

Oral Questions
BILINGUALISM

PROPOSED REFERENCE TO COMMITTEE OF CARTWRIGHT
REPORT

Mr. Serge Joyal (Maisonneuve-Rosemont): Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct my question to the President of the Treasury Board.

Considering that the conclusions of the research which was carried out by Professor Cartwright of London's Western University, Ontario, on behalf of the Bilingual district Advisory Board, were released by the Secretary of State Department on March 23, 1976, and considering that in the five year census which will be taken in May, the working language will not be on the list of questions asked, against the recommendations of the B and B Commission, will the President of the Treasury Board tell the House whether or not he intends to refer the result of Professor Cartwright's conclusions to the Standing Committee on Broadcasting, Films and Assistance to the Arts so that the issue of the survival of French minorities in Ontario and New Brunswick may be discussed?

Hon. Jean Chrétien (President of the Treasury Board): Mr. Speaker, this question was considered within the government during the present study on the report of the commission, although it has not yet been decided to proceed immediately with bilingual districts. We hope to do so very shortly. Of course, we shall then take Professor Cartwright's comments into account.

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[English]

TRADE

CRITERIA USED TO SELECT DEALERS TO IMPORT EGGS

Mr. Jack Murta (Lisgar): Mr. Speaker, I should like to address a question, if I may, to the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce. As a result of the government decision to double the number of United States eggs imported into Canada, a situation appears to be developing in which the egg import regulations will allow a number of selected egg importers in Canada to share in an annual profit of between \$600,000 and \$1,000,000. Can the minister describe to the House the criteria used to select the Ontario dealers who will share in this profit? It is understood that at present these licences are approved by one individual, this individual being an official in the Department of Industry, Trade and Commerce.

Hon. Donald C. Jamieson (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): I, too, saw the news report and have asked for a detailed explanation. I understand, from a casual explanation which has been provided to me, that permits are allocated on the basis of the historic trade pattern to importers who have been in the business in the past, and that there is a surplus which is allocated on a first come, first served basis. I shall let the hon. member have the details. I might add, though, that I am looking into this whole arrangement. If the quantity is substantially higher, then, conceivably, we ought to increase the number of people who participate.

[Mr. Lalonde.]

SUPPLY AND SERVICES

CONTRACT WITH COMPUTING DEVICES FOR SAMSON
PROJECT—DATE FOR DELIVERY OF TERMINALS

Mr. Paul Dick (Lanark-Renfrew-Carleton): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Minister of Supply and Services or to the Minister of National Defence—it is supplementary to a question asked yesterday by the member for Grenville-Carleton. In view of the fact that Computing Devices of Canada have allegedly lost a contract for supplying computer terminals can the minister advise whether or not the officers in the Samson program office had advised Computing Devices of Canada that they did not need any terminals until September of this year, although it was later?

[Translation]

Hon. Jean-Pierre Goyer (Minister of Supply and Services): Mr. Speaker, the contract entered into by Computing Devices of Canada was cancelled because the company did not fulfill its obligations with respect to both the date of delivery and the price indicated in the tender, which it wanted to have revised, a request which is absolutely unacceptable.

[English]

Mr. Dick: I appreciate the details which the minister has been able to provide. I am inquiring as to whether or not the Samson program office at any time, even though there may have been a delay in the contract, said to Computing Devices: We do not need the terminals until September, 1976?

[Translation]

Mr. Goyer: Mr. Speaker, I shall inquire about this situation.

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[English]

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

UNITED NATIONS RESOLUTION OUTLAWING TRADE IN
NAMIBIAN GOODS—CANADIAN POSITION ON RATIFICATION

Mr. Bill Clarke (Vancouver Quadra): Mr. Speaker, my question is addressed to the Secretary of State for External Affairs. In view of the fact that the United Nations have passed a resolution outlawing trade in Namibian goods and in view of the fact that these goods are still entering Canada legally, since Canada has not ratified or consented to the UN motion, may I ask when is it Canada's intention to concur in the UN motion—or is it the intention to continue to permit entry of Namibian goods?

● (1450)

Hon. Allan J. MacEachen (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, the only sanctions that Canada had accepted within the United Nations system, of course, are the sanctions that applied to Rhodesia, and there have been no such sanctions applied with regard to trade with Namibia.