

*Oral Questions*

While American printing products flow across our borders free of any impediments, why does the Canadian government continue to shamelessly accept harassment of Canadian goods entering the American market? When will it begin to Canadian defend the interests of Canadian and the thousands of jobs in our Canadian printing industry?

**Hon. Michael Wilson (Minister of Industry, Science and Technology and Minister for International Trade):** Mr. Speaker, the rhetoric does not help the situation. My hon. friend should know that we have taken steps on an ongoing basis to help particular companies in Canada deal with the problems of getting into the United States.

There is a recent case involving the Eddy Match Company where Canadian officials went to bat for the company and got a very fast decision on this particular problem. The result was that the company's shipment was promptly released and sent to its destination in Canada.

We are working on it at the negotiating table as well as at the border.

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[Translation]

### THE CONSTITUTION

**Hon. Lucien Bouchard (Lac-Saint-Jean):** Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Prime Minister. The Minister responsible for Constitutional Affairs has just said that he has felt an overall momentum in this country toward the renewal of the Constitution which leads us to believe that the Beaudoin-Dobbie report to be tabled tomorrow would recommend that special powers be delegated to Quebec. But we already have the real answer. We heard it today: 92 per cent of English Canada has said no to a special status for Quebec. I would like to ask the Prime Minister if the results of this survey would match those hidden away in the Privy Council safes?

**Right Hon. Joe Clark (President of the Privy Council and Minister responsible for Constitutional Affairs):** Mr. Speaker, I hope that the hon. member has better sources to quote his short term and long term fans than a headline.

**Hon. Lucien Bouchard (Lac-Saint-Jean):** Mr. Speaker, never mind the closed door conferences with pre-

written scripts. Never mind the rhetoric and the smoke screens. What is important is what the real Canada thinks. How can the minister deny that this real Canada, outside Quebec, has rejected by a 92 per cent majority the idea of a special status for Quebec?

**Right Hon. Joe Clark (President of the Privy Council and Minister responsible for Constitutional Affairs):** Mr. Speaker, I for one have just taken an active part in a tour of the Saguenay home of the hon. member as well as in five national conferences. I know that the questions asked by the Gallup Institute can sometimes have shortcomings, but I also know that among the people who attended these five national conferences there was an open-mindedness about the future of Canada like never before. I sure hope that all the members of this House are prepared to encourage the people of Quebec to see Canada for what it is today, because what Canada is today is a country prepared to have a wide vision, a vision encompassing Quebec, as it is, within a modern Canada.

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[English]

### NATIONAL REVENUE

**Mr. Terry Clifford (London—Middlesex):** Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of National Revenue.

The deductibility of legitimate business expenses from taxes is a practice woven into the very fabric of Canadian society. I was shocked to learn, however, that some people including NDP members opposite actually believe escort services are legally tax deductible.

Can this be, Mr. Speaker? With all due respect to the world's oldest profession, have the escorts and their clients actually got off the hook? I ask the minister to clarify this and end the hysteria.

**Hon. Otto Jelinek (Minister of National Revenue):** Mr. Speaker, I obviously do not have the experience in this matter of the hon. member and members of the NDP. I know New Democrats are experts in this field.

**Some hon. members:** Oh, oh.

**Mr. Jelinek:** I am happy to have the opportunity, if we are referring to escort services as the New Democrats and the hon. member have just done, to say it is of a personal nature.