

*Inquiries of the Ministry*

[Text]

**Mr. Gordon:** Yesterday the right hon. Leader of the Opposition—

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. I might say in passing that surely you do not expect the Speaker to act like a schoolmaster. Hon. members must assume their own responsibility as I am assuming mine.

[Later:]

[Translation]

**Mr. Gilles Grégoire (Lapointe):** Mr. Speaker, a supplementary question to the Secretary of State with regard to translation.

Could he tell us whether it is true that the bureau for translations is paying certain employees of the secretary of state or external affairs departments, or both, 5 cents a word, which would be what is preventing his department from recruiting translators who could devote themselves exclusively to translating for the Canadian government?

**Mr. Lamontagne:** I take this question as notice, Mr. Speaker.

[Text]

**FINANCE****CONSULTATION WITH U.S. REGARDING GOLD MARKET AND LIMITATIONS ON LOANS**

On the orders of the day:

**Hon. Walter L. Gordon (Minister of Finance):** Yesterday, Mr. Speaker, the right hon. Leader of the Opposition asked a question concerning the gold market and the raising of money in the New York market by Canadians. The policy followed by France in converting U.S. dollar balances into gold has recently been the subject of much public comment, but it would not be appropriate or useful for me to express any opinion on it. I can, however, assure the Leader of the Opposition that Canadian officials are in close touch with officials abroad regarding the gold market and other international financial markets.

The Leader of the Opposition also asked whether Canada had agreed to put new limitations on money raising in New York. Hon. members will recall that after the United States administration announced its proposal for an interest equalization tax in July, 1963 discussions were held between the United States and Canadian governments which resulted in an agreement, published on July 21, 1963, under which new issues of Canadian securities were exempt from the tax. The Canadian government, for its part, made it

clear that it was not its desire or intention to increase Canada's foreign exchange reserves through the proceeds of borrowing in the United States.

Last month, shortly before President Johnson delivered his message of February 10 to the United States congress in which he specifically reaffirmed the Canadian exemption, the Canadian government reaffirmed the position it had taken in 1963 regarding the level of its exchange reserves. There is no other agreement with regard to Canadian borrowings in the United States.

**EXTERNAL AFFAIRS****CYPRUS—REQUEST FOR STATEMENT ON PRESENT POSITION**

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. R. N. Thompson (Red Deer):** Mr. Speaker, I trust that when you come to add up the minutes spent on this question hour you will be somewhat lenient, due to the shortness of the period today and because of the time taken up with lengthy answers to questions. My question relates to another crisis area in the world, other than the one in this house, where some 1,100 Canadians are in the front lines. I am referring to Cyprus. With the situation becoming more critical each day, and in view of the meeting of the United Nation security council today with regard to Cyprus, what word does the Secretary of State for External Affairs have for us?

**Hon. Paul Martin (Secretary of State for External Affairs):** Mr. Speaker, as my hon. friend has said, the security council is meeting this afternoon to consider the renewal of the mandate of the force, which has been in existence now about a year. It will meet against the background of the situation that prevails, particularly at Lefka in Cyprus, a situation that is causing considerable concern. Beyond that there is nothing to add at the moment, except that in answer to the question put to me by the hon. member for Calgary North the other day I may say we have made representations to the secretary general, and our high commissioner has been instructed to take a similar course vis-à-vis the government of Cyprus.

**Mr. Thompson:** Mr. Speaker, my question concerns the report that some 45,000 troops have been built up, many of them from the regular army of Greece, and that there is actual fighting taking place at this time, which is certainly something very serious. Is there no comment about that?