

Inquiries of the Ministry

Mr. Pearson: But I also believe their public sessions are completed.

Mr. Gene Rhéaume (Northwest Territories): A supplementary question to the Prime Minister. The question arises from press reports of today. Can the Prime Minister confirm that the B and B gang will in fact be examining television, radio and newspaper media in this country?

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for St. John's West.

Mr. Rhéaume: Mr. Speaker, I would like to debate this question at ten o'clock.

Mr. Speaker: Could I suggest to the hon. member that the use of the word "gang" in connection with a royal commission does not exactly dignify such a body.

Mr. Rhéaume: Mr. Speaker, I give notice that I wish to debate this question at ten o'clock.

REPORTED STATEMENT BY MEMBER OF
ROYAL COMMISSION

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Heath Macquarrie (Queens): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Prime Minister which is prompted by a report in today's *Gazette* in which a member of the royal commission on bilingualism and biculturalism is quoted directly as saying that he did not believe in the recommendations of the commission, which would not change anything. Is the Prime Minister investigating this utterance, and has he had word of any resignation from any member of the commission?

Right Hon. L. B. Pearson (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I think if I investigated every utterance made on the work of this commission I would be doing nothing else.

TRANSPORT

DELAY IN SHIPMENTS OF FREIGHT TO
NEWFOUNDLAND

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Richard Cashin (St. John's West): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Transport. Could the minister inform the house what steps the government is taking to alleviate the great backlog of freight waiting to be shipped to Newfoundland via North Sydney and Port aux Basques?

Hon. J. W. Pickersgill (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker—

with hon. Mr. Courcy, everything was settled and we agreed on the interpretation to be given to ARDA in the province of Quebec. We are to meet in Mont Joli next July 4; members of the press gallery of the House of Commons and of the Quebec legislature will be present.

Mr. Pigeon: Another supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Could the minister tell the house who was wrong, the Quebec minister of agriculture or himself?

Mr. Sauvé: Mr. Speaker, I will publish this afternoon the whole text of the speech I gave in Matane and the hon. member will have the opportunity to see the stand taken by the Quebec minister of agriculture and myself in that respect.

Mr. Pigeon: I have another supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Is the minister ready to table—

[Text]

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. This is becoming a debate.

ARTS, LETTERS AND SCIENCES

EMPLOYMENT BY ROYAL COMMISSION OF
RESEARCH STAFF

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Lloyd R. Crouse (Queens-Lunenburg): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Secretary of State. Would the minister inform the house whether the two man royal commission on bilingualism and biculturalism plans to hire 45 full-time and part-time researchers at public expense to undertake various projects; and if so, would he tell the house the exact nature of these projects?

Hon. Maurice Lamontagne (Secretary of State): Mr. Speaker, I think this question should be directed to the Prime Minister.

Right Hon. L. B. Pearson (Prime Minister): Yes, Mr. Speaker; and in view of the nature of the question and the lengthy reply that would be required, I suggest it be put on the order paper.

Mr. A. D. Hales (Wellington South): A supplementary question to the Prime Minister, Mr. Speaker. Will this same commission be holding public hearings or meetings in Toronto and Montreal?

Mr. Pearson: I believe they have already held meetings there. I am not sure.

Mr. Woolliams: No, they haven't.