

Questions

include terminal charges at certain airports and the payment, in the United States, of Public Service Revenue, a form of subsidy, to certain airlines. A firm of consultants is presently studying the various factors associated with the conveyance of mail by air in Canada.

The total amounts paid to Air Canada in each of the last ten fiscal years includes payment for the conveyance of mail by air to points outside of Canada and the United States as well as to points within Canada and between Canada and the United States. There are multiple rates involved depending on the class of mail and the destination. The Canadian Post Office Department does not have details of the various rates of payment which were in effect between the United States Post Office Department and the United States air carriers for the performance of international service over the ten year period in question.

3. It was expected that the extension of the "all-up" policy announced last October would increase the annual volume of mail carried in the domestic service by 12 per cent. Records of five months of operations under the new policy indicate that the estimate was accurate.

4. As mentioned in item 2, a firm of consultants is currently studying the various factors which have to be taken into account in arrangements for the conveyance of mail by air.

5. Samson Belair Riddell Stead Inc.

6. A report on the progress of the study was submitted and discussed with the Postmaster General on April 16, 1969.

7. The final report on the study of air mail rates of payment is part of a larger study on other phases of mail transportation. It is expected that a final report will be received about the end of June 1969; in view of the confidential nature of some of the sources from which the information forming the basis of the conclusion was drawn, a decision on the tabling of this report cannot be made until it is available for study.

WHISTLERS MOUNTAIN SKI FACILITIES

Question No. 2,132—**Mr. Sulatycky:**

How much has been spent in each year since 1954 by the federal government on Whistlers Mountain ski facilities in Jasper National Park?

Hon. Jean Chrétien (Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development): Capital Costs: 1955-56, slope clearing \$1,418; 1956-57,

[Mr. Kierans.]

slope clearing \$3,486; 1957-58, ski hill road \$19,388, slope improvements \$1,998; 1958-59, slope clearing \$2,998; 1959-60, area development \$7,950; 1960-61, first aid and toilet building construction \$18,983; 1962-63, area enlargement \$10,311; 1963-64,—present—nil. Operations and Maintenance: Only capital costs can be specifically identified to 1965-66 because of the accounts procedure then in effect.

	Wages \$	Material \$	Power \$	Total \$
1965-66	5,653	449	129	6,231
1966-67	3,275*	312	148	3,735
1967-68	638*	238	155	1,031

* Reflects phasing out of slope maintenance and the ski patrol.

Also between 1955 and 1965 there were contributions to the development which are not reflected in the accounts of that period. Lumber to build a chalet, for example, was provided from bulk supplies.

*TOBACCO—COSTS OF FEDERAL ENCOURAGEMENT OF PRODUCTION

Question No. 2,134—**Mr. Mather:**

What, in dollars, was the total amount spent by the federal government in 1968 to encourage the production of fine grade tobacco and for the welfare of the tobacco industry?

Hon. H. A. Olson (Minister of Agriculture): The Department of Agriculture does not have any program to encourage or promote the tobacco industry but does conduct research programs to develop varieties of cigarette and cigar tobacco which, when grown under Canadian conditions, are in demand on the domestic and export markets. This program involves the screening of genetic materials, studying the inheritance of characteristics of agronomic importance such as yield and resistance to diseases, and quality characteristics such as leaf texture and nicotine levels. These evaluated genetic materials are then used in developing varieties which are calculated to give the producer optimum returns on the tobacco market. During 1968 the cost of such programs amounted to \$536,160.

*WHEAT—REQUEST FOR FLOOR PRICE

Question No. 2,183—**Mr. Diefenbaker:**

Will the government give favourable consideration immediately to giving a guaranteed floor price for wheat for the years 1969 and 1970?