

Questions

INFLATION—ISSUANCE OF DIRECTIVES
TO PROPRIETARY CROWN
CORPORATIONSQuestion No. 1,833—**Mr. Fortin:**

1. Has the government issued directives to proprietary Crown corporations to participate in the governmental anti-inflationary policy and, if so, what were the directives?

2. What steps have proprietary Crown corporations taken to fight inflation?

Hon. C. M. Drury (President of the Treasury Board): 1. Yes. The directives issued by Treasury Board requested proprietary Crown Corporations to comply with the government's policy as outlined by the Prime Minister in the House of Commons on February 18, 1970, at the close of the Federal-Provincial Conference on Price Stability. Compliance was requested in respect of all domestic prices other than charges determined by statute or international agreement; charges for recovery of actual costs under existing agreements; and interest rates for the lending of money. In the case of these three items, other controls exist and are being employed selectively, where possible, to achieve the government's policy.

2. In accordance with the directives mentioned in the answer to the first part of the question and with the guidelines established for private business by the Prices and Incomes Commission, proprietary Crown Corporations are now requested to submit any proposals for essential price increases to the Prices and Incomes Commission for review under the procedure established after the Federal-Provincial Conference in February 1970.

COST OF CRTC HEARING IN OTTAWA
APRIL 13 TO 22Question No. 1,855—**Mr. Hees:**

1. What was the direct expense to the government of the Canadian Radio Television Commission hearing in Ottawa on April 13 to 22 inclusive—hotel, transportation, etc.?

2. For what reasons was a hotel selected instead of a government building, such as the new facilities at the old Union Station?

3. What were the other costs to the taxpayer for the same meeting such as travel costs, *per diem* of the part-time members, and an estimate of the cost of keeping the full-time members and staffs there for this period of time?

4. How many staff members were directly involved in the hearing to the extent of spending most of their time at it during the period involved?

5. What was the CRTC telephone, telegraph and telex bill for the period March 1 to April 30, 1970?

[Mr. Forest.]

[Translation]

Hon. Gérard Pelletier (Secretary of State): I am informed by the Canadian Radio-Television Commission as follows: 1.

Rental of halls and rooms		
for hearing		\$9,870.00
Advertising as per Broadcasting Act		9,425.00
Simultaneous translation		
Equipment	\$4,256.00	
Interpreters	3,937.00	8,193.00
Court reporters		4,500.00
		<hr/>
		\$31,988.00

2. The space at the old Union Station was considered for public hearings and ruled out because it was too small and because it was already committed to some other use.

3. Travel costs and fees—part-time members \$12,615.00.

4. 14.

5. Cost of telephone
March 1 to April 30/70 \$4,484.54

Cost of telegraph
March 1 to April 30/70 778.12

Cost of telex
March 1 to April 30/70 402.73

Total \$5,665.39

[English]

OLD AGE PENSIONS—ADJUSTMENT TO
COST OF LIVINGQuestion No. 1,863—**Mr. Robinson:**

Will the federal government consider increases in the Old Age Pension in accordance with the increases in the Consumer Price Index and the 1.5% rate of inflation?

Hon. John C. Munro (Minister of National Health and Welfare): Yes.

EFFECT OF BUDGET CREDIT RESTRICTION
PROVISIONS ON CONSUMER DEBTQuestion No. 1,873—**Mr. Robinson:**

To what extent is it anticipated that the consumer debt will be reduced by the budget credit restriction provision?

Hon. E. J. Benson (Minister of Finance): I announced in the House of Commons on June 1, 1970 that the government would not be proceeding with the measures proposed in the last budget to control consumer credit.