

*Inquiries of the Ministry*

**Mr. Douglas:** Mr. Speaker, may I ask a further supplementary question. The minister did not answer my question. I am wondering if the minister would say whether the press reports are correct, indicating that the Canadian government only agreed to give increased aid to India as a result of pressure from the United States government.

**Mr. Martin (Essex East):** Mr. Speaker, I thought I had answered that question by indicating that before the meeting with the United States authorities, the Prime Minister of Canada had announced in this house Canada's intention to make available this further assistance. I may say categorically that it was not as a result of any pressure brought on Canada but was a recognition by Canada of its responsibilities to assist that commonwealth country.

**Mr. Ron Basford (Vancouver-Burrard):** Mr. Speaker, may I direct a supplementary question to the Secretary of State for External Affairs relative to food aid to India. As a long term solution will the government consider giving to India technical and financial assistance for population studies and control if the same is requested by the government of India?

**Mr. Speaker:** This seems to be a hypothetical question. It cannot be accepted.

**Mr. Basford:** Ten o'clock, Mr. Speaker.

**FINANCE**

**TABLING OF AIDE MEMOIRE ON  
U.S. GUIDE LINES**

On the orders of the day:

**Hon. Paul Martin (Secretary of State for External Affairs):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to table the text of our representations of January 14 to the United States government regarding the proposed S.E.C. regulations on securities traded over the counter in the United States, as they may affect Canadian companies.

Since then we have had further discussions with United States authorities on this matter. There was a thorough exchange of views on this question at the meeting of the joint Canada-United States ministerial committee earlier this month. On that occasion the United States secretaries assured us that the most careful consideration would be given to working out mutually satisfactory arrangements. In the meantime I understand that the United States authorities do not expect Canadian companies to register.

[Mr. Martin (Essex East).]

I should like to table the aide memoire, Mr. Speaker.

**Mr. Speaker:** Does the minister have leave to table the document to which he has just referred?

**Some hon. Members:** Agreed.

[Translation]

**HEALTH AND WELFARE**

**QUEBEC—DEATHS ATTRIBUTED TO  
BEER DRINKING**

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. Réal Caouette (Villeneuve):** I should like to direct a question to the Minister of National Health and Welfare. Would he be in a position today to tell the house whether the federal government investigators have finally discovered what beer company or brewery is responsible for the deaths of hundreds of people in the cities of Quebec and Trois-Rivières?

[English]

**Hon. A. J. MacEachen (Minister of National Health and Welfare):** Mr. Speaker, the investigation is still continuing into what is alleged to be the relationship between the consumption of beer and an obscure heart disorder. At present the investigation has been unable to establish a direct relationship between the consumption of the suspected beer and the cases of heart failure which have been established. Other factors not yet identified may be involved in these cases, and under these circumstances I should not be justified in directly associating these cases with the consumption of beer, and I should certainly not be justified in naming the firm responsible for the production of the suspected beer until further investigation is completed.

[Later:]

[Translation]

**Mr. Caouette:** Mr. Speaker, I wish to put a supplementary question to the minister. Will he inform the house as soon as he receives a report from his investigators who are now in Quebec?

[English]

**Mr. MacEachen:** Yes, Mr. Speaker.

[Translation]

[Later:]

**Mr. Gilles Grégoire (Lapointe):** Mr. Speaker, may I ask the Minister of National Health and Welfare a supplementary question? Could he tell us whether the inspectors