

*Oral Questions*

to subscribe to that. If that is not the case, I will discuss it with the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources at the earliest possible moment, and I will be happy to report to my hon. friend.

## REQUEST FOR ASSURANCE OF APPOINTMENT

**Hon. Edward Broadbent (Oshawa):** Mr. Speaker, I listened with care, as I always do, to what the Prime Minister had to say. Her letter in terms of its content is exactly what I said it was, namely, a letter of a responsible Canadian scientist who has been told she has been appointed to something, and wants clarification.

Considering what the Prime Minister has just said that he will investigate, given her eminent qualifications will the Prime Minister go further than that and tell the House that since she had already been offered the appointment, and if he checks into his own briefing notes or checks with the Minister of Energy and finds out the reason for taking back the offer that he gave to the House turned out to be false, will he assure the House that she will be offered that job once again?

**Right Hon. Brian Mulroney (Prime Minister):** Mr. Speaker, I will be happy to assure the House. My understanding was that Dr. Franklin's concerns related directly to the issue of those to whom she could or could not impart confidential information—

**Mr. Deans:** That is exactly right.

**Mr. Broadbent:** She was seeking clarification.

**Mr. Mulroney:**—which I supposed raised concern on behalf of those who are bringing her name forward. I have heard nothing but eulogistic comments in regard to the individual. As soon as the Minister of Energy returns, I will be happy to take the matter up with her again.

It was my understanding this was Dr. Franklin's position and therefore clearly at variance with the requirements of the statutes. Should that turn out not to be the case, I will be happy to discuss it with the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources who, I also understand, holds her in high regard.

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## CONFLICT OF INTEREST

## PRIME MINISTER'S DIRECTORSHIPS

**Ms. Sheila Copps (Hamilton East):** Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Prime Minister. As of this morning the Prime Minister was listed with the Corporations Branch of the Department of Consumer and Corporate Affairs as a director of the following five companies which do not appear on the conflict of interest disclosure declaration which he signed on January 9, 1985. The companies include: Canadian Insurance and Investment Incorporated, Common Cents Canada Incorporated, Common Cents Incorporated, Nommoc Incorporated, and Showcraft Publications Incorporated. Will the Prime Min-

ister tell the House and the people of Canada why he failed to disclose these directorships as required by the conflict of interest guidelines?

**Right Hon. Brian Mulroney (Prime Minister):** Mr. Speaker, I have a response to that. I would like to read it into the record, and I must read it into the record, Mr. Speaker.

**Mr. Chrétien:** Table it.

**Mr. Mulroney:** No, it is not a document. It is my response to the Member's question. It confirms:

—the following companies, Canadian Insurance and Investment Inc., Showcraft Publications Inc., Common Cents Inc., Common Cents Canada Inc., Nommoc Inc. These are all privately owned companies, none of which have assets of more than \$2,000. Mr. Mulroney became associated with these companies more than ten years ago as a director of these companies at my request and relinquished his directorships when he became Leader of the Opposition in June 1983 and has not received any remuneration or fees since then. Mr. Mulroney has not been associated directly or indirectly with any of these companies since June 1983.

If any returns filed anywhere suggest or indicate anything different than what is stated above, they are incorrect and amended returns will be filed accordingly. Showcraft Publications Inc. and Canadian Insurance and Investment Inc. are in the course of being wound up.

This communication is signed by Frank B. Common Jr., Q.C.

These were companies of Mr. Common and his family, who was one of my law partners, and any lawyer in the House, including my hon. friend from Saint-Henri-Westmount, knows these arrangements are made from time to time. I did it to convenience a friend and partner. I received no benefits.

**Some Hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

## FILING OF RESIGNATIONS

**Ms. Sheila Copps (Hamilton East):** Mr. Prime Minister, a supplementary question. This is sloppy management of the worst kind.

**Some Hon. Members:** Sit down.

**Some Hon. Members:** Oh, oh!

**Ms. Copps:** The Prime Minister has an obligation to the people of Canada to ensure—

**Mr. Andre:** Apologize.

**Mr. Stevens:** Apologize.

**Ms. Copps:**—that the federal Department of Consumer and Corporate Affairs does not include his name as a director.

I want to know when he filed his resignation, if he filed his resignation before he became the Prime Minister and, if he did not, why not, because he is clearly in violation of the conflict of interest guidelines—

**Some Hon. Members:** Louder.

**Ms. Copps:**—which require him to file all of the corporate directorships which he held within the two years prior to him