

*World War I Veterans***THE CANADIAN ECONOMY****PURCHASE BY PETRO-CANADA OF PACIFIC PETROLEUMS SHARES—FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY OF GOVERNMENT**

Hon. Robert L. Stanfield (Halifax): Mr. Speaker, my question is to the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources, to make sure that I understand what he said earlier.

Is the minister saying, in connection with the Petro-Can purchase and the financial transactions involved, that there is absolutely no financial responsibility on the part of the federal government? Is he saying, not only that the federal government did not engage in any express guarantee, but that by virtue of Petro-Can being an agent of the government, and the implications of that under the Financial Administration Act, there is no financial responsibility on the government of Canada in connection with this transaction by way of guarantee or otherwise?

● (1502)

Hon. Alastair Gillespie (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): Mr. Speaker, I made it very clear that this was a commercial transaction. It was negotiated and financed by normal commercial instruments. There are no government guarantees.

Mr. Speaker: Orders of the day.

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VETERANS AFFAIRS**DINNER IN HONOUR OF WORLD WAR I VETERANS**

Mr. Stanley Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, with your kind permission there is a word I should like to say about a matter of which I gave Your Honour notice. It has been my privilege to attend a good many functions on Parliament Hill, but I must say I have seldom attended a function that was so delightful and so thoroughly enjoyed by those in whose honour it was given as the dinner given last Saturday evening by the Minister of Veterans Affairs (Mr. MacDonald) in honour of the 89 or 90 veterans of World War I who were in Ottawa over the Remembrance Day weekend.

The minister was a most gracious host, and the members of his staff went out of their way to see that everything was thoroughly arranged. I must also say that those 89 or 90 men really were touched when, at the end of the evening, each was given a special certificate with his name on it, signed by Her Majesty the Queen.

I felt there should be some mention of this in the pages of *Hansard*. In my view the Minister of Veterans Affairs and the staff of his department deserve full marks for what they did on Saturday evening.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

[Mr. LeBlanc (Westmorland-Kent).]

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[English]

LOTTERIES**TABLING OF MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING**

Hon. Iona Campagnolo (Minister of State (Fitness and Amateur Sport)): Mr. Speaker, under the provisions of Standing Order 41(2) I should like to table, in both official languages, a Memorandum of Understanding between nine provinces and the Government of Canada concerning future arrangements in government lotteries.

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[Translation]

QUESTIONS ON THE ORDER PAPER

(Questions answered orally are indicated by an asterisk.)

Mr. Yvon Pinard (Parliamentary Secretary to President of Privy Council): Mr. Speaker, the following questions will be answered today: 133, 156 and 376.

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

[Text]

LOTO CANADA**Question No. 133—Mr. Diefenbaker:**

What provisions were taken with respect to Loto Canada's draw for \$1 million in gold in order to ensure the integrity of the draw and (a) how was the winning number drawn (b) what was the date the number was drawn (c) were all the tickets to the draw distributed prior to the number being chosen?

Hon. Iona Campagnolo (Minister of State (Fitness and Amateur Sport)): Loto Canada's \$1 million gold draw was conducted by Roblet Inc., consulting engineers, with 2 amateur athletes to roll the dice. It followed standard Loto Canada procedures and its integrity was certified by:

a member of Samson Belair, external auditors;

a member of Blaney, Pasternak, Swela, public attorneys and Loto Canada's operational auditor.

(a) The winning number is drawn in the same manner as the intermediate and main draws: i.e. computer random selection.

(b) The Draw for the \$1 million in gold was drawn on October 6, 1978 at 6.30 p.m.

(c) Yes.

ARMED FORCES**Question No. 156—Mr. McKinnon:**

1. What was the actual strength of the (a) Regular (b) Reserve Forces as of October 1, 1978?

2. How many Armed Forces personnel as of October 1, 1978 were (a) male (b) female?