

*Motions for Papers*

**Mr. Douglas (Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands):** Mr. Speaker, may I direct the attention of the President of the Privy Council to the fact that the first eight questions on the Order Paper were all filed in October and here we are in the second week of June and they have not been answered. It seems to me inexcusable that these questions should remain on the Order Paper from the beginning of the session until almost the end of the session. If the government does not wish to answer these questions it should say so. Members cannot conduct the business of the House if they must wait months for answers to questions and then find that the House is about to close without these answers being given. May I ask whether these and many other questions which have been on the Order Paper for several months will be cleaned up before we recess at the end of the month?

**Mr. Forest:** Mr. Speaker, we are pressing for answers to all the remaining questions on the Order Paper. May I point out that up to date more than 85 per cent of the record number of all questions on the Order Paper have been answered.

**Some hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Mr. Skoberg:** Mr. Speaker, to be specific, question No. 131 was asked on October 23. I believe an answer could be provided without much difficulty. Again, question No. 133, which has been on the Order Paper since October 23, is merely an inquiry concerning whether an Arctic transportation task force has been established. Surely this does not involve too much research. Then there is question No. 244 of October 23 concerning outside consultant studies for various departments. Surely we should be able to expect answers before the end of June to some of these questions.

**Mr. Forest:** Mr. Speaker, I shall make inquiries, but we expect to file answers before the end of the session.

[*Translation*]

### **MOTIONS FOR PAPERS**

**Mr. Yves Forest (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council):** Mr. Speaker, notice of motion No. 465 is acceptable to the government, subject to the usual

[Mr. Orlikow.]

reservations concerning confidential papers and to the authorization of the government authorities concerned.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that the remaining Notices of Motions be allowed to stand.

[*English*]

**Mr. Speaker:** Subject to the reservations and conditions expressed by the Parliamentary Secretary, is it the pleasure of the House that Notice of Motion No. 465 be deemed to have been adopted.

**Some hon. Members:** Agreed.

CLOSURE OF POST OFFICES, SERATH AND GREGHERD, SASK.

Motion No. 465—**Mr. Burton:**

That an Order of the House do issue for a copy of all correspondence, reports, memoranda and other documents relating to the closure of post offices at Serath and Gregherd, Saskatchewan and the proposed establishment of an alternative rural route mail service.

Motion agreed to.

**Mr. Speaker:** Shall the remaining Notices of Motions stand?

**Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre):** Mr. Speaker will the Parliamentary Secretary give the same assurance and carry it through with regard to the remaining Notices of Motions for the Production of Papers?

**Mr. Forest:** Mr. Speaker, I can assure the hon. member we are making representations to the proper departments. May I point out that we have dealt with about 80 per cent of the Notices of Motions for the Production of Papers already.

**Mr. Skoberg:** Mr. Speaker, some two weeks ago I asked about Notice of Motion No. 32 which has been on the Order Paper since October 23 and was given some indication it would be dealt with by the Minister of Transport. The same situation exists in respect of many other Notices of Motions which date back to October and November. Surely these motions can be brought forward and dealt with.

**Mr. Burton:** Mr. Speaker, on December 19 I asked the government for copies of all correspondence between the government of Canada and the government of Nova Scotia regarding financial assistance for the Deuterium of Canada Limited heavy water plant at Glace Bay, Nova Scotia. It seems to me the government should have been able to give