

Inquiries of the Ministry

important and beneficial to the people of this country than the flag debate?

Mr. Gordon: My personal opinion, Mr. Speaker, is that we should dispose of the flag debate at the very earliest moment.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear.

Mr. Eldon M. Woolliams (Bow River): A supplementary question to the Minister of Finance, Mr. Speaker. Is that a new suggestion of closure?

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh.

Mr. Speaker: Order. I am under the impression that a supplementary question has been missed. Was the hon. member for Greenwood rising on a supplementary question?

Mr. Brewin: Mine is not a supplementary question, Mr. Speaker.

CANADIAN NATIONAL RAILWAYS

CONSIDERATION OF REFINANCING BILL BY HOUSE COMMITTEE

On the orders of the day:

Hon. Leon Balcer (Three Rivers): Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask a question of the Minister of Transport. I wonder whether the minister could tell the house if, when the bill for the refinancing of the C.N.R. is brought forward, it will be sent to the railway committee so the trucking association will have a chance to bring forward their very legitimate representations on this matter.

Hon. J. W. Pickersgill (Minister of Transport): It will be my intention, Mr. Speaker, if that legislation receives second reading, to ask that it be referred to the standing committee on railways, canals and telegraph lines, which committee, I would hope, would hear not only the truckers but any other interested parties.

Mr. Eric A. Winkler (Grey-Bruce): I have a supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Would the minister say whether this association could be called before the committee now?

Mr. Pickersgill: I think this is perhaps a question I ought not to answer, because the matter is before the committee. But perhaps it will save time if I just say that I understand the committee has unanimously taken the decision that the right time to hear them would be when the legislation was before the committee. They could then make representations having knowledge of what was proposed.

[Mr. Starr.]

PUBLICATIONS

INTENTION OF GOVERNMENT RESPECTING PENDING LEGISLATION

On the orders of the day:

Mr. D. M. Fisher (Port Arthur): Mr. Speaker, I want to ask a question which may appear repetitious but which is asked in light of the fact that we know he has been having encounters with men in the publishing field. Has he gone any further in his reconsideration of the magazine legislation which was proposed, and in particular does he intend to withdraw the presently indicated legislation from the order paper and substitute a different approach?

Right Hon. L. B. Pearson (Prime Minister): No, Mr. Speaker, I have gone no further in this matter.

PROCEDURE

REQUEST FOR COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION ON LIMITATION OF DEBATE

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Andrew Brewin (Greenwood): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Justice in his capacity as house leader. In view of the urgency of change in the procedure of this house if it is to be able to conduct the business before it with reasonable dispatch, will the house leader inquire from the committee on procedure and organization and inform this house whether it may expect an early report recommending reasonable means of limiting debate without unduly restricting the rights of members?

Hon. Guy Favreau (Minister of Justice): Mr. Speaker, I will be delighted and I will make it a point of duty to inquire.

INDUSTRY

GASOLINE—REQUEST FOR ROYAL COMMISSION INQUIRY INTO PRICE PATTERNS

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Thomas M. Bell (Saint John-Albert): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Justice. Has the minister received a telegram from the maritime retail gasoline association asking that a royal commission investigate gasoline price patterns in Canada and, if so, what are the thoughts of the minister on this?

Hon. Guy Favreau (Minister of Justice): Mr. Speaker, I have received such a telegram, and I have the matter presently under consideration.