

## Questions

the letter tabled so that the record may be complete. If that is his wish, I am prepared to table it. In any event—

**Some hon. Members:** Order.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order.

**Mr. Drew:** In any event, Mr. Speaker, may I simply say that the letter has been published, and I stand by every word in it.

**Mr. St. Laurent:** Mr. Speaker, the Prime Minister is not now prepared, and never will be prepared, to break a confidence until such time as the one who stipulated that confidence relieves him of the responsibility involved therein. If others choose to take a different view of the obligation with respect to information received by them in confidence, it is their responsibility, and I do not wish to share it.

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

**Some hon. Members:** Order.

**Mr. Graydon:** Fair play.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order. I would ask hon. members to listen to the leader of the opposition, who has risen on a question of privilege, and let him state his question of privilege. I would ask the leader of the opposition, however, to state his question of privilege and not to make any statement.

**Mr. Drew:** Mr. Speaker, the question of privilege is very clear. The Prime Minister has left the impression that in what has been done there is a breach of secrecy. I would point out that there has been no breach of secrecy; anything that has been said was said in the proper way to the then prime minister of Canada, and was placed in the possession of this house. The information was received here through the regular channels.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order.

## QUESTIONS

(Questions answered orally are indicated by an asterisk).

PUBLIC SERVICE—TEMPORARY AND  
PERMANENT EMPLOYEES

**Mr. Fleming:**

How many persons were in the employ of the dominion government (a) on a temporary basis; (b) on a permanent basis, on each of the following dates: May 1, 1945; January 1, 1946; January 1, 1947; January 1, 1948; January 1, 1949?

**Mr. McIlraith:**

(In each case the statistics shown are as reported at the end of the preceding month.)

1. (a) May 1, 1945, 83,971; January 1, 1946, 106,761 (includes employees for Christmas rush, 20,000); January 1, 1947, 121,673 (includes employees for Christmas rush, 22,000);

[Mr. Drew.]

January 1, 1948, 92,392 (includes employees for Christmas rush, 9,793); \*January 1, 1949, 102,397 (includes employees for Christmas rush, 18,000).

(b) May 1, 1945, 30,477; January 1, 1946, 31,038; January 1, 1947, 30,060; January 1, 1948, 32,497; \*January 1, 1949, 37,706.

\*Includes November figures for the administrative and lands and development services of the Department of Mines and Resources, which are the latest available.

FREIGHT RATES—REFRIGERATED CAR AND  
HEATING CHARGES

**Mr. Hatfield:**

1. At the time the increases in freight rates were authorized, were there any increases authorized on services such as refrigerated car charges and heating charges?

2. If so, under what authority were the increases on services authorized?

**Mr. Chevrier:**

1. Yes.

2. Increases authorized by board of transport commissioners by order 70425, dated March 30, 1948, under their powers expressed in the Railway Act.

CIVIL SERVICE—RECLASSIFICATIONS IN GRADE OR  
SALARY

**Mr. Diefenbaker:**

1. Has a reclassification taken place within the last year of civil service positions?

2. If so, in how many cases was there: (a) an increase; (b) a reduction in grade or salary, or both?

3. In how many cases were there reductions made in the case of civil servants receiving less than: (a) \$2,000; (b) \$3,000?

**Mr. Gibson (Hamilton West):**

1. Yes.

2. (a) 5,049; (b) 865.

3. (a) Less than \$2,000, 533; (b) between \$2,000 and \$3,000, 280.

## CUSTODY OF NAZI SYMPATHIZERS

**Mr. McCullough (Assiniboia):**

1. How many persons in Canada were taken into custody during the war for their nazi sympathies or activities?

2. What were the names of these people?

3. How many are still in custody?

**Mr. Garson:**

1. Germans and pro-Germans, 847; Italians, 632; communists, 133; National Unity party, 27.

2. It is considered that it is not in the public interest to supply this information at this late date.

3. None.

WHEAT—UNITED KINGDOM—TRANSFER OF  
CREDITS FROM UNITED STATES

**Mr. Diefenbaker:**

1. How much wheat has been (a) purchased; (b) delivered; (c) bargained for, by the British govern-