

STRATFORD SHAKESPEAREAN FESTIVAL

ENGAGEMENT OF LANGSTON HUGHES— INQUIRY AND ANSWER

Hon. Jean-François Pouliot inquired of the Government, pursuant to notice:

Referring to the remarks of the Honourable Senator Quinn about the engagement of Langston Hughes at the Stratford Festival, as reported in the Senate *Hansard* of July 15 and 16, 1958—

1. Did the Stratford Festival authorities notify the Government that they had cancelled Langston Hughes' engagement?

2. Did the Government get any reaction from the Canada Council?

3. If so, what was it?

Hon. W. M. Aseltine: Honourable senators, the answer to the honourable gentleman's inquiry is as follows:

1. No.

2. No.

3. Answered by No. 2.

CANADA CONVERSION LOAN

INQUIRY AND ANSWER

Hon. Mr. Pouliot inquired of the Government, pursuant to notice:

1. What commission has been allowed by the Government of Canada for the sale of Canada Conversion Loan 1958?

2. Was it uniform?

3. If not, what was it and why were the commissions granted on a different percentage?

4. What is the total amount of the commissions granted by the Government for the said loan?

Hon. Mr. Aseltine: I have the following answer to the honourable gentleman's inquiry:

1. Commission: 3 per cent $3\frac{1}{4}$ year bonds, $\frac{1}{4}$ of 1 per cent; $3\frac{3}{4}$ per cent 7 year bonds, $\frac{1}{2}$ of 1 per cent; $4\frac{1}{4}$ per cent 14 year bonds, $\frac{3}{4}$ of 1 per cent; $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent 25 year bonds, 1 per cent.

No sales commission is payable in respect of bonds converted by the Bank of Canada, government accounts or chartered banks for their head office portfolios. Moreover, there is a list of about 2,500 names including all the large corporate investors in Canada who are being covered on a co-operative basis by the investment dealers under the direction of a national committee. In the case of conversions by these corporate investors, the rate of commission is one quarter of one per cent on the three and one-quarter year 3 per cent bond, and one half of one per cent on all other maturities.

2. No.

3. It has been customary for many years on new financing of the Government of Canada, of provinces and of corporations to establish selling commissions at rates varying directly with the period of time for which money is borrowed. Shorter-term issues tend to be distributed among fewer investors and

in larger average transactions than longer term issues of comparable size. The Conversion Loan of 1958 has been designed to produce a significant lengthening in the average term of the funded debt and the commission scale provides incentives which support this objective.

4. Since there is no way of determining the total amount of conversions which will be made into each of the four maturities, it is not possible to indicate what the total commissions will be.

CIVIL RIGHTS

INQUIRY AND ANSWER

Hon. Mr. Aseltine: Honourable senators, I have a reply to a question which was asked on August 5 by the honourable junior senator from Winnipeg (Hon. Mr. Wall). He referred to the legislation concerning a Bill of Rights and mentioned a statement made by the Prime Minister in 1955 having to do with the setting up of a joint committee of both houses to act as a watchdog over civil rights. He then asked if it was the intention of the Government to set up such a joint committee before proceeding with the introduction of the Bill of Rights.

The answer to that question is: No.

Both houses would have to be consulted. However, the idea is still considered good and has not been given up.

NATIONAL PAROLE BOARD

INQUIRY AND ANSWER

Hon. Mr. Aseltine: Honourable senators, I also have a reply to a question asked last Tuesday by the honourable Leader of the Opposition (Hon. Mr. Macdonald). He stated that in the press the other day he saw a dispatch to the effect that the Minister of Justice intends to call a meeting with provincial representatives to discuss the Fauteux Committee report. He also stated that he had noted on the Orders of the Day of the House of Commons that the Minister of Justice has a resolution to the effect that it is expedient to introduce a measure to establish a National Parole Board.

He asked if the Leader of the Government could inform the Senate whether it is the intention of the Minister of Justice to proceed with the resolution during this session and before the meeting above mentioned.

The answer to that question is that the Government is proceeding with the parole bill. The explanation of the fact that we are proceeding with the parole bill before the meeting with the provincial ministers to discuss the Fauteux Committee report is that the Fauteux Committee report makes certain