• (3:00 p.m.)

Mr. Diefenbaker: Mr. Speaker, I am surprised at the Prime Minister's attitude. I ask him whether or not he will get in touch with the government of Quebec in this connection. It is not a question of the presidential system, of which he, of course, has exceptional knowledge, besides having the desire to invoke it.

Mr. Trudeau: Perhaps there is a difference between my government and that of the right hon. gentleman. The difference is that I have confidence in my ministers.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. There are two minutes left before the end of the question period.

Mr. Diefenbaker: I hope the Prime Minister will not forget what he said today.

MANPOWER

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[Translation]

QUEBEC-SUSPENSION OF RETRAINING GRANTS TO NURSING STUDENTS

Mr. Gilbert Rondeau (Shefford): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Manpower and Immigration.

Can he tell us why scholarships or retraining allowances to male and female student nurses in the eight CEGEP of the province of Quebec have recently been discontinued without their knowing it.

Mr. Speaker: While someone is giving consideration to this question—

[English]

The chair will recognize the hon. member for Fundy-Royal.

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

SOUTH AFRICA—CANADIAN POLICY RESPECTING COMMERCIAL ACTIVITIES

Mr. R. Gordon L. Fairweather (Fundy-Royal): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Secretary of State for External Affairs. Has the minister's attention been drawn to the signing of a commercial agreement between Air Canada and South African Airlines at the very time the government has requested another Crown company, Polymer, to divert itself of investments in the Republic of South Africa? Can the minister help a simple-minded person like me to rationalize this conflict of policy?

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, it has not been the policy of the Canadian government to discourage trade or any other commercial activities between South Africa and Canada.

Government Orders

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

ELECTION EXPENSES

ESTABLISHMENT OF SPECIAL COMMITTEE

Hon. Allan J. MacEachen (President of the Privy Council) moved:

That a Special Committee be established to consider the question of the limitation and control of election expenses in Canada and to report from time to time its observations and opinions thereon;

That the Committee be empowered to send for persons, papers and records; to sit during sittings and adjournments of the House; to print from day to day such papers and evidence as may be ordered by the Committee; and to delegate to subcommittees any of its powers, except the power to report directly to the House;

That the evidence adduced by the Committee during the past session in relation thereto be referred to the said Committee; and

That the members of the Committee be designated at a later date.

:10

Motion agreed to.

PRIVILEGES AND ELECTIONS

AUTHORITY TO STANDING COMMITTEE TO REVIEW REPRESENTATION COMMISSIONER ACT

Hon. Allan J. MacEachen (President of the Privy Council) moved:

That in relation to S-22 of the Representation Commissioner Act, Statutes of Canada, 1963, c.40, the Standing Committee on Privileges and Elections be empowered to review the provisions of the Representation Commissioner Act and recommend to the House any amendments, alterations or modifications thereto that to the said Committee shall appear to be necessary or desirable, and the evidence adduced by the Committee during the past session in relation thereto be referred to the said Committee.

Motion agreed to.

PROCEDURE AND ORGANIZATION

REFERENCE OF QUESTION OF BROADCASTING OF PRO-CEEDINGS OF HOUSE AND COMMITTEES TO STANDING COMMITTEE

Hon. Allan J. MacEachen (President of the Privy Council) moved:

That the question of radio and television broadcasting of the proceedings of the House and its Committees, including the legal, procedural, and technical aspects thereof, and the question of arrangements made for reporters for the electronic media in the Parliament Buildings, and the evidence adduced by the Committee during the past session in relation thereto be referred to the Standing Committee on Procedure and Organization.

Motion agreed to.