

Inquiries of the Ministry

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Regional Economic Expansion): I should like to take this question also as notice.

[Later:]

INCENTIVE GRANTS—ACQUISITION OF PROPORTIONATE EQUITY IN RECIPIENT COMPANIES

Mr. Mark Rose (Fraser Valley West): Mr. Speaker, my question is addressed to the Minister of Regional Economic Expansion. In awarding these various incentive grants amounting sometimes to millions of dollars and ranging in value from \$3,000 to \$5,000 per job, has the government considered acquiring equity in the recipient company proportionately equivalent to the grant made?

Mr. Speaker: It seems to me that the hon. member's question is in the form of a submission. I think he has to assume that the representation or suggestion he is making to the government will be taken into account.

Mr. Rose: I rise on a point of order, Mr. Speaker. I thought that the minister was about to reply to my question. It seems to me that there is a basic inequity in the fact that when a recipient company makes a profit its shareholders get the benefit, but if it loses the public picks up the tab.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

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INFORMATION CANADA

DISTRIBUTION OF BROCHURE, "TOYS: A GUIDE TO CONSUMER BUYING"

Mr. Thomas M. Bell (Saint John-Lancaster): My question is directed to the minister in charge of Information Canada. Since we have just learned that the first publication of his department entitled "Toys: A Guide to Consumer Buying" was not mailed to the public until late January, can the minister say whether this guide for Christmas shopping is eleven months early for next Christmas or one month late for last Christmas?

Hon. Robert Stanbury (Minister without Portfolio): The hon. member is about five days late in asking the question. It was in the paper last week. But I plead innocent. It is not our publication, and Information Canada cannot take credit for the distribution of these materials. It is in the hands of the government printing bureau and not Information Canada.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Bell: In view of the takeovers and would-be takeovers in the publishing industry in Canada, will the Prime Minister assure the House that, God forbid, the only one we have left in Canada will not be Information Canada?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

[Mr. Carter.]

[Translation]

AGRICULTURE

PURCHASE OF BROILER CHICKENS FOR EXPORT

Mr. Léonel Beaudoin (Richmond): Mr. Speaker, I want to direct a question to the hon. Minister of Agriculture.

Could he say whether Canada has bought broilers from the Poultry Processors Association of Quebec and, if so, could he indicate what price the government paid for them?

Mr. Speaker: It seems to me that this question was put recently.

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[English]

CITIZENSHIP

INVESTIGATION OF STATEMENTS OF ALEXIA BANDY, BRANCH EMPLOYEE

Mr. Douglas A. Hogarth (New Westminster): My question is for the Minister without Portfolio in charge of citizenship. Could he advise the House if he has anything to report with respect to the inquiries he has undertaken into the somewhat questionable statements made by Alexia Bandy in British Columbia?

Hon. Robert Stanbury (Minister without Portfolio): Certain statements made by Mr. Bandy some two weeks ago do appear not to have been consistent with his responsibilities as a public servant, even a short term or casual one. This has been brought to his attention and he is no longer in the field but is devoting his efforts to completion of the documentation for which he was temporarily hired.

Mr. Baldwin: With those qualifications he ought to be in the cabinet.

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CAPE BRETON DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

TRANSFER OF DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT EMPLOYEES TO CORPORATION—RETENTION OF PUBLIC SERVICE BENEFITS

Mr. Robert Muir (Cape Breton-The Sydneys): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Minister of Regional Economic Expansion. Can the minister advise if a formal transfer of employees from the Department of Transport to the Cape Breton Development Corporation has taken place yet and, if not, at what stage are the negotiations and how soon will they be completed? Further, when the transfer takes place will these workers continue to enjoy the same benefits as they did in the Public Service?

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Regional Economic Expansion): Mr. Speaker, I think the employees who were transferred from the Point Edward Industrial Park to Deveco will enjoy the same working conditions as they