

• (1440)

**Mr. Hees:** On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, I did preface my question by saying, "would he take the first opportunity on motions". Could he answer yes or no to that?

**Mr. Speaker:** The hon. member of course, has the option of putting the question down for debate at ten o'clock.

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#### STATUS OF WOMEN

##### ALLEGED DISCRIMINATION BY RIDEAU CLUB AGAINST CERTAIN FEMALE GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES

**Mr. David Orlikow (Winnipeg North):** Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the President of the Treasury Board. In view of the refusal of the Rideau Club to permit two women representing government departments to attend a working luncheon held in that place last week, is the government giving consideration to adopting a policy of not permitting any government functions to be held at the Rideau Club as long as that organization discriminates against certain government employees?

**Hon. C. M. Drury (President of the Treasury Board):** Mr. Speaker, I had a meeting with some representatives of the gentler sex—

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

**Mr. Hees:** Don't get coy now. Just tell it like it was, Bud.

**Mr. Drury:** Obviously, Mr. Speaker, we are in the presence of what I would call the rougher sex here. I pointed out to them that in cases where government activities involving both sexes were concerned it would not be practical and indeed, we should not interrupt the proceedings by lunching or endeavouring to continue the work in places that did not allow the presence of women.

[Later:]

**Mr. David Lewis (York South):** Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the President of the Treasury Board supplementary to the one asked by the hon. member for Winnipeg North. It seems to me that the President of the Treasury Board did not get the full import of the question. It was whether the government will not consider refusing to hold any functions, whether of one sex or of both sexes, in the Rideau Club as long as the Rideau Club pursues a policy which is contrary to the declared policy of the government with respect to equality of the sexes in all such matters?

**Mr. Drury:** Mr. Speaker, I am not fully aware of all the facts behind this incident. I have undertaken to make some inquiries, but it is my understanding that the Rideau Club at present not only allows both sexes on its premises during the dinner period but also has on occasion allowed both sexes during the luncheon period.

**Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre):** What about breakfast?

#### Inquiries of the Ministry

**Mr. Drury:** Breakfast I am not sure of; I am not sure if there is much demand for breakfast. I will be glad to look into the matter.

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[Translation]

#### FEDERAL-PROVINCIAL RELATIONS

##### VICTORIA CONFERENCE—STATEMENT OF QUEBEC SOCIAL AFFAIRS MINISTER RESPECTING A CERTAIN DOCUMENT—REQUEST THAT PRIME MINISTER INVESTIGATE

**Mr. Roch La Salle (Joliette):** Mr. Speaker, I wish to put a question to the Prime Minister.

A few days ago, during a press conference, the Quebec Minister of Social Affairs stated that, during the last federal-provincial conference in Victoria, a document emanating from a federal government department was circulated among some provincial delegations, cautioning them against certain Quebec proposals.

Is the Prime Minister in a position to say whether he was aware of this and whether he was in favour of such a procedure?

**Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister):** Mr. Speaker, I do not know what document is being referred to. If the hon. member can be more specific, I shall find out.

**Mr. La Salle:** Since the Quebec Minister of Social Affairs made that statement, may I now ask the right hon. Prime Minister whether he can find out which federal department circulated that document and report to the House?

**Mr. Trudeau:** Mr. Speaker, I have not followed in detail all the statements of the Quebec minister involved, but if the hon. member is interested he might supply me with details and I shall inquire.

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[English]

#### PUBLIC SERVICE

##### INQUIRY AS TO COMPLETION OF STUDY OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST GUIDELINES

**Mr. Robert McCleave (Halifax-East Hants):** Mr. Speaker, I intended to direct a question to the President of the Treasury Board, but since it involves the entire public service, both fair and unfair, perhaps it should be directed to the Prime Minister. Has the high level study of guidelines dealing with conflict of interest in the public service been completed and, if so, will it be made public?

**Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister):** Mr. Speaker, I believe that any studies of this subject were done under the direction of the President of the Privy Council, and I will refer the question to him.