Inquiries of the Ministry

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, it is not yet under consideration at cabinet level, but instruction has been given to the minister responsible to come forth with a plan for the future location of members of Parliament and parliamentary offices in premises which are not now the property of the government of Canada.

Mr. Diefenbaker: Is consideration being given to doing something by arrangement with the city of Ottawa so that large buildings about to be erected adjacent to Parliament Hill will be controlled in some way? If not, Parliament Hill will lose something of the greatness which nature has provided for it. Is consideration being given along that line as well as to the premises to which the right hon, gentleman referred?

Mr. Trudeau: I believe that this is a matter of concern for the National Capital Commission, Mr. Speaker. I must confess that I am not aware of any recent representations along these lines to the authorities of the Ottawa district. I shall gladly convey the representations of the right hon. gentleman, however, to the minister responsible for the National Capital Commission.

[Translation]

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

PROTESTS RESPECTING NEW PLAN

Mr. Henry Latulippe (Compton): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Labour.

Could he tell the House whether representations were made to him in protest against the fact that under the new unemployment insurance program, a person who works 12 months of the year will earn less than one who works only 9 months, yet the latter will cost more to the government?

Hon. Bryce Mackasey (Minister of Labour): The answer is no, Mr. Speaker.

[English]

FISHERIES

SUGGESTED BANNING OF FUTURE SEAL HUNTS

Mrs. Grace MacInnis (Vancouver-Kingsway): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Fisheries and Forestry. In view of the fact that a bill has been introduced in the United States Congress to ban the killing of sea mammals, including baby seals, and to ban the importation of sealskins into the United States, will the minister, on this last day of the annual seal hunt, consider banning all future slaughter of seals?

[Later:]

Mr. John Lundrigan (Gander-Twillingate): Mr. Speaker, my question is supplementary to an earlier question concerning seals. It is not prompted by any anti-American feeling. Would the minister consider making an official Canadian response to United States Senator Harris of Oklahoma who is actively campaigning against a bona-

fide Canadian industry, and inform him to keep his elongated, American proboscis south of the border and apply his energies to the resolution of their foreign and domestic problems?

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member's question is in the form a recommendation or suggestion which he has to assume will be taken into account.

[Translation]

NATIONAL SECURITY

VIEWS EXPRESSED ON QUEBEC CRISIS IN BOOK BY SECRETARY OF STATE—EFFECT ON CABINET SECRECY

Hon. Martial Asselin (Charlevoix): I should like to put a question to the right hon. Prime Minister.

I refer again to the question I put a while ago to the Secretary of State. Since the latter was a member of the cabinet during the October crisis and as such was aware of certain facts and that, as a result of the War Measures Act trials are now in process, some people have been judged, and others are awaiting their trials, how can the Prime Minister allow a minister to publish a book on such important events without first having read the book to see whether it contains facts that are only known to the cabinet?

Should the Prime Minister not read the book first, to criticize it objectively—

Mr. Speaker: Order. The hon, member has put his question. I think that the House could allow the Prime Minister to answer, but I am under the impression that the question is more in the nature of an argument. At any rate, the Chair does not object to the Prime Minister answering the question.

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): It is an argument based on an assumption, Mr. Speaker, and if hypothetically the minister had indeed violated his oath of office and revealed cabinet secrets, it would obviously constitute an irregularity which should be dealt with.

But as far as I know the assumption is neither verified nor verifiable.

Mr. Asselin: I have a supplementary, Mr. Speaker. [English]

Mr. R. Gordon L. Fairweather (Fundy-Royal): A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. There are several honmembers who wish to ask supplementaries on this question, the hon. member for Fundy-Royal, the hon. member from Cape Breton and the hon. member for Charlevoix. There are only five minutes left in the question period. It may be unfair to hon. members, but perhaps this matter might be pursued at another time.

Mr. Fairweather: Mr. Speaker, I have been rising constantly to ask a very serious supplementary question.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

[Mr. Diefenbaker.]