

Most materials used in second language instruction were developed at summer workshops attended by northern teachers. Until 1967, summer courses involving curriculum specialists and experienced teachers as staff were conducted by the Education Division. Teacher consultants who are experienced in second language teaching visit new teachers in their classrooms and assist in teacher workshops during the school year.

Reliance is now placed on the availability of one common basic program for introducing English as a second language in northern schools. Reliance is also placed on the increased number of university and Department of Education summer courses in second language teaching. These courses are normally of five to six weeks duration.

C.M.H.C. INDEBTEDNESS ON HOUSING

Question No. 1,459—**Mr. Caouette:**

1. What amount does Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation owe to the government with regard to the various Acts on housing?

2. What interest rate does Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation pay to the government for these loans?

Hon. Paul Hellyer (Minister of Transport):

1. \$3,846,319,427.00 at December 31, 1968.

2. Interest rates at which the Corporation borrows from the government are established quarterly by the Minister of Finance. The interest rates, therefore, on its debt structure are very numerous and vary from 2 per cent to 7½ per cent, depending on when the loan was made and the term of the loan. For the quarter ending December 31, 1968, the rates were: 10-15 years, 6-1¼ per cent; 15-20 years, 6¾ per cent; 20 years or more, 6-1¼ per cent.

PUBLIC SERVANTS LANGUAGE TRAINING

Question No. 1,465—**Mr. Dinsdale:**

1. How many public servants have successfully completed language training at public expense?

2. How many who were enrolled failed to complete the course?

3. What is the estimated total cost of salaries, for those attending this course for the time spent away from their employment, since the course was started?

Hon. Gérard Pelletier (Secretary of State):

I am informed by the Public Service Commission as follows: 1. The second-language training provided by the Public Service Commission is conducted at four levels. Level I is designed to provide minimum oral skills

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while level IV is expected to give students working proficiency in all four skill areas (reading, writing, speaking and oral comprehension).

Employees attend courses at succeeding levels until the skills needed by the duties of their positions have been acquired.

In the period from January 1964 to August 1968, the numbers of public servants who completed training courses were: Level IV, 703; level III, 1,409; level II, 2,267; level I, 6,224.

2. During the same period 1,176 public servants withdrew from training courses before completing the particular course in which they were enrolled. Many of these withdrew for reasons related to their duties or health; others withdrew because they had reached the level of proficiency required for their respective positions.

3. The Public Service Commission does not maintain records of the salaries of language students. However, on the basis of a significant sample, the Commission estimates that the average earnings of trainees is about \$1,100. On this basis, total earnings of those engaged as trainees over the four and a half year period approximates \$12 million. However, trainees are not usually replaced while attending language courses and in that case there is no additional salary cost attributable to language training. In addition, each student on language training contributes about one hour of his own time for every two working hours he spends in language training.

WHEAT ACREAGE AND QUOTAS

Question No. 1,660—**Mr. Southam:**

Is it the intention of the government to (a) adopt the proposal of the federal Agricultural Task Force to cut back the Prairie wheat acreage by 33% by 1980 (b) if the government adopts this policy does it mean progressively tighter wheat quotas each year in order to bring about this objective (c) what proposal has the government to utilize the acreage and maintain farm income if the 10 million acres are taken out of the present 30 million acres planted to wheat?

Hon. H. A. Olson (Minister of Agriculture):

No proposal to cut back prairie wheat acreage has been made to the government by the Agricultural Task Force. The proposal referred to in this question is contained in an interim position paper on the Task Force's studies on grains to date which has been prepared for use as a position paper for discussion at the Canadian Agricultural Congress to provide the Task Force with the views on