

## HOUSE OF COMMONS

Friday, May 27, 1966

• (11:10 a.m.)

The house met at 11 a.m.

### INQUIRIES ACT

#### AMENDMENT RESPECTING PUBLICATION OF EVIDENCE

**Mr. Andrew Brewin (Greenwood)** moved for leave to introduce Bill No. C-188, to amend the Inquiries Act.

**Some hon. Members:** Explain.

**Mr. Brewin:** Mr. Speaker, the purpose of this bill is to correct some of the deficiencies in the Inquiries Act. The bill provides that inquiries or royal commissions, as they are sometimes called, may continue to secure evidence from any available source in order to get at the truth of any matters into which they are inquiring, but it provides that material introduced at the inquiry, if it is defamatory of individuals, must not be published unless first of all—

**Some hon. Members:** Hear, hear.

**Mr. Brewin:**—unless it is relevant to the inquiry and would be admissible in a court of law. Recent episodes and the whole history of inquiries reveal the need for this type of legislation.

Motion agreed to and bill read the first time.

### FARM MACHINERY

#### APPOINTMENT OF COMMISSION OF INQUIRY

**Hon. J. J. Greene (Minister of Agriculture):** Mr. Speaker, I request permission to table order in council P.C. 1966-978 appointing Dr. Clarence L. Barber, head of the department of economics, University of Manitoba, as a commissioner under part I of the Inquiries Act to inquire into the cost of farm machinery and repair parts. The terms of reference of the commissioner are contained in the order in council.

**Mr. Speaker:** Has the minister leave to revert to motions for the purpose of tabling this document?

**Some hon. Members:** Agreed.

**Mr. Speaker:** Has the minister leave to table the document?

**Some hon. Members:** Agreed.

### CANADIAN BROADCASTING CORPORATION

#### INQUIRY AS TO ACTION FOLLOWING REPORT OF MEDIATOR

On the orders of the day:

**Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Leader of the Opposition):** Mr. Speaker, may I ask the Prime Minister whether, since delivery to him of what might be described as Stuart Keate's commentaries, he has talked with the president of the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation or any of the senior executives. Have they given any indication that they are willing to compromise on their decision of dismissal in connection with the Leiterman program, and to bring about the suggested procedures to be followed in connection with dismissal of producers and other personnel?

**Right Hon. L. B. Pearson (Prime Minister):** Mr. Speaker, the report which Mr. Keate submitted to me was referred by me at once to the president of the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation and a representative of the producers' association. I hope this report will assist in the parties concerned getting together and resolving the dispute between them. I know my right hon. friend will share my expression of appreciation for what Mr. Keate was able to do to help in this matter.

**Mr. Diefenbaker:** Mr. Speaker, I share it, and I only hope that the words ascribed to the poet John Keats: "writ on the wind", would not apply. I should like to ask the Prime Minister now to answer the question. Has he communicated with the president or any senior member of the C.B.C., and have they shown any attitude of reasonable compromise?

**Mr. Pearson:** Mr. Speaker, I communicated the report to the president, as I have already indicated. It is now for the president and the producers association to discuss the report. I hope in their discussions they will be able to resolve their difficulties.

**Mr. Eldon M. Woolliams (Bow River):** A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. I should like to refer the Prime Minister to the report of Mr. Keate, and in particular to a