

*Oral Questions*

which I am suggesting to the Acting Prime Minister it should be giving on a very regular basis to the public.

**Mr. Sharp:** Mr. Speaker, it seems to me that the hon. gentleman should be in favour of what I am in favour of which is to get an independent board established which has the power to roll back price increases where necessary. We are now talking about something that is rather theoretical. What we have provided is the investigation. I agree with him that the investigation should proceed, but I hope he agrees with me the board should have some power to roll back prices.

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[Translation]

**ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE****SUGGESTED DENIAL OF RIGHT TO RETURN OF FLQ EXILES.**

**Mr. André Fortin (Lotbinière):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to put my question to the Acting Prime Minister.

In accordance with the reports that the FLQ members now in Paris are asking for a permit of political refugees in France and considering their recent statement, could the Acting Prime Minister tell us whether the Canadian government has received an official request for their return in the country and could he, on behalf of the Canadian government, assure the House and the Canadian people that we will have nothing more to do with those revolutionary FLQ members and that we will deny them the right to return to Canada, in spite of their application?

[English]

**Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Acting Prime Minister):** Mr. Speaker, the situation at the present time, as has been the case ever since these serious incidents of five years ago, is that these particular individuals if they return to Canada will be prosecuted for the crimes they committed.

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**THE CANADIAN ECONOMY****ANTI-INFLATION PROGRAM—REASON FOR OMISSION FROM LEGISLATION OF WORDS “NATIONAL EMERGENCY”**

**Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Prince Albert):** Mr. Speaker, my question arises out of the earlier question asked by the Leader of the Opposition. That is a question which I think must be cleared up once and for all in any discussion regarding this bill, or the labour situation so far as the Post Office Department is concerned will be simply problematical. The question has to do with the constitutionality of this legislation dealing with price and wage control. When it was first produced I questioned the constitutionality of certain elements in the white paper and the reply I received from the government was that the government was assured it is within the legislative competence of Parliament. Now in the last 48 hours outstanding constitutional authorities across Canada have pointed out—

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. The right hon. member may very well have an interesting debating point, but it

[Mr. Orlikow.]

appears to me he is about to develop an argument in favour of his position on constitutionality. If the right hon. member has a question to put perhaps he would do that now.

**Mr. Diefenbaker:** I thought this House would like to have the constitutional opinion of experts rather than novices sitting opposite.

**Some hon. Members:** Oh, oh!

**Mr. Diefenbaker:** In order to make it constitutional, the Supreme Court of Canada has made it clear on several occasions that it is necessary to state there is a national emergency. Now, we have the minister saying that there is an emergency.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. The hon. member for Prince Edward-Hastings.

**Mr. Diefenbaker:** Mr. Speaker—

**Mr. Speaker:** The hon. member for Prince Edward-Hastings.

**Mr. Diefenbaker:** I do not understand that and I do not intend, Mr. Speaker, to be denied—

**Some hon. Members:** Order.

**Mr. Speaker:** I am sorry, I feel that in the circumstances I have extended every leniency to the right hon. member to put his question. Since he continues to argue the point, I prefer to go to the hon. member for Prince Edward-Hastings.

**Mr. Diefenbaker:** I am not arguing the point, I am asserting the right.

**Some hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Mr. Diefenbaker:** I have always bowed with deference to Mr. Speaker, but when I have a question on the constitutionality of this matter—

**Some hon. Members:** Order.

**Mr. Diefenbaker:** —I say I have the right to speak, despite what Your Honour understands that I am endeavouring to ask.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. In accordance with the provisional rules under which we have been operating since last Easter recess, I would be prepared to hear the right hon. member's argument at three o'clock. I ask the right hon. member once more, if he has a question to put, that he put it forthwith without further argument.

**Mr. Diefenbaker:** I ask the minister this—

**Some hon. Members:** Oh, oh!

**Mr. Diefenbaker:** Mr. Speaker, there are many hon. members who have not even read the law yet.

**Some hon. Members:** Oh, oh!

**Mr. Diefenbaker:** Why is it that the words “national emergency” are not included in the preamble of this bill?