

Questions

*CBC—USE OF SATELLITE TO PROVIDE TELEVISION SERVICE TO NORTH

Question No. 1,266—Mr. Fairweather:

1. Does the CBC plan to use a satellite to provide television service to the people of the North and, if so, in what manner?
2. Will the programs be the same as those now broadcast or will programs be especially prepared to meet the tastes and needs of the people of the North particularly the Indians, Eskimos and Metis?
3. Will such programs be made in the North by the people living there including the native peoples?
4. Have the people of the North, particularly the native peoples, been consulted about the kind of television programs they would like to receive by satellite?
5. Are there any plans for a television production centre in the Northern Region similar to the centres existing in all the other regions of CBC, which would produce programs for satellite transmission?

Mr. James Hugh Faulkner (Parliamentary Secretary to Secretary of State): I am informed by the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation as follows: 1. Yes. The Corporation plans to use the Telesat satellite to transmit CBC English and French network services for ground reception and broadcasting by existing and planned stations in the north.

2. The full live network service will be transmitted, instead of the four-hour program package now available on a delayed basis. There are no present plans for programs especially prepared for northerners, but it is possible that such a regional service could be developed in the future for scheduling in time periods when national network service is not scheduled. Work is being done with this objective in mind.

3. Not initially.

4. Yes. The views of people who live in the North were expressed at a Conference on Northern Communications held at Yellowknife in September 1970.

5. At present there are no plans for such a TV production centre in the north.

*AGREEMENT BETWEEN FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AND QUEBEC RELATING TO TRANS-CANADA HIGHWAY

Question No. 1,282—Mr. Lamber (Bellechasse):

1. When was the first agreement between the Government of Canada and the Province of Quebec entered into in relation to the construction of the Trans-Canada Highway (a) what were the nature and terms of the agreement (b) has it been renewed and, if so, in what year and when does it end?
2. What was the federal contribution to the Province of Quebec during 1970?
3. Has the Government of Canada received a request from the Government of the Province of Quebec to extend the Trans-Canada Highway agreement and, if so, what was the reply?
4. What amount does the government intend to grant for this purpose?

Mr. J. A. Jerome (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): Mr. Speaker, I have the reply to this question and it is rather lengthy. I wonder whether there might be unanimous consent that it be tabled and that it be printed in *Hansard* as though it had been read?

[Mr. Munro.]

Mr. Speaker: Is that agreed?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

[*Editor's Note: The abovementioned answer reads as follows:*]

1. October 27, 1960. (a) The Trans-Canada Highway Agreement provided that Canada would contribute to the cost of construction of an equivalent two-lane highway on the basis of 50 p. cent of the costs on 90 p. cent of the mileage within the province and 90 p. cent of the costs on the remaining 10 p. cent of the mileage. It also specified the termination date of construction as December 31, 1963, that is, work done to and including this date would be eligible for federal contributions. (b) The second Agreement was executed on March 31, 1965, which extended the termination date of construction to December 31, 1967. The third Agreement was executed on September 18, 1967, which extended the termination date of construction to December 31, 1970.

2. The estimated federal contribution for the fiscal year 1970-71 is \$13.6 million.

3. Yes. The reply stated that the federal government's decision to terminate the Trans-Canada Highway program was based on a number of factors, one being the extended length of time the program has been in force. The original legislation was enacted in 1949 and participation under it was available to all provinces since the first Agreement was offered to the provinces in 1950, with termination at that time being 1956. A number of extensions were granted by subsequent legislation to the December, 1970 date, thus providing a 21 year construction period. Other factors were the rapidly rising costs to the federal government, particularly by assistance to the provinces in the fields of health, education and regional expansion.

4. There will be no federal contributions under the Trans-Canada Highway program for any work carried out after December 31, 1970.

INFORMATION BY REGION ON OUTSTANDING BANK LOANS AND MONEY SUPPLY

Question No. 1,286—Mr. Fairweather:

Is it the intention of the Bank of Canada to publish, on a regular basis, information on the volume of bank loans outstanding in the various regions of Canada including the Atlantic Provinces and estimates of the total money supply in each region as recommended by the report of the Atlantic Development Council on a strategy for the economic development of the Atlantic Region, 1971-1981?

Hon. E. J. Benson (Minister of Finance): In so far as the Bank of Canada is concerned: The regional domicile of the bank loans and bank deposits of nationwide enterprises which deal with nationwide banks is not meaningful; loans arranged in one region are frequently drawn on for us in other regions, and similarly deposit balances carried in one region may arise from operations in, or be destined for disbursement in, other regions. Consequently, collecting or estimating figures for total money supply and bank loans on a regional basis would not provide information useful for the analysis of regional economic problems.