

3. How many on the temporary list who have been employed for more than a year.

4. How many employees are on the permanent and how many on the temporary list who have neither passed the civil service examination, nor obtained a B.A. degree.

5. Also showing what the corresponding numbers were in the year 1896 in each of above cases.—Mr. Northrup.

For a return showing the number of fishing licenses issued by the government for any of the lakes in the province of Saskatchewan, to whom issued, and on what lakes.—Mr. T. Chisholm.

For a return showing what complaints respecting the inadequacy of postal service or delays therein, or respecting lack of or defects in postal facilities or means of communications, have been received by the Post Office Department since the 1st day of January, 1907, and the general nature of such complaints.—Mr. Armstrong.

For a return showing: 1. All promotions that have been made to the rank of colonel in the active militia during the past year, with names,

2. The nature of service, merit or seniority justifying such promotions.

3. The record of war services of such officers.

4. Previous to the gazettement of such promotion the positions held by such officers on the seniority list of the colonels.

5. The number of lieutenant-colonels who were outranked or superseded by such promotion, with their names and services.—Mr. Worthington.

For a return showing: 1. The number of officials of the government, civil or military, or officers of the active militia who perform services in any way connected with the manufacture of rifles for the government by the Ross Rifle Company.

2. Their names, ranks and duties, and the amount of their individual salary or remuneration.

3. The total amount (apart from contract cost of rifle), or expenditure by the government with the Ross Rifle Company, including any bonus loans, inspections, cost of testing, commissions, or expenditure of any kind, with the individual amounts.—Mr. Worthington.

For a return showing: 1. What harbours or rivers in the province of Ontario tenders were invited for dredging work by the Department of Public Works during the present year.

2. The names of the successful tenderers at each of the said places for which dredging tenders were invited in Ontario in 1907, and the prices asked by each party respectively.

3. Amounts of the tenders respectively of the different persons tendering at each of the foregoing points.

4. Also at what points new tenders were invited, and when the first tenders were accepted.—Mr. Bennett.

ADJOURNMENT—BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE.

Sir WILFRID LAURIER moved the adjournment of the House.

Hon. GEO. E. FOSTER (North Toronto). Might I renew the question I put to the Finance Minister? One of the difficulties

Mr. FIELDING.

having been negotiated, perhaps I can get some information from him as to what we may expect.

Hon. W. S. FIELDING (Minister of Finance). It is only fair that my hon. friend (Mr. Foster) should have the information. I had anticipated that the budget would come on before the Christmas adjournment. But our plans have been somewhat disarranged by the protracted nature of the debate, I think I had better say to my hon. friend that the budget will not come on before Christmas.

ORGANIZATION OF COMMITTEES.

Mr. R. L. BORDEN. I would like to say to the Prime Minister that, there being no difficulty now in the way of carrying on the business, the committees should be called together for organization at once.

Sir WILFRID LAURIER. To-morrow or the day after?

Motion agreed to, and House adjourned at 5.40 p.m.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

THURSDAY, December 12, 1907.

The SPEAKER took the Chair at Three o'clock.

RAILWAY ACT—AMENDMENT.

Mr. J. A. C. ETHIER (Two Mountains), moved for leave to introduce Bill (No. 30) to amend the Railway Act. He said: This Bill is intended to amend section 196 of the Railway Act, and to repeal and also amend certain sections between section 196 and section 214. These sections make up that portion of the Act which concerns the exploration of lands to be acquired for purposes of railway construction. The principle involved in this Bill is the shortening of the interminable delays in these expropriation proceedings and the diminution of the enormous amount of costs incurred by the parties interested through the execution of the existing law. The Bill provides for the appointment of experts instead of arbitrators as at present. The experts are to be appointed in the same way as the arbitrators under the existing law, but difference comes in in the definition of the powers and duties of the experts to be appointed under this proposed amendment. The experts are appointed by a judge; and, within a delay fixed by the court, make their report as to the amount of indemnity to be given to the parties whose land is to be expropriated. The powers of the arbitrators are defined in section 201 of the Act. Under this Bill subsections A, B, C and D of that section