

Inquiries of the Ministry

which parcel of land the hon. member has referred. Several parcels of land have been discussed with various authorities in Hull at one time or another.

[Translation]

Mr. Speaker: Order. This seems to be the type of question which should be placed on the order paper, for it pertains to particulars which the hon. member could obtain much more easily if his question were put in writing.

[English]

ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE**DISCLOSURE OF REASONS FOR COMMUTATION OF DEATH SENTENCES**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. R. N. Thompson (Red Deer): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Solicitor General. In view of the growing public anxiety, fear and concern, both in North America and Europe, over the recent rise in multiple murders of both ordinary citizens and policemen, will the government not consider the appeal made yesterday by the Canadian Association of Police Chiefs for the cabinet to make known to the public the reason why on each occasion the death sentence is passed that sentence is or is not being commuted?

Hon. L. T. Pennell (Solicitor General): Mr. Speaker, there are some related questions on the order paper from the hon. member for York-Humber. In view of this, perhaps I might take the hon. member's question as notice so that I might deal with the questions of both hon. members at the same time.

EXAMINATION OF MATERIAL SEIZED FROM SEAFARERS UNION

On the orders of the day:

Mr. H. W. Herridge (Kootenay West): Mr. Speaker, at the request of some good Canadian trade unionists I wish to ask the Solicitor General a question. Has he anything further to report with respect to developments in the examination of letters, documents and other material seized by the R.C.M.P. from various locals of the seafarers international union?

Hon. L. T. Pennell (Solicitor General): Mr. Speaker, the members of the R.C.M.P. have completed their investigations and a report of their findings has been forwarded to the Department of Justice. I understand that the Minister of Justice and his officials have been

[Mr. McIlraith.]

in touch with the appropriate provincial authorities and that the report is under study.

**SPENCE ROYAL COMMISSION—
INQUIRY AS TO REPORT**

On the orders of the day:

Hon. Michael Starr (Ontario): Mr. Speaker, in the absence of the Prime Minister may I ask the Acting Prime Minister whether the Spence report has been received by the Privy Council office and whether a copy of that report has been sent by air to the Prime Minister in England?

Hon. Paul Martin (Acting Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I am not aware that the report in question has been received by anyone in the government. I am not aware that it has been received by the Privy Council office but I shall make inquiries at once.

An hon. Member: Don't they keep you informed of anything?

LABOUR CONDITIONS**ST. CATHARINES—REPORTED LAY-OFFS
AT MCKINNON INDUSTRIES**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Andrew Brewin (Greenwood): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Labour. Has the minister, with other members of the government, received representations with regard to substantial lay-offs at McKinnon Industries in St. Catharines and with respect to the applicability of the transitional assistance benefit plan which was announced by the former minister of labour last year?

Hon. J. R. Nicholson (Minister of Labour): Mr. Speaker, in late August employees of McKinnon Industries of St. Catharines, along with employees of General Motors and other affiliated companies, met here in Ottawa with the Minister of Industry, the Minister of Citizenship and Immigration, and myself. We had a very useful discussion. Representations of the nature referred to by the hon. member were made.

After the meeting my colleagues and I discussed the matter. I might say that the representations impressed me—at least, some of them did. They were rather persuasive. I hope they had the same effect on my colleagues.

We have asked for a special study and report which I think should come before the cabinet within the next week or so.