

Justice and Legal Affairs

[Text]

ORDERS IN COUNCIL

Question No. 4,126—**Mr. Cossitt:**

Since the date the answer to question No. 53 of the first session of the thirty-second Parliament was prepared, how many additional orders in council were issued by the government and how many were in any way classified?

Hon. Yvon Pinard (President of the Privy Council): The number of orders in council is 6,897. None were classified.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE BENEFITS

Question No. 4,221—**Mr. Gilchrist:**

For each year 1976 to 1981 (a) what was the cost of unemployment insurance benefits (b) how many persons received the benefits?

Hon. Lloyd Axworthy (Minister of Employment and Immigration):

	(a) Cost of Unemployment Insurance Benefits (\$ Million)	(b) Number of Person: Receiving Benefits (000's)
1976	3,361.6	2,429
1977	3,928.2	2,515
1978	4,538.2	2,526
1979	4,009.1	2,322
1980	4,393.8	2,249
1981	4,828.3	2,354

[English]

Madam Speaker: The questions enumerated by the parliamentary secretary have been answered.

Mr. Smith: I ask, Madam Speaker, that the remaining questions be allowed to stand.

Madam Speaker: Shall the remaining questions stand?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

* * *

JUSTICE AND LEGAL AFFAIRS

PROPOSED REFERENCE TO STANDING COMMITTEE RESPECTING STREET SOLICITING FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROSTITUTION

Hon. Eric Nielsen (Yukon): Madam Speaker, I wonder if you would seek the unanimous consent of the House, which it might be disposed to give, in order that the hon. member for Vancouver Centre (Miss Carney), or the government, might once again put the motion which would refer the question of prostitution to the Standing Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs.

Madam Speaker: I am in the hands of the House but no one rose on motions to solicit—or ask for that!

● (1510)

Mr. Nielsen: I am now asking the Chair to solicit the unanimous consent—

An hon. Member: Careful!

Mr. Nielsen:—of the House to enable that to be done by the hon. member for Vancouver Centre, if the parliamentary secretary does not wish to do so himself.

[Translation]

Hon. Yvon Pinard (President of the Privy Council): Madam Speaker, in a situation where the business of the House or referral to committee is concerned, it is customary to negotiate with the party House leaders, and when there is good reason to believe there is unanimous consent, we rise in the House and ask the Chair to ask the House whether there is unanimous consent for a specific motion. This approach was tried at least twice this week, and it did not work. In the circumstances, I would prefer to have further indications as to agreement by the New Democratic Party before we use any more of the time of the House to obtain concurrence in a motion of referral to committee. As things are now, I do not believe the hon. member will get the unanimous consent he suggests there is, because further consultations will have to be held, and if we think there is good reason to believe that unanimous consent can be obtained, we shall act accordingly and present the motion again.

[English]

Mr. Ian Deans (Hamilton Mountain): Madam Speaker, the government House leader knows the motion which would gain the unanimous consent of the House. We would be delighted to give unanimous consent to a motion which stated that it be an instruction to the Standing Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs that it take into consideration all legal methods of dealing with street soliciting for the purpose of prostitution and including Sections 195.1 and 171 of the Criminal Code of Canada as well as the various provincial and municipal laws presently in force in this regard and include the hearing and consideration of the views of the interested persons and organizations. We would be happy to give unanimous consent to that motion if the government House leader would care to move it.

Mr. Pinard: Madam Speaker, this is a matter which I am willing to discuss in the normal way and under normal circumstances. I do not see much difference. I see that the NDP has attached conditions. That is subject to negotiation. We had a very simple motion referring the subject to the committee while it debates a certain bill, but the NDP denied consent. Now it wants to attach conditions. We are willing to discuss that, but in the meantime there is no way that we will agree to a motion that the NDP moves on the subject. We will move the motion we moved earlier, and if the members of the NDP do not agree to that reference, it is too bad.

Mr. Deans: Speaking on the point of order, Madam Speaker, I want to make it clear, lest I was perhaps misunderstood,