

### Oral Questions

it is undermining its case by continuing the negotiations? You cannot do both things. When will the Government get its act together and start defending the lumber industry in Canada before we lose everything—the import duty, jobs, and the whole industry?

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. Some force in questioning is certainly acceptable, but I think endless argument is going too far.

**Hon. Pat Carney (Minister for International Trade):** Mr. Speaker, the only failure here is the failure of the Liberal Opposition to have a coherent position on free trade; they now have at least three.

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

**Miss Carney:** I again stress to you, Mr. Speaker, and to the House, the fact that the GATT rules provide for actively pursuing an issue and trying to settle it between the parties. If he knew more about the GATT, he would understand that. However, he and his Party understand nothing about international trade.

● (1430)

#### UNITED STATES PROPOSAL—REASONS FOR NON-ACCEPTANCE

**Mr. Steven W. Langdon (Essex—Windsor):** Mr. Speaker, we too have just received the statement by the Minister that an American proposal has been put forward and that it is unacceptable and cannot form a basis for discussion. I want the Minister for once to take the House and the country into her confidence and tell us why the American proposal is unacceptable and why she feels that it must be rejected at this stage.

**Hon. Pat Carney (Minister for International Trade):** Mr. Speaker, I can best answer that by again referring, as I have many times in this House, to the statement made at the First Ministers' Conference which said that the Canadian proposal met certain objectives, which included:

The provinces will retain their flexibility in determining stumpage pricing. A dangerous development in U.S. countervail policy will be avoided... Further conflict between the provinces will be avoided.

And most important, Mr. Speaker:

The ability of the provinces to determine their own natural resource management policies will remain unimpaired—U.S. regulatory authorities will not infringe Canadian sovereignty by policing provincial management practices.

**Mr. Benjamin:** Now, answer the question.

**Miss Carney:** That is what I have said repeatedly were our objectives, and I am now telling the Hon. Member that the American proposal does not meet them.

#### POSITION OF BRITISH COLUMBIA PREMIER

**Mr. Steven W. Langdon (Essex—Windsor):** Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the Minister a supplementary question. Since she has followed in her recent shifts and flip-flops the lead of

Mr. Vander Zalm of British Columbia, will she stand up here today and say that his efforts in this regard and his suggestions that we have now reached a tentative settlement, which could be announced almost immediately, have to be condemned as interference in the role of the federal Government in international trade?

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

**Mr. Epp (Provencher):** You always wanted the provinces involved.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. The Hon. Minister.

**Hon. Pat Carney (Minister for International Trade):** Mr. Speaker, I never heard a question in that statement made by the Hon. Member, as I think you are aware, and I am at a loss to answer. I think the Hon. Member is referring to some press reports quoting the Premier of British Columbia. The Premier has been in Cabinet all morning. I have been unable to speak to him to find out what, in fact, he did say.

\* \* \*

### GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURES

#### EXPENSES INCURRED HOSTING QUEBEC SUMMIT

**Mr. Don Boudria (Glengarry—Prescott—Russell):** Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Prime Minister. It concerns the most expensive rendition of *When Irish Eyes Are Smiling* in the history of mankind. Can the Prime Minister tell this House why he chose to spend \$2.6 million of taxpayers' money on a day and a half meeting while asking ordinary Canadians to make do with less and to pay more taxes? Is it not time that the Prime Minister stood up in this House and apologized to the people of Canada for this kind of spending orgy?

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

**An Hon. Member:** What is the question?

**Mr. Riis:** Nobody wants to answer it.

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

**An Hon. Member:** There is the butler.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. The Right Hon. Prime Minister. He may be able to find a question in that address.

**Right Hon. Brian Mulroney (Prime Minister):** Mr. Speaker, there is no question in that, but if my hon. friend thinks that I am going to apologize for conducting Canadian foreign policy in such a way as to build positive and constructive bridges to our friends and allies, you are mistaken. I do not owe you an apology for anything.

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