

*Inquiries of the Ministry*

**Mr. Horner:** Then on another point of order, Mr. Speaker—

**Mr. Speaker:** The hon. member for Crowfoot on a point of order.

**Mr. Horner:** I know that the Speaker is annoyed with this particular point of order, but I have sat and watched question periods proceed and it seems to be Your Honour's position that there must be progress made in the question period. When a series of questions is directed to a minister on a given subject, Your Honour seems to feel that after a while the matter should be dropped and the House should proceed to another subject. The rules provide that a question must be urgent, that it should be of national importance and that it should be non-argumentative. When questions are asked on a particular subject matter the Speaker should allow them if they are urgent and of national importance, and that is all.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. The hon. member is obviously wrong. The practice is that supplementaries are entirely at the discretion of the Chair. That is a long-established practice.

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## HOUSE OF COMMONS

## PRESENCE IN SPEAKER'S GALLERY OF PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATION FROM RUSSIA

**Mr. Speaker:** Before we call orders of the day, hon. members might want the Chair to bring to their attention the presence in the Speaker's gallery of a group of very distinguished visitors in the persons of a parliamentary delegation from the Supreme Soviet of the U.S.S.R. led by Mr. Nikolai Tikhonov, Deputy Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the U.S.S.R.

**Some hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Mr. Speaker:** On behalf of all hon. members I welcome these very distinguished visitors. I express the hope that they are having a pleasant and interesting visit in Canada and that they will take back with them to their country very pleasant remembrances of their visit with us. We do want to express our pleasure at having them in the House of Commons of Canada today.

**Some hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Mr. Horner:** On a point of order, Mr. Speaker—

**Mr. Speaker:** The hon. member for Crowfoot on a point of order.

**Mr. Horner:** I am afraid Your Honour misunderstood the exact point I was attempting to make in my point of order. I was not dealing with the question of supplementaries but with questions being put on a given subject matter by members of the different parties in the House. It is not the duty of the Speaker to rule that progress must be made and that we must move on to another subject. If the Speaker, whether Your Honour or some future Speaker, continues to rule in this way, he will lay himself open to

the charge of bailing out a minister who was being attacked on a particular subject.

**Some hon. Members:** Oh, oh!

**Mr. Horner:** I would not want to accuse Your Honour of doing that, but if you place yourself in the position of having to rule whether enough questions have been asked on a given subject matter you do lay yourself open to that charge. I would not want to see the Chair placed in that difficult position.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. I would suggest to the hon. member that I am quite prepared to take my responsibilities at all times.

**Some hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Mr. Speaker:** Orders of the day.

**Mr. MacInnis:** On a point of order, Mr. Speaker—

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. I hope our system is not on trial at the present time. Does the hon. member rise on a question of privilege?

**Mr. MacInnis:** I rise on a point of order. It is not the same one.

**Some hon. Members:** Oh, oh!

**Mr. MacInnis:** This is a point of order with which I believe the Chair will find no difficulty in dealing. It arises from an answer given by the Minister of National Health and Welfare to the hon. member for Vancouver-Kingsway, an answer which is not in accord with the facts. If the minister has the ability to find the mistake in his answer, maybe he can apologize to the House at his next appearance.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. The Chair has called orders of the day. The point of order is not correctly taken.

## GOVERNMENT ORDERS

## INCOME TAX ACT

The House resumed, from Monday, March 20, consideration of the motion of Mr. Mahoney (for the Minister of Finance) that Bill C-169, to amend the Income Tax Act, be read the third time and do pass.

**Mr. Speaker:** Is the House ready for the question?

**Some hon. Members:** Question!

**Mr. Speaker:** Will those in favour please say yea.

**Some hon. Members:** Yea.

**Mr. Speaker:** Those against will please say nay.

**Some hon. Members:** On division.

Motion agreed to, bill read the third time and passed.