Inquiries of the Ministry

Second, is the minister prepared to accept the quite plausible explanations of technical nature that the C.B.C. is bound to give him in justification on its glaring partisanship?

Third, could the minister ask the corporation—

(Text):

Mr. Speaker: Order. I suggest that the hon. member let the first question stand to be answered. The second one is hypothetical now and can be raised again if it becomes relevant.

(Translation):

Mr. Tremblay: A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Could the minister ask the corporation—

(Text):

Mr. Speaker: Order. I suggest that the hon. member give the minister a chance to answer the first question.

Hon. George C. Nowlan (Minister of National Revenue): I will take the question as notice and give an answer in due course. I admit, of course, that the arguments of the Minister of Finance were, as usual, so weighty and authoritative that they do not need any further elaboration on my part.

(Translation):

Mr. Tremblay: I should like to ask a supplementary question of the minister. Could he add to the reply he has just given me an answer to the following question?

Could the minister ask the C.B.C. to inquire into the qualifications and impartiality of the people responsible for information broadcasts in the C.B.C., so that the corporation's senior officers may repeat on radio and television the statements they made before the parliamentary committee about the objectivity of the corporation?

(Text):

POLICY RESPECTING EMPLOYEES NOMINATED IN PROVINCIAL ELECTIONS

On the orders of the day:

Hon. J. W. Pickersgill (Bonavista-Twillingate): Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the Minister of National Revenue whether it is the policy of the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation to dismiss from its employment employees who accept nomination in a provincial election.

Hon. George C. Nowlan (Minister of National Revenue): Mr. Speaker, I have no knowledge of this matter whatsoever. The C.B.C. has its own policy with respect to employment, but I will make inquiry and advise on the matter.

[Mr. Tremblay.]

Mr. Pickersgill: May I ask a supplementary question of the minister. Can the minister at the same time inquire into a specific case in the province of British Columbia which has been the cause of a good deal of comment there?

Mr. Nowlan: I will do that.

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

USE OF CANADIAN AIR SPACE BY U.S. PLANES

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Hazen Argue (Assiniboia): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Acting Prime Minister. In view of the desirability of lessening world tension and in view of the reported intention of the United States government to continue having planes of the U-2 type fly over Soviet territory, using the territory of United States allies as bases, would the minister say whether the use of Canadian air space is denied to United States planes of the U-2 type at this time?

Hon. Howard C. Green (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, I explained to the house the other day that the only type of U-2 planes which fly over Canada are those engaged in meteorological and radiation activities, and that they are duly cleared each time, with a flight plan being filed; reporting as they carry out their mission; reporting as they come back, and reporting when they leave Canada. This, as I said, is the only type of U-2 plane that is using Canadian air space.

Mr. Argue: I wonder if I might ask a further question.

Mr. Green: I think, if the hon. member will recall, I also said they did not go beyond North American air space.

Mr. Argue: I wonder whether the minister would care to elucidate a reply to a question the other day, in which he said that no such planes have ever operated from Canadian bases. Can he assure the house that no such planes have ever operated from United States bases on Canadian soil or within Canada?

Mr. Green: In my statement the other day I not only dealt with the question of planes operating from Canadian bases, but also planes flying over Canada.

Mr. Argue: I do not believe the minister understood my question. Can he assure the house that no such planes operate from United States bases or bases within Canada leased to the United States?

Mr. Green: I explained that fully the other day, and that is actually the fact. The hon.