

(a)	1975-76	(b)	1976-77
	(i) \$ 2,997,648		(i) \$2,060,132
	(ii) 10,169,825		(ii) 5,125,422
	(iii) 4,007,763		(iii) 3,904,128

* * *

[English]

QUESTIONS PASSED AS ORDERS FOR RETURNS

Mr. Ralph E. Goodale (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): Mr. Speaker, if questions No. 1699 and 1795 could be made orders for return, these returns would be tabled immediately.

[Text]

1975-76 ANNUAL REPORT OF DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRY, TRADE
AND COMMERCE

Question No. 1,699—Mr. MacDonald (Egmont):

1. Does the 1975-76 Annual Report of the Department of Industry, Trade and Commerce state that the Department has "encouraged specialization in high-technology, sophisticated manufacturing" and, if so, what percentage of the budget for research has gone towards encouraging labour intensive, smaller-scale technologies appropriate to the development needs of Atlantic Canada?

2. Apart from seed potato promotion, what new marketing efforts has the Department undertaken to assist products solely or primarily produced in (a) the Atlantic provinces (b) Eastern Quebec?

3. What percentage, by region, was spent in each of the past three years under the (a) Promotional Projects Programme (b) Programme for Export Market Development (c) Programme to Enhance Productivity?

4. What percentage of the value of Canadian exports to (a) the USA (b) all other countries, came from the Atlantic Region?

Return tabled.

RADIO STATIONS OPERATING IN NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR

Question No. 1,795—Mr. Crosbie:

What are the names and locations of each (a) AM radio (b) FM radio (c) TV station operating in Newfoundland and Labrador and, in each case, who is the owner and, if any are owned by limited liability companies, what are the names of the shareholders of each?

Return tabled.

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[English]

STARRED QUESTION

Mr. Ralph E. Goodale (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): Mr. Speaker, would you be so kind as to call starred question No. 1,923?

Order Paper Questions

[Text]

*SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

Question No. 1,923—Mr. Fairweather:

1. Is consideration being given to reducing or ending the financial commitment to encourage social development and citizen participation?

2. Does the Secretary of State agree that through citizen participation and voluntary initiative, voluntary organizations help strengthen Canadian unity?

3. How does the Department of the Secretary of State reconcile the objective of strengthening national unity while de-emphasizing the encouragement of voluntary action?

[English]

Hon. John Roberts (Secretary of State): 1. No. A task Force has recently terminated its examination of departmental objectives, programs and structures and although no final decision has yet been taken with respect to its recommendations, the report does foresee continued support for and reliance on the voluntary sector to enable the department to achieve its objectives.

2. See Beaudesne No. 171 (w) and (bb).

3. See reply 1.

Mr. Speaker: Shall the remaining questions be allowed to stand?

Mr. Cossitt: Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday I rose in the House to draw attention to the fact that questions 29, 30, 41 and a number of others pertaining to the use of government aircraft for private and political purposes by members of the cabinet had not been answered. I drew attention to the fact that I had risen on this matter a number of times without gaining any reply. I ended my remarks by asking whether the parliamentary secretary would please give an indication at that time when these questions would be answered. His reply does not appear in *Hansard* and I feel it must be an error of some sort, but he replied very clearly, as heard by all members on this side of the House, in these words: "When the member for Leeds becomes civil".

It occurs to me, Mr. Speaker, that questions in this House asked by members of the opposition should be answered in the interest of parliament and the Canadian people not on the basis of what the government happens to think politically of a member of the opposition. This destroys the whole purpose of asking questions in the House. Questions should be answered when the information is ready. This information should not be withheld from public and from parliament, Mr. Speaker, simply because somebody over there does not like somebody over here. I think that is a pretty invalid excuse. If that is the way things are going to continue, then I think it explains exactly why so many questions stand on the order paper unanswered for so many months. I think it is high time something was done in this House to bring to a head the fact that questions are outstanding for a year, some going on for two years, including the ones to which I am referring. Obviously, the government has the information and has had plenty of time to compile it. It can only be withholding the information because it is politically embarrassing. I think it is a very