

present in the house, I think it is a matter of great importance.

**Mr. Speaker:** Many matters of great importance do not qualify for questions under the rules.

**Mr. Donald MacInnis (Cape Breton-East Richmond):** I have a supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Assuming that the rules have been changed, I would ask Mr. Richardson if he is not—

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. The rules have not been changed. The hon. member must realize that the Prime Minister referred to the Minister without Portfolio by name in order to identify him. We all know that this is not regular, but when there is more than one Minister without Portfolio sometimes this practice is resorted to.

**Mr. Woolliams:** They are hard to find.

**Mr. Speaker:** Perhaps the hon. member for Calgary North would like to make a ruling for the Chair.

**Some hon. Members:** Hear, hear.

**Mr. Speaker:** The rule has not been changed.

**Mr. MacInnis:** I wish to ask the Minister without Portfolio from Winnipeg South whether he submitted his resignation to the Prime Minister.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please.

## THE CANADIAN ECONOMY

### INQUIRY AS TO STEPS TO REDUCE POVERTY

**Mrs. Grace MacInnis (Vancouver-Kingsway):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct my question to the Prime Minister. In view of the warning given yesterday by the vice chairman of the Economic Council of Canada that failure to deal with poverty in a purposeful way may well result in violence in Canadian cities, will the government give this matter the priority that it so urgently demands? Many people would like an answer to that question.

**Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister):** The answer is yes, Mr. Speaker.

**Mr. Ed Schreyer (Selkirk):** My supplementary question arises from the fact that since the war on poverty was declared five years

### *Inquiries of the Ministry*

ago, the only sound of that has been the crackle of the press release from the Liberal backbenchers, I should like to ask the Prime Minister—

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. The hon. member cannot make a speech; he has to ask a question.

**Mr. Schreyer:** I should like to ask the Prime Minister or anyone representing the Minister of Regional and Economic Expansion if he can assure the house, in the light of mounting concern about this problem, that before the end of this session the government will submit to parliament concrete measures relative to poverty in Canada.

**Mr. Trudeau:** The minister has already announced his intention to introduce for first reading a bill concerned with this aspect of regional economic development.

**Mr. David Lewis (York South):** I address this question to the Prime Minister, Mr. Speaker. In view of the fact that the findings in all the analyses of poverty in Canada, including that made by the Economic Council, show that poverty is by no means limited to the disadvantaged regions of Canada but that it also exists in the large urban areas—

**Mr. Speaker:** Order. The hon. member should ask the question.

**Mr. Lewis:** I was just coming to that, Mr. Speaker. Would the Prime Minister tell us what organization has been set up inside or outside the cabinet to deal with the question of poverty, not only in the disadvantaged areas but elsewhere in the country?

**Mr. Trudeau:** I answered this question two days ago, Mr. Speaker.

## RESEARCH

### ACTION ON MACDONALD REPORT ON SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH

**Hon. D. S. Harkness (Calgary Centre):** This question is directed to the Prime Minister. What procedure does the government intend to follow to deal with the wide-ranging recommendations of the Macdonald Report on scientific research?

**Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister):** The President of the Treasury Board will deal with this question when he is in the house.