

Inquiries of the Ministry

in the manner in which the President of the Treasury Board has conducted himself so far.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear.

Mr. Hees: Polishing the apple.

Mr. T. C. Douglas (Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands): May I ask the President of the Treasury Board, in light of his statement about the Air Controllers Association referring to some of his staff as office boys, whether the minister is telling the House that the country is liable to be subjected to an air strike and tremendous inconvenience at this season of the year because the minister takes umbrage at the terminology which has been used?

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

[Translation]

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS**MIDDLE EAST—WITHDRAWAL OF ISRAELI TROOPS**

Mr. Gérard Laprise (Abitibi): Mr. Speaker, I wish to put a question to the Secretary of State for External Affairs.

I should like to ask him whether he agrees with General Burns' statement to the effect that economic pressures should be brought to bear on Israel to get that country to withdraw its troops from the territories it invaded in the Middle East in June 1967, and whether such action would, in his opinion, be of a nature to bring back peace in that part of the world.

Mr. Speaker: I do not think that the hon. member may ask the minister to indicate to the House whether he agrees with a statement made in the circumstances he has mentioned. It would perhaps be better if the question were worded differently.

[English]

AIR TRANSPORT**POSSIBLE STRIKE OF TRAFFIC CONTROLLERS—PROVISION OF GOVERNMENT AIRCRAFT FOR MEMBERS**

Mr. Grant Deachman (Vancouver Quadra): I have a question for the Minister of National Defence, Mr. Speaker. Is the minister in a position to advise the House regarding flights home for Members of Parliament on government aircraft in the event of a strike by the air traffic controllers?

Hon. Léo Cadieux (Minister of National Defence): At the request of most hon. members and as is done usually at the time for the

[Mr. Mackasey.]

Christmas recess, because we do not know exactly when the recess will begin, in consequence of which no reservations can be made—

Mr. Baldwin: You should.

Mr. Cadieux (Labelle):—we have made contingency plans to use DND aircraft to transport members west of Ottawa. However, if there is a strike we shall not, of course, fly this aircraft while the strike is on.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear.

FINANCE**REPORTED REMOVAL OF QUEEN'S PICTURE FROM BILLS**

Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Prince Albert): My question is directed to the Minister of Finance, Mr. Speaker. It has to do with the revelation brought to light by *Montreal Matin* that approval has been given by the government to the removal of the Queen's picture from all bills except two denominations. Can the minister tell us whether, in view of this shocking revelation, he will make a statement tomorrow before orders of the day so that hon. members may have an opportunity to express themselves concerning a measure which apparently is another step in undermining the monarchy?

Hon. E. J. Benson (Minister of Finance): If I might just have a moment, Mr. Speaker, I could explain the whole matter very quickly.

Mr. Diefenbaker: No. Make a statement on motions so that we can follow you.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

Mr. Benson: May I answer the question?

Mr. Speaker: I understood—and this is why the question was in order—that the right hon. gentleman invited the minister to say whether or not he would make a statement in due course. In reply, the minister might indicate whether or not he intends to make a statement.

Mr. Benson: I do not need to make a long statement.

Mr. Diefenbaker: Revert to motions so that we can answer and deal with the subterranean operations.

Mr. Benson: The existing issue of currency came out 15 years ago. The quality of the design—

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!