

**Mr. Diefenbaker:** I rise on a question of privilege, Mr. Speaker. While the matter is before you for consideration—and in no way do I anticipate your decision—may I say that we have seen Parliament tramped on again by this government and its basic rights destroyed.

**Some hon. Members:** Oh, oh!

**Some hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Mr. Diefenbaker:** Ministers sit over there and refuse to answer questions. When questions are asked concerning their public statements—

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

**Mr. Diefenbaker:** —answers are denied.

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

**Mr. Diefenbaker:** Where is this House of Commons going?

**Some hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. I suggest to hon. members that in this instance at least it is not the minister who refuses to reply. He seemed to be very anxious to reply but I did not think the question was the type of question to which the minister should be allowed to reply. This is not the minister's responsibility but the Chair's responsibility, and I am prepared to accept it.

**Some hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

[Translation]

**Mr. Georges Valade (Sainte-Marie):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to put a supplementary question to the Minister of Justice.

Does he intend to read the book the Secretary of State is releasing today, and will he tell us whether or not the writings of his colleague fit in with the minister's policy concerning the October crisis.

VIEWS EXPRESSED ON QUEBEC CRISIS IN BOOK BY SECRETARY OF STATE—EFFECT ON CABINET SECRECY

**Hon. Martial Asselin (Charlevoix):** Mr. Speaker, I would like to put a question to the Secretary of State.

Would he tell us how he can, in a book, separate his views as a minister of the Crown from his personal views when he could endanger and discredit the oath of office by all cabinet members?

**Hon. Gérard Pelletier (Secretary of State):** Exactly in the same way, Mr. Speaker, as any minister and even any member of the House does, when making a speech.

[English]

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. I suggest to hon. members that not much purpose would be served in continuing this line of questioning. It seems to me there are very important matters to be considered and serious questions to be asked. All this I am sure is welcome publicity for the minister's book, but I think we should really proceed to another subject.

### *Inquiries of the Ministry*

#### REGIONAL ECONOMIC EXPANSION

##### DEVELOPMENT OF MORE EFFECTIVE INCENTIVE PROGRAMS IN LIGHT OF CRITICISMS

**Mr. John Burton (Regina East):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to put a question to the Minister of Regional Economic Expansion. In view of the many concerns expressed recently about the ineffectiveness of the regional development incentive program, including the view expressed by Dr. Solandt, Chairman of the Science Council of Canada, that "the record of regional industrial development in Canada was one of disaster after disaster" and that "they're not economically sound," I should like to ask the minister whether the government is conducting a special study and review of its regional development program in order to develop programs which will be more effective?

**Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Regional Economic Expansion):** Mr. Speaker, I do not know whether the hon. member implies that the application which is being made by a pulp mill in Regina should not be accepted because the program is not efficient.

**Mr. Burton:** Mr. Speaker, I shall repeat my question. In view of the criticisms, including that of Dr. Solandt, Chairman of the Science Council of Canada, is the government reviewing its programs in order to develop better alternatives and is it holding any consultations with people such as Dr. Solandt, Chairman of the Science Council, in order to develop a sound program which will be co-ordinated with science policy?

[Translation]

**Mr. Marchand (Langelier):** Mr. Speaker, I have read a great many opinions on the department, and on regional development, expressed by members of all political parties, and by scientists, several of them contradictory. I am not in a position to give an opinion on the view brought up this afternoon in the House.

[English]

##### INCENTIVE GRANTS TO FOREIGN-CONTROLLED FIRMS—POSSIBLE POLICY CHANGE

**Mr. John Burton (Regina East):** Mr. Speaker, with regard to a specific aspect of policy, I should like to ask whether the minister is reconsidering his policy of making incentive grants to foreign-controlled firms on the same basis as to Canadian-controlled concerns and does he anticipate that there will be any policy changes in this regard for his department when the government announces its policy on foreign ownership?

[Translation]

**Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Regional Economic Expansion):** No, Mr. Speaker. When an American company, such as Boeing, seeks to settle in Manitoba, we grant authorization and give the same subsidy in Winnipeg as in Gaspé or in the Maritimes.