

Oral Questions

program and hurt our ability to finance the Calgary Olympics? If so, has he been in touch with the United States Government to tell it to keep its hands off our programs?

Hon. Otto Jelinek (Minister of State (Fitness and Amateur Sport)): Mr. Speaker, first, this Government agrees with free enterprise and the opportunity for each country to do what it wants.

In the case of this specific coin program, I want to tell the Hon. Member that the United States is a little late because our coin program is well ahead of schedule. Our sales in the United States are only 17 per cent of the total program. Most of our sales come from Canada, Europe, and Asia. Therefore, I can assure the Hon. Member that the Olympic coin program in the United States will not harm our program. In fact, our program is already over the hump.

Mr. Angus: We on this side of the House recognize that part of the problem is the Government's belief in free enterprise. That is why you sold us out to the United States' Government.

CANADIAN POSITION

Mr. Iain Angus (Thunder Bay—Atikokan): Mr. Speaker, how many times will the Government give in to the United States and allow it to do whatever it wants without protecting the people of Canada and their interests? How many times?

Hon. Otto Jelinek (Minister of State (Fitness and Amateur Sport)): Mr. Speaker, I want to tell the Hon. Member and other Members a fact of life. We in Canada have been able to build the best facilities in the world for the Calgary Olympic Games. We will put on the best Winter Olympic Games in the history of the Olympic movement, and we are not protected by anyone. In fact this is a typical example of how Canada can benefit from a freer trade agreement with the United States.

* * *

TRADE

CANADA-UNITED STATES TRADE AGREEMENT—POLL RESULTS

Mr. William G. Lesick (Edmonton East): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for International Trade. It relates to the recent Decima poll on free trade as reported in *The Toronto Star* yesterday.

It says that 62 per cent of Canadians say that the free trade deal is better for Americans according to this survey, yet it says that only 44 per cent of Canadians know that we have signed a free trade agreement. There is a great deal of confusion.

Does he feel that the report was slanted in a way that might inadvertently mislead the Canadians to my left, and can he indicate that there are certain American interests who fear the

exact opposite, that Canadians have a better deal than the Americans?

Mr. John McDermid (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister for International Trade): Mr. Speaker, I read that article in one of those famous Canadian newspapers, *The Toronto Star*. Many of the figures in that particular survey were not reported. The good news was not reported.

For example, 70 per cent of Canadians believe that prices will be lower, 57 per cent of Canadians believe that as far as energy is concerned the free trade deal is a good one for Canada, and 51 per cent believe that there will be more jobs as a result.

I am not surprised that 62 per cent of Canadians think the Americans got the better of the deal today, but it is interesting to note that after this particular survey was taken we find that auto parts manufacturers in the United States, the energy industry in the United States, the AFL and CIO in the United States say that Canada got the best deal and they are opposed to it in the United States.

* * *

WAR CRIMINALS

STATEMENT BY FORMER ROYAL COMMISSIONER—LAYING OF CHARGES

Hon. Bob Kaplan (York Centre): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Justice. In light of the criticism by Royal Commissioner Mr. Justice Deschênes of the failure of the Government to advance its war criminal policy to the stage of laying charges, especially in the 20 cases that were identified for urgent action, what is going wrong and when can we expect some charges to be laid?

Hon. Ray Hnatyshyn (Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada): Mr. Speaker, I think Mr. Justice Deschênes was saying the same thing that so many Canadians have said. Naturally, there is an impatience with respect to a resolution to this matter due to the fact that the previous Government did virtually nothing. It was acknowledged by his Prime Minister in a meeting yesterday with a closed group of people that he had a lot to confess for as a good practising Catholic.

As far as we are concerned—

Mr. Nunziata: Shame on you!

Mr. Hnatyshyn: I believe we have in fact moved in this matter with resolve and disposition.

Ms. Copps: What does his religion have to do with anything?

Mr. Hnatyshyn: The Bill was proclaimed on October 30. This is November 5.