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It was to be expected that the artificial means set up in 1921 to accomplish a specific purpose would eventually have to be placed on a natural basis. Eventually each grade of hogs would have had to seek their own level of value whatever that level was and the plan would have had to be modified to establish natural conditions. If our normal markets had been maintained this could almost certainly have been done to considerable advantage to the industry. But it must be recognized that there is now a serious danger of making a change because the change cannot but be drastic in its working. For these reasons packers have given months of consideration to the matter. It is greatly desired to retain graded buying to as great an extent as possible. But it is also recognized that it is useless under present conditions to try to set up anything even of a modified kind of artificial arrangement. Therefore, it is proposed that the grading be continued and each grade be priced according to its value. If the bulk of our surplus hogs or their product is exported to the United States any differential between the grades will have to depend on the values established by the domestic market. If the British trade returns the high class bacon hog will return to its own. In the meantime the bacon hog blood can be retained and increased without any sacrifice by our farmers.

The Dominion Department of Agriculture has assumed a great responsibility and work in connection with the grading of hogs, and the popularizing of the bacon hog ideal. The Provincial Departments of Agriculture have given most valuable and able co-operation. It is fitting at this time that full credit should be given to the officers who have been engaged in the enterprise of building up the quality of our hogs. Confronted with this new situation the task of these bodies in continuing improvement work may be more difficult, but in view of the possibilities of the future the work is we believe, still of utmost importance. It is unfortunate that such changes as eventually would have been necessary in the grading plans could not have been worked out at a time when market conditions permitted a clearer view on which to formulate policy, but as we are dealing with conditions beyond our control we think it must appeal to the judgment of everyone that the only sound policy is to put into operation a system that is and will be sound under any conditions that may arise.

CANADIAN NATIONAL RAILWAYS—ROLLING STOCK

Mr. CANTLEY:

1. What number of refrigerator and stock cars not the property of the Canadian National Railways were employed in the movement of fruit, vegetables, fish or live stock within the provinces of British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, and Manitoba during: (a) the calendar year 1926; and (b) the months of January and February, 1927?
2. At what points did such cars enter Canada?
3. What was the number of such cars in Canada, February 28, 1927?
4. Where were such cars built, where owned, and by what company or corporation?
5. On what terms and at what cost were such cars secured for operation in the train service of Canadian National Railways?
6. What was the total amount paid as rental or hire of such equipment during the years 1926 and 1927?
7. What duty, if any, was paid on such railway cars?

Mr. SPEAKER: Dropped.

INTERPROVINCIAL CONFERENCE, 1926

Mr. LOVIE:

1. Were any requests or representations by correspondence or otherwise made to the government of Canada by any of the provincial premiers, previous to the interprovincial conference of 1926, asking to have the said conference called?
2. If so, what are the names of the premiers who made such requests?
3. What reasons were given by each for having such conference called?

Right Hon. W. L. MACKENZIE KING: I will answer this question verbally. As far as I have been able to discover, there is nothing on the files of any of the departments of the government in the nature of correspondence requesting such a conference. There were verbal conversations passed between some of the provincial premiers and myself regarding the possibility of the provinces holding an interprovincial conference. I cannot at this time recall what the representations or the replies were, beyond saying that I am sure that the position I took was that an interprovincial conference was a matter for the provinces themselves to arrange, and not a matter in which the Dominion was primarily concerned.

INCOME TAX DEPARTMENT EMPLOYEES

Mr. SPENCER:

When the Income Tax department is incorporated into that of National Revenue will the employees come under Civil Service Commission?

Hon. Mr. EULER: No.

QUALIFICATIONS OF AVIATION OFFICERS

Mr. PARENT:

1. What are the necessary qualifications to become an aviation officer?
2. In whom rests the authority of deciding the qualifications required by the candidates?
3. What is meant by Commission of B. App. So.

Hon. Mr. RALSTON:

1. (1) Be a British subject.
- (2) Medically fit for air force service as a pilot and in addition
- (3) Held a commission in the Royal Air Force.

or

A cadet of the Canadian Officers' Training Corps who has performed the requisite qualifying service and passed the practical examination for certificate "A" Canadian Officers' Training Corps.

