

QUESTIONS

(Questions answered orally are indicated by an asterisk).

OLD AGE PENSIONS—FEDERAL PAYMENTS

Mr. BOULANGER:

What amounts have been paid by the federal government, since April 1, 1936, to date, to each province, in connection with old age pensions?

Mr. DUNNING:

In the period April 1, 1936, to September 30, 1937(*), payments were made as follows:

Alberta..\$ 2,172,086 41
British Columbia.. . . .	2,785,914 73
Manitoba.. . . .	2,921,703 62
New Brunswick.. . . .	1,517,442 26
Nova Scotia.. . . .	2,675,053 88
Ontario.. . . .	13,948,004 72
Prince Edward Island.. . . .	243,824 28
Quebec.. . . .	6,971,915 95
Saskatchewan.. . . .	2,589,355 90

(*) Payments for the quarter ended December 31, 1937, have not been completed in the case of all provinces.

FEDERAL GRANTS TO PROVINCES

Mr. BLANCHETTE:

1. What is the total amount of federal grants to the several provinces, respectively, for the fiscal years 1935-36, and 1936-37?

2. What amounts collected by the several provinces, respectively, on federal accounts, have been paid to the credit of the Receiver General during the same fiscal years?

Mr. DUNNING:

1. Should be passed as an order for return.
2. This question was asked last session and the following answer was given:

"Mr. Dunning: With reference to this question I find that a similar question was asked in the 1932 session. The then prime minister answered in a manner of which I wholly approve, and I quote his answer:

The question which the hon. gentleman asks I submit should be dropped. It is impossible to tell what sums have been derived from each province for the last five years, and by what department of the dominion government. It is possible to ascertain, as is known to every hon. member in this house, sums collected at the customs houses and income tax offices in each of the provinces. Obviously however, imports at cities like Montreal, Quebec, Saint John, Halifax, or other cities at the seaboard do not always show their destinations, and questions which have been asked in times past in this connection have not produced results. The bureau of statistics have not been able to get

the information. It is not a question which the government could accurately answer, and an inaccurate answer would be worse than none at all.

For the same reasons I suggest that the question be dropped."

It is not often I agree so fully with the leader of the opposition (Mr. Bennett) as I do with respect to that answer. I think it accurate in every particular.

HAMILTON, ONT., CENTRAL POST OFFICE

Mr. LENNARD:

What revenue was derived by the government at Hamilton central post office on Christmas day, December 25, 1937?

Mr. ELLIOTT (Middlesex West): Incidental to other necessary work, employees on duty gave restricted service at the general delivery wicket between 7 a.m. and 12 noon. Fifty-five cents postage was sold during that time.

The two employees on duty were also engaged on box sortation, etc.

Complete deliveries were given in all sections of the city. Had this service not been given mails which were sorted Friday evening would have been delayed until Monday morning.

ANTICOSTI ISLAND

Mr. CHURCH:

1. What action, if any, has been taken by the government with respect to Anticosti island?

2. Can the government assure the house that Canada's sovereignty with respect to this territory and its boundary waters is not being exploited by a foreign government or by any private citizens thereof?

Mr. MACKENZIE KING:

1. The government has taken cognizance of representations appearing in the press and has made such inquiries as were deemed necessary and advisable.

2. Yes.

WASHINGTON CONFERENCE, 1922, AND ANGLO-JAPANESE ALLIANCE

Mr. CHURCH:

1. Who represented Canada at the Washington conference in 1922, and what other countries were represented?

2. Did Canada have representation there apart from Great Britain, and, if so, who were its delegates?

3. What stand did Canada take there, or elsewhere, as to the necessity of maintaining the Singapore base for naval security in the Pacific for Canada and the empire?

4. Did Canada at that conference support the policy of dissolving our former alliance with Japan?

5. What was decided at the said conference?