

Questions

• (3:50 p.m.)

Mr. Mackasey: Mr. Speaker, I was paired with the hon. member for Calgary South (Mr. Ballard). Had I voted I would have voted for the motion.

QUESTIONS

(Questions answered orally are indicated by an asterisk.)

COST OF MEDICARE IN BRITISH COLUMBIA

Question No. 727—**Mr. Fulton:**

1. As the result of discussions with provincial authorities about the proposed medicare program, or through other means, is it within the knowledge of the federal government what is the annual cost of that portion of the present medical care program in British Columbia which is paid out of tax money in that province and, if so, what is the amount?

2. On the basis of current statistics, what will be the cost to the treasury of British Columbia, in a full year, of the medicare program as provided under the federal legislation of 1966, if the program goes into effect with respect to B.C. on July 1, 1968?

3. What is the estimated cost to the federal Treasury in the same period in respect of British Columbia?

Hon. Allan J. MacEachen (Minister of National Health and Welfare): 1. No.

2. In the hypothetical case of a medicare program as provided under the federal legislation of 1966 being in operation for the full calendar year 1968, the estimated aggregate cost in British Columbia would be \$82.3 million. With federal participation, the estimated cost to the treasury of British Columbia would be \$39.6 million. Such an estimate, of course, is based on a number of assumptions concerning the number of residents

covered, the schedule of fees, the percentage rate of payment, etc.

3. In the same hypothetical case for the calendar year 1968, assuming 100 per cent population coverage and full participation by all provinces and territories, the estimated cost to the federal treasury in respect of British Columbia would be \$42.7 million.

CONTINGENCY VOTE IN ESTIMATES

Question No. 1,003—**Mr. Bell (Carleton):**

1. During each of the fiscal years 1963-64 to date, what was the total amount of the Vote in the Department of Finance or Treasury Board for contingencies and minor unforeseen expenses not otherwise provided for?

2. In each of the said years, what was the gross total amount initially charged to the said Vote for contingencies?

3. Of such amounts so charged to the said Vote, what was the total amount in each of the said years subsequently replaced in the said Vote by provision in Supplementary Estimates or otherwise?

4. In each of the said years, what was the net total amount finally charged to the said Vote after such replacements?

5. At any time, during any of the said years, was there outstanding and charged to the said Vote for contingencies an amount or amounts greater than the amount at that period of time appropriated by Parliament for the said Vote for contingencies?

6. If so, on what occasions?

Hon. E. J. Benson (President of the Treasury Board): 1. See statement Column (1).

2. See statement Column (2).

3. See statement Column (3).

4. See statement Column (4).

5. No.

6. See no. 5.

[Mr. Speaker.]