

## Questions

is going to elapse between the total paving of the highway and the time some of this work can be accomplished. If the amount of paving that can be done is brought forward immediately, it will be of great help to the Yukon and to Alaska. I hope the minister will continue to study this angle so that as much paving as can be readily done in certain spots will be done. This, I am sure, will meet with the approval of the people of British Columbia and the Yukon.

In so far as Social Credit policies are concerned, Mr. Speaker, I want to say that the remarks and the laughter indicate just about how much the people of this country do understand Social Credit.

[Later:]

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. Erik Nielsen (Yukon):** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Northern Affairs and National Resources based on his announcement today concerning the talks that will be proceeding with the three governments mentioned. Since there are two other very important matters that can be usefully discussed, I wonder whether the minister would consider suggesting to the governments concerned the inclusion in these talks of the recently discovered Tarr inlet as a tidewater port in the Yukon and the construction of the Skagway road, since they concern all three governments?

**Hon. Arthur Laing (Minister of Northern Affairs and National Resources):** Mr. Speaker, our latest information on the so-called Tarr inlet harbour area is rather discouraging. These other matters may come up when the governments get together. However, the technical discussions to which I referred, will concern themselves essentially with the Alaska highway.

## QUESTIONS

(Questions answered orally are indicated by an asterisk.)

## FREE MEDICAL AND HOSPITAL SERVICES TO OLD AGE PENSIONERS AT 65

Question No. 2,001—**Mr. Mather:**

Has the national pensioners and senior citizens federation requested that free medical and hospital services be extended to persons entitled to an old age pension at age 65 and, if so, what consideration is being given to this request?

**Hon. Judy V. LaMarsh (Minister of National Health and Welfare):** Reference to this matter was contained in one of a number of resolutions set forth in a copy of a report

[Mr. Leboe.]

of a recent meeting of the national pensioners and senior citizens federation addressed to the Prime Minister, the Minister of National Health and Welfare and members of the federal parliament.

Old age assistance is provided at age 65 to persons who fulfil the requirements of the Old Age Assistance Act and regulations. As the provinces administer and share the cost of old age assistance, any supplementary benefits for recipients involving the expenditure of provincial funds would require consideration by provincial authorities.

## FEDERAL ROYAL COMMISSIONS

Question No. 2,038—**Mr. Laprise:**

1. How many royal commissions have been set up at the request of the federal government since 1957 and what are they?

2. How many of them have submitted their final report since that time and how much has each of the commissions cost?

3. Which commissions have still to report and when are they expected to do so?

**Mr. Jack Davis (Parliamentary Secretary to Prime Minister):** 1, 2 and 3. Seventeen royal commissions have been set up since 1957, as follows:

| Final report submitted  | Cost         |
|---|--------------|
| Royal commission on Seabird island Indians  | \$ 2,506.00  |
| Royal commission on railway problems (transportation)   | 574,090.00   |
| Royal commission on the Great Slave lake railway  | 46,920.00    |
| Royal commission on treaties 8 and 11 as they apply to Indians of the Mackenzie district      | 8,245.00     |
| Royal commission on coal  | 99,166.00    |
| Royal commission on the motor vehicles industries   | 57,841.00    |
| Royal commission on certain activities of station CHEK-TV, Victoria, B.C.                     | 4,720.00     |
| Royal commission on government organization   | 2,791,915.00 |
| Royal commission on Canadian magazines and other periodicals (publications)                   | 136,121.00   |
| Royal commission on banking and finance   | *726,384.00  |
| Royal commission on irregularities in processing claims under the Prairie Farm Assistance Act | *16,074.03   |

\* As at September 30, 1964—a few outstanding small accounts still to be paid.