

*Inquiries of the Ministry***HEALTH****MOBILIZATION OF RESOURCES TO COMBAT  
CARDIOVASCULAR DISEASES**

**Mr. Stanley Haidasz (Parkdale):** Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct a question to the Minister of National Health and Welfare. In view of recent epidemiological studies which indicate that mortality and morbidity caused by heart disease and strokes have reached epidemic proportions, having taken the lives of 77,000 Canadians last year, I would like to ask the minister to inform the House whether he has any plans to mobilize all necessary resources and launch a national attack on cardiovascular diseases, Canada's number one killer?

**Mr. Speaker:** The hon. member will recognize that his question is somewhat wide in scope. If the minister can reply very briefly he will be allowed to do so, but normally the information sought should be given by way of a statement on motions.

**Hon. John C. Munro (Minister of National Health and Welfare):** I can reply briefly, Mr. Speaker. Yes, we are doing something to try to combat this disease, a very serious disease indeed. We are contributing over \$1.5 million to combat this disease through the Medical Research Council to various medical educators and scientists all across Canada. We also contribute in this area through the health resources fund. We are also sharing projects with the Heart Foundation to combat this disease.

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**TRADE****CANADA-UNITED STATES AUTO PACT—POSITION OF  
UNIONS AND COMPANIES ON RETENTION OF CANADIAN  
SAFEGUARDS—RECONCILING OF STATISTICS**

**Mr. H. W. Danforth (Kent-Essex):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct my question to the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce. As it now appears, or the impression is abroad, that the minister considers the two major Canadian safeguards in the United States-Canada auto agreement no longer of the major importance that they were when the pact was initiated, can the minister indicate whether this view is shared by the Canadian trade unions and the Canadian automobile corporations?

**Hon. Jean-Luc Pepin (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce):** Mr. Speaker, I know it is shared by the automobile makers, the manufacturers themselves. It is shared by all of them. I also know it is shared by many other people but they might not all say so in public.

**Mr. Danforth:** Since one of the main or apparent contentions is that the negotiations are based on a discrepancy between Canadian and United States figures regarding trade imbalance, has any progress been made between the two groups in reaching a common denominator in this respect?

**Mr. Pepin:** Mr. Speaker, my hon. friend is talking in terms of the trade balance in respect of merchandise in general, including automobiles, I assume. Efforts have been made in this regard. Mr. Stans, who was then secre-

[Mr. Trudeau.]

tary of commerce of the United States, came here a few months ago and we agreed on a procedure to be followed. Meetings have been held since and I am told that some degree of progress is being made in reconciling the statistics used on both sides of the border. I understand that if you look at exports and imports you have different sets of figures, and that efforts are being made to reconcile the differences and that certain progress is being made.

**Mr. Edward Broadbent (Oshawa-Whitby):** Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question to the previous question.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. The hon. member was recognized for the purpose of asking a supplementary to the question now before the House. If he has no supplementary at this time perhaps he could be recognized later. The hon. member for Selkirk has a supplementary question to the question now before the House.

**Mr. Broadbent:** A point of order, Mr. Speaker.

**Mr. Speaker:** Is the hon. member rising on a point of order?

**Mr. Broadbent:** Yes, simply to clarify the point that I meant that I had a supplementary to the first question asked by the previous speaker.

**Mr. Speaker:** The hon. member for Oshawa-Whitby.

**Mr. Broadbent:** In terms of clarifying what the minister said in reply to the question, is he saying he has had explicit support from the heads of the automotive companies for the government's original intention to give up the safeguards in the Canada-United States automotive agreement?

**Mr. Pepin:** No, Mr. Speaker. I was very careful to answer the precise question that the hon. member for Kent-Essex put to me. His question was: Is it recognized that the two formal safeguards have no direct effect any more on the economic decision-making process in the automobile industry, or words to that effect. That is as I understood it, and my answer was that this is generally recognized by the manufacturers and has been said to me on a number of occasions. Then I implied strongly that other people also believe that but they will not say so in public for other reasons.

**Mr. Broadbent:** A further supplementary question, Mr. Speaker.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order. I will recognize the hon. member for Oshawa-Whitby for a last supplementary on this subject. Immediately afterwards we will go on to the next matter and I will recognize the hon. member for Compton.

**Mr. Broadbent:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Is the minister aware that the president of at least one of these corporations and the president of one other major producer of automobiles, I understand, have gone on public record as opposing any change in these safeguards?

**Mr. Pepin:** Perhaps one of them who has a particular problem might have said so. Sometimes he needs one of the safeguards and does not need the other, and we have had to make adjustments to accommodate him. I am sorry that this is so complicated. In his particular case he may