

*Inquiries of the Ministry*

**Mr. Lewis:** Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. I do not care what part of the Bible the minister cites or quotes from but he might also read Shakespeare and learn that the evil that men do lives after them except that it is—

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. If the hon. member has a point of order, perhaps he might indicate what it is. We are obviously going nowhere fast.

**Mr. Lewis:** What I want to indicate, Mr. Speaker, is that when we ask questions of the minister he can make his childish political cracks if he likes—

**An hon. Member:** Order.

**Mr. Lewis:** —but he ought also to try to answer questions if, as the minister says so self-righteously, he is responsible.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. The hon. member for Peace River.

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**ELECTIONS****REQUEST THAT PROPOSED BILL ON EXPENSES BE SUPPLIED TO MEMBERS**

**Mr. G. W. Baldwin (Peace River):** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Acting Prime Minister or the acting government House leader. In light of the fact that the Prime Minister yesterday deliberately blurted out details of a bill which has just been approved in cabinet with regard to election expenses, can the Acting Prime Minister or the acting government House leader indicate when parliament will be allowed to see that bill? In view of the fact the Prime Minister said not long ago that the bill would not be presented because it would take too long to put through at this session, can any indication be given to the House of how much time the government intends to devote to the passage of this bill?

**Hon. Arthur Laing (Acting Prime Minister):** Mr. Speaker, the Prime Minister made note last night, I think, in a speech to a group of people that it was the intention of the government to bring forward a bill dealing with election expenses. He gave no details of any kind. I would expect that the bill would be presented to the House some time next week.

**Mr. Baldwin:** Could the Acting Prime Minister find out and let the House know soon how long it is expected it will take to pass this bill in light of the Prime Minister's statement and whether it is going to take priority over the legislation dealing with foreign investment?

**Mr. Laing:** Mr. Speaker, I would think that the length of time taken by the bill would depend upon the people who sit on the opposite side of the House.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. I recognize that there are supplementaries to the previous question. I was under the impression that the hon. member for Peace River was rising on a supplementary. Before returning to the previ-

[Mr. Speaker.]

ous subject the Chair will recognize the hon. member for Compton.

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[Translation]

**TRADE****VISIT OF JAPANESE INDUSTRIALISTS—ASSISTANCE TO CANADIAN BUSINESSMEN IN MAKING CONTACT**

**Mr. Henry Latulippe (Compton):** Mr. Speaker, I wish to put a question to the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce.

Since a group of Japanese are presently visiting Canadian cities to buy Canadian products or to study the possibility of associating with Canadian firms and develop products for markets, does the minister intend to resort to publicity to enable Canadian businessmen to meet these Japanese industrialists?

**Hon. Jean-Luc Pepin (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce):** Mr. Speaker, the executives of three important Japanese firms have been touring Canada and met industrialists with whom they hope to do business. I do not think that people in general are interested in meeting them but should there be any businessmen who have not yet been contacted they only have to advise my department and we will do our utmost to accommodate them. In any case, this is what is being done at the present time.

[English]

**ALLEGED LACK OF AGGRESSIVENESS IN MAKING SALES IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA—ACTION TO RECTIFY**

**Mr. H. W. Danforth (Kent-Essex):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce regarding the public criticism by Czech officials of our lack of sales aggressiveness as a nation in their country. Can the minister indicate whether there have been similar criticisms from other nations and whether the department is taking immediate steps to rectify this very serious situation?

• (1130)

**Hon. Jean-Luc Pepin (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce):** Mr. Speaker, you will never achieve perfection when it comes to eagerness in promotion. That kind of remark is often made and I have made some observations myself in the same vein. With respect to Czechoslovakia—I take it the hon. member is asking about Czechoslovakia—70 per cent of the trade of that country is with other socialist countries. The five-year plan anticipates that a little less than 50 per cent will be in that direction, so obviously the room for western industrial countries is limited. We are doing our best to promote Canadian goods there, especially with the new trade promotion measures announced recently. If the hon. member has any suggestions I will be delighted to look at them.

**Mr. Danforth:** As it is government policy to send representations and demonstrations to trade fairs and as Czechoslovakia has indicated that it would welcome such a presentation by Canadian industry in Czechoslovakia, will consideration be given to putting Czechoslovakia on the list?