

Questions

Mr. A. B. Patterson (Fraser Valley): Mr. Speaker, I just want to assure you and the members of the house that we share in the expression of sympathy to Mr. St. Laurent and the members of his family in the severe loss they have suffered. Our prayers and best wishes go out to them.

[Translation]

Mr. Jean-Paul Racine (Beauce): Mr. Speaker, I join with the previous speakers to offer my heart-felt sympathy to Right Honourable Louis St. Laurent following the death of his wife. She was born a Renault, in the county of Beauce and she is a sister of the former minister of trade and industry and member of the legislature for Beauce. With all those who did so before me, I offer my sympathy to Right Hon. Louis St. Laurent and his family.

Mr. Gérard Duquet (Quebec East): Mr. Speaker, as representative for the riding of Quebec East, which Right Hon. Louis St. Laurent represented with such great dignity in the house for 15 years and as a voter in Quebec East, I had the pleasure and the great honour of knowing Mr. and Mrs. St. Laurent very well. The affability and great spirit of charity which characterized Mrs. St. Laurent were well known in Quebec East.

I would like, on behalf of the voters of Quebec East, who, I am sure, are deeply grieved by the passing of this distinguished lady, and on my own behalf, to join with the hon. members of this house who have offered their sympathy to Mr. St. Laurent and his family.

[English]

BROADCASTING, FILMS AND ASSISTANCE TO THE ARTS

CONCURRENCE IN TENTH REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

Mr. Jean Berger (for Mr. Stanbury) moved that the tenth report of the standing committee on broadcasting, films and assistance to the arts, presented to the house on Thursday, November 10, be concurred in.

Motion agreed to.

CIVIL SERVICE ACT AMENDMENT

MEASURE TO ENSURE STATUTORY RIGHT TO REMUNERATION

Hon. R. A. Bell (Carleton) moved for leave to introduce Bill No. C-244, to amend the Civil Service Act.

Some hon. Members: Explain.

[Mr. Douglas.]

Mr. Bell (Carleton): Mr. Speaker, prior to 1961 the payment of civil servants salaries was an act of grace on the part of the crown. The new Civil Service Act of that year for the first time gave to all public servants the statutory rights to receive pay determined in accordance with the act.

• (3.00 p.m.)

This bill is designed to make genuinely effective this statutory right to pay, and to relieve public servants of dependence upon the solution of parliamentary crises. The bill was placed on the order paper prior to the Prime Minister's feat of fiscal legerdemain, a feat which emphasizes the need to protect public servants from political or parliamentary manoeuvre.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear.

Motion agreed to and bill read the first time.

QUESTIONS

(Questions answered orally are indicated by an asterisk.)

CANCELLATION OF HIGH ALTITUDE RESEARCH PROJECT

Question No. 1,959—**Mr. Reid:**

Has the government cancelled the High Altitude Research Project and, if so (a) on what date (b) what were the reasons for this decision?

Hon. C. M. Drury (Minister of Industry): The answer to the first part of this question is covered in the reply to Question No. 1,960.

With reference to the second part of the question, the reasons for discontinuing financial support after June 30, 1967, are (1) financial support was initiated in 1964 under the Defence Export Development Vote in the hope that it would lead to substantial exports of equipment manufactured by Canadian industry to U.S. Defence Agencies. When it became apparent that this expectation would not be realized, it was necessary to terminate support in accordance with the limitations of our financial authority; (2) extension of support until June 30, 1967, provides transitional assistance for the scientific team of the McGill Space Research Institute while the university works toward placing the Institute on a self sustaining basis.

PARTNERS IN HIGH ALTITUDE RESEARCH PROJECT

Question No. 1,960—**Mr. Reid:**

1. Who were the government's partners in the High Altitude Research Project?
2. When were they notified of the government's intention to withdraw?