

Order Paper Questions

Mr. Jack Masters (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Communications): I am informed by the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation as follows: 1. (a) and (b) See part 2 below.

2. The corporation came into existence on November 2, 1936. The custom developed from the earliest days of the corporation, and over the 45 years since the corporation's creation, Parliament has not required the CBC to supply, in answering parliamentary questions, certain details of its internal management and administration. The background to this custom is set out in detail in the reply to question No. 2,530, answered November 6, 1975.

EXAMINATION OF PROPOSED REGULATIONS

Question No. 3,257—**Mr. Beatty:**

How many proposed regulations were examined by the Clerk of the Privy Council, as required by section 3 of the Statutory Instruments Act, in (a) 1980 (b) the first six months of 1981 and, for each period, how many proposed regulations were reported by the Clerk of the Privy Council to the regulation-making authority involved on the grounds that they offended against the criterion in (i) section 3(2)(a) (ii) section 3(2)(b) (iii) section 3(2)(c) (iv) section 3(2)(d) of the act?

Hon. Yvon Pinard (President of the Privy Council): 1. (a) 1,023, (b) 609.

2. None.

[*Translation*]

Madam Speaker: The questions mentioned by the parliamentary secretary have been answered. Shall the remaining questions be allowed to stand?

[*English*]

Mr. Stevens: Madam Speaker, I was wondering whether the parliamentary secretary could inform the House as to why the government has declined to answer question No. 2,042 which was placed on the Order Paper on January 29. It is a simple question:

1. What was the total cost of the Prime Minister's December-January world tour?

2. What percentage of the total cost of the trip will be paid by the Canadian taxpayer?

[*Translation*]

Mr. Yanakis: Madam Speaker, I shall take notice of the hon. member's question and bring it to the attention of the minister.

[*English*]

Mr. Beatty: Madam Speaker, I have two questions on the Order Paper which I should like to bring to your attention and that of the parliamentary secretary. I am quite perplexed as to why the House has not received responses. Question No. 2,644 was placed on the Order Paper on June 18 of this year. It asked whether or not the government was intending to issue a stamp in commemoration of the Royal Wedding. In view of the fact that the Royal Wedding took place some months ago, the government should be able to answer the question by now. Perhaps I should reword it to ask whether or not it will commemorate the birth of the firstborn of the Prince of Wales rather than the marriage.

Also I should like to draw to the attention of the parliamentary secretary question No. 1,439 which was placed on the Order Paper on July 11, 1980, some sixteen months ago. There are three parts to it. It reads:

1. What was the government's total advertising budget for the fiscal year 1979-80 and what is the proposed budget for the fiscal year 1980-81?

Both of those fiscal years have come and gone, so the government should be able to answer. It continues:

2. (a) What amount was spent by the government on French language advertising in Quebec during the referendum campaign period (b) to which creative advertising agencies were contracts awarded to produce such advertising (c) what was the value of the contracts signed by the creative agencies (d) were any of the contracts offered for tender?

The referendum was in May 1980; it came and went well over a year ago. The third part of the question is equally easy to answer if the government chose to do so. It reads:

Were government advertising contracts awarded for the fiscal year 1980-81 to the advertising firms (a) Vickers and Benson Ltd. (b) Ronalds-Reynolds & Co. Ltd. (c) BCP Advertising (1978) Ltd. (d) Jean Prévost Inc. and, if so, in each case (i) was the contract publicly tendered (ii) what was its value?

The reason I raise this is that it is particularly germane today. Those four companies joined together to create Canadian Media Corporation which has been on contract by the government for some \$2,430,000. We discovered today that the minister responsible for housing has hired Vickers and Benson, one of those four firms, and given it additional work in placing ads, in addition to what was done by Canadian Media Corporation. This is why the House is entitled to some straight answers, and surely before now.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Yanakis: Madam Speaker, I shall also take notice of the representations of the hon. member and convey to whoever is concerned and a report will be made to the House.

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MOTIONS FOR PAPERS

Mr. Antonio Yanakis (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Labour): Madam Speaker, I ask that all notices of motions for the production of papers be allowed to stand.

Madam Speaker: Shall the remaining notices of motions for the production of papers stand?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

[*Translation*]

THE BUDGET

FINANCIAL STATEMENT OF THE MINISTER OF FINANCE

The House resumed, from Tuesday, November 17, consideration of the motion of Mr. MacEachen that this House approve in general the budgetary policy of the government, and the amendment of Mr. Wilson (p. 12752).

Hon. Pierre Bussières (Minister of State (Finance)): Madam Speaker, I am very pleased to have an opportunity to