

accommodation is available and a delay in arrival is not acceptable, or (b) when travel is within a country or between countries where economy class air travel may present health hazards or discomfort to the employee, or (c) when in exceptional circumstances, such as for reasons of protocol, an employee officially accompanies another person travelling first class.

A deputy minister may authorize first class travel if, in his opinion, it is appropriate to do so.

2. Paragraph 2.02 of the Treasury Board Travel Directive—Revised Edition, August 1974 states in part:

Wherever possible the Canadian Government Central Travel Service shall be used to arrange travel reservations . . . therefore: The employee, authorized to travel on government business, obtains a travel number from his department. The employee makes the reservations, using the travel number, through the Government's Central Travel Service (CTS). Following the journey, CTS is billed by the carrier and makes payment. CTS charges the department for the service it has rendered.

#### PICKERING AIRPORT—COST OF PUBLIC RELATIONS

Question No. 2,706—**Mr. Beatty:**

What is the total amount of money currently expected to be spent on the public relations campaign for the Pickering Airport and what are the component costs involved?

**Mr. Cliff McIsaac (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Transport):** (1) CNE Exhibit, \$10,000; (2) Brochure, \$20,000; (3) 35-mm Filmstrip, \$3,000; (4) Staffing, \$6,000; Total, \$39,000.

#### PASSPORT OFFICE—PRACTICE IN DESCRIBING PLACE OF BIRTH

Question No. 2,774—**Mr. Kaplan:**

What is the practice of the Passport Office in describing the place of birth of individuals born in the Baltic States (a) before 1939 (b) after 1939?

**Hon. Allan J. MacEachen (Secretary of State for External Affairs):** The place name and name of country inscribed in the passport will normally be that which the applicant has provided in his application.

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#### QUESTIONS PASSED AS ORDERS FOR RETURNS

##### CONTRACTS AWARDED BY TORONTO, HAMILTON AND MONTREAL HARBOUR COMMISSIONS

Question No. 1,538—**Mr. MacKay:**

1. (a) What contracts were awarded by the Toronto Harbour Commission during each year 1968 to 1974 (b) what was the amount of each contract (c) what was the name and address of the successful contractor in each case?

2. (a) What contracts were awarded by the Hamilton Harbour Commission during each year 1968 to 1974 (b) what was the amount of each contract (c) what was the name and address of the successful contractor in each case?

3. (a) What contracts were awarded by the Montreal Harbour Commission during each year 1968 to 1974 (b) what was the amount of each

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contract (c) what was the name and address of the successful contractor in each case?

Return tabled.

#### DEFENSIVE DRIVER'S COURSE

Question No. 2,276—**Mr. Reynolds:**

1. How many government employees are taking a defensive driver's course?

2. What is the cost of such course to the (a) government (b) public servant taking the course?

3. For which departments do they work?

Return tabled.

#### CLAIMS MADE BY ARMENIANS WHO IMMIGRATED TO CANADA BETWEEN 1919 AND 1928

Question No. 2,421—**Mr. Gauthier (Roberval):**

Does the government have any information on claims made by Armenians who immigrated to Canada between 1919 and 1928 relating to personal belongings which were left in Turkey and, if so (a) how many claims were made (b) how many reimbursements were made (c) what action did the government take to do justice to these new Canadians?

Return tabled.

**Mr. Speaker:** Shall the remaining questions be allowed to stand?

**Some hon. Members:** Agreed.

**Mr. Diefenbaker:** On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, I find it difficult to understand the delays which are taking place. The answer that is given to a starred question which has been on the order paper for two months seems to be deliberately vague and intended to conceal the actual facts. Then again, I refer to question 2,542: I asked whether Canadians employed by the United Nations or any of its agencies or any organizations under its aegis are subject to income tax on their earnings. To take two months to refuse to answer a question such as that indicates an intentional desire to conceal the facts. If this government does not know whether income tax is imposed upon Canadians who are in any way attached to the United Nations, and cannot answer this question after two months, then I can only say it is time for a revamping of the Department of National Revenue and of the government as a whole.

● (1520)

**Mr. Forrestall:** Mr. Speaker, like the right hon. gentleman I, too, rise on a point of order with respect to what seems to be unnecessary delay in responding to written questions. I refer to questions placed on the order paper on January 27, some five months ago. They are relatively simple, straightforward questions to which there appears to be no reason whatever for failure of the government to answer. I wonder whether the parliamentary secretary would also take note of questions 1,331 and 1,332 which have been standing on the order paper since late January.