

Sports Pool ticket, and we could then see whether there is a government in the free world that is more incompetent and more inclined to patronage than the Minister's.

Hon. Jacques Olivier (Minister of State (Fitness and Amateur Sport)): Mr. Speaker, speaking of patronage, perhaps I should quote what the Hon. Member's leader said a while ago. In New Brunswick he said publicly that if he were Prime Minister, he would wait fifteen years and then if there was only one Progressive Conservative left, he would appoint a Liberal. That is patronage. That is real patronage. And I am not about to get involved in that sort of thing, Mr. Speaker. All I have to say to my hon. friend opposite is: Do we have to publish names of all the people who work for Air Canada? Or the names of all the people who work for Canada Post? I do not intend to publish a list, and besides, I am told there are as many Progressive Conservatives in the Sports Pool as there are anywhere else. Except in the last election, when unfortunately, there were more Liberals than Progressive Conservatives.

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● (1440)

[English]

REGIONAL INDUSTRIAL EXPANSION

DESIGNATION OF PORT COLBORNE

Mr. Girve Fretz (Erie): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Regional Industrial Expansion. According to a recent issue of a newspaper in my riding, the Mayor of Port Colborne told City Council that it has a preferred position in the region's special tier one designation for attracting industries to the peninsula. Could the Minister tell me what that special designation is within the region's special tier one?

Hon. Ed Lumley (Minister of Regional Industrial Expansion): Mr. Speaker, perhaps the Hon. Member could give me a copy of the article. I have never seen the article or heard anything about the discussion. I will get back to him with a proper answer.

Mr. Fretz: Mr. Speaker, I will be pleased to supply the Minister with a copy of the newspaper.

REQUEST FOR CLARIFICATION

Mr. Girve Fretz (Erie): Mr. Speaker, the Mayor has said that within tier one a special designation was given only to the City of Port Colborne. It did not include the other 11 municipalities in the region of Niagara. I am merely asking for clarification on that point.

Hon. Ed Lumley (Minister of Regional Industrial Expansion): Mr. Speaker, the IRDP program is based on census areas. An area is to be treated as a whole. No one part of a census area is to be treated differently from any other part of the census area.

Oral Questions

ESTIMATES

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT— REQUEST THAT COMMITTEE MEETING BE RESCHEDULED

Mr. Scott Fennell (Ontario): Mr. Speaker, my supplementary question is for the Minister of State for Economic Development. It is supplementary to the question asked by the Hon. Member for Richmond-South Delta. The Minister stated that he would agree to go to the Committee meeting at five o'clock this afternoon. This is very important. Otherwise these estimates will be passed without any committee hearings. Will the Minister commit himself in the House at this time to get together with the chairman and re-schedule that meeting for five o'clock this afternoon?

Hon. Donald J. Johnston (Minister of State for Economic and Regional Development and Minister of State for Science and Technology): Mr. Speaker, I had not thought it was my responsibility to manage the committee schedule. I have said that I would be available. I am here. Apparently the meeting has been cancelled. That is the only knowledge I have of it. I am happy to try to comply, but I have taken it off my schedule, as a result.

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CORPS OF COMMISSIONAIRES

GOVERNMENT POLICY

Mr. John McDermid (Brampton-Georgetown): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Prime Minister. Uniformed commissioners who are primarily veterans have served the federal Government for a long period of time. Is there a deliberate policy now to phase them out of use at federal institutions within the country?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): No, Mr. Speaker, I know of no such policy.

LAYOFFS AT TORONTO AND MISSISSAUGA

Mr. John McDermid (Brampton-Georgetown): Mr. Speaker, would the Prime Minister personally look into the situation? All of the commissioners at the postal operations Gateway in Mississauga have been let go. At Toronto International Airport 40 of them have been laid off and they are hiring other security forces to replace them. More layoffs are expected very shortly. These veterans rely on this income to survive because they have very low pensions. Would he personally look into the situation to assure that they are not being laid off and replaced by others?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I will be happy to look into the matter.