

GRAND TRUNK PACIFIC BONDS.

Mr. FOSTER asked:

How much of the balance of the proceeds of the government guaranteed Grand Trunk Pacific bonds, stated by the Minister of Railways on page 1451 unrevised Hansard, as \$1,899,264, in hands of the government, is still available for the prairie section, and how much for the mountain section of the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway?

Hon. W. S. FIELDING (Minister of Finance):

(a) Available for the Prairie Section, \$1,572,517.09.

(b) Available for the Mountain Section, \$326,747.69.

(c) The special account, in which the balance of the proceeds referred to is kept, stands at \$1,911,337.23. The excess of this sum over (a) and (b) represents balance of interest accrued applicable to bond interest but not yet applied.

KINGSTON PENITENTIARY—RESIDENCE FOR DEPUTY WARDEN.

Mr. EDWARDS—by Mr. Blain—asked:

1. Has the government under consideration the building of a residence for the use of the Deputy Warden of Kingston penitentiary?

2. If so, have any plans been prepared, and by whom?

3. What are dimensions of the building and the estimated cost?

Hon. GEO P. GRAHAM (for Minister of Justice):

1. The advisability of building new quarters for the use of the Deputy Warden is being considered.

2 and 3. No plans or estimates have yet been prepared.

STEAMSHIP COMMUNICATION BETWEEN CANADA AND GERMANY.

Mr. FOWKE—by Mr. Calvert—asked:

1. Has the attention of the government been directed to the statement that a steamship line known as the Canada Line has been formed to offer direct communication between Hamburg, Rotterdam, Bremen and Canada?

2. If so, is it the intention of the administration to open negotiations with the German government, with a view to the entrance of Canadian farm produce to the markets of the German empire on better terms than now obtain, as between this country and that?

Hon. W. S. FIELDING (Minister of Finance):

1. The Government have observed references in the public press to a proposed steamship line between German ports and Canada.

2. It is not deemed expedient in the public interest to make any statement at present concerning the commercial relations between Germany and Canada. The government will give all due consideration to any

proposals which the German authorities may wish to make for the improvement of such relations.

NAVIGABILITY OF DIXON'S ENTRANCE, TUCK'S INLET AND HARBOUR OF PRINCE RUPERT.

Mr. COWAN—by Mr. Barnard—asked:

Has the government been furnished with any report, or copy of any report, made for the imperial government upon the navigability of Dixon's entrance, Tuck's inlet, or the harbour of Prince Rupert?

Hon. L. P. BRODEUR (Minister of Marine and Fisheries). The Department of Marine and Fisheries has no knowledge of any such report.

GRAIN ELEVATOR AT VANCOUVER.

Mr. COWAN—by Mr. Barnard—asked:

Has the government decided to build a grain elevator at the Port of Vancouver? If not, is the matter under consideration by the government?

Hon. W. S. FIELDING (Minister of Finance). The answer is 'No.'

MAIL DELIVERY IN CENTRAL PARK, B.C.

Mr. COWAN—by Mr. Barnard—asked:

1. Has the government received a petition from some 500 persons residing in the rural district of Central Park, in the province of British Columbia, praying for a rural mail delivery in that district? If so, has the receipt of the petition been acknowledged?

2. Is it the intention of the department to grant the prayer of that petition? If not, why not?

3. Has the department had complaints, or does the department know, that the post office facilities in that district are insufficient?

4. If so, does the department intend to improve these facilities, and how?

Hon. R. LEMIEUX (Postmaster General). A petition was received containing 338, not 500, signatures, asking for the establishment of rural mail delivery in the Central Park district, but through an unintentional oversight, its receipt was not acknowledged. The matter having been referred to the post office inspector for report, it was ascertained that a rural mail delivery system was not desired by the petitioners, but rather a free letter carrier delivery service, but, as such services are only established in municipalities having a population of at least 12,000 and a total postal revenue of \$20,000, conditions were not such at Central Park as to warrant favourable consideration being given to the application. It might be added that the revenue of Central Park for the last fiscal year amounted to only \$339.58.

The department is not aware that the postal facilities in the district of Central Park are insufficient.