

that we have no work for Mr. Bunce for which he is qualified or would likely accept, it would appear to us that laying-off action and therefore notice of lay-off might be required." (b) Did Mr. Cardinal write a memorandum marked confidential dated December 2, 1977 to Mr. Claude Passey, Head of the Guaranteed Loans Administration, with a carbon copy to Mr. S. A. Rubinoff stating in part: "Mr. Bunce was hired by you to work for you and he is your responsibility. Under no circumstance will the Department of Finance be placed in a situation that will require bringing Mr. Bunce on lay-off status because the functions of G.L.A. were transferred elsewhere. Mr. Rubinoff has assured me that if necessary he will take this matter up with appropriate officials in the Secretary of State." (c) Did Mr. Rubinoff write a letter dated January 20, 1978 to Mr. Bunce stating in part: "This letter therefore serves to notify you that you have been declared surplus . . . you will be laid-off with effect from May 1, 1978 in accordance with Section 29 of the Public Service Employment Act." (d) Did Mr. Rubinoff write a further letter to Mr. Bunce on March 9, 1978 repeating much the same information contained in his letter of January 20, 1978?

3. What are all the reasons for the contradictions contained in these various items of correspondence and specifically was Mr. Bunce given assurance of transfer rather than lay-off under date of December 2, 1977 by Mr. M. J. Cardinal and, if so, for what reason has this assurance not been followed?

**Mr. Ed Lumley (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Finance):** 1. Appointed to the Public Service—September 18, 1967 to the bureau of management consulting services, Public Service Commission. Level, computer administration level 4. Salary range: \$12,753 to \$14,493. The bureau of management consulting services transferred to the Department of Supply and Services, October 1, 1968. Appointed to the Department of Finance, guaranteed loans administration, April 1, 1976 at the computer system level 4. Present salary range: \$26,092 to \$29,400. Lay-off due to lack of work effective May 1, 1978.

2. (a) Yes. (b) Yes. (c) Yes. (d) Yes.

3. The functions of the guaranteed loans administration, student loans program were transferred to the Department of Secretary of State, which has no requirement for Mr. Bunce's services. Mr. Bunce was at no time given a transfer guarantee.

#### WINDSOR JUNCTION, N.S.—RAILHEAD

Question No. 1,512—**Mr. Forrestall:**

1. Has CNR considered developing an integrated railhead at or near Windsor Junction for handling piggyback, domestic containers, express and pool car business and (a) if so, will CNR proceed with this development (b) if not, for what reason?

2. Could such a facility be used as a base to develop a gateway or free-trade zone?

**Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Transport):** The management of Canadian National Railways advises as follows: 1. Yes. (a) Not at present. (b) Such a facility is not needed at this time.

2. No.

#### CANADIAN DAIRY COMMISSION QUOTAS

Question No. 1,532—**Mr. Tessier:**

Did the Canadian Dairy Commission note any unfairness in relation to quotas in 1976-77 and, if so (a) what were they (b) what were the reasons?

**Hon. E. F. Whelan (Minister of Agriculture):** Yes. (a) The reduction of market sharing quotas in 1976-77 favoured those

#### Point of Order—Mr. Cossitt

provinces in which the fluid milk sector was more important than the industrial milk sector and also those fluid milk producers with a market sharing quota. The reduction of the quotas was therefore to the detriment of Canada's industrial milk producers. (b) The Canadian Milk Supply Management Committee, which represents the dairy producers of each province, the provincial governments and the Canadian Dairy Commission, enforced rules that were established during a period of underproduction. Enforcement of these rules during a period of overproduction proved unfair. Since the Committee operates by consensus, and the needed consensus was lacking, the rules were enforced unaltered. The allocation of the 4 million hundredweights of milk in November 1976, according to the criteria established, was to correct those injustices as much as possible.

#### DEPARTMENT OF SUPPLY AND SERVICES SECURITY

Question No. 1,594—**Mr. Beaudoin:**

Does the Security Branch of the Department of Supply and Services have employees, namely detectives, in the Province of Quebec and, if so, how many?

**Hon. Jean-Pierre Goyer (Minister of Supply and Services):** No.

[English]

**Mr. Speaker:** The questions enumerated by the parliamentary secretary have been answered.

[Translation]

Is it the pleasure of the House that the remaining questions be allowed to stand?

**Some hon. Members:** Agreed.

\* \* \*

[English]

#### POINT OF ORDER

MR. COSSITT—DELAY IN ANSWERING CERTAIN QUESTIONS

**Mr. Tom Cossitt (Leeds):** Mr. Speaker, it gets tiresome to rise on the same point of order and I am sure it gets tiresome for the parliamentary secretary for me to do so. I refer to the same series of questions. They begin with starred question No. 30 and go on quite a few numbers after that. Some of these questions have been on various order papers for as much as two years and still remain unanswered.

A few weeks ago when it appeared that the dissolution of the House was imminent, one could assume that the government was simply going to let these questions die on the order paper. There is no excuse whatsoever now, because the House has not been dissolved. I would like to draw particular attention to four questions, two of which I have mentioned before. First of all question No. 54 asks for the amount of government money which was paid to the brother-in-law of the Minister of Transport (Mr. Lang), namely, Mr. Tony Merchant, who is a candidate in the forthcoming election for the Liberal party and