

Questions

INFORMATION CANADA

Question No. 1,772—**Mr. Coates:**

1. How many individuals will be involved in the establishment of Information Canada and will the selection of the staff, with the exception of the Director, be carried out by the Public Service Commission and, if not, how will the selection of staff be carried out?

2. Will any special consideration be given to Information Officers presently employed by government departments and, if so, what form of special consideration will be available to these employees?

3. Will there be any reduction in the staff of Information Officers presently employed by the various federal departments and, if so, what will be the total reduction?

Hon. Robert Stanbury (Minister without Portfolio): 1. Information Canada has 520 positions at all levels; 370 of these are already established in the Canadian Government Exhibition Commission and the publishing and selling arm of the Queen's Printer. All hiring will be done through the Public Service Commission.

2. It is the practice of the Public Service Commission to look first for personnel within the ranks of the public service.

3. Decision as to any reduction of departmental information officers rests with each department, and the usual Public Service procedures would apply.

INFORMATION CANADA

Question No. 1,773—**Mr. Coates:**

1. What is the salary of Jean-Louis Gagnon in his position as Director of Information Canada?

2. How many additional persons will be appointed to the directorship of Information Canada, have any of these appointments been made as yet and, if so, what are the names, qualifications and salaries of the individuals in question?

3. What will be the salary range of the various positions available with Information Canada, how many positions will be open and what method will be followed in selecting personnel?

Hon. Robert Stanbury (Minister without Portfolio): 1. Mr. Jean-Louis Gagnon is paid as a D.M.-1, whose salary range is between \$28,000 and \$33,000.

2. Four senior officers will report to the Director of Information Canada. None of these appointments has been made yet.

3. Once personnel classifications have been approved, all hiring will be done through the Public Service Commission. However, the classifications are still under review. See also the reply to question 1772.

[Mr. Pepin.]

SINO-CANADIAN NEGOTIATIONS

Question No. 1,775—**Mr. Coates:**

1. On what date did the Canadian Government undertake negotiations with representatives of the People's Republic of China regarding the recognition of that Government?

2. What is the name and what are the qualifications of the head of the Canadian delegation and how many individuals of the Canadian Government are involved in these negotiations?

3. How many meetings have been held to date between representatives of the two Governments in question?

4. What has been the total cost to date of maintaining the Canadian delegation and how long does the Canadian Government intend to continue with these negotiations?

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs): 1. February 6, 1969.

2. Miss Margaret Meagher, Canadian Ambassador to Stockholm. Miss Meagher is a senior career foreign service officer with broad experience in international negotiations of various kinds. She is assisted by an officer at the Canadian Embassy in Stockholm and by an officer from the Far Eastern Division of the Department of External Affairs who is assigned to temporary duty in Stockholm from time to time for this purpose.

3. In addition to less formal contacts, fourteen meetings have been held so far.

4. The costs of providing additional assistance to the Canadian Embassy in Stockholm in connection with these negotiations amounted to \$7,402.47 as of March 31, 1970. The negotiations will continue until either an agreement has been reached or it has become clear that an agreement is not possible at this time.

BRIDGEWATER, N.S.—FEDERAL BUILDING

Question No. 1,813—**Mr. Crouse:**

1. Has a site been purchased for a new federal building in Bridgewater, Nova Scotia, and, if so, what is the location and size of the area selected?

2. On what date will tenders be called for the construction of a new federal building in Bridgewater, Nova Scotia?

Hon. Arthur Laing (Minister of Public Works): 1. No.

2. Not known until site acquired.

CAMBODIA

Question No. 1,817—**Mr. Skoberg:**

1. Does the government consider it has conveyed the government's official position to other governments of the World by a Cabinet Minister or the