

*Inquiries of the Ministry*

that is their business, but I did express the opinion of the government.

**Mr. Max Saltsman (Waterloo):** Is the minister telling the House that if the banks do not respond to his request he does not intend to take any action?

**Mr. Benson:** After all, I did not intend to threaten the banks. They express their opinions on our policies from time to time and I think I have the right to express our opinions on their policies.

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

**Mr. S. J. Korchinski (Mackenzie):** Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question for the Minister of Finance. In his discussions with the chartered banks, was it indicated to the minister that the banks might be better disposed to reduce interest rates at the close of the Canada Savings Bond campaign?

**Mr. Benson:** No, Mr. Speaker, that was not the case. I simply indicated my views to the heads of the chartered banks and they said that they would take them under consideration.

**Mr. Saltsman:** A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. In order to clarify this important matter, may I ask the Minister of Finance whether, in the event that the chartered banks do not act in the best interests of the country, the minister intends to take action on behalf of the people of Canada—

**Mr. Speaker:** Order. The hon. member will appreciate that the question as asked is hypothetical.

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**AIR TRANSPORT****POWER TO ISSUE ORDERS UNDER AERONAUTICS ACT TO CONTROL ILLEGAL OPERATIONS**

**Mr. James A. McGrath (St. John's East):** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Transport. I hope Your Honour will be a little indulgent as my question is rather involved. Does the minister plan on introducing an amendment to the Aeronautics Act to cover a loophole in the regulations arising out of a Supreme Court ruling in 1968 that the Air Transport Committee did not have the power under the Act to issue orders, with the result that today illegal air transport operations are cutting into the revenues of licensed carriers? If so, does the minister intend to give this matter the urgent priority it deserves?

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. I am quite prepared to be indulgent, and since the hon. member has gone to all the trouble of asking the question perhaps the minister should be given an opportunity to answer it.

**Hon. Donald C. Jamieson (Minister of Transport):** Mr. Speaker, I will attempt to keep my answer as short as possible. This matter has been known to us for some

[Mr. Benson.]

time. There have been consultations with the Air Transport Association members and their executives, and also with representatives of the CTC. If it is deemed that amendments to the Act are necessary in order to correct the situation, I will proceed in the manner suggested by the hon. member.

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**NATIONAL SECURITY****WAR MEASURES ACT—LEGALITY OF FINGERPRINTING OF THOSE ARRESTED**

**Mr. Andrew Brewin (Greenwood):** Mr. Speaker, in the absence of the Minister of Justice I shall address my question to his Parliamentary Secretary. Inasmuch as it appears that all those who have been arrested under the regulations passed under the War Measures Act have been fingerprinted and photographed, whether charged with any offence or not, will the minister call to the attention of the authorities concerned that fingerprinting is not authorized either under the War Measures Act or the Identification of Criminals Act?

**Mr. Albert Béchard (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Justice):** Mr. Speaker, I shall be very glad to put that question to the minister.

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[Translation]

**ST. LAWRENCE SEAWAY****REPAYMENT OF DEBT—CARR REPORT**

**Mr. Gérard Laprise (Abitibi):** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Transport.

In view of his statement on June 23 last that a very comprehensive study was being made on the reimbursement of the St. Lawrence Seaway debt, I would ask him whether that study is still under way and whether a report thereon will soon be tabled in the House.

[English]

**Hon. Donald C. Jamieson (Minister of Transport):** Mr. Speaker, I indicated to the House a couple of weeks ago, I believe it was, that we were awaiting the final report of an organization known as Carr and Associates, the report being a comprehensive study of all aspects of the seaway operation. That report was received during the past two or three days and the officials are studying it. I have asked for a summary to be prepared as quickly as possible, and on the basis of that we will then decide what the next steps are going to be.

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**INDUSTRY****INCENTIVES TO INCREASE PRODUCTIVITY**

**Hon. George Hees (Prince Edward-Hastings):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to address my question to the