

copies of the statement he tabled to the opposition parties. What the minister sent was sent to my office, which is the usual practice, but he simply sent the statement he has read to the House. I call that to his attention. He did not send me a copy of what he has tabled, although obviously he is sincerely under the impression that he did so.

Mr. Andras: The Leader of the Opposition is quite right. If he did not get a copy of the statement I tabled, that was an error or misunderstanding on my part. I thought I sent both the statement I read and the statement I tabled.

* * *

TRADE

STATEMENT ON GATT MEETING IN TOKYO—TABLING OF DECLARATION OF MINISTERS

Hon. Alastair Gillespie (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): Mr. Speaker, I should like to make a brief statement on the Tokyo Declaration to which Canada is a signatory. The Tokyo Declaration officially opens the seventh round of multilateral trade negotiations conducted under GATT. These negotiations will be of unprecedented scope covering both tariffs and non-tariff measures which restrict or distort trade in industrial and agricultural products. The negotiations will include the first systematic and comprehensive attempt to reduce or eliminate non-tariff measures and bring such measures under more effective international discipline.

As a result of Canadian efforts the negotiations will also include, for the first time, a systematic examination of the possibilities of reducing or eliminating all barriers to trade in selected commodity sectors. These negotiations hold out the promise of potential benefits larger than those achieved in any previous negotiation. For these reasons the Tokyo Declaration is a very important document, and the fact that representatives of 102 countries assembled to consider and approve it provides ground for believing that this venture will succeed.

Pursuant to Standing Order 41(2) I should like to lay on the table of the House, in both official languages, the Declaration of Ministers approved by 102 countries at the GATT meeting in Tokyo last week.

Hon. Paul Hellyer (Trinity): Mr. Speaker, first of all I should like to welcome the minister back from the GATT meeting in Tokyo where he participated at the kick-off of the new round of negotiations. I am sure he is as aware as anyone that the goal posts are still far removed and that a good deal of tough bargaining is going to be necessary if we are to achieve a satisfactory result by 1975.

With the philosophy of further liberalization of world trade this party is profoundly in accord. Certainly no country is more dependent on world trade than Canada. No country exports as large a proportion of its national output as Canada. Therefore no country is as vulnerable to the results of world trade negotiations as Canada.

This is particularly significant at the moment when the world seems to be dividing itself into trading blocs, when Canada, if we are not careful, could be excluded from ready access to the great international markets of the

Trade

world and when, if we are to be successful and develop fully the talents we have in this country and the high technology industries, we will have to ensure that we have access to the great, powerful, industrialized markets in other countries, including, of course, the European bloc, the United States and Japan.

Probably the Japanese challenge is the greatest of all, Mr. Speaker, and it is reassuring to know that non-tariff barriers are to be attacked as well as the tariffs themselves. It is rather discouraging to look at the results for last year and to realize that less than 3 per cent of Canada's exports to Japan last year were in fully finished products. I hope the minister used the opportunity that was available to him in Tokyo to impress upon the Japanese the necessity not only of balancing our trade fully but also of guaranteeing that within a reasonable period of time, perhaps three or four years, fully half of Canada's exports to that country will be in the form of fully finished products. The minister is going to have to develop considerable backbone if he is going to achieve this and he is going to have to talk tough to the Japanese. I would encourage him in this regard. Certainly this is one of the greatest potential markets in the world for Canadian products, and any failure on his part will not be well received by the Canadian people. If I may make one suggestion, Mr. Speaker, it would be that the minister consider building a permanent facility in Tokyo which could be used by Canadian manufacturers to show the products we have in this country and which would enable Canadians to expand substantially their exports of manufactured products to Japan.

It is equally important that we tackle vigorously the non-tariff barriers to our agricultural products in the European community. Here our interests seem to lie very much along the same lines as those of our American neighbours. The minister and his officials should work very closely with the Americans in putting all possible pressure on the European community to lower the barriers that now exist in order to give reasonable access to Canadian farmers for their products.

One further point which I think deserves emphasis is that in working out the new agreement there would be a determination to pay special attention to the needs and aspirations of the developing countries. They should be given a chance to participate more fully in world trade and earn for themselves the foreign exchange necessary to buy capital equipment and other products they require to develop their own economies.

This is welcome news, Mr. Speaker, but I think the final point that must be made is that no amount of success in these trade negotiations will achieve the results required unless at the same time we can achieve a tremendous improvement in international monetary arrangements. I would hope that the minister would press his colleague, the Minister of Finance (Mr. Turner), to go to the International Monetary Fund with some fresh thinking. Information already available would indicate that perhaps we might fall into the trap of repeating the mistakes that were made at Breton Woods in 1944. It does not matter what the tariff arrangements are or what the conclusions are in respect of non-tariff barriers if we have an interna-