

recommend its continuation and subsidization. But I would have—

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please.

REQUEST FOR INQUIRY BY HOUSE COMMITTEE INTO  
NORTHERN ONTARIO SERVICE

**Mr. B. Keith Penner (Thunder Bay):** I have a supplementary question for the Minister of Transport, Mr. Speaker. I wonder whether the minister could find a way to have the House of Commons transportation committee inquire into all aspects of Canadian National service in northern Ontario, which has deteriorated to a shocking extent?

**Hon. Donald C. Jamieson (Minister of Transport):** Mr. Speaker, I assume that either the estimates or the annual report of Canadian National, for example, will at some point during the session be referred to the Standing Committee on Transport and Communications, and I suggest that this would be the most appropriate time to carry out an examination.

**Mr. G. W. Baldwin (Peace River):** I have a supplementary question for the Government House Leader. Will the committee be allowed to call witnesses?

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**BANKRUPTCY**

PROCEDURE IN CONSIDERING REPORT OF STUDY  
COMMITTEE

**Hon. Marcel Lambert (Edmonton West):** Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs. On December 18 the minister tabled a report in regard to bankruptcy and indicated that he would ask for representations from the public. At that time I suggested that perhaps it would be better to refer the report to the appropriate house committee for examination and report back to the House. Has the minister made up his mind yet as to what procedure he is going to follow, and can we soon be told precisely what is going to be done with regard to the report on bankruptcy?

**Hon. Ron Basford (Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs):** Mr. Speaker, as I said before, my inclination is, of course, as indicated in the Speech from the Throne, to proceed to the drawing of a bill which would then be government policy and would be examined very carefully by a committee. I have heard and seen little that would persuade me that this would be the wrong course, but I am still giving the matter consideration.

**Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West):** Did the minister ask the public for any representations on this bankruptcy report and, if so, when and where?

**Mr. Basford:** Mr. Speaker, I would have to check the wording in *Hansard*, but I think I mentioned there that I looked forward to receiving representations from the

*Inquiries of the Ministry*

public. Certainly in press statements I urged the public and those interested to respond to the report and make comments to me. I have already had a number of comments and I know of a great list of people, organizations and groups who have indicated to my office or to my officials that they want to make comments on the report.

REPORT OF STUDY COMMITTEE—EXTENSION OF DEADLINE  
FOR REPRESENTATIONS TO MINISTER BY PUBLIC

**Mr. Lincoln M. Alexander (Hamilton West):** Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question. In view of the fact that the minister has invited representations from the public but has stymied those representations in that they have to be in the minister's hands by January 31, and there is a great deal of apprehension about this, has he now made up his mind to extend the time in order that he may receive full representation from throughout the country?

**Hon. Ron Basford (Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs):** Mr. Speaker, I urged people to get their representations or comments in as quickly as possible and said I should like to proceed to the drafting or drawing of a bill by the end of January. Naturally, of course, this government, being a democratic government, will receive representations and comments at any time.

**Mr. John Gilbert (Broadview):** Mr. Speaker, in view of the fact that it took four years to prepare this excellent report, would the minister speed up the drafting of the legislation so we can study it?

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[Translation]

**INQUIRY OF THE MINISTRY**

**Mr. Gilbert Rondeau (Shefford):** Mr. Speaker, the Secretary of State being absent, I wish to ask a question of the Acting Prime Minister.

Would he tell us whether Information Canada will be completely established and ready to operate when the next federal election is called?

**Mr. Speaker:** That question could be put on the order paper.

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[English]

**TRANSPORT**

SAFETY STANDARDS FOR SNOWMOBILES—CONSULTATION  
WITH PROVINCES

**Mr. David MacDonald (Egmont):** Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Transport. In view of the number of tragic fatalities this winter involving the use of snowmobiles, and the multiplicity of designs and makes of these machines, can the minister inform the House whether his department is attempting to draw up minimal safety standards for the production of snow-