Inquiries of the Ministry

[English]

Mr. Diefenbaker: Mr. Speaker, I think that information should be available because over a year ago the matter was brought before the House and the Secretary of State at that time apparently did not know of the existence of these FLQ people—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I do not believe the right hon. member is asking a supplementary question. The hon. member for Fraser Valley West on a supplementary.

OPPORTUNITY FOR REBUTTAL ON PROGRAM, "WEEKEND"

Mr. Mark Rose (Fraser Valley West): Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask the Secretary of State if he will investigate whether or not it is the policy of the CBC television program, "Weekend", to allow anyone criticized on that program the opportunity of rebuttal on a subsequent show, or is this privilege confined to cabinet ministers such as—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member's supplementary question is obviously an argument or a grievance. I would not think it is a legitimate question. If hon. members will allow me, we will try to go to another subject at this point.

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

MEETING BETWEEN PRIME MINISTER AND PRIME MINISTER OF ISRAEL

Hon. George Hees (Prince Edward-Hastings): Mr. Speaker, may I direct a question to the Prime Minister. Has the Prime Minister met with Prime Minister Golda Meir today to discuss matters of mutual concern to both countries? If so, has he anything to communicate to the House about possible changes in Canada's attitude toward the Middle East situation, or anything of interest to tell the House?

An hon. Member: Or about the War Measures Act.

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I had a very interesting meeting indeed with the Prime Minister of Israel. We talked essentially about the Middle East and the problems there, and there is nothing at this time that I can communicate to the House.

An hon. Member: Does she have a War Measures Act?

Mr. Trudeau: Don't you know?

NATIONAL SECURITY

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

Hon. Robert L. Stanfield (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, the Minister of Justice will recall that last

week I asked him two or three times how many persons were being held under the War Measures Act regulations beyond the period of seven days at the request of the Minister of Justice of the province of Quebec or of any province?

Hon. John N. Turner (Minister of Justice): Mr. Speaker, I can give the hon. gentleman and the House the statistics as I have them as of 11 p.m. last night. Four hundred and twenty people have been arrested and 286 released; therefore 134 are still detained. Answering his question of last week, I can say that none of those who have been released have been charged. No charges have yet been laid against those still detained. I still have not been able to obtain a breakdown of how many have been held after seven days but I assume that I can obtain this information at an early date. The statistics I have been given have not been broken down that way.

Mr. Stanfield: Would it be fair to assume at this date that a very substantial percentage of the 132 people being held have now been held for more than seven days?

Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton): Mr. Speaker, I would not like to assume that, no.

Mr. Stanfield: Is it so difficult for the minister to obtain this information which it seems to me is highly relevant to the current situation?

Mr. Baldwin: The Prime Minister makes irrelevant statements.

Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton): They are not irrelevant. I have received every co-operation from the Attorney General of the province of Quebec, but for this particular breakdown I have not been able to get the figures.

Mr. Robert McCleave (Halifax-East Hants): May I direct a supplementary question to the Minister of Justice, Mr. Speaker. When he reports on that matter, will he also report on approximately how many people are still being sought?

Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton): Mr. Speaker, I will report on this.

[Later:]

Mr. Les Benjamin (Regina-Lake Centre): Mr. Speaker, may I ask the Minister of Justice whether, among the total of 420 people who have been arrested, there are any who were arrested, released and then arrested again?

Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton): Mr. Speaker, I do not have that information, but I will obtain it.

INDUSTRY

FINANCIAL SETTLEMENT WITH DOSCO SHAREHOLDERS—SUBMISSION TO HOUSE

Hon. John N. Turner (Minister of Justice): While I have the floor, Mr. Speaker, I should like to reply to the hon.