

*Pulpwood Resources*

questions 17, 18 and 19, relating to elevators at the head of the lakes, answered this week if possible? I should like to have the information for the purposes of discussion.

**PULPWOOD RESOURCES OF MANITOBA**

On the Orders of the Day:

Mr. L. P. BANCROFT (Selkirk): Has an order in council been passed dealing with the disposal of Manitoba's pulpwood resources, and will the government be good enough to lay a copy of it on the table of the House? Further, may we have an assurance that parliament will have an opportunity of discussing this matter before the deal is closed?

Hon. CHARLES STEWART (Argenteuil, Minister of the Interior): The pulpwood transaction in question is under consideration at the moment and no return can be made until the matter is consummated. It is not a matter for discussion in parliament but I have no objection to bringing down the agreement, together with any order in council dealing with the whole matter when it is possible to do so. I have no objection to making a public statement on the matter, but it is one of ordinary sales which we are making from time to time.

Mr. BANCROFT: Could not the order in council be placed on the table now?

Mr. STEWART (Argenteuil): Yes, I will bring it down.

**GOVERNMENT OFFICES IN TORONTO**

On the Orders of the Day:

Sir HENRY DRAYTON (West York): I want to ask the Minister of Railways (Mr. Graham) whether the newspapers of Toronto are correct, or whether he is right, in connection with the sale of railway property at the corner of King and Yonge streets, and whether he can give the House any information on the subject.

Hon. GEORGE P. GRAHAM (Minister of Railways): As usual, the Minister of Railways is right. To be fair, I may say that the agreement for the proposed sale to which my hon. friend refers has been partially completed. A year or two ago the Canadian National Railways purchased a building at the corner of King and Yonge streets for the purpose of maintaining the location which it had for its offices. Since the purchase of that building various offers have been made to the Canadian National Railways for the building, one of which, made recently, has been seriously

[Mr. Manion.]

considered. But the method of procedure is for the Canadian National Railway Company to make agreements for sale subject to approval by order in council. I believe a resolution has been passed by the Canadian National Railway Company concerning the sale, but so far it has not come to the government for approval or disapproval by order in council. I expect it in a day or two.

Right Hon. ARTHUR MEIGHEN (Leader of the Opposition): In view of the very great importance of this matter and of the amount involved, will the Minister of Railways undertake that the facts regarding it shall be laid before the House this week?

Mr. GRAHAM: That is—

Mr. MEIGHEN: The matter of the sale, or alleged sale, of the property in Toronto and the terms of the sale.

Mr. GRAHAM: Should the Governor in Council not approve of the arrangement, then there would be nothing to lay before the House. But should the Governor in Council approve of the sale, I will be glad to lay all the particulars on the table.

Mr. MEIGHEN: But my point is this: in view of the consequence of the matter, will not the Governor in Council consider it this week and either approve or disapprove the arrangement, so that parliament may know? Or if the Governor in Council have any difficulty in the premises, they might possibly consult parliament—and after that I do not think there would be any difficulty.

Mr. GRAHAM: This council never has any difficulty to speak of—

Mr. MEIGHEN: The Petersen contract?

Mr. GRAHAM:—and when the transaction is completed parliament will be entitled to all the details.

Mr. MEIGHEN: It is too late then.

Mr. GRAHAM: The Canadian National management proceeds under the act passed by my right hon. friend (Mr. Meighen) and if there are any loopholes in it I am not responsible. But, if the Governor in Council approves of this arrangement, the particulars will be given parliament, as parliament has a right to them. The Canadian National Railway board is acting under statute giving it authority to do certain things with the approval of the Governor in Council. We hope to be able to deal with the matter this week, but if the resolution does not proceed the government cannot act one way or the other.