

Inquiries of the Ministry

ments we are working on we are improving as long as they are in front of us, and we will continue to do so until we feel they are ready to be made public.

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[Translation]

INDUSTRY

SHOES—MEASURES TO ASSIST MANUFACTURERS

Mr. Léonel Beaudoin (Richmond): Mr. Speaker, may I ask the Prime Minister a question.

In view of the report by the Shoe Manufacturing Association that 50 per cent of the shoes sold in Canada in 1971, or 39 million pairs, were imports, and in view of the fact that countries exporting these shoes pay salaries 10 per cent lower than in Canada, would the Prime Minister tell whether the government intends to take measures in order to save the shoe manufacturing industry in Canada?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I think that this subject was referred to on a few occasions by the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce. I shall ask him to take note of the question and see if he can provide an answer.

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● (1440)

[English]

GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATIONREQUEST FOR REPORT ON INVESTIGATION INTO
LEAKING OF CABINET DOCUMENTS

Hon. George Hees (Prince Edward-Hastings): Mr. Speaker, will the Prime Minister bring the House up to date on the results of the investigation started more than three months ago into cabinet leaks following some six or seven cabinet leaks that happened in rapid succession at that time, particularly in view of the fact another leak has occurred in the past couple of days making it very obvious that this is an unsatisfactory way of making public policy known to the people?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Yes, Mr. Speaker, I agree that this is a very unsatisfactory way of making policy known, especially before it has become policy. On the substance of the question, yes, I can bring the House up to date. We are not yet in a position to lay any charges for these criminal acts.

Mr. Hees: Does the Prime Minister expect to be able to lay charges in the near future?

Mr. Trudeau: That, Mr. Speaker, depends on whether or not we find the culprits.

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GOVERNMENT PROPERTYVANCOUVER—BRITISH COLUMBIA LEGISLATURE RESOLUTION
CONCERNING CERTAIN NATIONAL DEFENCE
LAND—GOVERNMENT POSITION

Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Prince Albert): My question is directed to the Prime Minister. I am glad to see

[Mr. Trudeau.]

him smiling after his experience in the past few minutes. My question has to do with a resolution passed unanimously by the legislature of the province of British Columbia on a motion by the Hon. Grace McCarthy, Vancouver-Little Mountain constituency, Minister without Portfolio in the Bennett cabinet, and seconded by Pat McGeer, the leader of the opposition.

An hon. Member: The leader of the Liberal party.

Mr. Diefenbaker: The resolution asks the British Columbia government to arrange the purchase from the federal government of 38 acres of Jericho DND land north of Fourth Avenue earmarked for development, to buy it at the 1947 purchase price of around \$2,500 per acre and to make said land available to the public at a nominal rate for park purposes. As this motion had the support of all three parties in the British Columbia legislature and is of tremendous interest to the city of Vancouver, will the Prime Minister say what he has in mind with reference thereto?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I would want to defer on the details of this matter to the Minister of National Defence under whose jurisdiction it falls. If the right hon. member is referring to the piece of property which is in my mind, my recollection is that there was an agreement with the proper authorities in British Columbia to turn over, which we did, part of the DND land to the city and the province so they could develop it into a park and the remainder would be used for other purposes. I do not know if the right hon. member is now suggesting they have changed their minds and are trying to get something for nothing, but I will ask the minister to look into it.

Mr. Diefenbaker: Mr. Speaker, I am sure the government of British Columbia, or the leader of the opposition who belongs to the Liberal party and is a strong adherent, would not be asking for any change. I know some of the British Columbia members are anxious that something be done in this connection. Will the Prime Minister look into this matter with a view to deciding whether or not the request of the British Columbia legislature will receive attention?

Mr. Trudeau: Of course, Mr. Speaker, it will be considered. I believe there is even correspondence on this subject. I might tell the right hon. member that the attitude of the government in this regard is no different from that taken in other instances. I know of governments in other provinces, indeed, Liberal governments, which at times have sought to get pieces of federal government property free. We always said it was in the interests of the federal taxpayers, about whom the hon. member for Edmonton West is so concerned—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

Mr. Trudeau: —that we should get money for them.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I wonder whether we are not getting into debate.