

## SEIZURE OF PROFITS OF CRIME

**Mr. John Nunziata (York South—Weston):** Mr. Speaker, if the Government is serious about its war on drug abuse, it should not go into the battle with pop-guns. A former Deputy Solicitor General has stated:

Canadian legislation that would permit the freezing, seizure, and forfeiture of the profits from enterprise crime would have little effect unless there were mechanisms in place whereby these profits could be traced.

Will the Minister not admit that that provision will not be in the legislation because the Government caved in to the Canadian banks?

**Hon. John C. Crosbie (Minister of Transport):** Mr. Speaker, one of course despairs of ever reaching the hon. gentleman, but the fact is that his own Party was in power nearly every year since 1945 and did exactly nothing about the proceeds of crime or the disposition of the proceeds of crime. Why is there this late interest in the subject when nothing was done by his Party for 40 years?

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## CORPORATE AFFAIRS

PURCHASE OF WOODWARD'S STORES BY SAFEWAY—  
PROTECTION OF CONSUMERS IN EDMONTON AND CALGARY

**Mr. David Orlikow (Winnipeg North):** Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs. He will know that Safeway has purchased 23 of the food stores formerly owned by Woodward's. This means that in the City of Edmonton, Safeway will have more than 60 per cent of the market. In the City of Calgary, it will have over 50 per cent of the market.

There has been a great deal of concern over this expressed by the Consumers' Association of Canada. What steps does the Minister intend to take to protect the consumers in Calgary, Edmonton and a number of other cities in Alberta and British Columbia who will be so adversely affected?

**Hon. Harvie Andre (Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs):** Mr. Speaker, as the Hon. Member knows, the examination of this merger takeover is part of the responsibility of the Director of Investigation Research of the Combines Branch. The Hon. Member will also know that it is against the law for the Minister to interfere and participate in that activity. His request of me that I break the law by interfering is one I will have to turn down.

The decision has been announced by the Director of Investigation, and part of the agreement was that Safeway would divest itself of a number of stores in areas where there was significant detrimental impact on competition as a result of the Woodward's takeover.

## Oral Questions

REQUIREMENT TO SELL CERTAIN STORES—REPORTED REQUEST  
FOR EXEMPTION

**Mr. David Orlikow (Winnipeg North):** Mr. Speaker, does the Minister not know that the way Safeway got around the requirement to account for what it is doing to the Director of Investigation was to promise to sell 12 to 15 stores but it has now said that it wants to be exempt from the necessity of doing that? Is it not time the Government and the Director took some action to protect people who will really get hurt by Safeway's monopoly?

**Hon. Harvie Andre (Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs):** Mr. Speaker, I think one should in fact examine what was said and not what headline writers wrote. In the event, any change of that sort could only occur with the concurrence of the competition tribunal, the semi-judicial and indeed judicial body that would examine this. If that eventuality should come to pass, the Hon. Member and any other interested Canadian would have the opportunity to make representations before the competition tribunal to ensure that the decision is in the interests of the consumers of Canada.

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[Translation]

## LAPRADE FUND

## AWARDING OF MONEYS—CRITERIA FOR DISTRIBUTION

**Mr. Gilles Grondin (Saint-Maurice):** Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the President of the Treasury Board. Further to a recent news item in the daily *Le Nouvelliste*, announcing that two million dollars from the Laprade Fund would be distributed to eight ridings, could the President of the Treasury Board inform the House whether these monies can be used to set up a special investment fund, similar to the one in the Lac-Saint-Jean area, or will they have to be used for a specific purpose, for projects that are to be submitted either to the office of the President of the Treasury Board or of the Minister of Regional Industrial Expansion?

**Hon. Robert de Cotret (President of the Treasury Board):** Mr. Speaker, first of all, the Hon. Member referred to an article that appeared last week and which, I imagine, was based on leaked information and contained a number of inaccuracies. The Laprade Fund will be used, as I have said many times, to create permanent jobs, to promote industrial, recreational and technological development in the region and also as a complement, especially to existing programs. What we want to do, further to what happened at Laprade, is to provide a development fund for the central region of Quebec, which will give us our 'place in the sun' and promote economic development.