

**Mr. Howard:** On division.

Motion agreed to, bill read the second time and referred to the standing committee on finance, trade and economic affairs.

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** The hour for consideration of private members' business has now expired and the house will revert to the business interrupted at six o'clock.

### GOVERNMENT ORGANIZATION

#### PROVISION FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF NEW DEPARTMENTS

The house resumed consideration in committee of Bill No. C-178, respecting the organization of the government of Canada and matters related or incidental thereto—Mr. Pearson—Mr. Batten in the chair.

**The Chairman:** When the committee was interrupted at six o'clock clause 34 which appears at page 11 of the bill was about to be considered.

On clause 34—*Powers of the Secretary of State.*

**Mr. Prittie:** Mr. Chairman, I do not wish to make a speech on this clause but I should like to ask a question. In view of the absence of the Secretary of State I presume I should direct my question to the Minister of National Revenue.

**Mr. Benson:** The minister will be here in a moment.

**Mr. Prittie:** Perhaps I should wait until she arrives. During second reading of the bill I advocated that there should be a federal office of education and that the numerous educational activities of the federal government should come under that office. At that time I quoted a news story which appeared in the *Ottawa Citizen*, written by Joan Cohen, which said that a home had been found within the federal government for an office to deal with education, that this was to be located in the Department of the Secretary of State, and that the responsibility for university grants was being transferred from the Minister of Finance to the new office within the Department of the Secretary of State.

• (7:00 p.m.)

Now that the Secretary of State is here, I should like to ask her this question. I have referred to an article which appeared in the *Ottawa Citizen* of May 21, written by Joan

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Cohen, which referred to a new office established in the Department of the Secretary of State. I later asked the Minister of Finance if it was true that university grants were being transferred from his department to that of the Secretary of State, and he replied that it was. I should like to ask the Secretary of State whether the article written by Mrs. Cohen in the *Citizen* is substantially correct. I am sure she knows the article to which I am referring.

**Mr. Churchill:** What was the substance of it?

**Mr. Prittie:** I will not read the whole article again, but for the benefit of the hon. member who has asked the question I will read parts of it. I did read it last week on second reading of the bill.

**Mr. Bell (Carleton):** It has all been read into the record.

**Mr. Prittie:** It is in the record at page 5467 of *Hansard*. The substance of the article was that the federal government had found a home for education within its confines and that this home would be in the office of the Secretary of State; and as a first step, university grants would be administered by that office. In my speech last week I indicated that there are other educational functions which they are now carrying out, and that these should be transferred there as well. I can appreciate the fact that the government wants to move very slowly in this field.

For the minister's information I should like to refer to yesterday's issue of *Le Droit*. Perhaps the minister has seen the news story there which reports the speech of le Père Roger Guindon, the director of the University of Ottawa. The story is headed, "L'éducation: un droit provincial, mais une priorité au fédéral. Voilà ce qu'a déclaré le Père Roger Guindon durant la cérémonie de collation des grades de l'Université d'Ottawa." It is interesting to get this type of statement from a person in Father Guindon's position. I suggest to the minister that there is not nearly as much opposition to the proper sort of federal involvement in education as some people in this country may think.

**Mr. Scott (Danforth):** Mr. Chairman, I just want to ask the minister a short question. How is she getting along with the \$6 million painting that she was going to buy?

**Miss LaMarsh:** Mr. Chairman, I thought I made it clear in the house that I had flown a