

under any threat, either that of a question of privilege or the resignation of the chairman. I do not believe the chairman made such a threat in those words.

This being said, I can only repeat your own ruling, Mr. Speaker; it is usual for a government to take cognizance of a report before tabling it, and this is what the cabinet is now in the process of doing. There has been no indication of when we would table it and I cannot give any indication this morning.

Mr. Stanfield: Mr. Speaker, if the Prime Minister is not moved by the chairman's conception of the usefulness of inquiry in these circumstances, would he not be moved by the urgent desire of the public for this information and the urgent need for more research, as well as the dismay of all those concerned in this question, including the social agencies, at the delay in tabling this report, which is viewed as accruing to the detriment of many young Canadians and their families?

Mr. Trudeau: Mr. Speaker, I am afraid that the so-called dismay seems to be exaggerated. It is not unusual for government to take at least a week or more to consider the report of a royal commission. I repeat, this is what the government is in the process of doing. I have very high regard for the members of the commission and I understand their anxiety. They have published what is an interim report, and the government is considering it as such.

Mr. Stanfield: A further supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Is the Prime Minister intending to indicate that the minister of health has had this report for only a week?

Mr. Trudeau: I am saying, Mr. Speaker, that it came to cabinet within a week or less, and it is only within that time that we have had the report in both languages.

Mr. Stanley Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, may I direct a supplementary to the Prime Minister in connection with this matter. Bearing in mind that all parties in the House are perplexed, even divided, on this question and that we do not want to make an issue out of it or pose any threats, would the Prime Minister give serious consideration to the tabling of the report at an early date without comment, even before the government takes a position, so that the public can have the information contained in it?

Mr. Trudeau: Mr. Speaker, that is a very simple question. The answer is yes, we will

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give consideration to tabling it. The part of the question of privilege that we could not admit was that it asked for the report to be tabled immediately, and there is no rule here or anywhere else that a royal commission report should be tabled immediately.

Mr. Baldwin: Then there ought to be one.

Mr. Trudeau: Why don't you move one and then we will know what "immediately" is. However, I can give the House the assurance that the report will be tabled. May I just put it to the opposition parties that I hope they will make a statement of their position on the report as quickly as the government will.

THE CANADIAN ECONOMY

GOVERNMENT POLICY REGARDING FOREIGN OWNERSHIP OF METAL AND PETROLEUM REFINING INDUSTRIES

Mr. T. C. Douglas (Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands): Mr. Speaker, may I direct a question to the Prime Minister arising out of the information given by the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce in answer to Question 1,304 put by the hon. member for Oshawa-Whitby, which information is to be found at page 7946 of *Hansard*. The information discloses that in the smelting and refining of metals foreign-dominated companies now control 84.9 per cent of the business, and in the petroleum refining industry foreign companies now control 99.9 per cent of the industry in Canada. In light of these facts, and in view of the fact that the Prime Minister intervened in the case of the uranium industry in order to preserve Canadian ownership, may I ask the Prime Minister whether the government intends to intervene in this matter, and has he any intention of making an announcement before the House adjourns regarding the government's policy on foreign ownership?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I believe I said some weeks ago that the government did have the intention of taking a position and stating its policy with regard to the whole problem of foreign investment. I indicated that this certainly would not be done, as I said then, within a matter of a couple of months but that it would take some time. This work is progressing. I think we will probably take the same position as the New Democratic Party in rejecting the extreme position submitted by Mr. Watkins in Winnipeg.

Mr. Douglas (Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands): I have a supplementary question,