

Will he table in the House the studies which must have been done to prove what he has been saying, so that we can look at the assumptions to see where the increased production will take place, how it will take place, where it could be sold and, more important, at what price?

• (1440)

Hon. E. F. Whelan (Minister of Agriculture): Madam Speaker, I do not know whether the Hon. Member has the documentation. Loads of documentation have been made public. If he has read all of it, the Hon. Member should know which figures and so on that we are using. I do not know of any document that we have used that has not been made public, but I will check and find out if there are others that are available. If there are and if these are working documents that have not been made public they will be because I think that even a blind economist on a galloping horse could see that what we are saying is true.

Some Hon. Members: Oh, oh!

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PENITENTIARIES

CANCELLATION OF UNIVERSITY TUITION FOR INMATES

Hon. Allan Lawrence (Durham-Northumberland): Madam Speaker, my question, if I can complete it without interruption, is for the Solicitor General. Is he considering reversing his incredibly inept decision to cancel the college and university course program in federal prisons?

Hon. Bob Kaplan (Solicitor General of Canada): Madam Speaker, I am not considering reversing that decision. But as I indicated at the time, I am encouraging the Correctional Service of Canada and others to come forward with far less expensive methods of providing post-secondary education for inmates.

Mr. Epp: Private diplomas.

Mr. Kaplan: I have in mind the types of programs that existed, about which the Hon. Member should know, before the present university contract program was introduced, and other ways.

OFFER OF OFFSETTING EXPENDITURE CUT

Hon. Allan Lawrence (Durham-Northumberland): Madam Speaker, as one who had a little bit to do with the continuation of that program in the first place, may I present this challenge to the Minister? If we can show the Solicitor General where to save \$712,000 annually elsewhere in his Department, will he then reinstitute this very worth-while program?

Oral Questions

Hon. Bob Kaplan (Solicitor General of Canada): Madam Speaker, I think it is the responsibility of the Opposition, and of all Members, to come up with ways in which the Government can perform its functions more efficiently.

Mr. Crosbie: Resign.

Mr. Kaplan: I would like very much to see the cuts which the Hon. Member would propose.

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[Translation]

MACDONALD ROYAL COMMISSION

INQUIRY WHETHER REMUNERATION OF COMMISSION COULD BE REDUCED

Hon. Roch La Salle (Joliette): Madam Speaker, my question is directed to the Right Hon. Prime Minister. Yesterday, the Minister of National Health and Welfare admitted there would be nothing in the next budget to provide relief for 750,000 elderly Canadians who are living in poverty. Since the Government has already agreed to pay Mr. Robert and Mr. Macdonald between \$800 and \$900 per day for a study on the economy, could I perhaps ask the Right Hon. Prime Minister, considering the astonishment with which Canadians received the news about these stipends, whether it occurred to him to ask those great Canadians, Mr. Robert and Mr. Macdonald, to take a cut in salary in order to help us build up the country's economy?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Madam Speaker, yesterday, I suggested the Member for Joliette ask the Members for Vancouver Centre and Saskatoon West what they were being paid as lawyers or what they were paid by the Clark Government when the Member for Vancouver Centre was working for that Government. Could he give us some figures and the number of hours per year, Madam Speaker?

Mr. La Salle: Fifty dollars an hour!

Mr. Trudeau: How many hours per year, Madam Speaker.

Mr. La Salle: He did not work that long.

Mr. Trudeau: The Hon. Member forgot to ask and is quoting a figure at random. I am going to ask his permission to check this information. Regarding the statement made by the Minister yesterday, Madam Speaker, the Hon. Member completely misunderstood. There is no way anyone can know what will be in the budget because the budget has not even been drafted. Neither the Minister nor myself know any of the details of the budget, and as the House is aware, it will be a while before the budget is brought down. Perhaps the Hon. Member should refrain from speaking in the House if he is going to misinterpret perfectly logical answers given by the Minister.