NATIONAL SECURITY

INQUIRY AS TO REPORT OF ROYAL COMMISSION

On the orders of the day:

Mr. R. N. Thompson (Red Deer): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Prime Minister. In view of the fact that the contents of the report of the royal commission on security are already public knowledge, could the Prime Minister inform the house whether he has received a copy of the report and when it will be tabled in the house?

Right Hon. P.-E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): No, Mr. Speaker, I have not yet received a copy of the report, nor do I admit the truth of the premise that it is of public knowledge.

Mr. Eldon M. Woolliams (Calgary North): Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question for the Prime Minister. Could the Prime Minister inform the house how it is that the London *Times*, a foreign newspaper, carried some facts about the report and passed some reflection on the R.C.M.P.?

Mr. Trudeau: Mr. Speaker, I am not qualified to speak for the London *Times*, but I will ask the minister to check whether there is any truth in these allegations.

Mr. Woolliams: A further supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. I wonder if the Prime Minister is qualified to tell us whether any member of his government or the head of the commission gave this information to the press.

Mr. Trudeau: Mr. Speaker, we have the utmost confidence in the members of this commission.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

INQUIRY AS TO LEGISLATION RESPECTING DEPARTMENTAL REORGANIZATION

On the orders of the day:

Mr. David Lewis (York South): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Prime Minister. In view of the importance which the right hon. gentleman has attached to the proposed reorganization of some departments, and since this reorganization affects pressing matters such as regional disparity and poverty, would the Prime Minister inform the house how soon he intends to bring the legislation governing departmental or government reorganization before the house?

Inquiries of the Ministry

Right Hon. P.-E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, as I have said before in the house, many of these matters have already been attended to, in the sense that many of them could be dealt with by order in council or by transfers between departments, and so do not require legislation. I understand that the legislation itself will come in early in the new year.

Mr. Lewis: A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. In view of the Prime Minister's answer I direct my supplementary question to the Minister of Forestry and Rural Development. On the assumption that some of the duties respecting regional development have already been placed in his hands, would the minister consider making an early statement to parliament on the establishment he has set up and the programs he is developing to deal with the problem of regional disparity?

[Translation]

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Forestry and Rural Development): Mr. Speaker, in a few weeks I should be in a position to introduce in the house the bill to create the department and at that time I can give the requested details.

[English]

Mr. Lewis: A further supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. The "projet de loi" of which the minister speaks will be the bill dealing with government reorganization. The Prime Minister has already informed us that duties have been assigned to various ministers, and I am sure I make the correct assumption when I assume that the duties assigned to this minister are very important. I ask whether he will make a statement about those duties before the bill is introduced.

[Translation]

Mr. Marchand: Mr. Speaker, the powers vested in me already existed in statutes and in various programs divided between departments. No other power was granted to me.

CANADIAN BROADCASTING CORPORATION

QUEBEC—COVERAGE GIVEN FORMATION OF SEPARATIST PARTY

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Réal Caouette (Témiscamingue): Mr. Speaker, this question is directed to the hon. Secretary of State.

Yesterday afternoon, I asked the right hon. Prime Minister if the government or the