

Mr. Saltsman: Has the Minister of Finance given consideration to the present access of the Merrill Lynch Company to the Bank of Canada through the Royal Securities Corporation and the effect this might have on the confidential relationships with the bank? Is it the minister's intention to restrict this access solely to Canadian-owned firms?

Mr. Benson: At the time the Moore Committee was carrying out a study of this matter the Department of Finance, in conjunction with the Bank of Canada, was also looking at the federal implications thereof. I hope to present to the House in due course a report indicating our views in this regard.

Hon. Marcel Lambert (Edmonton West): I wonder if the minister would be able to make some progress in the establishment of a national securities commission by obtaining greater co-operation from the provinces than has been obtained by his colleague, the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs, who has made no progress in 18 months?

[Translation]

INQUIRY OF THE MINISTRY

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Villeneuve.

Mr. Réal Caouette (Témiscamingue): For Témiscamingue, Mr. Speaker.

I should like to direct a question to the Secretary of State for External Affairs, as Acting Prime Minister.

According to the news this morning, there will probably be a change of government in Great Britain. Does the government intend to send a telegram of congratulations to the sole Liberal member elected yesterday in Great Britain?

[English]

ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE

DETENTION IN JAIL FOR LONG PERIODS OF PERSONS AWAITING TRIAL

Mr. R. N. Thompson (Red Deer): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Justice. Is he aware that yesterday in Montreal, because of lack of evidence, a charge was dismissed against a young man who had been in jail for 16 months without trial or even bail? Will he please assure the House that this case will be investigated? Would he also check into the allegation that

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people are sitting in jail because judges are away on vacation or because there are not enough judges to deal with cases?

Hon. John N. Turner (Minister of Justice): I will certainly take this up with the Attorney General of Quebec.

AIRPORTS

AVAILABILITY OF TAXIS TO SERVE PUBLIC

Mr. S. J. Korchinski (Mackenzie): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Minister of Transport. I would like to ask whether he intends to allow the present practice of taxi firms keeping the travelling public waiting following the arrival of planes to continue, or will he instruct these firms to check the times of arrival of planes and have taxis available for the convenience of the public rather than at the convenience of the taxi firms?

Mr. Speaker: I interpret the hon. member's question as a representation to the minister. The House has to assume it has been noted.

INDUSTRY

ASSISTANCE TO ENAMEL AND HEATING AIRCRAFT DIVISION

Mr. Robert C. Coates (Cumberland-Colchester North): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Supply and Services. Will the minister look into alternate ways and means of assisting the aircraft division of Enamel and Heating at Amherst, which has found its work load severely curtailed because of the phase-out of the Yukon and Argus aircraft?

Hon. James Richardson (Minister of Supply and Services): Mr. Speaker, I have already indicated to the House that the department is receiving tenders on that work at the present time, and these will be opened shortly.

PROVISION OF WORK AT FAIREY AVIATION PLANT

Mr. J. M. Forrestall (Dartmouth-Halifax East): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a supplementary question to the Minister of Supply and Services. For many, many months the 400 or 500 workmen at the Fairey Aviation of Canada plant at Eastern Passage have been in employment one day and out the next, and they are now in quite a desperate plight. Will the question of the overhaul of the Argus and Tracker aircraft be cleared up by the end of June?