

Inquiries of the Ministry

of Canada Limited advises that the contract between Atomic Energy of Canada Limited and the Atomic Energy Council of Taiwan is a commercial contract and it has not been customary to make public documents of this class because of the confidential nature of their contents. I would therefore ask the hon. member to withdraw his motion.

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Question.

Mr. Gilbert: Question.

Mr. MacEachen: Transfer for debate.

Mr. Speaker: Transferred for debate.

STUDIES REGARDING CONSIDERATION TO CONVERTING
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT INTO CROWN
CORPORATION

Motion No. 137—**Mr. Gilbert:**

That an Order of the House do issue for copies of all studies, reviews, etc., that have been undertaken by the Government of Canada regarding the consideration being given to converting the Public Works Department into a Crown Corporation.

Mr. J. A. Jerome (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): Mr. Speaker, I am advised by the Minister of Public Works that as stated when an identical motion was called during the previous session, all studies on this subject are of a confidential nature and intended for internal use only. Therefore the hon. member might agree to withdraw his motion.

Mr. Gilbert: Transfer for debate.

Mr. Speaker: Transferred for debate.

Mr. Jerome: Mr. Speaker, I ask that the remaining notices of motions be allowed to stand.

Mr. Speaker: Shall the remaining notices of motion stand?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

NATIONAL SECURITY

KIDNAPPING AND MURDER OF PIERRE LAPORTE—POLICE SURVEILLANCE OF PAUL ROSE

Hon. Robert L. Stanfield (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, on Monday I asked the Solicitor General a question relating to the surveillance of one Rose, a prime suspect in Quebec, and why he had not been picked up. Has the Solicitor General had an opportunity to review the answer he gave, which was to the effect that there was not sufficient evidence to arrest Rose at the time, inasmuch as a report has since come out of Montreal that

[Mr. Jerome.]

the Montreal police believe there was sufficient evidence to arrest Rose and, in fact, at that time a number of people were, I believe, being picked up without very much evidence in any event?

Hon. G. J. McIlraith (Solicitor General): Mr. Speaker, after hearing about the CBC broadcast last night I first of all tried to procure a transcript of it and its references to this question. I was advised by them that it would take at least two days before they could give me the transcript.

An hon. Member: Call the CRTC; they will get it for you.

Mr. McIlraith: In any event, this morning I carefully reviewed the question asked by the hon. Leader of the Opposition on Monday and my reply to it. I have no changes whatever to suggest to that answer.

An hon. Member: You never have.

Mr. Stanfield: Mr. Speaker, to avoid any misunderstanding, does the minister mean to suggest that he consulted again with the people on the spot to ensure that the information on which he based his opinion was correct?

Mr. McIlraith: Mr. Speaker, the minister consulted the authority whom he normally consults on this type of question in the House, the federal authority, the only authority we have, and his answer given today is made after detailed consultation with them on this point.

WAR MEASURES ACT—ARRESTS, RELEASES, CONTINUING DETENTIONS AND CHARGES

Hon. Robert L. Stanfield (Leader of the Opposition): I have a question for the Minister of Justice, Mr. Speaker. Is he now able to give me the information which I have sought four times, I believe, namely, how many of those who have been detained under the War Measures Act have been detained for longer than seven days at the request of the Attorney General of the province concerned?

Hon. John N. Turner (Minister of Justice): Mr. Speaker, I hope there is no implication in the question asked by the Leader of the Opposition that I did not try to get the information for him and for the House as quickly as possible. The number of persons arrested and detained as of 11.40 this morning under the regulations pursuant to the War Measures Act is 424, the number of persons released, 359, and the number of persons still in custody, 65. Of the 65 persons in custody 46 are in custody in Montreal and 19 are in custody in other parts of the province.

A total of 228 orders were issued by the Attorney General of Quebec pursuant to subsection 2 of section 9 of the emergency regulations authorizing detention beyond seven days. The breakdown is as follows: Montreal, 148; Quebec City, 54; Rimouski, 8; Sherbrooke, 2; Hull, 11; Victoriaville, 3; St. Jerome, 1 and Thetford Mines, 1, for a total of 228.