

not to be construed as further evidence of lack or real concern on the part of this government in solving the transportation problems of western Canada.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Gilles Marceau (Parliamentary Secretary to Secretary of State): The hon. member for Edmonton-Strathcona (Mr. Roche) has referred to the first question he had asked and he forgot, probably by mistake, to indicate that the minister had personally answered him in a letter dated March 16, providing him with all the explanations he had obtained about matters that the hon. member had raised.

To the second part of the hon. member's question, I will answer in six points. First of all, many passenger train services are now being subsidized through the Canadian Transport Commission. In its 1972 annual report, the CTC indicates that \$56,636,787 was paid on claims for passenger train services in 1971. The claims for 1971 exceeded \$87 million.

Second, the government is subsidizing the development of so-called light rapid comfort or LRC trains. These would operate on existing tracks but at higher speeds due to improved suspension systems. A three-company consortium has been working on the development of these trains, and so far has been subsidized through the PAIT program, that is the Program for the Advancement of Industrial

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Technology of the Department of Industry, Trade and Commerce. The consortium is preparing to test the cars and engines and further financial support is possible.

Third, the turbo train developed by the Canadian National and United Aircraft of Canada Limited will be retested this summer.

Fourth, the CTC has been funding various studies designed to improve railway passenger service, especially for high density areas.

Fifth, the Canadian Institute for Guided Ground Transport at Queen's University is doing studies for the government on magnetic levitation systems. They have received \$380,000 from the Transportation Development Agency and \$133,000 from the National Research Council, these sums totalling over half a million dollars. They are to build a test facility.

Sixth, the University of Toronto Institute for Aerospace Studies has been granted \$20,000 by the Transportation Development Agency to study dynamic tracked air-cushion suspension systems.

I note the suggestions of the hon. member. I shall convey them to the minister who is now abroad; I shall try to find out whether he will make a statement on motions should he feel one is warranted.

[*English*]

Motion agreed to and the House adjourned at 10.28 p.m.