

ATLANTIC MAIL SERVICE.

Mr. STOCKTON asked :

1. Has the government recently entered into any contract or contracts for the carriage of the mails across the Atlantic ?
2. When were such contracts entered into ?
3. Who are the contractors in each case ?
4. Which, if any, of the said contracts were let after public advertisement and tender ?
5. What is the amount of each contract ?
6. What rate of speed or time limit is provided in each contract ?
7. Is provision made in each contract for carriage by more efficient and faster steamers, in case such should be placed on the route during the term of the said contract ?
8. If such provision is not made, why has it been omitted ?
9. If the contracts, or any of them, were let without public advertisement, why was that safeguard omitted ?

Rt. Hon. Sir WILFRID LAURIER (Prime Minister). A contract has been entered into which will be laid on the table at an early day. My hon. friend will have all the information.

Mr. R. L. BORDEN. Will the return show the information asked for in the several questions ?

Sir WILFRID LAURIER. Let the question stand.

LIFE ASSURANCE COMMISSION.

Mr. LALOR asked :

Is it the intention of the government that the Life Assurance Commission investigate the financial position and investments of fraternal societies doing a life assurance business in Canada ?

Rt. Hon. Sir WILFRID LAURIER (Prime Minister). No special reference is made in the Commission to any particular form of life insurance, but the Commissioners have full authority to investigate fraternal insurance as well as other forms of insurance when carried on by companies operating under Dominion charters or under Dominion license.

TRENT CANAL.

Mr. SAM. HUGHES—by Mr. Taylor—asked :

1. Has there been an official inquiry into matters and officers connected with the Trent canal recently ?
2. What was the object of the inquiry ?
3. What was the result ?
4. By whom was the inquiry conducted ?
5. What counsel were employed in the inquiry ?
6. What remuneration was given to each of those employed in conducting said inquiry ?

Hon. H. R. EMMERSON (Minister of Railways and Canals) :

1. Yes.
2. To ascertain where the responsibility rested for faulty construction of works.

3. Five officials connected with said works have resigned.

4. Mr. Henry Holgate, C.E.

5. Messrs. R. J. McLaughlin, K.C., and D. O'Connell.

6. Mr. Holgate received \$450 for his services as commissioner. No remuneration has yet been paid the counsel.

POSTMASTER AT CANNINGTON.

Mr. SAM. HUGHES asked :

1. Has the postmaster at Cannington been recently removed from office ?
2. What cause was assigned for his removal ?
3. How many years had he been in office ?
4. Were there ever any complaints against him ?
5. If so, what were they ?
6. Who has been appointed to succeed him ?
7. Upon whose recommendation was the postmaster dismissed ?
8. Was the post office inspector favourable to the change ?

Hon. A. B. AYLESWORTH (Postmaster General). Mr. H. D. Talbot, formerly postmaster at Cannington, Ontario, was relieved of his office on January 12, 1906, for the reason that he was, under the name of another man, carrying on a mercantile business in the village in competition with others in the same line of business, though the salary and allowances connected with the post office seemed sufficient to maintain the postmaster.

Action in the matter was taken on the report of the post office inspector.

Mr. Talbot was appointed to the office on April 1, 1890.

There had been complaints from time to time in regard to the management of this post office.

Mr. William McPherson was, on January 16, 1906, appointed to the office.

FISH HATCHERIES.

Mr. BOYCE—by Mr. Taylor—asked :

1. What fish hatcheries have been established during last year, ending 28th February last, on the lakes of Huron and Superior ?
2. At what points or places are fish hatcheries now maintained by the government on these lakes ?
3. Is it the intention of the government to establish more fish hatcheries on the great lakes during the present year ?

Hon. SYDNEY FISHER (for Minister of Marine and Fisheries) :

1. None.
2. No hatcheries are maintained by the government on these lakes.
3. Under consideration.

WHITEFISH ISLAND.

Mr. BOYCE—by Mr. Taylor—asked :

1. What, if any, railways have filed plans for the expropriation of Whitefish Island, in the St. Mary's River, or portions thereof ?