

*Inquiries of the Ministry*

but there was no total figure arrived at. I understand that he did afterwards discuss the matter with the minister and the officials of the Department of Transport, but there is no recommendation as yet before the council.

**COMBINES INVESTIGATION ACT****SUGAR—INQUIRY AS TO PRICE INCREASES AND ALLEGED MONOPOLY**

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. Stanley Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre):** Mr. Speaker, may I ask the Minister of Justice if he is aware that since the outbreak of the situation in the Suez a number of sugar companies in Canada have raised their prices on sugar six or seven times, amounting to around 75 cents per hundred pounds, and that from their price lists, a number of which I have in my hand, there is a strong suspicion that they are acting as a combine? Will the minister have this situation looked into? Would he like to have these price lists put into the hands of Mr. MacDonald?

**Hon. Stuart S. Garson (Minister of Justice):** As a matter of routine, Mr. Speaker, the officers of the department keep movements of prices of the kind to which my hon. friend refers under observation. While I have not personally checked in that connection, I would be surprised if they had not already taken cognizance of the ones to which he refers. I have no objection to receiving the documents he has and turning them over to Mr. MacDonald.

**Mr. Knowles:** I shall send them over.

**UNITED NATIONS****SYRIA AND JORDAN—INQUIRY AS TO INCREASE IN EMERGENCY POLICE FORCE**

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. J. G. Diefenbaker (Prince Albert):** I should like to direct a question to the Secretary of State for External Affairs and ask him whether or not, in view of the present situation in Syria and Jordan, consideration has been given by the secretary general to an increase in the numbers of the emergency police force, and what requests, if any, have been received as to the allocation of members for that additional force?

**Hon. L. B. Pearson (Secretary of State for External Affairs):** In reply to the first part of his question, Mr. Speaker—my hon. friend asked this question the other day—the information received would not indicate that there is any change in the situation on the Syrian-Jordan border, certainly no deterioration, though it remains serious.

[Mr. St. Laurent (Quebec East).]

So far as the second part of this question is concerned, the United Nations force is being steadily built up. It has now reached a figure of something over 4,000 and, as I said the other day, 23 countries have offered contributions to it. The extension of the functions of that force to cover Jordan and Syrian borders will require, not a decision from the secretary general but a decision from the assembly of the United Nations.

**Mr. Howard C. Green (Vancouver-Quadra):** May I ask the Secretary of State for External Affairs a question supplementary to that asked by the hon. member for Prince Albert? Does the Canadian government believe that the United Nations emergency force should be extended because of the situation existing on the borders of Syria, Jordan and Israel, or does it not? Further, does the Canadian government believe that power should be given by the United Nations for such a force to intervene in that area?

**Mr. Pearson:** Mr. Speaker, that is, of course, a very good question. The force was set up to do a specific job, a very important and difficult one. The extension of the functions of the force to cover other areas raises also difficult and complicated questions, and might at this time interfere with the original functions that have been agreed on.

I would also point out there are United Nations truce observers on the border of Syria and Jordan at the present time, and when a statement was made at United Nations, I think it was last week, to the effect that there had been certain incidents on the Syrian border brought about by Israeli troops it was possible for the United Nations observer to report on the inaccuracy of this statement at once. Therefore, the borders have, at least, the advantage of observation by the United Nations. The extension of the function of this police force to cover borders where there has been up to the present time no major incident leading to war is an important matter and is now under consideration, but I cannot say anything more about it than that at the present moment.

[Later:]

**REPORTED VETO BY EGYPT OF ENTRY OF FURTHER CANADIAN FORCES**

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. J. C. Van Horne (Restigouche-Madawaska):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Secretary of State for External Affairs. Is there anything to the rumour that Colonel Nasser has also objected to the Canadian government sending Royal typewriters to Egypt?