Oral Questions

Hon. John Roberts (Secretary of State): Mr. Speaker, I have, of course, seen newspaper reports speculating as to the salary mentioned by the hon. member. I do not know whether the stories are accurate.

An hon. Member: Find out.

Mr. Roberts: I am not sure I quite understood the last part of the question. If I can summarize it accurately, the question was whether I would take any steps to ensure the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation followed the principles or guidelines outlined by the Commons committee. I can tell the hon. member that I have drawn to the attention of the CBC the committee's comments on its operations. I have discussed different ways in which budgetary restraint would apply to the CBC and what its effects might possibly be.

LOTO CANADA

PURCHASING ARRANGEMENTS FOR LOTO SELECT PROGRAM

Mr. Perrin Beatty (Wellington-Grey-Dufferin-Waterloo): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of State for Fitness and Amateur Sport: again it relates to the question of the government's attempt to set up the Loto Select program.

On Tuesday of this week, the minister admitted that losses so far in the Loto Select program totalled between \$2 million and \$3 million. Can the minister indicate, for the benefit of the House, whether in fact Loto Select signed a \$5 million contract in September with Addressograph-Multigraph corporation to build machines to be used in printing dealers' names on the tickets, and that the plan was killed one month later, with possible cancellation costs to the Canadian public of up to \$1 million? Can the minister indicate whether that figure was included in her \$2 million to \$3 million figure of losses to date tabled on Tuesday?

Hon. Iona Campagnolo (Minister of State (Fitness and Amateur Sport)): Mr. Speaker, as I have said in this House many times on this question, although not on this specific one related to Addressograph-Multigraph of Canada, Ltd., these are now being represented by legal counsel. So far as I know, they are not in the courts at this time. To reveal the facts and the figures the hon. member for Wellington-Grey-Dufferin-Waterloo wishes—

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mrs. Campagnolo: —in fact may have the effect of causing a greater amount to be paid than would be paid otherwise.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mrs. Campagnolo: I am sure the hon. member would not want that to be on his head.

Mr. Beatty: Mr. Speaker, I am not quite sure what the minister would like to have on her head. Will she confirm to

the House whether a contract was signed in September by Loto Canada with Addressograph-Multigraph, to the tune of \$5 million?

Can the minister tell the House whether a cancellation clause was included in that contract? If so, what were the terms of that cancellation clause? If she will not tell the House, will she at least tell us whether she is hiding also in this instance behind a so-called secrecy clause which prevents her from coming clean with the Canadian public?

Mrs. Campagnolo: No, I am not, Mr. Speaker. I think the hon. member knows that under section 66 of the Financial Administration Act, a Crown corporation is accountable to the people of Canada through a minister in the House. I have undertaken to provide that accountability. I will do so at the appropriate moment. I cannot do so now, even though I would like very much to be able to supply the answers requested by the hon. member. But to do so would jeopardize the negotiations taking place at this time.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

HIGHWAYS

CONSTRUCTION OF OVERPASS IN WINNIPEG, MAN.

Mr. Dan McKenzie (Winnipeg South Centre): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Transport. The federal government indicated that it will grant \$4 million to assist the city of Winnipeg in building the Sherbrook-McGregor overpass spanning the CPR marshalling yards. Also, the Canadian Transport Commission has approved the overpass.

Can the minister inform us when the grant will be provided, as there is some urgency because the two bridges in operation now over the tracks, the Arlington and the Salter, are in a state of deterioration and weight restrictions are in effect?

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, the hon. member has not stated the facts accurately. In addition to approval of the overpass by the Canadian Transport Commission, we have made it clear to Winnipeg and to Manitoba that the UTAP funds available to the province could be applied to the Sherbrook-McGregor overpass. We indicated that at this time we cannot supply additional federal funds other than those available through the UTAP program. It is completely in the the hands of Winnipeg and the province of Manitoba to move this project forward as quickly as possible.

Mr. McKenzie: Mr. Speaker, certainly that is not the information which has been relayed to the mayor. The council of the city of Winnipeg are in a state of confusion waiting for answers from the Department of Transport.

Has the Minister of Public Works vetoed the \$4 million going to the city of Winnipeg? Does the minister plan to discuss this matter further in cabinet to see if the \$4 million can be granted? Will the minister contact the mayor to let him