

*Inquiries of the Ministry*

• (3:00 p.m.)

**Mr. Hellyer:** Mr. Speaker, I regret that particular organization does not come within my sphere of jurisdiction, but I am sure the gentleman in question was eminently qualified.

[Translation]

**Mr. Grégoire:** Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a supplementary question to the Minister of National Defence.

Could he tell us whether the department has any language laboratories where the two official languages are being taught to officers and men in the armed forces of Canada?

[Text]

**Mr. Hellyer:** Mr. Speaker, there are language laboratories available for members of the armed forces who wish to take advantage of the language training that is provided.

[Translation]

**Mr. Grégoire:** Mr. Speaker, can the minister tell us whether there are many who take advantage of the language laboratories available to the Canadian army officers and men?

[Text]

**Mr. Hellyer:** An increasing number of forward looking people, Mr. Speaker.

**An hon. Member:** How about you, Paul?

**Mr. Hellyer:** Including the Minister.

[Translation]

**Mr. Jean Chrétien (St. Maurice-Lafleche):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Minister of National Defence.

As he is going to speak in Shawinigan tomorrow, could the minister tell us whether he intends to speak in French?

**Mr. Hellyer:** Mr. Speaker, the answer is yes.

[Text]

### CANADIAN BROADCASTING CORPORATION

#### REQUEST FOR EARLY CONSIDERATION OF ESTIMATES

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. Robert Simpson (Churchill):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Prime Minister. In view of the fact that the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation is requesting estimates in the neighbourhood of \$100 million, and in view of the fact that there is no indication that one dollar of this

[Mr. Skoreyko.]

will be spent on the extension of very necessary services, will the Prime Minister assure the house that these estimates will be brought before Parliament at the very earliest date so this ridiculous situation can be dealt with by Parliament?

**Right Hon. L. B. Pearson (Prime Minister):** Mr. Speaker, we shall be glad to bring them before Parliament as soon as possible so that my hon. friend and others will be able to discuss this matter.

### SPEECH FROM THE THRONE

#### CONTINUATION OF DEBATE ON ADDRESS IN REPLY

The house resumed, from Tuesday, April 6, consideration of the motion of Mr. Cashin for an Address to His Excellency the Governor General in reply to his speech at the opening of the session, and the amendment thereto of Mr. Diefenbaker, and the amendment to the amendment of Mr. Douglas.

• (3:10 p.m.)

[Translation]

**Mr. Réal Caouette (Villeneuve):** Mr. Speaker, when we listened to the speech from the throne, or rather when we heard the news which preceded the reading of that speech in the other place, at the opening of this third session, we were told that this speech would be very long and thick. Then we found out that its volume was not very thick, but that it was quite thick respecting the proposed measures.

The members in this corner of the house had believed that during the last two sessions the government had taken cognizance of the needs of the people of Canada. We also believed that, after the contracts, discussions and arguments we had with other members of parliament, chiefly Liberal members, the speech from the throne would mention, for instance, that family allowances would be adjusted according to the cost of living index. Such a measure would have benefited everyone. As we all know, family allowances have remained practically unchanged since 1945; only in 1946 did the government raise them by one dollar and even at that only a limited number of recipients benefited from the boost.

We would also have thought that the government had taken into account the numerous requests and claims of older Canadians who complain about the inadequacy of their pension.

Naturally we expected the government to introduce legislation for the payment of a