

the Bill or the reasons for it. I will take opportunity to do so on the second reading.

Motion agreed to, and the Bill read the first time.

#### INTERPRETATION ACT AMENDMENT.

Hon. CHARLES J. DOHERTY (Minister of Justice) moved for leave to introduce Bill to amend the Interpretation Act.

Some hon. MEMBERS: Explain.

Mr. DOHERTY: The purport of this Bill is simply to make provision that the rules of the Interpretation Act shall apply to the interpretation of Orders in Council. I may say that under the War Measures Act an Order in Council was passed making that provision, and as that Order in Council will lapse within a reasonable period of time, it is thought advisable to make the provision generally applicable.

Mr. SPEAKER: Has the hon. gentleman a copy of the Bill?

Mr. DOHERTY: It has been printed, but it is not here at the moment.

Motion stands.

#### QUESTIONS.

(Questions answered orally are indicated by asterisks.)

#### NAVAL DECORATIONS.

Mr. GAUVREAU:

1. Is the Government aware that not a single one of our young men, who enlisted voluntarily either in the Imperial Navy, or in the Canadian Naval Reserve, has received any decoration, reward or recognition for the services rendered during the entire period of the war?

2. In the affirmative, does the Government intend calling the attention of the British Admiralty to the fact and asking for an official statement in that regard?

Major-General MEWBURN:

The Government has no complete record of the Canadians who enlisted in the Imperial Navy. It is, however, aware that decorations have been awarded to Canadians serving in the Imperial Navy for meritorious conduct and distinguished services.

The members of the Royal Canadian Naval Volunteer Reserve who have qualified for the 1914-15 Star, for the War Badge, for the British War Medal and the Allies' Medal will receive these decorations as soon as they are issued.

[Mr. Pedlow.]

#### CANADIAN EXPEDITIONARY FORCE. OVERSEAS PAY LISTS.

Mr. J. A. M. ARMSTRONG (North York): I should like to ask the Minister of Militia, in view of the fact that his attention was drawn some two days ago to a report emanating from Woodstock, Ontario, and crediting to a Mr. McMillan, of Seaforth, at a U.F.O. picnic at Lakeside, the statement that something like 30,000 names had been added to the pay lists overseas at a cost of some \$30,000,000 to the Canadian people, what action, if any, his department has taken, or what action, if any, his department or the Government intends to take with a view to giving this Mr. McMillan an opportunity of proving the truth of his statement, or in the absence of that truth being produced, of making Mr. McMillan publicly retract what, to my mind, is a very serious charge against the administration of this department.

Major-General MEWBURN (Minister of Militia and Defence): My attention was called to the article in question, and the hon. member for Victoria (Sir Sam Hughes) also brought the matter up in the House on Tuesday. I have no personal knowledge of the matter, but I purpose calling on Mr. McMillan to give me what information he has so that an investigation may take place. If he is not prepared to substantiate his statements, the matter will have to be dealt with in the proper way.

Sir ROBERT BORDEN (Prime Minister): I should like to add to what the Minister of Militia has said that I had a conversation to-day with General Ross, Paymaster-General, of whom I asked information on the subject. He tells me there is not the slightest foundation for the statement that Mr. McMillan has made.

Sir SAM HUGHES (Victoria): Having been Minister of Militia for three years during the war, I felt that Mr. McMillan's statement reflected on my administration, and I also saw General Ross. I should like this matter investigated as fully as possible. I am satisfied there is not a word of truth in it.

#### THE PEACE TREATY.

##### ORDER OF PROCEDURE.

On the Orders of the Day:

Sir ROBERT BORDEN (Prime Minister): With respect to the information available to members of the House respecting the Peace Treaty, I made some inquiry and the