

1104 CARRY BUILDING

927 FIFTEENTH STREET, N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005MILLER-COLUMBIAN REPORTING SERVICE  
RECORD-MAKING PROFESSIONALS

PHONE (202) 347-0224

ALL REPRODUCTION RIGHTS  
RESERVED

1                   MINISTER LALONDE: It is a very serious illusion.  
2 I have little doubt in my mind about that! The P.Q.s  
3 are overstating their case very, very considerably in this  
4 respect. Quebec is much more dependent on the rest of  
5 the Canadian market than the rest of the Canadian economy  
6 is dependent on Quebec!

7                   Quebec is much more dependent on the Ontario  
8 market than Ontario is dependent on Quebec.

9                   The basic manufacturing industries in Quebec  
10 benefit from high Canadian tariffs, or have, traditionally,  
11 benefitted from high Canadian tariffs on shoes, furniture;  
12 and that tariff has benefitted Quebec-where those industries  
13 are concentrated. So it is really questionable whether  
14 the rest of Canada would want to continue such tariffs--  
15 which, in effect, are protecting mainly Quebec at the  
16 present time, in those fields--assuming there is a wish  
17 for independence--and potential economic association,  
18 subsequently.

19                   So the idea that Quebec holds very strong cards  
20 in terms of negotiation for an economic association  
21 again --is a dangerous illusion. Quebec would be  
22 negotiating from a position of weakness--not from a  
23 position of strength--in such a situation.

24                   And this is our argument with our Separatists:  
25 that, really, Quebec has much more leverage inside the