

Ways and Means

Mr. Yvon Pinard (Parliamentary Secretary to Deputy Prime Minister and President of Privy Council): Mr. Speaker, the following questions will be answered today: Nos. 50, 125, 144, 193, 207, 208, 214, 297 and 298.

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

[Text]

RCMP STRENGTH

Question No. 50—**Mr. Cossitt:**

1. What was the total strength of the RCMP during each of the past four years and what is the strength of the force at the present time?

2.

Regular Members, Civilian Members and Special Constables Only

	(a) Retirement (Pensioned)	(b) Personal Choice (Time Expired) (Free Discharge) (Purchased) (See Note 1)	(c) Dismissal (Dismissed) (Unsuitable)	and Other (Died) (Invalidated)	Total
1973/74	135	338	73	26	572
1974/75	153	384	36	32	605
1975/76	184	375	40	10	609
1976/77	193	354 (Resigned— see Note 2)	8	7	562
Total					2,348

NOTE 1: These terms were used to describe methods of voluntary discharge pursuant to the now repealed RCMP Regulations 162, 166, and 167. For clarity, "time expired" was the method to discharge a member who declined to re-engage on expiration of his initial term of engagement; "free discharge" was the method to discharge— (a) a regular member, other than an officer, with more than five years service in the force; and (b) a civilian member at any stage of his service who requested to be released from the force, and "purchased" was the method to discharge a regular member, other than an officer, with less than five years service in the force who requested to be released. A condition of release by "purchase" required the payment of an amount of not less than \$200 nor more than \$432.

NOTE 2: On May 14, 1976, the commissioner granted members the option of taking a voluntary discharge while facing disciplinary action. Members are taking advantage of this option and this has reduced the number actually being discharged as unsuitable or by dismissal.

3. No.

ANGLOPHONE MINORITY OF QUEBEC OUTSIDE MONTREAL

Question No. 125—**Mr. Herbert:**

1. Did the government recently receive a report concerning the anglophone minority of Quebec outside of Montreal and, if so, does the report indicate that (a) the Quebec City area and the Eastern townships counties of Arthabaska, Megantic, Drummond, Wolfe and Shefford have reached the point where the

[Mr. Speaker.]

2. How many persons left the RCMP by (a) retirement (b) personal choice (c) dismissal, or any other reason, during each of the past four years and what was the total of all those leaving the RCMP during the past four years combined?

3. Did the government at any time in the past four years investigate a morale problem in the RCMP particularly in higher levels and, if so, was one of the reasons found to be political interference with performance of RCMP duties?

Hon. Francis Fox (Solicitor General): 1.

	Regular Members	Special Constables	Civilian Members	Total
1973/74	11,097	847	1,093	13,037
1974/75	11,872	1,169	1,230	14,271
1975/76	12,336	1,248	1,357	14,941
1976/77	12,340	1,238	1,443	15,021
April 77	12,431	1,243	1,448	15,122

anglophone presence is no longer of significance, that anglophones in these areas have accepted the predominance of French, and all of those who have to be bilingual in order to function have already made the transition (b) the Gaspé, the Eastern townships counties of Richmond, Sherbrooke, Compton, Mississquoi and Stanstead as well as Hull, Papineau, Argenteuil and Gatineau are all moving in the direction of francophone dominance and to these may be added two counties which still have relatively substantial anglophone populations—Brome and Huntingdon, and that in both cases, recent demographic changes as well as attitudes of residents indicate the trend is toward increasing francisation and francophone ascendancy (c) Hull and Gatineau are marked by a general trend towards increasing linguistic and attitudinal francophone predominance?

2. Does the report contain any indication that the Quebec francophone majority is in danger of being dominated by the anglophone minority?

3. Has the government communicated the contents of the report to the Quebec Provincial Government?

Hon. John Roberts (Secretary of State): 1. A report on the anglophone minority of Quebec outside Montreal was submitted to the Department of the Secretary of State in March 1977. (a) Yes (quoted from page 72 of the report). (b) Yes (quoted from page 73). (c) Yes (quoted from pages 74 and 75).

2. Yes, in the dominantly anglophone township of Pontiac. As Hull and Gatineau are considered "transitional areas", the general trend towards increasing linguistic and attitudinal francophone dominance might be threatened or even reversed in future as a result of expansion of Federal Government facilities, the presence of the National Capital Commission, and the influence of the anglophone majority in close proximity and able to reinforce the use of English by the anglophone minorities of Hull and Gatineau.