Inquiries of the Ministry

(Translation):

Mr. Speaker, I want to ask the Solicitor General a question. Has the program "Point de mire" with Mr. Rene Levesque, been discontinued by order of the C.B.C. or by order of the Conservative members for Quebec?

Hon. Leon Balcer (Solicitor General): Absolutely not, Mr. Speaker!

Caron: What does the minister mean by "absolutely not"? "Absolutely not" what?

Mr. H. J. Robichaud (Gloucester): Mr. Speaker, I want to ask the Solicitor General a question. Can the minister inform this house whether he has received protests from hon. members on the government benches, against certain C.B.C. commentators, more particularly against some commentators on the French network who, according to those hon. representatives, do not always favour government policy?

(Text):

Mr. Speaker: I am not sure how the hon. member relates his question to the administrative responsibility of the Solicitor General. It seems to me it should have been directed to the minister through whom the C.B.C. reports.

Mr. Robichaud: On the point of order, the Toronto Star yesterday carried an article to the effect that the Solicitor General had received certain representations and that he had transmitted those representations to the C.B.C. management. This is why I addressed my question to the Solicitor General. I wanted to find out whether he had received the representations referred to.

Mr. Balcer: Mr. Speaker, I do not recall having received any representations mentioned by the hon. member.

Mr. Robichaud: Will the Solicitor General check and find out whether he has received them?

[Later:]

Mr. Caron: Mr. Speaker, may I direct a question to the Minister of National Revenue. Is there any truth in the rumour that the member for Roberval would like to take the place of Rene Levesque on "Point de Mire"?

COMBINES INVESTIGATION ACT

PROPOSED MERGER OF B.C. LUMBER COMPANIES

On the orders of the day:

[Mr. Caron.]

earlier. Has the attention of the minister been drawn to a proposed merger of two of Canada's largest integrated timber processing companies, namely MacMillan and Bloedel Limited and Powell River Company Limited? Can the minister indicate whether this proposed merger will be reviewed by the combines investigation branch in order to determine whether the merger or steps leading to it contravene the combines laws?

Hon. E. D. Fulton (Minister of Justice): My attention has been drawn to the report of the proposed merger and the matter, in accordance with the usual practice, is being looked into by the combines branch. The usual practice to which I refer is that all mergers of companies of this size and nature are automatically inquired into to see if there is cause for formal inquiry.

DOMINION-PROVINCIAL CONFERENCE

INQUIRY AS TO COMMUNICATION FROM QUEBEC ON CONFERENCE AGENDA

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Alexis Caron (Hull): May I direct a question to the Minister of Finance, Mr. Speaker. Has the minister received any news from the Quebec government about the agenda which is to be submitted on Monday next?

Hon. Donald M. Fleming (Minister of Finance): No, Mr. Speaker. I gave an answer to that question yesterday, and as far as I know there has been no communication received since I answered that question yesterday.

Mr. Caron: I have another question. Since yesterday has there been any official news about the premier of Quebec coming to the conference?

Mr. Fleming (Eglinton): No, Mr. Speaker, I have no further information on that subject which interests my hon. friend so much.

PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS

STATEMENT ON MAINTENANCE OF HISTORICAL RECORD

On the orders of the day:

Hon. Howard C. Green (Minister of Public Works): Mr. Speaker, on July 1 the hon. member for Kootenay West asked a question which also contained a request for the maintenance of a historical record in respect of the parliament buildings. I now have an answer from the Department of Public Works, as follows. Collection of in-Mr. Frank Howard (Skeena): Mr. Speaker, formation is taking place with respect to I should like to address a question to the the carvings and other historical aspects by Minister of Justice. I sent notice to him the Department of Public Works. In addition,