

## Questions

to leave. The Canadian Embassy in Mexico was orally informed at that time that a deportation order had been issued against her on July 27, 1956. She was escorted to the border by Mexican officials, and entered the United States on July 30, 1956. The Canadian Embassy was subsequently informed orally that, although the official grounds for deportation were violations of Mexican immigration and labour laws, action to deport Mrs. Sicotte was also based in part on allegations that she had been trafficking illegally in drugs and smuggling medical instruments; (c) and (d) No official representations were made to the Mexican authorities by any officer of the Department of External Affairs or any other Department of the Canadian Government with respect to Mrs. Sicotte's return to that country. In March of 1954 Mr. Gilles Sicotte, then an officer of the Department of External Affairs, wrote a personal letter to a Mexican immigration official seeking clarification of Mrs. Sicotte's status as a visitor to Mexico. Some months later Mr. Sicotte telephoned the same official, again in a personal capacity, requesting permission for Mrs. Sicotte to re-enter Mexico for continued medical treatment in that country; (e) Yes. Investigations were made into Mrs. Gilles Sicotte's activities in and the reasons for her leaving Mexico. In particular, inquiries were made of Mr. Arcadio Ojeda.

5. The following information has been provided by Air Canada. "On June 19, 1968 Air Canada's legal agents in Ottawa were instructed to initiate judgment debtor proceedings against Mrs. Sicotte. They were not successful in serving her. Again on October 7, 1968 our legal agents in Ottawa were given further instructions to serve Mrs. Sicotte with the process. Although they have not yet been successful, the amount of the judgment has been reduced, through partial payment, to a total of \$2,411.88 plus \$78.00 costs and interest. Legal proceedings are continuing."

CASHING OF INTEREST COUPONS BY  
CHARTERED BANKSQuestion No. 1,650—**Mr. Caouette:**

During the last two years, what were the amounts paid to each of the chartered banks to cover the cost of cashing interest coupons from savings bonds and redeeming Canada Savings Bonds?

**Hon. E. J. Benson (Minister of Finance):** Amounts paid to the chartered banks to cover the cost of cashing interest coupons from Canada Savings Bonds are not recorded

[Mr. Forest.]

separately from these amounts in respect of all Government of Canada issues. Payments to chartered banks to cover the cost of redeeming Canada Savings Bonds are made quarterly in arrears and the amounts paid in 1967 and 1968 for this purpose were \$1,050,253.88 and \$1,111,921.70 respectively. It has not been the practice nor is it considered appropriate to detail these amounts for each chartered bank.

## INCOME TAX FROM TELEPHONE COMPANIES

Question No. 1,654—**Mr. Fortin:**

1. For each of the last three years, what was the total amount of income tax received by the federal government from telephone companies in Canada?
2. Has any province requested the transfer of income tax paid by telephone companies?

**Mr. Yves Forest (Parliamentary Secretary to the President of the Privy Council):** I am informed by the departments of National Revenue and Finance as follows: 1. For the last three years for which the information is available, the total amount of federal income and old age security tax declared by telephone companies in Canada, as tabulated from tax returns, was: 1963 taxation year, \$62.1 million; 1964 taxation year, \$72.2 million; 1965 taxation year, \$82.0 million.

2. No.

## BRANDON-SOURIS POST OFFICE CLOSURES

Question No. 1,664—**Mr. Dinsdale:**

1. How many rural post offices have been closed in Brandon-Souris the constituency since April 1, 1968 and what is the location of each of these post offices?
2. How many will be closed in the next fiscal year and what is the location of each of these post offices?
3. What rural post offices are under study with a view to closure in the future?
4. How many rural post offices have been closed in the four Western Provinces since April 1, 1968 and what is the total saving?

**Hon. Eric W. Kierans (Postmaster General):**

1. (a) Two; (b) Whitewater, Regent.

2. (a) At this time only one Post Office at Mountainside is scheduled for closing during the fiscal year 1969-70. However, there may be others closed during that period if studies reveal that such action should be taken.

3. Belleview, Coulter, Dand, Deleau, Ebor, Elva, Fairfax, Findlay, Harding, Hargrave, Kemnay, Kirkella, Lauder, Lenore, Rounthwaite, Scarth, Sinclair, Woodnorth.