

*Inquiries of the Ministry*

take action to prevent the takeover of Ryerson Press by an American concern, thus adding to the loss of a sector of the economy important to the development of Canadian identity and culture, and the fact that today is the last day on which action can be taken before the completion of the sale of Ryerson Press to McGraw-Hill.

**Mr. Speaker:** The hon. member for Regina East has filed the notice required under the terms of Standing Order 26. The Standing Order outlines the factors which have to be taken into account by the Chair in determining whether the House should be adjourned for the purpose of such a motion. In fact, Standing Order 26 (16)(a) requires that the matter proposed for discussion must relate to a genuine emergency.

On many occasions it has been determined that the emergency contemplated by the rule implies a new, unforeseen or sudden circumstance which requires immediate consideration by the House. I do not think that the rule applies to situations which have been public knowledge for a number of weeks, as evidenced in this instance by numerous questions asked by hon. members. The first question was asked on October 9. Many other questions were asked since then and answers given, satisfactory or otherwise, depending on the judgment of the hon. members who asked the questions. On November 10 the hon. member for Skeena proposed under Standing Order 43 that the matter be referred to the Standing Committee on Finance, Trade and Economic Affairs.

It will be seen that the matter proposed for discussion today by the hon. member for Regina East can hardly be said to have arisen suddenly and in this sense is not an emergency. The Standing Order also requires that the matter come within the administrative responsibility of the government. There is some doubt in my mind whether this requirement of the Standing Order has been met in this instance.

I also suggest to the hon. member that his proposed motion is along the lines of a non-confidence motion. He proposes to discuss at this time the failure of the government to take certain action. In this sense the hon. member is proposing that the House consider a grievance or that the House consider a non-confidence motion.

For all these reasons I doubt very much that it would be in order at this time for the Speaker to put the motion of the hon. member for the consideration of the House under the terms of Standing Order 26.

under the War Measures Act regulations had been beaten and that he proposed to conduct his own investigation into this. As Prime Minister of Canada is he satisfied that this is an adequate response by the Quebec Minister of Justice to these findings of beatings of persons who were arrested under regulations issued by the government of Canada?

**Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister):** That is my reaction, Mr. Speaker; it is a satisfactory response. It will, of course, depend on what the response develops into. There have been communications, as usual, between our ministers and the Quebec ministers. For the time being I feel that it is a satisfactory response. If the Leader of the Opposition wants to suggest any other response, I will consider it.

**Mr. Stanfield:** As the leader of the government does the Prime Minister not consider it his responsibility to make strenuous representations to the province of Quebec for an independent investigation into these alleged beatings in order to assure the people of Canada that an adequate investigation is being made into events that Canadians do not like to think are occurring in Canada?

**Mr. Trudeau:** Mr. Speaker, I would be prepared to consider the representations of the Leader of the Opposition that he does not have faith in the trustworthiness of the commission of investigation set up by the Quebec minister.

**Mr. Crouse:** That is not what he said.

**Mr. Stanfield:** Mr. Speaker, I indicated that I did not think an investigation by the Minister of Justice of Quebec would be independent, at least as we understand the word. I ask the Prime Minister not to twist my words in the way that he has.

**Some hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Mr. David MacDonald (Egmont):** Will the Prime Minister indicate whether in his consultations, or those of the Minister of Justice or the Solicitor General, with the provincial authorities there has been any suggestion that after the provincial investigation has been concluded some form of public statement will be issued to assure the general population of Quebec with regard to these matters?

**Mr. Trudeau:** I think that is a desirable eventuality. I will express the hope that it is proceeded with in that way. I am not sure, but I believe there have already been representations to this effect. I will, of course, convey this suggestion to the Quebec Minister of Justice.

**Mr. Eldon M. Woolliams (Calgary North):** A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. I believe a couple of days ago I asked the Minister of Justice whether he would consider setting up a judicial inquiry, and I was wondering whether the minister had had some conversation with the Minister of Justice of Quebec with regard to setting-up such an inquiry at the provincial level. Has the Minister of Justice had any such conversation since I asked

**ORAL QUESTION PERIOD****NATIONAL SECURITY****WAR MEASURES ACT—INVESTIGATION OF BEATING OF PERSONS ARRESTED**

**Hon. Robert L. Stanfield (Leader of the Opposition):** I wish to direct a question to the Prime Minister relating to the statement made by the Minister of Justice of Quebec over the weekend that some persons arrested

[Mr. Burton.]