Inquiries of the Ministry

of the royal commission inquiring into administration of justice in the Northwest Territories, which very pointedly emphasizes the lack of justice for some of the people in the territories who are subjected to the processes of law there?

Right Hon. P.-E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I believe this report was submitted some months ago to the Department of Justice, if I am thinking of the same report as the hon. member. If I recall correctly, the matter that the commission had been set up to deal with has been settled, but I will gladly check into the over-all principles raised by the report to see whether any action should be contemplated by this house.

BROADCASTING

EXTENT OF U.S. CONTROL OF NEWFOUNDLAND FIRM

On the orders of the day:

Mr. John Lundrigan (Gander-Twillingaie): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Secretary of State. Will the minister request the Canadian Radio Television Commission to examine closely the degree to which ownership or effective control of the firm Stephens and Towndrow resides with the Columbia Broadcasting System of the United States or other U.S. interests?

Mr. Speaker: Order. This question might well be placed on the order paper.

Mr. Lundrigan: Mr. Speaker, on a point of order, this is a very important matter which has recently come to light and has international connotations. I beg your indulgence to allow the minister to answer the question.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member knows that if he disagrees with the Speaker's assessment of the urgency of the matter, he can always give notification for consideration of the matter at the time of adjournment later today.

Mr. Lundrigan: Mr. Speaker, may I ask another question in the same vein. I should like to ask the Secretary of State whether government policy respecting United States control of media will not be diluted due to the apparent involvement of this particular firm with that of the well known friend of cabinet ministers, Mr. Geoff Stirling.

Mr. Speaker: The first question might be discussed tonight, but not the second one.

[Mr. Baldwin.]

FINANCE

COMPENSATION TO VENDING MACHINE OPERATORS FOLLOWING COINAGE CHANGE

On the orders of the day:

Mr. A. D. Hales (Wellington): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Finance. In view of the great inconvenience, and I might say cost, to operators of coin vending machines in Canada owing to the new Canadian dimes and quarters, would the minister issue more news releases advising what help the government is prepared to give?

Hon. E. J. Benson (Minister of Finance): Mr. Speaker, I think the association of coin vending machine operators was fully informed earlier this year that the federal government would pay one half of the material cost of converting existing vending machines to take the new all nickel coins. I think this is generally known throughout the industry.

ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE

REQUEST FOR INQUIRY INTO ORGANIZED AND SYNDICATED CRIME IN CANADA

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Eldon M. Woolliams (Calgary North): Mr. Speaker, my question is addressed to the Minister of Justice. Yesterday I asked the Solicitor General whether a request had been made by the Prime Minister of Quebec for a probe into crime, and whether the government had agreed to follow the suggestion of the Quebec Prime Minister. The Solicitor General took the question as notice and suggested that the Minister of Justice would answer it.

Hon. John N. Turner (Minister of Justice): Mr. Speaker, I think the Solicitor General ought to reply to that question.

Mr. Woolliams: A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. May I ask the Minister of Justice whether this comes under his jurisdiction or that of the Solicitor General? One has passed the buck to the other, and now it has been passed back.

Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton): Mr. Speaker, I should like to take issue with that. I think the record speaks for itself. As the Solicitor General stated yesterday, the facts were as I had given them in an earlier answer to the