

whether the right hon. Prime Minister wishes to rise on the same point of order or has his own, but certainly I have to rule on this one now and say it is not a point of order.

Mr. Trudeau: It was pretty much the same point of order but I might try to change it a little bit, Mr. Speaker.

An hon. Member: Sit down!

Mr. Trudeau: The hon. member has been asking me repeatedly if we acted on any other information. I told him we acted on information which I put before the House and which I have repeatedly put to the hon. member and to the rest of the House. He asked if I had any other information on which I acted. Mr. Speaker, none that is relevant to this question. I have, I repeat, accumulated information for many, many years, but I do not expect that the members of this House wish me to recite to them everything I have learned since I was, as I say, three years old.

An hon. Member: You haven't any information.

[Translation]

WAR MEASURES ACT—REQUEST BY QUEBEC TO
CONTINUE APPLICATION

Mr. Réal Caouette (Témiscamingue): Mr. Speaker, I wish to address a supplementary question to the Prime Minister.

Has the government of the province of Quebec requested the federal government to maintain the emergency measures now in force until all the FLQ cells have been dismantled and Mr. Laporte's murderers and Mr. Cross's kidnappers have been captured?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): I do not believe that any request has been made in such specific terms, Mr. Speaker, but I must say that discussions are under way between the authorities of the province of Quebec and ourselves on the specific question of determining for what period of time in their estimation it will be necessary to maintain this special legislation. To my knowledge, this question has not yet been solved. It is to a large extent a matter of police requirements, as interpreted by the people's representatives, the politicians.

WAR MEASURES ACT—STATUS OF THOSE LIBERATED

Mr. Pierre De Bané (Matane): Mr. Speaker, I should like to put a supplementary question to the Prime Minister.

Could he favourably consider the possibility of making a statement to defend those who were freed following their arrest, so that they will understand that the temporary restriction of their freedom was necessary to cure an evil, but that they must not be ostracized by the community in which they are living solely because they were detained several hours?

Inquiries of the Ministry

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I wonder if I can give a satisfactory answer to the hon. member, but I think that it is now sufficient to say that surely among those arrested, under special legislation the enforcement of which was necessary, as stated by the hon. member, to cure an evil, there were some perfectly innocent and honourable people, and I hope that the fact that they were arrested will not be held against them nor against those who arrested them in good faith.

Beyond that, of course, I can only repeat what the Minister of Justice stated, namely that charges will be laid against those who are deemed guilty of reprehensible action, if there is sufficient evidence.

ADOPTION OF ADDITIONAL MEASURES TO FIND
JAMES CROSS

Mr. André Fortin (Lotbinière): Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask a supplementary question.

Could the Prime Minister tell us whether talks are now going on between the federal government and the Quebec government about the taking of additional measures considering the long period of time that Mr. Cross has been held, so that he could be found as soon as possible?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): The whole question of delays has naturally been discussed between the governments and this is included in the facts the governments and the House will hear when we introduce the legislation aimed at replacing the one that is now in effect.

Mr. Fortin: Mr. Speaker, I have another supplementary question.

Could the Prime Minister indicate if, when tabling the special bill on these measures, he is planning to bring the House up to date on this matter?

Mr. Trudeau: Mr. Speaker, there is no doubt that someone on the government side, the Minister of Justice or myself perhaps, will give a full explanation on this matter and, when certain delays are incorporated into the bill, we shall have to explain to the House why we feel they are necessary.

[English]

WAR MEASURES ACT—DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN FEDERAL
AND QUEBEC GOVERNMENTS AND MONTREAL
AUTHORITIES BEFORE INVOCATION

Hon. Marcel Lambert (Edmonton West): Mr. Speaker, in light of the Prime Minister's insistence upon the importance of the requests of the government of the province of Quebec and of the city of Montreal, could he advise the House what discussions took place between authorities of the federal government and of the two other governments immediately prior to the invocation of the War Measures Act, and were the two letters in question, which coincidentally arrived in Ottawa—

Mr. Trudeau: The two what?