

been very much overworked since the war began.

Mr. MACDONALD: What is the position held by Major Margeson?

Sir EDWARD KEMP: He is on a Board of Review in the Assigned Pay and Separation Allowance Branch, associated with another officer. The duties of these officers are to investigate claims of an unusual or irregular character, which, in a sense, may not be covered by the different orders in council that have been passed with respect to separation allowance. Both these officers, I believe, are returned soldiers.

Mr. MACDONALD: I would like to have the assurance of the minister that he will bring down that return in reference to Halifax.

Sir EDWARD KEMP: I will see that it is brought down.

Mr. MACDONALD: Has the minister had any word from Sir George Perley since this afternoon in regard to the Bruce report? Or has he reconsidered the question and decided to bring it down?

Sir EDWARD KEMP: The cable was sent. I have not had any conversation with the Prime Minister since.

Mr. GRAHAM: The minister does not need to send for the information. He has it; it is the Prime Minister who has not the information. As we have put through these estimates so expeditiously, if anything in reference to war expenditure should occur to the minds of any hon. members, I assume that on the supplementary estimates we shall be at liberty to discuss such matters?

Sir EDWARD KEMP: Certainly.

Progress reported.

On motion of Sir Edward Kemp, the House adjourned at 11.40 p.m.

Thursday, August 2, 1917.

The House met at Three o'clock, the Speaker in the Chair.

SPECIAL COMMISSION ON RAILWAYS.

Sir ROBERT BORDEN (Prime Minister): I beg to lay upon the Table a return to an Order of the House moved for by the right hon. leader of the Opposition (Sir Wilfrid Laurier) with regard to correspondence exchanged between the Board of Trade of the city of Quebec and the Prime Minister on

[Sir Edward Kemp.]

the subject of the report of the Special Commission on Railways.

THE CANADIAN RAILWAY SITUATION.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF G. T. P. AND C. N. R. PRESENTED BY THE MINISTER OF FINANCE.

Hon. Sir THOMAS WHITE (Minister of Finance): In connection with the resolutions relating to the Canadian Northern Railway Company and the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway Company, of which I gave notice yesterday and which appear in the Votes and Proceedings, I beg to lay on the Table, for the information of the House, the following financial statements:

In the matter of the Canadian Northern Railway system:

Balance sheet, June 30, 1916.

Statement of securities issued and fixed charges, June 30, 1917.

Statement of liabilities, June 15, 1917.

Statement of equipment account.

List of securities for loans.

Gross and net earnings, June 30, 1917.

Comparison of earnings, 1915, 1916 and 1917.

Statement re capital expenditure and betterments, year ending June 30, 1917.

Statement as to mileage.

In the matter of the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway system:

Statement showing bonds and other securities authorized, issued and outstanding, and the net proceeds therefrom; also interest payable during the period from July 1, 1917, to June 30, 1918.

Statement showing details of estimated cash requirements for the period from July 1, 1917, to June 30, 1918; the estimated surplus from the operation of the system and the net amount of aid required for the coming year.

I beg to move that these documents be printed, and that, for this purpose, Rule 74 be suspended in relation thereto.

Mr. PUGSLEY: Does the minister intend to lay on the Table any correspondence with the Canadian Northern Railway company which has led up to the proposal which he has submitted to the House?

Sir THOMAS WHITE: There is no correspondence; the matter has been taken up by personal interview. The documents which I have laid on the table of the House have been given me by the Secretary of the Canadian Northern railway and the Vice-president of the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway company respectively.