

were not legal. However, before the parliamentary committee in Banff the deputy minister, on the advice of his legal officers, expressed the opinion that these perpetual leases were legal. Therefore there is misrepresentation on the part of the minister.

**Mr. Speaker:** That is a point of debate, not a point of order.

**Mr. Woolliams:** On a further point of order, Mr. Speaker—

**Mr. Speaker:** I am sure the hon. member knows that to insist on an answer is not a point of order. He has the right to ask a question, but the minister has the right not to answer it.

**Mr. Woolliams:** On a point of privilege, Mr. Speaker, I feel I have the right to ask the question but the minister has the duty to give the proper answer and not to misrepresent the facts in this House of Commons.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. It is not a question of privilege to disagree with an answer given by a minister.

**Mr. Woolliams:** May I speak further on the point, Mr. Speaker?

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. There is no question of privilege, unless the hon. member has a different one.

**Mr. Woolliams:** Your Honour did not hear me very well so far as the point of privilege is concerned. The minister has misrepresented the facts. This is why he will not answer my question.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. The hon. member can say that the facts have been misrepresented. He cannot say, and I am sure he does not want to say, that they have been knowingly misrepresented. I suggest to the hon. member that there is neither a point of order nor a question of privilege which the Chair can accept at this point.

**Mr. Woolliams:** It is obvious the minister is convicted by his silence.

[Translation]

#### EXPO '67

INQUIRY AS TO PRIORITY GRANTED TO ROYAL ANTHEM

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. Gilles Grégoire (Lapointe):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to put a question to the Prime Minister who attended as I did myself, the official opening of Expo '67 on April 27 last.

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#### *Inquiries of the Ministry*

I should like to ask him why the army band played, on three occasions, the national anthem of Great Britain before our official national anthem "O Canada"?

**Mr. Speaker:** Order. The question is out of order. The hon. member can place his question on the order paper, but under the circumstances, it is out of order.

**Mr. Grégoire:** Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. I think Canadians were somewhat disturbed to hear the national anthem of another country played at the world exhibition.

Since there are regularly official manifestations at that place, I should like to know why the anthem of another country is played instead of ours?

**Mr. Speaker:** The hon. member may also put this second question on the order paper.

**Mr. Grégoire:** At ten o'clock tonight for the show.

[English]

#### THE CANADIAN ECONOMY

STEPS TO MEET INCREASE IN COST OF LIVING

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. W. B. Nesbitt (Oxford):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Finance. In view of the report issued by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics this morning showing an unprecedented rise in the cost of living in Canada during the last month, is the minister planning any emergency measures to prevent a further drastic rise in the cost of living?

**Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Minister of Finance):** Mr. Speaker, I looked into the reasons for the increase in the cost of living, and was informed that two of the most important reasons were the increase in the sales tax in Quebec and the increase in doctors' fees in Ontario. There are other factors involved also, but those were the two main reasons for the rather remarkable rise.

[Translation]

**Mr. Réal Caouette (Villeneuve):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to put a supplementary question to the Minister of Finance.

As he has just mentioned, the sales tax has brought about an increase in the cost of living in Canada, the Quebec sales tax and medical costs in Ontario, but have the tax increases of the present Minister of Finance not equally contributed to raise the cost of living in Canada?