

Speaker's Ruling

"Seaports and the Shipping World" and "Sailings" and, if so (a) what number (b) what was the amount paid for such advertisements?

Hon. Douglas Grinslade Lewis (Minister of Transport): The management of Canadian National advises as follows:

a) CN has been advertising in *Seaports* since 1973.

a & b) From 1985 to 1989, CN advertised in *Seaports* magazine, expending between \$17,000 and \$32,000 per annum to cover advertising in a range of between 8 and 14 insertions.

During the same period, CN had one advertising insertion in *Sailings* magazine, expending \$1,200.

CONTRACTS WITH LAVALIN INC.

Question No. 232—**Mr. Nault:**

Has the government entered into any contracts with Lavalin Inc. for maintenance, repair, construction or reconstruction of any buildings at C.F.B. Goose Bay during 1989 or 1990 and, if so, in each case (a) what is the (i) nature (ii) amount of the contract (b) has the work been (i) commenced and, if so, what is the anticipated date of completion (ii) completed?

Hon. William Hunter McKnight (Minister of National Defence): No.

FATAL CRASH OF CANADIAN FORCES CF-18

Question No. 233—**Mr. Harvey (Edmonton East):**

With regard to the fatal crash of a Canadian Forces CF-18, during a cruise missile test over northern Canada on January 29, 1990 (a) was any part of the loss in personnel and material insured and if so, to what degree (b) what are the total costs of the loss (including, but not limited to, the costs of the plane and the costs of any settlement awarded the dependents of the pilot) (c) will any part of the total non-insured costs be borne by the government of the United States and, if so, what part?

Hon. William Hunter McKnight (Minister of National Defence): a) No.

b) With respect to the cost of the loss of the CF-18 aircraft, the crash recovery is still ongoing; figures are not available at this time. In addition, over and above normal benefit payments, e.g., pension benefits, dependents are not awarded monetary settlements.

c) No.

[*English*]

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

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

Mr. Speaker: Shall the remaining questions stand?

Some hon. members: Agreed.

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POINT OF ORDER

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE—SPEAKER'S RULING

Mr. Speaker: Committees sitting at the same time as bells are sounded to call members into the House for a recorded division continues to be a problem in the eyes of some hon. members. On January 25 and again on January 30, first the hon. member for Ottawa-Vanier and later the hon. member for Esquimalt—Juan de Fuca raised this matter.

[*Translation*]

This is not the first time this matter has been brought forward. Last May 31, for example, the hon. member for Hamilton East complained that the Standing Committee on the Environment was sitting at the same time as division bells were ringing in the House to call the members in for a vote.

The Chair appreciates the difficult position that members are put in because they cannot be in two places at the same time. Committees sitting concurrently as the House calls in members for a vote can mean that an hon. member has to decide to attend either the House to cast his or her vote or to attend the committee meeting. This is very often a serious dilemma for members.

[*English*]

Let me first point out that subsection (1) of Standing Order 108 grants powers to standing committees which specifically includes the power to sit while the House is sitting and during periods when the House stands adjourned. Subsection (5) of Standing Order 113 grants exactly the same powers to legislative committees. There is no qualification whatsoever in the wording of these Standing Orders. Thus, it would appear that there is no restriction in our rules which would prevent any committees of this House from sitting at the same time as division bells are ringing to call the members in for a recorded vote.

This view is in keeping with rulings arising from similar situations that have occurred in the past. I can refer the House to rulings of the Chair on February 16, 1971, February 22, 1971, May 28, 1971, May 5, 1976, June 23, 1976, November 7, 1978 and June 8, 1981. These are rulings of Speakers Lamoureux, Jerome and Sauvé, and all are agreed that the Speaker can do nothing in the circumstances complained of in the face of the Standing