Oral Questions

anti-foreign attitude that has become such an unhappy characteristic of the New Democratic Party.

Mr. Crosbie: Right on!

Mr. Langdon: Of course those were takeovers I was talking about which do not lead to new jobs but often to shutdowns and loss of jobs.

Mr. McCurdy: We can tell you about that in Windsor.

POSITION OF UNITED STATES CONGRESS

Mr. Steven W. Langdon (Essex-Windsor): Given the almost completely negative comments which have come from U.S. Senators and representatives yesterday and today, why does the Government think, even if it gets a deal with Mr. Baker and the administration, even in those circumstances, why does it think that Congress is likely to approve anything that comes out of that?

Mr. Crosbie: Nothing ventured, nothing gained.

Right Hon. Joe Clark (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, my colleague, the Minister of Transport has as usual put his finger on it precisely. Nothing ventured, nothing gained.

Mr. Broadbent: He has put his finger in it very often.

Mr. Clark (Yellowhead): Now, wait-

An Hon. Member: That's an original thought.

An Hon. Member: At least we try.

Mr. Clark (Yellowhead): Someone suggests it is an original thought. It is not a thought that has guided the policies of either the Liberals or the New Democratic Party on this issue. In both cases they have looked at the toughness of the Americans or they have looked at the complexity of the American system and they have said: "That is too much for poor little us". That is not what Canada is saying.

Mr. Broadbent: Poor little you, that's right.

Mr. Clark (Yellowhead): What Canada is saying, and what this Government is saying, is that this country was built by people who were prepared to take bold measures, who were prepared to take on tough challenges.

Mr. Broadbent: See what Sir John A. had to say about that.

Mr. Clark (Yellowhead): It was not built by people who run out of NATO, who run out of NORAD, who run away from the trade negotiations.

Some Hon. Members: Oh, Oh!

Mr. Clark (Yellowhead): You don't get anywhere that way, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Broadbent: This is a recorded announcement.

CAPE BRETON DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

STOCKPILING OF COAL—MINISTERIAL DIRECTIVE

Mr. Russell MacLellan (Cape Breton—The Sydneys): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Regional Industrial Expansion. On Wednesday the Minister said he had given a directive to the Cape Breton Development Corporation to stop the stockpiling of coal in the Whitney Pier area of Sydney. Yet the President of the corporation, Mr. Derek Rance, says the stockpiling is going to go ahead, and if he has to stop the stockpiling, he may have to close some mines. The Government appointed Mr. Rance as Chairman, and he is now ignoring the directives of the Government.

(1140)

Is the Minister going to allow Mr. Rance to continue to ignore these directives? Or can he assure us, and the people of Cape Breton, that the stockpiling will be stopped until proper pollution controls are put in place that are agreeable to the people of the area?

Hon. Robert de Cotret (Minister of Regional Industrial Expansion and Minister of State for Science and Technology): Mr. Speaker, as my hon. colleague knows, I have been following the developments of Devco very closely. I had to take a step which I guess no Minister ever really enjoys taking, that is, a ministerial directive to the Board of Directors to stop immediately the stockpiling of coal at Whitney Pier. I also asked in that letter for the Board of Directors to report back to me on how that would be done and within what delays.

I also very clearly mentioned that all environmental concerns that were raised at both the federal and provincial levels would have to be dealt with before any further resumption, if that should be required, occurred.

REQUEST FOR REMOVAL OF PRESIDENT

Mr. Russell MacLellan (Cape Breton—The Sydneys): Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank the Minister for that reply. Yesterday the Premier of Nova Scotia mentioned that a letter had been sent by the Board of Directors to the Minister. I would like to ask the Minister this. Does that letter contain a request from the Board of Directors that he remove Mr. Rance from his position as President of the Cape Breton Development Corporation? If so, what action is he going to take on that request?

Hon. Robert de Cotret (Minister of Regional Industrial Expansion and Minister of State for Science and Technology): Mr. Speaker, I have had a number of communications with Dr. MacNeil, the Chairman of the Board. I think that the content of those communications either in oral form or