

Note: The above figures apply to payments made in the calendar year 1970 which include payments with respect to crop losses in both 1969 and 1970. Payments made in 1970 with respect to 1970 crop losses are as follows: Manitoba, \$984; Saskatchewan, \$115,551; Alberta, \$146,965.

2. Manitoba, \$1,918,000; Saskatchewan, \$175,000; Alberta, \$1,650,000.

3. The provinces are responsible for initiating any expansion of crop insurance plans to take in new areas or cover additional crops. The federal Crop Insurance Act and Regulations permit federal contributions to be made with respect to insurance of all major crops produced in Canada in any area covered by a federal-provincial crop insurance agreement.

4. Any government decision with respect to the future of P.F.A.A. will be announced in the usual manner.

AGRICULTURE—IRRIGATION AND DRY LAND FARMING STUDIES

Question No. 841—**Mr. Skoberg:**

1. Has the Department of Agriculture conducted any studies as to the added costs incurred in irrigation farming as compared to cost of dry-land farming in the Outlook district of Saskatchewan?

2. Have any specific studies been undertaken or completed as to the economic viability of irrigation farming and, if so, are these studies available?

3. Has the Department given consideration to conducting personal interviews with farmers who are now engaged in irrigation farming, in order to determine whether such an operation is viable and, if not, would the Department give consideration to such interviews?

Hon. H. A. Olson (Minister of Agriculture): 1. The only study in which the Department participated was done in 1951 in co-operation with Professor H. Van Vliet of the University of Saskatchewan, which was an economic appraisal of the South Saskatchewan River Development.

2. Yes.

3. Yes; but other priorities for staff available have prevented carrying out such a study. An economist of the provincial department is conducting economic evaluations on particular aspects of irrigated farm production at Outlook.

NEW BRUNSWICK—SALES TAX ON BUILDING MATERIALS

Question No. 850—**Mr. Crossman:**

1. What amount of money did the Government of Canada pay to the Province of New Brunswick in provincial sales taxes on building materials during each of the past five fiscal years?

2. What amount of money did the Government of Canada generate for the Province of New Brunswick in the form of revenue from the provincial sales tax on building materials during each of the past five fiscal years (a) with respect to publicly financed housing (b) with respect to technical, trades and vocational schools (c) other cost shared projects (d) with respect to other purchases?

Order for Return

3. What percentage would that be of the total revenue under the provincial sales tax on building materials?

Hon. E. J. Benson (Minister of Finance): 1. Government departments do not pay provincial sales tax, although their contractors as final consumers of the building materials do pay the tax. Thus federal departments bear the tax, but since it is indirect, have no records of the amounts which could be attributed to tax payments.

The Crown corporations listed in the schedule to the Crown Corporations (Provincial Taxes and Fees) Act do pay provincial sales taxes on purchases of goods including building materials. However, even in these cases, most of their construction work is carried out by contractors who pay the tax, and indirectly pass it on to the corporation.

2 and 3. Information is not available.

RATE OF DUTY ON TIMBER IMPORTED FROM UNITED STATES

Question No. 873—**Mr. Lambert (Bellechasse):**

Do Canadian firms who carry out timber operations in the State of Maine and ship the timber into Canada have to pay duty at the border and, if so, at what rate?

Hon. Herb Gray (Minister of National Revenue): Timber imported by Canadian firms operating in Maine is required to be entered at Customs in the normal manner. Providing the timber is not further manufactured than sawn it is admissible under Tariff Item 50040-1, free of Duty from the United States.

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QUESTION PASSED AS ORDER FOR RETURN

Question No. 216—**Mr. Hales:**

1. What was the net amount received by the government for the *HMCS Bonaventure*?

2. Was it a cash deal or were credit arrangements made?

3. What instruments, fittings or other material was salvaged from the *Bonaventure* before it was sold for scrap by the government?

4. Which items have been sold, and what was the payment received for each?

5. What is the anticipated value of each remaining item?

6. When are the remaining items expected to be sold?

Return tabled.

ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

LABOUR CONDITIONS

UNEMPLOYMENT—INCREASED FEDERAL WELFARE COST

Hon. Robert L. Stanfield (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, I want to direct a question to the Minister of National Health and Welfare. He may still be involved in duties in Saskatoon, but I am sure the Minister of