

[Translation]

**CANADIAN BROADCASTING CORPORATION**

**QUEBEC—DISCRIMINATION IN FAVOUR OF SOCIALISM AND SEPARATISM**

**Mr. Réal Caouette (Témiscamingue):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask a question to the Secretary of State.

On many occasions, I have stated that the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation was infested with socialists and separatists. In view of the content of some programs, such as *Les Couche-tard*, for instance, in which Messrs. Landré and Norman ridicule equally the Liberals, the Progressive Conservatives and the Creditistes, but never the socialists or the separatists, is the minister in a position to say whether an inquiry should be conducted now by an independent committee of the House in order to determine whether the CBC should actually be called to order?

**Hon. Gérard Pelletier (Secretary of State):** Mr. Speaker, I answered that question last week. I said that for the time being the government was not considering conducting any particular inquiry, and I feel I have to give the same reply to the hon. member today.

**Mr. Caouette:** Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask a supplementary question.

Is the hon. minister aware of the discrimination practised by the C.B.C. and, if so, why the delay in creating a commission instructed to recommend at least the clean-up called for within this corporation?

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

**Mr. Pelletier:** Mr. Speaker, the hon. member is asking whether I am aware of what is taking place on a certain supposedly humorous program. As far as I am concerned, I am not tempted to take this program very seriously. However, since the member claims that all parties but one are a butt for the humourists' jokes, I might perhaps ask the C.B.C. not to spare that party either, if that is the wish of the hon. member.

[Later:]

**Mr. Speaker:** I think the hon. member for Témiscamingue has a supplementary.

**Mr. Caouette:** Mr. Speaker, I wish to put a further supplementary question to the Secretary of State.

The question is not whether such and such party should be held up to ridicule like the others, but whether the Secretary of State is

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prepared to ask the CBC not to make any discrimination, whether it be on the program *Les Couche-tard*, on the Lise Payette's program, or on any other one with a socialist content—

**Mr. Speaker:** Order. The hon. member has now made his representations.

**APPEARANCE OF CBC DIRECTORS BEFORE THE COMMITTEE ON BROADCASTING, FILMS AND ASSISTANCE TO THE ARTS**

**Hon. Martial Asselin (Charlevoix):** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Secretary of State. Considering that, for some time now, accusations from various quarters have been levelled at the CBC, could the Minister ask the directors of that Corporation to appear before the Committee on Broadcasting, Films and Assistance to the Arts in order to answer such accusations?

**Hon. Gérard Pelletier (Secretary of State):** Mr. Speaker, the directors of the CBC appear regularly before that committee on the request of its members. They have never refused to appear and, if my information is correct, they will be appearing again very soon.

[English]

**NATIONAL FILM BOARD**

**FREE DISTRIBUTION OF FILMS TO SCHOOLS**

**Mr. George Muir (Lisgar):** Mr. Speaker, may I direct a question to the Secretary of State. When will the Secretary of State be able to make a firm decision on when National Film Board films will again be made available to the schools of this country free of charge?

[Translation]

**Hon. Gerard Pelletier (Secretary of State):** Mr. Speaker, I am surprised at that question. The distribution of films by the National Film Board, according to the procedure in force before the decision of January 1st, is supposed to be back to normal. However, if such is not the case, I am willing to look into the question and to ask the National Film Board for a report on the matter.

[English]

**Mr. Muir (Lisgar):** A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Would the Secretary of State make sure that these films are available to the schools gratis by the start of the next school year?

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. The hon. member is now making a representation.