Inquiries of the Ministry

Mr. McGrath: I have a supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. In view of the answer of the minister, would he now consider bringing in a measure to disband the Transport Committee, since it cannot conduct its study?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

DRUGS

CANADIAN ACTION IN MARKETING OF ANTIBIOTICS

Mr. T. C. Douglas (Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands): May I direct a question to the Minister of National Health and Welfare. In view of the fact that the United States Food and Drug Administration served notice that it intends to stop the marketing of 78 drug products containing antibiotics on the grounds that they expose the patients to unnecessary risk, I want to ask the minister whether his department is in touch with the United States Food and Drug Administration and if his department intends to take similar action with respect to these drugs?

Hon. John C. Munro (Minister of National Health and Welfare): We are checking the matter and considering what type of action we will take. I am not prepared to say at present what it will be, but I will report on the matter after our investigation is completed. I hope to do so as soon as possible.

Mr. Douglas (Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands): I have a supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. May I ask whether there is a continuing liaison between the minister's department and the United States Food and Drug Administration, so that we may be fully aware of the results of their research and may benefit from it in dealing with some of the drugs, many of which are manufactured in the United States.

Mr. Munro: There is always a very close liaison between the United States Food and Drug Administration and our Food and Drug Directorate.

NATIONAL SECURITY

REQUEST FOR TABLING OF ROYAL COMMISSION REPORT

Hon. Robert L. Stanfield (Leader of the Opposition): I would like to ask the Prime Minister a question. For some six months I have been trying to find out when he proposes to table the report of the commission on

security. I have asked the question half a dozen times. Can the Prime Minister give us a definite date on which this report will be tabled?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): I cannot give a definite date but I hope hon. members will be able to study it during the summer recess, if not before.

Mr. Stanfield: Mr. Speaker, let us be serious. Does the Prime Minister not realize that this type of delay is creating a great deal of suspicion about this report in the public's mind?

Mr. Trudeau: No, Mr. Speaker.

INDUSTRY

DEVCO—COMPULSORY RETIREMENT OF MINERS

Mr. Donald MacInnis (Cape Breton-East Richmond): Mr. Speaker, I have a further question for the minister in respect of the Devco retirement plan. Can the minister tell us whether negotiations are still continuing with the railway unions affected under this plan?

[Translation]

Mr. Marchand (Langelier): Mr. Speaker, before answering the question, I rise on a point of privilege. A moment ago the hon. member indicated that I seemed to enjoy the fact that he didn't understand my answer.

You can be sure, Mr. Speaker, that I would still enjoy it more if he sometimes understood what I am saying.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear.

Mr. Marchand (Langelier): Here is the answer: the negotiations started with railways employees and miners are completed and the plan applies to all Devco operations.

[English]

Mr. MacInnis: I rise on a point of order, Mr. Speaker. The minister said the plan is now official. This is not so because the Treasury Board will not give approval to it until tomorrow. So he is wrong in that regard. Futhermore, the previous misunderstanding arose from the language and not from my lack of understanding of what he was saying. I suggest the minister did not understand the situation because if I had not brought it to his attention he would not have known that the plan will not be official until tomorrow.

Ten o'clock, Mr. Speaker.