

*Inquiries of the Ministry*

Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs. Could the minister advise the house what progress he has made with the provinces in arriving at an agreement in regard to a national securities commission, and when does the minister envisage that this house will be given either a white paper or an indication of the legislation to establish this commission?

**Hon. Ron Basford (Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs):** Mr. Speaker, we are considering our position and having some discussions with the provinces. I hope to make some definitive statement after I have had some discussions with the government during the course of the summer.

## HEALTH AND WELFARE

## MEDICARE—CONGRATULATIONS TO ONTARIO UPON ACCEPTING PLAN

**Mr. Andrew Brewin (Greenwood):** Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Prime Minister. I wonder whether he could convey to the Premier of Ontario the congratulations of this house or of the government on his sudden and spectacular conversion to the federal medicare plan, especially in light of his recent description of it as the greatest Machiavellian fraud ever perpetrated on the Canadian people.

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

## EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

## MAINLAND CHINA—REPORTED NEGOTIATIONS RESPECTING CANADIAN DIPLOMATIC RECOGNITION

**Hon. George Hees (Prince Edward-Has-tings):** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Prime Minister.

**Some hon. Members:** Hear, hear.

**An hon. Member:** Make sure you face the camera.

**Mr. Hees:** Mr. Speaker, I always wait until the applause dies down. I have just given the cameraman a sign and I will now ask my question.

My question is to the Prime Minister. In view of the statement made in Stockholm yesterday which was given wide publicity in the news this morning—I am sure that the Prime Minister is thoroughly familiar with it—that a good deal of hard bargaining is

[Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West).]

expected by the Secretary of State for External Affairs in the negotiations between Canada—

**Some hon. Members:** Hear, hear.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. Will the hon. member now put his question.

**Mr. Hees:** Yes, Mr. Speaker, now the picture has been taken I can relax and ask my question. In view of this hard bargaining that the Secretary of State for External Affairs expects in these negotiations, does the government expect that Canada will have to pay a high price for the privilege of recognizing Communist China?

**Mr. Speaker:** Order. I wonder whether the question as asked by the hon. member does not have argumentative overtones?

**Mr. Hees:** Then I will ask a supplementary question, Mr. Speaker, which is not argumentative at all.

**Mr. Bell:** They might take another picture.

**Mr. Hees:** May I ask the Prime Minister by way of a supplementary question whether the government is examining the report which has been widely circulated today that Communist China is going to demand that Canada accept in the future a large quantity of textiles each year as the price for allowing China to be recognized by this country?

**Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister):** Mr. Speaker—

**Some hon. Members:** Hear, hear.

**Mr. Hees:** Turn the other way, Pierre.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. The Prime Minister should now address the Chair.

**Mr. Trudeau:** Mr. Speaker, I am not sure if I can remember the answer, let alone the question. I think perhaps there is a link between the question the hon. member asked and the question of the hon. member for Greenwood (Mr. Brewin). If I were to congratulate all those who have been converted to the governments' point of view I should have little time for anything else.

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

**Mr. Hees:** The Prime Minister should hire some new speech writers to write some new speeches.