Inquiries of the Ministry

Hon. C. M. Drury (Minister of Defence Production): I thank the hon. member for notice of his intention to ask this question. I did receive a letter from Mr. Geddes late last month indicating that he had been asked to resign from Canadair limited in Montreal just over a year ago. I have consulted with officials of Canadair limited, and am informed that Mr. Geddes was asked to resign, partly because of a cut-back owing to a reorganization of senior technical staff and partly because the company considered it good management to retain other senior engineers in preference to Mr. Geddes.

As to the difficulties which Mr. Geddes has had in obtaining other employment, I can only say that neither the Department of Defence Production nor the Royal Canadian Mounted Police has been asked to provide to any firm, or individual, information concerning the security status of Mr. Geddes. I should add that it is not the practice of either the Department of Defence Production or of Canadian government organizations concerned with security to furnish security information, except in response to a request relating to actual or prospective employees whose work calls for a security clearance.

DOMINION-PROVINCIAL RELATIONS

REFERENCE TO PROVINCES OF MUNICIPAL LOAN LEGISLATION

On the orders of the day:

Mr. L. J. Pigeon (Joliette-L'Assomption-Montcalm): I should like to put a direct question to the Prime Minister. In view of the statement made yesterday by Mr. Pierre Laporte, Quebec municipal affairs minister, that municipalities of that province must not turn to Ottawa for help, is it the right hon. gentleman's intention to refer to the provinces the resolution on loans to municipalities before a further study of it is made in this house?

Right Hon. L. B. Pearson (Prime Minister): No. We propose to proceed with the discussion, and, I hope, the acceptance of this resolution by this house.

(Translation):

ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE

ENFORCEMENT OF LAW RESPECTING FRAUDULENT BANKRUPTCIES

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Gerard Girouard (Labelle): My question is directed to the Minister of Justice.

In view of the increasing number of fraudulent bankruptcies in Canada, does the Department of Justice intend to look more closely after the enforcing of the Bankruptcy Act in this country?

[Mr. Orlikow.]

(Text):

Mr. Speaker: This is a question for the order paper.

(Translation):

QUEBEC-LINK BETWEEN F.L.Q. SUSPECTS AND CUBAN COMMUNISTS

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Gerard Chapdelaine (Sherbrooke): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Justice.

In view of the recent developments concerning the investigation of the F.L.Q. and the reports published in certain American magazines and newspapers, could the minister tell the house whether he has received information to the effect that there is a close link between certain members of the F.L.Q. and the communist Cuban revolutionaries?

Hon. Lionel Chevrier (Minister of Justice): The answer is no, Mr. Speaker.

(Text):

TRANS-CANADA AIR LINES

WINNIPEG MAINTENANCE BASE-MEETING WITH MANITOBA DELEGATION

On the orders of the day:

Hon. Gordon Churchill (Winnipeg South Centre): Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask the Minister of Transport whether arrangements have been made for a meeting with a delegation from Manitoba to confer with representatives of the government concerning the retention of the overhaul and maintenance base of T.C.A. in Winnipeg. If so, when and where will the meeting be held, and which members of the cabinet will be meeting the delegation?

Hon. G. J. McIlraith (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, I had no notice of this question, but I can assure the hon. member that such arrangements have been made. I hesitate to put the precise time on the record, but it is in the near future; the precise hour and date have been fixed. The delegation will be met by the transport committee of the cabinet, and the meeting will take place in one of the committee rooms in the House of Commons. Some days ago advice to this effect was sent to the minister in the Manitoba government who is heading the delegation.

Mr. Stanley Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Will the members of parliament from Manitoba be permitted to sit in when this delegation appears before the government?

Mr. McIlraith: Mr. Speaker, they will be most welcome to sit in. I hope, though, that they will not follow the precedent of an earlier meeting which took place in somewhat similar circumstances on the same