S. O. 31

• (1410)

Since Wolverine bought this plant, the Bureau of Competition policy has monitored the acquisition. Evidently its work is not over.

The facts lead to only one conclusion: A full tribunal must be ordered by the minister responsible. The anti-competition allegations cannot be ignored any longer. It is a critical issue.

Wolverine is threatening to dismantle this plant today. Will the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs use his authority under the Competition Act to reopen this investigation immediately?

[Translation]

OUEBEC'S ECONOMY

Mr. Guy Saint-Julien (Abitibi): Mr. Speaker, last week the Quebec Liberal Minister of Industry, Trade and Technology, Gérald Tremblay, described in alarming terms Quebec's economic situation with respect to productivity at the industrial relations consultants' convention. He based his reading on the fact that Quebec companies are behind in productivity, job training and research and development.

Mr. Tremblay predicted that if Quebec did not start to solve its problems right away, capital and the most mobile human resources would leave. He said that Quebec's quality of life would diminish considerably and that government deficits made it impossible to improve the quality of services and to reduce the dramatic impact of unemployment and poverty.

[English]

CRIME

Mr. John Nunziata (York South—Weston): Mr. Speaker, the metropolitan Toronto police department is one of the finest police forces anywhere in the world.

According to a public opinion poll last week, 89 per cent of Toronto residents felt that the metro police force was doing a good job.

Unfortunately, however, in spite of the very fine efforts of the metro police, crime is on the increase in

Toronto. Drug offences are up 22 per cent. Robberies are committed at a higher rate than last year. The murder rate is higher than it has ever been. The public is very concerned and frightened about drugs, crime and the safety of their children in their very own neighbourhoods.

The police are doing as much as they can with the resources they have. Local police forces across the country are busy busting drug dealers, only to see the federal government lay claim to the confiscated money and property. This is unfair.

I call on the Minister of Justice to return the confiscated money and assets to local police forces across Canada. The federal government should at the very least reimburse the cost of an investigation that results in the seizure of drug assets.

Toronto is in a crime crisis and may soon be competing with Detroit and New York for the highest crime rate in North America. The federal government must take immediate action to properly provide for our front line soldiers in the war against drugs.

PUBLIC SERVICE

Mr. Harry Chadwick (Bramalea—Gore—Malton): Mr. Speaker, it is just like the Liberals and the NDP to try to use the Public Service strike as a way of gaining political advantage behind the guise of compassion.

Well, we know better and the strikers know better.

We are not talking about Daryl Bean and his cohorts who insisted that the Public Service strike, no matter what the cost.

We are talking about public employees who were forced to strike out of fear of retribution.

Thanks to this government, union representatives are meeting at the bargaining table, strikers have returned to work and can resume earning the wages that keep roofs over their heads and food on the table.

Oh, you can be sure the opposition parties will try to take the credit, but we know better.

We know they would have seen the strike continue until they could squeeze every ounce of political advantage out of it.