

Order Paper Questions

been made. However, we do have a separate index. I am sorry that the Hon. Member has not received it, but I will ensure that he does receive it.

Mr. Munro (Esquimalt-Saanich): Madam Speaker, I am not sure that anyone in this Chamber has received a copy of the index and, if the Hon. Members have not, I do not hope it will be distributed generally.

Madam Speaker: I am sorry, I thought it was ready. It will be ready in three or four days and all Hon. Members will be receiving it.

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[Translation]

QUESTIONS ON THE ORDER PAPER

(Questions answered orally are indicated by an asterisk.)

Mr. Douglas Fisher (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Finance): Madam Speaker, the following questions will be answered today: 4,559 and 4,567.

[Text]

CANADA SAVINGS BONDS

Question No. 4,559—Mr. Thomson:

1. Are compound interest Canada Savings Bonds the only type of bond available for purchase through payroll deduction and, if so, for what reason?
2. What is the percentage of sales between compound interest bonds and fully registered bonds?
3. What percentage of compound interest bonds are sold after one year's ownership?

Hon. Paul J. Cosgrove (Minister of State (Finance)): 1. Yes. Regular interest Canada Savings Bonds are not available on these plans because the registration information for regular interest bonds must be received by the Bank of Canada no later than August in each year in order to ensure the timely delivery of the approximately two million interest payments on November 1. Bonds purchased on payroll savings plans are not registered until payments have been completed by the purchaser, normally in October. Purchasers may, however, exchange compound interest bonds for regular interest bonds at any time.

2. For Series 32 to Series 36 inclusive, compound interest bonds average 48 per cent of total sales and varied from a minimum of 42 per cent to a maximum of 61 per cent.

3. It has been assumed that the question relates to bonds redeemed after one year from the issue date. In this respect, for Series 32 to Series 35 inclusive, the par value of compound interest bonds redeemed within the first 13 months after the date of issue averaged 40 per cent of the total of compound interest bond sales and varied from a minimum of 32 per cent to a maximum of 55 per cent. For comparative purposes, regular interest bonds of these series redeemed in the same period averaged 41 per cent of total regular bond sales and

varied from a minimum of 27 per cent to a maximum of 72 per cent.

CONFECTIONERY PRODUCTS

Question No. 4,567—Mr. Hawkes:

1. Did the Minister of National Health and Welfare write a letter to Mr. E. J. Korhonen, President, Confectionery Manufacturers' Association of Canada, dated October 14, 1982?

2. In the letter, did the Minister ask the members of the Association to cease importing, manufacturing and distributing certain products as soon as current stocks were exhausted and, if so (a) by what authority does the Minister believe she has the power to ask this of Association members (b) how does the Minister intend to pursue the matter if the members of the Association do not voluntarily cease such importing, manufacturing and distributing?

3. (a) Were 36,233 metric tons of confectionery sugar imported into Canada in the quarter period ended September 1982 and, if so, is the Minister aware of this fact (b) is the Minister planning to monitor all such imports to determine if her orders are being carried out and, if so, how will she do this?

4. (a) What will happen to Canadian manufacturers if they fail to cease importing, manufacturing and distributing such products (b) what will happen to others who continue these activities but who do not belong to the Association and will their treatment be different in any way?

5. Is the Minister aware that the importation, manufacturing and distribution of such products is permitted by law?

6. Is the Minister aware that recipients of letters such as this might feel they are being threatened?

7. Was the decision to send this letter a decision taken by full Cabinet or by a Cabinet Committee or by the Minister acting on her own?

Hon. Monique Bégin (Minister of National Health and Welfare): 1. Yes, the Minister wrote to Mr. E. J. Korhonen, President, Confectionery Manufacturers' Association of Canada, on October 14, 1982.

2. The Minister, in her letter, stated: "I am increasingly concerned that the availability of confectionery products that resemble pipes, cigars and cigarettes may encourage children to take up the smoking habit in later life, a habit that creates serious health risks".

"I would therefore appreciate it if you could ask the members of your association to cease importing, manufacturing and distributing such products as soon as current stocks are exhausted".

(a) The Minister of Health and Welfare is responsible for the health of Canadians and for implementing the health policies of the Government. (b) The Government would have to consider other options available to it. In this connection, the Minister has instructed the Department to prepare options for her consideration.

3. (a) The Government is aware that substantial amounts of sugar are imported into Canada. (b) The Minister prefers to depend upon the voluntary co-operation of the industry.

4. (a) The Government would have to consider other options available to it. (b) Both importers and Canadian manufacturers will be asked to consider ceasing these activities.

5. Yes.

6. The Minister does not believe that appealing to public responsibility constitutes a threat.