

NATIONAL DEFENCE

CANADA-U.S. PRODUCTION SHARING AGREEMENT— REQUEST FOR TABLING OF 1963 AGREEMENT ON MAINTENANCE OF DOLLAR BALANCE

Mr. J. M. Forrestall (Dartmouth-Halifax East): My question is directed to the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce. The day before yesterday, the minister attempted to respond to the right hon. member for Prince Albert who had asked him whether he would consider tabling the documents signed by the present President of the Treasury Board on June 7, 1963 with respect to production sharing, research and development with the United States, before he goes to that country this weekend?

Hon. Jean-Luc Pepin (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): By the way, I am still waiting for my \$10 bet multiplied by two from the hon. member for Prince Edward-Hastings.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Pepin: With regard to the question, there is a motion for the tabling of papers, motion No. 264 if my memory serves me well, which will provide an opportunity for the opposition, and the member who presented the motion, to demonstrate to the House and to the Canadian public that it would be in the national interest to table the document referred to now. I am waiting to hear these arguments.

Mr. Forrestall: A supplementary question. Do I gather from the minister's response that a secret document or secret understanding does exist between Canada and the United States with regard to the maintenance of the dollar balance, the exchange of arms and a research and development program?

Mr. Pepin: Mr. Speaker, the opposition is looking for leaks and secrets at the moment. I do not have to treat this as secret because it was fully reported in the House by the then Minister of Defence Production, now the President of the Treasury Board—

Mr. Forrestall: It was not.

Mr. Pepin:—on June 7, 1963. I will give the hon. member the page number in *Hansard*.

Mr. Forrestall: I read it.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member for Meadow Lake. Is the minister rising on a question of privilege?

Mr. Pepin: I rise on a question of privilege to defend the position of the President of the Treasury Board.

Mr. Forrestall: Defend your own position.

Mr. Pepin: Anyone who looks at *Hansard* for June 7, 1963—

Mr. Forrestall: I have.

Mr. Pepin:—will see—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. That is not a question of privilege. It is debate between a member and a minister.

Inquiries of the Ministry

The Chair has recognized the hon. member for Meadow Lake.

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AGRICULTURE

FEEDER CATTLE—REQUEST FOR INVESTIGATION OF DEATH OF ANIMALS IN TRANSIT AND COMPENSATION FOR OWNER

Mr. A. C. Cadieu (Meadow Lake): My question is for the Minister of Transport. In his absence, I will direct it to his Parliamentary Secretary. It concerns agriculture, but that minister is not present either. Out of two recent shipments of feeder cattle from Alberta, one of 700 head from Fort Macleod and the other approximately 900 head from Brooks, Alberta, by Canadian Pacific Railways, approximately two dozen head died. Agriculture officials checked and found that the animals did not die from any disease. The explanation of the CPR is that because of a heavy snowfall in Winnipeg, the cattle did not get enough feed, water and rest at that point. Is the minister investigating why these feeder cattle did not receive sufficient feed, water and care in Winnipeg, as a result of which they died en route to Toronto?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. Can we assume that the question has been asked? If the hon. member wants more information, he can ask a supplementary. The minister might be allowed to reply to the first part of the question.

Mr. Cadieu: A supplementary question. Will the minister ensure that the investigation is made public and that complete compensation will be provided to the owners?

Mr. Marcel Lessard (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Agriculture): Mr. Speaker, the department has recently been informed of this problem. We are investigating the whole matter. If necessary, we will make a report in the House in due course.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

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THE CANADIAN ECONOMY.

ALLEGED AGREEMENT OF UNITED STATES TO DEVALUE DOLLAR—REQUEST THAT CANADIAN DOLLAR CONTINUE TO FLOAT

Mr. T. C. Douglas (Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands): I wish to direct a question to the Minister of Finance. In doing so, may I welcome him back from the IMF conference in Rome. In view of the fact that reports from the conference indicate that the government of the United States may agree to devaluation of the American dollar by 5 per cent or more, will the minister assure the House that the Canadian government will not peg the Canadian dollar at its present level, but will allow it to float in accordance with the international currency market?

Hon. E. J. Benson (Minister of Finance): Mr. Speaker, a great many propositions were put forward in Rome and considered by the ministers of finance and governors of banks who were present. I stated our position quite clear-