

*Oral Questions*

well as the provincial Governments may know what is going on?

**Right Hon. Joe Clark (Secretary of State for External Affairs):** Mr Speaker, while we are on the subject of patchwork quilts, may I congratulate the Right Hon. Leader of the Opposition on his appointment of himself as his Party's spokesman on external affairs and foreign policy.

The Minister for International Trade had discussions with her provincial counterparts yesterday. She is keeping them up to date with the process of the negotiations.

As the Right Hon. Leader of the Opposition will know, this is an entirely new step, a new process, and indeed a major institutional change in Canadian practice, because in the past, when he was involved in international trade negotiations, the provinces were shut out.

They are not shut out under this Government.

**Mr. Speaker:** I shall recognize the Hon. Member for Oshawa in a moment.

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[Translation]

## HOUSE OF COMMONS

PRESENCE IN GALLERY OF HON. ALEXANDRE SAMBAT,  
MINISTER OF EDUCATION OF REPUBLIC OF GABON

**Mr. Speaker:** I would like to draw the attention of the House to the presence in our Gallery today of Mr. Alexandre Sambat, Minister of Education of the Republic of Gabon.

● (1150)

[English]

PRESENCE IN GALLERY OF PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATION  
FROM AUSTRALIAN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

**Mr. Speaker:** I am also pleased to bring to the attention of Hon. Members the presence in the Gallery today of a parliamentary delegation from the Australian House of Representatives, led by Mr. Barry Cunningham.

**Some Hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

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## TRADE

CANADA-UNITED STATES NEGOTIATIONS—SCOPE OF  
INVESTMENT DISCUSSIONS

**Hon. Edward Broadbent (Oshawa):** Mr. Speaker, I want to pursue this interesting line of answers which we are getting from the Minister.

Yesterday the Prime Minister contradicted Simon Reisman and, if I heard the Minister correctly today, he has just contradicted the Prime Minister. He has just acknowledged that on non-trade related investment the Cabinet has been informed that the Americans want to talk about it, and the Canadian Government is waiting to hear more specifics on it.

The Prime Minister said yesterday, in reply to a question, that this wasn't the case. He said that what is on the table "is wide open investment pursuant to trade-related investment which has always been the case".

According to the Prime Minister, the discussions are still being restricted to trade-related investment. According to the Minister today, the scope is being broadened. Who is telling the truth in the House of Commons?

**Right Hon. Joe Clark (Secretary of State for External Affairs):** The falsehood that is being attempted in the House of Commons, Mr. Speaker, is the attempt to pretend a difference exists between what the Prime Minister said and what I have said. I ask—I won't get into a long debate about it now; the Leader of the New Democratic Party can read. He can take a look at *Hansard* yesterday—

**Mr. Broadbent:** I just did.

**Mr. Clark (Yellowhead):** —and *Hansard* again today indicating my remarks.

Here is the situation. Trade-related investment measures are on the table now. There is a mandate for the negotiator to discuss them. There has been an oral suggestion by the United States, as I have repeated four or five times in this House today, that some other matters should be looked at. They are not yet on the table. They might never be on the table. We in the Cabinet have not yet received a formal, precise indication of what it is the Americans are interested in. Once we receive that, we will consider it—if we give the negotiator—and if it is not in Canada's interest, we will reject it.

Then, after that process is finished, we will indicate to the negotiator what mandate he has at the table. That is the situation. I have described it three or four times today. For those who want to understand it, it is quite clear.

ORAL COMMUNICATION FROM UNITED STATES NEGOTIATOR

**Hon. Edward Broadbent (Oshawa):** Mr. Speaker, I have what may be the last question on this today. I should like to ask the Minister, on this oral communication that was received, could he tell us if the Cabinet and the Prime Minister were informed of this oral communication before yesterday's Question Period?

**Right Hon. Joe Clark (Secretary of State for External Affairs):** Mr. Speaker, the Prime—the Leader of the Opposition—excuse me, I am getting ahead of himself.

The Leader of the New Democratic Party knows that there is a long-standing practice regarding the confidentiality of matters—