HOUSE OF COMMONS

Wednesday, November 16, 1966

The house met at 2.30 p.m.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

PRESENCE IN GALLERY OF HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS PRINCE BERTIL OF SWEDEN

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. May I bring to the attention of members of the House of Commons the presence in the Speaker's gallery of a most distinguished visitor to Canada, His Royal Highness Prince Bertil of Sweden.

His Royal Highness has joined an important delegation of Swedish business and industrial leaders who are visiting Canada to encourage increased trade and cultural exchanges between our two countries.

[Translation]

On behalf of my colleagues, I wish His Royal Highness Prince Bertil of Sweden a pleasant and fruitful stay in Canada.

[English]

NATIONAL SECURITY

APPOINTMENT OF ROYAL COMMISSION

Right Hon. L. B. Pearson (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I would like to table an order in council establishing a royal commission to make a full and confidential inquiry into the operation of Canadian security methods and procedures. The members of the royal commission will be M. W. Mackenzie C.M.G., Chairman of the commission, formerly Deputy Minister of Trade and Commerce; Hon. M. J. Coldwell and Mr. Yves Pratte, Quebec City.

Mr. Speaker: Has the right hon. Prime Minister leave to table this document?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

• (2:40 p.m.)

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

INTERIM SUPPLY—MOTION FOR CONTINUOUS SITTINGS

On the order: Motions:

November 10-the Minister of Public Works

That from Monday, November 14, 1966, or the day of the adoption of this order the house shall continue to sit continuously and without interpuption and without regard to the hours of adjournment specified in standing order 6 (1) until all stages of the interim supply measure now before the house have been disposed of and the appropriation bill founded thereon has received royal assent.

That the operation of proceedings under standing order 39-A be suspended during the effective period of this order.

Hon. G. J. McIlraith (Minister of Public Works): Stand.

Hon. Gordon Churchill (Winnipeg South Centre): No, Mr. Speaker. On a point of order; I think the Minister of Public Works should remove this motion. It is an insult to the House of Commons to have it standing over our heads as a club day after day. The minister should either go ahead with it or take it off.

Mr. McIlraith: Mr. Speaker, for the life of me I cannot understand how a motion which provides more opportunity for hon. members to deal with matters can be an insult, but I am very happy to withdraw the motion—

Mr. Churchill: Go ahead with it.

Mr. McIlraith: —if the hon. member feels that it is in any way offensive to him. I must repeat, however, as I have said several times, that I cannot understand the assertion that it is an insult.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I do not think we should become involved in a debate on this. Either the motion is to stand or it should be withdrawn. Is the minister asking that it stand?