

## Questions

processing operations in designated areas in order to qualify for the benefits under section 71A of the Income Tax Act. Of these, 89 new businesses have been issued certificates confirming the dates on which the firms have achieved acceptable levels of commercial production. Ontario, 53; Quebec, 22; remaining provinces, 14.

2. Disclosure of details of income tax returns by individual businesses is not permitted under the Income Tax Act.

\*VISIT TO PUERTO RICO BY B AND B  
COMMISSION STAFF

Question No. 1,623—**Mr. Rynard:**

1. Have any employees of the Royal Commission on Bilingualism and Biculturalism visited Puerto Rico on commission business and, if so (a) how many (b) what was the purpose of these trips (c) what was the cost involved?

2. Is there any connection between the Royal Commission on Bilingualism and Biculturalism and Puerto Rico and, if so, what is that connection?

**Mr. P. E. Trudeau (Parliamentary Secretary to Prime Minister):** I am informed by the royal commission as follows:

1. Two commissioners and one staff member joined HMCS *Bonaventure* on its recent exercises in the Atlantic, to observe the ship in action and discuss with the officers and men questions relevant to the commission's mandate. This experience was judged desirable by the Department of National Defence, the Royal Canadian Navy, and the royal commission as providing essential background and first hand experience of actual operating conditions for the further research information on the armed services being prepared by the commission's research staff.

The staff member accompanying the commissioners is a research employee in the commission's armed services research group, and was responsible for travel arrangements, liaison with the Department of National Defence and the Royal Canadian Navy, and for recording appropriate information on the experience. Costs were as follows: 2 commissioners, \$463 air fare, \$94.50 expenses. 1 staff member, \$152.70 air fare, \$126.95 expenses.

**An hon. Member:** What about high school?

**Mr. Trudeau:** The hon. member will have to speak louder; I did not hear him.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please.

**Mr. Trudeau:** Mr. Speaker, I cannot understand these remarks. Hon. members should [Mr. Drury.]

speak up if they wish to appear on the record. I cannot hear them.

**Some hon. Members:** Neither could anybody else. Please continue.

**Mr. Trudeau:** I am in no hurry. I cannot understand the hon. member, and I do not think he can understand himself.

2. The commission team joined HMCS *Bonaventure* in Puerto Rico where it was at harbour on March 20 and debarked at Halifax March 25 when the ship completed exercises. Otherwise there is no connection between the commission and Puerto Rico. The commissioners arrived approximately two hours prior to boarding, while the staff member arrived two days in advance to arrange administrative details.

CANADA ASSISTANCE PLAN

Question No. 1,639—**Mr. Coates:**

1. From what date will the proposed Canadian assistance plan be applicable to assistance schemes implemented by provincial governments?

2. What prior approval is necessary from the Department of National Health and Welfare in order for the provincial governments to qualify?

3. Have discussions been carried out by officials of the Department of National Health and Welfare with regard to the proposed Canada assistance plan and provincial schemes that would qualify for assistance and, if so, in what provinces and on what dates were the provincial schemes passed by the legislatures?

**Hon. A. J. MacEachen (Minister of National Health and Welfare):** 1. April 1, 1966.

2. The plan will provide for federal-provincial agreements under which the federal government will contribute to the costs of assistance and welfare services provided under provincial legislation listed in the agreements. The provincial programs covered will be those that provide for assistance and welfare services under term and conditions consistent with the Canada Assistance Plan.

3. Yes. Some provinces have legislation of the kind that the plan foresees. The Ontario legislature has before it legislation amending a number of welfare acts. The following provinces have adopted new legislation: Prince Edward Island: Welfare Assistance Act, Royal Assent, April 7, 1966. New Brunswick: Social Assistance Act, Royal Assent, June 10, 1966. Quebec: Medical Assistance Act, Royal Assent, March 31, 1966. Saskatchewan: Saskatchewan Assistance Act, Royal Assent, March 11, 1966. Alberta: Act to