

*Inquiries of the Ministry*

[English]

**PENITENTIARIES****BRITISH COLUMBIA—REFERENCE TO SUICIDE  
OF PRISONER**

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. Frank Howard (Skeena):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Acting Solicitor General. I should explain that my question is based upon the written reply given yesterday to question No. 2182 which indicated that one Mr. Edward Elroy Hunt, an inmate in the B.C. penitentiary up till June 26 of this year, committed suicide by tying his shoe lace to a towel rack, the towel rack being only 30 inches above the ground. I should like to ask the minister whether he could explain to the house how a person can hang himself when he is suspended from something only two and a half feet above the floor.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order. I doubt whether the house would want the minister to attempt an explanation at this time.

**LABOUR CONDITIONS****COST OF COMPILATION OF  
MARKET ANALYSES**

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. Donald MacInnis (Cape Breton South):** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the minister of manpower. I ask the minister whether a labour analysis is being compiled in the Department of Manpower.

**Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Manpower and Immigration):** Yes, Mr. Speaker.

**Hon. Michael Starr (Ontario):** A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. My question is for the President of the Treasury Board, but in his absence I will direct it to the Prime Minister. In view of the answer given by the Minister of Labour yesterday that this analysis was being compiled in his department with the co-operation of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, would the Prime Minister look into the resultant cost to the taxpayers of identical work being done by two government departments?

**Mr. Speaker:** Order.

[Later:]

**Mr. MacInnis (Cape Breton South):** Mr. Speaker, I have a question supplementary to my original question. I ask the Prime Minister whether, in addition to looking into the unnecessary cost of duplication to the Canadian taxpayer, he would also advise the house who authorized this unusual move.

[Mr. Greene.]

**ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE****HAL BANKS—EXTRADITION PROCEEDINGS  
ON FEDERAL INITIATIVE**

On the orders of the day:

**Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Leader of the Opposition):** Mr. Speaker, I do not want to hold up the Prime Minister—I see he is about to leave his seat—but I am wondering whether he has an answer to the question I asked him yesterday regarding the recommendation for extradition proceedings, and if the failure of any provincial government to act would result in the federal government proceeding?

**Right Hon. L. B. Pearson (Prime Minister):** Mr. Speaker, I have had a reply to that question submitted to me, but the Solicitor General will be returning to Ottawa this evening and I should like to discuss it with him. After I have shown him the reply, I hope I will be able to answer tomorrow. I apologize for being a day late.

**CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY****PRESSURE TO RULE ON APPLICATIONS FOR  
BRANCH LINE ABANDONMENT**

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. L. R. Sherman (Winnipeg South):** Mr. Speaker, my question is to the Minister of Transport. May I ask the minister whether the C.P.R. will be permitted, as has been the case in recent days, to continue pressing the Board of Transport Commissioners to rule on some of these branch line abandonment applications when the whole subject is under the purview of the transportation legislation which is soon coming up for third reading?

**Hon. J. W. Pickersgill (Minister of Transport):** Mr. Speaker, I am not sure whether the premises on which the hon. gentleman has based his question are correct. I would have to inquire into the premises before I could give an answer to the question which would be meaningful.

**Mr. Sherman:** A supplementary question; is the house to conclude then from the minister's comments that he has not received—

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. That is not a question.

**Mr. J. H. Horner (Acadia):** A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Can we assume from the minister's remarks that the presidents of both the C.P.R. and the C.N.R.—

**Mr. Speaker:** Order.