

[Translation]

Mr. Pelletier: I am sorry, but I am afraid the member for Annapolis Valley has misunderstood my remarks, since I specifically stated that we are dealing with the rejection of an application for a licence and that the governor in council has no authority to request the CRTC to review the rejection of an application. We will of course look into the decision, which is interesting from many points of view.

OFFICIAL LANGUAGES

APPOINTMENT OF COMMISSIONER

Hon. Martial Asselin (Charlevoix): Mr. Speaker, one month ago I put a question to the Secretary of State. My colleagues also asked the same question, to which the minister answered: Very soon, very soon.

I wanted to know when he expected to appoint the Commissioner of Languages. At federal-provincial conferences it has been said that the program concerning that matter would soon be implemented. We would therefore like to know when that Commissioner will be appointed by the government.

One month ago the minister said: Very soon—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member asked the question. The minister might wish to answer it.

Hon. Gérard Pelletier (Secretary of State): I have no definite answer to offer to the hon. member, Mr. Speaker, but I would like to point out that the implementation of the Official Languages Act does not make of the appointment of the Commissioner a matter of urgency.

What must come first and will come in the near future, I think, is the appointment of the Bilingual Districts Advisory Board.

Mr. Asselin: Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question.

Can the minister tell us when the regulations concerning the Official Languages Act will be adopted by the cabinet and proposed to the provinces?

Mr. Pelletier: I am sorry, Mr. Speaker, but I am not sure I understand what the hon. member means by the word "regulations".

Mr. Valade: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order.

On November 12, 1969, in answer to a question from the hon. member for Charlevoix

Inquiries of the Ministry

(Mr. Asselin), the Secretary of State said, as recorded in *Hansard*, that he would render a decision "in the near future". As this was a month ago, I think it is important for hon. members to know exactly what a Crown minister means when he says "in the near future". Is it one month, six months or a year? I feel that the Secretary of State should give us this piece of information.

[English]

INQUIRY OF THE MINISTRY

Mr. T. C. Douglas (Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands): Mr. Speaker, I have one short question for the Minister of Finance. Is he giving any consideration to preparing a series of slides on the subject of how to live on \$30 a week?

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Hon. E. J. Benson (Minister of Finance): Mr. Speaker, I was going to prepare a set of slides indicating how the hon. member could ask sensible questions.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The Chair recognizes the hon. member for Dartmouth-Halifax East.

REGIONAL ECONOMIC EXPANSION

CLOSING OF FAIREY AVIATION PLANT— INQUIRY AS TO REMEDIAL ACTION

Mr. J. M. Forrestall (Dartmouth-Halifax East): Mr. Speaker, is the Minister of Regional Economic Expansion in a position to answer the two or three serious questions asked in the House on Monday and Tuesday about the closure of Fairey Aviation and the plans of the government to provide immediate alternatives in respect of this very serious problem?

[Translation]

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Regional Economic Expansion): Mr. Speaker, as the other hon. members and the general public, I have learned that Fairey Aviation has decided to close down its plant; however, there is still hope that the plant might be purchased by an American company and remain open. In fact, there are two parties negotiating at the present time. Unfortunately, I cannot provide details, but the situation is not past hope. On the contrary, I am confident that we shall succeed in finding another business interested in the Fairey Aviation plant.