(Translation):

POST OFFICE CUSTOMS BUILDINGS, ST. HYACINTHE, QUE.

Motion No. 13-Mr. Ricard:

That an humble address be presented to His Excellency praying that he will cause to be laid before this house a copy of all correspondence, telegrams and other documents exchanged between the government or any of its agencies or departments and any municipal government, individual or organizations, since January 1, 1960, in respect of any proposal to purchase the post office building and the customs building in the city of St. Hyacinthe.

Motion agreed to.

CONSTRUCTION OF PENAL INSTITUTION, ST. PIE DE BAGOT, QUE.

Motion No. 14-Mr. Ricard:

That an humble address be presented to His Excellency praying that he will cause to be laid before this house a copy of all correspondence, telegrams and other documents exchanged between the government or any of its agencies or departments and any provincial or municipal government, individuals or organizations, since January 1, 1958, in respect of the construction of a penal institution in the parish of St. Pie de Bagot.

Mr. Chevrier: Mr. Speaker, would the hon. member allow me to have this motion stand for the moment?

Mr. Ricard: Agreed.

Motion stands.

(Text):

OPINION ON LEGALITY OF IMPORT SURCHARGE ORDER

Motion No. 15-Mr. Knowles:

That an order of the house do issue for copies of correspondence or any other documents exchanged between the then prime minister or minister of finance or any other minister of the crown and the deputy attorney general with reference to the legality of the surcharge on imports order, P.C. 1962-902, dated June 24, 1962, and the amendment thereto, P.C. 1962-987, dated July 11, 1962, and the import control list as amended by P.C. 1962-903, dated June 24, 1962.

Mr. Chevrier: Mr. Speaker, the files of the Department of Justice do not contain any of the material sought by this motion. My understanding is that the orders in question were made after a discussion between members of the then government and officials of the departments concerned, including the Department of Justice, and that any opinions or views expressed on the legal aspects of the proposed orders were verbal only, contrary to the impression created at the last parliament.

Mr. Knowles: Mr. Speaker, if there are no written opinions, as we were led to believe was the case, I have no option but to let the motion drop.

Order discharged and motion dropped. [Mr. Pickersgill.]

DIRECTOR OF COMPANIES BRANCH

Motion No. 16-Mr. Fisher:

That an humble address be presented to His Excellency praying that he will cause to be laid before this house a copy of all correspondence relating to the post of director of the companies branch, from July, 1959 to May 17, 1963, exchanged between the civil service commission, ministers of the crown, any applicants for the post, and any other person or persons, including those who hold provincial offices.

Mr. Pickersgill: Mr. Speaker, I wonder whether the hon. gentleman would permit this motion to stand until next week. I would like to discuss the wording with him.

Mr. Fisher: That is agreeable, Mr. Speaker.

Motion stands.

CANADIAN CORPS ASSOCIATION CORRESPONDENCE

Motion No. 17-Mr. Mandziuk:

That an order of the house do issue for a copy of all letters and other communications received by the Prime Minister since April 22, 1963, from the Canadian corps association on the subject of the Canadian flag, and all replies by the Prime Minister or by members of his staff to such communications.

Motion agreed to.

CONTRACT BETWEEN C.N.R. AND R.F. WELCH (B.C.) LTD.

Motion No. 18-Mr. Howard:

That an order of the house do issue for a copy of any contract or agreement between Canadian National Railways and R. F. Welch (B.C.) Limited.

Mr. McIlraith: Mr. Speaker, the document requested is one that has to do with the internal operation of the railway and, as the house knows, it has been the practice not to produce documents which come within that category. I understand that this has been the position taken by all governments since the C.N.R. act was first brought into operation in 1921. Therefore I would ask the hon. member to withdraw his motion.

Mr. Howard: It is a very interesting explanation, Mr. Speaker, but I will withdraw the motion.

Order discharged and motion withdrawn.

FINANCE

TAXABILITY OF \$500 PAYMENT FOR WINTER HOUSE CONSTRUCTION

On the orders of the day:

Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask the Prime Minister a question regarding an answer given yesterday by the Minister of Finance, who said: