Inquiries of the Ministry

Mr. Speaker: Order. It appears we are provincial rights, particularly upon those of having difficulty with questions relating to education this afternoon. I do not think the question is of such an urgent character as to be allowed at this time.

Mr. Enns: It is of general interest, Mr. Speaker.

[Later:]

Mr. R. W. Prittie (Burnaby-Richmond): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Finance. Would the minister inform the house whether responsibility for university grants comes under his department or under the Secretary of State.

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Minister of Finance): Mr. Speaker, I have just confirmed that my colleague the Secretary of State has accepted the responsibility.

> INQUIRY AS TO ABOLITION OF UNIVERSITY FEES

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Stanley Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Prime Minister. In view of the statement made on Friday night in an address by the Minister of National Health and Welfare, to the effect that in Canada we are getting closer to the abolition of tuition fees in universities, will the Prime Minister say what steps the government is taking in this direction?

Mr. Speaker: It seems to me that this question is closely related to the one which was asked by the hon. member for Grenville-Dundas, and I would feel very guilty if it were allowed while the other was refused.

Mr. Knowles: If it is related it will also have to be dealt with at ten o'clock.

[Translation]

DOMINION-PROVINCIAL RELATIONS

SUGGESTED ESTABLISHMENT OF OFFICE OF INFORMATION

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Réal Caouette (Villeneuve): Speaker, I should like to put a question to the Prime Minister.

In view of the publicity and propaganda being made in the province of Quebec at this time to the effect that Ottawa is hurting the development of the province of Quebec and other provinces, and is encroaching upon External Affairs): The exploratory talks in

the province of Quebec, is it the intention of the Prime Minister and of the government to set up an education board to enlighten the population of Quebec and that of the other provinces and counteract such anti-Canadian. anti-social publicity which is currently going on in Canada?

Mr. Speaker: May I suggest to the hon. member that this is a question of very general interest and that he should have it placed on the order paper.

Mr. Caouette: I shall bring up this question at ten o'clock.

[English]

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

REPRESENTATIONS TO FRANCE AND CHINA RESPECTING NUCLEAR TESTS

On the orders of the day:

Mr. R. W. Prittie (Burnaby-Richmond): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Secretary of State for External Affairs. Have representations been made to the government of France concerning the forthcoming nuclear tests by that country? Second, were representations made to the government of China concerning its recent tests? I realize how difficult such a representation would be, since we do not recognize that government.

Hon. Paul Martin (Secretary of State for External Affairs): With regard to the last portion of the question, I have already indicated that the government of Canada had stated that it was regrettable that mainland China had not joined the nuclear test ban treaty, which prohibits tests in three of the environments. The same declaration, to which most nations have committed themselves in the nuclear test ban treaty, would apply, of course, to any other country that engages in tests which we believe should be barred.

RHODESIA-REQUEST FOR REPORT ON CURRENT TALKS

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Jack McIntosh (Swift Current-Maple Creek): I have a question for the Secretary of State for External Affairs. Can the minister now report to the house on the discussions which have been taking place between officials from Rhodesia and officials from the United Kingdom with regard to the dispute between the two countries?

Hon. Paul Martin (Secretary of State for

[Mr. Enns.]