

*Order Paper Questions*

In so far as Statistics Canada is concerned: 1. (iii)(a) 19, (b) 285.

2. (iii)(a) 19, (b) 285.

3. (iii)(a) 19, (b) 285.

4. (iii) To date: (a) 14 persons have passed the English course. 84 persons have passed the French course; (b) No person has failed the English course. 3 persons have failed the French course.

**\*BANKING PRACTICES**

Question No. 2,441—**Mr. Baker (Grenville-Carleton):**

Is the Minister of Finance aware of the practice that is developing in banking circles, notably with the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce, to change a system of cash withdrawals from chequing accounts in their banks from one using a cash withdrawal slip, for which no bank charge is made, to one where the bank requires customers cheques to be used for cash withdrawals, thereby causing a charge for this service to be made by the bank to its customers and, if not, would he investigate to see whether it contravenes the Bank Act, and would he communicate with the Chartered Banks of Canada requesting that they discontinue this practice.

**Mr. Jack Cullen (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Finance):** The Bank Act does not prescribe or regulate in detail the procedures of banks in the extension of services to their customers. The Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce has indicated that there has been no change in its practices or procedures regarding the use of withdrawal slips. Withdrawals on chequing savings accounts can be made free of charge at the branch of account. On personal chequing accounts it is and has always been the practice of the bank that a charge is made in respect of debit entries with no distinction between use of cash withdrawal slips or cheques.

**\*TARIFF POLICY—BOOKS AND PAPER**

Question No. 2,442—**Mr. Baker (Grenville-Carleton):**

1. Are books, periodicals, pamphlets or parts thereof, printed, bound, unbound or in sheets (excluding blank account books, copy books or books to be written or drawn upon) (a) in any other than the English language (b) in the English language admitted to Canada duty free under Tariff Items 17000-1 of Schedule A, Group 5, Pulp, Paper and books and, if so, for what reasons?

2. What are the reasons for any difference in policy in Parts 1 (a) and (b)?

**Mr. Jack Cullen (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Finance):** Mr. Speaker, this is a question put by the hon. member for Grenville-Carleton (Mr. Baker). The response is somewhat lengthy. I wonder if it might be taken as read?

**Mr. Baker (Grenville-Carleton):** Agreed.

**Mr. Speaker:** So ordered.

[*Editor's Note: The answer to the above question is as follows:*]

I am informed by the Departments of National Revenue and Finance as follows: 1. (a) Yes. Except advertising and printed matter as provided for in Tariff Item 17800-1. (b) No. With respect to the difference in policy as between (a)

[Mr. Sharp.]

and (b), please see reply to Part 2 by the Department of Finance.

2. It has been the policy of successive Canadian governments to allow duty-free entry for books, periodicals and pamphlets, or parts thereof, printed, bound, unbound, or in sheets in any other than the English language since the introduction of tariff item 17000-1 in 1939. In 1948, this item was internationally bound against increase under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade. Any decision to increase the rate of duty on bound goods would necessitate renegotiation with our trading partners who would ask for compensation under the terms of this agreement. Books in the English language from countries entitled to the British Preferential Tariff are duty-free. Many English language books are duty-free under the Most-Favoured-Nation Tariff. Generally speaking, the only books which are dutiable under the Most-Favoured-Nation Tariff are paperback and hard cover novels or works of fiction in the English language which attract a rate of 10 per cent. The duty on these books has been retained as protection for the Canadian printing and publishing industries. Reduction or removal of this duty could be considered in return for improved access to foreign markets, particularly the United States.

**\*INTERNATIONAL LOANS TO CHILE**

Question No. 2,453—**Mr. Fairweather:**

What position has Canada decided to take relative to the renegotiation of international loans to Chile by the so called "Club of Paris"?

**Mr. Herb Breau (Parliamentary Secretary to Secretary of State for External Affairs):** Mr. Speaker, since the answer to the question of the hon. member for Fundy-Royal is somewhat lengthy, could I table it and ask that it be taken as read?

**Mr. Speaker:** Does the House agree?

**Some hon. Members:** Agreed.

[*Editor's Note: The answer reads as follows:*]

The representatives of seven members of the Paris Club, including Canada, on May 6, 1975 reached agreement on a joint position regarding terms for the rescheduling of Chile's external debt falling due in 1975. The seven countries included all of Chile's major creditors with the exception of the United Kingdom. Subsequently and as agreed by representatives of the seven countries, the President of the Paris Club conveyed these proposals to a representative of the Government of Chile. The President also conveyed to this representative the concern of Club members regarding the question of human rights in Chile. The Government of Chile has accepted these overall terms. It is anticipated that as in the past, there will be bilateral negotiations between Chile and each of these seven countries to settle outstanding questions, such as the rate of interest to be paid on the rescheduled debt.