

[Translation]

SOCIAL SECURITY

FAMILY ALLOWANCES—INQUIRY RESPECTING METHOD OF PAYMENT

Mr. Gilbert Rondeau (Shefford): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of National Health and Welfare.

In view of his answer to the hon. member for Portneuf and in view of the fact that the government of the province of Quebec informed the minister of its intention to avail itself of the provisions of Bill C-211 in the announcement made yesterday by the government of that province with respect to family allowances, can the minister say if he is satisfied that the government of the province of Quebec would not use those funds to recuperate moneys from the federal government in order to pay out social benefits that were intended as family allowances in Quebec?

Hon. Marc Lalonde (Minister of National Health and Welfare): Mr. Speaker, under Bill C-211 family allowances that will be approved by this House will be paid directly by the federal government to the citizens of the province of Quebec as in other provinces. So with that method it is impossible for a province or a provincial government to allot to any other purpose the funds voted by parliament as family allowances.

Mr. Rondeau: Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary.

I thank the minister for his answer but does he mean that those allowances will be paid directly to the recipients rather than the province?

Mr. Lalonde: Mr. Speaker, I think I was quite clear in my reply, but I will try to further clarify it.

The amounts voted by the parliament of Canada for family allowance purposes will be paid by the federal government directly to the citizens in each of the provinces where those amounts are to be paid, and not to the provincial governments.

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[English]

PUBLIC SERVICE

ALLEGED REQUIREMENT TO FILL OUT SECURITY FORMS—GOVERNMENT POSITION

Mr. Peter Reilly (Ottawa West): Mr. Speaker, I should like to fly another of my famous canards right up the government's nose. This time I happen to have, unhappily for them, documentary proof of something. In view of the fact that employees of several government departments, some with many years of service, are now being asked to fill out extensive security forms complete with questions about their sex lives, their travel to so-called communist countries and other questions of a rather exotic nature, I should like to ask the Prime Minister whether his government is planning an entirely new security program, whether he feels a necessity for this kind of program and, if so, why?

Oral Questions

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, it would appear to me that there is no new program. Certain types of classifications do call for security clearances and this is probably an instance of the past policy being continued. I will find out if there has been any recent change, but I would expect that this canard, too, has gunshot in its wings.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. We are coming to the end of the question period and if we are to allow two or three more quick questions perhaps we should limit supplementaries.

Mr. Reilly: Mr. Speaker, this question does not refer to new employees or new classifications. These are employees who suddenly, after having worked in the service in one case for 26 years, have been asked to fill out forms.

Mr. Speaker: Does the hon. member have a supplementary?

Mr. Reilly: I should like to ask the Prime Minister once again to investigate this fact and report.

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POST OFFICE

REQUEST FOR ASSURANCE MEMBERS' NEWSLETTERS WILL BE PLACED PROPERLY IN MAILBOXES

Mr. Ed Nelson (Burnaby-Seymour): Mr. Speaker, my question concerns postal delivery but since it concerns also enforcement of the law I will address it to the Minister of Justice. In view of the fact that householder newsletters sent out by hon. members are classified as third class mail along with the junk mail that is flooding so many Canadian homes, and in view of the importance of this communication between a member of parliament and his constituents, can the minister say if any steps are being contemplated to ensure that these newsletters are placed in individual mailboxes as required by law instead of being treated as junk mail?

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Justice): Mr. Speaker, I will be glad to draw this representation and complaint to the attention of the Postmaster General who, I am sure, will be extremely interested in seeing that all pieces are treated as they ought to be.

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FOOD PRICES

INVESTIGATION OF INDUSTRY BY COMBINES BRANCH—PUBLICATION OF RESULTS—CO-OPERATION WITH PRICES REVIEW BOARD

Mr. James A. McGrath (St. John's East): Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs if the results of the investigation by the Combines Investigation Branch into the food industry, as announced by him earlier this week, will be made public and when that investigation will be completed? I should also like to ask the minister if the Combines Investigation