

Oral Questions

projections at least for the next year . . . Could the Minister inform the House what guarantees he has for the system's profitability? Is the Corporation unable to pay the winners at this time? Canadians would like to know whether the system set up by the present Government, which in fact infringes on provincial jurisdiction, is profitable. I think Canadians would like to know whether the Minister can give us the assurance that the system will be profitable over the months to come.

• (1450)

Hon. Jacques Olivier (Minister of State (Fitness and Amateur Sport)): Mr. Speaker, the Hon. Member opposite is asking me to guarantee how many millions of dollars we are going to make available for amateur sport, medical research and all the other reasons for which the legislation was passed. I cannot give him any figures, but it is a foregone conclusion, provided the provinces leave us alone and stop harassing small retail businessmen who want to sell those tickets, retailers who want to help us develop amateur sport, pay for the Calgary Olympic Games, and pay for medical research . . . I am sure that if the Members opposite would speak to the provincial governments, to their political friends, we would then be able to set up an organization that will help us develop a true concept of amateur sport, we would be really independent! We would not depend on their political friends out there!

When they signed an agreement in 1979, they simply transferred \$500 million to the provinces, to Progressive Conservatives and separatists, in exchange for the \$35 million we had left to develop the Olympic Games, amateur sport and medical research! That is what they did!

[English]

CORPORATION'S ISSUANCE OF ADVERTISING CONTRACTS

Mr. John Bosley (Don Valley West): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the same Minister. I put the question on Friday last, and the President of the Treasury Board took it as notice for the Minister.

The Canada Sports Pool Corporation has awarded two advertising contracts, one of them to Planicom in Montreal, specifically to the publicity manager for John Turner. Were those contracts tendered, Mr. Speaker? If so, was the French language contract awarded to the lowest bidder? Will the Minister table those tenders? If they were not tendered, why not?

[Translation]

Hon. Jacques Olivier (Minister of State (Fitness and Amateur Sport)): Mr. Speaker, I simply want to say that the two advertising agencies were selected by the Canada Sports Pool Corporation. Now, some Members seem to want politics to be constantly involved in the corporation's decision-making process. That decision was made entirely by the Canada Sports Pool Corporation and not by the Minister.

[English]

Mr. Bosley: Mr. Speaker, the Minister can try to duck the responsibility for as long as he wants. The Government of Canada is responsible for public money in this country, and the Minister is going to learn that fact.

CONTRACT TENDERING PROCEDURES—REQUEST THAT MINISTER TABLE LIST OF EMPLOYEES

Mr. John Bosley (Don Valley West): Mr. Speaker, my question is a simple one. Were those contracts tendered? If they were, will the Minister table the tenders? If they were not, why not?

At the same time, will the Minister today give the House the answer to the question as to whether he will table the hiring contracts and the list of those people whom the Liberal Party has chosen for patronage reasons to put on the public payroll?

[Translation]

Hon. Jacques Olivier (Minister of State (Fitness and Amateur Sport)): Mr. Speaker, there is no patronage involved. I am simply saying that the agencies which were selected had the qualifications and the ability required to do the job.

Mr. La Salle: You are unable to—

Mr. Olivier: I would appreciate it if the Hon. Member for Joliette would listen to my answer!

In addition, Mr. Speaker, since there is a good deal of competition in this industry in any case, according to what the Canada Sports Pool Corporation has said, we could not have the same advertising agency as Loto Quebec because we are in competition with them.

The choice made by the Corporation therefore seems to be the right one to me. It will have an impact, and in this regard, I believe that the people in the Corporation who hired this agency made an excellent choice.

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SOCIAL SECURITY

IMPACT OF EVENTUAL FISCAL TRANSFERS

Mr. Louis Duclos (Montmorency-Orléans): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of National Health and Welfare. The Quebec Minister of Social Affairs has just demanded that federal jurisdiction over old age security pensions be transferred to Quebec, in return for fiscal compensation—

Mr. La Salle: They answered that question yesterday!

Mr. Duclos: Mr. Speaker, could I be allowed to ask a question? As I was saying . . . in return for fiscal compensation