

Orders for Returns

GRANTS TO CHURCH CONSTRUCTION

Mr. Thatcher:

1. Since January 1, 1952, have any grants been made by the atomic energy control board of Canada towards the building of churches?
2. If so, how many, and to what churches?
3. What was the amount of each such grant?
4. For what reasons were such grants made?
5. Since January 1, 1952, have any other civilian government agencies, corporations or departments, made grants of this nature?

OLD AGE SECURITY FUND

Mr. Fulton:

1. What amounts have been credited monthly to the old age security fund since its establishment, showing the amount derived from the personal income tax portion, the corporation income tax portion, and the sales tax portion respectively?
2. What amounts have been credited from other sources, showing the source and respective dates of payment?
3. What amounts have been paid out of the fund for old age security monthly since its establishment?
4. What is the cumulative deficit of the fund to date, in terms of the excess of total payments from the fund for old age security over receipts from the tax sources mentioned in part 1?

Mr. Benidickson: Return tabled.

OLD AGE ASSISTANCE—NUMBER OF PEOPLE 65-69

Mr. Knowles:

1. What is the estimated number of persons in Canada in the 65-69 age bracket (i.e., 65 years of age or over but not yet 70 years of age)?
2. What is the estimated number of persons in the above-noted age bracket who are not gainfully employed?
3. What is the estimated number of persons in the above-noted age bracket who are not gainfully employed, but who are in receipt of unemployment insurance benefits?
4. What is the estimated number of persons in the above-noted age bracket who are not covered by any pension or retirement plan other than old age assistance?
5. How many persons in Canada are in receipt of old age assistance?

ARMY CAMP, COQUITLAM, B.C.

Mr. Regier:

1. What is the total expenditure to date on the proposed army camp in the district of Coquitlam, British Columbia?
2. Has the corporation of the district of Coquitlam been paid an amount to compensate for the construction of a water main to this project? If not, for what reason?
3. What are the plans regarding development or sale of this property?

Mr. Blanchette: Return tabled.

ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE

REQUEST FOR MUSICAL RIDE AT WINDSOR, ONTARIO

On the orders of the day:

Mr. D. F. Brown (Essex West): I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Justice. In my city, the city of Windsor, [Mr. Brooks.]

Ontario, we are anxious to have the Royal Canadian Mounted Police musical ride for the centennial celebrations which are to continue throughout the year 1954 in celebration of the city's 100th birthday. I am informed that the musical ride is to be discontinued. Will the minister please let me know if that is the case, and if so why?

Hon. Stuart S. Garson (Minister of Justice):

I wish to thank the hon. member for having given me notice of his question. During the past two years we have produced not only two musical rides but the specially trained troop that went to the coronation, and also put on a ride in the United Kingdom, as well as two or three mounted escorts and a number of mounted displays.

The effect of these special functions and displays has been to curtail very severely our basic training in equitation and, instead of putting through approximately half the total number of our recruits, a much smaller percentage has received this type of training during this period. The result is that the pool from which we can draw for good riders has been depleted, and it is with the intention of building up this pool that we want to concentrate next year on basic equitation, curtailing, as much as possible, ceremonial functions and mounted displays.

Hon. George A. Drew (Leader of the Opposition): I would point out, Mr. Speaker, that the reason given by the minister does not relate to economy or to the expense involved in this matter, but rather to the problem of basic training in equitation. I suggest that careful reconsideration be given to this decision. Generally, in so far as any of the activities of any of the organizations within the supervision of the government are concerned, we will support any measures of economy. When it comes to a matter of this kind, I think we should recognize that there is perhaps no single thing of its kind which offers a more colourful expression of a Canadian tradition than the musical ride of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police.

Mr. Speaker: Order. I should like to tell the hon. member that, having made an observation, it is most irregular to have the answer to a question debated. The hon. member may ask a supplementary question. Having made an observation, I would ask the hon. member to proceed by way of a supplementary question or to conclude his remarks.

Mr. Drew: I would ask the minister if he will reconsider the decision which he has just announced.

Mr. Garson: The minister, Mr. Speaker, is always prepared to accede to reasonable