

In view of the fact that the minister has failed in his efforts to improve the situation, will he now take the only step available to him regarding the auto pact, that is, to terminate this obsolete, inadequate and unfair agreement as soon as possible and, at the same time, begin negotiations on a new deal which would be more equitable to this country? Surely we cannot continue to live in the auto industry with that auto pact, losing over \$4 billion a year.

Hon. Herb Gray (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce and Minister of Regional Economic Expansion): Madam Speaker, the record for the period since the auto pact was signed shows very substantial increases in employment over the employment levels at the time the pact was signed, and very substantial increases in investment and production, both in finished vehicles and parts, including very substantial increases in production. The general consensus of those observing the pact has been that, although there are problem areas that have to be addressed, on balance it has worked well for Canada. Because we recognize the various problems that have been identified, we have begun consultations with the United States about improvements in areas that are of concern to us. My colleague, the Minister of State for International Trade, and myself intend to pursue these consultations over the coming months.

INCREASE IN IMPORTATION OF JAPANESE MANUFACTURED AUTOMOBILES

Mr. Otto Jelinek (Halton): Madam Speaker, this is incredible. Is the minister trying to tell us that he is satisfied with the results of the Canada-U.S. auto pact? I would like to have him tell that to the million unemployed Canadians, the unions, the industry, the auto parts manufacturers who are suffering as a result of the inaction by the minister. I have a supplementary question.

Figures also released today by Statistics Canada indicate a 25 per cent decrease in Canadian-made auto parts sold to Japan. Last year the minister said there would be an increase. It is down to \$6.6 million, while Japanese automotive imports skyrocketed by 75 per cent to \$1.5 billion in 1981. Will the minister now seriously stop fiddling around with consultations and so on and make two major demands of the Japanese if they want to continue with their bonanza sales in Canada. First, increase substantially the Canadian content in Japanese vehicles as many other western industrialized countries have done. Second, encourage Japanese investment in Canada along the lines of the Volkswagen situation. That is not too much to ask.

Madam Speaker: Order.

Hon. Herb Gray (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce and Minister of Regional Economic Expansion): Madam Speaker, I have said before in this House that I like to think the arrangement we negotiated with Volkswagen, calling for a very substantial level of Canadian content, much higher than that required for motor vehicle assemblers, as well as very

substantial purchases from independent parts suppliers, will be a harbinger of similar arrangements with other companies in future.

At the same time I want to tell the hon. member that, in the discussions with Japan on arrangements with respect to restraint of exports which have just begun, the Minister of State for International Trade and myself will ensure that our officials bring very clearly to the Japanese the fact that our economy continues to be in a difficult situation and that the recovery of the North American market for automotive vehicles has not taken place to the extent foreseen prior to this year, and that the kinds of concerns I have mentioned, and which have been echoed by my hon. friend, are very much the kinds of concerns we expect to be taken into account in the response by the Japanese.

* * *

ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE

RCMP ASSISTANCE TO WIFE OF CONVICTED MURDERER, CLIFFORD OLSON

Hon. Allan Lawrence (Durham-Northumberland): Madam Speaker, last week in the House the Solicitor General was very definite in his reply to me that no other benefits or considerations had been given by the RCMP in respect of the Olson matter. I would therefore like to ask the Solicitor General if he was misleading the House, or did he simply not know that the RCMP have offered Mrs. Olson false identity papers, that the RCMP have offered Mrs. Olson full transportation and relocation expenses anywhere in Canada and, in fact, the RCMP drive Mrs. Olson in an RCMP car with an RCMP driver when she visits Okalla prison to see her husband, wait for her, and then drive her home. Are these matters referred to in the agreement which the minister so far has refused to table in the House?

Hon. Bob Kaplan (Solicitor General): Madam Speaker, I want to repeat what I said to the House before on this subject and what I said outside.

Mr. Fraser: Which version?

Mr. Kaplan: There is a sensitive criminal investigation which is ongoing right now, today. I do not think it would be in the public interest for me at this time to give any answers to those questions or any details of arrangements that are being discussed and possible arrangements and allegations of arrangements between the attorney general of British Columbia and his people and "E" Division of the RCMP involving other possible criminal activities of Clifford Olson.

Mr. Lawrence: Madam Speaker, before I ask my supplementary, I feel obliged to point out to the Solicitor General that these matters are not involved in any ongoing criminal investigation with respect to Olson or any other accomplice.