

Questions

study of violence in television programming. The C.B.C. defined some years ago a general policy in this field for the guidance of its program officers. The Corporation has been and still is fully conscious of the problem.

Feature films and program series on a number of occasions have been refused because of their violent character. Assurances have been received from U.S. network officials, in informal discussions, that officers concerned with program standards and practices are under strict instruction to be on guard against the undue and unnecessary exploitation of violence in television programming. In the last new months, in the light of studies developed recently in America or abroad, a review of C.B.C. policy has been taking place.

***GANDER—ALLEGED DENIAL OF LANDING RIGHTS TO R.A.F.**

Question No. 2,110—Mr. McGrath:

Was the United Kingdom denied landing rights for RAF planes at Gander International Airport during the Anguilla affair and, if so, how long did this prohibition remain in effect?

Mr. Jean-Pierre Goyer (Parliamentary Secretary to Secretary of State for External Affairs): No, Mr. Speaker. Landing rights at Gander for British military aircraft, which derive from long standing reciprocal arrangements between Canada and Britain, were not denied to Britain during the Anguilla operation. However, it was indicated to the British government that the Canadian government would prefer that alternative arrangements be made, should this be possible.

COMMENTS ON CANCELLATION OF DON MESSER SHOW

Question No. 2,115—Mr. MacDonald (Egmont):

1. What amount of mail or number telephone calls has the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation received with respect to the cancellation of the Don Messer show and how much was (a) favourable (b) unfavourable?

2. What attempt was made to assess the importance to the viewing public of the Don Messer show prior to its cancellation?

3. In what way were the performers informed of the show's cancellation?

4. In light of public reaction, what provision is the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation making for either the resumption of the Don Messer show in its regular format or production of a new show with the same basic cast?

Hon. Gérard Pelletier (Secretary of State): I am informed by the C.B.C. as follows: 1.

Approximate total national mail and telephone calls as of May 1st:

	Favourable	Unfavourable
Mail	45	5200
Telephone Calls	45	1400

2. The week-by-week reactions of the viewing public to the Don Messer show, and indeed to all C.B.C. network programs, are kept under continuing study by the C.B.C. research department. In the case of the Don Messer program, one of the factors taken into consideration was the gradual decline in the size of the audience in recent years, particularly from mid-season on; another factor was the age structure of the Don Messer audience. This and other relevant information was fully reviewed prior to the show's cancellation.

3. Don Messer was informed of the network decision verbally by the producer in Halifax and by letter from the network office.

4. The decision already announced relates to the national network (English) only; possible alternatives are still being examined but no decisions regarding these have yet been reached.

WYNYARD, SASK.—LEASING OF OFFICE SPACE

Question No. 2,116—Mr. Burion:

1. Is the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development leasing office space in the Town of Wynyard and, if so, from whom is this space leased?

2. What is the amount of space being leased?

3. What is the term of the lease?

4. What is the amount of the lease rental and any other charges?

Hon. Arthur Laing (Minister of Public Works): 1. Yes, from Wynyard Stern Motors Ltd., 1370 Mathers Bay, Winnipeg, Manitoba.

2. 1610 square feet net.

3. Terms of lease: February 1, 1969 to January 31, 1970, and month to month thereafter.

4. Lease rental: \$3600. per annum (\$2.24 per sq. ft.); Other charges: Cleaning—\$125. monthly by a separate contract not with the Lessor. Electricity—\$13. monthly (approximate average).

APPLICATION OF INCOME TAX TO TRADE TOOLS

Question No. 2,126—Mr. Gleave:

Is the government considering designating the amount that a workman pays for his tools as deductible for income tax purposes in the following trades (a) automobile mechanics (b) carpenters and woodworkers (c) plumbers (d) miners?