

legislative provisions within which certain bankruptcy proceedings must be taken while this committee is undertaking its study, which apparently is to take a year?

**Mr. Cardin:** No, Mr. Speaker, the committee will proceed with its study, which will take perhaps a year, with a view to revising the Bankruptcy Act. However, there are amendments which we intend to bring before parliament as soon as possible and which will deal with the areas of contention in this field.

**Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Leader of the Opposition):** If the investigation is to take a year there would be some people escape because of the passage of time and the statute of limitations. Is it the intention to introduce any amendment during the period of a year to the effect that the statute of limitations shall not run so these people will not escape if they should be charged?

**Mr. Cardin:** It appears that there is a misunderstanding of the purpose of the committee which is being set up. The committee that is being set up is to continue the studies that there were made by the Department of Justice in connection with the revision of the Bankruptcy Act. It is not an inquiry into any irregularities. It has to do with the revision of the Bankruptcy Act, and the people who have been chosen to do this are very competent in that field.

**Mr. Nielsen:** I do not believe, Mr. Speaker, the minister has appreciated the importance of the point we are trying to get across. A legislative limitation is placed on the time within which certain proceedings must be commenced under the Bankruptcy Act. In view of the fact that some individuals concerned may not act because of the existence of this committee, is it the government's intention to suspend the operation of these limitation provisions?

**Mr. Cardin:** I will analyse the hon. member's question.

**Mr. Andrew Brewin (Greenwood):** May I ask a further supplementary question. I wonder whether the minister could explain why, after four years of complaints and suggestions from various business organizations like the institute of chartered accountants, it is now found necessary to get outside advice and form a commission that will take another year to study the matter. Why is this necessary?

**Mr. Speaker:** Order.

### *Inquiries of the Ministry*

#### CANADIAN NATIONAL RAILWAYS

##### REQUEST FOR IMPROVED SERVICE BETWEEN HALIFAX AND MONTREAL

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. Lloyd R. Crouse (Queens-Lunenburg):** I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Transport. The press has reported that the cabinet is studying a \$15 million proposal to finance the purchase of a fleet of gas turbine super engines for the Canadian National Toronto to Montreal run, capable of speeds up to 160 miles an hour. In view of the importance of providing speedy transportation and train service between the Atlantic provinces and the Montreal-Toronto area, will the minister give similar consideration to establishing a super train between Halifax and Montreal to replace the Ocean Limited?

**Hon. J. W. Pickersgill (Minister of Transport):** I think I can—

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. This question should be placed on the order paper.

**Mr. Pickersgill:** Bring it up on the estimates.

#### VETERANS AFFAIRS

##### INQUIRY AS TO GOVERNMENT ACTION RESPECTING HONG KONG VETERANS

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. J. Chester MacRae (York-Sunbury):** I should like to address a question to the Minister of Veterans Affairs. Is the minister now prepared to make any statement on the report he tabled on Friday in connection with the Hong Kong veterans?

**Hon. Roger Teillet (Minister of Veterans Affairs):** No, Mr. Speaker. The report is now being studied by the Canadian Pension Commission and it will be a few days before we are in a position to reach any decision in this matter.

**Mr. H. W. Herridge (Kootenay West):** Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question. Can the minister inform the house when he will be able to make a report as to the government's consideration of the requests of the Legion and other veterans organizations for amendments to the Pension Act, the War Veterans Allowance Act and other veterans legislation, including the subject just mentioned?

**Mr. Teillet:** Mr. Speaker, I think I will read that question in *Hansard* and answer it subsequently.