

Export Development Act

[English]

Mr. Evans: I ask, Madam Speaker, that the remaining questions be allowed to stand.

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[Translation]

QUESTIONS PASSED AS ORDERS FOR RETURN

Mr. John Evans (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): Madam Speaker, if questions No. 4,557 and No. 4,663 could be made orders for return, those returns would be tabled immediately.

Madam Speaker: The questions enumerated by the Hon. Parliamentary Secretary have been answered. Is it the pleasure of the House that questions No. 4,557 and No. 4,663 be deemed to have been made orders for return?

Some Hon. Members: Agreed.

[Text]

CHAIRMAN OF CANADIAN DAIRY COMMISSION

Question No. 4,557—**Mr. MacKay:**

1. Since his appointment to the office of Chairman of the Canadian Dairy Commission, did Mr. G. Choquette undertake travel abroad and, if so, in each case (a) what was the date of departure from and return to Canada (b) what was the routing and final destination and what were the stopovers (c) what was the (i) mode of transportation (ii) name of the carrier, including whether it was a charter or government-owned aircraft (iii) class of ticket used (d) what was the cost of transportation and the total cost (e) what was the purpose (f) what were the names of persons accompanying Mr. Choquette?

2. Since the appointment of Mr. Choquette, did the staff of the Canadian Dairy Commission undertake travel abroad and, if so, in each case, what was the (a) name and job title of the official (b) date of departure from and return to Canada (c) routing and final destination and what were the stopovers (d) mode of transportation (e) name of the carrier, including whether it was a charter or a government-owned aircraft (f) class of ticket used (g) cost of transportation and the total cost (h) purpose of the trip?

3. In the past three fiscal years and in the fiscal year 1982-83, by year, what was the travel budget of the Canadian Dairy Commission and what was the actual expenditure for travel?

Return tabled.

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE

Question No. 4,663—**Mr. Munro (Esquimalt-Saanich):**

1. While on government business, did the Minister of Agriculture accumulate a travel bill of \$156,903 for the fiscal year 1981-82 and, if so, was this an increase of approximately \$47,000 from the Minister's travel bill for the fiscal year 1980-81?

2. Does this figure include the travel costs of any ministerial assistants or officials from the Department of Agriculture who accompanied the Minister in his travels and, if not, what were their travel bills?

3. (a) To what functions and/or for what reasons did the Minister travel in 1982 (b) what modes of transportation did he use (c) in what class of accommodation did he travel?

Return tabled.

[Translation]

Mr. Evans: I would ask, Madam Speaker, that the remaining questions be allowed to stand.

Some Hon. Members: Agreed.

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

[English]

EXPORT DEVELOPMENT ACT

MEASURE TO AMEND

The House resumed consideration of Bill C-110, to amend the Export Development Act, as reported (with amendments) from the Standing Committee on Finance, Trade and Economic Affairs; and Motion No. 1 (Mr. Blenkarn).

Mr. Gordon Taylor (Bow River): Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased today to have the opportunity to speak to the amendment to this Bill. This amendment shows faith in free enterprise, and through the appointment to the board of largely non-civil servants it is paying tribute to the free enterprisers of this country.

The Hon. Member for Kootenay West (Mr. Kristiansen), a member of the NDP, spent practically his full ten minutes just before lunch projecting that the PC Government after the next election would use this section for patronage purposes. The New Democratic Party has been in bed so long with its Liberal counterpart that it has become inhibited by patronage disease. My only comment to members of the New Democratic Party and members of the Liberal Party is expressed in the words of the poet who wrote: "All is yellow to the jaundiced eye".

I want to deal with the real reason own Party wants to change this section of the Bill. The Bill will provide the Government with an open cheque to appoint whoever the Government would like to appoint. It could appoint only public servants. I realize there are some excellent public servants, but there are also some real duds. If we are to have this corporation at all, I think the people on its board should have some knowledge of business and know something about the export and import business, not someone who has lived in the shelter of the Public Service all his life. Public servants may have a lot of book knowledge, but most of them have never had to meet payrolls or find ways and means of keeping businesses going. Their pay cheques have come from the Government at the end of each month over their years of service. To appoint such individuals to a board of directors to handle export business would be suicidal as far as improving export business in Canada is concerned.

● (1510)

First let me indicate that we need people on the board of directors who have some knowledge of business, have had to meet payrolls and know that a business needs something