Order Paper Questions

Subsequently, the Small Business Secretary was established within the Department of Industry, Trade and Commerce to work with the Minister of State. The role of the Minister of State and the Small Business Secretariat has been policy development rather than program administration. Therefore, neither the Minister of State nor the Small Business Secretariat has authorized or made any program expenditures, anywhere.

[English]

QUESTION PASSED AS ORDER FOR RETURN

Mr. Ralph E. Goodale (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): Mr. Speaker, if question 2,761 could be made an order for return, that return would be tabled immediately. The reason for answering in this fashion is the complicated and lengthy nature of the answer.

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

[Text]

MILK—ANNUAL PRODUCTION

Question No. 2,761—Mr. Laprise:

Since 1962, by province, what was the annual production of (a) natural (b) industrial milk?

Return tabled.

[English]

Mr. Coates: Mr. Speaker, for some time now a number of questions have been standing on the order paper in my name, and I believe I am entitled to expect answers to them prior to the close of the session. I would draw the attention of the parliamentary secretary to the fact that I have had ten questions standing on the order paper since October 19, 1976. One was placed there on December 19, 1976, and nine others on January 27, 1977. Two have been there since April 5, 1977. This seems to me to be an absolutely inexcusable period in which to have to wait for answers to questions. While some of these questions are complicated, it should not have been necessary to have delayed answering them for so long. I specifically refer the parliamentary secretary to two questions which have remained unanswered since April 5 with respect to Air Canada agreements with the government of Cuba, because they relate directly to the movement of troops from Cuba to Angola and the use of Canadian air space.

I believe the Canadian people are entitled to have some knowledge of these circumstances in order to determine whether or not Canada was involved in any direct way in the movement of Cuban troops to Angola, a country engaged in a civil war. I ask the parliamentary secretary to do his very best to obtain answers to these questions before we recess, hopefully on July 27.

Mr. Goodale: Mr. Speaker, I certainly give the hon member my assurance that I will do my very best to see that the questions he has referred to and, indeed, all questions on the [Mr. Marchand.]

order paper at this moment, are answered before the end of the session.

Mr. Beatty: Mr. Speaker, I, too, would like to remind the parliamentary secretary again about the questions I have on the order paper, some of which have been there for over a year and have not been answered despite my bringing them to his attention before. I specifically wish to bring to his attention question 1,246 which I placed on the order paper on December 3, 1976. It is the first time I have raised this matter because I recognize that the question is lengthy and requires some time to answer. However, I feel that since December 3 the government has had ample opportunity to get the answer. The question asks about the patronage machinery set up by the government. While I do not expect to get a perfectly straightforward answer, I hope to see the parliamentary secretary light a fire under the Prime Minister's office to get them moving on some sort of answer.

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

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

[English]

IMMIGRATION ACT, 1976

AMENDMENTS TO IMPLEMENT CHANGES IN IMMIGRATION POLICY

The House resumed, from Thursday, July 21, consideration of Bill C-24, respecting immigration to Canada, as reported (with amendments) from the Standing Committee on Labour, Manpower and Immigration.

• (1210)

[Translation]

Mr. Serge Joyal (Maisonneuve-Rosemont): Mr. Speaker, in the notes that you tabled in the House yesterday concerning the regrouping of motions, you mentioned that a vote on motion No. 29 could also dispose of motions Nos. 31 and 32.

I would like to point out, Mr. Speaker, that these three motions deal with different aspects of the bill. Indeed, motion No. 29 concerns the procedure in case of deportation of a non-permanent resident, while motion No. 31 deals on the contrary with the procedure in the case of a permanent resident. All members agree that these procedures must be different.

Since both motions aim at amending the bill, the first for non-permanent residents and the other for permanent residents, I respectfully submit, Mr. Speaker, that it would be appropriate to take the votes separately on motion No. 29 and