

Inquiries of the Ministry

So, Mr. Speaker, I say to the Minister of Finance that the financial affairs of the Canadian government are going in the wrong direction at the present time.

It is time to take another direction, to find a new source of capital. Let us stop all that borrowing from the United States to develop our industry and our natural resources. We have our own natural wealth in Canada.

Let us instead resort to the Bank of Canada to develop our natural resources and then we would not always be in the mess we are in today, a mess of trade deficit due to the fact that all the profits are going to the United States.

Mr. Speaker, now that he is faced with these problems the Minister of Finance should consider the solutions we in the Social Credit have been suggesting for a long time and, by so doing I am sure that he would no longer be faced with such problems.

● (2:50 p.m.)

We are buying back our bonds, so much the better, we are bringing our capital back home. But at the same time, the Minister of Finance should also let us know where he is getting the money from in order to purchase such Canadian government bonds held by United States citizens.

That is what the minister fails to say. He informs us about all the rest, but he skips the essential part. Once again, this is a watered down statement, hiding God knows what, a half-baked statement. We are not being enlightened, we are being blindfolded even more.

CRIMINAL CODE**AMENDMENT RESTRICTING USE OF FIREARMS**

Mr. Fernand Leblanc (Laurier) moved for leave to introduce Bill No. C-214, an Act to amend the Criminal Code (Firearms).

Some hon. Members: Explain.

Mr. Leblanc (Laurier): Mr. Speaker, the purpose of this bill is to restrict the use of firearms. The federal government is duty bound to co-operate with all police forces of Canada and financial institutions, in order to check the crime wave which makes as many human victims as financial victims.

It is obvious that the provincial and federal Departments of Justice must unite their efforts and co-operate as closely as possible.

The fight against crime should be among the priorities of governments at every level.

Motion agreed to and bill read the first time.

[*English*]

UNITED NATIONS**CANADIAN ATTITUDE TOWARD ADMISSION OF MAINLAND CHINA**

On the orders of the day:

Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, over the week end the Prime Minister made a speech in Toronto on the subject of nuclear weapons. Among other things, an interpretation has been given to his words that communist China must be admitted to the United Nations. Would the Prime Minister say whether this is a decision of the government; and in view of the session of the United Nations that will take place in September, before parliament will have any further opportunity to discuss this matter, would the Prime Minister say whether Canada intends this year to vote at the United Nations for the admission of communist China?

Right Hon. L. B. Pearson (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I am sorry that I do not have with me the text of what I said, because I could read those sentences which would indicate that I was talking about the desirability, indeed the indispensability, of having the Chinese communist government represented at any disarmament conference if that conference was to be effective in its results.

There was no reference to communist China's admission to the United Nations. That is a matter, of course, for consideration at the forthcoming assembly in the light of developments there and the way in which it is put before the assembly. Our position on this matter has been, I think, made quite clear.

Mr. Diefenbaker: The clarity is of such a nature that the only interpretation of the Prime Minister's remarks that I have seen in the press has been that the government intends to vote for the admission of communist China. Now I ask the Prime Minister, does the government intend so to do? Otherwise his speeches have a capacity for misinterpretation that beggars description.

Mr. Pearson: Mr. Speaker, the right hon. gentleman's conclusions, as is often the case, are quite unwarranted from the context of what I said. I will be very glad to send him the text. The policy of the government in this