

*Inquiries of the Ministry*

sovereign, the heir to the throne or members of the royal family, the Governor General of a dominion, the Speaker, the chairman of ways and means, members of either house of parliament—

This, I take it, includes the members of the cabinet. So that I am forced to come to the conclusion that, interesting though the drafting of this motion is, nevertheless this is more in the nature of vague allegations which are in the nature of a charge, and as such should be dealt with not by way of adjourning under standing order 26 but by way of a substantive motion of which notice has been given. Therefore, in my opinion there is no reason to accept the motion moved by the hon. member for Ontario (Mr. Starr) and seconded by the hon. member for Grey-Bruce (Mr. Winkler).

[*Translation*]

**Mr. Grégoire:** Mr. Speaker, may we appeal against your ruling?

In view of the fact that the rule which forbids us to appeal against a decision from the Chair under standing order 26 was only accepted on a temporary basis, until December 31, 1964, and that this change in procedure is no longer effective after December 31, we shall appeal against your ruling.

**Mr. Lambert:** No. This procedure is valid until the end of the session.

[*Text*]

**Mr. Knowles:** It is in effect until the end of the session.

**Mr. Speaker:** Subject to further advice I am of the opinion that it was decided that during the present session there would be no appeal from the decision of the Chair on standing order 26. The present session is still continuing; therefore I would suggest to the hon. member that he keep his remarks in the frigidaire and bring them up at the next session.

#### DISMISSAL OF MINISTER WITHOUT PORTFOLIO

On the orders of the day:

**Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Leader of the Opposition):** Mr. Speaker, arising out of recent discussions I should now like to ask the Prime Minister whether he did in fact dismiss the minister without portfolio, the hon. member for St. Jean-Iberville-Napier-ville? Did he dismiss him and, if so, why?

**Right Hon. L. B. Pearson (Prime Minister):** Mr. Speaker, the correspondence tabled this afternoon indicates that the hon. member in question resigned from the cabinet.

**Mr. Diefenbaker:** At the time this matter took place the Prime Minister stated in an interview, according to the press, that "I asked for his resignation". The asking for a resignation is a dismissal. Does the Prime Minister now say that he did not demand his resignation?

**Mr. Pearson:** The hon. gentleman resigned after discussions with me.

**Some hon. Members:** Oh, oh.

**Mr. Diefenbaker:** I do not know whether or not the Prime Minister has forgotten this, but I would ask him: Did he demand his resignation, or did he not?

**Some hon. Members:** Yes or no.

**Mr. Pearson:** The hon. gentleman resigned. He was not promoted to the Senate.

**Mr. Diefenbaker:** Mr. Speaker, is this the revelation of the attitude of the Prime Minister, that Senate appointments should be made in that way?

**Mr. Pearson:** No, Mr. Speaker, and I deprecate the Senate appointments made in that way by my right hon. friend.

**Mr. Diefenbaker:** Would the right hon. gentleman say how Senator Gelinas got up there?

**An hon. Member:** And Denis.

**Mr. Pearson:** Mr. Speaker, is the right hon. gentleman making any charge against Senator Gelinas?

**Mr. Réal Caouette (Villeneuve):** A supplementary question. Was it at the request of the Prime Minister that the minister without portfolio has resigned or has tendered his resignation?

**Mr. Pearson:** I have nothing to add to what I have just stated. I would suggest to my hon. friend that he read the exchange of letters.

[*Translation*]

**Mr. Gilles Grégoire (Lapointe):** Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask a supplementary question.

Since the Prime Minister has just stated that the minister without portfolio decided to resign, and since there are strong reasons to believe that such is not the case, I feel that the Prime Minister should make it his duty not to mislead the house and to state what truly happened.

Did the Prime Minister ask the minister without portfolio to resign or did the latter resign without being asked to do so?