

### THE MARCHMONT PROPERTY, QUEBEC.

Mr. MARCOTTE (by Mr. Morin) asked :

1. Has the government been approached in relation to the purchase of a property in the vicinity of Quebec, situated west of the Plains of Abraham, known as the Marchmont property, and now belonging to one Georges Tanguay, an alderman of the city of Quebec ?
2. Who has applied to the government in relation to this matter ? Is it Mons. Tanguay himself, or Mons. S. N. Parent, mayor of Quebec ?
3. Is it the intention of the government to acquire the said property ?
4. Under what form of title and for what purpose ?
5. What is the price set upon it, and what is the superficial area of the tract of land ?
6. Is the government aware that the Marchmont property is in no sense entitled to be considered historical ground, and that no person, except the parties interested, recommends that it be purchased by government ?

The PRIME MINISTER (Sir Wilfrid Laurier). The government have not been approached by anybody in relation to the purchase of the property known as Marchmont.

### SOUTH AFRICAN WAR—COMMISSIONS AND PROMOTIONS.

Mr. ELLIS asked :

1. What is the total number of officers from Canada who have received commissions in the forces sent out from Canada by the government and Lord Strathcona for service in South Africa, including officers specially appointed and extra appointments, combatant and non-combatant ?
2. How many of such officers resided in the province of New Brunswick when so appointed ?
3. How many resided in each of the other provinces of the Dominion when so appointed ?
4. Is it the intention of the government to promote officers now serving in the ranks in South Africa to fill present or future vacancies as they may arise, or is it the intention to continue to fill such positions by sending officers from Canada who have not given up their commissions in order to serve with the Canadian forces ?

The MINISTER OF MILITIA AND DEFENCE (Mr. Borden). 1. 146. 2. 5. 3. Ontario, 55 ; Quebec, 34 ; Nova Scotia, 6 ; New Brunswick, 5 ; Prince Edward Island, 3 ; Manitoba, 8 ; British Columbia, 5 ; and the North-west Territories, 30. 4. The question of promotions is in the hands of the officers in command of contingents in South Africa. I may also mention that twenty-four of the Imperial commissions given to Canada have been allotted to Canadians serving in South Africa, regardless of their present rank, and that Lord Roberts has been invited to make the selection. The number of officers and men taken from each military district was regulated by the strength of the militia therein, with reference to the different arms of the service for which volunteers were required in the respective contingents. Lord Strathcona's force was raised exclusively in Manitoba and the North-west and British Columbia, His Lordship having himself imposed this condition.

### BASIC SLAG FERTILIZER.

Mr. DOMVILLE asked :

Did the Minister of Agriculture, in answer to the following questions:

### BASIC SLAG FERTILIZER.

Mr. DOMVILLE (by Mr. Fraser, Gusborough) asked:

1. Has the Agricultural Department any knowledge or experience of an English fertilizer known as Basic Slag or Thomas' phosphate powder ?
2. If so, has any of it been experimented with on the government Experimental Farm at Ottawa ?
3. What fertilizers have been experimented with from time to time on the Experimental Farm at Ottawa ?
4. In experimenting with various fertilizers does the officer having charge of such experiments take cognizance of analysis, with a view to ascertain the commercial value of such fertilizers to the various crops ?
5. If so, what steps does he take to verify the analysis of the manufacturer or seller ? Does he keep a record of such analysis ?
6. Has he analysed the Thomas' phosphate powder ; if so, what results did he get ? What percentage did he find of moisture ? Of phosphoric acid citric soluble ? Total phosphoric acid ? Average citric soluble phosphoric acid ? Average of phosphoric acid ?
7. What method did he adopt in his analysis, and for what reason did he adopt such method, and what result ?
8. Did he use the process used by the scientific chemical analysers of London, Paris and Germany, known as the Wagner method, and what were the results ? If not, why not ?
9. Is he aware that there has been in use in the United States a process for determining the available phosphoric acid in bone and mineral superphosphates and mixed manures ?
10. What has been the results of such tests as compared with the Wagner method ?
11. What method do you consider would be in the best interests of the producer, the manufacturer, the consumer and the farmer, and for what reason ?

12. Has the departmental officer above referred to any knowledge of the Wagner method ? Has he any knowledge of Dr. Bernard Dyer, district agricultural analyst for the counties of Bedford, Cornwall, Essex, Hants, Herts, Leicester, Rutland, West Suffolk and East Essex, Analytical Laboratory, 17 Great Tower Street, London ?

Professor Wagner, Ph. D., Privy Councillor of the Imperial Research Station, Darmstadt Germany ?

A. Maret and Ch. Delattre, Paris ?

Dr. Augustus Voelcker & Sons, London, Consulting Chemists of Royal Agricultural Society of England.

13. Is he aware that these chemists sent direct analysis to the Department of the Interior at Ottawa from samples drawn by an officer of the Department of Inland Revenue for the purpose, with the following results:

Analysis of Dr. Bernard Dyer—

Percentage of total phosphoric acid.....	16.77
Including phosphoric acid dissolved by a 2 per cent solution of citric acid, employed precisely according to the method of Prof. Wagner in 1899.....	14.60