

Transport Commission advises as follows: The airlines, members of the International Air Transport Association, have been meeting in Caracas in an attempt to reach agreement between themselves on the North Atlantic fare structure. Governments do not participate in these meetings. If agreement is reached between the airlines then such agreement is subject to approval by the governments concerned.

AIR CANADA GROUP TRAVEL WITHIN CANADA

Question No. 446—Mr. Orlikow:

Is Air Canada giving consideration to implementing group travel at reduced rates across Canada in the same way that it is proposing reduced rates for groups to Europe so that Canadians will be given the opportunity to see Canada first?

Mr. Gérard Loiselle (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Transport): The management of Air Canada advises as follows: The domestic market in Canada for group travel is quite different from that on the North Atlantic. On the Atlantic a through journey of several hundreds or thousands of miles is involved in every case; within Canada, Air Canada passengers make a multiplicity of trips involving short, medium and long journeys between a multiplicity of points. A substantial demand for large group movements on the Atlantic has emerged and the new Air Canada fare proposals are designed to cater to this demand. In Canada, the nature of the travel as described above does not lend itself in the same fashion to large group movements and no major demand of the type experienced on the Atlantic has emerged. However, the present Air Canada domestic tariffs already provide discounts for groups of 15 to 30 and for groups of 30 or more and the airline is re-evaluating the potential market for discount rates for larger groups as well in respect to the Canadian domestic vacation market.

CURRENCY IN CIRCULATION

Question No. 451—Mr. Matte:

1. What is the amount of currency in circulation in Canada?
2. At present what is the amount of money loaned by the banks in Canada?
3. On what basis does the Bank of Canada place money in circulation in Canada (a) gold and, if so, in what proportion (b) production and, if so, in what proportion?

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

1. As of October 29, 1969: Bank of Canada notes held by the public, \$2,677 million; Coin held by the public, \$423 million; Total cur-

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rency in circulation, \$3,100 million. In addition the chartered banks held as of October 29, 1969: Bank of Canada notes, \$580 million; Coin, \$50 million.

2. On October 29, 1969 the total outstanding loans of the chartered banks in Canadian currency amounted to \$18,902 million. The components of this total are as follows:

	(Millions of dollars)
Day-to-day and call loans	\$ 564
General loans to businesses and persons	14,808
Loans to provinces and municipalities	833
Loans to grain dealers and the Canadian Wheat Board	1,119
Loans to instalment finance companies	283
Canada Savings Bond loans	4
Mortgage loans	1,291

Chartered banks also have loans denominated in foreign currency which amounted to \$3,663 million on September 30, 1969.

3. Money in circulation in Canada is not linked in any fixed way to a) gold or b) production. The proportion of the total money supply which takes the form of currency in circulation is determined by the public's demand for notes and coin. The Bank of Canada's influence on aggregate money supply and on credit conditions is directed to facilitating, so far as possible through monetary action, the growth of production and employment on a sustainable basis.

OTTAWA RAILWAY STATION— TRACK RELOCATION GRANTS

Question No. 460—Mr. Thomas (Moncton):

In the relocation of tracks for the new Ottawa Railway station, was any assistance granted from the Railway Grade Crossing Fund and, if so, what was the amount (a) in dollars (b) as percentage of the total cost?

Mr. Gérard Loiselle (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Transport): The Canadian Transport Commission advises as follows: No assistance from the Railway Grade Crossing Fund was authorized in the relocation of tracks for the new Ottawa Railway Station.

SINKING OF TUG "EMERALD STRAITS"

Question No. 471—Mr. Winch:

1. Is any action contemplated on the finding of His Honour Judge E. J. C. Stewart as Commissioner