

mended certain modifications in the administration of the RCMP.

Mr. Brewin: Perhaps I might inform the Prime Minister that Mr. Justice Hall in his telegram was extremely specific. He referred to the break-in and apparent cover-up of the matter that took place in Montreal. That is what he and the organization referred to want an inquiry into, and that is what they said was necessary to clear the RCMP and bring public respect for the law of this country.

Mr. Trudeau: Mr. Speaker, I repeat that I did not see the telegram, but if it is a specific desire to look at the break-in and "apparent cover-up", the RCMP officer has already pleaded guilty in court, and the break-in has already been recognized as an illegal act committed by an RCMP officer. The cover-up that the hon. member talks about is one which might or might not have taken place by the police themselves. The Solicitor General seems to have dealt with this by indicating that in their answer to the former solicitor general the RCMP relied on the fact that an inquiry by the proper authorities was being made in the city of Montreal. The question remains as to what happened to that inquiry, and that is precisely within the terms of reference of the Quebec commission of inquiry. I take it that this will provide an answer to the question which concerns the hon. member and, presumably, Mr. Justice Hall.

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ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE

REASON FOR FEDERAL PARTICIPATION IN FOREST CASE IN MANITOBA

Hon. W. G. Dinsdale (Brandon-Souris): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Justice. Has the government appointed counsel to participate in the judicial proceedings in the courts of the province of Manitoba known as the Forest case and, if so, for what reason?

Hon. Ron Basford (Minister of Justice): Yes, we have, Mr. Speaker. The counsel appeared on June 10 representing the Attorney General of Canada. The reason we intervened was explained by me in a statement made at that time. We were served notice of the constitutional issue pursuant to the rules of court in Manitoba, and we replied in the affirmative to that. The reason we have intervened is to argue whether it should come before the court of appeal that the Manitoba language act of 1890 is unconstitutional.

Mr. Dinsdale: Is it not the policy of the government to intervene in all situations of this kind?

Mr. Basford: It is not the policy to automatically intervene when served with a motive of intervention on a constitutional point. We obviously make a judgment as to the constitutional issue involved and its importance. Obviously, we have made a decision that this is an important constitutional issue and that

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the court of appeal, should it discuss the issue, is entitled to hear the point of view of the Attorney General of Canada.

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AIR CANADA

PROPOSED COMMITTEE INVESTIGATION OF ALLEGATION LARGE NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES WANT TO LEAVE QUEBEC

Mr. Dan McKenzie (Winnipeg South Centre): Mr. Speaker, in the absence of the Minister of Transport I will direct my question to the government House leader. At the meeting of the Standing Committee on Transport and Communications yesterday I presented a motion calling for the committee to investigate the situation in Quebec where 2,600 Air Canada employees are requesting a transfer out of the province. My motion was accepted by the committee and the chairman was to request an order of the House authorizing the committee to launch an investigation. Due to the seriousness of the matter, will the minister issue an order as soon as possible?

Hon. Allan J. MacEachen (President of the Privy Council): I will consider that situation and see what can be done.

Mr. McKenzie: As the chief executive officer of Air Canada, Mr. Claude Taylor, has been unable to solve the morale problems and employees are organizing to further their requests for transfers and are also challenging statements made by Mr. Taylor who claims that there are no problems, and as an airline cannot function efficiently or safely with these types of labour problems, will the minister take immediate action in granting the order to the committee or appoint some commission of inquiry?

[Translation]

Mr. Marcel Roy (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, I took part in the committee meeting yesterday and the hon. member's remarks are not quite exact. The president of Air Canada, Mr. Claude Taylor, mentioned that the morale of the employees was excellent. Therefore the hon. member's remarks are completely untrue, which was recognized at the committee meeting yesterday.

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[English]

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

REASON FOR CLOSING ART EXHIBITION AT CANADA HOUSE, LONDON

Mr. R. Gordon L. Fairweather (Fundy-Royal): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Acting Secretary of State for External Affairs, and if the acting minister is the person I think he is, a person of great taste and sophistication, he will be able to answer this question. I will try him out now. I have him ready. What are the circumstances surrounding the embarrassing decision to close an exhibition at Canada House in London, who was the sponsor of the exhibition, who was in