

Inquiries of the Ministry

House. Every question is determined in a committee in the same manner as in the House to which it belongs.

This means that every matter is decided by the committee and not by the House or by the Prime Minister. I think that the Prime Minister, by expressing his opinion in the House on the way the committee should conduct its business, is breaching the privileges of the committees of this House.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Trudeau: Mr. Speaker, the hon. member from the Cr ditiste party asked me if it would not be expedient to change the terms of reference of that parliamentary committee, in order to ask it to study another matter. Your Honour nearly decided that this question had already been answered and that it was not necessary to give it an answer today. I should have relied on your instinct. I tried to explain to the hon. member the terms of reference which we had given the committee. I did not comment any further to say that we were to tell it to do something. I merely indicated that those terms of reference existed, that we did not see any reason to change them for the time being, and that we were hoping that they would be construed in the spirit in which we had given them.

[*English*]

Mr. Baldwin: On that point of order, Mr. Speaker—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member raised the point of order in the first instance. He made his contribution, and we have heard from a number of members on the same point, so I doubt very much if anything will be gained by pursuing the matter. It seems to me that every one is agreed on the principle enunciated originally by the hon. member for Peace River, by the hon. member for Sainte-Marie, by the Prime Minister and by the hon. member for Lotbini re, that these questions have to be decided by the committee and not by the House. This being so I think we should return to the question period, especially in view of the fact there are only six minutes left.

Mr. Baldwin: Mr. Speaker, I must rise on a question of privilege. The privileges of this House and the members of this House, and in particular members of Standing Committees, is largely founded on the respect which members pay to the Standing Orders, which establish the independence of committees. On that question of privilege, I know what the Prime

[*Mr. Valade.*]

Minister said and what the terms of reference are. The terms are wide enough to inquire into the operation of the Company of Young Canadians, Mr. Speaker. It is a breach of privilege for the Prime Minister or anybody in this House to attempt to influence what anybody else should do.

Mr. Speaker: I might say that is not my interpretation of what was said by hon. members. I must suggest that basically we are still all agreed on the point at issue. I would hope that we might return to the question period.

INQUIRY OF THE MINISTRY

Mr. Donald MacInnis (Cape Breton-East Richmond): Mr. Speaker, may I first be permitted to express my thanks to all members for their greeting, including the Prime Minister who seems to be glad to see me back and to let bygones be bygones. My original question was not for him but since he has shown such spirit I should like to put a question to the Prime Minister. Is the federal government spending or planning to spend several million dollars on a motion picture starring Louise Marleau?

Mr. Speaker: I am afraid that is irrelevant.

STATUTES OF CANADA

COMPLETION OF WORK OF REVISION

Mr. Randolph Harding (Kootenay West): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Justice. When will the commission which was appointed several years ago to revise the statutes complete their work, and when is it expected that copies of the revised statutes will be available?

Mr. Stanfield: They are long since forgotten.

Hon. John N. Turner (Minister of Justice): Mr. Speaker, I would like to have a more precise date for the hon. member than I can give him now and I hope to have this for him in the not too distant future.

[*Translation*]

ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE
ST. JOHN'S, NFLD.—RAIDS ON FOREIGN SHIPS
—EFFECT ON TRADE

Mr. Gilbert Rondeau (Shefford): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Secretary of State for External Affairs.