

An Hon. Senator: No, in French.

Hon. Mr. Pouliot: I am embarrassed. I may not read it at all, and you will be disappointed. Listen to this:

What is the name of the president of the Canada Council and when was he appointed?

I will say it in French:

(Translation):

1. What is the name of the president of the Canada Council and when was he appointed?

2. Is he a man of letters? If so, what are the titles of his books, and where and when were they published?

3. Is he a painter? If so, in what city and when was his first exhibition held?

4. Is he a sculptor? If so, to what school does he belong and where are his works displayed?

5. Is he a musician? If so, what instrument does he play?

6. In what cities and when did he give concerts?

7. Does he make records and where can they be bought?

And I could add:

And at what price?

8. Is he chartered accountant or an auditor? If so, what are his qualifications and where did he obtain them?

9. What was his business, or his job or profession at the time of his appointment?

10. If he was neither a man of letters, nor a painter, nor a sculptor, nor a musician, nor a chartered accountant, why was he appointed rather than an artist?

(Text):

CAPITAL PUNISHMENT

COMMUTATION OF DEATH SENTENCES —INQUIRY

Hon. Jean-François Pouliot: Honourable colleagues, now I must relate to you a very sad matter. Last week a tragedy occurred to a young family living in the lower part of a duplex dwelling in Quebec City. On this occasion the mother left her three months' old baby in the charge of the lady upstairs, whose husband was the master of a lioness cub which he kept as a pet. This, of course, was a careless thing for the mother to do, and the lioness mauled the baby so badly that the infant died. Afterwards, the lioness was treated as a vicious animal should be treated—a provincial policeman came and shot it.

Now I come to my question:

(Translation):

Over the past ten years, how many death sentences have been commuted in

the case of individuals found guilty of (a) murder, and (b) rape and murder, and on what date was each of those commutations decided?

I will not make any comments, but I am putting these questions on the order paper in the hope that the government will answer them in due course.

(Text):

ELECTORAL BOUNDARIES READJUSTMENT BILL

SECOND READING

Hon. C. G. Power moved the second reading of Bill C-72, to provide for the establishment of electoral boundaries commissions to report upon the readjustment of the representation of the provinces in the House of Commons and to provide for the readjustment of such representation in accordance therewith.

He said: Honourable senators, notwithstanding its long and somewhat involved title, this bill is a comparatively simple one. The aim and object of it is that Parliament dispense with the function, which since Confederation it has exercised, of allocating the boundaries of ridings within each province, and hand over to bodies of a less partisan nature the duty of making this redistribution. Generally speaking, I think this object meets with pretty general agreement and even with a substantial measure of acclaim.

Before going into the details of the sections of this bill, I would like to explain in a broad and general way how it is proposed to go about reaching this objective. It is proposed to constitute ten commissions, one for each province, which, after having been given the number of the population of the province, shall divide that population into the number of districts allotted to the province under section 51, of the British North America Act. Each commission will sit in the province to which it is allocated, will hear representations and, after its study has been completed, will draft a representation order which will in due course go to the Parliament of Canada, to the House of Commons, and be discussed there to ascertain whether there are any objections to it. After that it is to be returned to the commission, and a representation order is to be issued, followed by a proclamation which brings into force and effect the redistribution effected, after the Parliament during which time this work has been done has been dissolved. In a few words, that is what it is proposed to do under this bill.

To go to the sections of the bill, section 11 really provides for the beginning of the work. It says:

As soon as possible after the completion of any decennial census, or—