

*Inquiries of the Ministry***FINANCE****CONSULTATIONS RESPECTING PROPOSED
SECURITIES COMMISSION**

On the orders of the day:

Hon. Marcel Lambert (Edmonton West): Mr. Speaker, in the designated absence of the different ministers concerned I should like to ask the Minister of Justice whether he has been in consultation with his colleagues the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs and the Minister of Finance concerning the establishment of a national securities commission, as advocated by many provincial authorities and many financial organizations in this country.

Mr. Speaker: I doubt very much whether the hon. member can ask if there has been a consultation between members of the cabinet. Perhaps he might like to phrase the question in another way.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): Under the rules now imposed by the Prime Minister there is no other possible way. If the Prime Minister will not assume his responsibilities we must—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

THE CANADIAN ECONOMY**INQUIRY AS TO DEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR
ATLANTIC PROVINCES**

On the orders of the day:

Hon. Robert L. Stanfield (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the designated minister of regional development. I should like to ask him whether it is still the intention that the Atlantic Development Board will bring forward a plan for the economic development of the Atlantic provinces.

[*Translation*]

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Forestry and Rural Development): Mr. Speaker, I think that the Atlantic Development Board will submit its report as usual.

[*English*]

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE**REFERENCE TO COMMITTEE OF ESTIMATES OF
SOLICITOR GENERAL**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Harold E. Winch (Vancouver East): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Solicitor

General. In view of the decision not to reappoint a joint committee on penitentiaries, is it the intention of the minister to have the estimates of his department referred to the appropriate committee as speedily as possible, in order that penitentiary matters can be discussed?

Hon. G. J. McIlraith (Solicitor General): Mr. Speaker, it was my understanding that they already had been referred to the committee.

Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (President of the Privy Council): Mr. Speaker, if I may reply to the hon. member for Vancouver East, the estimates of the Solicitor General were referred to the standing committee on justice and legal affairs on October 16.

**CONTINUATION OF HOUSE DISCUSSION ON
POST OFFICE BILL**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. G. W. Baldwin (Peace River): Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask a question of the President of the Privy Council. To clear up an ambiguity and assuage the anxiety of the Postmaster General, could the President of the Privy Council inform the house the intentions of the government with regard to the post office bill, and tell us whether it will be proceeded with today and tomorrow or just today, as appears from *Hansard* of Friday?

Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (President of the Privy Council): Mr. Speaker, it would be the intention to continue with the post office bill until it has been completed. We are hopeful that we might complete the committee stage by tonight, but if that is not the case we will continue with it as the first order of business tomorrow and thereafter until it is completed, interrupted only by the budget speech tomorrow night.

Mr. Baldwin: A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Would the hon. gentleman indicate when we will be proceeding with the farm loan bills, which this party has twice agreed to facilitate in order that the benefits thereof may be available at once to the farmers?

Mr. Macdonald (Rosedale): Mr. Speaker, both bills would have been passed by this evening if hon. members opposite had been agreeable to that being done. We will proceed with these bills just as soon as we have completed the post office bill.