

Constituency offices were established by the House for its members out of funds appropriated by Parliament. Although it has been suggested that constituency offices were created so that Members of Parliament for respective ridings in Canada could serve the people, no allegation has been advanced that any member was prevented from doing so or that such funds were used illegally by anyone.

Ministerial offices, on the other hand, are apparently established and maintained with funds appropriated by Parliament and allocated to the various departments. It is not the responsibility of the Chair as a matter of privilege to decide whether or not illegal use is made of such funds. It must be pointed out that the House has the opportunity to scrutinize such expenses before giving its approval to supply bills, and to check them after they are made through, for instance, the Office of the Auditor General or the Standing Committee on Public Accounts. The government can be challenged on the use it makes of such funds on motions of no confidence or substantive motions.

● (1210)

Therefore, it is apparent that the House, through its normal operations, can adequately deal with the alleged difficulties raised by the hon. member for Yukon, and I must rule that a prima facie case of privilege has not been established.

**Hon. Erik Nielsen (Yukon):** Madam Speaker, I rise simply to give you notice today that it will be the intention on Monday to raise a question of privilege which has nothing to do with Your Honour's ruling just now. The question of privilege concerns certain remarks made by the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau). The question will be raised through proper notice to the Chair, either by the Right Hon. Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Clark), the opposition House leader or myself.

**Madam Speaker:** I take that notice, but I remind the hon. member that I do not need a verbal notice. I need a statement of what the question of privilege consists. As long as I have such a statement, I am willing to hear the question of privilege.

## ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[Translation]

### AUDITOR GENERAL ACT

#### AMENDMENT RESPECTING SALARY

**Hon. Yvon Pinard (for President of the Treasury Board)** moved for leave to introduce Bill C-64, to amend the Auditor General Act.

## Order Paper Questions

Motion agreed to, bill read the first time and ordered to be printed.

**Madam Speaker:** When shall the bill be read the second time?

**Some hon. Members:** Later today.

**Madam Speaker:** Later today, by unanimous consent of the House?

**Some hon. Members:** Agreed.

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[English]

## QUESTIONS ON THE ORDER PAPER

(Questions answered orally are indicated by an asterisk.)

**Mr. D. M. Collenette (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council):** Madam Speaker, the following questions will be answered today: Nos. 1,638, 1,883, 2,169, 2,194, 2,200 and 2,268.

[Text]

### CANADIAN CRAFTS COUNCIL GRANTS

Question No. 1,638—**Mr. Herbert:**

In each of the past five years, what amount was contributed to the Canadian Crafts Council by (a) the government (b) provincial governments (c) other levels of government and what was the total budget of the council in each year?

**D. M. Collenette (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council):** (a) In so far as the Department of Communications is concerned:

	Arts and Culture Grant
1975/76	\$ 75,000
1976/77	\$ 70,000
1977/78	\$ 70,000
1978/79	\$ 77,000
1979/80	\$ 77,000

In so far as the Department of Industry, Trade and Commerce is concerned:

	Arts and Culture Grant
1975/76	\$ 11,650
1976/77	\$ 10,300
1977/78— 1978/79— 1979/80—	

Payment of a contribution to the Canadian Crafts Council for the production of a booklet.

In so far as the Department of the Secretary of State is concerned: The following funds were awarded from the citizenship and official languages sector of the department:

	Student Community Service Program
1979	\$ 4,000