Motions for Papers

(a) Refer to reply to question No. 161, 1(a), answered today.

(b) Not applicable.

Question No. 1,498—**Mr. Cossitt:**

Were the Taschereau Papers returned to the Public Archives by Mr. Michael Pitfield with instructions that public release be delayed until 1986 and, if so, under what statutory authority was such action taken?

Mr. D. M. Collenette (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): See reply to Part 1 of question No. 29 answered today. Such action was taken in his capacity as Clerk of the Privy Council responsible for the management of the Privy Council office pursuant to Orders in Council PC 1940-1121 and PC 1975-94.

[*English*]

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

Madam Speaker: Shall the remaining questions stand?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

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MOTIONS FOR PAPERS

Mr. D. M. Collenette (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): Madam Speaker, Notice of Motion for the Production of Papers No. 2 is acceptable to the government. These papers are documents submitted by the offices of the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) and the Privy Council and contain copies of all communications, memos, notes on telephone conversations, etc. between the Privy Council office and/or the Prime Minister's office with the Public Archives or any other persons or groups in connection with the so-called Taschereau Papers prior to April 14, 1980, and specifically these documents include a copy of a letter written by Mr. Michael Pitfield to the Public Archives ordering such papers to be withheld from public examination for a further period of ten years.

I ask, Madam Speaker, that the remaining notices of motions for the production of papers be allowed to stand.

[*Text*]

TACHEREAU PAPERS—PUBLIC ARCHIVES

Motion No. 2—**Mr. Cossitt:**

That an order of the House do issue for a copy of all communications, memos, notes on telephone conversations, etc., between the Privy Council office and/or the Prime Minister's office with the Public Archives or any other persons or groups in connection with the so-called Taschereau Papers prior to April 14, 1980, and specifically, that this include a copy of a letter written by Mr. Michael Pitfield to the Public Archives ordering such papers to be withheld from public examination for a further period of ten years.

Motion agreed to.

[*English*]

Madam Speaker: Shall the remaining notices of motions stand?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

[*English*]

THE CONSTITUTION

RESOLUTION RESPECTING CONSTITUTION ACT, 1981

The House resumed debate on the motion of Mr. Chrétien, seconded by Mr. Roberts, for an address to Her Majesty the Queen respecting the Constitution of Canada.

And on the amendment of Mr. Epp, seconded by Mr. Baker (Nepean-Carleton),—That the motion be amended in Schedule B of the proposed resolution by deleting Clause 46 and by making all necessary changes to the Schedule consequential thereto.

Mr. Gus Mitges (Grey-Simcoe): Mr. Speaker, when I called it ten o'clock last night, I was talking about the real crises in our country, such as family crises, family break-ups, high unemployment, inflationary prices and a continued lower standard of living which all Canadians are experiencing today in Canada. We should not be sidetracked in our efforts to solve these crises by fake constitutional crises that will not put one slice of bread on the table, build one affordable house for Canadian families lacking suitable accommodation, or put clothes on the backs of Canadians. These are the real crises to which Canadians want us to address ourselves, not this fake constitutional crisis which we are being forced to railroad through.

The people of Canada elected us in good faith to represent their wishes and aspirations and to help Canada and Canadians grow and prosper. However, in my estimation the government has shirked its responsibilities and duties and has not lived up to its mandate.

Surely, the people of Canada deserve better than to have their desires and aspirations relegated to the bottom of the pile in priority by a government which is so imbued and obsessed with its own importance and with trying to make its mark in history that it does not want to be concerned about anything else but the Constitution.

I believe that when future generations look back to this particular time in our history, they will look back with amazement, incredulity and wonderment that so-called intelligent men and women were really responsible for such a fiasco, one which could have been very easily prevented by the use of common sense and good will instead of the use of deliberate confrontational tactics by the government in all its deliberations regarding not only the constitutional resolution but many