

*Inquiries of the Ministry**(Text):*

Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, questions addressed to the treasury benches will receive attention in every case.

AMENDMENT OF ACT TO PROVIDE FOR COLLECTIVE
BARGAINING

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Stanley Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, may I direct a question to the Prime Minister. My question does arise out of the statement he made today regarding the implementation of the Glassco report. In view of the importance of employer-employee relationships in achieving efficiency, will the government, along with any other changes in the public administration that it may now be contemplating, bring in during this session amendments to the Civil Service Act to provide for collective bargaining throughout the federal public service?

Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, the hon. gentleman knows that announcements regarding policy are not made in answer to questions on the orders of the day.

(Translation):

PRIVILEGE

MR. LANGLOIS—REFERENCE TO COMMITTEE OF
NEWSPAPER ARTICLES ON CANADA'S NATO
DELEGATION

Mr. Raymond Langlois (Megantic): Mr. Speaker, following the question of privilege I raised yesterday in this house, I move today, seconded by the hon. member for Trinity (Mr. Hellyer), that Mr. Jean Charpentier's article entitled:

The NATO Parliamentarians' Conference—

To be delegated to international conferences is often just a reward for well behaved members.

Published in the newspaper *La Presse*, on Tuesday, November 27, 1962, as well as Mr. Guy Cormier's article entitled, Parliamentary Delinquency also published in the newspaper *La Presse*, on November 28, 1962, be referred to the standing committee on privileges and elections, for study and report.

Mr. Speaker: Order. I am very sorry, the hon. member has introduced a motion, but, unfortunately, the articles referred to are not before the house.

Does the hon. member have with him copies of the newspaper issues in which those articles were published, so that the Chair may determine whether there is a question of privilege? At the present time there is nothing to indicate that such is the case. Does the hon. member have the articles in question?

[Mr. Lachance.]

Mr. Langlois: Yes, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: Have they been tabled?

An hon. Member: The Clerk has them, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Langlois: I think the Clerk has them with him.

Mr. Speaker: They have not been tabled. The articles in question must be tabled.

Now, according to the standing order, they have to be read. Will the Clerk please read them?

And the Clerk reads into the record:

The NATO Parliamentarians' Conference.

To be delegated to international conferences is often just a reward for well behaved members. By Jean Charpentier, Ottawa.

Always ill-prepared, often disinterested and sometimes without talent, Canadian parliamentarians make us feel ashamed of them at international conferences.

The Canadian contribution at the NATO parliamentarians' conference recently held in Paris was no exception to the rule. A certain number of delegates were not seen during the whole of the conference: having spent their nights in Pigalle, they slept by day. Perhaps it would have been better—

(Text):

Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Prime Minister): I was just wondering whether or not, in view of the fact that the articles in question have been tabled, it would be appropriate to adjourn this matter until tomorrow so that you, Mr. Speaker, could determine whether in your opinion the matter is of such a nature as to require to be sent to the committee in question for consideration. The reading of this article into the record will merely be perpetuating the alleged libelous statements. I believe the house would be willing to have you make a determination on the basis of an examination rather than fill the record with this story which, if found to be baseless, will none the less always be in the record of *Hansard* for quotation.

Mr. Speaker: With regard to the proposal made by the Prime Minister, may I say that the Chair examined the article in question as a result of the representations made yesterday, and the Chair had reserved its opinion. We are at present following the procedure laid down; and conceivably, by leave of the house, the articles would not necessarily have to be read on this particular occasion.

In so far as deferring the matter until tomorrow is concerned, I think that is of no great consequence because, in the light of the citations and the rules applicable to matters of this kind, the Chair has come to the opinion that there is a prima facie case of privilege. It is then up to the house, under the circumstances, to determine what shall be done. If