

That the public accounts for the year ended March 31, 1976, be referred to the Standing Committee on Public Accounts.

Mr. Speaker: Is it the pleasure of the House to adopt the said motion?

Motion agreed to.

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QUESTIONS ON THE ORDER PAPER

(Questions answered orally are indicated by an asterisk.)

Mr. Ralph E. Goodale (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): Mr. Speaker, the following questions will be answered today: 65, 79, 93, 103, 399 to 420, inclusive, and 585.

[Text]

UIC—BENEFIT CONTROL, BUDGET GUIDELINES

Question No. 65—Mr. Cossitt:

1. Has an internal document been circulated within the Unemployment Insurance Commission setting forth budgetary guidelines for the future and did this document outline increased expenditures in the area of benefit control?

2. (a) Did the document state in effect that this was for purposes of checking defrauding of the Unemployment Insurance Commission (b) what is the name and job designation of the (i) person who wrote the document (ii) highest ranking official authorizing release of the document?

3. How many Benefit Control Officers (a) were employed by UIC as of January 1, 1976 (b) have been hired since then (c) is it anticipated will be hired in the next year?

Hon. Jack Cullen (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): In so far as the Unemployment Insurance Commission is concerned: 1. Yes. The budget guidelines for 1977 stated that the 1977 budget for Benefit Control is to reflect the resources currently being added in this area.

2. (a) Included in the overall objectives for 1977 was the objective of maintaining the level of resources allocated in 1976 to the Benefit Control Program with the emphasis to continue to shift towards specialized investigation of fraud. (b) Input into the formulation of objectives and budget guidelines is the collective responsibility of senior management. The document referred to was considered and approved by the Executive Committee.

3. (a) 400; (b) 66; (c) 18.

UIC—APPLICATION PROCEDURE

Question No. 79—Mr. Cossitt:

1. Since the time that the honourable Member for Leeds first introduced the subject of alleged defrauding of the Unemployment Insurance Commission in the House of Commons, has UIC made a change whereby all persons in Metro Toronto who wish to make application for unemployment insurance must now apply in person at a UIC office?

2. (a) What were the reasons for the introduction of this change and was this for the purpose of screening applicants to avoid future fraud (b) what is the name and job designation of the highest ranking official in the Commission who ordered this change and on what date did it come into effect?

Order Paper Questions

Hon. Jack Cullen (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): In so far as the Unemployment Insurance Commission is concerned: 1. No.

2. Not applicable.

UIC—JEAN-MARIE DUGUAY

Question No. 93—Mr. Cossitt:

1. In what capacity is Mr. Jean-Marie Duguay presently employed with the Unemployment Insurance Commission and where is his place of work?

2. Over what period of time, including his present position, has he been (a) Regional Personnel Advisor for the Atlantic Region at Moncton, New Brunswick (b) Regional Personnel Advisor for the Ontario Regional Office at Belleville, Ontario (c) Regional Manager of Operations for the Northern Region in Ottawa?

3. What was the (a) individual (b) total cost to the taxpayer of transfers for the relatively short period involved?

4. Does the Commission give consideration to the disruption caused to employees and their families by such frequent transfers and (a) if not, for what reason (b) if so, for what reason are such transfers made?

Hon. Jack Cullen (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): In so far as the Unemployment Insurance Commission is concerned: 1. Director, Planning and Evaluation (SX-1)—Montreal R.O. effective September 6, 1976.

2. (a) August 1972 to August 1973. (b) August 1973 to September 1974. (c) September 1974 to March 1976.

3. (a) (i) \$2,332.06; (ii) \$3,435.08; (iii) \$3,532.23. (b) Total \$9,299.37.

4. UIC does give consideration to the disruption caused to employees and families by transfers. (a) Not applicable. (b) Mr. Duguay's transfers were results of promotions based on knowledge skills and superior performance. He has been an employee of the UIC since 1960. Each move and payment of expenses was in accordance with promotional practices.

UIC—OFFICIAL LANGUAGES' EXPENSES

Question No. 95—Mr. Cossitt:

What has been the total amount of money spent by the Official Languages Section of the Unemployment Insurance Commission since it was established, including salaries, expenses and all other matters whatsoever?

Hon. Jack Cullen (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): In so far as the Unemployment Insurance Commission is concerned: \$4,125,603.

UIC—RECORD OF EMPLOYMENT

Question No. 103—Mr. Cossitt:

1. With regard to the Unemployment Insurance Commission form number 1103 entitled "Record of Employment", does the Commission follow a regular system of verifying these to ensure their authenticity and (a) if so, what is a description of the system (b) if not, for what reason and does this not provide a large opening for possible fraud?

2. Are only some forms verified and, if so, what percentage of the total and on what basis are they selected for verification?

Hon. Jack Cullen (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): In so far as the Unemployment Insurance Commission is