

Questions

Mr. D. W. Groos (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of National Defence): 1. Members of the Canadian Armed Forces, individuals with Department of Veterans' Affairs entitlement, and others who may be authorized by the Minister of National Defence. The latter are responsible for making payment for services rendered in accordance with Ontario Hospital Commission rates.

2. 326 beds. The hospital operates at 80-90 per cent of this capacity (85 per cent is considered full capacity).

LENGTH AND COST OF TRANS-CANADA HIGHWAY

Question No. 2,543—**Mr. Robinson:**

1. What is the total length of the Trans-Canada Highway in each of the provinces?

2. What is the total cost of construction of the Trans-Canada Highway to date?

3. What is the proposed expenditure to complete the highway to required width, with asphalt and/or hard surface topping?

4. Does the federal government intend to construct any additional links to the Trans-Canada Highway and, if so, where will each be constructed and what is the estimated cost of each link?

Hon. Arthur Laing (Minister of Public Works): 1.

Province	Mileage
Newfoundland	565 ¹
Prince Edward Island	71
Nova Scotia	278
New Brunswick	376
Quebec	388
Ontario	1,453
Manitoba	310
Saskatchewan	406
Alberta	333 ²
British Columbia	616 ³
Total	4,796

Notes: ¹includes 25 miles through Terra Nova National Park. ²includes 51 miles through Banff National Park. ³includes 64 miles through Yoho, Glacier, and Revelstoke National Parks.

2. As of March 31, 1969, the total value of work approved is \$1,192 million of which Canada's share is estimated at \$802.9 million. Canada's contributions to the provinces at this date were \$756.3 million.

3. The Trans-Canada Highway legislation sets a ceiling of \$825 million as Canada's contribution to the provinces. It is estimated this

[Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre).]

amount will be contributed to the provinces for work to December 31, 1970, the construction termination date under the legislation.

4. No.

CANSO, N.S., POST OFFICE

Question No. 2,545—**Mr. MacEwan:**

1. Is it the intention of the government to construct a post office at Canso, Nova Scotia during the present fiscal year?

2. If not, for what reason?

3. If so, when will tenders be called?

Hon. Arthur Laing (Minister of Public Works): 1. The Post Office will be accommodated in the federal building to be constructed at Canso this fiscal year.

2. Not applicable.

3. It is anticipated tenders will be called this fall.

CHATEAU LAURIER-CENTENNIAL CENTRE TUNNEL

Question No. 2,549—**Mr. Harding:**

What was the cost of opening up the tunnel between the Chateau Laurier Hotel and the Ottawa Centennial Centre for the Federal-Provincial Conference?

Hon. Arthur Laing (Minister of Public Works): Cleaning, washing of walls, ceiling and floor, \$290; Removal and replacement of temporary partitions, \$7; Total Cost, \$297.

*COST OF LIVING INDEX

Question No. 2,558—**Mr. Diefenbaker:**

On the basis of a cost-of-living Index of 100 in May 1949, what would the index number be in the same month in each of the years 1962, 1967, 1968 and 1969?

Mr. Yves Forest (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): The Dominion Bureau of Statistics reports that:

The movement of the Consumer Price Index since May 1949, with the indexes on a base of May 1949 = 100, would be as follows:

Month	Index (May 1949=100)	Percentage change since May 1949
May 1962	131.1	31.1
May 1967	149.2	49.2
May 1968	155.3	55.3
May 1969	162.6	62.6