

Starred Questions

PRESS SECRETARY'S POSITION, PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE

Question No. 96—Mr. Godin:

1. Is there a position in the office of the Prime Minister or the privy council office for a press secretary or public relations officer or some similar official?

2. If so, what is the precise designation of the position?

3. Has any such position been occupied since June 21, 1957, and, if so, for what period?

4. Was such officer paid a salary from public funds and, if so, under what precise authority?

Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Prime Minister): The answer to part 1 is yes.

The answer to part 2 is information officer 6.

The answer to part 3 is yes, March 1, 1960.

The answer to part 4 is yes, under the authority of a treasury board minute and appropriation acts passed by parliament from time to time.

C.B.C.—CHAIRMAN OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Question No. 97—Mr. Pickersgill:

1. Is the chairman of the board of directors of the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation a member of the board other than the president?

2. If so, when was such change made and in what manner?

3. On what date was such change or proposed change first brought to the attention of the Minister of National Revenue?

4. What is the specific statutory authority for such change?

Hon. George C. Nowlan (Minister of National Revenue): The answer to part 1 is yes.

The answer to part 2 is that the board of directors at a meeting on June 24, 1959, amended its bylaws to provide that the chairman of the board should be a director other than the president or the vice president. By a subsequent resolution at the same meeting the present chairman of the board, Mr. Robert Dunsmore, was elected as chairman of the board of directors.

I cannot recall, Mr. Speaker, the exact date the matter was brought to my attention; it is a matter of management of the C.B.C. There was no formal communication with me; I think I heard of it a considerable time later.

The answer to part 4 is that the authority is the Broadcasting Act, being chapter 22 of the statutes of Canada, 1958.

EAST SAINT JOHN THERMAL POWER PLANT, N.B.

Question No. 99—Mr. Robichaud:

1. Has a request been made to the government of the province of New Brunswick asking for permission to table in the House of Commons the exchange of correspondence between the federal government and the government of the province of New Brunswick, in connection with the East Saint John thermal power plant?

[Mr. Fleming (Eglinton).]

2. If so: (a) on what date was such a request made? (b) has a reply been received? (c) what was the nature of the reply?

Hon. D. S. Harkness (Minister of Agriculture): Mr. Speaker, the answer to part 1 is yes.

The answer to part 2 (a) is February 10, 1960; (b) yes; (c) the government of New Brunswick has no objection to the tabling of documents which are not of a privileged nature.

EAST SAINT JOHN THERMAL POWER PLANT, N.B.

Question No. 100—Mr. Robichaud:

1. Has a request been received from the government of the province of New Brunswick asking for permission to table in the New Brunswick legislature the exchange of correspondence between the New Brunswick government and the federal government, in connection with East Saint John thermal power plant?

2. If so: (a) on what date was such a request received; (b) has a reply been given; (c) what was the nature of the reply?

Hon. D. S. Harkness (Minister of Agriculture): Mr. Speaker, the answer to part 1 is yes.

The answer to part 2 (a) is February 26, 1960; (b) yes; (c) the government of Canada has no objection to the tabling of documents which are not of a privileged nature, provided the government is informed which documents the provincial government proposes to table.

PORK IMPORTS FROM U.S.

Question No. 84—Mr. Boulanger:

1. Since the removal of the embargo, February 8, 1960, against the importation of swine, uncooked pork and uncooked pork products from the United States of America, has any amount of these products been imported?

2. If so, how many pounds?

Hon. Gordon Churchill (Minister of Trade and Commerce): Mr. Speaker, the answer to parts 1 and 2 is that statistics will not be available until some time in April. Further, this is a difficult question on which to provide a suitable answer. Perhaps if the hon. member would consult with me about this we might be able to satisfy his requirements.

Mr. Speaker: The question stands as to the remainder.

[Later:]

Mr. Speaker: I should like to be sure about the disposition of starred question No. 84 which the Minister of Trade and Commerce answered in part. Is it to stand for revision, or is it to be considered as answered?

Mr. Churchill: It is to be considered as answered, but I pointed out that there is some difficulty in getting the information