

Hon. Bob Kaplan (Solicitor General): Mention of the Security Service of the RCMP appears at page 13 of the 1980-81 Annual Report of the Ministry of the Solicitor General. There is no mention of the ministry's response to the Commission of Inquiry into the RCMP in the 1980-81 Annual Report, because the commission's final report to the Governor in Council was not published until August 25, 1981. The 1980-81 Annual Report of the Ministry of the Solicitor General is for the period from April 1, 1980 to March 31, 1981.

"IMPROVEMENT IN THE SPREADABILITY OF BUTTER"

Question No. 4,274—**Mr. Mazankowski:**

1. Is a study into the "Improvement in the spreadability of butter" being conducted by Dr. A. Boudreau on behalf of the Department of Agriculture as listed in the Department of Supply and Services Bulletin No. 108?

2. Did Dr. Boudreau submit a detailed budget and (a) if so, what are the main projected expenditures (b) if not, how was the project cost generated?

3. Was the study tendered and (a) if so, how many applications were received (b) if not, what selection process was used?

Hon. J.-J. Blais (Minister of Supply and Services): 1. Yes.

2. Yes, Dr. Boudreau of Laval University did submit a budget on December 14, 1981 and the main projected expenditures are as follows:

1. Salaries and wages	(estimated) \$ 66,258
2. Materials and supplies	(estimated) \$ 5,000
3. Direct charges (chemical analysis)	(estimated) \$ 14,142
4. Equipment	(estimated) \$ 1,300
5. Travel and living	(estimated) \$ 3,700
6. Overhead	(estimated) \$ 21,451
	Total estimated cost \$111,851

3. This study was the result of a submission by Dr. Boudreau of Laval University, in response to an invitation appearing in the R & D Bulletin of March, 1981, to submit proposal to Canadian Dairy Commission Research Program for various research subjects. Thirty-one submissions were received and this proposal is one of the fourteen, which were approved by the Canadian Dairy Commission, Department of Agriculture, under the Product Research and Market Development Program.

This study and similar ones funded by Agriculture Canada aim at finding ways to stop the dramatic decline in the per capita butter consumption in Canada over the past 25 years. During the period of 1955 to 1979, the per capita butter consumption has decreased from 9.19 KG to 4.46 KG (51.5 per cent).

The major variables contributing to this decline have been identified and spreadability (or lack of) remains a significant negative characteristic of butter and contributes to the decline of butter consumption in favor of replacement products. In view of the importance of butter sales for Canadian dairy farmers and the Canadian economy as a whole various government bodies fund research projects of this nature to improve the physical characteristics of butter and hence help this product to regain its popularity among consumers.

Supply

[English]

Mr. Smith: I ask, Madam Speaker, that the remaining questions be allowed to stand.

Madam Speaker: Shall the remaining questions stand?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

[English]

BUSINESS OF SUPPLY

ALLOTTED DAY, S.O. 58—RIGHT TO VOTE IN A FEDERAL ELECTION

Hon. Edward Broadbent (Oshawa) moved:

That this House go on record as opposing any policy which will have the result of effectively denying people in any region of Canada their democratic right to vote in a federal election.

He said: Madam Speaker, in opening the debate on this important subject about democratic electoral laws, I would like to lay down the first general principle to which my party adheres—and I would like to think all parties in the House accept—that is, that the whole purpose of electoral laws in a democratic society should be to maximize the opportunities for citizens, wherever they may live, to participate in the electoral process. In relation to that an auxiliary principle is that the purpose of hours established for voting purposes ought to have the same objective.

In our view the present law in Canada does meet this general objective. At present we have the requirement on election day that the polls are open from nine in the morning to eight at night—the same time, 11 hours—in whatever province a man or woman who is voting may live. In addition, there is the provision that any citizen of Canada entitled to vote—if he or she is working outside the home for an employer—must be freed by that employer from obligations to work for at least four clear hours in advance of the closing time of the polls.

Before I get to the essence of my concern about a particular proposal which will be before the House for debate I would like to discuss the important question of when people actually vote during elections. All members in the House, irrespective of party, are quite familiar with election day proceedings. Indeed, the members in this House, by definition, I suggest, have been very active on election days in making sure that at least certain citizens in whom they are interested get out to vote.

Mr. Cullen: We try to get them all out.

Mr. Broadbent: We in my party, of course, try to get them all out to vote, and we try a little harder in relation to those we have good reason to believe might be voting for our party.

Mr. Darling: Good for you.