

Supplementary Order Paper

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, the 8th Day of September 1971

QUESTIONS AND REPLIES

[Covering period 19 August—1 September inclusive]

WRITTEN QUESTIONS

Transferred on date shown

Mail Losses—Compensation Claims

1. Dr FINLAY (Henderson) asked the Postmaster-General, How many claims for compensation arising from parcels lost in the mail have been made in each of the last 5 years, and how many of these have been met by a payment to the claimant?

Hon. A. McCREADY (Postmaster-General) replied, Separate details are not maintained in respect of the number of claims received and compensation paid for parcels lost in the mail. However, the following table indicates the total number of inquiries received for missing postal articles (including letters, packets, parcels, and registered items) and the number of claims which have been paid in respect of registered articles and parcels (compensation is not paid in respect of claims for unregistered letters and packets).

Year Ended 31 December	No. of Inquires Received	No. of Claims Paid
1966	14,983	918
1967	15,273	1,018
1968	16,101	1,049
1969	16,433	1,040
*1970	18,031	2,251

Further statistical information is as follows:

Year ended 31 December	Items Traced	Amount of Compensation Paid \$
1966	5,041 (33.65%)	10,471.83
1967	6,051 (39.62%)	11,357.01
1968	6,519 (40.49%)	10,614.14
1969	6,082 (37.00%)	11,093.13
*1970	7,769 (43.09%)	20,955.83

*Includes 1,309 inquiries received and 1,232 claims paid amounting to \$7,400 for approximately 450 bags of mail lost in a fire on a railway wagon near Hunterville.

It is estimated that the total articles not traced represents 0.002 percent of the total articles posted each year.

(20/8/71)

Napier—Recognition as Tourist Centre

2. Mr CHRISTIE (Napier) asked the Minister of Tourism, In view of his statements when in Napier opening the new 60-unit Travelodge and 30-unit Consolidated motels that he considers Napier has a wealth of top tourist attractions, together with the fact that "Marineland of New Zealand" in Napier puts through twice as many visitors a year as Whakarewarewa, that "Gannet Safari" is unique in the world, that the new Kiwi House on the Marine Parade provides the best display of the live kiwi in New Zealand, something which every overseas visitor wants to see, and in view of the fact that already nearly 300 tour parties a year visit the city, will he advise when the Tourist and Publicity Department will recognise Napier as a tourist centre, and what are the requirements before his department will officially recognise Napier as a tourist centre?

Hon. H. J. WALKER (Minister of Tourism) replied, The Tourist and Publicity Department has always regarded Napier as having an important place in New Zealand's tourist pattern and the recognition it has achieved is demonstrated by the honourable member's statement that nearly 300 tour parties a year visit the city. The addition of high-standard accommodation such as the Travelodge and Consolidated motels and other attractions listed will assist its further development. The Government Tourist Bureau has programmed at least 100 group tours which will stay in Napier in the 1972 calendar year.

(24/8/71)

proceeding overseas for international competition would be considered, but for not more than one tour every 2 years. The association, aware of this policy, did not lodge a formal application with the committee in respect of the recent overseas visit.

(1/9/71)

Lake Manapouri—Cost of Dam

51. Mr WALDING (Palmerston North) asked the Minister of Electricity, Would he indicate the extra expenditure involved

in building a dam at Manapouri strong enough to permit the level of the lake to be raised in the future as against the cost of a dam sufficient to keep the lake at its natural high level?

Hon. P. B. ALLEN (Minister of Electricity)—Based on the most recent designs and estimates, the extra expenditure involved in building a dam suitable initially for controlling the lake at its average natural level but with provision for extension to a higher level at a later date is \$3.5 million.
