

Mr. Speaker: Is it the pleasure of the House to adopt the said motion?

Motion agreed to.

Mr. Baker (Grenville-Carleton): Mr. Speaker, there was a bill introduced just a few moments ago by the Minister of Finance and it was given first reading. Is there a time problem with respect to that bill?

Mr. Sharp: Yes, Mr. Speaker. I want to have a discussion with the House leaders about the opening of the discussion on second reading. As the House is aware, we have a number of opposition days: tomorrow, next Tuesday, next Friday, and in the following week I think there are several before we reach the date for the end of this semester. I will want to talk with the House leaders about when might be an appropriate time to open the debate. I indicated that on Monday we would resume consideration of second reading of Bill C-68. It probably cannot be finished on Monday, and probably will have to be resumed on Wednesday at the opening, for a short time. Then we could go back to Bill C-83.

However, I should perhaps enter the caveat that if, as a result of discussions, it is deemed advisable to revert instead to the amendments to the Anti-Inflation Act, I would later indicate that intention. At the moment, however, I think it is better to indicate that we will revert to Bill C-83.

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QUESTIONS ON THE ORDER PAPER

(Questions answered orally are indicated by an asterisk.)

Mr. J.-J. Blais (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): Mr. Speaker, the following questions will be answered today: Nos. 4,035, 4,063, 4,077, 4,079, 4,084, 4,100, 4,101, 4,140 and 4,141.

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

[Text]

WINTER WORKS PROGRAM—CARETAKERS' WAGES

Question No. 4,035—**Mr. Hnatyshyn:**

Will the government give consideration to making caretakers' wages allowable expenses under the Winter Works Programme, as outlined in the resolution passed at the Saskatchewan Urban Municipalities Association Convention in January 1976?

Mr. Jacques-L. Trudel (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Finance): Under the Winter Capital Projects fund, portions of loans (equivalent to: 100 per cent in winter; or 50 per cent in summer of direct, on-site labour costs) can be forgiven and outstanding loan repayment obligations reduced accordingly. Loan forgiveness applies in respect of those on-site payroll costs directly related to construction activity. Caretakers' wages are considered to be an indirect or overhead cost and as such would not be an eligible forgiveness cost. Many loan arrangements have now been finalized according to established fund guidelines and federal-provincial agreements. It is not the gov-

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ernment's intention to modify the terms of these agreements at this time.

PUBLIC WORKS IN CONSTITUENCY OF ROBERVAL

Question No. 4,063—**Mr. Gauthier (Roberval):**

1. Between 1963 and 1975, did the Department of Public Works grant money for public works in the Constituency of Roberval and, if so, in what amount?

2. For each such grant, what was the (a) nature of the project (b) amount granted (c) municipality concerned?

Hon. C. M. Drury (Minister of Public Works): 1. We are unable to provide information prior to April 1, 1969 as the "General Records Disposal Schedules of the Government of Canada second Edition 1968"—amendment list No. 3, requires that financial records be kept for 6 complete years only. The Department of Public Works has made no grants for works in the constituency of Roberval between April 1, 1969 and December 31, 1975.

2. Not applicable.

LRC TRAINS

Question No. 4,077—**Mr. Gillies:**

Are there currently negotiations under way between the government and the American rail corporation Amtrak with reference to the possible purchase by the latter Corporation of light, rapid and comfortable (LRC) trains and, if not, will they begin in the near future?

Mr. Marcel Roy (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): The joint venture companies responsible for development of the LRC train have been in contact with Amtrak and will respond to a request for quotation when this is issued by Amtrak in the near future. The government is encouraging and supporting the joint venture in its efforts to sell LRC equipment to Amtrak but the government is not directly participating in the negotiations.

MAN-HOURS LOST BY LANGUAGE TRAINING IN PUBLIC SERVICE

Question No. 4,079—**Mr. Elzinga:**

In each department, by province, how many employable man-hours were lost for language training in the Public Service for (a) English (b) French language training for (i) 1970 (ii) 1971 (iii) 1972 (iv) 1973 (v) 1974 (vi) 1975?

Miss Coline Campbell (Parliamentary Secretary to Secretary of State): I am informed by the Public Service Commission as follows: During the years in question, 1970 to 1975, many different methods of language training have been used in the public service. These have included full-time and part-time training. Part-time training for an individual student may vary from a few hours a week up to 250 hours a year, and over a period of two to three years. Given this variety of methods and periods of training, the commission has not kept statistical records of individual man-hours involved; nor could it answer for the departments and agencies which engage in additional training on their own initiative. An attempt to answer this question would require a large amount of work and considerable cost by all of the departments and agencies of the public