

Is anything being done to correct what might be a very awkward situation.

[Translation]

Hon. Jean Chrétien (Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development): Mr. Speaker, I must advise the hon. member that I am not aware of that statement by the Auditor General, but I will inquire immediately and report as soon as possible.

POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT

REQUEST FOR REDUCTION IN RATE ON "MONTREAL" MAGAZINE

Mr. Bernard Dumont (Frontenac): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Communications.

It can be foreseen that, following the increase in its postal charges from \$28,000 to \$55,000, the magazine *Montréal*, which made Canada known throughout the world, will disappear. Does the minister intend to grant a reduction in postal rates to that magazine?

Mr. Speaker: The question should be put on the order paper.

Mr. Dumont: Ten o'clock, Mr. Speaker.

[English]

HEALTH AND WELFARE

TOBACCO—RESEARCH TO REMOVE HARMFUL INGREDIENTS

Mr. H. W. Danforth (Kent-Essex): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Agriculture. Because the action of the C.B.C. in curtailing tobacco advertising has serious implications for Canadian tobacco producers, will the minister advise the house if the government has advocated any stepped-up research program so that alleged harmful ingredients of this Canadian product might be removed either at the production or refining stage?

Hon. H. A. Olson (Minister of Agriculture): Mr. Speaker, I am not sure what action has been taken since the C.B.C. made its announcement that the hon. member referred to. Our department has a continuing research program to identify the harmful ingredients.

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

PASSPORTS—SUBSTITUTION OF NEW APPLICATION FORMS

Mr. A. D. Hales (Wellington): Mr. Speaker, may I change the subject matter we are dis-

Inquiries of the Ministry

cussing and direct a question to the Secretary of State for External Affairs about passports. In order to avoid many errors being made on applications, will the minister withdraw all the old application forms and replace them with new forms; or would he see to it that government agencies and persons handing out these applications will at least change the price from \$5 to \$10?

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Yes, Mr. Speaker. I will certainly take these suggestions into consideration. This however, has not been the main source of trouble. It has been the incomplete filing of information.

An hon. Member: People pay \$5 too little.

Mr. Hales: A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Would the minister ask his colleague, the Postmaster General, to advise his staff not to hand out forms on which there is printed the \$5 figure. The \$5 figure should not be on the form, but should be changed to a \$10 figure.

NATO—GOVERNMENT POSITION ON OVERSEAS CAPABILITY

Hon. Robert L. Stanfield (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, may I direct a question to the Prime Minister. Is it the position of the government of Canada that there ought to be no over-all military reduction of NATO capability overseas.

Mr. Speaker: Order please. I wonder whether the Leader of the Opposition is not asking for a statement of policy. I doubt whether that kind of statement can be made now.

Mr. Stanfield: May I rephrase the question, Mr. Speaker. The Prime Minister can answer in a word. Was the Minister of National Defence speaking government policy on Friday when he said that the government, generally, agrees with the proposition that there should be no over-all military reduction of NATO capability overseas.

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): It is part of the government's policy, Mr. Speaker.

An hon. Member: What part?

ARTS, LETTERS AND SCIENCES

NATIONAL ARTS CENTRE—PRODUCTION OF "ANNE OF GREEN GABLES"

Mr. R. N. Thompson (Red Deer): Mr. Speaker, may I address a question to the