

Questions

2. What was the closing date of this tender call?
3. What were the names and addresses of the firms submitting tenders, and the amounts tendered?
4. Has a contract been awarded and, if not, for what reason?

Mr. Turner: 1. Newspaper advertisements appeared on April 5 and April 6, 1963.

2. May 7, 1963, at 3 p.m.

3. M. R. Chappell Limited, Sydney, Nova Scotia, \$119,275.00; Stephens Construction Limited, Sydney, Nova Scotia, \$133,998.00; Maritime Builders Limited, Sydney, Nova Scotia, \$139,360.00.

4. No. While the present clubhouse is not fully adequate, a review of construction priorities has indicated that the limited funds available must be directed to other and more pressing needs in national parks.

CHECK OF CHARITABLE DONATIONS, ROUYN-NORANDA

Question No. 838—Mr. Caouette:

1. Has the Department of National Revenue instructed its income tax officials in Rouyn-Noranda to visit the presbyteries in order to check charitable donations receipts?

2. Do these officials have the authority to cancel claims submitted by taxpayers?

(Translation):

Mr. Garland: 1. Income tax officials are authorized to call on people who give out receipts for charitable donations in order to make sure that those receipts are genuine and that the organization issuing them has really received the amounts claimed as deductions for charitable purposes. Under that general authorization, the officials in Rouyn have visited some rectories.

2. Those officials have the power to reject or reduce claims submitted for charitable donations when they have reason to believe that the donations were smaller than the amounts claimed. Taxpayers have the statutory right to appeal when they feel that they have grounds to do so.

(Text):

ROUYN, QUE.—UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE CLAIMS AND JOB PLACEMENTS

Question No. 839—Mr. Martineau:

1. How many claims for unemployment insurance benefits have been filed with the unemployment insurance commission office at Rouyn since April 21, 1963?

2. How many claims have been approved?

3. How many persons have registered with the placement office at Rouyn since April 21, 1963?

4. How many persons so registered have found employment through the U.I.C. since April 21, 1963?

Mr. Byrne: 1. 3,190. (Note) Figures for claims filed and approved are available on a monthly basis only. This answer is therefore based on the April and May reports, the June report has not yet been received.

2. 2,634. See note in No. 1.

3. Data are available on a monthly basis only. Total registrations for employment received at the national employment office in Rouyn were 2,133 in April and 1,402 in May, 1963.

4. Data are not available on how many of those in (3) above were placed; however, total placements effected by the Rouyn office were as follows: April—397; May—685.

QUEBEC—FEDERAL INSPECTION OF MEAT

Question No. 842—Mr. Laprise:

1. Has the department of health of the province of Quebec invited the federal government to assume responsibility for the inspection of meat intended for human consumption in that province?

2. What is the policy of the government in this respect?

Mr. Haidasz: 1. The Department of National Health and Welfare has not been asked by the province of Quebec to assume any provincial responsibility for the inspection of meat.

2. The food and drug directorate of the Department of National Health and Welfare inspects abattoirs, except those under the jurisdiction of the federal Department of Agriculture, to determine the sanitary conditions under which meat is produced. The directorate does not conduct ante- or post-mortem inspections of meat; such inspections are conducted variously by the municipalities, provinces and the federal Department of Agriculture.

CANADIAN CLAIM TO ARCTIC ISLANDS

Question No. 843—Mr. Groos:

1. What is the basis of Canada's claim to sovereignty over the islands in the Arctic archipelago?

2. Do both the United States and the U.S.S.R. recognize this claim?

Mr. Stewart: 1. Canadian sovereignty over these areas of the Arctic has been established mainly by continuous effective occupation since 1870, when Canada succeeded to the rights of Great Britain and began to provide for the administration of the Canadian Arctic. This sovereignty has remained undisturbed and—but for a dispute with Norway over the Sverdrup islands in 1930, which was subsequently settled in favour of Canada—has remained unchallenged.

Attention is directed to the statement made by the then minister of northern affairs and national resources to the House of Commons special committee on estimates on March 23, 1955. This will be found on page 447 of the proceedings of the special committee.

2. On March 10, 1959, the then secretary of state for external affairs said at page 1822 of *Hansard* in answer to a similar question