Following a course of study as an undergraduate leading to a degree in applied science.

Unmarried.

Under 21 years of age at the commencement of the course.

Recommended by the military committee of the university as likely to become an efficient air force officer.

Give an undertaking to complete the whole course, both at university and the R.C.A.F. training station.

Have passed the approved tests and examinations.

Be recommended for a commission by the honourable the Minister of National Defence and gazettement approved by the governor general in council.

or

Be a first year student of the Royal Military College, who is recommended by the commandant as likely to become an efficient air force officer, or, a second year student of the Royal Military College who undertakes to continue air force training after graduation from the Royal Military College, and who is recommended by the commandant as likely to become an efficient air force officer.

Be over seventeen years of age on January 1st, in the year of the commencement of the course.

Give an undertaking to complete the whole course.

Have passed the approved tests and examinations.

Be recommended for a commission by the honourable the Minister of National Defence and gazettement approved by the governor general in council.

2. The Minister of National Defence.

3. B. App. So. is the abbreviation for Bachelor of Applied Science.

PUBLIC SERVICE RETIREMENT ACT

Mr. WOODSWORTH:

1. Under the Calder Act were the "prevailing rate" men, permanently employed by the Public Works department or other departments, eligible for retirement with pension?
2. Are these men eligible for retirement with pensions under the Superannuation Act?
3. If not, what provision does the government plan to make to provide for this class of employees?

Hon. Mr. RINFRET:

1. Under the Public Service Retirement Act (Calder Act) hourly rate employees of the Department of Public Works and other departments, were made eligible for retirement with retiring allowance provided by an act from June 1922 when the amendment (chapter 12-13 Geo. V) was passed to chapter 67, 10-11 Geo. V.

2. No.

3. The employees referred to will be eligible for benefits under the Superannuation Act when they comply with the provisions of section 2 of the act.

EMPLOYMENT OF FRANK HUTCHINSON

Mr. BENNETT:

1. Is Frank Hutchinson employed in the post office at Edmonton, Alberta?
2. If so, when was he employed?
3. At what salary?
4. On whose authority?
5. Has he passed any civil service examination?
6. If so, when?

Hon. Mr. VENIOT:

1. No.

2. 3. 4. 5. and 6. See answer to No. 1.

RESTRICTED AREA FOR BOVINE TUBERCULOSIS

Mr. MILLAR:

1. What is meant exactly by a restricted area for bovine tuberculosis?
2. How many such restricted areas are there in Canada?
3. Where are they located?
4. How many cattle are there in each of these restricted areas?
5. How many reactors were found on the first test?
6. What percentage of cattle tested reacted to the first test?
7. What was the cost of compensation in each area in the first test?
8. How frequently are the cattle in such areas retested?
9. What are the advantages of such areas?
10. Has the government in mind the establishing of any more of these restricted areas?
11. If so, where?
12. If not, when?
13. What are the rates of compensation paid for slaughtering animals?
14. Is compensation paid for all reactors?
15. Does the province or the municipality play any part in the bringing of an area under this policy?
16. Who pays compensation for reacting cattle that are slaughtered?
17. Are there any such areas in the United States, and how is compensation paid there?

| | No. of cattle in area | No. of reactors at first test | Percentage of Reactors | Compensation Paid |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------|-------------------|
| P. E. I. area | 94,772 | 561 | 0.59 | \$ 14,184 00 |
| N.B. area | 2,842 | 20 | 0.76 | 513 23 |
| Quebec area | 52,446 | 4,172 | 7.95 | 180,785 00 |
| Manitoba area | 22,592 | 1,306 | 5.7 | 43,098 00 |
| Saskatchewan area | 21,417 | 176 | 0.8 | 5,240 00 |
| B.C. area | 46,174 | 3,643 | 7.9 | 124,010 00 |

8. This depends upon the percentage of infection in an area; the greater the infection the more frequently are general tests conducted.

When the infection has been reduced to less than one per cent an interval of three years may occur between general tests.

