

Order Paper Questions

CBC—TELEVISION PROGRAMME "TEN LOST YEARS"

Question No. 1,919—Mr. Jones:

1. Did CBC send printed form letters to citizens who were complaining about the television programme "Ten Lost Years" and, if so, for what reason?
2. How many (a) verbal (b) written complaints were received by (i) CBC and its affiliates (ii) members of the Cabinet (iii) government departments?
3. What was the breakdown of the total cost of "Ten Lost Years"?
4. What costing procedures are followed by CBC?
5. Is it intended to stop cursing and swearing and the use of improper and foul language on various programmes of (a) CBC (b) other networks and, if so, what action is contemplated?
6. What was the total cost of CBC in each of the past five years?

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (President of the Privy Council): I am informed by the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation and the Department of Communications as follows: 1. Form letters were sent to many of the viewers who wrote to CBC complaining about "Ten Lost Years". The CBC receives a great deal of mail at its various locations and endeavours to answer each letter individually. On occasion there are more letters about a specific subject or program than can be handled within a reasonable length of time by staff already engaged in handling the regular mail load. At these times either a form letter giving the CBC's position on the most often repeated points or a card acknowledgement can be sent with the minimum delay.

2. (a) (i) 484. CBC has no way of collecting information on calls directed to its affiliates. (ii) None. (iii) None. (b) (i) 585. CBC has no way of collecting information on mail directed to its affiliates. (ii) CBC, two; Communications, eleven. (iii) None.

3. It has not been customary to require the CBC to supply such details of its internal management and administration.

4. The costing system followed by CBC is based on the total absorption concept and can be subdivided as follows: (a) Program purchase costs: This covers out-of-pocket expenses which are committed specifically for a program or an episode of a series and can be attributed directly to the program or episode; (b) Manpower and facilities utilization: This covers the use of in-house facilities and manpower. This portion of costs is charged to individual programs on the basis of developed cost rates using (i) actual hours of work performed by program and operation personnel, and (ii) reported hours of use of each facility.

5. Under the Broadcasting Act, responsibility for programming is vested in the licensee. Under the Act, the Canadian Radio-Television Commission has issued regulations respecting programming, however, the CRTC has no power of censorship over programming. It is not the CRTC's role to make editorial or production decisions concerning, for example, what language should be used in dramatic programs. CRTC television regulation section 5 (1) c) prohibits the broadcasting of any indecent, obscene or profane language. Any person who considers this regulation to have been breached can lay a complaint. The government considers this regulation to be adequate.

6. See the reply to part 2 of question No. 1,709.

[Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton).]

CANADIAN COMMERCIAL CORPORATION USE OF CANADIAN VESSELS

Question No. 2,182—Mr. Forrestall:

1. (a) What is the policy of the Canadian Commercial Corporation with respect to the use of Canadian vessels and crews in the over-water shipment of Canadian products abroad (b) on what date was this policy adopted (c) does it comply with present efforts of the Department of Transport and the government in respect to the encouragement of Canadian international registered shipping in seaborne trade?
2. (a) What was the dollar value of goods and commodities of all descriptions sold to countries abroad by the Canadian Commercial Corporation since 1965 (b) what has been the dollar value of the goods moved in international shipping over-water?
3. What percentage of the total dollar value of goods and commodities shipped abroad by the Canadian Commercial Corporation were transported by ships registered in Canada and manned by Canadian crews?
4. (a) Who are the agents for the Canadian Commercial Corporation in respect of its East Coast and West Coast exports over-water (b) what instructions do they operate under with respect to the use of Canadian flag shipping?
5. Since 1965, what was the total dollar value of shipping charges paid to foreign registered shipping and to Canadian registered shipping by the Corporation by category?

Hon. Jean-Pierre Goyer (Minister of Supply and Services): In so far as the Department of Supply and Services and the Canadian Commercial Corporation are concerned: 1. (a) The policy followed by the department is consistent with the government policy as expressed on May 1, 1974, by the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Transport in answer to question 196 and recorded at page 1921 of *Hansard* of May 1, 1974. "Following World War II, Canada has pursued a general policy of utilizing the most economical bottoms available for all international shipping". (b) The Department of Supply and Services departmental records are not available with which to confirm the date of the current policy. As stated in (a) above the overall government policy has been in effect since the end of World War II. (c) Canadian registered shipping is encouraged to seek government cargos by being competitive in international over-water shipments.

2. (a) Total value is approximately \$995,000,000. (b) Of this amount the following was shipped over-water and the balance by other means of transportation. 1965, \$32,321,089; 1966, \$42,877,131; 1967, \$31,299,589; 1968, \$35,070,879; 1969, \$38,749,943; 1970, \$53,551,816; 1971, \$54,698,586; 1972, \$124,093,891; 1973, \$77,004,293; 1974, \$76,771,617.

3. Included in the answer to part 5.

4. (a) and (b) The Canadian Commercial Corporation does not have shipping agents. The corporation makes their requirements known to the Transportation and Energy Branch of the Department of Supply and Services. That branch, in turn, sends out invitations to tender. See part 3(b) of answer to question No. 2,183 with regard to the tendering terms and conditions concerning Canadian (flag) shipping.

5. Specific data as to the value of shipping charges paid to Canadian and foreign registered shipping is not available. However, to the best of our knowledge the following sums have been paid for shipments in Canadian vessels.