

### THE MONTREAL HARBOUR COMMISSION.

The commercial deputation which approaches the government to-day in support of our excellent and popular Harbour Commission, will speak for the intelligence, the enterprise and the future of Montreal. We have never before had so good a Harbour Commission. It is not partisan in any sense of the term. That is, indeed precisely the reason why certain elements of the community are demanding its decapitation. They insist that it shall be partisan, run in the interests of the party and not in the interests of the harbour. It is not the trade of Montreal of which they are thinking but the sordid traffic in posts for persistent partisans.

The benefits which these three Harbour Commissioners have conferred on this city, and on the country as a whole, will not be properly appreciated until they are seen in the long perspective of the future. Still, they look very big even to-day in comparison with the puny efforts of the debating societies and the cumbersome organizations which had previously fiddled with this huge national problem. To sacrifice these successful commissioners to the fury of a victorious political horde, thinking only of the spoil and not at all of the prosperity of the city, would be an act of folly which we cannot believe the ministers are in any danger of committing.

Still, it is just as well that commercial and industrial Montreal, regardless of the party affiliation, should make its opinion known; and that the government should be put in possession of the stoutest defence against any 'camp-followers' who continue to cry 'blood' and 'boodle.'

2. Is it the intention of the government to accept the friendly advice of the Montreal 'Star'?

Mr. BORDEN. The attention of the Prime Minister has not been called to the article which is set forth.

Mr. HAZEN. May I be permitted to say the same thing so far as I am concerned.

Mr. LEMIEUX. The right hon. gentleman has not answered the entire question.

Mr. BORDEN. I think the answer to the question, as a whole, is a very fair one.

### DISMISSAL OF EDWARD POULIN.

Mr. DELISLE:

1. Has Edward Poulin, an employee in the Customs Department at Quebec, been dismissed?

2. If so, for what reason and at whose request?

3. Has an inquiry been held in the matter?

Mr. REID (Grenville).

The services of Edward Poulin, Acting Preventive Officer of Customs at Quebec, have been dispensed with, as they were not required during the winter season.

This action was taken by the Department of Customs after inquiry into the matter by a Customs Inspector.

Mr. LEMIEUX.

### IN RE SMUGGLING.

\*Mr. BAKER:

1. Has the Minister of Customs taken cognizance of an article which appeared in the Montreal 'Star' of January 12, under the caption 'M.P.'s name is mentioned in a smuggling case?'

2. Are the statements as communicated to the Department of Customs substantially as alleged in the said newspaper article?

Mr. REID (Grenville):

1. Yes.

2. Yes.

### POSTMISTRESS AT ANSE A VALEAU.

Mr. LEMIEUX:

1. Has any charge been made against Madame Proulx, postmistress at Anse à Valeau, county of Gaspé?

2. If so, has any investigation been ordered?

Mr. PELLETIER:

1. Yes.

2. Yes.

### MOTION AGREED WITHOUT DISCUSSION.

For a copy of all correspondence, representations, estimates, letters, telegrams and other documents received by the Right hon. Prime Minister, or by any member of the government, in any way relating to the subject of a car-ferry service between the province of Prince Edward Island and the mainland across the Straits of Northumberland, and the widening of the gauge of the Prince Edward Island Railway; and also as to the estimated cost of all such work.—Mr. Emmerson.

### MARITIME PROVINCES IMMIGRATION.

Mr. E. N. RHODES (Cumberland) moved:

That, inasmuch as the immigration policy of the government and the several railway companies has for many years been almost entirely confined to the development of western Canada, and largely in consequence of this policy the provinces of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island have not grown in equal degree with the rest of the Dominion, in the opinion of this House, in order to promote uniform progress and prosperity throughout Canada, the government should speedily inaugurate and carry out a policy of publicity and immigration designed to promote the more rapid development of the said provinces.

He said: Mr. Speaker, It is possible that hon. gentlemen representing constituencies in other provinces of the Dominion outside the maritime provinces will at first view regard this proposed resolution as provincial; as one asking special and undue treatment for a particular portion of Canada, at the expense of the remainder.

Upon investigation, however, it will, I believe, be found that the reverse is the case and should this resolution carry and be acted upon by this government, the result would be but a measure of justice—