

UNITED STATES DISC PROGRAM—MEASURES TO OFFSET
IMPACT—POSSIBLE IMPOSITION OF COUNTERVAILING
DUTIES BY CANADA

Mr. David Lewis (York South): May I ask the minister this question. He has told us on a number of occasions that his department and the government are working on contingency plans to deal with any adverse impact of the United States DISC program. Is he now in a position to tell us what some of these plans may be and, in particular, whether the imposition of countervailing duties by Canada against United States imports through DISC is one of the measures being considered?

Hon. Jean-Luc Pepin (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): I thought the hon. member was present the other day when the Minister of Finance read the budget speech which is considered by most interested people as a good reaction to DISC and other export subsidies in other countries in a positive way.

• (1120)

Mr. Speaker: The Chair will recognize the hon. member for Oshawa-Whitby on a supplementary, then the hon. member for Champlain, and we will return to this matter later in the question period.

PROPOSED IMPOSITION BY UNITED STATES OF
COUNTERVAILING DUTY AGAINST CERTAIN MICHELIN
TIRES—SOURCE OF INITIATIVE

Mr. Edward Broadbent (Oshawa-Whitby): Mr. Speaker, my supplementary is addressed to the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce. Either the minister or the Minister of Finance said in the past seven days that he would try to find out who initiated the action in the United States against Michelin. Is the minister now in a position to inform the House what company or agency of government initiated this action in Washington.

Hon. Jean-Luc Pepin (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): No, Mr. Speaker, I am not in a position to say that. Besides, I think I should leave the matter to the Minister of Finance.

Mr. Broadbent: For the minister's information it was the Goodyear Corporation—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member was recognized for the purpose of asking a question, not to give information to the minister.

VIEWS OF OTHER TIRE COMPANIES ON DUTY-FREE
IMPORT

Mr. Edward Broadbent (Oshawa-Whitby): Has the minister received the views of the Goodyear Corporation, Uniroyal and the Dunlop Corporation, to name three firms located in Ontario and Quebec, on the Michelin case, especially concerning the right to give them tariff-free entry to the Canadian market during a limited period of time? If so, what were their views on that issue and what was the response of the government?

Inquiries of the Ministry

Hon. Jean-Luc Pepin (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): In a nutshell, Mr. Speaker, for a long period of time my department was trying to develop a tire plan that would incorporate some of the features of the Michelin arrangement by which certain types of tires could be imported free of tariff into Canada if more exports of certain other types of tires took place. For about a full year we tried to develop such a plan, but the companies were not particularly favourable to it. Discussions continued. We were hoping to come to some conclusions as a result of these discussions in view of the relative uncertainty accompanying the Michelin situation at this time, so we think we should hold off further discussions on the subject—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The minister said he would reply in a nutshell. It is a sizeable nut.

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[Translation]

SOCIAL SECURITY

DISCUSSION BETWEEN OTTAWA AND QUEBEC TO
CO-ORDINATE PROGRAMS

Mr. René Matte (Champlain): Mr. Speaker, I should like to put a question to the right hon. Prime Minister.

The clarifying statement made by the Prime Minister yesterday with regard to the Quebec government having convinced no one, does he intend to follow up his intentions in the near future by accepting to meet his opposite number in Quebec as well as minister Castonguay, with a view to reconsidering the federal government position concerning possible agreements in the field of social affairs?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I agree with the hon. member. The opinion I expressed yesterday convinced almost no one because the citizens of the province of Quebec were already massively convinced of what I said, except for a few scattered *créditistes* and separatists.

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[English]

DRUGS

LE DAIN COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION RESPECTING
MARIJUANA—COMMUNICATION WITH OTHER COUNTRIES
IN LIGHT OF CANADA BEING SIGNATORY TO
INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

Mr. Eldon M. Woolliams (Calgary North): Mr. Speaker, I should have liked to put my question to the Minister of Justice, the Solicitor General or the Secretary of State for External Affairs, but in their absence I shall ask it of the Prime Minister.

Mr. Nielsen: The Solicitor General is here.

Mr. Woolliams: Then he must have just entered the chamber, but I shall put it to the Prime Minister. In light of the fact that we are one of the signatories to the single convention on narcotic drugs, has there been any com-