

[Text]

PAMPHLET "BUDGET 1981: WHAT IT MEANS FOR SMALL BUSINESS"

Question No. 4,127—**Mr. Baker (Nepean-Carleton):**

1. Is the Government mailing out brochures or pamphlets entitled "Budget 1981" to Canadian business firms and, if so (a) how many are being mailed (b) what are the mailing costs?
2. Are envelopes being used for the brochure and, if so, what is the cost?
3. What is the source of the list of firms and their respective addresses?
4. Is the list compiled from information filed in pursuance of the Income Tax Act and, if so, who has access to the list?
5. What is the statutory authority for the use of such information for government propaganda purposes?

Hon. Paul J. Cosgrove (Minister of State (Finance)): 1. The Government has mailed out approximately 202,000 brochures entitled "Budget 1981: What it Means for Small Business". The mailing costs of this brochure at 13 cents each were approximately \$26,260.

2. The brochures were mailed in kraft envelopes which cost approximately \$21 per 1,000 for a total cost of approximately \$4,250.

3. The list of firms with their respective addresses were randomly chosen by Revenue Canada.

4. The list was compiled from information filed in pursuance of the Income Tax Act. Revenue Canada officials have access to this list.

5. Appropriation Acts. Democratic accountability requires that the public understand policy changes. Thus, it is the government's responsibility to inform the public of policy changes which may affect them. The brochures mailed to small businesses are informational in nature and were designed to help correct much of the misunderstanding which has been prevalent in the small business community with respect to the 1981 budget provisions.

DRUG INFORMATION PACKAGE

Question No. 4,348—**Mr. Robinson (Burnaby):**

1. Did the Bureau of Dangerous Drugs in the Department of National Health and Welfare distribute to doctors throughout the country an information package entitled "Drug Abuse/Misuse is a Serious Problem" and, if so, on what date?
2. Who within the Bureau (a) conceived of (b) drew up the information package or any element of it?
3. Was the package submitted to or approved by the Canadian Medical Association or any other recognized, independent body in the medical field in Canada before it was released?
4. What was the total cost of (a) producing (b) distributing the package and is it still being produced and distributed?
5. How many packages were (a) produced (b) distributed?
6. Was the package distributed on a regional basis and, if so, what was the distribution?
7. (a) To whom was the package distributed (b) how many (i) doctors (ii) medical institutions (iii) hospitals (iv) other institutions, groups or persons in the medical field received the package?
8. Does the pamphlet "The Physician and Psychoactive Drugs", contained within the package, represent Government policy (b) what is the statutory or regulatory authority for the pamphlet?

Order Paper Questions

9. Did the Government receive any reaction to or comments about the package from the medical community or any other element in the public and, if so (a) what were the comments and did the Government respond to them (b) does the import of the comments generally favour or oppose the package or any element of it?

Hon. Monique Bégin (Minister of National Health and Welfare): 1. Yes, the Bureau of Dangerous Drugs of the Department of National Health and Welfare's Health Protection Branch began a phased distribution of the drug information package to medical practitioners, residents and interns in Canada between April and June, 1982.

2. (a) and (b) The senior personnel of the Bureau of Dangerous Drugs with input and concurrence from the Provincial Registrars of Medicine and the Canadian Medical Association.

3. See 2.

4. (a) Production costs, \$26,000; (b) distribution costs, \$28,000.

5. One printing only was made. Reprints may be considered depending on demand and follow-up assessment.

(a) 50,000 packages were produced. (b) 47,700.

6. The distribution plan provided for national mailings to the 40,000 medical practitioners. Regionalized distribution took place only to offices of medical registrars and certain hospitals where drop shipments could be made for distribution to the medical residents and interns.

7. (a) and (b) The packages are being distributed to the following: (i) Medical practitioners (to the end of May, 1982)—40,000; Hospital residents and interns (by mid-June, 1982)—4,000.

(ii) and (iii) The kit is not being distributed to hospitals except in cases where the Director of Programs agreed to distribute a drop shipment directly to the medical residents and interns serving at the hospital.

(iv) Two thousand seven hundred packages are being distributed among the Provincial Registrars of the Colleges of Physicians and Surgeons at their request for use as hand-outs to new medical registrants during the coming year. One thousand packages are being distributed to health related associations and internal use within Department of National Health and Welfare.

8. (a) Yes. The pamphlet "The Physician and Psychoactive Drugs" does represent long-standing Government policy in the area of distribution and use of mood-modifying prescription drugs. More specifically it contains guidelines for the issuing of prescriptions for psychoactive drugs, definitions of categories of drugs that require different procedures for issuing prescriptions and information concerning the ways in which both physicians and patients may avoid contributing to the abuse and misuse of psychoactive drugs.

(b) The pamphlet supports the established departmental policy of providing information to health practitioners regarding abuse/misuse of drugs and guidelines/interpretations regarding the drug regulations. Appropriation Acts. The authority for control over mood-modifying drugs is the Narcotic