

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

Mr. Hees:—that he has been giving us for the past three years while the economic situation has got steadily worse?

Mr. Speaker: Order.

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CANADIAN BROADCASTING CORPORATION

SHOWING OF DOCUMENTARY FILM, "THE LEGACY OF LENIN"

Mr. Lloyd R. Crouse (South Shore): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Secretary of State. The Canadian Broadcasting Corporation has announced that it is presenting over its network on Tuesday, October 27, a documentary for revolution entitled "The Legacy of Lenin". In view of the fact that the government believes that the situation in Canada is serious enough to implement the War Measures Act, has the Secretary of State seen the film and, if so, does he believe that to show it would be appropriate at this time?

Mr. Speaker: Order. While the hon. member might ask the question in a different way, in its present form he is asking two questions, first, whether the Secretary of State has seen the picture, which I do not think is a question that can be put at this time and, second, whether the minister believes the film should be shown, again a question asking for an expression of opinion. The hon. member should ask his question in a different way.

Mr. Crouse: Then, Mr. Speaker, I will put it more directly. Since we as Canadians are experiencing the agony of a wave of revolution against our democratic government, will the Secretary of State consider the cancelling of the program "The Legacy of Lenin" to be projected by the CBC tomorrow evening?

[Translation]

Hon. Gérard Pelletier (Secretary of State): Mr. Speaker, I will be very happy to convey these remarks to the CBC authorities with the request that they be taken into consideration.

SUSPENSION OF PROGRAMS CONCERNING PREMEDITATED POLITICAL CRIMES

Mr. Léonel Beaudoin (Richmond): Mr. Speaker, I should like to put a question to the Secretary of State.

Does he intend to follow the example of the CTV television network and instruct the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation to discontinue any program more or less connected with a premeditated political crime?

Hon. Gérard Pelletier (Secretary of State): I do not understand, Mr. Speaker. The hon. member is asking whether we intend—

Inquiries of the Ministry

Mr. Beaudoin:—to follow the same policy as CTV and instruct the CBC to discontinue any program more or less related with a premeditated political crime?

Mr. Pelletier: First of all, Mr. Speaker, I would be very surprised if the policy outlined by the hon. member had been adopted by any network, particularly in the area of information. In fact, radio and television networks are information media and I would be surprised that they could eliminate a part of the information in which they are duty bound to be interested.

As for comments, I would be very happy to consider the policy mentioned by the hon. member. I must say I have not yet seen it implemented. But I would like to find out whether it would be best for the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation to follow it, in which case I would surely recommend it.

[English]

[Later:]

INTERVIEWING ABROAD OF PEOPLE BARRED FROM CANADA

Hon. J. A. MacLean (Malpeque): Mr. Speaker, I should like to address a question to the Secretary of State. Will he seek an assurance from the CBC that they will desist from sending teams abroad to interview people who are persona non grata as far as their being legally allowed into Canada is concerned, as the CBC has done in the past? I ask this question in light of the fact that some of their favourite commentators, such as Timothy Leary and others, are now fugitives from justice.

[Translation]

Hon. Gérard Pelletier (Secretary of State): I don't know just what case the hon. member is referring to, Mr. Speaker. His question is very general and I could not give it a reply, particularly as his definition of persona non grata seems a little vague to warrant a specific reply.

[English]

Mr. MacLean: I have a supplementary question. If persons are not allowed to come into Canada because of criminal records or other reasons and therefore are not acceptable as temporary visitors to Canada, will the minister seek the assurance that the CBC will not send teams abroad to interview these same people so that what they have to say can be broadcast over the national network without their being in the country?

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

[Translation]

Mr. Pelletier: I shall gladly pass that suggestion on to the CBC, Mr. Speaker. However, an interview which was recently filmed abroad clearly revealed the intentions of some subversive characters and could make the opposition aware of dangers which, so far, they seemed to deny.