

amount of inspired speculation. I think perhaps my hon. friends will appreciate this when they see the total magnitude and complexity of the problem with which we will be faced in a few weeks.

Mr. David Lewis (York South): A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker, which I ask as a result of the question asked by the Leader of the Opposition and the answer of the minister. Will the minister assure the house that these daily leaks—and there have already been quite a number of them—of the report he is to present to the house have been made with his authority. If not, is he prepared to investigate as to who exactly is responsible for giving to the press material that ought to come to parliament first?

Mr. Hellyer: Mr. Speaker, I think the fact that these leaks appeared almost daily has been merely coincidental.

Mr. Robert Muir (Cape Breton-The Sydneys): A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. While on the subject of leaks, which was brought up by the Leader of the Opposition, may I ask the Acting Prime Minister whether it will be the Prime Minister's policy in future to have a public relations staff leak to the news media of this country anything pertaining to his personal life, as has been happening in the past?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

[Translation]

HOUSING

REQUEST TO LOWER INTEREST RATE

Mr. Léonel Beaudoin (Richmond): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Transport.

Does the minister or his department intend to make representations to the Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation with the view of lowering the present interest rate of 9½ per cent before the 1st of April, in order to give new impetus to the construction industry?

[English]

Hon. Paul Hellyer (Acting Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, this is a question which will have to be considered in the larger context and I am not in a position to give any direct information about it at the moment. But I can tell my hon. friend that the level of interest rates is a matter of concern to the government and, certainly, to all those who are interested in seeing that the very commendable record of lending in the housing field is exceeded in 1969.

Inquiries of the Ministry

CRIMINAL CODE

REQUEST THAT STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT ON INDIVIDUAL SUBJECTS

Mr. Eldon M. Woolliams (Calgary North): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Justice. Since we shall soon be debating the omnibus amendments to the Criminal Code would the minister be prepared to recommend that the standing committee that will study this bill bring in three or four distinct reports having to do with matters such as abortion, homosexuality, lotteries and the other general terms of the bill, so that the committee could break down the bill into four distinct parts and bring in four reports. Would the minister give some consideration to that and make a recommendation along those lines?

Hon. John N. Turner (Minister of Justice): Mr. Speaker, I hope the standing committee in its good judgment will deal with the bill as it finds it.

Mr. Woolliams: Do I take it then that the minister is standing firm in every regard and that the bill will be presented as it is to the house and debated as one complete document?

Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton): Yes, sir.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): The Prime Minister has ordered him to do that.

POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT

REQUEST FOR REPORT ON POSSIBLE WORK STOPPAGE

Mr. David Orlikow (Winnipeg North): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Acting Postmaster General. Have the discussions between the representatives of the postal workers unions and the department been concluded and, if so, can he report that we are not going to face another work stoppage in the very near future?

Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (President of the Privy Council): Mr. Speaker, I regret to say that the minister is ill to day and I shall have to take the hon. member's question as notice.

[Translation]

SPORTS

DECISION BY RUSSIAN HOCKEY TEAM TO PLAY CANADIAN SERIES

Hon. Gérard Pelletier (Secretary of State): Mr. Speaker, I should like to pass along