

*Inquiries of the Ministry***THE CANADIAN ECONOMY****DIFFERENTIAL IN CAR PRICES IN FAVOUR OF UNITED STATES PURCHASERS**

**Mr. David Orlikow (Winnipeg North):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce this question. When he makes that famous speech during the budget debate, will he indicate to the House why the assurance given for many years by the President of the Treasury Board that the difference in prices between Canadian and United States autos would disappear in time has not been realized?

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. The hon. member for Lachine on a supplementary.

**UNEMPLOYMENT—ALLEGED ATTITUDE OF GOVERNMENT IN PAST AS CAUSE**

**Mr. Raymond Rock (Lachine):** Mr. Speaker, this is a supplementary to the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce. In view of his statement which appeared in today's *Gazette* entitled "Ownership Bill to Get Tougher as Times Better"—

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. Will the hon. member ask the question directly. It is preferable to do it in this way rather than use an article or statement made outside the House.

**Mr. Rock:** I have to quote his words before asking the question, if I may be permitted to do so.

**Mr. Speaker:** That is irregular, but other questions have also been irregular on occasion.

**Mr. Rock:** In view of his statement in the *Gazette*, is the minister admitting that the government's past anti-attitude toward foreign investment caused much of the unemployment today?

• (1150)

**Hon. Jean-Luc Pepin (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce):** Mr. Speaker, I do not really think this is an actual quotation. It is a fabricated quote from things I said.

**Mr. Hees:** Misquoted again!

**Mr. Pepin:** My position on this from the beginning has been very clear. The government's decision was a wise and prudent one. I have emphasized that. I have also emphasized that we were exercising the normal qualities of politicians when we made that decision. We were conscious of the views of the provinces. We were aware of the views of industry in Canada—

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please.

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

**Mr. Hees:** Mr. Speaker is on his feet.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. We have to try to make some progress. The Chair will recognize one or two further supplementaries on this subject and return to the

[Mr. Speaker.]

matter later if there is time. Obviously we should not get involved in debate. If there is more and more debate there will be less and less questioning and answering. The hon. member for Lachine.

**Mr. Rock:** Was the government's anti-foreign attitude part of the plan to fight inflation by causing unemployment?

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. That of course is debate.

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**INDUSTRY****FURTHER INCENTIVE GRANT TO MICHELIN TIRE—DUTY-FREE ACCESS PERIOD—IMPACT OF GRANT ON EMPLOYMENT IN OTHER COMPANIES**

**Mr. Edward Broadbent (Oshawa-Whitby):** Mr. Speaker, I have a new question for the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce which he may be able to cover in his five-hour speech next week. In view of the fact the federal government has announced another \$8 million grant to the Michelin Tire Corporation, is the minister in a position to inform the House whether or not the date has been set for the three-year period in which that corporation is to have duty-free access to the tire market in Canada?

**Hon. Jean-Luc Pepin (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce):** Mr. Speaker, in view of the fact that this comes under the jurisdiction of the Minister of Finance I would not like to invade his area of jurisdiction. He will answer the question on the next occasion.

**Mr. Broadbent:** In view of the fact that the tire industry elsewhere in Canada outside the province of Nova Scotia is at present operating below capacity, have the minister and his officials considered the impact on unemployment elsewhere in Canada caused by making this grant?

**Mr. Pepin:** Yes, Mr. Speaker. I well understand what the hon. member is talking about. There are in this area developments that are shaping up, which everybody hopes will come to a conclusion that will be meaningful to the Canadian economy.

**Mr. Speaker:** The hon. member may ask one last supplementary on this subject and then we will go to another subject.

**Mr. Broadbent:** Is the minister aware of the fact that at least three presidents or vice-presidents of tire corporations in the province of Ontario have indicated complete disagreement with the statement he has just made?

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. The right hon. member for Prince Albert.