

*Oral Questions*

consideration in part in the U.S. reaching this decision was Canadian regional development and fishery research programs which they regard as an unfair subsidy. Given that, is the Minister now telling the people of Canada that in order to get free trade with the U.S. we have to abandon all such programs which are essential to the development of this country?

**Right Hon. Joe Clark (Secretary of State for External Affairs):** Mr. Speaker, of course I am not saying that. No reasonable person would.

**Mr. Broadbent:** That is what the U.S. is saying.

**Mr. Clark (Yellowhead):** I suppose that if one were playing in the House of Commons the role of delivering paid political announcements for the Canadian Labour Congress, one might say that.

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

**Mr. Clark (Yellowhead):** But that is not the truth.

**Mr. Crosbie:** Bob White's Charlie McCarthy.

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

**Mr. Broadbent:** Mr. Speaker, I will take my stand with Canadian fishermen any day, wherever he may want to stand.

## FISHERY PROGRAMS INQUIRY

**Hon. Edward Broadbent (Oshawa):** Mr. Speaker, I was talking to representatives of the Canadian fishing industry this morning and I want to ask the Minister—

**An Hon. Member:** In Toronto.

**Some Hon. Members:** Oh, oh!

**Mr. Broadbent:** Yes. Believe it or not, fishermen from Atlantic Canada go to conventions in Toronto. It may surprise him but it does not surprise them.

**Mr. Crosbie:** They are pulling your chain, Ed.

**Mr. Broadbent:** Is the Minister saying that in order to meet free trade requirements, according to this U.S. ruling, Canadian fishermen have to get rid of fishery research grants and regional development programs? If he is not saying that, what is his position with the U.S.? Is he going to tell them their decision is wrong? Is he going to stand up for Canadian fishermen?

**Right Hon. Joe Clark (Secretary of State for External Affairs):** Mr. Speaker, one of the first decisions I had to make as Secretary of State for External Affairs was whether or not we would accede to an American request to delay for one year the application of an international court decision which was in the interests of Canadian fishermen. I said no, we would not delay justice for Canadian fishermen for a year.

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

**Mr. Clark (Yellowhead):** In that tradition of standing up for Canadian fishermen we are now examining all the details of this decision today. We are looking particularly at what aspects might be appealable under the GATT. If there are any, then Canada will appeal.

**Mr. Crosbie:** And we fought it all the way. Next smear.

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● (1425)

## THE ADMINISTRATION

## REPORT OF LOAN NEGOTIATED BY MINISTER'S WIFE

**Mr. Raymond Garneau (Laval-des-Rapides):** Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Regional Industrial Expansion. Through you, Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the Minister if he knew that his wife had successfully negotiated—

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, order!

**Mr. Garneau:** —negotiated a \$2.6 million loan free of interest for one year from a person closely associated with the company that had had major financial dealings with his Department.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order. Order, please. The last part of the question does make it in order.

**Hon. Erik Nielsen (Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of National Defence):** As the Prime Minister has just informed the House, he asked me this morning to look once again, personally, into the same matter that I looked into last April 7 in response to a question by the Member for Essex—Windsor. I met with the Assistant Deputy Registrar General and he assured me that the Minister had fully complied with the very exacting demands of the conflict of interest guidelines. Now, that is a fact. I do not know whether the hon. gentleman has taken the trouble to speak with the Assistant Deputy Registrar General himself, but were he to do so he would get that response from him.

[Translation]

INQUIRY CONCERNING DATE \$2.6 MILLION INTEREST-FREE  
LOAN WAS NEGOTIATED

**Mr. Raymond Garneau (Laval-des-Rapides):** Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary. It is quite simple: When did you find out that your wife had negotiated a \$2.6 million interest-free loan for the period of one year, through a person closely associated with the company with which your department does business? The question is quite straightforward. Just answer yes or no or give a date.

[English]

**Hon. Erik Nielsen (Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of National Defence):** First, what the hon. gentleman is raising is a matter with respect to conflict of interest, although he does