

house will be ready to deal with the resolution and possibly, when it comes before us, we will be able to amend it in appropriate ways.

Mr. Speaker: I am much impressed by the remarks of the Minister of Labour, and due also in part to the difficulty of translation, about which hon. members may have heard, I do propose to take this matter into consideration over the week end so that we may establish, I hope once for all, the proper procedure.

Mr. Byrne: In the course of your proposed consideration of the motion, Mr. Speaker, I wonder whether you would include members of the New Democratic party who may be asked to appear before the Nemetz commission now sitting in Vancouver.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh.

Mr. G. W. Baldwin (Peace River): May I make a brief intervention on the point of order raised by the Minister of Labour. It is this, and I ask Your Honour to take it into consideration when you are reviewing this question. While it may be that some of the matters with respect to which the hon. member for Yukon will be questioned may be matters dealing with subjects outside this house, nevertheless the letter which my hon. friend read into the record is a plain indication that it will be the intention of the commission counsel to examine him as to what he said when he was in this house, and to that extent the *Hansard* record with respect to the statements he made will, I am sure, be the subject of considerable discussion and questioning when the commission resumes its proceedings. The hon. member for Yukon is called to be a witness before the commission and may well be subjected to questioning as to what he said in the house. I suggest this is an important factor for Your Honour to take into consideration.

Mr. Greene: On the same point of order I would bring to the attention of the Chair—

Mr. Speaker: Order. I think the Chair is sufficiently advised to reach a logical and, I hope, correct decision on Monday, and in view of the lateness of the hour I think we should proceed with the business before the house.

Mr. Greene: On a point of order—

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member has heard the remarks of the Chair. Surely he can cooperate to that extent.

Canada Council

PRIVILEGES AND ELECTIONS

Fourth report of standing committee on privileges and elections—Mr. Moreau.

CANADA COUNCIL

ANNOUNCEMENT OF UNCONDITIONAL GRANT OF \$10 MILLION

Right Hon. L. B. Pearson (Prime Minister): I should like, Mr. Speaker, to make a statement on the financing of the Canada Council which was set up in 1957 to foster and promote in Canada the arts, humanities and the social sciences.

The council is financed by an endowment fund of \$50 million. Its relationship to parliament is through the public accounts committee, which each year examines its annual report. Since 1957 there has been no significant change in the council's sources of income other than a gratifying appreciation in the value of its investments. Meanwhile, however, the needs it was established to meet have grown rapidly. The prestige and value of the council have also grown in the steps it has taken to meet these needs.

With its present income the council is restricted to affording only minimal assistance in the creation and development of new artistic resources to meet the needs of the future. In the humanities and social sciences the council has had to adopt restrictive measures, particularly in the award of scholarships and fellowships. There is clear requirement for an enlarged—not a reduced—program of assistance in this field.

For these reasons the government has decided that the council's income should be increased. We believe that the best long term method of achieving this result would be to increase the endowment fund, because it fully protects the independence of the council. We feel however, that it would be unwise to take this course under present circumstances. For one thing, the Canadian universities foundation is now making a study of the needs of universities, including their requirements in the fields of the humanities and the social sciences. This report will not be available before the end of 1965. Also there have been suggestions that the Canada Council might be divided and a new special agency created for the humanities and social sciences. This is a matter which requires the most careful consideration. A hasty decision would clearly be unwise, and even if a change were to be made it would