

Motions for Papers

Department of Labour and the bureau of statistics in the compilation of statistical returns for the information and advice of the Minister of Labour and other departments of the government. Reports based on these returns are issued from time to time by the minister, and are available for the period of time mentioned in the question and will be tabled if desired; but the local office returns upon which these reports are based are, it is considered, privileged in the same manner and for the same reasons as those referred to in category 1.

3. Employer reports on payroll turnover and employment forecasts sent in by employers for use of the economics and research branch and the bureau of statistics: These are used in the preparation of employment statistics and forecasts and are sent in by employers for confidential use for this purpose. In view of the basis upon which they are forwarded for use, the individual reports must be regarded as privileged documents and not subject to production.

4. Reports other than statistical reports made by officers of the employment service to the unemployment insurance commission which may come forward from time to time in the operations of the commission for the information of the commission and for use in reports by the commission to the Minister of Labour: While the unemployment insurance commission is a corporate entity, it will be noted that section 88 (1) of the Unemployment Insurance Act provides as follows:

The commission shall organize and maintain an employment service for Canada and in respect of that service shall be responsible to the minister.

That is, to the Minister of Labour. Consequently it is clear that the commission in carrying on its employment service operations is doing so as a department of government directly responsible to the Minister of Labour. The reports coming in from employment offices on employment conditions to the commission are designed for, and are utilized in, the preparation of information for the use of the Minister of Labour, and are in the same category as other memoranda prepared in the Department of Labour for the minister's use and information.

For all these reasons, Mr. Speaker, I submit that the motion is out of order.

Mr. Knowles: Without prejudice to my right to put the motion on the order paper again in different form, I am prepared to withdraw it at this time.

Mr. Speaker: Dropped.

[Mr. Cote (Verdun-LaSalle).]

CROWN PROPERTIES—PAYMENTS TO MUNICIPALITIES IN LIEU OF TAXES

Mr. Knowles:

For a copy of all correspondence, including briefs, and replies thereto, in the possession of the Minister of Finance, dated since January 1, 1949, with reference to the matter of payments to municipalities in lieu of taxes on federal crown properties.

LABOUR CONDITIONS—FEDERAL GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS

Mr. Knowles:

For a copy of all orders in council, or a consolidation thereof, dealing with the inclusion of fair wage provisions and any other requirements respecting labour conditions in contracts let by the federal government or any department or branch thereof.

Mr. Cote (Verdun-La Salle): Return tabled.

GANDER, NFLD., AIRPORT

Mr. Browne (St. John's West):

For a copy of all correspondence, documents and other papers relating to the agreement recently made between the government of Canada and the government of the United States, or any aviation companies of the United States, for the use of Gander airport.

Mr. Pearson: Mr. Speaker, there are certain difficulties in the way of the production of correspondence between two governments arising out of negotiations for a treaty or agreement. Therefore, Mr. Speaker, I would ask that this motion be allowed to stand so that I can discuss it with the hon. member for St. John's West.

Motion stands.

ELBOURNE, SASK., POSTMASTERSHIP

Mr. Diefenbaker:

For a copy of all correspondence, directives and instructions, from October 1, 1948, to date, in connection with the removal or change of postmaster at Elbourne, Saskatchewan.

VETERANS—SETTLEMENT WITH ALBERTA IN SPECIAL AREAS

Mr. Quelch:

For a copy of the agreement signed between the dominion and the province of Alberta, dealing specifically with the settlement of veterans in the special areas.

Mr. Gregg: I am willing that this motion be passed, subject to two reservations: first, as soon as we are sure that all steps have been taken by both parties for the approval of the agreement, and, second, as soon as we are sure that the province of Alberta has no objection to the publication.