1967, to December, 1968, in charge of a study conducted by the research branch of the office of the Director of Investigation and Research; that he contributed original concepts to the work; that when the study was virtually completed in December, 1968, he was taken off the work and the final completion of it was assigned to another; and that when, after various delays, the report entitled "Concentration in the manufacturing industries of Canada" was transmitted to the minister for publication, it was stated in the letter of transmittal which was the foreword to the published report that the report was prepared by Mr. R. S. Khemani under the direction of Mr. J. William Morrow, neither of whom had made more than a minor contribution to the report.

The preface to the report is therefore wrong. It is, clearly, contrary to the facts. It failed to give credit to Dr. Weisz for his part in it and involved, in effect, the appropriation of the original work of Dr. Weisz. It is, therefore, damaging to his reputation and to any public recognition and, under the merit system of the public service, this constitutes a grave injustice to him.

I ask the minister or his representative to give an explanation of this injustice in the public administration and to tell the House what will be done to remedy it. I believe that one of the valuable contributions of this House is calling public attention to injustice in the public service, injustice to which those responsible in the government have turned a blind eye.

Mr. D. R. Tolmie (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs): Mr. Speaker, the report with which we are dealing is entitled "Concentration in the manufacturing industries of Canada." It was published under the authority of the former minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs, now Minister of State for Urban Affairs (Mr. Basford).

In submitting the report to the minister, D. H. W. Henry, the combines director, wrote the following letter of transmittal:

Ottawa, March 31, 1971.

The Honourable Ron Basford, P.C., M.P.,

Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs,

Ottawa.

Sir:

I have the honour to transmit to you the text of a report entitled: "Concentration in the manufacturing industries of Canada".

Special tabulations essential to the study were prepared by the manufacturing and primary industries division, Dominion Bureau of Statistics, Ottawa, whose assistance is gratefully acknowledged. Professor Gideon Rosenbluth of the University of British Columbia made helpful comments upon a draft outline of the report

The report was prepared in the research branch by Mr. R. S. Khemani...

Mr. Brewin: That is not true.

Mr. Tolmie:

—under the direction of Mr. J. William Morrow—

Mr. Brewin: That is not true.

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Mr. Tolmie:

—and with the assistance of other members of the staff. Yours very truly,

D.H.W. Henry
Director of Investigation and Research,
Combines Investigation Act

Mr. Brewin: It was a false report.

Mr. Tolmie: In essence, it was stated that the report was prepared in the research branch by Mr. Khemani under Mr. Morrow's direction and with the assistance of other members of the research branch staff. Mr. Weisz was not singled out for special mention.

A petition under Standing Order 70 from Mr. Weisz was presented to the House on June 6 last and Mr. Speaker ruled that the House should not deal with the matter since there were other and more effective ways in which this could be done.

The situation is that the supervisors of Mr. Weisz and, in particular, the combines director, Mr. Henry, did not consider that the contribution which Mr. Weisz made to the report warranted his being singled out for special mention in the letter of transmittal.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Boulanger): Order, please. The hon. member for St. John's West (Mr. Carter.)

REGIONAL ECONOMIC EXPANSION—ARGENTIA TASK FORCE—INQUIRY AS TO REPORT

Mr. Walter C. Carter (St. John's West): Mr. Speaker, on February 13, 1970, the United States government announced its intention to curtail operations at its naval station in Argentia, Newfoundland. Immediately following the United States government's announcement, the Minister of Transport (Mr. Jamieson) issued a statement on behalf of the federal government at which time he pledged the efforts of all federal government departments to determine what possible use could be made of any available station buildings, as well as to find solutions to the serious social and economic problems that would result from the base phase-down. Following subsequent meetings between the Minister of Transport and representatives of the Placentia area, a Canada-United States committee was formed. It was later designated as the Argentia task force. This task force was headed by an official of the Department of Regional Economic Expansion here in Ottawa, Mr. Garnet Page.

At the outset, Mr. Speaker, I would like to pay tribute to members of the local development associations in the area, in particular the members of the Placentia area development association under the chairmanship of Mr. John Whalen. Mr. Whalen and his local committee, together with the mayors and members of the town councils in the area, have worked with a dedication that is without parallel and, I might add, without remuneration. Indeed, credit for what has taken place in the area in the past two years must go to these people.

With respect to the official committee appointed by the federal government, namely, the Argentia task force, it