

and we will bring it down as soon as we feel it is appropriate.

Mr. Woolliams: With all his feeling for the heads of families, does the Prime Minister feel that they can wait a month for this government to bring in a budget?

* * *

[Translation]

HOUSE OF COMMONS

STUDY OF NEW FORMULA TO LIMIT DEBATE

Mr. Roch La Salle (Joliette): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Prime Minister.

Would he tell us if he has studied the new formula concerning the duration of the debates that the Quebec government has put into effect this week? In order to ensure greater efficiency here in Parliament, would the Prime Minister consider, with the opposition parties, the adoption of a similar measure, which would be in the best interests of Canadians?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I believe the question is rather timely. However, the hon. member will recall that we tried, over a year and a half ago, to introduce measures restricting the duration of debate with the consent of the opposition parties. I must say that all our efforts to obtain the consent of the opposition parties to limit the length of debates under Standing Order 75 were of no avail.

* * *

[English]

INQUIRY OF THE MINISTRY

Mr. Donald MacInnis (Cape Breton-East Richmond): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Prime Minister and I want to assure him that it is apart from the government reorganization bill. In the proposed cabinet shuffle and the resultant vacancy, can the Prime Minister indicate which department of government will become vacant?

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Swift Current-Maple Creek. Does the hon. member wish to ask a supplementary? The hon. member for Cape Breton-East Richmond.

Mr. MacInnis: Mr. Speaker, I will put my supplementary in a way which I hope the Prime Minister will understand. What department of government does the government intend to give to the by-election candidate in Nova Scotia as minister of that department?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. This question is obviously out of order.

Mr. MacInnis: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a question of privilege. The privilege, Mr. Speaker, comes very close to the word just ruled out when it was made quite clear by Your Honour that the word "lie" is not to be used in the House of Commons. I do not want to use the word "lie"

Inquiries of the Ministry

in the sense that I am directing it at any one individual, but I would say to the Prime Minister that it is time he took hold of the Liberal party and stopped them from using the big lie technique of advertising candidates as ministers-elect.

Mr. Baldwin: That is misleading because they will never be elected.

Mr. Trudeau: A terminological inexactitude.

An hon. Member: It will ruin the candidate.

* * *

ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE

PURPOSE OF INQUIRY INTO DROPPING OF LITERATURE PROTESTING AGAINST BILL C-176 FROM AIRPLANE

Mr. Jack McIntosh (Swift Current-Maple Creek): Mr. Speaker, on Thursday last I directed a question to the Minister of Justice in the absence of the Solicitor General. I see the Solicitor General in the House today. I wonder whether he could answer the question which was as follows:

What was the reason or purpose of the RCMP inquiry into the procedure used by western ranchers and farmers of dropping literature from an airplane protesting against Bill C-176 at several rural points in southeastern Alberta?

I hope the minister received that question from the acting minister.

[Translation]

Hon. Jean-Pierre Goyer (Solicitor General): Yes, Mr. Speaker, and I thank the hon. member, but I think that the question should be put to the Attorney General of the province involved.

[English]

Mr. McIntosh: Mr. Speaker, the minister has had time to look into the question. I should like to inquire why it should be directed to the Attorney General of the province? I thought the Solicitor General's department had control over the Royal Canadian Mounted Police.

[Translation]

Mr. Goyer: Mr. Speaker, of necessity we have contracts with the provinces in connection with the services of the members of the RCMP, and while those members are bound by contract, they are under the direct jurisdiction of the Attorney General of the province concerned.

I think that the case raised by the hon. member comes under the provincial authorities.

[English]

Mr. McIntosh: Mr. Speaker, I would ask the Solicitor General to give me an assurance that this inquiry was not originated by the federal government.

[Translation]

Mr. Goyer: Yes, I can give that assurance, Mr. Speaker.