

Questions

during the first eight years of the program, have averaged about \$35.0 million per year, increasing to \$50.0 million in 1969. The Capital Budget of Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation was increased in 1969 to provide for this higher level, and has been further increased in 1970 to \$75.0 million.

GRANTS TO CANADIAN NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR THE BLIND

Question No. 1,943—Mr. Laprise:

During 1969-70 and 1970-71, did the government make grants to the National Canadian Institute for the Blind and, if so (a) what were the amounts of the grants (b) for what purposes were they awarded?

[Translation]

Hon. John C. Munro (Minister of National Health and Welfare): Yes, the Department of National Health and Welfare did make grants to the Canadian Institute for the blind. (a) In 1969-70 two amounts were granted, the annual sustaining grant of \$55,000, and a special grant of \$500,000. In 1970-71 the annual sustaining grant of \$55,000 will be paid assuming approval of departmental estimates. The sustaining grants are in support of the general operations and programs of the national organization. (b) The special grant of \$500,000 was to enable CNIB to assist its provincial divisions in Quebec and in Newfoundland and Labrador in improving the level and quality of CNIB services to the blind in those provinces.

[English]

DATA PROCESSING EQUIPMENT, DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY, MINES AND RESOURCES

Question No. 1,947—Mr. Robinson:

1. Does the Department of Energy, Mines and Resources have data processing equipment (automatic) and, if so, for how long?
2. What was the initial cost of the equipment?
3. What yearly costs are anticipated for data processing in the department?

Hon. J. J. Greene (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): 1. Yes, since 1962.

2. All major items of unit record equipment are leased rather than owned.

3. Costs of unit record equipment and services for the fiscal year 1970-71 are estimated at \$83,000.

[Mr. Andras.]

USE OF COMPUTER, DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Question No. 1,950—Mr. Robinson:

1. Does the Department of Veterans Affairs have the use of a computer in its operations and, if so, to what extent is it utilized?
2. Is the computer programmed 24 hours per day and, if not, for what reason?
3. What is the number of hours planned for utilization of the computer?
4. What has been the annual cost of computer services for each year 1960 to 1970 inclusive?
5. How many programmes are in preparation for the computer at the present time and how will each affect the efficiency of the Department?

Hon. Jean-Eudes Dubé (Minister of Veterans Affairs): 1. Yes. Computer service is provided by the Department of Supply and Services in the preparation of monthly accounting and payrolls. The time required for these applications is not known by this Department. In addition, the Department occasionally rents computer time for special projects (see answer No. 4).

2. Not applicable.

3. Not known (see answer No. 1).

4. The Department has not been required to pay for monthly accounting and payrolls. Expenditures by the Department for occasional computer time: 1959-60 to 1967-68, No expenditure data available; 1968-69, \$4,441; 1969-70, \$4,221.

5. One. Provide management with more updated data on the financial aspects of property sales.

USE OF COMPUTER, DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY, MINES AND RESOURCES

Question No. 1,951—Mr. Robinson:

1. Does the Department of Energy, Mines and Resources have the use of a computer in its operations and, if so, to what extent is it utilized?
2. Is the computer programmed 24 hours per day and, if not, for what reason?
3. What is the number of hours planned for utilization of the computer?
4. What has been the annual cost of computer services for each year 1960 to 1970 inclusive?
5. How many programmes are in preparation for the computer at the present time and how will each affect the efficiency of the Department?

Hon. J. J. Greene (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): The Department of Energy, Mines and Resources makes extensive use of a number of computing facilities in its operation. In general, these can be divided into two classes; those which the