

Order Paper Questions

Mr. Speaker: The motion proposed by the hon. member for Meadow Lake requires unanimous consent. Is there unanimity?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

Mr. Speaker: There is not unanimity. Therefore the motion cannot be put.

QUESTIONS ON THE ORDER PAPER

(Questions answered orally are indicated by an asterisk.)

TREASURY BOARD—PUBLICITY AND INFORMATION EXPENSES

Question No. 84—Mr. Nystrom:

1. What were the amounts of money spent by the Treasury Board on publicity and/or information in each of the fiscal years 1968-69, 1969-70, 1970-71, 1971-72?

2. What were the names and addresses of firms or individuals who received these contracts, what amounts of money were spent in each case and what was the purpose of each contract?

3. What contracts for publicity and/or information were awarded in the current fiscal year, what are the names and addresses of contractees, what are the amounts of money involved in each case and what is the purpose of each contract?

Hon. C. M. Drury (President of the Treasury Board): 1. 1968-69, Nil; 1969-70, Nil; 1970-71, \$46,168.79; 1971-72, \$326,361.21.

2. 1970-71, Publishing of Collective Agreements, \$37,699.63; 1970-71, W. A. Gray, Toronto, \$5,209.66, Editorial Assistance; 1970-71, M. Cassidy, Ottawa, \$2,040, Editorial Assistance; 1970-71, Berger, Tisdall, Clark and Lesly Ltd., Toronto, \$1,219.50, Editorial Assistance; 1971-72, Henri A. Muhn, Montreal, \$750, French Editorial Assistance; 1971-72, Printing costs of booklet "How Your Tax Dollar is Spent": Canadian Government Printing Bureau, \$136,844.19*; Campbell Printing, Ottawa, \$3,716.16; 1971-72, Publishing of Collective Agreements, \$176,867.76; 1971-72, GMISP booklet, \$4,608.13; 1971-72, W. A. Gray, Toronto, \$3,125, Editorial Assistance; 1971-72, H. Simcik, Montreal, \$450, Design Services.

*Includes payments of \$63,108.28 for work done on 1971-72 booklet in fiscal year of 1970-71.

3. 1972-73, Canadian Mailbag Marketing, Toronto, \$4,000, Booklet Distribution; 1972-73, Printing and Costs of booklet "How Your Tax Dollar is Spent", Canadian Government Printing Bureau, \$46,790.20; 1972-73, Henri A. Muhn, Montreal, \$1,980, French Editorial Assistance; 1972-73, Henri A. Muhn, Montreal, \$1,088.73, French Editorial Assistance; 1972-73, Publishing of Collective Agreements, \$30,340.27; 1972-73, National Joint Council pamphlet, invoice not received.

[Mr. Nesdoly.]

AIR CANADA BUDGET

Question No. 276—Mr. Rowland:

1. It is the intention of Air Canada to reduce the budget of its finance department by a figure of \$180,000 over the next few months?

2. Is this budget reduction to be accomplished by reductions in the department's Winnipeg staff?

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): Air Canada management advises as follows: 1 and 2. The Budget procedures are a matter of internal management, but it can be said that expense targets are set for all departments to ensure proper control of administrative costs. With reference to the Winnipeg Accounting Department, the company does not contemplate any reductions in permanent staff.

BIOAVAILABILITY STANDARD FOR DRUGS

Question No. 728—Mr. Rynard:

1. Has the Food and Drug Directorate of the Department of National Health and Welfare established a bio-availability standard for all drugs prescribed by physicians across Canada and, if so, is this bio-availability standard mandatory to all prescribed drugs?

2. What percentage, if any, does this bio-availability standard require and does this standard percentage apply to all drugs?

Hon. Marc Lalonde (Minister of National Health and Welfare): 1. The Health Protection Branch has established a guideline for the bioavailability of drug products which it assesses in its current programs on drug quality. Bioavailability tests are not at present mandatory, although there is provision in the Food and Drugs Act and Regulations to demand proof of efficacy. The whole field of bioavailability is very much in the development stage, with the clinical significance of bioavailability data still not fully understood. In order to put this problem in proper perspective, we have commissioned an advisory committee of non-governmental medical experts to consider all aspects of it, and report within the next few months.

2. The guideline specifies a minimum bioavailability of 80 per cent for the product, relative to a reference standard. It has been applied to drugs chosen for reason of critical medical use, high sales volume, narrow therapeutic index, possibility of contaminants, and unknown problems with bioavailability.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE COMMISSION— DISENTITLEMENT OF BENEFITS

Question No. 763—Mr. Paproski:

1. In the week of January 8 to 15, 1973, how many persons were cut off Unemployment Insurance benefits in (a) Montreal (b) Toronto (c) Edmonton (d) Vancouver (e) all of Canada?

2. In the case of those who were receiving benefits and whose entitlement was cut off prior to the benefit period being exhausted, what was the reason given for this action?

Hon. Robert K. Andras (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): 1. During the week of January 8 to January 15, 1973 the following number of persons were cut off Unemployment Insurance benefits either because their claims exhausted or they were denied benefits for various limited periods. Number of Claimants: (a) Montreal 3,069;