PHOTOGRAPHS OF HON, JEAN-PIERRE GOYER

Question No. 3,130-Mr. Cossitt:

- 1. Did the Minister of Supply and Services or anyone acting on his behalf issue an order, memorandum or instruction of any kind that photographs of the Honourable Jean-Pierre Goyer be hung in all of the Department's offices and, if so, for what purpose?
- 2. What are all the details of the matter including the (a) date on which such a decision was made (b) person making the decision (c) person or persons issuing such instructions (d) number of pictures ordered and the cost thereof (e) location in each office in which such pictures have been hung or will be hung?

Hon. Jean-Pierre Goyer (Minister of Supply and Services): 1. No.

2. Not applicable

[English]

QUESTION PASSED AS ORDER FOR RETURN

Mr. J.-J. Blais (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): Mr. Speaker, if question No. 2,089 could be made an order to return, this return would be tabled immediately.

[Text]

DEPARTMENT OF REGIONAL ECONOMIC EXPANSION—CONSULTANTS

Question No. 2,089-Mr. Howie:

From January 1, 1974 to December 31, 1974 in the Department of Regional Economic Expansion (a) how many consultants were hired (b) what were the terms of reference, time and length of the work assignment (c) what amount was paid to each?

Return tabled.

[English]

Mr. J.-J. Blais (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): I would ask, Mr. Speaker, that the remaining questions be allowed to stand.

Mr. Speaker: Is that agreed?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

[English]

ANTI-INFLATION ACT

MEASURE TO PROVIDE FOR RESTRAINT OF PROFIT MARGINS, PRICES, DIVIDENDS AND COMPENSATION

The House resumed, from Wednesday, October 22, consideration of the motion of Mr. Macdonald (Rosedale) that Bill C-73, to provide for the restraint of profit margins, prices, dividends and compensation in Canada, be read the second time and referred to the Standing Committee on Finance, Trade and Economic Affairs.

Anti-Inflation Act

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. Yesterday the hon. member for Edmonton West (Mr. Lambert) raised a very interesting point of order about an irregularity in a provision of the bill, particularly, as I recall, the provision in clause 26 which would propose to leave to the governor in council the power to make appointments to staff positions created by the bill for a four-year period, when in fact the recommendation of the bill contains a specific statement and a reference to the expiry date, which is also contained in clause 46 of the bill, which would be in conflict. The bill, both in the recommendation and in clause 46, provides for expiry on December 31, 1978. The power to make four-year appointments would, of course, give the power to the governor in council to extend expenses and expenditures beyond the term limit contained in the bill.

There can be no doubt that the hon. member's point is valid. It is a technically sound point, and the hon. member is quite accurate in his reasoning. The fact is that clause 26 is in conflict with clause 46 regarding the expiry date of the bill, and in turn is in conflict with the specific provision and recommendation. I take it the hon. member has given an indication of his approach, and I suppose that of his other colleagues in the House, in his remarks as follows:

I would therefore ask Your Honour to take this point under advisement and, if you are persuaded by my argument, to direct that the offending clauses be amended to conform with the recommendation—

I understand that the House may be disposed to vote on this matter later in the day, so whatever disposition is to be made is somewhat urgent. I have caused an inquiry to be made and I am given to understand that the government is prepared to indicate its willingness at this moment, or will later, to bring forward at the first available opportunity an amendment which would remove the conflict that appears to exist between the two clauses. Presumably, that would be done by making it absolutely certain that whatever power is granted in clause 26 is circumscribed by the expiry date in the bill and the expiry date contained in the recommendation. If that is done to the satisfaction of the hon. member and other hon. members of the House, perhaps we may set the point aside. If before the vote takes place that has not been done to their satisfaction, then I would be disposed to make a formal ruling on it.

Mr. Macdonald (Rosedale): Mr. Speaker, I would regard the hon. member's point as well taken, and I can indicate that at the committee stage it would be my intention to propose an amendment to make the provision in clause 26(2) conform to the terms of the royal recommendation.

Mr. Speaker: Is that agreed?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Mr. Jake Epp (Provencher): Mr. Speaker, when I was speaking yesterday on Bill C-73 I was primarily concerned with convincing the government that if its anti-inflation program is to work or is to be accepted by the Canadian population at large, the government will have to take a new position or another look at its present state of credibility and integrity. It has been my contention, as I brought forward yesterday, that you can only yell "wolf" for so long and so many times, because finally the people do not believe you anymore and they stop listening.