

Order Paper Questions

Columbia (a) 1973, 65; 1974, 21; (b) 1973, 15; 1974, 2; Yukon and Northwest Territory (a) 0; (b) 0. (c) Recruiting for flight attendants was done exclusively within Canada during 1973 and 1974 and only English and French mother tongues were recorded. (c) (i) In 1973, 58.5 per cent; In 1974, 51.1 per cent; (c) (ii) 53.

LANGUAGE INFORMATION FOR NEW IMMIGRANTS

Question No. 2,326—**Mr. Herbert:**

1. For what period of time does the Immigration Division of the Department of Manpower and Immigration retain language information for new immigrants?

2. Is such information retained on file (a) after the new immigrant finds employment (b) if the new immigrant changes his or her province of residence?

Hon. Robert K. Andras (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. Information on the language capability of immigrants is recorded from information contained on their landing records and forms a part of the permanent statistical inventory maintained by the Department of Manpower and Immigration.

2. This information is a measure of the immigrant's language capability assessed at the time of application or interview and is not altered or updated at any time.

LIP—PROJECT APPROVALS IN KENORA-RAINY RIVER, 1972-73

Question No. 2,372—**Mr. Cossitt:**

With reference to the answer to Question No. 1,039 to the effect that a memorandum from the office of the Minister of Manpower and Immigration, dated January 30, 1973, addressed to Mr. D. C. Trehearne, then Director of Programmes for the Local Initiatives Programme, did not "in effect order approval of LIP projects in a number of named constituencies...", what then exactly did this memo do and what was the exact purpose and meaning of the following statement appearing at the top of the list of LIP projects in various constituencies: "It is requested by the Minister's office that the attached list of LIP applications be approved"?

Hon. Robert K. Andras (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): See answer to question 1,039, part 1, April 22, 1975.

\$500 HOME OWNER GRANT

Question No. 2,385—**Mr. Schellenberger:**

Will the Minister reconsider the five year requirement that restricts the obtaining of a \$500 grant, in most cases, for mobile home owners who do not stay in any location for five years and can only obtain a two year lease from most mobile home parks?

Hon. Barney Danson (Minister of State for Urban Affairs): It is not intended to reduce the period from five years to two years, for mobile home owners wishing to obtain the \$500 grant.

* * *

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

Mr. Speaker: I have the honour to inform the House that a message has been received from the Senate informing this House that the Senate has passed Bill S-25, an act to

[Mr. Marchand (Langelier).]

amend the Privileges and Immunities (International Organizations) Act.

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

[English]

STATUTE LAW (STATUS OF WOMEN)
AMENDMENT ACT, 1974

MEASURE TO ESTABLISH EQUALITY OF STATUS FOR MALE
AND FEMALE PERSONS UNDER CERTAIN STATUTES

Hon. Marc Lalonde (Minister of National Health and Welfare) moved that Bill C-16, to amend certain statutes to provide equality of status thereunder for male and female persons, be read the second time and referred to the Standing Committee on Health, Welfare and Social Affairs.

He said: Mr. Speaker, it is most appropriate in this International Women's Year that we should concern ourselves with legislative action to remove a number of prejudicial or discriminatory provisions from federal statutes. While today I will be presenting an omnibus bill containing amendments to several acts, I would also like at this time to place in context the movement toward women's equal status in Canada.

The status of women is certainly not a new issue in our country. Back in the early 1900s dedicated Canadian women like Nellie McClung fought to give women the vote. In 1913 the premier of Manitoba advised Nellie McClung that he "didn't want a hyena in petticoats talking politics" to him. Nonetheless, by 1916 the women of Manitoba had won the right to vote provincially. The other provinces, with the exception of Quebec, granted the vote to women shortly thereafter.

It was not until 1929, however, that women won the right to appointment to the Senate. It was in that year that the Privy Council in London declared women to be indeed "persons" for purposes of Senate appointment. Today there are nine elected women members in the House of Commons—and I am pleased to note that eight of them sit on this side of the House—

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Lalonde:—and seven women senators. While this representation is high in comparison with the representation a decade ago, it is curious to consider how proportionately small this representation is, for women constitute 51 per cent of our population.

The battle to gain the vote and the right to Senate appointment was in many ways comparable to the work being done in the present decade to bring women equality. However, it is necessary to change not only legislation but attitudes. Women's rights can be recognized in law, but laws are empty unless society accepts and supports those rights. Here in Canada during International Women's Year a major effort is being made to challenge some of the old and timeworn attitudes toward women. It is the year in which we are making every effort to inform all Canadi-