

YOUTH

OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUTH PROGRAM—NUMBER OF APPLICATIONS RECEIVED, CRITERIA APPLIED

Mr. Lorne Nystrom (Yorkton-Melville): My question is directed to the Secretary of State, Mr. Speaker. In view of the fact that applications for the Opportunities for Youth program are now being received, can the minister inform the House how many have been received and what criteria are used in approving or rejecting them?

[*Translation*]

Hon. Gérard Pelletier (Secretary of State): Mr. Speaker, we have received a good many applications. I could not quote any number for the member's information. As far as the requirements are concerned, these are described in pamphlets distributed to hon. members. In my opinion, to give the details in answer to a simple question would take up much time.

[*English*]

Mr. Nystrom: In view of the statement issued by the Canadian Student Liberals that the government's summer job program is ill-planned and does not solve long term needs, can the minister state whether the government is formulating long-term plans for student employment next year?

Mr. Speaker: I suggest to the hon. member that as asked the question is argumentative. The hon. Leader of the Opposition.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUTH PROGRAM—ALLEGED CONFUSION IN PROVISION OF INFORMATION

Hon. Robert L. Stanfield (Leader of the Opposition): I have a supplementary question on the same subject for the Minister without Portfolio who I do not think has been distracted by attempting to write a book. I should like to ask if he has any explanation, in light of the statement he made in the House last Friday that clear instructions had been given to Manpower offices in regard to the Opportunities for Youth program, for the confusion which seems to exist even in the minds of student Liberals in regard to this program?

Mr. Marshall: On the Opportunities for Youth program—

Mr. Stanfield: Mr. Speaker, on a point of order—

Mr. Speaker: I apologize to the hon. member. I believe the Leader of the Opposition is rising on a point of order.

Mr. Stanfield: On a point of order and with all due respect, Mr. Speaker, this is a very important question. There is great confusion and I want to give the minister and the students a chance for enlightenment.

Mr. Speaker: If there is confusion, as I gather from the hon. gentleman's question, in the minds of the young people of a specific party, I wonder whether a question asked in those terms is in order.

Inquiries of the Ministry

Mr. Stanfield: I ask the minister whether he proposes to take any specific steps to clear up the confusion that seems to exist in the Manpower offices and that students say they have run into in seeking information about this program and how they apply to participate in it?

Hon. Robert Stanbury (Minister without Portfolio): Mr. Speaker, on Friday last I believe I did say that material was going out to Manpower offices on that day. Since then I found that some of it went out on Saturday to Manpower offices, but material did go out to all by the end of last week.

An hon. Member: Where is it now?

Mr. Stanbury: Of course, it is not delivered at the same time everywhere in Canada.

Mr. Bell: We all know that.

Mr. Stanbury: As far as students are concerned, Mr. Speaker, the student Liberals, like many other students in the country, have responded very positively and favourably to the Opportunities Youth program.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUTH PROGRAM—PROVINCIAL QUOTAS FOR MILITIA TRAINING—PROVISION FOR INSTRUCTIONAL STAFF

Mr. Jack Marshall (Humber-St. George's-St. Barbe): I have a question for the Minister of National Defence regarding the Opportunities for Youth program. In view of the extension of student militia training to include armouries which are mainly administered by militia units, will the minister announce as soon as possible the quotas for provinces to ensure that district headquarters will be able to request logistic support and instructional staff from regular army reserves to maintain the training program?

Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (Minister of National Defence): Yes, Mr. Speaker, I shall keep that representation in mind.

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NATIONAL FILM BOARD

ALLEGED INABILITY TO MEET REQUESTS FOR FILMS

Mr. Max Saltsman (Waterloo): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Secretary of State. Has his attention been drawn to a letter being sent out by the National Film Board of Canada indicating that requests for films cannot be met because of the great demand and limited staff of that department? Will the minister look into this to make sure that those who are waiting for films are not kept waiting and will not receive this kind of reply?

[*Translation*]

Hon. Gérard Pelletier (Secretary of State): Certainly, Mr. Speaker.