

*Inquiries of the Ministry*

of that committee shall be acceded to and the committee would be empowered to employ technical assistance?

**Mr. Favreau:** For the moment I can announce only the government's intention to set up the committee. I am not in a position today to comment further.

**FINANCE**

POLICY RESPECTING APPLICATIONS FOR BANK CHARTERS

On the orders of the day:

**Hon. Paul Martineau (Pontiac-Temiscamingue):** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Finance. Will the minister say whether the government has set any policy in regard to applications for bank charters, which are being submitted in increasing numbers?

**Hon. Walter L. Gordon (Minister of Finance):** Mr. Speaker, the Bank Act provides for that.

**Mr. Martineau:** Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question to the question I just posed to the Minister of Finance. I should like to ask him, in view of the announcement made earlier that the revision of the Bank Act would probably be deferred until the report of the royal commission is received, whether he can say if he will take any measures to defer the applications for bank charters which are presently being submitted to the government agency.

**Mr. Gordon:** Mr. Speaker, I must thank the hon. member for Parry Sound-Muskoka for giving me a slightly different version of the question that has just been put, and perhaps I might answer them both together.

I have indicated publicly that the government is not opposed to further competition in the banking field providing that any new bank is adequately financed and is supported by financially responsible people, and that provision is made for retaining control in Canada. The government has not given its endorsement to any application for the incorporation of any bank which may be made, as I mentioned a moment ago, pursuant to the rules laid down in the Bank Act, the procedure following its normal course.

**Mr. Colin Cameron (Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands):** Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question for the Minister of Finance. What provisions to ensure the retention of Canadian ownership of any new chartered bank has the minister in mind?

**Mr. Gordon:** Mr. Speaker, I will make that clear at the appropriate time. I do not think

I should like to express a view until we have received the report of the royal commission on banking and finance.

**COMBINES**

SUGGESTED CREATION OF MARKETING ADVISORY COUNCIL

On the orders of the day:

**Hon. Michael Starr (Ontario):** Mr. Speaker, I wish to address a question to the Minister of Justice. Possibly he has not yet had an opportunity to acquaint himself with this aspect, but I should like to ask him whether consideration has been completed and a decision arrived at with regard to the request contained in the brief of the distributive trades advisory committee that the government set up a marketing advisory council and repeal section 34 of the Combines Investigation Act.

**Hon. Guy Favreau (Minister of Justice):** Mr. Speaker, may I take that question as notice.

**VETERANS AFFAIRS**

POSSIBLE TRANSFER OF HOSPITALS FROM FEDERAL CONTROL

On the orders of the day:

**Hon. Roger Teillet (Minister of Veterans Affairs):** Mr. Speaker, the hon. member for New Westminster asked a question last Wednesday which is reported at page 258 of *Hansard*. The answer is that we have no proposals with respect to Shaughnessy hospital, and none is contemplated at present.

**NATIONAL DEFENCE**

INQUIRIES RESPECTING PROTECTION OF ARMS AND AMMUNITION

On the orders of the day:

**Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Leader of the Opposition):** Mr. Speaker, I wonder whether the Minister of National Defence can provide answers to the questions asked by me yesterday, as found on page 282 of *Hansard*. Among other things I asked him in how many cases following searches have the arms been returned. Second, what happened in Windsor?

**Some hon. Members:** Oh, oh.

**Mr. Diefenbaker:** The minister certainly should be able to answer now with assistance from the Secretary of State for External Affairs. Finally, would the minister advise whether these sensitive areas are located in all provinces, in view of the fact that yesterday he stated he would not tell us which areas were sensitive, a matter to which we will come back shortly?