

*Order for Return*

**Hon. Donald C. Jamieson (Minister of Transport):** 1. In so far as new vehicles made in Canada or imported into Canada are concerned, consideration is being given to including all vehicles mentioned in the proposed Legislation regarding motor vehicle safety standards. Vehicles already in use come under provincial jurisdiction as does the mandatory use of safety equipment.

## EARL ALEXANDER—FLAG TRIBUTE

Question No. 2,645—**Mr. Dinsdale:**

1. Did the Secretary of State issue instructions that the usual tribute of flags at half-staff should be paid Earl Alexander as a former Governor General and member of the Privy Council and, if so, on what date were the instructions issued?

3. Was this order cancelled and, if so (a) on what date (b) for what reason?

**Mr. J. E. Walker (Parliamentary Secretary to Prime Minister):** 1. Yes, on June 16th, in accordance with the "General Rules for Flying and Displaying the Canadian Flag and Other Flags in Canada," which provide that "the Flag on the Peace Tower of the Parliament Buildings, Ottawa, is flown at half-mast on the death of the Sovereign or a member of the Royal Family related in the first degree to the Sovereign (that is to say, husband or wife, son or daughter, father, mother or brother or sister), the Governor General, a former Governor General, a Lieutenant Governor, a Canadian Privy Councillor, a Senator, or a Member of the House of Commons."

The flag on the Peace Tower was half-masted following news of the death of Lord Alexander on June 16, 1969, and on June 17, 18, 19 and 20, the remaining working days of that week. Although not provided for in the General Rules, there was mounted in addition a special display of half-masted flags at the National War Memorial in recognition of Lord Alexander's wartime role as a commander of Canadian forces. These flags flew at half-mast from June 17 through June 20.

Flags at Canadian government establishments in England were flown at half-mast from June 16 and including June 24, the day of Lord Alexander's funeral.

Other tributes and marks of respect paid to the late Lord Alexander by the Canadian government on his death included: (a) Telegrams of condolence sent to Lord Alexander's family by His Excellency the Governor General and by the Right Honourable the Prime Minister; (b) A statement of tribute by the

Prime Minister in the House of Commons on June 16, the first sitting day after news was received of Lord Alexander's death, followed at his request by a minute of silence on the part of the House of Commons; (c) The opening of a memorial book at Rideau Hall; (d) Presentation of a special memorial carillon recital in the Peace Tower on Wednesday, June 18; (e) Attendance at Lord Alexander's funeral of the Right Honourable Lester B. Pearson as personal representative of the Prime Minister, the Canadian High Commissioner to the United Kingdom, Mr. Charles Ritchie, and the Chief of the Defence Staff, General J. V. Allard, representing the Canadian government and Canadian veterans who served under Lord Alexander; (f) Participation in the funeral cortege of a special R.C.M.P. guard of honour.

2. The initial instruction that the flag be flown at half-mast "on other federal government buildings, airports and military bases and establishments" throughout Canada on the day of the funeral, as permitted but not required by the aforesaid General Rules in the event of the death of a former Governor General not related in the first degree to the Sovereign and not resident in Canada was cancelled on June 19 when it became known that Lord Alexander's funeral would not be held until June 24, eight days following his death and on the day recognized by Parliament as a holiday in the Parliament of Canada and by statute in the Province of Quebec. It is the practice, as the General Flag Rules state, that, during periods of half-masting, the flag is raised to full mast on statutory holidays. It was considered inappropriate that, in showing this mark of respect for one so highly regarded by all Canadians, divergent practices should be observed in various parts of the country.

**QUESTION PASSED AS ORDER FOR RETURN**

## PUBLIC SERVICE—APPLICATION OF BILINGUAL BONUS

Question No. 2,176—**Mr. Corbin:**

Of the 1,951 employees of the Public Service of Canada who are presently entitled to the special bonus made available to bilingual employees, as mentioned in the answer to Question No. 1,309, how many have, as their first language or mother tongue (a) English (b) French (c) another language?

Return tabled.