

could reply to the right hon. gentleman's question, and then there are supplementaries which we will hear.

[Translation]

Mr. Goyer: Mr. Speaker, when it comes to reading articles or documents I do not expect the right hon. gentleman to tell me what I should read, not anymore than he would accept to read what I would like to suggest to him.

[English]

Mr. Diefenbaker: Mr. Speaker, the minister has given a sawdust Caesar type of answer to Parliament. I ask him this: does he intend to read this article that is so condemnatory of the Mounted Police, instead of pretending he has not read it?

POSSIBLE AMENDMENT OF PROVISIONS OF ACT
GOVERNING SERVICE COURT PROCEDURES

Mr. David Lewis (York South): Mr. Speaker, in view of the minister's answers about reading the article, may I ask him whether he has at least read the Royal Canadian Mounted Police Act?

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. May we have order, please. I am sure the hon. member will appreciate that a question such as this one is entirely out of order. Perhaps he might want to ask a question that is acceptable from a procedural standpoint.

Mr. Lewis: With respect, Your Honour stopped me a little soon. I hope the minister has read the Royal Canadian Mounted Police Act because I want to ask him whether in view of the archaic, star chamber provisions in that act with respect to offences by members of the force, and the methods of trial of members of the force, he is giving consideration to amending it so as to make it more civilized than it is?

[Translation]

Hon. Jean-Pierre Goyer (Solicitor General): Mr. Speaker, as I said yesterday, we are conducting a review of the Commissioner of Penitentiaries Standing Orders applying to discipline within these institutions because human rights are involved, which I consider to be fundamental. As for regulations governing conduct of members of the RCMP, that is fundamental and worthy of our attention because there also human rights are involved.

[English]

Mr. Lewis: Mr. Speaker, in view of the fact that the minister points out that he deals with human rights, and in view of the fact that a member of the force may be charged by an officer, is then tried by an officer and his appeal is to an officer, and that he is not allowed any counsel except another member of the force—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. Would the hon. member ask the question.

Mr. Lewis: Can the minister assure the House that he is giving serious consideration to bringing amendments before Parliament to provide for a decent and modern

Inquiries of the Ministry

form of charge, trial and appeal for members of the force?

[Translation]

Mr. Goyer: Mr. Speaker, I have already raised that issue with the Commissioner and it concerns me considerably. I have no ready solution, but I should certainly like to know the hon. member's opinion on the matter.

[English]

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. There are still at least six members who desire to ask supplementaries, and we have to deal with the supplementary to the original question asked by the hon. Leader of the Opposition. Perhaps we should recognize the hon. Leader of the Opposition who has a supplementary on this subject, and then I will recognize the hon. member for Portneuf.

ALLEGATIONS BY FORMER CORPORAL RAMSAY—
REQUEST THAT MINISTER READ ARTICLE

Hon. Robert L. Stanfield (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, I will direct my question to the Prime Minister. In view of the matters involved, would he seriously consider requesting the Solicitor General to read this article so that he will know what it is all about and then can look after the force he is supposed to look after?

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[Translation]

NATIONAL DEFENCE

VALCARTIER—DISPARITY BETWEEN REMUNERATION OF
TRADESMEN EMPLOYED ON BASE AND PRIVATE
INDUSTRY—POSSIBLE READJUSTMENT

Mr. Roland Godin (Portneuf): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the hon. Minister of National Defence.

Since workers of different trades at Valcartier military base receive some 30 per cent less in salaries than their opposite numbers in private industry in the province of Quebec, could the hon. minister tell us whether studies are now being conducted in this regard and whether he will be in a position to inform us of salary adjustments in the very near future?

[English]

Hon. E. J. Benson (Minister of National Defence): Mr. Speaker, the salaries of civilian personnel working for the Department of National Defence are decided through collective bargaining in the same way as the salaries of the other employees in the public service.

[Translation]

Mr. Godin: Mr. Speaker, is the hon. minister aware that six years ago the difference between the wages of the tradesmen and those of their colleagues in private industry was only 5 per cent?

[English]

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I believe the hon. member for Edmonton Centre has a supplementary to the first question.