

Order Paper Questions

information and there is no reason why that answer should not have been given in a three-year period.

Mr. Evans: Mr. Speaker, that is the first I have heard of this particular question but I will look into it immediately.

Mr. Friesen: Mr. Speaker, I would like to know why questions Nos. 4,367, 4730 and 4,737 have not been answered. The first question I mentioned was placed on the Order Paper June 10, 1982 and all it asks for is a list of the legal firms that have been given Government contracts. The other two simply ask for the guest list for the state dinner hosted by the Prime Minister in honour of Her Majesty the Queen in Vancouver and Victoria in March of this year. I want to find out whether the Government sees Her Majesty as a servant of the liberal Party or all other Canadians too. It would be a very simple question for the Parliamentary Secretary to have answered.

Mr. Evans: Once again, I will look into that but I can assure the Hon. Member that that is not the way to get additions to his fund raising list.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that the remaining questions be allowed to stand.

Mr. Parker: Mr. Speaker, the Parliamentary Secretary has answered my question No. 4,893 but I would like to ask where the answer to question No. 4,894 is. I asked that question on May 12. It deals with the Crowsnest agreement, which relates to the debate that we are trying to have. The question was:

With reference to the 50,000 acres of Dominion coal blocks in the Constituency of Kootenay East-Revelstoke, have there been any applications from or discussions with mining companies for the development of these properties and, if so, what were the names of the companies interested in obtaining licences on these lands?

It is important to me that these answers be made so that I can debate the Crow legislation in a very constructive way.

Mr. Evans: Mr. Speaker, I will attend to that right after Question Period.

Mr. Speaker, were the remaining questions allowed to stand?

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Shall the remaining questions stand?

Mr. Gamble: Question No. 2,374 was asked by myself on April 10, 1981. It was a very simple question which took about two and one-half lines in *Hansard*. It asks:

Was the Prime Minister in New York on government business during the weekend of April 3, 1981 and, if so, what was the cost to the taxpayer?

I think it is rather significant that I should be inquiring about the answer to that question placed on the Order Paper over two years ago since the Prime Minister was again in New York last weekend for presumably the same purpose, and I should be asking another question with respect to that. Surely after two years we should have an answer by now to what is a very simple question.

Mr. Evans: Mr. Speaker, I will look into that. I have now five or six questions that have been put to me and I will get on to those right away.

Mr. McKenzie: Mr. Speaker, while the Parliamentary Secretary is looking into five or six other delayed answers, I would like him to check one for me. It dates back to November 18, 1981. The question is: "Did three Liberal Cabinet Ministers take separate JetStars to Winnipeg for the official opening of a firm in Winnipeg and, if so, in each case other than the Minister and the aircraft crew who was on the flight?" I understand these three flights were flying in Liberal campaign workers to work in the last provincial election in Manitoba.

I wonder if the Parliamentary Secretary could find out what is causing the delay in answering this question, which is almost two years old.

Also, I have had a question on the Order Paper since June 29, 1982, No. 4,387, with regard to the hiring practices of the RCMP. They are having difficulty in western Canada. Unilingual English Canadians are unable to join the RCMP and I would like to get the answer why they are unable to join the RCMP. This question has been on the Order Paper for well over a year.

Mr. Evans: I will look into those as well, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Shall the remaining questions stand?

Some Hon. Members: Agreed.

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

[English]

WESTERN GRAIN TRANSPORTATION ACT

MEASURE TO ESTABLISH

The House resumed consideration of Bill C-155, an Act to facilitate the transportation, shipping and handling of western grain and to amend certain Acts in consequence thereof, as reported (with amendments) from the Standing Committee on Transport; and Motions Nos. 47 and 49 (Mr. Benjamin) and Motion No. 48 (Mr. Mazankowski).

Hon. Lloyd Axworthy (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased to be able to rise in resumption of the debate on report stage of this Bill. I will not take the time of the House to give Hon. Members the benefit of the wisdom I accumulated after listening to several days of petitions, although it will be retained in my memory for years to come. What I prefer to do today is rather to present to the House a series of proposals that I believe would help improve the Bill and which would require unanimous consent.

We have had many days of debate and I think some very useful ideas have been proposed during that period of time. In light of those expressions of recommendation and concern, I