

Inquiries of the Ministry

capital of Lesotho, formerly Basutoland, I instructed our embassy in South Africa to make an investigation.

Our embassy immediately got in touch with the police in Lesotho, which confirmed that Father Ménard had been stabbed several times and that this murder had been committed during a burglary involving a certain amount of money. We are told now that four Basutos, who had been arrested by the police in Lesotho last September with regard to Father Ménard's death, have been formally charged with that murder and that the case will be heard by the High Court of Lesotho early in 1967.

[English]

OLD AGE SECURITY

QUEBEC—PROVINCIAL LEGISLATION ASSERTING EXCLUSIVE JURISDICTION

On the orders of the day:

Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, I would ask the Prime Minister whether his attention has been drawn to the fact that in the speech from the throne in Quebec today it was proposed that legislation be introduced asserting "exclusive jurisdiction by the province over old age security within the province"? I ask him whether there has been any discussion on this matter between the government of the Dominion of Canada and the government of Quebec, and has this departure from the legislation passed by parliament and approved generally by the provinces, been decided upon as a result of agreement and consultation?

Right Hon. L. B. Pearson (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I would like to have an opportunity to see the speech from the throne in question, delivered today in Quebec. I have not yet had that opportunity and I prefer not to comment on any part of it until I have a chance to read it.

Mr. Diefenbaker: May I ask the Prime Minister if there has been any discussion between these two governments on this matter, or is the government of Quebec acting unilaterally in stating this legislation is going to be brought in?

Mr. Pearson: Mr. Speaker, there has been no discussion on this matter in the terms in which my right hon. friend referred to it as being in the speech from the throne.

[Mr. Martin (Essex East).]

TRANSPORT

TRANSFER OF SHIPPING TO PORT OF NEW YORK

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Warren Allmand (Notre-Dame-de-Grâce): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Minister of Transport, or in his absence to his parliamentary secretary. Would the minister tell the house whether he has received reports that several Canadian shippers, including Du Pont of Canada, are switching their shipping business to the port of New York from the port of Montreal because the port of Montreal has failed to introduce certain efficiency measures that are required?

Mr. J. A. Byrne (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, I shall be glad to have the departmental officials look into this matter at once.

POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT

DELAY IN DELIVERY OF PUBLICATIONS

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Robert Muir (Cape Breton North and Victoria): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Postmaster General. In view of the fact that it takes a period of two weeks by mail for the *Western Catholic Reporter* to arrive in Nova Scotia from Edmonton, and that the *Canadian Register* takes 7 days to reach Nova Scotia from Kingston, Ontario, would the Postmaster General be so kind as to investigate the reason for this rather poor service?

Mr. Speaker: Order please. The minister has noted the representations, but I do not think the matter can be raised as a question at this time.

Mr. Muir (Cape Breton North and Victoria): On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, I really appreciate your remarks, but with all due deference to you, sir, a few moments ago we had a number of questions on bonds which I presume were purchased over a period of time. This is a question that has been brought to my attention not only by the clergy but by a newspaper in Nova Scotia which printed an editorial about it. It is something that is current and I think is rather important.

Mr. Speaker: Order. I am sure it is current and important but, as the hon. member knows, he can take the matter up at ten o'clock this evening. I expect it could wait until then.