

Inquiries of the Ministry

Canada and of the take-over movement, are being considered in our proposed revisions of the Combines Investigation Act.

Mr. Lewis: A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. If I understood the minister's answer correctly, he said that all these things are now being studied by his department. Can he inform the House when he expects the studies in this important field to be concluded and whether he expects to bring in legislation to deal with these matters?

Mr. Basford: Mr. Speaker, the Speech from the Throne indicated that we will be introducing amendments to the Combines Investigation Act during the present session.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Gilbert Rondeau (Shefford): Mr. Speaker, a supplementary question.

In his investigation on American control over Canadian companies, could the minister include the new government of Manitoba which only last week borrowed \$15 million from the Americans?

[*English*]

POST OFFICE**PARCEL DELIVERY—INCREASE IN SERVICE BY BUS COMPANIES**

Mr. Heath Macquarrie (Hillsborough): Mr. Speaker, since so many ministers are absent may I direct my question to the Postmaster General. It is prompted by information that certain bus companies are expanding their parcel delivery system in anticipation of increased demand for their services because of high rates and the lack of dependability of delivery by the Post Office. Can the minister advise if he or any of his 15 task forces are contemplating the withdrawal of the Post Office from the parcel post business?

Hon. Eric W. Kierans (Postmaster General): The answer is no, Mr. Speaker.

PUBLIC ACCOUNTS**REQUEST FOR TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR COMMITTEE**

Mr. Harold E. Winch (Vancouver East): Mr. Speaker, may I direct a question to the Acting Prime Minister. Since the Public Accounts Committee has a vast amount of work facing it, a fact that was drawn to the government's attention only last week, and since no action has yet been taken, will the Acting Prime Minister see to it that the required terms of reference to the Public Accounts Committee

[*Mr. Basford.*]

are brought in as speedily as possible in order that we, the members of the committee, can not only get on with the work ahead of us but obtain fresh authority to bring in a report on the work we finished prior to the recess?

Hon. G. J. McIlraith (Acting Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I will be very glad to look into the matter.

VIOLENT DISTURBANCES**PROPOSED MONTREAL BYLAW**

[*Translation*]

Mr. Gilbert Rondeau (Shefford): I should like to put a question to the Minister of Justice.

Can he tell us whether the authorities of the city of Montreal have asked the advice of his department concerning the bylaw which it is on the verge of passing in connection with demonstrations and public meetings which will from now on be banned in the city?

Hon. John N. Turner (Minister of Justice): No, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Rondeau: I wish to put a supplementary question to the Minister of Justice.

Does he believe that the Montreal bylaw is constitutional?

Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton): Mr. Speaker, this question is still—

Mr. Speaker: Order. The hon. member will admit that the question is out of order.

[*English*]

Mr. Andrew Brewin (Greenwood): A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. In view of the apparently sweeping nature of the proposed bylaw to ban demonstrations in Montreal and its possible implications with respect to freedom of speech and freedom of assembly guaranteed by the Canadian Bill of Rights, will the Minister of Justice look into this question and consider making a statement to the House on the constitutional aspects of the bylaw?

Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton): Mr. Speaker, since the bylaw is still before the city council of Montreal, I doubt whether it would be appropriate for me at this time to say much about it. I have asked to see a copy of the text of the bylaw. Of course, whether such bylaw is constitutional or not will depend, in the final analysis, on what the courts might