

*Order Paper Questions*

list of the aircraft. I think that to take a year to answer these questions is totally out of order. I believe the Prime Minister, certainly, with all the staff he has in his office which increases almost every day, should be prepared to guarantee to this House that someone will get down to business and answer the questions. If he has a staff of 400 or 500 people, I suggest they should do a day's work.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please.

**Mr. Stevens:** Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. Before you give your ruling on a matter raised by the hon. member for York Centre yesterday as a question of privilege, I should like to make a suggestion for the consideration of the House. The motion by the hon. member for York Centre incorporates, by reference, the matter raised by myself as a question of privilege on Tuesday, May 20, which itself contained a motion, although the hon. member referred to only part of my complaint of the previous sitting.

You ruled, Mr. Speaker, that in line with the precedents you had no jurisdiction in the matter and that it should be settled in the committee in which it arose. Although the member for York Centre and I are in dispute, I agree with him that our complaints, antagonistic though they may be, are of such importance to the member for York Centre and myself, and to the procedure and proceedings of all committees of the House, that they should properly be referred to and settled by the committee that is the proper forum for hearing and settling grievances and complaints which arise in committees including the finance committee.

Not only is the committee to which I refer not a party to the dispute, but its findings and recommendations can achieve uniformity of procedure in committees. At the appropriate time in these proceedings, Mr. Speaker, with your instruction and the consent of the House I would be prepared to move that the subject matter of my complaint of Tuesday, May 20, and that of the hon. member for York Centre of Wednesday, May 21, and further procedural moves attempted today by government members on the committee, be referred to the Standing Committee on Privilege and Elections.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. The question of privilege that the hon. member for York-Simcoe has put forward, followed in turn by the second question of privilege by the hon. member for York Centre, raised very serious questions about the relationship between proceedings in the committee and the Chair and, furthermore, between the opportunity to review the proceedings in committee and in turn the suggestion that the proceedings of one standing committee be reviewed by another one. Also raised are questions about the propriety of the remarks by the hon. member for York-Simcoe concerning the conduct of the hon. member for York Centre.

All this has caused me considerable concern, and with the indulgence of the House I would propose to consider this matter until next Monday at 3 p.m., at which time I shall try to have a definitive ruling covering all the matters which have been raised.

Orders of the day.

[Mr. Cossitt.]

**GOVERNMENT ORDERS**

[Translation]

**BUSINESS OF SUPPLY**

ALLOTTED DAY S.O. 58

House in committee of supply to consider certain items of the estimates for the year ending March 31, 1976, pursuant to the provisions of Standing Order 58 (9)—Mr. Laniel in the chair.

**PRIVY COUNCIL**

Resolved that a sum not exceeding \$18,484,200 be granted to Her Majesty for the fiscal year ending March 31, 1976 (less the amount voted in interim supply) as follows:

Vote 1—Privy Council—Program expenditures, including maintenance and operation of the Prime Minister's residence; the payment to each member of the Queen's Privy Council for Canada who is a Minister without Portfolio or a Minister of State who does not preside over a Ministry of State of a salary of \$7,500 per annum and pro rata for any period less than a year, the grants listed in the Estimates and contributions—\$18,484,200

**Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister):** Mr. Chairman, contrary to what my hon. friends opposite may think, I am rather pleased to take part this afternoon in the examination of my estimates. I have just been told that it is the first time in over 12 years that a prime minister is called upon to justify his estimates, and I am very glad to have this opportunity to make a few remarks and reply to the questions from the opposition.

I think the right hon. member for Prince Albert (Mr. Diefenbaker) was the last prime minister to be granted this favour, and I expect that there will be this afternoon a very interesting and important exchange of views.

The hon. member for Leeds (Mr. Cossitt) seems worried—

**An hon. Member:** He is not even here.

**Mr. Trudeau:**—which is understandable, because I am supposed to make a speech tonight in a riding next to his, and I am under the impression that he is afraid of the opportunity the people in this area will have to see what a real parliamentarian is, compared to the hon. member for Leeds—

The truth of the matter Mr. Chairman, is that, regretfully, I cannot stay here all day.

● (1510)

[English]

**Mr. Baldwin:** There will be other days.

[Translation]

**Mr. Trudeau:** I knew only yesterday that my presence here today was desired. I had for a long time accepted obligations, not only here in Ottawa, but also in other places in Ontario and Quebec. Unfortunately, I must keep up to these obligations.

The hon. member for Rivière-à-la-Paix is saying that there will be other days—

**An hon. Member:** Peace River!