

Inquiries of the Ministry

[Translation]

Mr. Caouette: Mr. Speaker, we do not want the matter to degenerate into a debate, but we would not want the minister to fail in or shirk his responsibilities. He should give a clear answer. If a group of citizens or even one person had the right to show the film, I do not see any reason why all the hon. members of the house would not be invited to see it, as well as the Canadian public. The minister should assume his responsibilities.

Mr. Lamontagne: Mr. Speaker, I have no lesson to take from the hon. member for Villeneuve—

Mr. Caouette: You surely have.

Mr. Lamontagne: The film was shown by its maker who had been given copies under an agreement he had signed with the C.B.C.

Mr. Gilles Grégoire (Lapointe): Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question. Could the Secretary of State tell us how many times in the past the C.B.C. has refused to telecast films which it had paid for? What amount of money was wasted in that way during the last year?

Mr. Lamontagne: I do not have that information here, Mr. Speaker.

[Text]

Mr. Fairweather: I have a supplementary question for the Secretary of State. Is it a fact that the working prints of this film are worn out because they have been shown so many times to various people to decide whether or not we can see it?

REPORTED SMALL CANADIAN COVERAGE IN NEWS BROADCASTS

On the orders of the day:

[Translation]

Hon. Maurice Lamontagne (Secretary of State): Mr. Speaker, about the question the hon. member for Villeneuve (Mr. Caouette) asked me last June 2, the C.B.C. advises as follows.

The French television network gives, every night of the week, a national news bulletin lasting approximately 13 minutes, followed by a regional news bulletin lasting approximately seven minutes.

According to an investigation made by the research department of the C.B.C. in Montreal on the 1963 news bulletins, two thirds of the news items read on the national broadcast dealt with Canadian matters and one third with international events.

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Taking into account the regional news bulletin started in June 1963, the proportion of Canadian news reached 80 per cent during the last part of the year.

I would like to take this opportunity to reply to the question the hon. member for Lapointe (Mr. Grégoire) asked me last June 10.

The C.B.C. advises me that, in 1963, the total amount paid in fees is made up as follows: 95 per cent to artists living in Canada and 5 per cent to artists living abroad.

[Text]

CANADIAN FLAG

INQUIRIES RESPECTING CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSED RESOLUTION

On the orders of the day:

Mr. J. H. Horner (Acadia): Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct a question to the Minister of Trade and Commerce. Would he inform the house whether his department is continuing to distribute a card game called "The Canadian maple leaf" in which the three Canadian maple leaves are referred to as jokers, and the winner of the game is the player left with the one maple leaf? Can we draw from this that there was collusion between the Liberal party and the New Democratic party before this flag debate began?

Mr. Speaker: Order. This question is obviously out of order.

Mr. Horner (Acadia): On a point of order, Mr. Speaker; this is a very important point.

Mr. Speaker: Order. If the question is out of order there is not much more I can say.

Mr. Horner (Acadia): On a point of order, Mr. Speaker; we are now involved in a flag debate concerning three maple leaves, and one department of the government is publishing the fact to the world that they are referred to as three Canadian jokers.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member will have ample opportunity, and very shortly, to put his views before the house.

Mr. Horner (Acadia): I will debate it at ten o'clock, Mr. Speaker.

[Later:]

Mr. G. L. Chatterton (Esquimalt-Saanich): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Prime Minister. Can the Prime Minister advise the house whether the government will consider the resolution which is government order 44(B) a question of confidence in the government?

Some hon. Members: Answer.