

### RAILWAY ACT

AMENDMENT TO GIVE AUTHORITY TO MINISTER TO ACQUIRE CERTAIN COST INFORMATION FROM COMPANIES

**Hon. Mitchell Sharp (for the Minister of Transport)** moved for leave to introduce Bill C-48, to amend the Railway Act.

Motion agreed to, bill read the first time and ordered to be printed.

### ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

[English]

#### ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE

LETTER FROM ONTARIO REFERRING TO QUESTIONABLE SIU MATTERS—PERSON RESPONSIBLE FOR INVESTIGATION—POSSIBILITY OF INQUIRY

**Mr. Sinclair Stevens (York-Simcoe):** Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Justice. In view of the minister's statement in this House this week that much of the evidence touching on SIU activities is "related to criminal activity" which provincial authorities would deal with by laying criminal charges, and in view of the observation of the deputy solicitor general for Ontario in his letter to the Department of Justice that there are questionable SIU matters including internal management problems that do not fall within the purview of the Criminal Code—the letter points out that there is specific provision made in federal legislation to investigate such matters—would the minister indicate if the matters referred to in that letter are under investigation and if so, who is conducting that investigation?

**Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Justice):** Mr. Speaker, a number of investigations are under way at the same time. The Minister of Labour, under his responsibilities in respect of unions, had indicated to the House earlier, I believe, that he is giving consideration to some of the questions that arose in that fashion. Other matters are being investigated by both the RCMP and the provincial police. The point I was making the other day in the House was that so far as any substantial evidence was concerned it seemed to relate to matters which could produce criminal charges and there was very little that had been brought to my attention which indicated anything else.

**Mr. Stevens:** A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. I wonder if the minister could indicate at what point he thinks he might be in a position to recommend an inquiry be set up with respect to this SIU type of activity?

**Mr. Lang:** Mr. Speaker, I cannot give a precise prediction as to when I will have enough evidence to warrant reaching a final decision.

#### Oral Questions

ALLEGED COMMITMENT TO SUPPLY LIST OF INCIDENTS OF VIOLENCE IN PRIOR YEARS INVOLVING SIU—GOVERNMENT POSITION

**Mr. Sinclair Stevens (York-Simcoe):** Mr. Speaker, in the absence of the President of the Privy Council, perhaps I could put my supplementary to the Prime Minister. In answer to a question put by the hon. member for Peace River on December 5 last the President of the Privy Council, who was the Acting Prime Minister that day, undertook to supply to the House a list of incidents in recent years involving improper conduct, violence, and intimidation with respect to SIU activities. This material was to have been obtained from the Minister of Labour and the Solicitor General and their predecessors in recent years. Would the Prime Minister indicate if such a list has, in fact, been prepared and when may it be tabled in the House?

**Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister):** Mr. Speaker, I apologize on behalf of the House leader. I was not aware of this commitment but I am sure he will be able to fulfill it if indeed he made such a commitment.

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#### ENERGY

SYNCRUDE—GOVERNMENT POSITION ON PARTICIPATION IN PROJECT

**Mr. Edward Broadbent (Oshawa-Whitby):** Mr. Speaker, in the absence of the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources I would put my question to the Prime Minister. Recent reports indicate that the government of Alberta has said it has no objections to federal participation in the Syncrude project. In view of the statements made by the minister in the House on this subject recently, I wonder if the Prime Minister could inform the House whether the government has begun to negotiate with Syncrude to see if it is wise for the federal government to take part in the project and under what circumstances, from the point of view of Syncrude, would this be acceptable?

**Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister):** Mr. Speaker, following the new position taken by the premier of Alberta, the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources has indeed been considering this possibility and discussing it with some of his colleagues. This afternoon he is meeting with representatives of the oil industry, and I believe after he has had those consultations he will be in a position to make recommendations to his colleagues.

SYNCRUDE—REQUEST FOR TABELING OF DOCUMENTS SUPPLIED BY CONSORTIUM

**Mr. Edward Broadbent (Oshawa-Whitby):** A supplementary, Mr. Speaker. In the absence of the minister I wonder if the Prime Minister would consider this question and draw it to the minister's attention. He indicated in the House yesterday that he was studying some documents from the Syncrude consortium with respect to price and other financial matters. In view of this, I wonder if the Prime Minister on his behalf or after consultation with the minister would make a commitment to the House that