

Order Paper Questions

Hon. Allan J. MacEachen (Secretary of State for External Affairs): 1. A list of companies was prepared on the basis of competence and normal professional standards from all those registered with CIDA. The criteria for selection were professional qualifications, relevant and related past experience, availability of expertise, ability to undertake the work, overseas experience and language requirements. The list of five companies was presented to the SSEA with CIDA's recommendations for his approval. The contractor was selected on the basis of best price and ability to meet the tender requirements.

2. (a) (i) Within the financial limits of the project, no proposal call is required. The firm of Beauchemin, Beaton, Lapointe was selected. (ii) Canadian Comstock, Dominion Bridge. (b) Canadian Comstock was the successful bidder.

3. Yes.

4. No.

5. Records of visits or travel by CIDA and/or Department of External Affairs members are not maintained by project as travel is related to overall programs involving several specific areas of interest, and records are normally kept on this basis. Travel costs by CIDA and/or Department of External Affairs members are not charged to project funds.

6. Only Canadian citizens or landed immigrants may be employed on CIDA projects under normal circumstances. There is, however, no record of the number employed, as this information is not required for purposes of payment. Payments are made relative to the specific performance within the scope of work and the payment budget or, according to approved rates by discipline and total time worked, depending on the contract. The actual number of individuals employed is the prerogative of the consultant or contractor.

PRAIRIE FARM ASSISTANCE ACT

Question No. 3,293—**Mr. Murta:**

Are there any exceptional circumstances to explain the reason that, in the last year of existence of the Prairie Farm Assistance Act (crop year 1973-1974), benefits paid totaled \$524,880.50 and administration expenses totaled \$486,741.97 and, if so, what are they?

Hon. E. F. Whelan (Minister of Agriculture): There were exceptional circumstances involved relative to the benefits paid and the administrative expenses incurred by the Prairie Farm Assistance Administration for the crop year 1973-74 as indicated in the 1973-74 Report of Activities under the Prairie Farm Assistance Act. The costs of the Prairie Farm Assistance Administration of \$486,741.97 in 1973 include the cost of salaries of all permanent employees of the administration, amounting to \$372,049.32. These permanent employees of the Prairie Farm Assistance Administration were responsible for the operation of the Grassland Incentive Program involving payments to producers amounting to \$16.8 million, as well as the operation of the Prairie Farm Assistance Program.

[Mr. Paproski.]

FUNDS TO THE INTERNATIONAL CUP WORLD AMATEUR BASEBALL TOURNAMENT

Question No. 3,329—**Mr. Howie:**

Did the government grant funds to the International Cup World Amateur Baseball Tournament held in New Brunswick and Quebec in August 1975 and, if so, have any more funds been requested or offered?

Hon. Marc Lalonde (Minister of National Health and Welfare): A contribution of \$50,000 was made to the 1975 Intercontinental Cup Amateur Baseball Corporation to assist in defraying the costs of accommodation for participants in the August tournament held in Fredericton, New Brunswick and Montreal, Quebec. A request for a further contribution has been received. This request is currently under consideration by the Fitness and Amateur Sport Branch of the Department of National Health and Welfare.

REVIEW OF FINANCIAL STRUCTURE OF CNR

Question No. 3,503—**Mr. Fortin:**

Did CNR and the government hold talks in order to review the financial structure of CNR and, if so, with what results?

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Transport): Informal discussions have been held frequently over the last number of years, but to date no conclusions or decisions have been reached.

INVESTIGATION—SOCIETY FOR THE STUDY OF THE HERITAGE OF CANADA

Question No. 3,601—**Mr. Brisco:**

Is the RCMP investigating the Society for the Study of the Heritage of Canada and, if so, what progress has been made towards determining if there were any legal irregularities involved in the Society's operation?

Hon. Warren Allmand (Solicitor General): An investigation is currently underway; however, it would be premature to comment on any legal irregularities at this time.

MANPOWER AND IMMIGRATION—LAWYERS RETAINED IN VICTORIA, B.C. CONSTITUENCY

Question No. 3,628—**Mr. McKinnon:**

1. What were the names and addresses of all lawyers and law firms in the Constituency of Victoria, British Columbia who performed services for the Department of Manpower and Immigration during 1973 and 1974?

2. By year, what was the total amount paid to each?

Hon. Robert K. Andras (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): (Reply pertains to all lawyers and law firms not performing services to Manpower and Immigration through Justice Department.) 1 and 2. Nil.