

beverages in the amount of \$14,635, plus uniforms for government employees (residence staff) totalling \$318.

***LEGISLATION TO DEAL WITH NATIONAL EMERGENCIES
WITHOUT INVOKING WAR MEASURES ACT**

Question No. 2,892—Mr. Stanbury:

Has the Prime Minister carried out the intention he expressed on April 9, 1974, in the House of Commons, to discuss with the leaders of opposition parties the desirability of legislation to deal with national emergencies without the necessity of invoking the War Measures Act and (a) if so, what was the result of such discussions (b) if not, does he still intend to do so, or has the subject been abandoned by the government?

Mr. Jack Cullen (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Finance): Mr. Speaker, the Prime Minister's statement of April 9, 1974 expressed a willingness to arrange a meeting with the leaders of other parties if they felt it would be a good idea to take this kind of action on a contingency basis for some future situation. The Prime Minister remains ready to arrange such a meeting on the basis indicated in his earlier reply.

LOBBYISTS

Question No. 2,967—Mr. Beatty:

1. Has the government considered the registration of lobbyists and (a) if so (i) what studies were done (ii) by and for whom were they done (iii) when were they completed (iv) what were their recommendations (v) where can copies be obtained (b) if not, for what reason?

2. What laws or regulations, if any, govern the relationship between lobbyists and government officials at the present time?

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (President of the Privy Council):

1. No.

2. Not applicable.

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QUESTION PASSED AS ORDER FOR RETURNS

STUDENT EXCHANGE PROGRAMMES

Question No. 1,753—Mr. Munro (Esquimalt-Saanich):

1. By year, province and programme since the inception of the scheme, what federal funds have been allocated to student exchange programmes for student exchanges within Canada?

2. Have requests from some provinces been rejected outright?

3. (a) By year and province, how many students have visited other provinces (b) what was the average length of stay in the province or provinces visited (c) what reception arrangements are normally made (i) hostels (ii) private homes (iii) university dormitories and, in each case, how many and what are their names?

4. By year since its inception, what federal funds have been allocated to the Programme Canada Jeunesse-Monde?

5. By year and province, how many youths were drawn to participate in this Programme?

6. By year since the Programme was launched (a) what countries were visited (b) how many youths participated (c) from what provinces was each such country visited?

7. By year and province, what (a) provincial (b) private funds were allocated for the student exchange and Canada Jeunesse-Monde programmes?

8. What were the names of the corporate donors for both programmes?

Return tabled.

Excise Tax Act

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

[English]

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES

**GUIDELINE DATES FOR METRIC CONVERSION—REFERENCE
TO COMMITTEE**

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (President of the Privy Council) moved:

That the order numbered "Government Business, Number 9" be discharged; and

That the Standing Committee on Finance, Trade and Economic Affairs be authorized to consider the government's program of guideline dates for metric conversion.

Motion agreed to.

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EXCISE TAX ACT

The House resumed, from Friday, July 25, consideration in committee of Bill C-66, to amend the Excise Tax Act—Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton)—Mr. Penner in the chair.

On clause 1—"gasoline".

Mr. Benjamin: Mr. Chairman, on Friday, just before we adjourned, I had been referring to submissions made by the Canadian Automobile Association. Specifically the association says that if the government needs revenue it should raise it from all those who use petroleum. Mr. Charles J. Clark, President of the Canadian Automobile Association put it this way:

If additional revenue is required by the government to finance a national oil policy, it should be derived from at least all consumers of petroleum products and not by the private motorist who consumes only 25 per cent of petroleum production.

Mr. Clark also had this to say when meeting with government representatives:

Instead of economic sanctions by government, the association strongly urges the support of other agencies including governments at all levels in voluntary conservation programs.

Frankly, although I do not have much faith in the voluntary method, it is a better method than the one the minister proposes in the bill. Mr. Clark contends that the government should raise its revenues from all those who consume petroleum products, not just from private motorists who consume a mere 25 per cent of our petroleum production.

What will be the effect of the minister's exemptions? Clearly, because of the proposed system of rebates, the cost or burden will be borne by the private motorist. Three quarters of our gasoline production is not consumed by the private motorist, but he must shoulder the greatest part of the burden for financing the oil compensation fund. Surely all consumers of energy should bear the cost of this program equally.

What am I saying is that the minister is to raise between \$500 million and \$525 million in a calendar year from motorists, who consumes only 25 per cent of our petroleum production. This situation is possible only because of the exemptions to be provided in the legislation. Its worst feature is that the minister is granting exemptions to