

MR. MCKINNON—POSTPONEMENT OF ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Hon. Allan B. McKinnon (Victoria): Madam Speaker, I rise on a new point of order. We have some procedural difficulties, about which Your Honour is no doubt aware, when a member asks a minister a question and receives the answer that the minister is not able to answer the question at that time but will inquire and inform the hon. member later. All too often we do not hear of it again unless we raise it once more ourselves, thus using up one of our rare opportunities in question period.

Yesterday there was a different kind of incident. I asked the Minister of Supply and Services (Mr. Blais) a question he was unable to answer, and he said, "I will have to inquire and inform the hon. member". My question was about the fifth milestone report on the new fighter aircraft contract. I asked if a review was made, whether it was satisfactory and whether the milestone payment was made. I would like to put on the record the fact that the minister came to me after the question period and said that a review had been made, the report was satisfactory, and the payment had been made. I hope this example might prove catching and that some other ministers who have allowed similar questions to be outstanding for months might get the idea.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[English]

PETITION

MR. MAYER—CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY—CLOSING OF
MINIOTA SUBDIVISION

Mr. Charles Mayer (Portage-Marquette): Madam Speaker, I would like to present a petition on behalf of the residents of Manitoba who want public hearings held on the proposed closing of the Miniota subdivision of the CPR. A decision to abandon this rail line was made, I might add, a decision made without adequate consultation with those who will be most affected. I submit that new evidence has shown that this line is still an integral part of the grain transportation system in Manitoba.

On behalf of the petitioners I ask that serious consideration be given to their request that the Canadian Transport Commission hold a full and public inquiry before Canadian Pacific is allowed to close the Miniota subdivision.

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QUESTIONS ON THE ORDER PAPER

(Questions answered orally are indicated by an asterisk.)

Mr. D. M. Collette (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): Madam Speaker, the following questions will be answered today: Nos. 318, 1,010, 1,414, 1,453, 1,555, 1,686 and 1,687.

Order Paper Questions

[Text]

DRUG TESTING

Question No. 318—**Mr. Herbert:**

Does the government require regular testing to determine the comparable (a) purity (b) stability (c) pH (d) inert ingredients (e) mould or bacterial contamination (f) coating (g) absorption rate (h) deterioration of chemically equivalent drugs and, if so, are the findings made public?

Mr. Doug Frith (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of National Health and Welfare): Before each lot of a drug may be sold in Canada, the pharmaceutical manufacturer is required to test that drug according to the requirements of the food and drug regulations. The types of testing required are dependent on the specifications of the product in question. Product specifications include requirements for potency, purity and identity of the product as well as other product related requirements such as testing to ensure stability. The adequacy of these specifications and the actual testing are both subject to evaluation by the health protection branch and action may be taken if either are found to be inadequate. The companies are not required to make the results of this testing public. However, when a drug is tested within the Quality of Drug Assessment program, results are provided to provincial and territorial departments of health, hospitals and, upon request, to health professionals.

AIR CANADA

Question No. 1,010—**Mr. Cossitt:**

1. With reference to the answer to question No. 593 which states in part: "Air Canada regards remuneration and other conditions of officers' and managers' employment as proprietary" (a) is Air Canada a Crown corporation (b) is Air Canada responsible to Parliament through a minister of the Crown (c) can Air Canada refuse a parliamentary request for information on remuneration of its officials and, if so, for what reasons?

2. Is it government policy to make more information available to the Canadian people and, if so, will this include information about Air Canada?

3. Is the government prepared to request Air Canada to reconsider making available, details on the pension, allowances or emoluments of any kind extended to the honourable member for Lincoln when he retired as chairman of Air Canada's board of directors and (a) if so, on what date (b) if not, for what reason?

Mr. D. M. Collette (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): The hon. member may wish to refer to Beauchesne's fifth edition, citation 357(1), which refers to Beauchesne's fourth edition, citation 171. In specificity he may wish to examine sections (a), (d), (h), (i), (j), (k), (m), (q), (r), (t), (w), and (ff), among others, of citation 171. The honourable member may also wish to put questions directly to the management of Air Canada when the company's annual report is before the Standing Committee on Transport.

NEW HORIZONS—GRANT CHEQUES

Question No. 1,414—**Mr. Cossitt:**

1. Did the Minister of National Health and Welfare state in part before the Standing Committee on Health, Welfare and Social Affairs on Wednesday, July 2, 1980, "so can we conclude that we will all meet your New Horizons group and give the cheques yourselves . . .", and, if so, is it government policy to forward New Horizons cheques to recipients through all members of Parliament regard-