Inquiries of the Ministry

correspondence which passed between the department and the president and secretary of the Halifax Dockyard trades and labour council with respect to the job evaluation program and be prepared to tell us tomorrow whether what is indicated in this correspondence has now been abandoned?

Mr. Cadieux (Terrebonne): I would be very glad to do that, Mr. Speaker.

[Translation]

THE MINISTRY

PRESS COMMENT RESPECTING FUTURE ACTIONS OF PRIME MINISTER

On the orders of the day:

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

According to this morning's Le Devoir, the Prime Minister is getting ready to leave his post of party leader and Prime Minister within the next three months. Did he inform Le Devoir's editor of the fact? What is the truth about the report published this morning?

Mr. Speaker: Order. The hon. member knows that he cannot ask the Prime Minister whether a news report is true or not.

Mr. Caouette: Is it true that the Prime Minister intends to resign within the next three months?

[English]

Right Hon. L. B. Pearson (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, perhaps you would let me say that there is not a word of truth in that statement; it has already been denied.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear.

Mr. R. Gordon L. Fairweather (Royal): A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Does this applause mean that the mystical bond has been refurbished?

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

NATO—INQUIRY CONCERNING COMMUNICATION FROM PRESIDENT DE GAULLE

On the orders of the day:

Mr. R. N. Thompson (Red Deer): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Prime Minister and is a follow-up of the question asked him yesterday regarding NATO. Has the Prime Minister received the message which the minister of information of the French government said he has sent Canada? If so, what are the expected actions of the government with regard thereto?

[Mr. Lewis.]

Right Hon. L. B. Pearson (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I am informed that the communication from the French government was delivered to our embassy in Paris this morning and it is being cabled to Ottawa. As soon as it arrives—I expect later today—we will at once begin to give it the consideration that its importance deserves.

ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE

MUNSINGER INVESTIGATION—SUGGESTED IMPLICATION OF PRIVY COUNCILLORS

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Eldon M. Woolliams (Bow River): I should like to ask the Minister of Justice a question. Did the Minister of Justice state outside this house that he had certain facts and references in regard to a certain case alleged to have occurred during the term of the former government, and did he also suggest certain facts existed which were far worse than those of the Profumo scandal, implicating two members of the Privy Council? Did he make that statement outside the house?

Hon. Lucien Cardin (Minister of Justice): Mr. Speaker, I did inform members of the press that I learnt of the Munsinger case while I was minister in another department of government; that I did—

Mr. Churchill: Which department?

Mr. Cardin: I also stated files existed in connection with that particular case and that these files were not referred to the legal officers of the Department of Justice. I can also say that I am seriously considering making a judicial inquiry into the decision and the conduct of the Leader of the Opposition in that particular case. But I have not yet had the opportunity to discuss this with the Prime Minister and with my cabinet colleagues.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh.

Mr. Churchill: He will pull the rug out again.

Mr. Starr: Make sure the chair is there before you sit down.

Mr. Cardin: However, Mr. Speaker, if the hon. members of this house will refer to the words used by the Leader of the Opposition some time ago, they will find he said that he would welcome such an inquiry; and if that is so, then I think the inquiry should be set up.