

Combines Investigation Act

[Translation]

Mr. Lachance: Mr. Speaker, in view of what I said previously concerning appropriate fines and also the fact that I have considerable experience in the practice of law, I do not feel that a penalty of one or two years imprisonment is a sufficient deterrent to the commission of a crime. I know that there are two schools of thought in that respect and that both set forth strong arguments.

Mr. Speaker, I know, or at least, I think I do—and I am not the only one in that situation—individuals who have robbed banks or at least committed big robberies who would not mind to contravene this act and spend a year or two in jail after having collected \$300,000 if they knew they could have an easy life afterwards.

Hence, there are two schools of thought in this connection, and a jail sentence of one or two years does not necessarily constitute an obstacle to the commission of a second offence.

Consequently, Mr. Speaker, I feel that my argument is as good as that of the hon. member for Winnipeg North. And when he speaks of the wealthy, I think it is my duty to tell him that wealth is always relative, the more so that usually action is taken against very wealthy and very strong companies whose shares are held by the general public. Moreover, Mr. Speaker, it is the

directors of these companies who take the means—

Some hon. Members: Six o'clock.

Mr. Lachance: Mr. Speaker, I understand that I still have about 30 seconds to close my remarks.

As I said a while ago, I am against jail sentences, because the general public, under the law of supply and demand, is able to look after its interests; besides, that is what it does in most cases.

[Text]

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Batten): Order. The hour for the consideration of private members' business has expired.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

Mr. Churchill: Mr. Speaker, I would ask the house leader to record on Hansard, for the convenience of hon. members, the government's program of business for Monday and Tuesday of next week.

Mr. Favreau: Mr. Speaker, on Monday we will begin the debate on the second reading of the bill to amend the National Housing Act, after which we will take the second reading of the bill to amend the Farm Credit Act.

At six o'clock the house adjourned, without question put, pursuant to standing order.