

Mr. Speaker: If a question is out of order I do not understand how the hon. member can debate it.

Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Leader of the Opposition): I should like to ask why the question is out of order. This is a matter affecting many people in Canada and the Prime Minister, it so happens, was able to announce a contract for his own constituency. Why does the same rule not apply to other constituencies and the members elected therefor?

Mr. Speaker: Well, it seems rather obvious to me that if we were to report and discuss every private conversation in every private meeting held outside the house we would never get any business done in the house at all.

Mr. Webb: This matter has been discussed for some days in the house, and is an urgent matter. Last evening the Minister of Trade and Commerce took the opportunity as has been usual with this government, to announce outside the house the awarding of this contract. I say to you, sir, in my opinion it is obvious that there has been interference by the Prime Minister beneficial to his own riding and detrimental to the rest of Canada.

Right Hon. L. B. Pearson (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, that statement is entirely uncalled for and untrue.

ROYAL VISIT

ATTENDANCE AT CELEBRATIONS IN QUEBEC AND CHARLOTTETOWN

On the orders of the day:

[Translation]

Mr. Gilbert Rondeau (Shefford): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Transport. Following his visit to Her Majesty could he tell us whether or not Her Majesty will be present at the celebrations that will take place in Quebec city and in Charlottetown this year?

[Text]

Hon. J. W. Pickersgill (Minister of Transport): I am afraid I will have to give the same answer to this question that I gave to the hon. member for Three Rivers the other day. Perhaps the hon. gentleman should read the privy councillor's oath.

Inquiries of the Ministry

CANADIAN NATIONAL RAILWAYS

CHARLOTTETOWN, P.E.I.—TRANSFER OF MANAGEMENT OF HOTEL

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Heath Macquarrie (Queens): Thank you, Mr. Speaker, for becoming aware of the far right wing of the opposition. I should like to address a question to the Minister of Transport arising out of a question asked him by the older member for Queens on May 25. Is he now in a position to give some indication as to whether the Charlottetown hotel will be transferred to management other than the Canadian National?

Mr. Speaker: May I suggest that this question calls for a detailed answer and should be put on the order paper.

PUBLICATIONS

FURTHER REPRESENTATIONS RESPECTING "TIME" AND "READER'S DIGEST"

On the orders of the day:

Mr. D. M. Fisher (Port Arthur): The other day following the demise of *Liberty* magazine I asked the Prime Minister whether he had had any contact with Maclean-Hunter or the *Liberty* publishers with regard to their situation, and I wondered if he had checked to ascertain what representations he has had or any that he is about to have from these publishers of consumer magazines which may be about to cease publication.

Right Hon. L. B. Pearson (Prime Minister): I have had no contact with the publishers of *Liberty* magazine, nor have they recently asked for any such contact. Some weeks ago I did have a meeting with a representative of Maclean-Hunter Publishing Company in respect of the position of *Maclean's* magazine.

Mr. Fisher: May I ask a supplementary question. Has the Prime Minister any plans in the immediate future to meet those publishers who have put forward to the public the view that *Time* and *Reader's Digest* are the main threat to their continuation?

Mr. Pearson: Well, I have already received representations from them in the past, Mr. Speaker. If they have anything to add to those representations I would be glad indeed to receive them.

INQUIRY OF THE MINISTRY

On the orders of the day:

[Translation]

Hon. Théogène Ricard (St. Hyacinthe-Bagot): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for