

Inquiries of the Ministry

to the law and to jurisdiction is an extremely complicated one, but since the announcements were made the matter has been receiving urgent examination.

Mr. Douglas (Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands): Bearing in mind that the only areas in which these increases will not come into effect are those in which government car insurance is in operation, or where the possibility of introducing government car insurance is under study, has the minister given any thought to the possibility of promoting a government car insurance scheme across the country in order that automobile drivers may receive protection at cost?

Mr. Basford: I think the hon. member well knows that the provision of automobile insurance, the kind of insurance he is talking about, is a provincial matter.

[Translation]

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS**ASSUMPTION OF OBLIGATIONS OF CANAIRELIEF**

Mr. Gérard Laprise (Abitibi): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Prime Minister.

It is known that the Canadian government has made some moneys available to Canairelief for assistance to Biafran refugees. In view of the recent decision to wind up shortly the agency's operations, does the government intend to give that relief organization the assurance that all their justified debts will be settled?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, this matter is not under consideration for the time being.

[English]

CONSUMER AFFAIRS**INABILITY OF ONTARIO FEDERATION OF AGRICULTURE TO PURCHASE ENGLISH TRACTORS**

Mr. W. M. Howe (Wellington-Grey): I have a question for the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs, Mr. Speaker, and I hope he will co-operate with the farmers of Canada. In view of the apparent difference between the prices charged to English farmers and those charged to Canadian farmers by machinery companies, as indicated by the Barber commission report on the prices of farm tractors in Canada, has the minister been in touch with the restrictive practices tribunal in England to ascertain why the Ontario Federation of Agriculture cannot pur-

chase English tractors directly from English dealers or directly from the manufacturers of tractors in England at the lower prices prevailing there? I ask this question in view of the evidence in the Barber commission report to the effect that machinery dealers in England have been threatened with loss of their franchises if they sell tractors to Canadian farmers.

Hon. Ron Basford (Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs): As the Minister of Agriculture made clear on Friday, discussions have already been held in Washington and London by officials of the government. Those officials included officials of my department together with anti-trust people in both London and Washington.

REQUESTED REFERENCE OF TRACTOR AND COMBINE PRICE INCREASES TO COMMISSION

Hon. W. G. Dinsdale (Brandon-Souris): Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary for the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs. In view of the obvious evidence of price exploitation in respect of farm machinery would the minister refer the question of the price increases announced last fall to the Commission on Prices and Incomes for its careful review?

Hon. Ron Basford (Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs): Well, Mr. Speaker, I think it would be a more desirable course to follow the course the government is following. We are examining the Barber report recommendations. We have an interdepartmental committee of government examining all the recommendations and what possible course of action the government could follow.

[Translation]

CAPITAL PUNISHMENT**ACTION RESPECTING WILLIAM ROY ROSIK—GENERAL POLICY**

Hon. Martial Asselin (Charlevoix): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Minister of Justice.

In Windsor, a certain William Roy Rosik has been sentenced to death for murdering a policeman. I would like to know whether the minister intends to submit his case to the cabinet so as to have the death penalty commuted into life imprisonment, as the cabinet has always done in such cases for several years, or whether the minister will allow justice to take its course.