

CRIMES COMMITTED

Question No. 402—**Mr. Coates:**

1. What has been the total number of crimes committed in each of the years from 1960-67, inclusive of what is the breakdown by provinces and territories?

2. Of the total number of crimes committed in each of the years from 1960-67, how many have resulted in charges being laid against one or more individuals and of the total number of charges laid, how many resulted in convictions?

3. Of the total number of crimes committed in 1960, how many remain unsolved at the present time?

Return tabled.

RECIDIVISTS IN CANADA

Question No. 526—**Mr. Robinson:**

1. What was the total number of (a) indictable (b) summary offences, by province, tried in Canada in each of the last five years?

2. How many recidivists, by province, are there in Canada with more than 2, 3, 4, 5, or more convictions for (a) indictable (b) summary offences?

3. How many recidivists, by province, are there in Canada with more than 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, or more criminal convictions?

Return tabled.

Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Prince Albert): Mr. Speaker, in connection with the answers to questions I would point out that the answers to two questions of mine have been held back in a manner that is inexcusable and constitutes, in my opinion, a contempt of parliament. The first question—and I referred to it the other day—is No. 57. On September 13, which was a month and 17 days ago, I asked the following question:

How many Liberal members of the last parliament and Liberal candidates in the last election have been appointed to positions in government, civil service, or to government boards since 25th June?

There can be no excuse for the failure to answer that question, except that the Secretary of State is not doing his duty but is flying kites outside the House of Commons.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear.

Mr. Diefenbaker: The second question to which I refer is No. 275, as follows:

In the report of the Company of Young Canadians for 1967-68 there is an item that \$489,019 was expended for consulting and professional fees during the year.

What are the names and addresses and amounts paid to each of the recipients of such payments?

Questions

I asked for that information in the month of July, and the answer was that the group had the answer but would not give it, even if it was in the annual report of the Company of Young Canadians, until parliament asked the question. Surely, sir, a matter such as this, with regard to which the government is in possession of the fullest information, should not be the subject of a denial of the answer to this House of Commons. In this respect there should not be a delay for a very long period of time because, after all, those who occupy positions such as the head of the Company of Young Canadians cannot act as sawdust Caesars toward parliament and its requests.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear.

Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (President of the Privy Council): Mr. Speaker, I am much obliged to the right hon. gentleman for having raised the matter of question No. 57. As the house knows, it is within the competence of members under the rules of this house only to address questions within the administrative responsibility of the government, and I am glad to have the opportunity of bringing to the attention of the house difficulties which have arisen with regard to both this question, to question No. 71 in the name of the hon. member for Cumberland-Colchester North (Mr. Coates), and question No. 155 in the name of the hon. member for Kenora-Rainy River (Mr. Reid).

In relation to question No. 57, neither candidates for election to the House of Commons nor members of the house are required to declare a party affiliation.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh.

Mr. Hees: Now we have heard it all.

Mr. Speaker: Could we have order, please.

Mr. Macdonald (Rosedale): Consequently there is no record—

Mr. Hees: Even your own members are laughing at you.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh.

Mr. Macdonald (Rosedale): I wonder, Mr. Speaker, whether hon. gentlemen wish to hear the answer. Consequently there is no record under the administrative responsibility of the government of Canada from which an answer to this question—that is, No. 57—can be drawn.