

Order Paper Questions

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): No, not at the present time. There is no restriction on the recruitment of northerners in both the officer and unlicensed roles.

POLAR ICEBREAKER

Question No. 750—**Mr. Forrestall:**

1. What action has been taken towards funding research into the design of a polar icebreaker with 100,000 or more horsepower, with a capability of 10 to 12-month operation in the Canadian Archipelago?

2. Does the government consider research into such a vessel in the highest Canadian interest?

3. At what date does the government estimate that the need for such a vessel would render its construction imperative?

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): 1. Studies have been carried out on the form that icebreaking hulls should take. Presently a contract is being let to carry out studies on gas turbines and other types of power sources for propulsion of icebreakers. We are also providing, for instrumentation, some of our icebreaker hulls to determine actual ice pressures to which they are subjected. Additional studies will be entered into as the requirement arises.

2. Yes.

3. This date would relate to some degree to the date that the natural resources are likely to be exploited in the north. It is presently estimated as being in the late seventies.

INSURANCE FOR COMMERCIAL VESSELS

Question No. 754—**Mr. Forrestall:**

What arrangements, if any, have been made by the government to ensure the availability to commercial vessels in the Arctic waters of insurance at a reasonable or acceptable rate?

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): The government is not involved in the insurance business for commercial vessels. It has however a great interest and has provided voyages on our icebreakers, both in the Gulf of St. Lawrence and in the north, for representatives of the underwriters to allow them to observe firsthand the services which are available to ships operating in ice. By this and other means we are endeavouring to bring about rate reductions within the insurance industry.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT—LAY-OFFS IN QUEBEC CITY

Question No. 773—**Mr. Godin:**

Are lay-offs expected at the Department of Transport in Quebec City and, if so (a) what are the reasons for such lay-offs (b) is it the intention of the government to take action to transfer such employees to other government agencies?

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): No.

[Mr. Forrestall.]

SOREL-BERTHIER FERRY SERVICE

Question No. 813—**Mr. Laprise:**

1. Does the government operate a ferry service between Sorel and Berthier and, if so (a) what is the frequency of the service in each direction (b) what is the fare (i) per automobile (ii) per person?

2. What were the profits or deficits for each year since 1962?

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): The Canadian Transport Commission advises as follows: 1. No.

2. N/A.

PERCENTAGE OF DISPOSABLE INCOME SPENT ON FOOD

Question No. 816—**Mr. Mather:**

What percentage of disposable income is spent on food in the early income categories (a) \$2,400, (b) \$4,800, (c) \$10,000, (d) \$15,000, (e) \$20,000?

Mr. Herb Breau (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): Statistics Canada reports that: Food as a percentage of total family expenditure is available from the 1969 national family expenditure survey. Such percentages for families and unattached individuals can be given within selected family income range (before tax) close to the five income levels referred to in the question, and these are as follows:

Food as Percentage of Total Family Expenditure

All Families and Unattached Individuals in Private Dwellings

Canada 1969 All Urban and Rural Areas (Except Yukon and NWT).

Income Range Before Tax	Average Family Income in Range	Food Per Cent of Total Expenditure
\$ 2,000- 2,999	\$ 2,518	27.0
\$ 4,500- 4,999	\$ 4,740	23.3
\$ 9,000-10,999	\$ 9,893	18.3
\$14,000-15,999	\$14,886	15.6
\$18,000-24,999	\$19,502	14.1

SINKING OF TUG "BLACK FIR"

Question No. 817—**Mr. Mazankowski:**

1. On what date was the tug *Black Fir* sunk?

2. Was an enquiry held regarding the sinking and, if so, on what date?

3. What were the findings of this enquiry?

4. Were recommendations made by the board of enquiry regarding future stability tests of such tugs?

5. How many such tugs have sunk since the loss of the *Black Fir*, and how many lives have been lost?

6. Has the Department of Transport arranged an enquiry for April, 1973, resulting from the loss of a tug in February, 1972?

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): 1. March 9, 1963.

2. Yes. Preliminary inquiry, March 12, 1963.