

QUESTIONS ON THE ORDER PAPER

(Questions answered orally are indicated by an asterisk.)

Mr. D. M. Collette (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): Madam Speaker, the following questions will be answered today: Nos. 84, 791, 941, 1,428, 1,536, 1,563 and 1,567. I would ask that the remaining questions be allowed to stand.

[Text]

FEATHERBED FILE

Question No. 84—**Mr. Cossitt:**

1. Where is the Featherbed file presently located and specifically, what is the exact municipal address along with the portion of the building at that address in which it is located?
2. What are the names of all persons who have access to the file?
3. What are the names of all persons who have had in any way whatsoever access to the file or any part of it in the past four years?
4. Has the RCMP shown the file or any parts thereof to any Solicitors General of Canada and, if so, what is their name?
5. What is the total number of names, individuals or any other entities mentioned in the file?

Hon. Bob Kaplan (Solicitor General): By the Ministry of the Solicitor General (Royal Canadian Mounted Police):

1. The Featherbed file is retained at RCMP Headquarters, 1200 Alta Vista Drive, Ottawa. The pinpointing of the repository of the file is not considered to be in the public interest.
2. It is not considered to be in the public interest to divulge the names of persons who have access to this file.
3. See reply to part 2.
4. I am acquainted generally with the Featherbed file and have been informed that previous Solicitors General may also have been familiar with its contents.
5. The policy of the RCMP is to preserve the confidentiality of all information it holds on individuals and organizations.

CONTAMINATION OF WATERS

Question No. 791—**Mr. de Jong:**

1. Did the Dieldrin levels in herring gulls and bloater chubs continue to increase in 1979?
2. Was the source of the PCBs currently contaminating the St. Lawrence by way of the Grass River isolated and, if so, what was the source?
3. Was action taken regarding the PCB contamination near Mississauga at the Gulf Oil of Canada outfall and, if so (a) what was it (b) was it cleaned up (c) were or are charges to be laid?
4. Was action taken to remedy the pollution caused by the E.B. Eddy Company near Espanola, Ontario and, if so, what was such action?
5. Is action being taken to ensure that the 49 per cent of industry, that is not meeting discharge standards, will comply with the standards and, if so, to what extent?
6. Will the government ensure that in the future, real honest figures are used when compiling statistics on discharge requirements?
7. Is Canada doing anything to limit the amount of phosphorous loading in the Great Lakes and, if so, to what extent?

Order Paper Questions

8. Is anything being done with regard to the amounts of photomirex in the environment and, if so (a) to what extent (b) is a study on the effects of this substance on humans being carried out?

Mr. D. M. Collette (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): I am informed by the Departments of the Environment and National Health and Welfare as follows: 1. No.

2. The New York department of environmental conservation has collected and analysed samples of water and sediments in the Grass River in an attempt to isolate the source. However, the results are inconclusive, therefore NYDEC is preparing a comprehensive sampling program which will cover the greater Massena area and will include water, sediment and fish analyses. This program will commence next spring.

3. (a) The matter being referred to likely relates to the discharge of phenols from Gulf Oil of Canada Ltd. and not PCBs.
- (b) At the request of the Ontario Ministry of Environment the company is preparing a report on control alternatives for this problem. As an interim measure, the company is diverting its effluents to the municipal sewage treatment plant during periods of high phenol discharge.
- (c) Prosecutions will be considered only if the company demonstrates an unwillingness to effect a permanent solution to this problem.

4. The E.B. Eddy Forest Products Ltd. pulp and paper mill in Espanola produces bleached and unbleached kraft pulp and kraft paper. It is in compliance with the biological oxygen demand (BOD) and suspended solids (SS) requirement of the federal pulp and paper liquid effluent guidelines. It does not meet the toxicity requirement. A provincial control order was issued in February, 1978, that requires the mill to reduce both air and water pollution. The company recently signed an agreement with the federal and provincial governments to modernize the Espanola mill. The federal and provincial governments will contribute \$25 million and the company will spend \$225 million. The control order has been redrafted to conform to the agreement. The mill will meet all federal and provincial environmental requirements by the end of 1983.

5. In 1975-76 85 existing mills were in compliance with the federal objectives for biochemical oxygen demand and 52 mills for total suspended solids. All the "new" mills covered by effluent regulations were in compliance. At the end of 1978, the number of mills had increased to 93 mills in compliance for biochemical oxygen demand, and 65 mills for total suspended solids. Based on written compliance schedules negotiated with companies, 71 per cent and 58 per cent of total production should meet the federal government objectives by 1986 for biochemical oxygen demand and total suspended solids respectively. In addition, the DREE Forest Industry Modernization Program has resulted in the submission of projects for many mills in Quebec and Ontario. These projects will result in improved environmental controls. In virtually all cases, if the projects are completed in the five-year span of the program, those mills will be meeting the federal requirements