

*Order Paper Questions*DND GARBAGE REMOVAL AND DISPOSAL CONTRACT
OTT76/24969/1Question No. 2,275—**Mr. McKinnon:**

Is the cost of DND garbage removal and disposal contract, OTT76/24969/1 for the sum of \$486,619, let to Charette's General Trucking of Petawawa, Ontario, over ten times the average of four other garbage contracts published in the Weekly Bulletin of Business Opportunities Volume 4, Number 9 and, if so, for what reason?

Hon. Jean-Pierre Goyer (Minister of Supply and Services): No. The contract OTT76/24969/1 is for a period of four years while the other contracts listed are for one or two years. The five contracts are not comparable in terms of the number of pick-up points, frequency of pick-ups, population at the bases or stations and type of service, i.e. containerized vs compacter trucks.

GRANT TO BÉLANGER-TAPPEN COMPANY FOR CONSTRUCTION
OF PLANT AT ST. BRUNO, COUNTY OF CHAMBLYQuestion No. 2,293—**Mr. Lambert (Bellechasse):**

Did Bélanger-Tappen Company request a grant for the construction of a refrigerator plant at St-Bruno, County of Chambly and, if so, has any decision been taken by DREE?

Mr. Ed. Lumley (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Regional Economic Expansion): The reply for the Department of Regional Economic Expansion is as follows: No. The County of Chambly is not located within the designated area of Quebec under the Regional Development Incentives Act.

NUMBER OF PERSONS IN OFFICIALLY RECOGNIZED SENIOR
CITIZEN HOUSING ACCOMMODATIONQuestion No. 2,366—**Mr. Baker (Grenville-Carleton):**

Does the Department of National Health and Welfare keep records of the number of persons in officially recognized senior citizen housing accommodation and, if so, how many (a) are in such accommodation (b) receive the guaranteed annual income supplement in addition to the basic pension?

Hon. Marc Lalonde (Minister of National Health and Welfare): No. (a) and (b) Information unavailable.

[*English*]

Mr. Clarke: I rise on a point of order, Mr. Speaker. I am not celebrating an anniversary such as that referred to by the hon. member for Grenville-Carleton, but today marks six months since Question No. 1,019 was placed on the order paper on November 10 last. I realize that many dozens of questions are older than that. Some have been on the order paper since October 12, the first day of the second session of the thirtieth parliament. I should like to remind the parliamentary secretary that it is an easy question, one which does not require great study. It concerns federal expenditures on public transportation facilities, and it would be very helpful if the government could answer it soon.

Mr. Goodale: The hon. member raised this point with me informally in the last day or two. I did make some inquiries to determine where the matter stands at the present time. I think

[*Mr. Fleming.*]

it is fair to say that the question is not as simple as the hon. member suggests. I might also draw attention to the fact that in the course of this session nearly 2,500 questions have been placed on the order paper and that almost 70 per cent of them have been answered already. We are endeavouring to answer all questions as quickly as possible.

Mr. Baker (Grenville-Carleton): Mr. Speaker, on Monday the parliamentary secretary was kind enough to inform me that Question No. 642 would be answered today. I presume something occurred to prevent the answer being made available. Is it the intention to answer this question tomorrow?

Mr. Goodale: I am not sure I can give an undertaking that it will be answered tomorrow, but I think it will be in the near future.

Mr. Speaker: Shall the remaining questions be allowed to stand?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

[*English*]

BUSINESS OF SUPPLY

ALLOTTED DAY S.O. 58—ALLEGED FAILURE OF GOVERNMENT TO
IMPROVE EMPLOYMENT SITUATION

Mr. David MacDonald (Egmont) moved:

That in the opinion of this House, the government's abandonment of its commitment to develop strong regional economies and its failure to give priority to regional needs in designing national fiscal, transport, energy and trade policies has resulted in a crisis of economic stagnation and unprecedented unemployment in Quebec and the Atlantic provinces.

He said: Mr. Speaker, there has been such day to day concern about the basic fabric and future of this country among Canadians that those who live outside the five eastern provinces tend to overlook the existence of a deepening and widening crisis with respect to the lives and, indeed, the possibilities open to those who live in Atlantic Canada and Quebec. This debate is about Quebec and the Atlantic provinces, presently in the grip of record unemployment and economic stagnation, two regions which would not be in such a position today had the government gone even halfway toward living up to its promise of the late sixties to eradicate regional economic and social disparities.

This debate is about regional development. It is not about the Department of Regional Economic Expansion because the indifferent record of DREE in implementing lasting solutions to what the Economic Council of Canada has described as intolerable levels of disparity across Canada is only one aspect of the government's sad abandonment of this country's have-not regions and their aspirations. This debate is about the indifference, callousness, insensitivity and forgetfulness shown with regard to the legitimate economic needs of Quebec and