9. The advantages of such areas include all those resulting from the maintenance of healthy cattle. As all cattle in an area are tested, all reactors destroyed and all infected premises cleaned and disinfected, a clean area is provided for the healthy cattle, and infection of clean herds reduced to a minimum.

10. Yes.

11. The government's object is to establish a restricted area in each province and to gradually increase these areas. Their location will depend upon the applications which may be received.

12. At any time the necessary funds are available.

13. Maximum compensation for a grade animal is \$40 and for a pure bred \$100.

14. Compensation is not paid for reacting grade bulls, steers, nor for reacting cattle with lumpy jaw, but is paid for all other reactors.

15. The regulations provide that applications may be made to the Dominion Department of Agriculture, by the Minister of Agriculture of the provincial government, stating that the province is desirous of federal aid in the eradication of bovine tuberculosis from a restricted area, upon and subject to the provisions of these regulations. The provincial government must agree to assist in the enforcement of the regulations by conducting prosecutions of persons accused of obstructing, or refusing to assist federal inspectors engaged in the work of testing cattle, and of persons who in any way refuse to obey the regulations.

16. The Dominion Department of Agriculture.

17. Yes. They are termed modified areas. Have no definite information regarding manner in which compensation is paid, but understand the state, county and municipality contribute.

VALUITY OF INSURANCE ACT, 1917

Mr. YOUNG (Toronto North-east):

1. Has the minister given instructions to appeal the decision of the appellate division of the Supreme Court of Ontario, delivered the 14th February, 1926 (re Insurance Contracts, 28 D.L.R. 404) which held the licensing and other sections (11, 12 (1), 71, 71 (a), 124 and 124 (a)) of the Insurance Act, 1917, ultra vires the legislative competence of the parliament of Canada?
2. If not, why?

3. What effect, if any, does the government propose to give to the following resolution unanimously adopted at the interprovincial conference in Ottawa in June, 1926, when six provincial premiers and ministers of the crown from every province except Alberta, convened to discuss matters of mutual concern:

"This conference is of opinion that the Dominion should repeal its legislation regulating contracts of insurance and the business of insurance as ultra vires the legislative competence of the parliament of Canada, or, in the alternative, take immediate steps to appeal the decision of the Ontario courts to the judicial committee of the Privy Council."

Hon. Mr. BOBB: This question is to be answered orally. The answer to No. 1 is: No. The answer to Nos. 2 and 3, is: So far as the minister is aware none of the resolutions of the interprovincial conference said to be held in June last has ever been submitted by the conference to the government.

POSTMASTER AT BRASS CREEK

Mr. BENNETT:

1. Who is postmaster or postmistress at Brass Creek?
2. When was he or she appointed?
3. On whose recommendation?

Hon. Mr. VENIOT:

1. Mrs. Mary Wilson.
2. 20th January, 1927.
3. Recommendation of government candidate for constituency.

MAIL CONTRACTS IN RICHMOND, NOVA SCOTIA

Mr. MACDONALD (Cape Breton South):

1. Who has present contract for carrying mail between Grand River and Ibadon in the county of Richmond, Nova Scotia?
2. When was such contract given and for what amount?
3. Were there more than one tenderer for the contract, and if more than one, what were the amounts of the various tenders?
4. Has any contract for the conveyance of mails between St. Peters and Lower L'Ardoise been made, if so, what is amount of such contract, and if not, what arrangement now exists for such work?

Hon. Mr. VENIOT:

1. Alex Cameron of Grand River.
2. 15 December, 1926—\$300 per annum.
3. \$500, \$350 and \$633 per annum.
4. Yes—\$950 per annum.

CANADA WEEKLY PRINTING CO.

Mr. EVANS:

How much money was paid to the Canada Weekly Printing Company, 325 Logan Avenue, Winnipeg, during the fiscal years ending March 31, 1923, 1924, 1925 and 1926?

Hon. Mr. RINFRET:

Department of the Interior

June 7th, 1924, advertisement in Swedish Canada News, \$18.

Department of Immigration and Colonization

| | |
|-------------------|------------|
| 1922-23 | Nil |
| 1923-24 | \$6,756 88 |
| 1924-25 | 3,366 48 |
| 1925-26 | 2,880 00 |