

responsibilities and give us an answer to-night.

As a matter of fact, Mr. Chairman, I demand such an answer, for we have been playing and juggling too long with this project, that was decided upon, voted and approved by the city of Montreal, by the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation and by Parliament. With startling suddenness, and through a political scheme on the part of her predecessor, this project was postponed a few months prior to the federal election, so as to prevent the election of the member for Sainte-Marie as Conservative member of Parliament for the Montreal area. Liberals resort to all tricks, Mr. Chairman, and I am not surprised about that.

But since the electoral campaign is over, I think the Minister owes us such an answer and should tell us to-night whether or not it is her intention to see that this project about the C.B.C. center is effectively carried out, as was announced by her predecessor on October 1, 1965.

I do not intend to resume my seat without having had an answer from the minister. It seems to me that the matter is simple. If the hon. lady is aware of the administration, of the decisions the cabinet has made previously or at present, I believe that she should answer. If the minister is unaware of this, it may be that she is not considered important enough to be kept abreast of the main decisions taken by the present government. This is of consequence to us, and while I bow to your impartiality, Mr. Chairman, you happen to be my left hand neighbour in the city of Montreal, and I know that this question is of interest to you—

The Deputy Chairman: Order. If I may interrupt the hon. member, I would ask him not to refer to the person who is now in the chair since the latter cannot, on account of his office, take part in the debate in progress. I suggest that the hon. member carry on with his remarks without alluding to the member who is presently acting as deputy chairman of committees and who cannot therefore take part in the debate.

Mr. Valade: I must point out to you, Mr. Chairman, that I did not put forward any argument likely to place you in an embarrassing situation. I only said that as a member from Montreal, you were interested in the matter—

The Deputy Chairman: Order. I am sorry to interrupt the hon. member, but I would

23033—153½

Supply—Secretary of State

ask him to proceed with his remarks while making the points he wants to submit to the house. I would also ask him to overlook the fact that I am a member of this house, because being acting chairman of the committees of the house, I cannot take part in the debate.

Mr. Grégoire: On a point of order, Mr. Chairman. I think you are perfectly within your rights. Up to now, you have performed your duty with fairness and honesty. I feel all members should make it possible for you to keep on performing your task as efficiently as in the past.

I think the hon. member for Sainte Marie (Mr. Valade) will agree with me on that point.

Mr. Valade: Mr. Chairman, I agree with the hon. member for Lapointe and I would like to see him in the chair to spare us his interventions which are often out of place.

Mr. Chairman, I simply wish to tell the Secretary of State that this C.B.C. centre concerns all the members from Montreal. I do not intend to make it a question of party politics; I am not in a position to do so.

Everyone knows that it is the Conservative party which initiated that project, which conceived it, which endorsed it and which had it approved. Consequently, I am not here to gather political advantages. Let us hear from the government tonight that it will carry out the project approved by the house of commons under the previous administration.

Mr. Mongrain: Mr. Chairman, I wonder whether the hon. member should not put his question in English to the minister so that she could understand and answer?

[*English*]

Miss LaMarsh: Mr. Chairman, I am perfectly able to understand, but I fail to see how I am able to answer the hon. member until he sits down and surrenders the floor to me.

Mr. Valade: Mr. Chairman, I do protest against another intervention by the minister. I asked her earlier to reply and told her that my intervention would be short. Then I sat down and she refused to give an answer. Now she says that if I sit down she will give me an answer. I am just complying with the request of the hon. member for Trois-Rivières. I am saying to the leader of the