

4. Is there a possibility of the fund eventually running out of money and, if so, does the government have any plans to correct this situation and, if so, what are they?

Hon. Monique Bégin (Minister of National Health and Welfare): 1. Yes;

(a) not applicable,

(b) not applicable.

2. No.

3. No.

If no changes are made to the legislation governing the Canada Pension Plan, the possibility does exist that the CPP fund could be in a deficit position by the year 2003. However, it is anticipated that an increase in the CPP contribution rate put into effect sometime before 2003 would eliminate the possibility of the fund running into a deficit. The question of the future funding of the Canada Pension Plan is under continuing study by both federal and provincial governments.

“METRIC MONITOR”

Question No. 1,009—**Mr. Cossitt:**

1. With reference to the answer to question No. 91 which states in part that the total cost of printing the “Metric Monitor” to date amounts to \$971,624, what are all the reasons justifying such an expense?

2. Is it government policy to expend funds on printed material concerning the metric system whether or not the system has been endorsed by Parliament?

Mr. Ralph Ferguson (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of State (Small Businesses and Tourism)): In so far as the Department of Industry, Trade and Commerce is concerned: 1. The mandate of Metric Commission Canada established under section 18 of the Government Organization Act, 1969, includes the following purpose, to “furnish, publish and disseminate information concerning conversion to the metric system” (order in council, PC 1971-1146, June 10, 1971).

2. The Parliament of Canada made the metric system legal in this country as far back as 1871, as part of our first law on weights and measures. The Canadian government tabled in the House of Commons in January, 1970, the white paper on metric conversion which received support from all party leaders in the House of Commons. A program of guideline dates for metric conversion was approved by the government and debated in the House of Commons on March 17, 1975. The Standing Committee on Finance, Trade and Economic Affairs studied this matter at length and reported it back to the House of Commons on December 17, 1976, with a recommendation that the House consider the advisability of adopting this program and introduce additional legislation to facilitate metric conversion. Subsequently, the Statute Law (Metric Conversion) Amendment Act, 1976, was passed by the House of Commons on July 25, 1977 and received royal assent on August 5, 1977.

Order Paper Questions

“CULTURES CANADA”

Question No. 1,050—**Mr. Cossitt:**

1. Does volume 1, number 5, May, 1980, issue of “Cultures Canada” highlight or promote the public image of Liberal politicians or members of Parliament and, if so, is it government policy that this pamphlet should be used for such purposes?

2. Does the front page of the issue praise the Minister of State (Multiculturalism) and the hon. member for La Prairie and, if so, for what reason?

3. Does the issue contain anything of the views, accomplishments, suggestions etc. of the multiculturalism policies of other parties in the House of Commons and, if not, for what reason?

Hon. Jim Fleming (Minister of State (Multiculturalism)):

1. Since its inception in 1979, “Cultures Canada”, the official newsletter of the Canadian Consultative Council on Multiculturalism has pursued an independent editorial policy. This newsletter’s primary objective is to keep interested individuals abreast of the numerous processes concerning policy development and its implementation including profiles of individuals who are actively committed/involved with multiculturalism.

2. The front page of the issue does not praise the individuals mentioned. It simply reports on the minister’s direct involvement in resolving the W5 issue and elsewhere on the same page it provides broad information on the newly nominated parliamentary secretary to the minister of multiculturalism.

3. Previous issues of “Cultures Canada” contained information on the views, accomplishments and suggestions on the multiculturalism policies of another government administration.

Question No. 1,051—**Mr. Cossitt:**

1. Does volume 1, number 5, May 1980 issue of “Cultures Canada” refer to the hon. member for La Prairie as being chosen the Liberal candidate for the constituency and that he had won his seat with a majority of 33,000 votes and, if so (a) in what way is this connected with multiculturalism (b) is it government policy through such publications to promote the political fortunes of Liberal members of Parliament?

2. Does the issue refer to the member’s hobbies and cultural activities and, if so (a) in what way is this connected to multiculturalism (b) is it government policy to promote such activities of Members of Parliament?

Hon. Jim Fleming (Minister of State (Multiculturalism)):

1. Since its inception in 1979, “Cultures Canada”, the official newsletter of the Canadian Consultative Council on Multiculturalism (CCCM), an advisory body to the Minister of State for Multiculturalism, has pursued an independent editorial policy. This newsletter’s main objective is to keep interested individuals abreast of the various processes occurring in the area of policy development, its implementation and the individuals who contribute to the shaping of said policy. The minister’s predecessor and various members of the CCCM have been highlighted in the newsletter. The information provided on the member for La Prairie is factual in its mention of election figures.

2. The member’s hobbies and cultural activities are mentioned to provide a more complete picture of the newly appointed parliamentary secretary to the minister.