

Questions

Hon. Donald C. Jamieson (Minister of Transport): The Management of Canadian National Railways advises as follows: 1. Nine, no.

2. Queen Elizabeth, Montreal; Hotel Vancouver, Vancouver.

These two hotels are operated by Hilton of Canada Limited pursuant to management agreements.

3. No.

4. As recorded on Page 37 of the Company's Annual Report for the year 1968, which was tabled in the House of Commons on April 24, 1969, the net income from hotel operations was \$1,635,652.

ASSISTANCE TO CANADIAN JOHNS-MANVILLE

Question No. 1,867—**Mr. Beaudoin:**

Has the federal government, during the past ten years, given any financial assistance to the Canadian Johns-Manville Company Limited for the development of its mining operations at Asbestos, Quebec and, if so, what amount?

Mr. Yves Forest (Parliamentary Secretary to the President of the Privy Council): I am informed by several departments as follows: No.

MR. G. FRANK LAFFERTY

Question No. 1,869—**Mr. Matte:**

Was Mr. G. Frank Lafferty recently appointed a member of the Canadian Transport Commission and, if so, what is his mother tongue?

Hon. Donald C. Jamieson (Minister of Transport): Yes. His mother tongue is English and he is completely bilingual.

ST. LAWRENCE RIVER ICE-BREAKING

Question No. 1,902—**Mr. McCleave:**

1. Is it government policy to have year-round navigation on the St. Lawrence River and, if so, what is the expected cost of the ice-breaking involved (a) east of Quebec City and (b) west of Quebec City?

2. Would the Department of Transport have to acquire extra navigational devices to maintain year-round navigation on the St. Lawrence River and, if so, at what estimated cost?

3. Has the Department of Transport made any studies itself or caused studies to be made by the Canadian Transport Commission as to passing along the costs to the users?

4. Is it government policy to pass along the costs of present ice-breaking operations on the St. Lawrence River to the vessels taking advantage of same and, if so, on what formula?

29180—5903

Hon. Donald C. Jamieson (Minister of Transport): 1. It has been the policy for successive Canadian Governments to have year-round navigation on the St. Lawrence River to the extent that it was practical. Winter navigation was negligible until about ten years ago when changing trading conditions, a better understanding of the problems of operating ships in ice, the entry into the area of European ship owners with ice strengthened ships and the development by the Department of improved measures to support shipping in ice encouraged owners and operators to attempt winter sailings. Since then winter navigation into the Gulf and the St. Lawrence to Quebec has increased rapidly and considerably. Above Quebec winter traffic has developed more recently and slowly because the ice conditions make ship movement more difficult and icebreakers must give priority to flood prevention work and their help is less readily available.

Expected cost in 1969-70 of winter operations is: (a) East of Quebec City, \$750,500; (b) West of Quebec City, \$877,100.

Figures in (a) are only approximate because of the difficulty of separating the costs of Gulf and Lower River ice operations. Some growth in winter traffic can be absorbed without incurring additional costs of icebreakers and other resources.

2. No. The present system of aids to navigation is adequate for ships navigating under winter conditions in the St. Lawrence River.

3 and 4. Some study of charges to users for the cost of supporting winter navigation has been done by the Department but no satisfactory formula has yet been found and it is not at present Government policy to charge users for ice-breaking or any other government furnished aids to navigation. If charges for icebreaking are instituted, it would be equitable to apply them to the Gulf and all other ice congested areas and not only to the St. Lawrence.

AIR CANADA WINE CONTRACTS

Question No. 1,925—**Mr. Mazankowski:**

1. What method does Air Canada use in awarding contracts for beverage wines?

2. Who are the present suppliers?

3. How long does each contract remain in effect?

4. What are the amounts of each of these contracts?

Hon. Donald C. Jamieson (Minister of Transport): The Management of Air Canada