

● (1510)

[English]

Mr. Deans: Mr. Speaker, there was absolutely no misunderstanding on my part. I know exactly what is happening. It is being carried over to tomorrow, the day after and the day after that. The problem, Mr. Speaker, is that the Conservatives decided to put down so many motions in an effort to block the Crow and then did not use them.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Is it agreed that we move to Questions on the Order Paper?

Some Hon. Members: Agreed.

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QUESTIONS ON THE ORDER PAPER

(Questions answered orally are indicated by an asterisk.)

Mr. John Evans (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): Mr. Speaker, the following questions will be answered today: Nos. 3,028, 4,655, 4,799, 4,893, 4,940, 4,944, 5,012 and 5,013.

[Text]

EMEC TRADING LTD.

Question No. 3,028—Mr. Cossitt:

1. To the knowledge of the government, what are the names of the officers of EMEC Trading Ltd., 555 West Hastings Street, Vancouver, British Columbia and are these individuals Soviet citizens and/or residents of the U.S.S.R.?

2. At any time did the company use Canada Customs invoices that were not filled out and which were signed blank in Moscow in advance and, if so, what are all the details and on what date was the process discontinued?

3. Did the company misdeclare values on certain import entries such as (a) entry No. 286837 through Vancouver, October and November, 1977, resulting in a short payment of \$2,300 (b) entry No. 204610 through Vancouver, February and March, 1978, resulting in a short payment of \$125 (c) entry No. 022536 through St. John, New Brunswick, April, 1978, resulting in a short payment of \$5,400 (d) entry No. 001088 through St. John, New Brunswick, May, 1978, resulting in a short payment of \$4,200?

4. Did the Canada Customs Investigation Branch become aware of this matter and, if so (a) on what date (b) what investigations were made (c) was any action taken and, if not, for what reason?

5. Did the Government at any time refund previously-assessed advanced duty to the company with the knowledge that Soviet dumping practices had undermined Canadian industries and, if so, what amount was involved and was it approximately \$500,000?

6. Has the RCMP been involved in investigating the matter and, if so, what were the results?

Mr. John Evans (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): I am informed by the Departments of Consumer and Corporate Affairs, National Revenue and the Solicitor General as follows:

1. Departmental records do not contain the names of the officers of EMEC Trading Limited, 555 West Hastings, Vancouver, B.C. The names of the three directors of this Corporation are: Alexander V. Dgebuadze, Geoffrey Innes Edgelow, Leslie R. Peterson. Mr. Dgebuadze is a citizen of the

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U.S.S.R., residing in Vancouver, B.C., and the remaining two directors are Canadian citizens.

2. Customs is not aware of such practice.

3. (a), (b), (c) and (d) The import entries in question have been subject to review and Customs is satisfied that proper duties have been assessed.

4. (a) Information alleging undervaluation was received by Customs Investigations Division (Vancouver) in June, 1980. (b) and (c) The entries in question were already being reviewed for Customs valuation purposes.

5. Any information relating to entry documents is confidential pursuant to Section 172 of the Customs Act.

6. Yes, the RCMP commenced an investigation in this case, but subsequently learned that Revenue Canada—Customs was already reviewing the entries in question for Customs valuation purposes. Consequently, the RCMP investigation was terminated.

PROCESSING OF UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE CLAIMS

Question No. 4,655—Mr. Wenman:

1. Was a memo issued to all Members of Parliament on November 12, 1982 by the Minister of Employment and Immigration stating that "our agents are working many hours of overtime on evenings and weekends" to alleviate undue delays in processing unemployment insurance claims?

2. Are these agents being paid overtime and, if so (a) at what rate (b) what was the total cost to the taxpayer for the overtime payments?

Hon. John Roberts (Minister of Employment and Immigration): 1. A letter dated November 12, 1982 containing the words quoted was released by the former Minister on November 16, 1982.

2. (a) Pursuant to current collective agreements, agents are paid overtime at 1.5 times their hourly rate for hours worked in excess of the normal scheduled work day and for the first 7.5 hours of work on the first day of rest and double time thereafter. Double time is paid on the second or subsequent day of rest (must be unbroken series of consecutive and continuous calendar days of rest).

(b) As such, total agent overtime cost for the period April-December, 1982, amounted to \$4,100,702.

JOB-CREATION PROGRAMS FOR HANDICAPPED PERSONS

Question No. 4,799—Mr. Howie:

1. How many permanent jobs does the Department of Employment and Immigration estimate that it created for handicapped persons in the fiscal year (a) 1981-82 (b) 1982-83?

2. In which industries and services were these jobs created?

Hon. John Roberts (Minister of Employment and Immigration): 1. Employment opportunities created through job creation programs are, for the most part, funded for periods of time ranging from several weeks to three years. Although many of the jobs created are not permanent, programs such as the Local Employment Assistance Program, the Canada Community Services Projects and the Program for the Employ-