

to read the question a little carefully before dealing with it in the blanket way in which it is being dealt with at the moment. I take it that a great part of it is information which should come from this committee.

Mr. REID: If I may be allowed to answer what has been said it may be very true that there may be questions there that could not be answered for certain reasons but we as a committee should not have it thrown to us. There is a precedent being set in the House of Commons that we should not allow to pass, that is, because the committee is sitting a member is to be denied an answer to his questions which is contrary to the rule of the House of Commons, and I am objecting to answering it here. If the minister finds objection to the question for the reasons mentioned he should state it, and he should not hide behind this committee and say that just because the committee is sitting all these questions cannot be answered. That is what I am objecting to. I am objecting to the principle, and I object to the question of Mr. Fleming being answered by this committee. It should be answered in the House of Commons.

The CHAIRMAN: Well, Mr. Reid, I think we have already decided to have Mr. Fleming present his question. I think in fairness to Mr. Fleming that we should ask that question 62 as recorded on Monday, April 1, in Routine Proceedings and Orders of the Day be included in our record for discussion at a later date before this committee.

No. 62—*Mr. Fleming*

March 29—1. In the case of each of the buildings at the wartime Research Enterprises Limited plant at Leaside, Ontario,

(a) What was the cost of, (1) constructing or otherwise acquiring; (2) equipping the same?

(b) What disposal has since been made thereof?

(c) What were the terms of disposal, including, (1) price of buildings; (2) price of equipment; (3) undertakings as to employment of former employees of Research Enterprises Limited, and the number thereof; (4) recognition of collective bargaining agreement between the Research Enterprises Limited and Local 1039 of United Steel Workers of America; (5) date of delivery of possession; (6) name of purchaser or party otherwise acquiring?

2. (a) What other offers were received for such plant and equipment in each case?

(b) What other efforts were made to interest similar or comparable industries to purchase or acquire the said buildings in each case?

(c) What efforts were made in each case to obtain better terms as to employment of former employees of Research Enterprises Limited, maintenance of wage rates and recognition of the existing collective bargaining agreement?

3. (a) Who have been or are members of the Board of Directors of Research Enterprises Limited, and for what terms have they served or been appointed?

(b) Who are the present officers, and who were formerly the officers of Research Enterprises Limited?

4. In the case of all corporations which have acquired any of the said buildings and equipment, who are,

(a) The directors?

(b) Officers?

(c) Solicitors who acted for them in the purchase or acquisition?

5. In the case of how many of the said buildings has possession been taken by the purchaser or party otherwise acquiring the same, and on what dates?