Questions

Mr. Speaker: Is it the pleasure of the House that the hon. member shall have leave to introduce the said bill?

Some hon. Members: Explain.

Mr. Reid: Mr. Speaker, this bill will enable the representation commission to extend the variation in the rules that permits the 21 ridings in schedule III of the Canada Elections Act to be treated differently from other ridings. Instead of the 25 per cent variance now provided with regard to the population of these ridings, the representation commission would be entitled to depart from the electoral population quota to the extent of 50 per cent for the 21 large ridings in schedule III.

Motion agreed to, bill read the first time and ordered to be printed.

QUESTIONS ON THE ORDER PAPER

(Questions answered orally are indicated by an asterisk.)

SUPPLEMENTARY RETIREMENT BENEFITS ACCOUNT

Question No. 31-Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre):

- 1. What was the total amount contributed (a) by employees (b) by the government to the Supplementary Retirement Benefits Account during the period April 1, 1970 to March 31, 1971?
- 2. What was the total amount paid out of the Supplementary Retirement Benefits Account, during the period April 1, 1970 to March 31, 1971, in the form of pension supplements and to how many individuals were such pension supplements paid at any time during that period?
- 3. What was the balance at credit in the Supplementary Retirement Benefits Account as at March 31, 1971?
- Hon. C.M. Drury (President of the Treasury Board): Table I of the Report on the Administration of the Supplementary Retirement Benefits Act for the fiscal year ending March 31, 1971 as tabled in Parliament on March 29, 1972 is hereby presented in answer to all three parts of the question.

Supplementary Retirement Benefits Account 1970-71

Receipts	
Contributions—Members of the Plans*	\$12,842,714.17 12,329,433.25 521,074.39
Interest	163, 631. 61
Total	\$25,856,853.42
Disbursements	
Annuities**. Withdrawal of Contribution Net Transfer to Other Pension Funds	\$19,056,718.94 189,706.77 23,788.49
Total	\$19,270,214.20
Excess of Receipts over Disbursements	
(Balance March 31, 1971)***	\$ 6,586,639.22

*Those making contributions include Members of Parliament, the Public Service, the Armed Forces and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police.

**Numbers of individuals to whom these supplemental annuities were paid during the period was approximately 73,000.

***Since 1970-71 was the first year of the operation of the account,

this figure is the total balance at credit at March 31, 1971.

CNR-PENSION FUNDS

Question No. 38-Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre):

- 1. What was the total amount of money in the books of the pension funds of the Canadian National Railways as at (a) December 31, 1969 (b) December 31, 1970 (c) December 31, 1971?
- 2. What rate of interest was earned on these funds during (a) 1969 (b) 1970 (c) 1971?
- 3. What amount of interest was credited to these funds during the years ending (a) December 31, 1969 (b) December 31, 1970 (c) December 31, 1971?
- 4. What amount of money was added to these funds from employee contributions during the years ending (a) December 31, 1969 (b) December 31, 1970 (c) December 31, 1971?
- 5. What amount of money was added to these funds as regular or current contributions by the Canadian National Railways during the years ending (a) December 31, 1969 (b) December 31, 1970 (c) December 31, 1971?
- 6. What amount of money was added to these funds in any other way by the Canadian National Railways during the years ending (a) December 31, 1969 (b) December 31, 1970 (c) December 31, 1971?
- 7. Is money owed to the above funds by the Canadian National Railways and, if so, how much and what arrangements are being made to meet such debt?
- 8. What was the total amount paid out of the above funds in pensions during the years ending (a) December 31, 1969 (b) December 31, 1970 (c) December 31, 1971?

Mr. Gérard Duquet (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Transport): The Management of Canadian National Railways advises as follows:

- 1. The total amounts of the investments, cash and other current assets in the books of the Pension Trust Funds were: As at 31 December 1969, \$789,349,551; As at 31 December 1970, \$818,203,051; As at 31 December 1971, \$870,758,014.
- 2. To calculate the yield we have used Statistics Canada formula and the information requested in Question (1) and (3). Under this formula, the investment is deemed to be: Opening Investments etc., plus closing Investments, etc. less Earnings. On this basis, the yield is: 1969, 5.61 per cent; 1970, 3.05 per cent; 1971, 5.55 per cent.
- 3. Net earnings on investments of the Pension Trust Funds were: Year ended 31 December 1969, \$41,835,484; Year ended 31 December 1970, \$23,984,003; Year ended 31 December 1971, \$45,103,796.
- 4. The amount of money added to these funds from employees' contributions were:

	Employees' Contri- butions	Refunds	Net
	\$	\$	\$
Year ended 31 December 1969	27,663,135	4,759,081	22,904,054
Year ended 31 December 1970	29,883,023	4,533,904	25, 349, 119
Year ended 31 December 1971	36,848,878	6, 196, 345	30,652,533