

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Wednesday, February 28, 1968

The house met at 2.30 p.m.

[Translation]

FINANCE

REPLACEMENT OF AMOUNT INVOLVED IN DEFEATED MONEY BILL

Mr. Gilles Grégoire (Lapointe): Mr. Speaker, I should like to put a question.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member might perhaps wait till I call orders of the day.

Mr. Grégoire: Mr. Speaker, I apologize; I was not taking any chances.

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Grégoire: I should like to put a question to the hon. Minister of Finance.

Can he tell us if his department has reached a decision concerning the new legislation to replace Bill No. C-193, and does he intend to make a statement in this regard today?

Mr. Speaker: The question of the hon. member is obviously very interesting but I suggest to him that it is somewhat too closely related to the debate now in progress and should therefore not be asked at this time.

Mr. Grégoire: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. I know that, even before I put a question, you find it difficult to accept that a few questions be put today as they were yesterday.

I would like to point out, on my point of order, that precisely my question is not relevant to the debate but can influence it. Moreover, the minister cannot speak in this debate, and that is why we want some information.

Mr. Speaker: Order.

Mr. Grégoire: May I ask the Minister of Finance whether he intends to make a statement before the vote of confidence concerning the measures—

Mr. Speaker: I do not think that this question can be put now, because it relates too closely to the current debate.

Mr. Grégoire: Then, if you will allow me, Mr. Speaker, I will put my question differently, in such a way that it will have no relation to the debate.

Can the minister tell the house whether, in the new measures he intends to take, there will definitely be no increase in the income tax.

Mr. Speaker: That question could be put later. I do not think it is acceptable at this time.

INCOME TAX

INQUIRY AS TO COMPLAINTS RESPECTING FORMS

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Gilles Grégoire (Lapointe): Then, Mr. Speaker, I should like to put a question to the Minister of National Revenue.

Can he tell us whether he has received complaints about personal income tax forms which are becoming more and more complicated and whether he intends to take corrective action?

Mr. Speaker: I do not wish to interfere, but the hon. member will agree once again that this question is not urgent and that, moreover, in the present circumstances, the house is most anxious to resume consideration of the motion now before it. For that reason, I cannot allow this question to be put at this time.

Mr. Grégoire: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a question of privilege.

Your rulings seem to be made in view of the present debate. In my opinion, this should not enter into consideration, because the debate—

Mr. Speaker: I do not think the question is urgent and, furthermore, the ruling of the Chair in such a case is not subject to discussion.

NATIONAL DEFENCE

NATO—INQUIRY AS TO POSSIBLE CHANGE IN CANADIAN COMMITMENTS

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Gilles Grégoire (Lapointe): Mr. Speaker, I would like to put another question to the hon. minister of defence along the lines of those allowed earlier.