deal with the second part first. The hon. member and the house will be glad to know that I have issued an order directing that a board of conciliation be set up to deal with the requests of the railway unions. A communication to that effect went off several days ago to the companies and to the unions concerned.

With regard to the first part of the question, I am happy to say that the reports that I received recently are a little more optimistic, and that the parties have again resumed negotiations in the truckers strike.

CAPITAL PUNISHMENT

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION ON DEBATING PROCEDURE

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Reid Scott (Danforth): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the government house leader. Has the government yet reached a decision as to the manner in which the issue of capital punishment will be placed before the House of Commons, so as to ensure that a decision will be reached? If so, what is the decision, and when does the government intend to start the debate?

Hon. G. J. McIlraith (Minister of Public Works): Mr. Speaker, I think the answer to the first part of the question must be no, in its final form. In view of the breakdown of the business in the house for some days, I should like to withhold answering the second part of the question until tomorrow.

CANADIAN CENTENNIAL

INQUIRY CONCERNING ISSUE OF GOLD MINT SETS

On the orders of the day:

Mr. R. A. Webb (Hastings-Frontenac): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Finance. Because of a number of requests, would the Minister of Finance please advise the house and the country when and where one can obtain the \$20 gold mint sets as proposed by the former minister of finance in honour of our one hundredth birthday.