

possible and unforeseen risks (d) that the proposition to construct the causeway was not sound and impossible to implement?

[Translation]

Hon. Arthur Laing (Minister of Public Works): (a) The project of a crossing between New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island is feasible in several configurations; (b) Yes; (c) No; each feasible configuration has been estimated to establish a ranking in order of cost. The more attractive configurations have been estimated in detail; (d) It is sound from an engineering point of view and possible to implement but was not proceeded with because of the excessive capital requirements.

[English]

LIFE INSURANCE TAXATION REGULATIONS

Question No. 2,087—**Mr. Saltzman:**

1. When are the regulations concerning the taxation of life insurance companies going to be made public?

2. Have the proposed regulations been submitted to representatives of the industry for comment?

3. Have representatives of any other groups been given an opportunity to comment?

4. Have any changes taken place in the proposed regulations as a result of these discussions?

5. How many briefs have been received on the proposed regulations and from what groups or individuals?

6. What is the reason for the delay in the publication of the proposed regulations?

Hon. E. J. Benson (Minister of Finance):

1. Draft regulations were published on May 9th. The final regulations cannot be made public until Bill C-191 has been passed.

2. No draft regulations were submitted to representatives of the industry for comment until after they were tabled in the House on May 9th.

3. See No. 2.

4. See No. 2.

5. No briefs had been received on any proposed regulations before May 9th, since no regulations had until then been proposed. However, several memoranda have been received from the Canadian Life Insurance Association concerning the application of the proposals in last fall's budget, and in addition, briefs and representations have been received from certain other associations and companies in the life insurance field and other individuals.

6. The Bill to amend the Income Tax Act and the draft regulations took longer to prepare than is usually the case because of

Questions

the technical difficulties in designing the detailed legislation necessary to apply the principles set out in last fall's budget to a very complex industry which had been virtually exempt from income tax previously.

DEPARTMENTAL EMPLOYMENT OF INDIANS AND ESKIMOS

Question No. 2,138—**Mr. Paproski:**

1. How many Canadian Indians and Eskimos are employed permanently in the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, and in each case, at what positions?

2. Is the government taking steps to increase the number of Indian and Eskimo appointments at the top levels in the Department and, if so, what steps?

Hon. Jean Chrétien (Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development): 1. (a) Canadian Indians employed permanently: District school superintendents, 3; Educational services, 7; Teachers, 144; Administrative officers, 5; Information officer, 1; Superintendents of Indian agencies, 5; Assistants, Indian agencies, 32; Community development and welfare workers, 28; Band constables, 42; Clerks, 81; Secretaries, stenographers, 49; Caretakers, 123; Labour services, 128; Total, 647. (b) Canadian Eskimos employed permanently: Clerks, classified, 4; General Services, Labour and Trades, 175; Total, 179.

2. The Government is taking steps to increase the number of Indian and Eskimo appointments at the top levels in the Department by encouraging them to train for and enter competitions in order to join the Department or advance within it. Their opportunities for advancement are also enhanced by means of training and development programs provided by the Department.

In addition, a specific recruitment and development program has been launched, to recruit Indians and Eskimos into the Department, in decision-making positions as much as possible, and to provide thorough and useful training and development for them, as well as those Indians and Eskimos already with the Department. This year a personal letter from the Deputy Minister was sent to each Indian and Eskimo student at university pointing out the desirability of their entering the Department at graduation and offering summer employment in the meantime as a means of assisting their education and preparing them for advancement within the Department later. All but two contacted indicated interest in the Department and approximately 60 have joined it for summer work in all Branches.