

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. The Chair will allow one further and last supplementary question because we do have to go on to other subjects.

**Mr. Paproski:** I wonder if the Solicitor General can say whether he is aware that the riots and all the other problems that have arisen in Montreal are part of a well organized plan by the international communist movement?

**Mr. McIlraith:** No, Mr. Speaker. The Solicitor General would not be so irresponsible as to say that all other problems in Montreal are due to this factor. He would not give any such opinion.

#### ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE

##### ALLEGED INVASION OF BUSINESS BY MAFIA

**Mr. Frank Howard (Skeena):** Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct a question to the Solicitor General. Has he received any report of a statement made within the last day or two by a high officer of the John Howard Society in Vancouver that the Mafia have invaded the business field, particularly the small loans sector and, if so, what is being done about it?

**Hon. G. J. McIlraith (Solicitor General):** I have noted the statement, Mr. Speaker. It has been drawn to my attention but I am not in a position to make any report on the assertion, and indeed I think the hon. member will realize it would be inappropriate for me to say what has been done about the statement. The subject matter has been drawn to my attention, and the subject matter is of concern and is receiving attention.

**Mr. Howard (Skeena):** Am I to assume that somehow it is being investigated by our police force?

**Mr. McIlraith:** Mr. Speaker, it has never been the practice here for ministers to say what suspicions of offences are being investigated. There is a very good reason for that, and that is why I tried to avoid answering that question.

#### POLLUTION

##### NON-PHOSPHATE DETERGENT RESEARCH

**Mr. Thomas S. Barnett (Comox-Alberni):** Mr. Speaker, I would like to give the Solicitor General a rest by addressing this question to

#### *Inquiries of the Ministry*

his seatmate, the President of the Treasury Board. Would he be prepared to direct the National Research Council to undertake a crash program of research into finding a non-phosphate detergent in view of the widely expressed concern that detergents containing phosphate should be banned from use and in view of the fact that statements by the industry indicate that no substitute is on the immediate horizon?

**Hon. C. M. Drury (President of the Treasury Board):** Mr. Speaker, a very considerable amount of work is being put into discovering or trying to find detergents which do not have the undesirable effects of the current phosphate ones. I do not know all the work that is being done, but I would be glad to find out and inform the hon. member.

[*Translation*]

#### SHIPBUILDING

##### APPROVAL OF CONTRACT TO DAVIE SHIPBUILDING LIMITED

**Hon. Théogène Ricard (Saint-Hyacinthe):** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Transport.

Has the federal government approved a \$50 million contract awarded to Davie Shipbuilding for the construction of 24 freighters?

[*English*]

**Hon. Donald C. Jamieson (Minister of Transport):** Not to my knowledge, Mr. Speaker.

[*Later:*]

[*Translation*]

**Mr. Ricard:** Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask the President of the Treasury Board why the federal government has deferred its approval of the \$50 million contract awarded to Davie Shipbuilding?

**Mr. Speaker:** Order! I think that the information requested by the hon. member for Saint-Hyacinthe should normally be given in a statement on motions.

If the minister wishes to answer the hon. member's question, he might do so immediately.

[*English*]

**Hon. C. M. Drury (President of the Treasury Board):** Mr. Speaker, I regret to say I have no knowledge of such contract.