Inquiries of the Ministry

Mr. Speaker: This is a very serious and important question, but it seems to me that information is being sought that might be secured by putting the question on the order paper. I do not think any serious harm would result in having to wait a few days for a reply. This is a suggestion that the Chair is making to the hon. member.

Mr. Pugh: Then might I ask the Minister of Agriculture whether there is a possibility of the renegotiation of the joint agreement arrived at between the province of British Columbia and the federal government with regard to aid respecting frost damage to last year's crops?

Hon. J. J. Greene (Minister of Agriculture): Mr. Speaker, we would be prepared to listen at any time to any further requests or representations that the Minister of Agriculture of the province of British Columbia may wish to make.

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
VIET NAM—REPORTED FUND RAISING CAMPAIGNS FOR VIET CONG

On the orders of the day:

Mr. K. H. More (Regina City): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Prime Minister and ask whether he is aware that fund raising campaigns have taken place in Canada to assist the Viet Cong, and that funds have actually been transmitted to and acknowledged by these people. Does he approve of this action; and if his answer is in the negative, what steps are the government taking to see that it does not continue?

Right Hon. L. B. Pearson (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I am not aware of any such campaigns, but in view of what my hon. friend has said I shall be very glad to look into this matter.

TRADE
SPEECH BY MINISTER TO TORONTO BOARD OF TRADE

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Frank Howard (Skeena): Mr. Speaker, I wonder if I may direct a question to the Minister of Trade and Commerce arising out of what I consider to be his rather excellently phrased speech of last evening to the Board of Trade of metropolitan Toronto, and ask when he will be introducing into the house legislation to bring into effect the desirable ends that he outlined to that board.

Hon. Robert Winters (Minister of Trade and Commerce): Mr. Speaker, I can only say

[Mr. Pugh.]

that when policy matters such as those are decided, they will be announced in the house.

ROYAL CANADIAN AIR FORCE
ZAMBIA AIRLIFT—INQUIRY AS TO CONTINUATION

On the orders of the day:

Mr. H. Russell MacEwan (Pictou): May I ask the Minister of National Defence whether reports are correct that the Canadian airlift to Zambia will be continued. If so, can he assure us that there will be sufficient spare parts and crews to effectively carry out this airlift? I ask this question because of reports that R.C.A.F. crews have been overworked and spare parts have not been made available for the Hercules aircraft?

Hon. Paul Hellyer (Minister of National Defence): The commitment, Mr. Speaker, has been extended until the end of February. I am very happy to report that the R.C.A.F. has been able to meet its full commitment in a most satisfactory manner. This reflects great credit on the organization. It is very difficult to service aircraft in Leopoldville. They are therefore rotated back here for servicing. There have been one or two problems which have arisen, but we have been able to meet our commitment. The hours of flying for pilots are within the limits set by the air force.

PRIVILEGE
MR. KEAYS—REQUEST FOR CHANGE IN QUESTION ON ORDER PAPER

On the orders of the day:

Mr. J. R. Keays (Gaspé): I rise on a question of privilege, Mr. Speaker. May I ask that question No. 166 appearing on the order paper for this date under the name of the hon. member for Simcoe East (Mr. Rynard) be changed to my name.

IMMIGRATION
INQUIRY AS TO PRODUCTION OF WHITE PAPER

On the orders of the day:

Mr. S. J. Enns (Portage-Neepawa): May I ask the Minister of Citizenship and Immigration if, in addition to his responsibility for changing the department to the department of manpower, he is also considering the possibility of tabling a white paper on immigration?

[Translation]

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Citizenship and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, I