

## Questions

**Mr. Speaker:** Is this agreed?

**Some hon. Members:** Agreed.

[*Editor's Note: The answer referred to above follows.*]

The following material in response to this question is provided for the full fiscal year from April 1, 1971 to March 31, 1972, as this enables more accurate financial figures to be given.

(a) The following are actual allowance payments and costs for the purchase of training based on provincial estimates of cost, and excluding amounts paid to employers under the Training-in-Industry Program:

	Ontario	Quebec
Training costs	\$41,990,000	\$42,652,000
Allowance costs	44,788,000	55,267,000
Total costs	86,778,000	\$97,919,000

(b) The number of persons who were referred to training during 1971/72 was:

	Ontario	Quebec
Full time trainees	56,009	75,349
Part time trainees	1,111	34,298
Total trainees	57,120	109,647

(c) The variation in per diem training costs for the major program elements were the following, based on interim payments to the provinces:

	Ontario	Quebec
Basic Training for Skill Development	7.00	4.65
Language	7.00	7.88
Skill	9.00	8.56

The above figures may change when audits are made as final payments to the provinces are based on actual incurred costs.

(d) Variations in per diem training costs are due to a variety of factors including teachers' salaries, cost of facilities, class size etc.

(e) The variation in allowance costs per day of training provided is the following:

Ontario	Quebec
\$9.53	\$9.73

(f) Variations in allowance costs per day of training are due to differences in rates, the mix of trainees receiving allowances in different dependency categories, the percentage of trainees receiving allowances and other factors. The maximum and minimum rates at which allowances are payable are established in the AOT Act; The actual rates payable in any province are the subject of an annual consultation with the province concerned.

## RED ENSIGNS

**Question No. 446—Mr. Diefenbaker:**

1. How many Red Ensigns were in the possession of the Department of Public Works on the date the present flag came into existence?

[Mr. Perrault.]

2. How many since have been disposed of to organizations or private individuals?

3. How many are still on hand?

**Hon. Jean-Eudes Dubé (Minister of Public Works):** Mr. Speaker, the reply is in three parts. First, on February 15, 1965, the date that the Parliament of Canada proclaimed the Canadian flag for use in Canada and abroad as the distinctive symbol of this country, there existed in the Department of Public Works stock a supply of 11,616 Red Ensigns, most of which were in used and damaged condition. There were in addition a supply of some 8,000 in the stock of the former Department of Defence Production.

In anticipation of requests for the Red Ensign by organizations and individuals wishing to use them for indoor display as historic mementoes, a directive was issued to preserve a reasonable number for this purpose. Used flags were destroyed by fire in 1967 in the accepted and traditional manner. After an appropriate interval to determine the demand for Red Ensigns for mementoes a number were declared surplus and destroyed in the same manner in December 1971 and early January 1972.

2. The remaining stock has been reduced by responding to requests from deserving organizations and individuals. In the period of approximately seven years, some 1,860 flags have been distributed.

3. At the present time, requests average about 20 per year and 749 unused Red Ensigns remain in stock and will continue to be used for this purpose. At the present rate of demand, this stock will not be depleted for a good number of years.

## SITUATION IN NORTHERN IRELAND

**Question No. 469—Mr. Robinson:**

Has Canada been asked by Northern Ireland, the Irish Republic and/or the IRA to mediate in any way the situation in Northern Ireland?

**Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs):** The situation in Northern Ireland is an internal responsibility of the British Government and the Canadian Government has not been asked to mediate. However, during the visit to Ottawa of the Foreign Minister of Ireland in February, we agreed to pass on to the British Government some of his observations on the situation as we had passed on to him comments made to us by the British Government.

## IRISH REPUBLICAN ARMY

**Question No. 470—Mr. Robinson:**

Has the government requested the Irish Republic to exert some control and responsibility over the IRA?

**Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs):** The Canadian Government has not requested the Government of the Republic of Ireland to exercise control and responsibility over the IRA. This is an internal affair of the Irish Government.