

Mr. DUNNING: I should not like to be placed in the position of being hardhearted in giving consideration to cases of this character. The case in question was that of Francis Stanley King, engineer's assistant St. Lawrence river investigation, who died following several wounds caused by having been struck by a train in April, 1926. The accident occurred while he was going to a point where he had been engaged in taking the temperature of the water. The coroner's jury excused the Canadian Pacific Railway from any blame. The boy was a promising young chap of eighteen years of age, and had been contributing his earnings to the support of his family, which consisted of father, mother, two sisters over twenty-one, and a brother and sister fifteen and five respectively. Application was made on behalf of the mother for compensation, and seeing that the case was one which could not be treated under the Workmen's Compensation Act, I recommend to the House that compassionate allowance as above indicated be granted by specific appropriation. The mother will be grateful to receive this consideration, to which I think she is entitled under the circumstances.

Mr. GUERIN: I know something about this case. The accident happened to one of my constituents. This boy was employed by the Department of Railways and Canals. He was, I believe, in the vicinity of Caughnawaga, he was sent out to get water, and to do this he had to cross the Canadian Pacific railway tracks; the train passed, travelling at a very rapid rate, and whether it was by suction or not—that is the pretension anyhow—he was drawn under the train and killed outright. He was practically the sole support of his father and mother. I had hoped that the amount would be considerably greater, but the government have conceded \$2,000 to the boy. I think that by every claim of justice and right the family are entitled to this money. The boy was killed while doing his duty, and through no fault of his own.

Mr. ADSHEAD: I have had some experience with mothers who had been dependent upon a son, and were given a lump sum. The difficulty is that it disappears very quickly in various ways, and if this amount is for the mother's maintenance, I would suggest that it be not given in a lump sum, but rather in monthly payments, so that the mother will be assured of so much a month for her own support, just as she was during her son's lifetime.

Item agreed to.

32649—8½

Ottawa parliament building—to improve acoustics of the House of Commons, \$4,000.

Mr. COOTE: May I ask just what particular improvements are intended to be made, and whether \$4,000 will induce the members to endeavour to make themselves heard in the House?

Sir GEORGE PERLEY: There are several pages of items coming under the Public Works department, and until some minister who is specially charged with these items is here, I would suggest that they might as well stand.

Mr. ROBB: The minister is away attending the funeral of the late Senator Pardee. I quite agree with my hon. friend (Sir George Perley) that we can let these items stand at least until eight o'clock this evening, when perhaps the deputy minister will be here.

Item stands.

Topographical surveys—additional amount required in connection with aerial surveys, etc., \$20,000.

Mr. GUTHRIE: Here is another air service item. Will the minister explain?

Mr. STEWART (Edmonton): This is for the purpose of preparing for the aerial survey work to be carried on next year—for the placing of gasoline and the taking of aerial photographs in a system of strips across the country, to be done by the Royal Canadian Air Force. The work must be limited owing to previous preparations not having been made for 1926, but this will be followed up by the placing of supplies by canoe in the summer time, in order to get better results from the flying operations, which are very extensive. Most of this work is along the Churchill river and in the northern portions of Manitoba and Saskatchewan.

Item agreed to.

To assist in the conservation and development of deep-sea fisheries, and the demand for fish—further amount required, \$100,000.

Mr. ERNST: I see that the item is to provide for assisting in the demand for fish. What amount of this item is being devoted to educational work, advertising and so forth?

Mr. CARDIN: The object we had in view in placing this item in the estimates was to meet certain requests which had been made of the department to help in the marketing of fish. As I understand it, the difficulty in certain parts of the maritime provinces is that the fishermen have not the opportunity of disposing of their fish as advantageously