

*Inquiries of the Ministry*

[Text]

**Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Leader of the Opposition):** Mr. Speaker, I rise on a question of order. You had already called orders of the day when the motion was made; therefore, to begin with, the motion was out of order. You called on me twice, and I hope now I will be allowed to ask my question.

[Translation]

**Mr. Grégoire:** Mr. Speaker, before the house met I sent you a notice to the effect that I intended to raise this matter today; now, here is my question of privilege.

After studying what happened in the past and more particularly, with reference to a precedent established when the leader of the official opposition or any other hon. member introduced a motion to adjourn the business of the house, I noticed that the Speaker always allowed the mover to put forward his argument to show that his motion was important and urgent.

Today you say that the matter is not urgent without even giving us an opportunity to put forward our arguments to demonstrate that the matter is urgent.

That is why I say your decision flies in the face of our privileges in not giving us an opportunity to put forward the proof that the matter is important and urgent.

Besides, I should like to refer to Beauchesne's—

[Text]

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. Far from preventing the hon. member from making a statement, I think the Chair has been rather lenient. The decision still stands.

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

**BROADCASTING**

REAPPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN OF BOARD—  
POLICY RESPECTING MULTIPLE STATION  
OWNERSHIP

On the orders of the day:

**Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Leader of the Opposition):** Mr. Speaker, in the absence of the Secretary of State possibly I should direct this question to the Prime Minister. In view of the completion by Dr. Andrew Stewart in the near future of his first term as chairman of the board of broadcast governors, has the government received any indication from Dr. Stewart regarding the question of reappointment; and has any matter been raised with him that there has

been interference by the government in connection with the processing of applications for licences or transfers of licences?

**Right Hon. L. B. Pearson (Prime Minister):** No, Mr. Speaker. Some time ago I received a communication from Dr. Stewart in which he indicated that he did not intend to continue as chairman of the board of broadcast governors. It was a personal communication, but I would be very glad to inquire of Dr. Stewart to see whether it could be tabled, or a similar communication which would give an indication why he does not wish to continue for purely personal reasons.

**Mr. D. M. Fisher (Port Arthur):** May I ask, as a supplementary question, has the government come to any policy decision, and particularly has it forwarded a recommendation to the B.B.G. that multiple station ownership of Canadian broadcasting stations is something to be encouraged? I ask this question because it may fit in with the question raised by the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Diefenbaker), and also because of the decision by the B.B.G. to give Mr. Stirling one more station for his multiple ownership?

**Mr. Pearson:** I shall be glad to look into that, but I think I can say there is no relation between the two questions.

[Later:]

**Mr. T. C. Douglas (Burnaby-Coquitlam):** Mr. Speaker, I want to ask the Prime Minister a question. In view of the fact that the Fowler committee is not holding public hearings, and in view of questions which have arisen both with regard to the decision of Dr. Stewart not to serve again as chairman of the board of governors and the apparent emergence of a privately owned radio network, would the Prime Minister consider setting up the House of Commons committee on broadcasting so these surprising developments might be investigated?

**Mr. Pearson:** Mr. Speaker, I can only say that I will be glad to give consideration to that question in the light of the observations made by my hon. friend.

**NATIONAL DEFENCE**

LA MACAZA, QUE.—TREATMENT OF PEACE  
DEMONSTRATORS BY R.C.A.F. POLICE

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. T. C. Douglas (Burnaby-Coquitlam):** Mr. Speaker, may I ask the Prime Minister whether he has yet reached any decision regarding an independent investigation into the