

Inquiries of the Ministry

Mr. Ryan: Is the government concerned in any direct way with these former employees, particularly in view of the fact that the closing of these supply plants seems likely to continue and as the government had something to do with the proliferation of these plants in the first place?

Mr. Mackasey: Mr. Speaker, the particular provision to which I alluded will be in existence until December, 1972. A particular board is responsible for evaluating these lay-offs. If they consider that these lay-offs are a direct result of the auto pact, the transitional assistance benefits come into effect.

Mr. W. B. Nesbitt (Oxford): Will the minister consider discussing with his colleague, the Minister of Finance, the lay-offs in the automobile parts industries and attempt to persuade his colleague to peg the Canadian dollar which might prevent further closings?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member's question is in the form of a submission.

* * *

LABOUR RELATIONS**GENERAL MOTORS STRIKE—ACTION TO EXPEDITE SETTLEMENT**

Hon. George Hees (Prince Edward-Hastings): Has the Minister of Labour been in touch with the Minister of Labour of Ontario to see whether the federal government can offer and make available services which might be of assistance in solving the General Motors strike?

Mr. Speaker: Order please. The hon. member is repeating a question which was asked on Friday.

* * *

HUMAN RIGHTS**POLICE SURVEILLANCE OF UNIVERSITY CAMPUSES**

Mr. R. Gordon L. Fairweather (Fundy-Royal): I have a question for the Prime Minister. Will the right hon. gentleman reaffirm the policy of the Pearson government so that in the interests of freedom of thought, expression and teaching there will be no police surveillance of university campuses?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I can confirm the policy of the government that there will be no more surveillance of campuses than of any other segment of Canadian society.

* * *

CANADIAN BROADCASTING CORPORATION**OBJECTIVITY OF INTERVIEWS OF PRIME MINISTER**

Mr. Mark Rose (Fraser Valley West): My question is for the Secretary of State. In view of the fact that the Senate mass media report indicates that approximately 70 per cent of television viewers are willing to overlook distorted reporting, is it the government's intention to

[Mr. Mackasey.]

advise the president of the CBC that some people are very concerned about the fact that almost every time the Prime Minister is interviewed by CBC personnel a distortion caused by blatant, differential fawning occurs?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I am sure the hon. member will appreciate that the question is not acceptable in those terms.

Mr. Rose: May I rephrase the question?

Mr. Trudeau: Try rephrasing your thinking.

Mr. Speaker: Perhaps the hon. member might like to try a different question.

Mr. Rose: What is the Secretary of State prepared to do to increase more objective reporting on CBC television?

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member's question contains an allegation and in that sense it is not in order.

* * *

CANADIAN NATIONAL RAILWAYS**INCLUSION OF HOTEL EMPLOYEES UNDER MINIMUM WAGE LEGISLATION**

Mr. James A. McGrath (St. John's East): I have a question for the Minister of Labour. Can the minister report to the House any progress in his efforts to have the employees of Canadian National hotels brought under the minimum wage legislation passed by this Parliament?

Hon. Bryce Mackasey (Minister of Labour): Mr. Speaker, henceforth that particular question would be best directed to the Minister of Justice as the Department of Labour has asked the Department of Justice to pursue the line I have already recommended on several occasions in the House.

Mr. McGrath: I redirect my question to the Minister of Justice. Is the minister prepared to support the Minister of Labour in this very just and worthy cause in order to expedite a decision on this matter?

Hon. John N. Turner (Minister of Justice): Mr. Speaker, Canadian National Railways has sought an order in the nature of certiorari before the Supreme Court of Alberta against the Canada Labour Relations Board and the Canadian Brotherhood of Railway, Transport and General Workers. These proceedings will raise constitutional questions respecting the application of federal labour legislation generally to the hotel operations of the railway company. Until this question having constitutional import is decided by the Supreme Court of Alberta, there is no justification for any further legal action against the company in that regard either by way of prosecution or otherwise.

Mr. McGrath: Can the Minister of Justice assure the House that the federal government will be represented at this hearing because of the special interest of Parliament with regard to this matter?

Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton): Yes, Mr. Speaker.