

*Oral Questions***COMMUNICATIONS**

SUBCOMMITTEE STUDY OF SEXUALLY ABUSIVE BROADCASTING

Mr. Geoff Scott (Hamilton-Wentworth): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the President of the Privy Council. In view of the fact that a special subcommittee on sexually abusive broadcasting went into limbo at the conclusion of the last session of Parliament on December 6, and since I can assure the President of the Privy Council that every member of the Standing Committee on Communications and Culture wants to see that subcommittee reactivated at once, would he give his commitment to the House to deal with whatever technicality is necessary to get that subcommittee, which is so very important to many Canadians, back into action?

Hon. Yvon Pinard (President of the Privy Council): Mr. Speaker, I take due note of the representations made by the Hon. Member. He understands that the committee is master of its own decisions.

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EMERGENCY MEASURES

FALL-OUT SHELTERS—GOVERNMENT POLICY

Mr. G. M. Gurbin (Bruce-Grey): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of National Defence. In 1981, Emergency Planning Canada published a booklet entitled "Eleven Steps to Survival". In the booklet there is advice on how to avoid the effects of nuclear bomb explosions, including the advice which says "a fall-out shelter is the best way to protect you and your family". Is it government advice and policy that every Canadian should have a fall-out shelter and emergency supplies in the event of a nuclear catastrophe?

Hon. J.-J. Blais (Minister of National Defence): Mr. Speaker, as I understand it, that booklet was issued by Emergency Planning Canada. That comes under the responsibility of the President of the Privy Council.

Mr. Speaker: The Hon. Member for Calgary West.

Mr. Gurbin: A supplementary.

Mr. Speaker: Will the Hon. Member bear in mind the numbers on his side who are seeking to be recognized?

PROTECTION AGAINST NUCLEAR CATASTROPHE

Mr. G. M. Gurbin (Bruce-Grey): Mr. Speaker, my supplementary question is directed to the President of the Privy Council. I would like him to answer the first question I asked of the Minister of National Defence. Is it government advice and policy that every Canadian have a fall-out shelter to protect them against a nuclear catastrophe? If that is not his policy, how would he rationalize the provision of fall-out shelters and the expensive special measures that have been taken to protect a very elite and special group within Govern-

ments and the Civil Service in the event of a nuclear explosion?

Hon. Yvon Pinard (President of the Privy Council): Mr. Speaker, the policy of the Government of Canada is to provide Canadians with the best protection possible in all situations of major disasters in the country, obviously including a nuclear disaster.

I have said before that it is unlikely that many Canadians would survive a catastrophic nuclear disaster. That is why we believe it is even more important to support those like the Prime Minister of Canada who are trying their best to make sure that the great powers sit down together and talk about disarmament. That is the best defence possible. But that does not prevent us from trying to bring the best protection possible to the country for those, if any, who would survive a catastrophic nuclear disaster.

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FINANCESPECIAL EMPLOYMENT INITIATIVES PROGRAM—TELEX
REFERRING INQUIRIES TO MINISTER'S OFFICE

Mr. Jim Hawkes (Calgary West): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Prime Minister. He will recall that a couple of days ago we were raising the issue of the special employment initiatives projects. My office has been phoning Manpower offices across the country during the last couple of days to find out information about it. No one returns our calls. In fact we have discovered that there was a telex sent after Question Period on Tuesday, telling people to refer matters to the Minister's office only. It smacks of a cover-up. Was the Prime Minister involved in the decision to send that telex, or were officials from the Prime Minister's office involved in the decision to send that telex?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, this is the first I hear of that alleged telex. Once again, I put to the Hon. Member my same sense of astonishment. They want the Ministers to be involved. When the Ministers are involved, they complain. They blame the Minister of National Revenue for not involving himself enough, and they blame other Ministers for involving themselves too much. I do not understand the track of mind that is being followed.

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CANADA POST CORPORATION

DELIVERY TESTING SYSTEMS

Mr. Don Blenkarn (Mississauga South): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister responsible for Canada Post. He will be aware that we have raised the question of the phoney NEPS testing of mail certified delivery that has been used to give the impression to the public that mail in Canada is delivered on time. He may be aware that another testing