

## INQUIRIES OF THE MINISTRY

On the orders of the day:

[Translation]

**Mr. Gilles Grégoire (Lapointe):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the right hon. Prime Minister.

Could he arrange for every member of the Conservative party to receive a copy of the editorial published in the December 2 issue of *Maclean's*, which is entitled:

This isn't opposition, Mr. Diefenbaker, this is sabotage.

[Text]

**Right Hon. L. B. Pearson (Prime Minister):** Surely the hon. gentleman does not wish me to use my frank for that purpose.

**Mr. Donald MacInnis (Cape Breton South):** I rise on a point of order, Mr. Speaker. In the past, questions which have been asked about the welfare of unemployed workers in my own particular constituency have not been allowed. This afternoon we have had examples of facetious questions being put which, before they were completed, the Chair must have realized were definitely out of order, yet the Chair permitted such questions to be asked.

**Mr. H. W. Danforth (Kent, Ont.):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to address a question to the Prime Minister. Did the Prime Minister in making his most recent appointment to the Senate receive any advice or suggestions from the Secretary of State for External Affairs, who I understand promised several people in the Windsor area that this appointment would be theirs?

**Mr. Pearson:** Mr. Speaker, the hon. gentleman should not worry about these matters.

## INQUIRY FOR RETURN

On the orders of the day:

[Translation]

**Mr. Gérard Laprise (Chapleau):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Transport.

Could the minister tell me if he will soon table document No. 180, as he promised on October 28 last?

[Text]

**Hon. J. W. Pickersgill (Minister of Transport):** Mr. Speaker, I regret to say that I was not able to hear what the hon. gentleman said, but perhaps he would allow me to read it in *Hansard* and answer tomorrow.

## FINANCE

RENEWAL OF U.K.-CANADA TAX AGREEMENT

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. K. H. More (Regina City):** Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Minister of Finance. Are negotiations now going on seeking renewal of the Canada-United Kingdom tax agreement, and will they be concluded satisfactorily in time so there will be no interruption of the situation in regard to that treaty?

**Hon. Walter L. Gordon (Minister of Finance):** Mr. Speaker, negotiations were being carried on with the government of the United Kingdom and, as sometimes happens, an election intervened. They are now being renewed with the new government of the United Kingdom. I have no reason to think they will not be concluded with reasonable dispatch.

BANK OF CANADA HOLDINGS OF BONDS TO BE REDEEMED

On the orders of the day:

**Hon. Walter L. Gordon (Minister of Finance):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to reply to a question asked me yesterday by the hon. member for Cariboo having to do with Bank of Canada holdings of certain issues of securities.

I find on inquiry that details by issues of Bank of Canada holdings are not a matter of public record; therefore I am not in a position to provide details of the bank's holdings of the issues maturing on December 1 and December 15. The Bank of Canada does provide on its weekly and monthly balance sheets broad category classifications of its holdings of government of Canada securities. I might point out that, as I indicated in my public announcement of the new government financing last Friday, the Bank of Canada has agreed to acquire a minimum of \$125 million of the new issue.

**Mr. Bert Leboe (Cariboo):** A supplementary question Mr. Speaker. Could the minister tell me whether there is any reason in the public interest why the Bank of Canada does not keep these records or supply this information?

**Mr. Gordon:** In the operation of monetary policy, which is conducted on a day to day basis by the bank, it is not thought desirable to give full details of the securities which the bank is buying and selling from time to time.