Inquiries of the Ministry

[English]

INDUSTRY

AUTOMOBILES—UNITED STATES CUSTOMS COURT DECISION RECLASSIFYING CANADIAN-FORGED PARTS AS DUTIABLE

Mr. A. D. Hales (Wellington): I should like to address my question to the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce. It is related to a question I asked him on April 27 and concerns an United States customs court decision on imports of Canadian forged auto parts which is in direct violation of the auto pact. I would ask what results his representations have produced?

Hon. Jean-Luc Pepin (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): I did secure more information on that subject. I found the following. The Canadian exporters concerned have advised the department that their forgings are subjected to additional processing which both they and we consider to be sufficient processing to allow for the continued free entry of these forgings into the United States under the auto pact. In conjunction with the industry, the government has made representations to the United States Bureau of Customs to this effect. The bureau is expected to rule very soon, and the decision is expected to be favourable.

Mr. Hales: What steps does the minister propose to take if the decision is not satisfactory?

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member's question is hypothetical.

ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE

PURPOSE OF INQUIRY INTO DROPPING OF LITERATURE PROTESTING AGAINST BILL C-176 FROM AIRPLANE

Mr. Jack McIntosh (Swift Current-Maple Creek): Mr. Speaker, I had intended to address my question to the Solicitor General who I understood was supposed to be in the House today according to the roster system. In his absence perhaps I might address it to the Minister of Justice who acts on his behalf. What was the reason or purpose of the RCMP inquiry into the procedure used by western ranchers and farmers of dropping literature from an airplane protesting against Bill C-176 at several rural points in southeastern Alberta?

Hon. John N. Turner (Minister of Justice: I will take that question as notice on behalf of the Solicitor General.

AGRICULTURE

POLICY RESPECTING SUPPORT PRICE OF WOOL

Mr. Rod Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): My question is directed to the Minister of Agriculture. In view of the low cash returns to wool producers, will the minister say

[Mr. Trudeau.]

whether the government intends to continue deficiency payments on wool at the same level as last year?

Hon. H. A. Olson (Minister of Agriculture): Mr. Speaker, an announcement was made some time ago and the cheques have already been issued in the amount of something over 17 cents per pound, bringing the support price up to 45 cents. If the hon. member is asking whether it is the same as it was in the past, of course it is not as high as it was last year.

THE CANADIAN ECONOMY

FOREIGN OWNERSHIP—INQUIRY AS TO PUBLICATION OF REPORT

Mr. R. Gordon L. Fairweather (Fundy-Royal): Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask the Prime Minister whether he can assure us that the report of the task force on foreign ownership and economic nationalism, being chaired by his colleague, the Minister of National Revenue, will be made public and that it is not contemplated it will be in the form of an internal working document and thus be confidential?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): No, Mr. Speaker, I cannot give that assurance. The minister has told the House repeatedly that this was not properly a task force which would issue a report to be published. It was a working group within the department, assisted by others, which will submit recommendations to the government for study. What will be done then, beyond a policy announcement, will have to be known by the opposition in due course.

[Translation]

AGRICULTURE.

INTERPROVINCIAL MARKETING—STUDY OF ONTARIO LAW RESPECTING BROILERS

Mr. Roch La Salle (Joliette): Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the Minister of Justice a question.

In view of the reply he has just given, namely, that he is willing to study the validity of Quebec's legislation dealing with the establishment of inspection stations in the interest of egg producers, could he at the same time assure the House that he will also study the Ontario legislation concerning broiler producers particularly?

Hon. John N. Turner (Minister of Justice): Yes, Mr. Speaker.

[English]

HARBOURS

CHURCHILL—INSTALLATION OF EQUIPMENT TO HANDLE COARSE GRAINS AND OILSEEDS

Mr. Robert Simpson (Churchill): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Transport but in his absence