Inquiries of the Ministry

(Translation):

Mr. Dupuis: Mr. Speaker, I should like to know if the minister is prepared to table the text of the statement he said he had in his possession.

Mr. Dorion: Mr. Speaker, I do not have to table it. What I said is exactly true and no one has the right to question my word.

Mr. Dupuis: Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask a supplementary question.

(Text):

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member has asked a question and a supplementary, and it seems to me the answer is clear enough.

Mr. Dupuis: This is a new question I should like to ask.

(Translation):

I should like to ask the minister why the word of ten Liberal members would not be worth his own word in this house?

(Text):

Mr. Speaker: Order. The hon. member's question is quite out of order.

COAL

RAND REPORT—INQUIRY AS TO PUBLICATION OF COMMENTARY

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Hazen Argue (Assiniboia): I should like to direct a question to the senior minister from the Atlantic provinces, the Minister of National Revenue, in the absence of the Prime Minister. In view of the many communications that I have been receiving from interested groups in the maritimes with regard to the Vissac commentary on the royal commission report of Mr. Justice Rand, could the minister say, first, whether this report will be made public and, second, whether any action on the report is contemplated?

Hon. George C. Nowlan (Minister of National Revenue): I appreciate the implied compliment when I am referred to as senior minister from the maritime provinces. Then, again, perhaps it is a sign of old age. At any rate I will take the question under consideration, and I am sure that whatever may be said in answer to the details of the question, the report will receive full consideration and will be dealt with by the government following that consideration.

Mr. Argue: Does the minister mean he will give me a further report at a later date?

Mr. Nowlan: I shall be very glad to do that.

[Mr. Speaker.]

CAPE BRETON—REQUEST FOR MEETING OF LABOUR, MANAGEMENT AND GOVERNMENTS

On the orders of the day:

Hon. L. B. Pearson (Leader of the Opposition): May I ask the Acting Prime Minister if he is in a position to reply now to a question I addressed to the Prime Minister last Wednesday with respect to the request from the premier of Nova Scotia to the federal government for a general coal conference?

Hon. Howard C. Green (Acting Prime Minister): No, Mr. Speaker. I will bring that question to the attention of the Prime Minister.

UNITED NATIONS

CONGO—CONSIDERATION AT SPECIAL OR GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Harold E. Winch (Vancouver East): I wish to direct a question to the Secretary of State for External Affairs. Can the minister advise the house whether in view of the serious situation in the Congo and the problem now facing the security council it is his opinion, or the opinion of the government, that a call be made for a special session of the general assembly to take responsibility for the formation of policy and the issuing of instructions with regard to the Congo?

Hon. Howard C. Green (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, the hon. member for Vancouver East in my absence yesterday asked whether any consideration was being given to the report that a special meeting of the United Nations might be called to deal with the Congo situation.

As hon. members know, during the past week or so the situation in the Congo has been under consideration by the security council. I am happy to report that in the early hours of this morning the council adopted a resolution sponsored by Ceylon, Liberia and the United Arab Republic. The vote on that resolution was nine in favour and none against, with the U.S.S.R. and France abstaining.

The resolution, which with the permission of the house I shall now table and which perhaps could be printed as an appendix to Hansard—

Mr. Winch: Could it be read aloud, sir?

Mr. Green: —defines more clearly the role of the United Nations in the Congo. Among other things it urges the United Nations to take all appropriate measures to prevent the occurrence of civil war in the Congo including the use of force, if necessary, in the last resort. It urges the immediate withdrawal