

Oral Questions

and the RCMP, and 41,000 to be working in community-sponsored projects.

• (1440)

We will be sending out letters to Members of Parliament at the beginning of the week to give their constituency allocations. I can indicate that the minimum for those constituencies will be doubled over last year, all in recognition of the importance the Government places on getting back to the nation's business, which is putting people back to work.

Mr. Waddell: Students want jobs, but they also want an ethical Government.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Some Hon. Members: Oh, oh!

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THE ADMINISTRATION**CAPE BRETON COAL AGREEMENT—PAYMENTS MADE TO ALASTAIR GILLESPIE**

Mr. Ian Waddell (Vancouver-Kingsway): Madam Speaker, my next question is directed to the Prime Minister. I would ask him to follow the money in this situation. I wonder if he would note that in October, 1980, Mr. Gillespie was paid \$30,000 as a retainer, and \$600 per day. According to the documents which were released yesterday, that we did not have three years ago, Mr. A. W. Gillespie collected \$4,237.50 for work on the project, the Scotia Coal Synfuels Project, in January, 1981.

In view of the fact that he dealt with a former Deputy Minister, in view of the fact that he clearly received personal benefits—this was just the beginning and he will get some later—and in view of the fact that the program was changed for his benefit, would the Prime Minister please indicate to me and to other ordinary Canadians what is in these guidelines? Is this not a violation of the guidelines on Mr. Gillespie's part?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Madam Speaker, the Hon. Member has a document. Could he indicate by whom the money was paid to Mr. Gillespie?

Mr. Waddell: Well, yes, it was paid to the project and from the project which indirectly—

Some Hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Some Hon. Members: Who paid? Who paid?

Mr. Waddell: They are in the documents; read the documents.

Some Hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Waddell: Madam Speaker, I am quoting from the documents the Prime Minister tabled yesterday. What I am saying is that there were benefits paid to Mr. Gillespie—

Mr. Lalonde: By whom?

Mr. Waddell:—and there seems to be a change in the program when it was put to the Treasury Board after the officials noted that there was an obvious problem with Mr. Gillespie being a former Minister.

REQUEST THAT TREASURY BOARD MINUTES BE TABLED

Mr. Ian Waddell (Vancouver-Kingsway): Madam Speaker, I have a supplementary question. The Prime Minister can read the documents that he tabled; the documents are very helpful but they are not complete. Is he prepared to table before the House the real documents which will tell the real story, that is, the Treasury Board minutes of April, 1981, wherein the officials' objections were noted and the project was substantially changed so that they could launder the money to Gillespie?

ROLE OF ALASTAIR GILLESPIE

Hon. Elmer M. MacKay (Central Nova): Madam Speaker, I would like to pursue with the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources an answer which he gave me on Tuesday with respect to the role of Alastair Gillespie. He responded to me by saying:

—Mr. Gillespie's contribution was to persuade the various partners in this project—

And he mentioned the Government of Nova Scotia. However, he did not mention Petro-Canada or Devco. I want to ask him if he is familiar with the definition of lobby in the Oxford Dictionary, which is synonymous with "seek to persuade". With the benefit of that, persuade/lobby being synonymous, I would like to ask the Minister whether, on the basis of the memorandum which has already been referred to, he would not agree that the Province of Nova Scotia, whose desire to create jobs and to develop coal was evident, was used to wash the money through or shelter this project in a clumsy subterfuge to keep the guidelines from applying to Alastair Gillespie.

[*Translation*]

Hon. Jean Chrétien (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): Madam Speaker, unfortunately, I did not wade through the Oxford dictionary to find synonyms and definitions of "dog food". I shall, however, answer the Hon. Member's question regarding Mr. Gillespie's role, and I shall also be dealing with this a little later this afternoon. Mr. Gillespie initially had talks with the Nova Scotia Minister of Energy whom he met in April 1980. Subsequently there were several meetings with the Premier of Nova Scotia, which means that Mr. Gillespie started working with the people who would be initially funding the project, namely, the Government of Nova Scotia, and it was not until later on that he got in touch with the Federal Government and made representations for the implementation of a program that is open to everyone, and Mr. Gillespie did not receive any special privileges. He represented