Inquiries of the Ministry
EDUCATION

REPORTED CANCELLATION OF TOUR
BY GLASGOW STUDENTS

On the orders of the day:

Mr. R. N. Thompson (Red Deer): I have a question to address to the Secretary of State. Would the hon. lady inform the house whether it is true that plans by the Glasgow educational authorities to send 1,000 children here on a special tour next year have been cancelled because of a lack of accommodation available for those young tourists?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I wonder if this question is so urgent that it should be answered at this time. Perhaps the hon. member might care to place it on the order paper.

## HOUSE OF COMMONS

RAISING OF QUESTION OF PRIVILEGE WITHOUT NOTICE

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Erik Nielsen (Yukon): Mr. Speaker, I rise on a question of privilege affecting the privileges of all members of the house. I do so with reluctance because the hon. member concerned is not in his seat. The hon. member who is concerned in the question of privilege is the hon. member for Montmagny-L'Islet (Mr. Berger).

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. Before the hon. member raises any question of privilege he must take into consideration that according to standing orders he is required to give prior notice to the Chair one hour before the opening of the house. Unless I am wrong the hon. member has not given such notice; therefore I suggest that he cannot raise a question of privilege of the type he appears to have in mind at the present time.

Mr. Nielsen: Mr. Speaker, I would be very happy to put it off until Monday, when the hon. member I have referred to will very likely be in his seat.

Mr. McIlraith: It is when you have complied with the rules.

Mr. Speaker: It is not because the hon. member referred to is not in his seat but because the hon. member raising the question of privilege has not complied with the requirement of the standing order to the effect that the notice must be given one hour before the opening of the house, that the question of privilege may not now be raised.

[Miss LaMarsh.]

## EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN CANADIAN AND U.S. MINISTERS

On the orders of the day:

Hon. J. A. MacLean (Queens): May I direct a question to the Prime Minister and ask him if he could inform the house as to the main purpose of the discussions being carried on today, I believe, between the Secretary of State for External Affairs and some ministers in Washington.

Right Hon. L. B. Pearson (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, the Secretary of State for External Affairs was in New York last evening and, as I think he indicated to the house, he was there to discuss matters of interest and importance with the Secretary General of the United Nations and with the United States representative to the United Nations. The main subject of discussion was the situation in Viet Nam. Other matters may have been discussed as well.

Today in Washington he is to meet with the Secretary of State and other officials of the United States government to discuss with them Viet Nam and other questions. He will make a report of his discussions to this house after he returns over the week end.

## SUPPLY

The house in committee of supply, Mr. Batten in the chair.

## DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL DEFENCE

1. Departmental administration, including grants to military associations, institutes and other organizations as detailed in the estimates and authority, notwithstanding section 30 of the Financial Administration Act, and subject to allotment by the Treasury Board, for total commitments of \$2,560,-546,715 for the purposes of votes 1, 5, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40 and 45 of this department regardless of the year in which such commitments will come in course of payment (of which it is estimated that \$1,044,262,000 will come due for payment in future years) and authority to make recoverable advances under any of the said votes and, notwithstanding the Financial Administration Act, to spend revenue received during the year in respect of assistance rendered to the United Nations, any party of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization or any provincial or municipal government, \$5,204,855.

Mr. Harkness: Mr. Chairman, in the few minutes at my disposal last night I drew attention to the low state of morale in our armed forces and referred to some of the evidence which shows how serious the situation is. In particular I drew attention to the heavy loss of highly trained personnel which has left the armed forces unable to carry on effectively so far as some of its units are concerned.