COMMONS DEBATES

Order Paper Questions

5. Are there income tax exemptions for the (a) deaf (b) blind and, if so, on what degree of impairment are the calculations based?

6. Are hearing aids tax deductible and do they receive special treatment under the Income Tax Act, i.e., deduction specifically for the deaf?

7. Are Canada Manpower offices equipped with interpreters to council deaf or applicants with some hearing disability and, if so, how many are there and where are they located?

8. Does the Federal Court have a registry of qualified interpreters of the deaf for those disabled who have been called before the Court and (a) if so (i) what are the qualifications required for this certification (ii) how many are on the list, by province (b) if not (i) for what reason (ii) what arrangements are available for the hearing disabled?

9. In (a) 1970 (b) 1971 (c) 1972 (d) 1973 (e) 1974 (f) 1975 (g) 1976, what was the amount of government funding for programmes related to those with (i) visual (ii) hearing deficiencies and what was the nature and amount in each case?

10. Does the CBC plan to utilize the Line 21 sign language captions concept of a captioned news within the next two years and (a) if not, for what reason (b) if so, on what date?

Return tabled.

CANADIAN WHEAT BOARD FIELD INSPECTORS

Question No. 252-Mr. Schumacher:

1. How many field inspectors were employed by the Canadian Wheat Board on January 1 each year 1968 to 1977 inclusive in (a) Alberta (b) Saskatchewan (c) Manitoba and, in each province, on an annual basis how much was expended by the Board for (i) salaries (ii) expenses?

2. On what date did each of the field inspectors join the service of the Board and where were they previously employed?

3. By year, from 1973 to date, in (a) Alberta (b) Saskatchewan (c) Manitoba, how many charges have been laid at the instance of the Board against (i) the Alberta Wheat Pool (ii) the Saskatchewan Wheat Pool (iii) the Manitoba Wheat Pool (iv) United Grain Growers Ltd. (v) Pioneer Grain Co. Ltd. (vi) Cargill Co. Ltd. (vii) Parrish & Heimbecker Ltd. (viii) Paterson & Sons Ltd. and against elevator managers employed by, and producers who were customers of, each of these companies and, in each case, how much was spent by the Board for legal fees and services provided by staff personnel, by Department of Justice Personnel, by standing agents for the prosecution of such charges, and how much has been recovered by way of fines in each case?

Return tabled.

MINISTRY OF STATE FOR FITNESS AND AMATEUR SPORT— EXPENDITURES

Question No. 723-Mr. Herbert:

During the past year, what amount was contributed by the Ministry of State for Fitness and Amateur Sport to each sport-governing body and sport and recreation association?

Return tabled.

[Translation]

Mr. Speaker: Shall the remaining questions be allowed to stand?

Some hon. Members: Agreed. [Mr. Friesen.]

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

[English]

NORTHERN PIPELINE ACT

ESTABLISHMENT OF AGENCY TO SUPERVISE PIPELINE CONSTRUCTION

The House resumed from Monday, February 13, consideration of the motion of Mr. MacEachen that Bill C-25, to establish the Northern Pipeline Agency, to facilitate the planning and construction of a pipeline for the transmission of natural gas from Alaska and northern Canada and to give effect to an agreement between Canada and the United States of America on principles applicable to such a pipeline and to amend certain acts in relation thereto, be read the second time and referred to the special committee on a northern gas pipeline.

Mr. John A. Fraser (Vancouver South): Mr. Speaker, when I finished at ten o'clock last night, I was referring to the problem that we have because apparently the government has either not done any independent study of the probable number of man-years of work that will result from the pipeline project or, if it has, it is deliberately keeping those particular studies from the scrutiny of hon. members.

Hon. members will recall that a few minutes ago there were a number of questions asked of the Deputy Prime Minister (Mr. MacEachen) which revealed that there are in fact several studies of which we have some knowledge. I am sorry to say that, at least from the comportment of the Deputy Prime Minister this afternoon, it would appear he had no knowledge of them whatsoever.

Mr. Baker (Grenville-Carleton): Oh, I don't know.

Mr. Fraser: One of my colleagues has indicated he does not know.

Mr. Baker (Grenville-Carleton): They have been available since last August.

Mr. Fraser: Mr. Speaker, this is a problem that we on this side have to struggle with when trying to determine what ministers know or do not know. We do know one thing, however. Ministers seem to go out of their way to make things as difficult as possible for members of the loyal opposition to find out fundamental facts that we have to know in order to do our job.

I wish to say, Mr. Speaker, in making this portion of my remarks specifically on the question of Canadian labour content in this project, that we want this project to go ahead. We do not want to be associated with the suggestions and untoward allegations made by members of the government that honest inquiry into what the aspects of this project may be amount to delay. I am sure all hon, members realize that this is not so. As a consequence, Mr. Speaker, my remarks are along the line of the obligations we have as members of the opposition. These obligations are pertinent.