

2. As soon as possible. There will probably be a need to amend the legislation.

3. Mr. Sedgwick consulted with departmental officials and other interested parties in the course of his investigations, but the department is not aware of any persons who may have been employed by Mr. Sedgwick in connection with the preparation of his report.

4. Mr. Sedgwick's fee was \$12,000.

5. Incidental expenses for hotel accommodation, transportation, meals, etc. amounted to \$563.21.

[English]

CBC PERSONNEL

Question No. 509—**Mr. Mather:**

1. In the years 1967-1968, 1968-1969, 1969-1970, what was the number of CBC employees including production, administration, clerical, special services and/or commission employees?

2. In each year, what was the cost of salaries, wages, fees, commissions or other employee indemnities of such employees?

[Translation]

Hon. Gérard Pelletier (Secretary of State): I am informed by the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation as follows: For the year ended March 31, 1968, 9,042 employees; \$83.4 million; 1969, 9,147 employees; \$89.8 million; 1970, 8,951 employees; \$98.4 million.

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[English]

QUESTION PASSED AS ORDER FOR RETURN

COMPANY OF YOUNG CANADIANS—STAFF MEMBERS

Question No. 56—**Mr. Orlikow:**

Who are the staff members of the Company of Young Canadians and, in each case, what is their annual salary?

Return tabled.

Mr. Speaker: Oral questions.

Mr. Howard (Skeena): Mr. Speaker, I wish to rise with regard to written questions, if I may.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. Is the hon. member for Skeena rising on a question of privilege?

Mr. Howard (Skeena): That is as convenient a way as any to get the floor, Mr. Speaker. I wish to inquire about starred question No. 40 standing in my name which simply asks about the results of the inquiry undertaken by the Minister of National Health and Welfare into the leakage with regard to the interim report of the Le Dain Commission. This question has been on the order paper since October 8, and I should like to know what progress is being made toward making a reply?

Mr. Munro: Mr. Speaker, I would advise the hon. member that I have noted his remarks and will try to get an answer very shortly.

23568—56

Inquiries of the Ministry
ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

FINANCE

PRIME INTEREST RATE—ACTION TO BRING
ABOUT REDUCTION

Hon. George Hees (Prince Edward-Hastings): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Prime Minister. In view of the announcement on Friday by the chartered banks that during the past 12 months their profits have increased by a further 12 per cent over and above the three previous record-breaking years, has the government given consideration in the intervening three days to advising the chartered banks that they can well afford to reduce the prime rate to 7 per cent and that it is in the national interest that they do so because this is by far the most effective means available to us for stimulating the economy and thereby counteracting rising unemployment?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Well, Mr. Speaker, to my memory the hon. member has asked this question at least six times in the past three months and each time he received the answer that the banks were effectively lowering their rates. There is nothing new to add today. I do not expect that he would imagine the government would act against the banks just because they were making profits.

Mr. Hees: The government has said that it is looking for ways to stimulate the economy. I have suggested a way in which that can be done very easily and I have asked the Prime Minister whether the government has considered this suggestion.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I believe the hon. member has a supplementary question.

Mr. Hees: Yes, Mr. Speaker. As the Prime Minister has made it very clear that the government has no intention of following this suggestion, I would ask him if he would take the House into his confidence and tell us how it is that the chartered banks have the Minister of Finance and himself so completely in the palm of their hands—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I doubt whether that question is in order. I am sure it is not and I do not think the Chair should allow a reply to be made to it.

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LABOUR CONDITIONS

SINGLE UNEMPLOYED TRANSIENTS—EDUCATIONAL
UPGRADING PROGRAM—PAYMENT OF
WELFARE COST

Mr. T. C. Douglas (Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands): I want to direct a question to the right hon. Prime Minister regarding a group which is unfortunately growing in number. I refer to the single unemployed transients, many of whom at the present time have used up their