Speaker, I think we are doing everything possible to handle the matter reasonably at the present time.

Mr. Hales: Mr. Speaker, I should just like to draw to the attention of the Parliamentary Secretary that I have had a question on the order paper since October 21 dealing with the Department of National Defence and the Department of Supply and Services.

Mr. Jerome: That information will be noted as well, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Orlikow: Mr. Speaker, question No. 79 in my name was put on the order paper this session on October 8. It was also on the order paper last session. It asks for information about consultants and companies doing studies for the Prime Minister's office. The Prime Minister has a large staff and I really do not see why it should take this long to answer the question.

[Translation]

Mr. André Fortin (Lotbinière): Mr. Speaker, on October 29 last, I put on the order paper notice of motion for production of papers No. 145, regarding the construction of a federal building in Victoriaville, a project which has been pending since 1955. I have been waiting, like my hon. fellow citizens of Lotbinière, for an answer to this question which comes under the jurisdiction of the Minister of Public Works.

Mr. Speaker, I feel that this is an urgent matter, and I must insist that the government answer it as soon as possible.

[English]

Mr. Jerome: I have taken note of that number as well, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: Perhaps the Chair should mention that I have noted the point of order raised by the hon. member. He has suggested that the Standing Order dealing with written questions on the order paper and notices of motions for the production of papers be reviewed. As the hon. member knows, the Speaker is not a member of that illustrious committee, the Committee on Procedure and Organization, though I always make it a point to bring to the attention of the committee points of order that are raised in the House in relation to the proper functioning of our Standing Orders. I will certainly do as I have done in the past in the case of the point raised by the hon. member. It will be brought to the attention of the chairman of the committee.

• (2:50 p.m.)

Mr. McIntosh: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a similar question of privilege in relation to question No. 688 which has been on the order paper since the middle of January. I understand the relevant information was given to the press the day after I posed the question, and I cannot understand why we in the House of Commons could not have had that information before that time.

Mr. Munro: Read the newspapers.

Mr. McIntosh: That is not the proper way to get the information.

Motions for Papers MOTIONS FOR PAPERS

Mr. J. A. Jerome (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): Mr. Speaker, Notice of Motion No. 99 is acceptable to the government subject to the usual reservations concerning confidential documents and to the authorization of the government concerned.

Mr. Speaker: Subject to the reservations and conditions expressed by the parliamentary secretary is it the pleasure of the House that Notice of Motion No. 99 be deemed to have been adopted?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

ABITIBI CONSTITUENCY—BUILDING AND REPAIRS TO FEDERAL BUILDINGS, ETC., 1969-70

Motion No. 99-Mr. Laprise:

That an Order of the House do issue for a copy of all correspondence, briefs, telegrams and other documents between *Les Entreprises d'Abitibi Limitée* and the Department of Public Works pertaining to the building or repair of wharfs, launching ramps, federal buildings in the constituency of Abitibi during 1969-1970.

Motion agreed to.

Mr. Jerome: Mr. Speaker, would you be so kind as to call Notices of Motions Nos. 17, 18, 29, 54, 65, 86, 87, 135 and 159?

RESTRAINT GUIDELINES—CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN PRICES AND INCOMES COMMISSION AND GOVERNMENT

Motion No. 17-Mr. Saltsman:

That an Order of the House do issue for copies of all correspondence, memoranda, etc., between the Prices and Incomes Commission and the Government of Canada in which the Commission suggested guidelines for restraint that the federal government might follow referred to by the Prime Minister as reported in *Hansard* of November 25, 1969 at page 1201.

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, I move this motion on behalf of the hon. member.

Hon. Ron Basford (Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs): Mr. Speaker, consultations between the government of Canada and the Prices and Incomes Commission are on a confidential basis and I would ask the hon. member to withdraw his motion.

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Pardon my inelegance, Mr. Speaker, but my answer is "nuts".

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Speaker: I presume I should interpret that as meaning that the motion is dropped?

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): No, put the question.

Mr. MacEachen: Transfer for debate.

Mr. Speaker: Transferred for debate.