

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Monday, February 19, 1968

The house met at 2.30 p.m.

VACANCY

Mr. Speaker: It is my duty to inform the house that consequent upon the notification of a vacancy in the representation given in this house on Friday, February 16, 1968, by the hon. member for Gaspé, and pursuant to section 10 of the House of Commons Act, I have addressed my warrant to the Chief Electoral Officer for the issue of a new writ for the election of a member for the electoral district of Matapédia-Matane.

FINANCE

TABLING OF REPORT OF AUDITOR GENERAL

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Minister of Finance): Mr. Speaker, I should like permission of the house to table two copies in English and French of the report of the Auditor General to the House of Commons for the fiscal year ended March 31, 1967. As the house is aware, the Financial Administration Act requires that the report of the Auditor General be laid before the house on or before December 31 or, if parliament is then not in session, within 15 days after the commencement of the next ensuing session.

The Auditor General has asked me to express his apologies to members of the house for the delay which resulted from circumstances over which he had no control.

Mr. Speaker: Has the minister leave to table the report?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

REFERENCE TO STANDING COMMITTEE OF VOLUMES I, II AND III

On the order: Government notices of motions:

February 16—The Minister of National Health and Welfare:

That the Public Accounts Volumes I, II and III for the fiscal year ended March 31, 1967, laid before the House on January 22, 1968, be referred to the Standing Committee on Public Accounts.

Mr. Speaker: Pursuant to section 2 of standing order 21, this notice of motion is transferred to and ordered for consideration under government orders at the next sitting of the house.

QUESTIONS

(Questions answered orally are indicated by an asterisk.)

R.C.M.P. HORSE FARM

Question No. 723—**Mr. Reid:**

1. How much did the R.C.M.P. pay for their recently purchased horse farm?
2. Did the R.C.M.P. contact the N.C.C. about the possibilities of using greenbelt farm property for this purpose, and (a) if so, what answers did they receive (b) if not, for what reasons?

Hon. L. T. Pennell (Solicitor General):
1. \$30,000.

2. Yes. N.C.C. offered to seek authority to lease acreage in the western green belt to the R.C.M.P. However, it was decided that from a standpoint of long range cost to the R.C.M.P., it would be advantageous to purchase rather than lease the required acreage.

REMARRIAGE OF WIDOWS RECEIVING ANNUITIES

Question No. 894—**Mr. Bell (Carleton):**

1. During each of the last three fiscal years, how many widows of public servants or of retired public servants have forfeited entitlement to annuity under the Public Service Superannuation Act by reason of subsequent remarriage?

2. In each such year (a) what was the total annual dollar value of all annuities so forfeited by such widows (b) were any calculations made of the actuarial benefit to the Fund by reason of such forfeitures due to remarriage of the annuitant (c) if so, what did such calculations reveal?

3. In the calculation of the actuarial basis of the Public Service Superannuation Fund, was any consideration given to the presumed rate of remarriage of widowed annuitants?

4. If so, upon what precise basis was this calculated?

5. What would have been (a) the actual loss during the last three fiscal years (b) the actuarially calculated loss, to the Fund, if the pension annuity to a widow of a public servant or of a retired public servant were to be vested in her without penalty or loss resulting from her subsequent matrimonial activities?