

have encouraged family firms to operate to increase their size to gain greater efficiency, is the minister, in his actions to assist potato producers, prepared to recognize these family partnerships or corporations as more than one unit in respect of assistance to be paid under the price stabilization program?

Hon. E. F. Whelan (Minister of Agriculture): Mr. Speaker, we are studying that request which has been put forward by other members of the House on this side.

Mr. Stanfield: Is that the only reason you are studying it?

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NATIONAL PARKS

CAPE BRETON HIGHLANDS—REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION OF DECISION TO IMPOSE ENTRANCE FEE

Mr. Robert Muir (Cape Breton-The Sydneys): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development. In light of several conversations and exchanges of correspondence which we have had on the unfortunate decision to charge an entrance fee at the Cape Breton Highlands National Park and in view of the representations that have been made by the leader of my party on the same subject, is the minister prepared, because of the unique situation which we have discussed in that there is only one access highway, to waive these charges or at least reconsider his decision before they go into effect?

Hon. Judd Buchanan (Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development): Mr. Speaker, I really do not see how we can waive them. We are endeavouring to make exceptions, as I indicated earlier, for residents of the park and people who must pass through to get to their homes. However, I will be down there over the weekend and hope to consult with the people in the area on the problem.

Mr. Peter Elzinga (Pembina): Mr. Speaker, I rise on a question of privilege, if I might—and I am not sure whether this is the right procedure—in regard to the statement which the minister made concerning restrictions which he imposed some time ago. These regulations were so broad that United States cattle came into Canada in such large numbers that our cattle market was drastically affected, and yet Canadian cattlemen cannot take advantage of the U.S. market.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

● (1500)

QUESTIONS ON THE ORDER PAPER

(Questions answered orally are indicated by an asterisk.)

Order Paper Questions

Mr. John M. Reid (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): Mr. Speaker, the following questions will be answered today: 1,551, 1,693, 1,695, 1,696, 1,764, 1,842, 1,918, 1,938, 1,950, 2,007, 2,010, 2,013, 2,014, 2,016, 2,021 and 2,022.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that questions Nos. 271 and 318 be made orders for return and also ask the consent of the House to table immediately the information which has already been submitted. The balance of the information will follow as soon as it is submitted to me.

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

[Text]

CNR—PENSIONS

Question No. 1,551—Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre):

1. How many retired employees of the Canadian National Railways are in receipt of pensions of less than \$25.00 per month?
2. How many are in receipt of a pension of \$25.00 per month?
3. How many are in receipt of pensions of (a) \$25.01 to \$29.99 per month (b) \$30.00 to \$39.99 per month (c) \$40.00 to \$49.99 per month (d) \$50.00 to \$59.99 per month (e) \$60.00 to \$69.99 per month (f) \$70.00 to \$79.99 per month (g) \$80.00 to \$89.99 per month (h) \$90.00 to \$99.99 per month (i) \$100.00 to \$124.99 per month (j) \$125.00 to \$149.99 per month (k) \$150.00 to \$199.99 per month (l) \$200.00 to \$299.99 per month (m) \$300.00 per month or over?

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): The Management of Canadian National Railways advises as follows: 1. Two hundred fifty eight.

2. One hundred thirty.

3. (a) 629, (b) 456, (c) 562, (d) 1,438, (e) 633, (f) 508, (g) 422, (h) 464, (i) 1,251, (j) 1,559, (k) 3,273, (l) 6,395, (m) 8,129. In a number of cases the amounts of pensions paid by Canadian National Railways do not represent the total pensions payable to employees for railway service. Pensions payable by CNR to international employees (service in both Canada and the United States) relate to their service in Canada only. Such employees also receive annuities payable under the United States Railroad Retirement Act or the Social Security Act for service performed in the United States. For example, in the group receiving pensions under \$25 a month, in 1974, there are 52 former international employees who also receive United States Railroad Retirement or Social Security annuities in respect of CNR service rendered in the United States. In addition, there are various pension agreements between CNR and other companies, such as Canadian Pacific Limited, CP Telecommunications, and the Ontario Northland Railway, where each company issues separate cheques for its portion of the total pension. Only the pension payable by CNR is in this statement. Also, since the passing of the Pension Benefits Standards Act by the Federal Government on October 1, 1967, there are employees who have terminated service with CN and are receiving rather small compulsory deferred pensions for service performed only from October 1, 1967. The balance of those receiving small pensions are employees who elected early retirement (before age sixty-five) with reduced basic pensions (\$25) and employees who had very short service and very small contributions.