

Inquiries of the Ministry

vided for the Canadian Transport Commission and are taken into account by that commission when decisions are made following public hearings.

TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS

REFERENCE OF ANNUAL REPORTS OF AIR CANADA AND CANADIAN NATIONAL RAILWAYS TO STANDING COMMITTEE

Mr. J. H. Horner (Crowfoot): As a means of throwing further light on the question of abandonment of railway passenger service, would the minister use his good offices to ensure that the annual reports of Canadian National Railways and Air Canada are placed before the Transport Committee for consideration?

Hon. Donald C. Jamieson (Minister of Transport): I answered this question a few days ago, Mr. Speaker, when I indicated that it is entirely within the power of the committee to set its own schedule. I understand there is an important matter now before the Transport Committee. I do not believe there will be a long delay in getting these other matters attended to once this subject has been dealt with.

NATIONAL DEFENCE

EFFECT ON PAY AND ALLOWANCES OF FORCES ABROAD OF INCREASED VALUE OF DOLLAR

Hon. J. A. MacLean (Malpeque): Are Canadian Forces stationed abroad receiving the full benefit of the increased value of the Canadian dollar since it has been allowed to float? What is the situation as far as their pay and allowances are concerned?

Hon. Léo Cadieux (Minister of National Defence): It is a floating situation, Mr. Speaker.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. MacLean: May I ask whether Canadian Forces abroad are being paid in Canadian dollars or whether they are paid in the currency of the country concerned at the rate of exchange current on pay-day?

Mr. Cadieux (Labelle): I would have to check.

VIOLENT DISTURBANCES

MONTREAL—BOMB EXPLOSIONS—CO-OPERATION BY ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE WITH OTHER FORCES

Mr. Robert McCleave (Halifax-East Hants): My question is for the Solicitor General in his [Mr. Jamieson.]

capacity as the minister reporting to the House for the RCMP. Has he had an opportunity to check the serious allegations that the RCMP is not co-operating with other police forces in connection with investigation of the outrages in Montreal in the last few days?

Hon. G. J. McIlraith (Solicitor General): Yes, Mr. Speaker. Immediately I saw the story published in the paper I had this matter checked into and find—

Mr. Fairweather: Is it a canard?

Mr. McIlraith: Yes, it is. That is precisely the point, and today's newspapers so indicate.

INDUSTRY

FOOTWEAR—MEETING WITH INDUSTRY REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. Max Saltsman (Waterloo): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct my question to the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce. It refers to a question I asked the minister earlier this week regarding a meeting with the shoe industry, at which time the minister indicated he would be having such a meeting. May I ask whether the date for that meeting has been set and whether he will be attending that meeting with an agenda?

Hon. Jean-Luc Pepin (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): No, Mr. Speaker, the date as far as I know has not been set but I have asked that a meeting be arranged and I have heard noises to the effect that it was being arranged. Apparently the industry is as pleased to see the Minister of Finance and myself as we are to see the industry. The agenda has not been fixed. A report has already been published on the subject by the shoe industry but the meeting will be of an investigatory nature.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

MINISTERS' ATTENDANCE ROSTER

Mr. James A. McGrath (St. John's East): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Government House Leader. I welcome him back to the House and I hope he notes that in his absence we made considerable progress. Has the government officially dispensed with the revised roster issued on October 20 last, because according to that list seven ministers are absent today, or does the government intend to dispense with this phase of parliamentary activity altogether?