

Inquiries of the Ministry

ter of Industry. In view of the fact that the Deloro company in question was responsible for storing this cobalt for the Government of Canada, who is going to suffer the loss? Will this company be responsible or does the Department of Defence Production assume the loss?

Mr. Drury: Mr. Speaker, I think the hon. gentleman is asking me to give a legal opinion, which I understand I am not authorized to do. I am informed that the contract for storage clearly placed upon the company the responsibility for the safe custody of the cobalt and its return intact on demand by the Federal Government.

ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE**GEORGES LEMAY—REPORTED VISIT TO MONTREAL**

On the orders of the day:

Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, may I ask the Minister of Justice if he is now in a position to advise whether he has communicated with the Department of Immigration to ascertain whether there is any foundation for the report which appeared in *Le Devoir* to the effect that Georges Lemay was in Montreal on April 23, 1965, having entered and left Canada at Rouses Point?

An hon. Member: Was that the date of the Liberal convention?

Hon. Guy Favreau (Minister of Justice): Mr. Speaker, I will be in a position to answer this question tomorrow.

SEFKIND BANKRUPTCY—STATEMENT ON LAYING OF CHARGES

On the orders of the day:

Hon. Guy Favreau (Minister of Justice): Mr. Speaker, in reply to a question directed to me some time ago by the hon. Member for the Yukon concerning the Sefkind bankruptcies, I am informed that no charge has been laid at the instance of either the Federal Government or the Provincial Government, or by the trustee, the inspectors or the creditors.

I may add that it has not been the practice for the Superintendent of Bankruptcy or any other agency of the Federal Government to initiate prosecutions against debtors in the circumstances of this matter. The initiation of any such prosecution is considered to be the responsibility of the provincial authorities, the trustee, the inspectors or the creditors. The function of the Superintendent is rather

[Mr. Douglas.]

the supervision of the trustees in their management of estates in bankruptcy.

I must add that very recently I had a conversation with one of the crown attorneys interested in this matter. He has advised me that these bankruptcies, together with a number of others, are still being looked into, but that there has been no decision to prosecute and no occasion found to prosecute on the basis of the present evidence.

Mr. Erik Nielsen (Yukon): I have a supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Are we to understand from the Minister's reply that the bankruptcies in respect of United Upholsters and Rec-Stone are now under formal investigation by provincial authorities?

Mr. Favreau: I am advised that these matters, and I must repeat, together with a series of other bankruptcies are still under investigation, in the course of the normal discharge of the duties of the Quebec authorities.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE**CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSED CHANGES IN STANDING ORDERS**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. H. A. Olson (Medicine Hat): I should like to address a question to the Prime Minister respecting the business of this House, in particular the two resolutions standing on the order paper in his name today. In order that all hon. Members will be prepared so as to make the most effective contribution to the debate when the suggested rules and procedural changes are brought forward, are all the details in this resolution the position of the Government; and are they hard and fast, or will some of them be subject to negotiation and amendment?

Right Hon. L. B. Pearson (Prime Minister): Well, Mr. Speaker, I have some difficulty in replying to the hon. gentleman's question, which suggests that some special procedure should be followed in respect of these resolutions. They will be discussed and decided by the House, I assume, in the normal way.

FISHERIES**NEW BRUNSWICK—REGULATIONS RESPECTING SHAD AND GASPÉREAU**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Thomas M. Bell (Saint John-Albert): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Fisheries. In view of the strong protests of New Brunswick fishermen, partic-