

Inquiries of the Ministry

Mr. Speaker: Order. I believe the question as asked is not acceptable. The right hon. Leader of the Opposition is asking the minister to confirm or deny a press statement.

Mr. Diefenbaker: Mr. Speaker, I was doing that to help. May I then ask the minister the following question. Is it true that the series of questions I asked are based on fact?

Hon. P.-E. Trudeau (Minister of Justice): Mr. Speaker, the right hon. gentleman knows that in this case the administration of justice is in the hands of the provincial attorney general, that in this particular investigation the R.C.M.P. which is acting as his agent is reporting to him, and that it is he who will have the answer. Personally I do not know whether the allegations to which the right hon. gentleman has referred are well founded.

Mr. Diefenbaker: The government of Canada has been very solicitous of Banks.

FINANCE**INQUIRY AS TO CONTROL OF U.S. CAPITAL INVESTMENT**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. C. S. Smallwood (Battle River-Camrose): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Finance with reference to the policy of the former minister regarding the investment of United States capital in Canada. Can the present Minister of Finance inform the house what steps are being taken to control United States capital investment in Canada, which according to estimates by the United States commerce department reached a record of \$2.3 billion in 1967?

Mr. Speaker: Order. The hon. member's question is much too large in scope and I do not think it can be asked now.

BANKRUPTCY**REQUEST FOR COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION OF AMENDING LEGISLATION**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Raymond Langlois (Mégantic): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Registrar General. I asked it in the latter part of the last session, and Your Honour advised me to ask it in the new session, which I am doing now. Is it the intention of the Registrar General and the government to establish a special committee in this new session to study the complaints against bankruptcies which have been made all across the country?

[Mr. Diefenbaker.]

Hon. John N. Turner (Registrar General): Mr. Speaker, a three man committee has been sitting for over a year studying the question of a general revision of the bankruptcy law. However, I will be glad to take the hon. member's suggestion into consideration.

EXTERNAL AID**INDIA—REPORTED LOSS OF FLOUR THROUGH FAULTY BAGS**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. W. B. Nesbitt (Oxford): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Secretary of State for External Affairs. I wonder whether he can now bring us up to date on the case of the broken flour bags in India. I ask this question in view of the fact that according to press reports the minister has issued a denial of the allegations in this regard, but press reports still continue that a large quantity of our flour is being dispersed out of broken flour bags.

Hon. Paul Martin (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, I have already made a statement on this subject. I will see whether, in view of this question, anything further should be added. However, I do not believe there is anything I can add.

PILOTAGE**INQUIRY AS TO REPORT OF ROYAL COMMISSION**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Barry Mather (New Westminster): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct my question to the Minister of Transport. Now that we are in the new session I wonder whether the minister has any new information regarding the long awaited report of the pilotage commission, and when we can expect it.

Hon. J. W. Pickersgill (Minister of Transport): Yes, sir, I have. I happened to meet the chief commissioner by accident at the launching of a ship in Quebec the other day, and he told me he hoped to have the report ready some time in June. I hope so, too.

VETERANS AFFAIRS**INQUIRY AS TO INTERIM ADJUSTMENTS IN PENSION RATES**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. A. B. Patterson (Fraser Valley): I should like to direct my question to the Minister of Veterans Affairs and ask whether