

the world have joined in asking the United States to remove the surcharge and not to proceed with the other protectionist measures it is contemplating.

Mr. Lewis: I have no doubt that urging will go on, Mr. Speaker, but I was wondering whether there was any discussion at the meeting of ministers of particular steps that could be taken by the rest of the world to counter the American protectionist policies. In relation to that, would the Secretary of State for External Affairs also tell the House why the communiqué refers to the fact that "the stability and growth of the United States economy is vital to international stability and economic growth", without reference to the fact that the same is true for the economies of Europe and other parts of the world?

Mr. Sharp: I would have assumed, Mr. Speaker, that all countries of the world and nearly all politicians would agree it is important that such an important economy as that of the United States should be stable and prosperous—

Mr. Lewis: Any more important than Japan?

Mr. Sharp: That must be very helpful to all of us. That is not to say that we do not want Europe and Japan to be prosperous.

Mr. Woolliams: How generous can you be?

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THE CANADIAN ECONOMY

FOREIGN OWNERSHIP—INQUIRY AS TO STATEMENT ON GOVERNMENT POLICY

Mr. David Lewis (York South): Mr. Speaker, we are grateful to the Secretary of State for External Affairs for his generosity about Europe and Canada but I would now like to address a supplementary to the Prime Minister. In view of the fact that the present economic situation in Canada is the result of American policies and emphasizes the vulnerability of the Canadian economy because of foreign ownership of a large part of it, may I ask the Prime Minister what stage of development the government's policy on foreign ownership has reached and whether we can expect some statement of government policy in this field very soon?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, this is at an advanced stage and we expect to have a report fairly soon. I might point out to the hon. member, however, something that he will realize, that even if there were no foreign investment in Canada and if we were in a position of trading 25 per cent of our GNP with the Americans, we would still be facing this difficulty.

Mr. Lewis: A supplementary, Mr. Speaker—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The Chair will recognize the hon. member for a last supplementary at this time and then recognize the hon. member for Abitibi. The hon. member for York South.

Mr. Lewis: Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary which follows from the Prime Minister's lecture on economics. I

Inquiries of the Ministry

should like to ask the Prime Minister whether he is seriously suggesting that if our economy was not so largely owned and controlled by American corporations the present state of our export trade would exist?

Mr. Trudeau: When I was a teacher, Mr. Speaker, that was called a rhetorical question.

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[Translation]

CRIMINAL CODE

RE-ESTABLISHMENT OF CAPITAL PUNISHMENT

Mr. Gérard Laprise (Abitibi): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Minister of Justice.

Considering the frightening increase in crime and homicides in Canada, does the government intend to bring forward some legislation soon to re-introduce the death penalty for murderers?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I missed part of the question, but if it refers to the impending announcement of a new program, the answer is no. The government knows of course that the legislation was adopted for a five-year period and before it expires we shall be ready to state the government's position for the renewal or repeal of the legislation.

● (2:30 p.m.)

Mr. André Fortin (Lotbinière): Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary. Can the right hon. Prime Minister tell us whether during the period of application of the law, it will be constantly under review in order to ascertain whether it is truly meaningful?

Mr. Trudeau: Mr. Speaker, the reply is that studies have been carried out and are certainly regularly updated since the government, when making its decision, must take sociological facts into consideration.

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[English]

NATIONAL SECURITY

PROVISION OF OPPORTUNITY TO DEBATE ROYAL COMMISSION REPORT—STATUS OF CERTAIN CABINET OFFICIALS

Mr. Eldon M. Woolliams (Calgary North): Mr. Speaker, may I direct a question to the Prime Minister. Would the Prime Minister be prepared now to set a day aside, as he promised, for a debate on security and, in particular, debate on the report of the commission in reference to security matters, which up to now has not taken place.

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, this is not unlike the question about the day to be set aside for abortion, which was asked some days ago by a member of the New Democratic Party. My answer is much the same. We have not in this session been able to advance all the legislation and the policies that the government announced in the Speech from the Throne and throughout the session. It should be obvious to hon. members that we are running short of time. We have already