

Questions

EMPLOYMENT FOR HANDICAPPED WORKERS

Question No. 2,477—**Mr. Robinson:**

What is the policy of the federal government toward the provision of part-time and/or limited employment for handicapped and/or marginal workers?

Hon. Gérard Pelletier (Secretary of State):

I am informed by the Public Service Commission as follows: The Public Service Commission has no special policy towards provision of part-time and/or limited employment for handicapped and/or marginal workers.

The Commission does have a special program for the employment on a full-time basis of the mentally retarded. Up to the present, this program has been a pilot project in the National Capital Region. Steps are now being taken to extend it throughout Canada.

For such handicapped persons as the blind, the deaf or hard of hearing, the Commission provides special examination testing arrangements so that such persons can compete on an equitable basis with other candidates. It also provides a special service to assist in the placement of such persons.

POLICY RESPECTING RETENTION OF FINGERPRINTS, ETC.

Question No. 2,500—**Mr. Robinson:**

Is it the policy of the federal government to keep on file the (a) fingerprints (b) photographs (c) records of persons accused of criminal offenses when the charge is subsequently withdrawn or dismissed against first offenders and, if so, for what reason and, if not, when are the (a) fingerprints (b) photographs (c) records destroyed?

Hon. G. J. McIlraith (Solicitor General): In so far as it relates to the Department of the Solicitor General, is as follows: The Royal Canadian Mounted Police, as the National Bureau of Identification and the central repository in Canada for fingerprints and photographs, is responsible for the safekeeping and security of all identification data submitted by various law enforcement agencies.

References concerning withdrawn or dismissed charges against first offenders are expunged from the files of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police when a request is received from the individual concerned or his solicitor for the return of the material through the contributing law enforcement agency.

[Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton).]

DIVORCE, FOREIGN EVIDENCE—RATIFICATION OF CONVENTIONS

Question No. 2,509—**Mr. Fortin:**

1. Has the federal government entered into negotiations with the provinces concerning ratification of (a) the Convention on the recognition of divorces and separations, and (b) the Convention on the obtaining of evidence from abroad in civil and commercial cases and, if so, what stage has been reached in these negotiations?

2. If there have been no negotiations, for what reasons?

Hon. John N. Turner (Minister of Justice):

1. (a) and (b) No.

2. All explanatory reports of the "rapporteurs" have not yet been sent by the Permanent Bureau of the Hague Conference on Private International Law to the Department. A provisional edition of the Report on the draft Convention on the taking of evidence abroad in civil or commercial matters has been received on June 10, 1969 and is presently under study. These reports are essential to the interpretation of the draft conventions. However, marriage and divorce are subject matters for legislation by Parliament under the British North America Act.

RENTAL OF N.C.C. PROPERTIES BY PRIME MINISTER'S STAFF

Question No. 2,534—**Mr. Mather:**

1. Which members of the staff of the Prime Minister's Office rent properties from the National Capital Commission (a) in Gatineau Park (b) in the Greenbelt (c) in other areas?

2. What is the rent paid in each case and what was the rent paid by the previous tenant?

Mr. Russell C. Honey (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Regional Economic Expansion): 1. (a) None; (b) None; (c) Not applicable.

2. Not applicable.

IMMIGRATION—DIRECTIVES RESPECTING APPLICATIONS

Question No. 2,536—**Mr. Broadbent:**

1. Has the Department of Manpower and Immigration recently sent new directives to its Immigration Officers regarding applications for immigration to Canada?

2. If so, what were the details of these directives?

Hon. Allan J. MacEachen (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1 and 2. As indicated in *Hansard* for June 12, page 10,038, the Department, because of the improved situation in Canada, has been considering various measures or administrative steps by which the immigration flow might be in-