

Oral Questions

taken place in the past with the permission of the licensee, who in this case is the E.B. Eddy Company.

The local conservation officers are aware of this situation and some concern was expressed this year—in January, I believe. As soon as that concern was expressed, the operations were stopped. We then asked if they wanted the training discontinued, but the conservation officers did not want that. Inspections were made and it appears there was no damage to wildlife—animals, fish or beast.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Matte: I have a supplementary, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I understand very well that there are such manoeuvres but they take place under an agreement with the authorities concerned. As there was apparently no such agreement in that case, could the minister tell us now whether he has received official complaints from government authorities in Quebec and what he intends to do to deal with this conflict, given the impact of these incidents?

[*English*]

Mr. Danson: Mr. Speaker, there is absolutely no conflict. Authority has been received from the licensee who has the cutting rights there. I think it would be appropriate for future operations to have such a clearance with the province of Quebec, in view of the fact that it could affect—although it has not affected—game and wildlife. There is no conflict whatsoever.

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● (1432)

STATUS OF WOMEN

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PROGRAMS FOR WOMEN IN PUBLIC SERVICE

Mr. David MacDonald (Egmont): Mr. Speaker, my questions relate to concern about women in the work force. I have an additional problem. A moment or two ago a ministerial briefing book was put on my desk: it seems to be a briefing book for the minister responsible for the status of women. I expect one of these books shortly, but I may have to wait for an election.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. MacDonald (Egmont): While giving the minister time to review his music, I would like to pose a question relating to the same matter to the Minister of Employment and Immigration. A few days ago the Minister of Employment and Immigration issued a report refuting some of the serious concerns raised by a group of women in the public service about growing discrimination and non-application of equal opportunity programs. In his somewhat fragmented reporting of statistics from his department, the minister gave statistics only for the CR-5 group and omitted, noticeably, CR-6 and CR-7 as well as the important categories of PM and AS. Can the minister indicate whether substantial progress has been made

in those areas, as indicated by the general nature of his press release? While he is on his feet, can the minister also indicate whether the 44 acting appointments of females which were made on a temporary basis were made permanent? What percentage later became permanent appointments?

Hon. Bud Cullen (Minister of Employment and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, the purpose of the release was not to refute that which was said by the group referred to by the hon. member, but to put it into some kind of perspective. A suggestion had been made that there were none in the SX category and none in managerial roles, and that there were no women in charge on the Immigration Appeal Board staff. In response to that suggestion, we felt we should put some of the counterstatistics on the record, and in effect that is what was done.

With respect to the particular categories to which the hon. member has referred, the odds are that we have not improved in those areas. That is probably why that was not included in my report. However, I would be very happy to check it out to see what the situation is. I do not have at my fingertips information regarding movement from temporary to permanent positions, but I will check that out.

REQUEST FOR ANNUAL REPORTS ON EFFICACY OF EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PROGRAMS

Mr. David MacDonald (Egmont): Mr. Speaker, now that the minister responsible for the status of women has had a chance to review his notes, and because of his over-all responsibility since 1974 for implementing equal opportunity programs for women and the commitment made in the fall of 1975 with respect to reviewing, on an annual basis, the progress being made in various government departments and Crown corporations, can the minister indicate why no yearly accounting has taken place?

Very obviously, the Minister of Employment and Immigration is interested in trying to set the record straight. When can the minister responsible for the status of women give us a firm indication that we will have a comprehensive report so that doubt, uncertainty or anxiety on the part of women presently employed in the public service will not continue?

Hon. Marc Lalonde (Minister of State for Federal-Provincial Relations): Mr. Speaker, first I would like to thank the hon. member for returning my documents. I am glad that there is at least one hon. member opposite who returns documents that do not belong to him.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Lalonde: I want to assure the hon. member that reports which have been requested of all departments have been filed and have been received by Treasury Board. Treasury Board has assigned officers to review these reports with the individual departments to see whether further improvements can be made in terms of plans. I will be glad to see what information can be made public in this respect, in addition to all the information