

welcome initiative and is being regarded by what I would describe as the allies as a genuine offer. It is being examined in detail in that light. Once that examination has been completed, a response will, of course, be made to the Soviet Union and it may be possible for me to say something more about it at that time.

Mr. Brewin: Mr. Speaker, will the minister, in light of the great importance of force reduction in the vital area of Europe, not only secure this information from his officials in Vienna or people who are connected with this reduction, but also make a statement to the House or, if the House is not sitting, make a public statement indicating what is happening, so that Canada can contribute to the fullest extent in this rather promising development?

Mr. Jamieson: Yes. Mr. Speaker, I will be very pleased to do that. I repeat that I do not know how soon an assessment and a response will be made, nor the channels that will be employed for that; but to the extent it is possible for me to do so, certainly I will make either the House or the public aware of what the developments are. I agree with the hon. member that this particular development is of very great importance.

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THE CANADIAN ECONOMY

"BUY CANADIAN" PROGRAM—LOTO CANADA PARTICIPATION

Mr. Paul Dick (Lanark-Renfrew-Carleton): Mr. Speaker, I should like to put a question to the Prime Minister. In view of the fact that the Government of Canada has embarked on a \$1.7 million program called "Buy Canadian", and in view of the fact that the Canadian government owns 53 per cent of Consolidated Computer Incorporated which wants to bid on the Loto Canada \$23 million award on computers, and considering that over 80 per cent could be manufactured in Canada if tenders had gone out to Canadian computer manufacturers, about which the Ontario government has already inquired, would the Prime Minister make an investigation to see whether or not the policy of his government and of Loto Canada cannot fall in line with the \$1.7 million program to buy Canadian, rather than buy from this American shell which has been set up in Toronto?

Hon. Marc Lalonde (Acting Minister of State for Fitness and Amateur Sport): Mr. Speaker, may I say, on behalf of the minister who is absent today and whom I replace as acting minister, that the minister gave a full answer to that question. But if the hon. member wishes to ask further questions on that subject matter, I will certainly be very happy to bring such questions to the attention of the minister who will be back next week and will answer them.

Oral Questions

VETERANS AFFAIRS

REVIEW OF VETERANS PENSIONS

Mr. William Knowles (Norfolk-Haldimand): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Veterans Affairs. Could he give a report on the progress of the review being undertaken by his department with respect to changes in the War Veterans Allowance Act and war disability pensions? In answering that question, could he say whether he intends to bring forward legislation to implement the suggested changes or direct that regulations be changed so that veterans who are presently disqualified and in severe financial straits might be relieved of their financial worries?

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Hon. Daniel J. MacDonald (Minister of Veterans Affairs): Mr. Speaker, in answer to the hon. member's question, let me say that the review in question has just been undertaken and is in progress. It will be a lengthy review: the act in question is 48 years old and it has been amended many times. But there is more work to be done on it. All this is done in consultation with veterans' organizations across the country. I expect only an interim report this fall.

So far as disability pensions are concerned, there is nothing under review in that respect. It would certainly be premature for me to indicate at this time that legislation will be forthcoming from that review until the studies are completed.

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AGRICULTURE

WOOL INCENTIVE PAYMENT PROGRAM—GATT NEGOTIATIONS

Mr. Doug Neil (Moose Jaw): Mr. Speaker, my question is to the Minister of Agriculture. A short time ago the minister was sent a brief by the Canadian Co-operative Wool Growers Limited expressing concern about the sheep and wool industry in Canada. Has the minister had an opportunity to study this brief and is he prepared to recommend a proposal to cabinet for a wool incentive payment program?

Hon. E. F. Whelan (Minister of Agriculture): Not at this time, Mr. Speaker, because the economic conditions so far as sheep production is concerned in Canada have been very good in the last ten years. The situation has not encouraged more production. It has been a money-making venture. Less people are going into wool production and more are going out of business, but not because they are not making money on it.

Mr. Neil: I doubt very much that the minister has read the brief. I should like to ask him another question with respect to the GATT negotiations. Can the minister advise the House whether or not the Canadian negotiator has or will be discussing the tariff structures of this industry with a view to parity?

Mr. Whelan: Mr. Speaker, not only did I read the brief, I met the representatives of the sheep growers association in my