

# HOUSE OF COMMONS

Friday, May 21, 1971

The House met at 11 a.m.

## HOUSE OF COMMONS

PRESENCE IN SPEAKER'S GALLERY OF HONOURABLE  
TUN TAN SIEW SIN

**Mr. Speaker:** Order. May I draw the attention of hon. members to the presence in the Speaker's gallery of a distinguished visitor from Malaysia, the Honourable Tun Tan Siew Sin. Tun Tan is Minister of Finance in the government of Malaysia, but he is visiting Ottawa today not solely in that important capacity. Tun Tan is also Chairman of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association, and in that capacity he is the honoured guest today of the Canadian Parliament.

Tun Tan is proceeding tomorrow to Halifax and Charlottetown where he will be the guest of the legislatures of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island, and preside at the meeting of the General Council of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association. I know that hon. members will want me to welcome him on their behalf and express the hope that his stay in Canada will be interesting and rewarding.

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

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## PRIVILEGE

MR. HELLYER—DESIGNATION AS INDEPENDENT LIBERAL

**Hon. Paul Hellyer (Trinity):** Mr. Speaker, I rise on a question of personal privilege affecting my standing in the House of Commons. It is with profound regret that I find myself increasingly out of sympathy with the government's philosophy, its policies and its performance.

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

**Mr. Hellyer:** In consequence, Mr. Speaker, I would respectfully request Your Honour to change my designation in this House of Commons to that of Independent Liberal.

**Mr. Speaker:** The hon. member for St. Paul's.

**An hon. Member:** Oh, another one.

**An hon. Member:** You too.

**Mr. Wahn:** I hope I heard you correctly, Mr. Speaker, and that we have proceeded to reports of standing committees.

**Mr. Bell:** We would have taken you.

**Mr. Baldwin:** A pretty mixed bag is left over there.

## ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

### COMMITTEES OF THE HOUSE

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS AND NATIONAL DEFENCE

Second report of Standing Committee on External Affairs and National Defence—Mr. Wahn.

[Translation]

FINANCE, TRADE AND ECONOMIC AFFAIRS

Sixteenth report of Standing Committee on Finance, Trade and Economic Affairs, in the two official languages—Mr. Noël.

[Editor's Note: For text of above reports, see today's Votes and Proceedings.]

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[English]

### TRANSPORT

TABLING OF REPORT ON COASTING TRADE

**Hon. Donald C. Jamieson (Minister of Transport):** Mr. Speaker, pursuant to Standing Order 41(2) I wish to table in English and French the report of an inquiry into the coasting trade of Canada and related matters of marine activity by H. J. Darling.

## ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

### EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

DISCUSSION OF GENERAL TRADE AND COMMERCIAL RELATIONS AND GRAIN SALES BY PRIME MINISTER WITH SOVIET GOVERNMENT

**Mr. G. W. Baldwin (Peace River):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask the Acting Prime Minister if he can advise the House whether any discussions took place between the Prime Minister and the Kremlin leaders with regard to trading and commercial relations. In particular, did the Prime Minister obtain any commitment with regard to firm grain sales arrangements which would prevent the state trading agency of the U.S.S.R. from being in apparent default as is the case now?

**Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Acting Prime Minister):** No, Mr. Speaker, I have not had any report directly in detail on the subjects covered by the Prime Minister. I do know that in general he dealt with commercial relations between Canada and the Soviet Union; indeed, this was one of the main subjects of discussion. I think we will have to wait until there is a further report to learn how far he raised this particular point, or indeed even until the Prime Minister returns.