

Inquiries of the Ministry

Hon. Paul Hellyer (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, this always has the greatest priority when we make amendments to acts and adopt policies to meet the needs of all Canadians, and in particular those with low incomes.

[*Translation*]

VIOLENT DISTURBANCES

REQUEST FOR INVESTIGATIONS BY R.C.M.P. OF MONTREAL BOMBING

Mr. Gilbert Rondeau (Shefford): Mr. Speaker, I should like to put a question to the Prime Minister.

A few years ago the federal government and the R.C.M.P. launched an investigation which led to the discovery of the FLQ movement and of certain separatists responsible for bomb explosions. Now is the federal government ready to act with the same firmness and stubbornness in order to find out if some Maoists, as we have heard, are responsible for this wave of terrorism which we have been experiencing in Quebec during the few last months?

Right Hon. P.-E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I wish to say to the hon. member that the government shares his concern and that I have discussed this problem with the Solicitor General who is doing his duty in that connection.

We have naturally taken for granted that the police both of the City of Montreal and the Province of Quebec are the first responsible in the field and have been doing an excellent job. We are offering them all the co-operation they wish for.

[*English*]

Mr. Steven E. Paproski (Edmonton Centre): May I ask the Solicitor General, by way of a supplementary question, whether the R.C.M.P. has been called to assist in the investigation of the 53 bombings in Montreal. Have they yet reported to the Solicitor General?

Hon. G. J. McIlraith (Solicitor General): Mr. Speaker, there is an arrangement between the police forces as a result of which the Montreal police or the Quebec Provincial Police, as the case may be, co-operate quite closely with the R.C.M.P. in getting any assistance and help they need. That help has been available, is available, and is being used from time to time as the occasion requires.

Mr. Paproski: Mr. Speaker, will the government not accept some responsibility for [Mrs. MacInnis (Vancouver-Kingsway).]

investigating organized anarchy, or must we wait until someone is killed?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

[*Translation*]

REQUEST FOR INVESTIGATION BY STANDING COMMITTEE

Mr. Georges Valade (Sainte-Marie): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the government house leader.

I would like to ask him whether, in view of the serious disorders which are spreading throughout Canada, particularly among students, he would be ready to call a meeting in camera of the standing committee on justice and legal affairs, in order to study this problem, together with the question of the presence of foreign agitators in Canada, and to make recommendations to the government as to what it should do to ensure order and security.

Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (President of the Privy Council): Mr. Speaker, within a few weeks this question and some related ones will be put before the standing committee on justice and legal affairs which therefore will be able to consider this at leisure.

[*English*]

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

MAINLAND CHINA—POLITICAL ACTIVITY OF DIPLOMATIC MISSION PERSONNEL

Mr. R. N. Thompson (Red Deer): Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question. In view of the fact that a sizeable number of students who were involved in the sabotage and destruction at Sir George Williams University were at the time of their arrest carrying and quoting from copies of Mao Tse Tung's little red book, and in view of the recently announced statements of Lin Pao that the correct policy of communists must be to encourage upheaval in all countries, I would ask the Prime Minister if he would inform the house as to whether, in the pending negotiations with Red China on diplomatic recognition, the government is insisting that the numbers of personnel—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member can ask a question but he should not make a speech. What he is doing now is making a statement rather than asking a question.

Mr. Thompson (Red Deer): Mr. Speaker, I am asking a direct question, and my question is simply this, whether or not in the pending negotiations with Red China the government