

*Inquiries of the Ministry*

placed pressure to curtail certain personal liberties. What high places was he talking about and what civil liberties was he referring to?

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. I have very serious doubts about this kind of question. Perhaps the hon. member might rephrase it, unless the minister can reply and give the information fairly quickly. It seems to me the question is more in the nature of debate or academic discussion between the hon. member and the minister. As I say, if the minister thinks he can reply quickly he can take the floor for that purpose.

**Mr. Woolliams:** Then may I rephrase my question, Mr. Speaker. The minister stated that personal liberties were in danger from pressure by certain people. Were these people within the government, and what personal liberties was he speaking of? This is a very important matter for the Canadian people.

**Hon. John N. Turner (Minister of Justice):** In this interview, Mr. Speaker, I was striking a balance that I think every free society has to strike in the enforcement of the law between individual liberty, on the one hand, and the security of the people on the other.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. I see there are three hon. members who want to ask supplementaries on this subject. I must bring to the attention of hon. members that it is against the rules to debate in the House speeches that are made outside the chamber by ministers. Many ministers, I note from newspaper reports, make speeches outside the House from day to day, and if we were to spend most of our time during the question period inviting interpretations from ministers as to what they meant or did not mean, we would spend quite a bit of time debating this kind of issue. The hon. member has raised this matter so perhaps he might put his question directly.

**Mr. Woolliams:** I will make my question very short, Mr. Speaker, and I appreciate your courtesy. Is the government thinking of re-enacting some public order act, and is the Minister of Justice differing with other members of the government with reference to the implementation of such a new act?

**Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton):** Mr. Speaker, the answer to the first question is that there is a motion before the House allowing me, if called upon by the Standing Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs, or by the special committee contemplated by such motion, to express some views as to the balance to be struck between individual liberties and collective security. The answer to the second question is no.

[Later:]

PRESSURE TO LIMIT RIGHT TO DEMONSTRATE, PICKET  
AND TAKE PART IN MEETINGS—POSSIBILITY OF  
LEGISLATION

**Mr. Andrew Brewin (Greenwood):** Mr. Speaker, my question to the Minister of Justice is supplementary to the question just asked him. Has he had any pressure placed on him by people who would like to see him introduce amendments to the Criminal Code to limit the right of citizens to demonstrate, to picket and to take part in

[Mr. Woolliams.]

meetings? Can he assure the House that he is not contemplating such legislation?

**Hon. John N. Turner (Minister of Justice):** I can give an assurance to the House that no legislation altering the balance between civil liberties and national security will be introduced, short of a crisis, without coming to Parliament in the way I have indicated to the hon. member for Calgary North.

POSSIBLE LEGISLATION TO ESTABLISH OMBUDSMAN

**Mr. R. N. Thompson (Red Deer):** I wonder whether the Minister of Justice, in planning new legislation, is considering legislation which would set up the office of ombudsman as this would really help to protect civil liberties?

**Hon. John N. Turner (Minister of Justice):** The hon. member and I have debated this in every session of Parliament since we have both been here.

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INCOME TAX

RETROACTIVITY OF POSSIBLE AMENDMENTS TO ACT  
NEXT YEAR

**Mr. Robert McCleave (Halifax-East Hants):** Mr. Speaker, I have given notice of this question to the Minister of Finance and I think his answer might be helpful to the debate later today and tomorrow. Would the minister propose making retroactive certain of the amendments to the income tax legislation to be introduced in the new year?

**Hon. E. J. Benson (Minister of Finance):** Mr. Speaker, that will depend on the nature of the amendments. I mentioned a few last Friday that were being contemplated by the government. For example, the one dealing with deferred profit-sharing plans would have to come into effect at the same time as Bill C-259, at the beginning of the year.

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• (3:00 p.m.)

GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION

LEAKING OF CABINET DOCUMENT—REQUEST FOR  
REPORT ON INVESTIGATION

**Hon. George Hees (Prince Edward-Hastings):** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Prime Minister. As more than a month has now passed since the government launched its investigation into the leak of the so-called Gray report, and as no report has been made to Parliament so far, can the Prime Minister advise us what results, if any, have been obtained from this investigation?

**Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister):** I will check to see whether any results have been obtained.

**Mr. Hees:** As, obviously, there are no results to be reported by the Prime Minister, I will ask him this supple-