

Mr. Winch: But I am talking about the present situation—

Mr. Speaker: Order.

COMMONWEALTH RELATIONS

SOUTH AFRICA—REQUEST FOR CANADIAN SUPPORT FOR UN ACTION ON APARTHEID

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Hazen Argue (Assiniboia): I should like to direct a question to the Prime Minister. In view of the reported worsening of the situation in South Africa, with the reported arrest of persons, including Europeans, who belong to political parties that oppose the government's policy of apartheid, is Canada prepared to speak up clearly in support of appropriate action by the United Nations security council?

Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, as the house knows Canada is not a member of the security council, and the Canadian government has not adopted a position with regard to the inscription or substance of the item. These are matters for the individual members of the council to determine. So far as Canada's views are concerned in respect of the situation in South Africa, they have been clearly expressed and are completely understood.

I think there is nothing more I can say at this time. The matter is being considered by the security council.

Mr. Argue: If the government is not prepared to go further in the House of Commons, I wonder if I might ask a supplementary question. Has the government made any representations to members of the United Nations security council as to what action should be taken with regard to this urgent matter?

Mr. Diefenbaker: I made that quite clear; the view of the Canadian government is known. The members of the United Nations, on the basis of past experience, do not frequently make representations to members of the security council as to the stand of that body.

Hon. L. B. Pearson (Leader of the Opposition): May I ask the Prime Minister whether the government has received any representations from any other member of the United Nations on this matter.

Mr. Diefenbaker: Now, I cannot say from memory. The minister is not here today, and representations would have been made to him. I will bring that question to his attention.

[Later:]

Mr. Diefenbaker: With regard to the question asked by the Leader of the Opposition, I think it was, a few moments ago as to whether there have been any representations from other members of the United Nations with respect to consideration by the security council of the South African question, the answer is that there have not.

NORTHERN AFFAIRS

MAGAZINE ARTICLE CONCERNING CONSTRUCTION OF SCHOOL AT OLD CROW

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Erik Nielsen (Yukon): I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Northern Affairs and National Resources or, in his absence, to the acting minister. Has the minister seen the story in the latest edition of *Time* magazine which contains certain misstatements of fact in respect to the construction of the school being built at Old Crow? Would the minister look into the general allegations made in that article, and particularly the statement to the effect that 40 tons of building supplies are allegedly being flown into Old Crow to finish the school rather than being freighted in by barge?

Hon. D. S. Harkness (Acting Minister of Northern Affairs and National Resources): I have not seen the article to which reference is made, but I shall be glad to bring this matter to the attention of the minister, who will provide an answer as soon as possible.

(Translation):

AGRICULTURE

BUTTER, CHEESE AND SKIM MILK—REQUEST FOR STABILIZATION PRICES

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Samuel Boulanger (Drummond-Arthabaska): Mr. Speaker, I should like to put a question to the Minister of Agriculture. In view of the many representations of farmers and various farm organizations for continued support prices on butter and cheese and restored support prices or deficiency payments on milk powder, has the minister any comment to make on this matter?

(Text):

Hon. D. S. Harkness (Minister of Agriculture): As the hon. member very well knows, when the government is ready to make a statement in connection with the support price of dairy products for the following year it will be made. It certainly will not be made in response to a question without notice on orders of the day.