

UNITED NATIONS

VOTE ON LEGALIZING POSSESSION AND USE OF
MARIJUANA—REASON FOR ALLEGED CANADIAN
ABSTENTION

Mr. Eldon M. Woolliams (Calgary North): Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask the Secretary of State for External Affairs whether a vote was taken yesterday or recently in the United Nations on the legalization of possession and use of marijuana, and if a vote was taken in the economic committee of the United Nations why did Canada abstain from voting?

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, I will have to ascertain whether those are the facts. I will take notice of the question.

Mr. Woolliams: When the minister is checking into the matter, will he ascertain whether all other nations voted against it while Canada abstained?

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TRADE

UNITED STATES DISC PROGRAM—POSSIBLE VIOLATION
OF CANADIAN CORPORATE BEHAVIOUR GUIDELINES
AND EXTENSION OF POLICY

Mr. Max Saltsman (Waterloo): Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask a supplementary question of the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce having regard to those corporations which have made applications under DISC. Has the situation been looked at in an attempt to determine whether these corporations have violated the good corporate behaviour guidelines laid down by that department, and is it intended to extend this policy whenever it is discovered that corporations are making applications under DISC?

Mr. Bruce Howard (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): Mr. Speaker, where we are aware of companies that have taken out DISC corporation status in the United States we have had discussions with some of them. I cite, for example, the automobile companies with which we have had discussions during the last two or three weeks. In so far as other companies are concerned, we are attempting to gather as much information as is possible under the circumstances and we are reviewing what action we can take in that regard. I would draw the hon. member's attention to the changes made in the budget which will make it possible for Canadian corporations to deal more effectively on a competitive basis with the DISC corporations in the United States.

Mr. Saltsman: Mr. Speaker, since so much of government policy is going to hinge on knowing which corporations have made applications for DISCs, can we get a firm answer from the parliamentary secretary on whether the corporate guidelines are going to include those corporations that have made such applications?

Mr. Howard (Okanagan Boundary): Mr. Speaker, I would have to take notice of that question.

*Inquiries of the Ministry*CANADA-UNITED STATES AUTO PACT—REQUEST FOR
ASSURANCE THAT SAFEGUARDS WILL NOT BE
ABANDONED

Mr. Edward Broadbent (Oshawa-Whitby): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a supplementary question to the Prime Minister. In view of the fact it is reported this morning in the business section of the *Globe and Mail* that the Under Secretary of the United States, Mr. Paul A. Volcker, has intimated that the United States government has not reviewed its trade proposals and does not intend to until after the forthcoming federal election in Canada, and in view of the claim there has been a deal made between the Prime Minister of this country and the President of the United States to give up the safeguards in the auto pact after the federal election, will the Prime Minister assure the House that, whatever else happens in respect of the auto pact negotiations, these production safeguards will not be abandoned after the next election?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I thank the hon. member for assuming that we will be here as a strong government after the next election.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

An hon. Member: That is a rhetorical suggestion.

Mr. Trudeau: I was, of course, referring to the hon. member of the NDP, but I know the Conservatives are nervous about this, Mr. Speaker.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

An hon. Member: Call it now.

Mr. Trudeau: But I do take exception to the implications or innuendoes in the question as asked. It seems to me that the facts as recited by the hon. member, which he says he got from the *Globe and Mail*, rather give the lie to the question asked by the former leader of the NDP when he assumed that we were dragging our feet. I wish the two members would get together.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The Chair will recognize the hon. member for a last supplementary question. We do have to get on as we are still on the first round of questioning.

Mr. Broadbent: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. I directed the question to the right hon. member for Mount Royal asking for his guarantee because I knew I need not ask for that from the hon. member for York South.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. G. W. Baldwin (Peace River): Mr. Speaker, perhaps I could ask a supplementary question to settle this matter. Will the Prime Minister make a statement in the House today or tomorrow on the question of the date of the general election?

Mr. Trudeau: Is this an urgent question of national interest, Mr. Speaker?

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!