

Inquiries of the Ministry

Mr. Diefenbaker: Never mind what Mr. Voltaire said. Answer the question. We are interested in what the Secretary of State said.

Mr. Speaker: Order. I wonder if we might return to the rule book. I believe the hon. member for Charlevoix has a supplementary question.

[Translation]

The hon. member for Charlevoix wishes to ask a supplementary question.

Hon. Martial Asselin (Charlevoix): Mr. Speaker, I wish to put a question—

[English]

Mr. Trudeau: Mr. Speaker, I had not finished. I think I should be allowed to finish my answer.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. Perhaps the Prime Minister might complete his reply when we have heard the supplementary of the hon. member for Charlevoix.

[Translation]

Mr. Asselin: Mr. Speaker, I should like to put a question to the Minister of Justice—

[English]

Mr. Trudeau: Mr. Speaker, I am not—

[Translation]

Mr. Speaker: Order. I thought that the hon. member for Charlevoix was going to direct a supplementary question to the Prime Minister. I do not want to interrupt the latter, but I think that while quoting Voltaire, we may be straying somewhat from the question asked by the right hon. member for Prince Albert.

I would invite the right hon. Prime Minister to answer as briefly as possible the question of the right hon. member for Prince Albert, and then I will recognize the hon. member for Charlevoix.

[English]

Mr. Trudeau: The quote is very short, Mr. Speaker: "Give me five lines of an author that I can quote out of context and I will guarantee that I can have him hanged."

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

[Translation]

PUBLICATION OF BOOK BY SECRETARY OF STATE ON QUEBEC CRISIS—REPERCUSSIONS ON PERSONS CHARGED UNDER WAR MEASURES ACT

Hon. Martial Asselin (Charlevoix): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a supplementary question to the Minister of Justice.

Considering that, under the War Measures Act, several people are before the courts in Montreal, has the Minister of Justice considered the possibility that the book published by the Secretary of State may cause them irreparable wrong? If not, would he consult his legal advisers as soon as possible and make a statement to the House about this?

[English]

Hon. John N. Turner (Minister of Justice): Mr. Speaker, I have not had an opportunity to read the book and have no comment to make until I do.

[Translation]

Mr. Roland Godin (Portneuf): Mr. Speaker, I wish to ask the Prime Minister a supplementary question.

Could he tell us whether the Secretary of State has a right to sell his book and pocket the profits or whether this is simply a routine task which becomes government property?

Mr. Alexandre Cyr (Gaspé): Mr. Speaker, I wish to ask the Secretary of State a question.

So that he may abide by certain recommendations of the Royal Commission on Bilingualism and Biculturalism and enable opposition members to express constructive and logical comments, does the minister intend to translate his book into the language of Shakespeare?

Mr. Speaker: Order. Having come from Voltaire to Shakespeare, we will now recognize the hon. member for Timiskaming.

[English]

I believe the hon. member for Timiskaming has a point of order.

Mr. Peters: Mr. Speaker, in view of the fact that this seems to be an adjunct to the debates we had previously in the House and in view of the growing interest in this document, I wonder whether the Secretary of State would be willing to table it so that it could be made an appendix to *Hansard* and hon. members could have an opportunity to study it.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The translation might not be prepared for tomorrow.

[Translation]

MOTIVATION OF SECRETARY OF STATE IN WRITING BOOK ON QUEBEC CRISIS

Mr. Roch La Salle (Joliette): Mr. Speaker, I should like to put a supplementary question to the hon. Secretary of State.

Since the Prime Minister has said a moment ago that every minister was free to inform the people and ought to do so, I should like to ask the hon. Secretary of State what were the main reasons which moved him to write a book on the October crisis rather than giving every day information which the public obviously required on this matter?

Mr. Speaker: I venture to break in at this moment. The hon. member is asking the hon. Secretary of State to indicate his reasons for writing a book. I do not think that the question, in those terms, is acceptable.

[English]

The hon. member for Egmont.