

*Questions*  
**QUESTIONS**

(Questions answered orally are indicated by an asterisk.)

SAINT JOHN RIVER FEDERAL PROJECT

**Question No. 1,424—Mr. Flemming:**

1. Is the \$13,500,000 federal government grant, recently announced for improvement of the Saint John river in the light of the changes to the river basin and level or water north of Mactaquac caused by the construction of the Mactaquac dam, to be available for the full length of the river, north of Mactaquac, wherever it may seem essential?

2. Specifically, is any portion of such grant available for the town of Woodstock as assistance in its work of relocating facilities essential to the tourist industry and other public facilities which will be flooded and rendered useless by the Mactaquac dam?

3. Is the government of New Brunswick in complete charge of the work undertaken under this grant, or will the federal government accept recommendations from municipalities, boards of trade, town councils, etc., who are vitally affected or damaged by the Mactaquac flooding?

**Hon. Maurice Sauvé (Minister of Energy and Rural Development):** 1. The \$13,500,000 federal government commitment for the Mactaquac Special Rural Development Area of the province of New Brunswick is not for the improvement of the Saint John river but is directed toward the improvement of the standard of living and job opportunities for those living in the area.

2. There will be no capital expenditure as a result of this agreement in the town of Woodstock nor will there be expenditures made as a result of the flooding but to families relocated in Woodstock as a result of the program outlined in the agreement, counselling and other similar services will be provided.

3. The government of New Brunswick is in charge of the implementation of the plan including all aspects of administration. The federal government will maintain a concern over program formulation and progress and federal officers will, therefore, work with the province in this respect.

BONUS FOR BILINGUAL FEDERAL EMPLOYEES

**Question No. 1,776—Mr. Bell (Carleton):**

1. Has any action yet been taken by the government to provide a bonus or pay incentive to those employees who are said to be bilingual?

2. If so, what is the nature of the action and how many employees are now affected?

3. What is the dollar value of the bonus or pay incentive in each category of employee?

[Mrs. MacInnis (Vancouver-Kingsway).]

4. What tests or other techniques are used to determine whether or not an employee is in fact bilingual, specifying the nature of such tests or other techniques in detail?

**Mr. John R. Matheson (Parliamentary Secretary to Prime Minister):** 1. Yes.

2. and 3. On the recommendation of the Civil Service Commission, the Treasury Board has established a differential of 7 per cent of the actual rate of pay (rounded to the nearest dollar) received by employees in secretarial, stenographic and typing positions in which adequate performance of duties and effective service to the public requires the use of both official languages, and has approved payment of the differential to incumbents of such positions who are required to use and are actually using a second official language at least 10 per cent of their time in the performance of their duties and are qualified by the Civil Service Commission as meeting an appropriate standard of competence in the two official languages.

Payment of the differential may be made with effect from a date not earlier than October 1, 1966, provided the deputy head applies to the Civil Service Commission for a test of competence, and the employee is qualified by the commission before February 1, 1967.

In future, any candidate for appointment in this group claiming competence in both official languages or any employee already in the group who believes that he has acquired the necessary proficiency may be tested in both languages for the purposes of meeting this particular condition for payment of the language differential. In these cases, the differential would be payable with effect from the date of the appointment if the other conditions are met.

Until officials of departments and the Civil Service Commission have had an opportunity to apply the established criteria, it is not possible to estimate the number of employees to whom the differential will be paid. The total number of employees in the secretarial, stenographic and typing group is approximately 16,000.

4. The Civil Service Commission reports that tests will be given as follows to employees wishing to qualify for the language pay differential: (a) Typists will submit to a standard typing test during which they will copy a given text of approximately 300 words. The standard of competence that must be met is a minimum of 35 words per minute with a high degree of accuracy. Persons already appointed by the commission to typist