

Order Paper Questions

It is expected that current strength will be maintained.

* Note 1

The reduction of strength from 1976 to 1977 and up to the present is due to a change of accounting in that infantry recruits who had been on regimental strength—accounted for as infantry men—were transferred to a basic training list.

CHARTERED BANKS—ESCALATION OF PENSIONS

Question No. 252—**Mr. Herbert:**

Did the Minister of Finance or the Inspector General of Banks acting for the minister, have any discussions with the chartered banks since May 22, 1979, concerning the annual escalation of pensions to retired employees or the period of vesting for existing employees?

Hon. Pierre Bussières (Minister of State, Finance): It is not government policy to suggest or impose conditions on private pension plans beyond those contained in the Pension Benefits Standards Act. However, the inspector general of banks in the conduct of his duties regularly discusses with the banks the conditions of their pension plans. I am advised that the chartered banks are continuing to pursue previously reported practices of making supplementary payments to their older pensioners, with increases in the cost of living being the primary factor in the determination of the amount of the supplement.

DEFENCE CONSTRUCTION (1951) LIMITED—NATIONAL DEFENCE

Question No. 310—**Mr. Herbert:**

In each of the past five years was any Defence Construction (1951) Limited work carried out for any department or agency other than the Department of National Defence and, if so, what was the dollar value and by whom was the work authorized?

Hon. J. Gilles Lamontagne (Minister of National Defence): There was no work carried out by Defence Construction (1951) Limited for any department or agency other than the Department of National Defence during the past five years.

DEFENCE CONSTRUCTION (1951) LIMITED—TENDER CLOSINGS

Question No. 311—**Mr. Herbert:**

1. Of the 680 head office tender closings of Defence Construction (1951) Limited in the fiscal year 1978-79, how many had a response of (a) one (b) two tenders?

2. What was the total value of tender closings where only one tender was received?

3. For how many tender closings where only two tenders were received was the differential between the two tenders (a) more than 20 per cent of the low tender (b) more than \$50,000?

Hon. J. Gilles Lamontagne (Minister of National Defence):

1. (a) 53
(b) 105
2. \$5,339,336.16
3. (a) 38
(b) 10

DEFENCE CONSTRUCTION (1951) LIMITED—CONTRACTS FOR RENOVATIONS

Question No. 312—**Mr. Herbert:**

For the fiscal year 1978-79, what was the total value of contracts for repairs and maintenance (renovations) awarded by Defence Construction (1951) Limited?

Hon. J. Gilles Lamontagne (Minister of National Defence): Value of repairs and maintenance—renovations—for 1978/79 was: \$40,286,430.

AGRICULTURE—PUBLICATION

Question No. 314—**Mr. Herbert:**

1. Did the Department of Agriculture issue a publication, Monograph No. 25 entitled "A revision of the Gymnusiini and Deinopsini of the world; Coleoptera: Staphylinidae, Aleocharinae"?

2. Was the publication issued in the English language only and, if so, on what date and for what reason was a French language version not made available at the same time?

Hon. E. F. Whelan (Minister of Agriculture): 1. Yes.

2. Yes, on October 15. It was published only in English because the complexity of the highly scientific subject matter makes translation almost impossible. The text is so technical that a scientist with the competence to translate the publication is not available to prepare a French language version. For this reason, certain highly technical scientific papers of limited interest—such as Monograph No. 25—are normally published in the language of the author.

[Translation]

Madam Speaker: The questions enumerated by the parliamentary secretary have been answered. Shall the remaining questions be allowed to stand.

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

● (1620)

MOTION TO ADJOURN UNDER S.O. 26

[English]

INDUSTRY

LAY-OFFS IN AUTOMOBILE INDUSTRY

Mr. Ian Deans (Hamilton Mountain): Madam Speaker, I ask leave, seconded by the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre (Mr. Knowles), to move that adjournment of the House under Standing Order 26 for the purpose of discussing a specific and important matter requiring urgent consideration, namely the immediate crisis reflected in the automotive industry in Canada with over 25,000 Canadian workers laid off; the further announcement yesterday of additional lay-offs by General Motors of Canada; the cancellation by Chrysler today of its planned building of a new V-6 engine plant; the impasse in the negotiations with Chrysler Canada regarding