

**Mr. Douglas:** Mr. Speaker, may I ask a supplementary question. Since this matter might be facilitated if Canada followed the example of Great Britain, France and many other countries in establishing diplomatic relations with mainland China, are any steps being taken by the Canadian government at the present time to recognize mainland China and establish diplomatic relations with that country.

**Mr. Pearson:** No, Mr. Speaker; I cannot add anything to what has been said previously in respect of the establishment of diplomatic relations by Canada with the government of Peking.

**Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Leader of the Opposition):** Mr. Speaker, may I ask a supplementary question. I should like to ask the Prime Minister what are the conditions; would he elucidate. I think he has gone a long way further on this occasion than previously. What are the conditions? He mentioned the government at Peking, and I wonder whether he meant the government at Taiwan as being the area regarding which the conditions would be imposed.

**Mr. Pearson:** No, Mr. Speaker, I do not believe I have gone any further on this occasion than in the past when discussing this matter. One of the conditions for the entry of the Peking government into the United Nations would be the extent of the area covered by the writ of that government as a member of the United Nations, and the undesirability of taking any action which would establish the rule of the government of Peking over the people of Formosa without their consent.

[Translation]

**Mr. Maurice Allard (Sherbrooke):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a supplementary question to the Prime Minister.

Is it a fact that Communist China was recently invited by the Canadian government to open a trade mission in Ottawa and what was the reaction of Peking on this matter?

**Mr. Speaker:** I doubt that the question is in order.

[English]

**Mr. Pearson:** No, Mr. Speaker; I do not know of any offer of that kind.

[Translation]

**Mr. Speaker:** In any event, it seems that an answer has been given to the question, but I do not believe it was in order.

### *Inquiries of the Ministry*

#### EDUCATION

##### RESPECT FOR PROVINCIAL RIGHTS IN FORTHCOMING DISCUSSIONS

On the orders of the day:

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

In view of the fact that the Prime Minister announced that the main question to be considered at the federal-provincial conference in June will be assistance to university education, can he assure the house that exclusive provincial jurisdiction over education will be respected at that conference?

[English]

**Right Hon. L. B. Pearson (Prime Minister):** Yes, Mr. Speaker; the constitutional position undoubtedly will be respected.

[Translation]

**Mr. Grégoire:** Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question for the right hon. Prime Minister.

In that case, may I ask him what the federal government will be doing at a conference dealing with education.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order.

[English]

#### EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

##### VIET NAM—ACTIVITIES OF INTERNATIONAL CONTROL COMMISSION

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. R. N. Thompson (Red Deer):** Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the right hon. Prime Minister. In view of his statement on Saturday night, when he called for a cease fire or a more normal armistice agreement in Viet Nam; in view of the statement by President de Gaulle on Sunday that there was nothing which could be done in Viet Nam at this time, and the statement today by U Thant, the secretary general, that there is nothing the UN can do in respect of the Viet Nam situation, is there any comment from the Prime Minister regarding the statement from Peking that his proposal is nothing more than an American hoax?

**Mr. Speaker:** Order. I am sure the hon. member will agree that questions to the Prime Minister or the government asking whether they have any comment to make about a statement which has been made outside the house cannot be asked. The hon. member may wish to rephrase his question.