

Inquiries of the Ministry

news indeed because producers in Manitoba, eastern Saskatchewan and central Saskatchewan in recent months have found difficulty in marketing their grain because of a lack of markets which took wheat through eastern Canada. This, Mr. Speaker, could be of some help in allowing the Canadian wheat board to raise the quotas in Manitoba and the parts of Saskatchewan to which I have referred.

RESEARCH**PERSONNEL OF SPECIAL COMMITTEE TO CONSIDER POLICY, OPERATIONS AND EXPENDITURES**

Mr. John Pallett (Peel) moved:

That the special committee on research appointed Thursday, February 16, 1961 be composed of Messrs. Aiken, Batten, Best, Bissonnette, Bourget, Brunson, Dumas, Drysdale, Forgie, Godin, Graffey, MacLellan, McIlraith, Murphy, Nielsen, Payne, Pitman, Slogan, Smith (Winnipeg North), and Stewart.

Motion agreed to.

CORPORATIONS AND LABOUR UNIONS**PROVISION FOR FURNISHING OF FINANCIAL AND OTHER STATISTICS**

Hon. E. D. Fulton (Minister of Justice) moved for leave to introduce Bill No. C-70, to provide for the furnishing of financial and other statistics relating to the affairs of corporations and labour unions carrying on activities within Canada.

Some hon. Members: Explain.

Mr. Fulton: Mr. Speaker, this is legislation which was forecast in the speech from the throne to compel the disclosure of certain important essentials as to the details of their operations by corporations and trade unions carrying on activities in Canada, which are controlled from outside Canada.

Motion agreed to and bill read the first time.

UNITED NATIONS**CONGO—REPORTED COMPLAINT RESPECTING STATEMENT BY PRIME MINISTER**

On the orders of the day:

Hon. Paul Martin (Essex East): I should like to address to the Prime Minister a question arising out of part of the statement he made yesterday in this house when he outlined Canada's position regarding the situation in the Congo. I should like to ask the Prime Minister if his attention has been directed to reported complaints on the part of certain neutral African nations, members of a conciliation commission designed to deal with the situation in the Congo, who have alleged that part of the statement made by the Prime

Minister yesterday was a breach of confidence and that, instead of helping to alleviate the situation in the Congo, it has aggravated it.

Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, the hon. member for Kootenay West (Mr. Herridge) has given me notice of his intention to ask this question.

Mr. Martin (Essex East): I think the Prime Minister will agree that I had given him notice also.

Mr. Diefenbaker: Later. Apparently what the hon. gentleman has in mind is an article in this morning's *Globe and Mail*. I would point out the fact that over this article, which refers to the circumstances outlined by the hon. gentleman, this paragraph appears:

The following report of Ottawa disclosures of information on Congo conciliation commission was received simultaneously last night with a report from Henry Tanner in Leopoldville which revealed that the commission's recommendations had also been disclosed in the Congo. A short time later the above story by Lindsay Parrott with extensive quotes from the commission report was filed by the *New York Times*.

This is the report to which the hon. gentleman refers and which indicates the degree to which the gist of the conciliation committee's report had been made public in New York and elsewhere before reference to it was made in this house. The general idea embodied in the report had indeed been in circulation for some time. Those ideas coincide generally with the views of the Canadian government, and in fact what I was discussing was ideas under consideration by the Canadian authorities which in any case had already become part of the public domain. The very fact that the article in question has over it this reference to the degree to which the contents of the report had already been made public is an answer to the allegations of the correspondence in question. In my statement I gave an outline.

All I can say is that there was nothing revealed in any way that was of a confidential character. Indeed, the information had been revealed in the press or by reports before any reference was made in this house.

Mr. H. W. Herridge (Kootenay West): Mr. Speaker, a supplementary question to the Prime Minister. The reports in the United States press were straight news reports and did not refer to a leak or anything of that sort?

Mr. Speaker: Order. I do not think the Prime Minister can be held accountable for what is published in the United States press.

Mr. Hazen Argue (Assiniboia): A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Could the Prime Minister say whether the government