

examining it. With respect to the question of guidelines respecting advertising which were promised within a few days, they were delivered within a few days. They are now a part of the Treasury Board policy manuals, a new chapter 485, I believe. They are available at any time. I am sure that one of the Pages will get them from the Library for the Hon. Member if he wants to read them.

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THE ADMINISTRATION

MINISTERIAL CONFLICT OF INTEREST GUIDELINES

Mr. Brian Tobin (Humber-Port au Port-St. Barbe): Mr. Speaker, it is pitifully easy to set a trap for a donkey. On April 24 the Prime Minister said that he had written to the Deputy Prime Minister asking him to review all of the guidelines with regard to Ministers of the Crown and their conduct, with a view to enhancing them and tightening them up. He said: "The Deputy Prime Minister has done that", and that those guidelines would be filed very shortly.

The Minister of Supply and Services has it wrong, as usual, and is trying to confuse the issue, as usual. We have been told that new guidelines had been prepared. We were promised on three different occasions—

Mr. Speaker: Question.

Mr. Tobin: I would be glad to provide a copy of *Hansard* where it says that the new guidelines respecting Ministers would be filed. I ask again, will the Government release those new guidelines to Hon. Members of Parliament today? And, if not today, when will they be tabled in this House?

Hon. Harvie Andre (Minister of Supply and Services): Mr. Speaker, there is a difference between the Hon. Member's first question and his second.

Mr. Nunziata: No, no. Wake up.

Mr. Boudria: It was slower; that's all.

Mr. Andre: The rodents should pick up their ears.

Mr. Tobin: Answer the question. It is a serious question.

Mr. Andre: The first question was a promise of guidelines within days. As I told the Hon. Member, the guidelines respecting advertising were promised within days and were delivered within days. In his supplementary question the Hon. Member said that the Prime Minister promised guidelines respecting Cabinet Ministers soon. They will be given soon.

Mr. Tobin: It's been a month.

Oral Questions

[Translation]

ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

CONTAMINATION BY PCBs—URGENT MEASURES THE GOVERNMENT INTENDS TO TAKE

Mr. Lorne Nystrom (Yorkton-Melville): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of the Environment. This morning, the Minister said there would be a federal-provincial conference on environmental problems in this country. However, a conference will not resolve the immediate and alarming problem existing in Quebec and the rest of Canada, the problem of PCB contamination. My question is as follows, and it is very specific: What is the Minister going to do now? What is she going to do right away to deal with a problem that is a potential danger to all Canadians?

Hon. Suzanne Blais-Grenier (Minister of the Environment): Mr. Speaker, I thank the Hon. Member of the New Democratic Party for his question. I believe there is a misunderstanding. The federal-provincial conference I called for the end of May will deal exclusively with the problem of PCBs.

REQUEST THAT FUNDS BE MADE AVAILABLE IMMEDIATELY

Mr. Lorne Nystrom (Yorkton-Melville): Mr. Speaker, there will be a conference on the PCB problems in this country, but could the Minister inform the House this morning whether sufficient funds will be made available to seek a solution to this problem? It is a very serious problem in the Province of Quebec and in the rest of Canada. Will the necessary funds be released now, right away?

Hon. Suzanne Blais-Grenier (Minister of the Environment): Mr. Speaker, I realize the gravity of the situation, and that is why when we were still cleaning up the environment after the Kenora accident, I immediately asked for a federal-provincial conference to discuss PCB disposal sites, and I have asked my provincial colleagues to reach a consensus on what should be done.

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SOCIAL SECURITY

SPOUSE'S ALLOWANCE—GOVERNMENT POSITION

Mr. Jean-Claude Malépart (Montreal-Sainte-Marie): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Acting Prime Minister. Yesterday the Minister of Finance seemed disappointed to find out that we have our doubts about his consultation process and that we are firmly convinced that he would rather lend an ear to financiers than to ordinary Canadians. I am wondering whether the Acting Prime Minister would tell us if his Government will commit itself to endorsing the recommendations made by 45 organizations throughout the country—including the National Anti-Poverty Organization, the National Adviso-