

few years stands as clear evidence before the whole population.

[English]

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. In view of the minister's reference to the heavy order paper, I wonder if he has looked at it recently and seen how light it is, and does he know that there is only one item on it in his name?

[Translation]

Mr. Lalonde: Mr. Speaker, it is not a question of knowing how many items are on the order paper in my name, but of thinking about the legislative program which the government has tabled in the House.

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[English]

POST OFFICE

ALLEGED LACK OF AUTHORITY FOR SALE OF NON-POSTAL ITEMS—GOVERNMENT POSITION

Mr. Bill Clarke (Vancouver Quadra): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Postmaster General. Since the Auditor General has again criticized the Post Office for selling non-postal items to the public without parliamentary authority, a practice which continues today, will the minister tell the House why this program was entered into without proper authorization and why suitable accounts had not been established to determine whether or not the program was profitable?

Hon. Bryce Mackasey (Postmaster General): Mr. Speaker, a better authority on the subject is the deputy minister, who has appeared before the miscellaneous estimates committee to explain precisely the reasons for this. I assume the minutes are available. If I am wrong, I will find out for the hon. gentleman and report back on Monday.

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IMMIGRATION

ALLEGED REDUCTION OF FUNDS FOR ENGLISH LANGUAGE TRAINING—GOVERNMENT POSITION

Mr. Walter Baker (Grenville-Carleton): Mr. Speaker, in the absence of the Minister of Manpower and Immigration, may I direct my question to the Acting Prime Minister? Can the minister tell the House whether the government intends to diminish or has diminished funds for second language training in English at Algonquin College, Ottawa, bearing in mind the importance of the college to the area in which it is located and to the teachers involved? Also, does the minister's department intend to implement this withdrawal, if it is going on, in centres like Toronto, Hamilton and other places in Canada?

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Acting Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I am unaware of this but will make inquiries. If the minister is here, he will answer, or I will endeavour to get the information.

Oral Questions

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

PROPOSAL TO COMPENSATE MOZAMBIQUE FOR LOSSES FROM BLOCKADE OF RHODESIA—AMOUNT OF CANADA'S CONTRIBUTION

Mr. Howard Johnston (Okanagan-Kootenay): Mr. Speaker, my question is addressed to the Secretary of State for External Affairs and follows on the question I asked the minister yesterday. In light of reports that Canadian officials have said that no specific funds are being discussed in terms of compensating Mozambique but that Canada has agreed in principle to contribute to any general fund for the purpose, can the minister estimate how much will be earmarked as Canada's share of the fund being set up at the Commonwealth conference to compensate Mozambique, a non-Commonwealth country, for losses incurred in blockading Rhodesia.

Hon. Allan J. MacEachen (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, I cannot give that detail. I will attempt to obtain more details and provide them later.

PROPOSAL TO PROVIDE FUNDS TO AREAS WISHING TO BREAK AWAY FROM SOUTH AFRICAN CONTROL—CANADIAN POSITION

Mr. Howard Johnston (Okanagan-Kootenay): A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Can the minister, in the interests of candour, tell the House if Canada has agreed to involve itself in providing funds to encourage forces within southwest Africa with plans to break away from South African control?

Hon. Allan J. MacEachen (Secretary of State for External Affairs): No, Mr. Speaker.

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OLYMPIC GAMES

COUNTERFEIT OLYMPIC COINS—GOVERNMENT ACTION TO PREVENT ISSUANCE

Mr. Otto Jelinek (High Park-Humber Valley): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Postmaster General. As high quality counterfeit Olympic coins are being produced and distributed abroad, can the minister advise the House as to the steps the government is taking to end this activity and how can Canadians be assured that these or other counterfeit coins will not find their way into our markets?

Hon. Bryce Mackasey (Postmaster General): Mr. Speaker, the hon. gentleman is quite accurate in his description of events. There is obviously some indication of an international ring of counterfeiters working primarily on the continent of Europe. We are aware of this and our police force is working closely with Interpol. It is also true that, in all probability, some of the principals involved are Canadians. There is little evidence, however, that these imitation Olympic coins are a threat to Canada. I suggest that people who want to buy these coins should protect themselves by buying from authorized dealers, such as chartered banks and other reputable firms, and we are prepared to provide the list of dealers to people. In