

Questions

the bill to amend the Maritime Freight Rates Act could be given first reading today, and therefore be before hon. members.

• (2:10 p.m.)

Mr. Aiken: Mr. Speaker, that is acceptable.

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Agreed.

Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (for the Minister of Transport) moved for leave to introduce Bill No. C-182, respecting Maritime Freight Rates.

Motion agreed to, bill read the first time and ordered to be printed.

QUESTIONS ON THE ORDER PAPER

(Questions answered orally are indicated by an asterisk.)

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATIONS EMPLOYEES AND ACCOMMODATION

Question No. 1,147—**Mr. Macquarrie:**

1. Since July 1968, how many employees have been assigned to the Department of Communications from (a) the Post Office Department (b) the Department of Transport (c) from other government departments (d) from outside the Public Service?

2. In addition to that occupied on July 31, 1968, by the Post Office Department and the branches of other departments designated for transfer to the Department of Communications, how much office space does the government intend to allocate to the Department of Communications and, how much of this space is to be acquired (a) by purchase (b) by rental (c) by construction and, in each case, at what cost?

3. To date, how much has been expended by the government in connection with the proposed establishment of the Department of Communications?

4. To date, how much has been expended (by all departments of government) in the development of the proposed communications satellite programme, specifically, how much has been spent (a) on preparation of the white paper *A Domestic Satellite Communication System for Canada* (b) by the Planning Group for Communications (including the cost of the Task Force to autumn 1968 investigating European capabilities for production of component parts (c) in the preparation of the MacIntosh Report (d) in the drafting of the technical reports by RCA Victor and Northern Electric?

5. When is it intended to table the MacIntosh Report?

Mr. Yves Forest (Parliamentary Secretary to the President of the Privy Council): 1. (a) None; (b) 760; (c) 547; (d) None.

[Mr. Macdonald (Rosedale).]

2. The Department of Public Works, in consultation with the Department of Communications, estimates that there will be an additional requirement for approximately 45,300 sq. ft. of office space that is likely to be provided in leased premises at an approximate rental cost of \$207,600 per annum, and an additional requirement for approximately 11,865 sq. ft. of office space that will probably be available in existing Crown-owned buildings at a cost of about \$56,360. No additional office space will be provided for the Department of Communications by purchase.

3. \$6,400.

4. (a) \$19,170; (b) \$133,500. In addition to (a) and (b), in 1966/67 the Department of Transport commissioned preliminary studies at a cost of \$156,970. (c) \$8,391; (d) Expenditures as of Jan. 14/69 on a study respecting the design, development and supply of a Domestic Satellite Communication System for Canada by: (i) RCA Victor are, \$175,000; (ii) Northern Electric are, \$184,000.

5. In the course of developing its policy concerning satellite communications, the government has had a number of confidential memoranda and papers prepared. The government will determine in due course which of these it is in the public interest to publish.

HUDSON BAY OFFSHORE RESOURCES

Question No. 1,242—**Mr. Fortin:**

Does the government intend to concur in the agreement between the Provinces of Ontario, Manitoba and Quebec respecting the boundaries of offshore resources in Hudson's Bay?

Mr. J. E. Walker (Parliamentary Secretary to the Prime Minister): The boundaries of the Provinces of Ontario, Manitoba and Quebec with respect to Hudson Bay have been defined by the Boundaries Extension Acts of 1912. These acts define each boundary as "Following the shore of the said Bay". No amendment to these acts is at present under consideration.

INDIAN MONEYS IN SUSPENSE ACCOUNTS

Question No. 1,276—**Mr. Simpson:**

1. As of January 1, 1969, how much money was held by the Canadian Government in suspense accounts (a) on behalf of individual Indians (b) on behalf of Indian bands?

2. How much of the money held in suspense accounts (a) on behalf of individual Indians (b) on behalf of Indian bands accumulated interest?

3. What rate of interest was paid?