

*Inquiries of the Ministry*

tures Act and to pass the Public Order (Temporary Measures) Act?

**Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton):** Mr. Speaker, the hon. gentleman will have to wait until he sees the terms of reference. The resolution is debatable and he may make whatever representations he has at that time.

**EXPIRY OF PUBLIC ORDER (TEMPORARY MEASURES) ACT  
—LETTER FROM QUEBEC PREMIER CONCERNING ACTION**

**Mr. Thomas M. Bell (Saint John-Lancaster):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a supplementary question on this matter to the Prime Minister. Has the government just now received a communication from Premier Bourassa which demands this action and, if so, can the Prime Minister tell the House the contents of this wire?

**Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister):** No, Mr. Speaker, that is not precisely the action that Premier Bourassa has suggested the federal government should take. As I said to the House yesterday, he has communicated with me in different circumstances. I think the clearest thing that I can put on the record as being his most important request is that we should enact specific legislation to make the FLQ and like organizations illegal, but particularly the FLQ. As to the matter of continuing the present act, I believe I answered the hon. member for Calgary North yesterday to the effect that this was not the premier's request. He is asking this specific thing, that the FLQ be made illegal and he is hoping that the gaps in the law will be studied by Parliament and that Parliament will act on them as soon as possible.

**Mr. Bell:** Would the Prime Minister table this wire that has just been received in this matter?

**Mr. Trudeau:** Mr. Speaker, it was a letter that I received from the premier and we had a series of telephone conversations. I cannot table the letter and, as to the former, I think if the premier wants to make it public he will do so of his own accord.

**Mr. Speaker:** The Chair will allow one last supplementary question to the hon. member for Sainte-Marie and then recognize the hon. member for Skeena.

[Translation]

**REASONS FOR APPOINTING JOINT COMMITTEE  
RATHER THAN ROYAL COMMISSION**

**Mr. Georges Valade (Sainte-Marie):** Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct a question to the hon. Minister of Justice.

Why did the government decide to establish a joint committee of the House and the Senate rather than appoint a royal commission, which would have excluded politics from the judiciary field? Why did the minister decide to proceed that way?

[English]

**Hon. John N. Turner (Minister of Justice):** Mr. Speaker, the government believes that this issue is so impor-

[Mr. Douglas.]

tant, involving as it does the balance of individual liberties and the safety of the community, that the people of Canada ought to be involved through their representatives in Parliament.

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**PENITENTIARIES**

**MILLHAVEN—CURTAILMENT OF VISIT BY CERTAIN  
MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT**

**Mr. Frank Howard (Skeena):** Mr. Speaker, as expected, I should like to direct a question to the Solicitor General. Inasmuch as he sat silent during the question of privilege that was raised earlier, I wonder if he would mind telling the House whether he in fact gave the instruction or orders that we were not to be permitted to remain within Millhaven institution?

[Translation]

**Hon. Jean-Pierre Goyer (Solicitor General):** Yes, Mr. Speaker.

[English]

**Mr. Howard (Skeena):** Would the minister mind enlarging upon that a little bit and take the House into his confidence and tell us by what authority he did so?

[Translation]

**Mr. Goyer:** Mr. Speaker, as it has been said, visiting rights in penitentiaries were abolished by act of Parliament in 1961. However, the practice has been maintained and since I was appointed Solicitor General, I have given no instructions to end this practice, or, in other words, to deprive hon. members of the right to visit our penitentiaries without advance notice.

On the other hand, I have not forgone either the advantages of the act and in my opinion whenever there are valid reasons to prevent any visit, I must make a decision and advise hon. members when they are courteous enough to contract me beforehand.

Considering the present conditions, there are three reasons why I feel justified in denying this visit: firstly, a board of inquiry has been appointed. Besides, two investigations are now being carried out, the first by the coroner and the second by the Ontario Provincial Police.

The second reason—

[English]

**Mr. Howard (Skeena):** Mr. Speaker, I have one additional supplementary question. May I say at the outset to the Minister that evasiveness is no substitute for intelligence.

**Some hon. Members:** Oh, oh!

**Mr. Howard (Skeena):** Inasmuch as he has already said that the report of the commission of inquiry will not be made public, that none of the reports of other inquiries will be made public and that the Standing Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs will not have the opportunity to visit Millhaven, may I ask him very simply if he would mind telling the House what he is afraid of? What have you got to hide?