

FAMILY ALLOWANCES

DATES OF BIRTH OF ADOPTED CHILDREN—FORM
LETTER 331A

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Roland Beaudry (St. James): I should like to direct a question to the Minister of National Health and Welfare. Is the minister aware of the fact that the family allowances office in Quebec has been sending out family allowances form letter 331A to parents in the province, asking, among other things, a question about the dates of birth of adopted children? If so, did the minister himself authorize the issuance of the letter in its present form? If not, will he not order a revision of this form letter?

Hon. Paul Martin (Minister of National Health and Welfare): The hon. gentleman was kind enough to give me notice of his question.

The form letter referred to was sent out in all cases where dates of birth, including those of adopted children, could not be verified from provincial vital statistics records. In such cases the experience has been that the child's birth had never been registered, and it is necessary for the family allowance officials to request the help of the parents themselves in furnishing information as to the date of birth. Adopted children are of course eligible for family allowances on the same basis as any other children. In order that the correct amount may be paid, and that duplicate payments for the same children under two different names may be avoided, it is necessary, of course, to establish the correct dates of birth. I may say that in all cases where parents had advised the family allowance officials on their original family allowances application form that the child had been adopted, this form letter was not sent out.

The purpose of the form letter was solely to verify the date of birth of the children in question. Since the hon. gentleman has brought the matter to my attention I am having the form letter looked at to make sure whether or not in the circumstances a revision is desirable.

TRANS-CANADA AIR LINES

PRESS REPORT AS TO TRANSFER TO CANADIAN
PACIFIC OF OPERATIONS FROM
WINNIPEG WEST

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Stanley Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Transport. Is there any basis for the press report of a short while ago to the effect that the Trans-Canada Air Lines

Inquiries of the Ministry

operation from Winnipeg west might be turned over to the Canadian Pacific Air Lines?

Hon. Lionel Chevrier (Minister of Transport): The hon. gentleman sent no notice of his question, but notwithstanding that, I may tell him that I have had no notice or advice of the action which he has in mind, and neither, I am sure, has my colleague the Minister of Trade and Commerce.

Mr. Knowles: It is not a matter as to which the government would get notice from T.C.A. It is a matter of government policy.

Mr. Chevrier: So far as government policy is concerned with reference to T.C.A., it has been announced, and if there is any change it will be made known.

Right Hon. C. D. Howe (Minister of Trade and Commerce): As minister responsible for T.C.A. I should like to say there is absolutely nothing in the suggestion.

Mr. Knowles: Good. That is the answer we want.

GOLD

SALES FROM SOUTH AFRICA AT PREMIUM OF
\$6.50 PER FINE OUNCE

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Harry R. Jackman (Rosedale): I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Finance. In view of the approval by the international monetary fund of the sale by South Africa of newly-mined alloy gold to be used only for industrial or professional work at a premium of \$6.50 a fine ounce over the fund's price of \$35 a pure ounce, will the government extend the same right to Canadian gold producers?

Hon. Douglas Abbott (Minister of Finance): Again I am caught by surprise by one of these gold questions, but I am very glad to answer my hon. friend. I have no official information yet as to just what has taken place with respect to the gold sales in South Africa. I was informed this morning that the matter is under consideration by the international monetary fund, and when I have a report as to the decision which the fund has made, I shall be glad to communicate it to the house.

VETERANS AFFAIRS

DISTRIBUTION OF MEDALS AND CAMPAIGN STARS

On the orders of the day:

Mr. J. O. Probe (Regina City): I should like to direct a question to the Minister of National Defence, of which I sent him notice. Will the minister please inform the house what progress is being made with respect to the