

Point of Order—Mr. Beatty

gency to urban centres in Canada, not including Ottawa, for the fiscal year ending March 31, 1977 and, in each case (a) to what centres and on what dates (b) by what means did he travel and at what cost to the government (c) how many persons accompanied him and what are their names and job designations?

2. In his capacity as Minister responsible for Multiculturalism, how many trips did the Minister make outside Canada and, in each case, (a) to what places (i.e. city and country) and on what dates (b) at what cost to the government?

3. In his capacity as Minister responsible for Multiculturalism, how many speaking engagements did the Minister fulfil during the fiscal year ending March 31, 1977 and, in each case (a) what group or organization did he address and on what dates (b) at what locations (i.e. city and province)?

Mr. Yvon Pinard (Parliamentary Secretary to President of Privy Council): See Beauchesne's Parliamentary Rules and Forms, fourth edition, citation 171(11).

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[Translation]

QUESTION PASSED AS ORDER FOR RETURN

Mr. Yvon Pinard (Parliamentary Secretary to President of Privy Council): Mr. Speaker, if question No. 139 could be made an order for return, this return would be tabled immediately.

[Text]

MULTICULTURALISM—MINISTER'S TRAVELS**Question No. 138—Mr. Mitges:**

1. Since his appointment as Minister of State for Multiculturalism, how many trips did the honourable Member for Ontario make outside his Constituency to urban centres in Canada, not including Ottawa and, in each case (a) to what cities or towns and on what dates (b) by what means did he travel and at what cost to the government (c) how many persons accompanied him and what are their names and job designations?

2. Since his appointment as Minister of State for Multiculturalism, how many trips did the Minister make outside Canada and, in each case, to what places (i.e. city and country) and at what cost to the government?

3. In his capacity as Minister of State for Multiculturalism, how many speaking engagements did the Minister fulfil and, in each case (a) what group or organization did he address and on what dates (b) at what locations (i.e. city or town and province)?

[English]

Mr. Speaker: Is it agreed that question No. 138 be made an order for return?

Mr. Paproski: Agreed.

Return tabled.

Mr. Speaker: Shall the remaining questions stand?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

[Mr. Mitges.]

POINT OF ORDER**MR. BEATTY—DELAY IN ANSWERING QUESTIONS**

Mr. Perrin Beatty (Wellington-Grey-Dufferin-Waterloo): Mr. Speaker, I want to remind the parliamentary secretary again that many of us have had questions on the order paper extending back many months, and in some cases a matter of years. I wonder whether the parliamentary secretary might do the House the courtesy of saying if he does not intend to answer questions that have sat on the order paper for several months. Perhaps he could table in the House a list of those questions which the government has no intention of answering, so we could have some idea of what they are, and certainly if there is some justification for presenting such a list then I am sure those of us who are affected would be pleased to withdraw the questions. If that were done, at least we would have some indication of what the intentions of the government were, and we could pursue the government as to the reasons why it felt it was necessary to leave the questions on the order paper for a protracted period without giving any adequate explanation.

[Translation]

Mr. Yvon Pinard (Parliamentary Secretary to President of Privy Council): Mr. Speaker, I find these remarks unfair. On numerous occasions, following interventions made by the hon. member or by others, I have shown the government's goodwill and efficiency in dealing with questions on the order paper. I repeat once more that during the last two sessions we answered more than 90 per cent of the questions on the order paper. We are at the beginning of a new session and all the required personnel of the 40 departments or agencies are doing research to find the best complete answers to the very numerous questions already on the order paper and I can assure the hon. member that everything is being done to answer the greatest possible number of questions in the most complete and exact way possible. I can assure him that in the next days we will be able to list more questions which have been answered and I simply ask him to show here the most elementary patience.

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[English]

MOTIONS FOR PAPERS

Mr. Yvon Pinard (Parliamentary Secretary to President of Privy Council): Mr. Speaker, I ask that all notices of motions for the production of papers be allowed to stand.

Mr. Speaker: Agreed.

Motions stood.