

clothing, etc., for the use of active militia during the following fiscal years: 1919-20, 1920-21, 1921-22, 1922-23, 1923-24, 1924-25, 1925-26 and 1926-27 to date?

2. What was the amount of duty and sales tax paid by units of the active militia for the same fiscal years?

Hon. Mr. RALSTON:

1. 1919-20, \$45,251.94; 1920-21, \$20,003.18; 1921-22, \$29,734.76; 1922-23, \$24,834.16; 1923-24, \$9,758.36; 1924-25, \$24,455.66; 1925-26, \$16,596.62; 1926-27 (to February 28, 1927), \$7,334.51.

2. No information.

COST OF WELAND CANAL

Mr. SENN:

1. What has been the cost of construction of that part of the new or Welland ship canal lying between the city of Welland and Port Colborne, up to date?

2. What amount including the sum placed in the estimates for 1927-28 is necessary to complete this section of the canal?

3. What amount of money not included in the above estimates will be necessary to make the harbour and entrance at Port Colborne safe for the entry of boats such as the Welland ship canal is designed to accommodate?

Hon. Mr. DUNNING:

1. Approximately \$12,735,000.

2. Approximately \$13,766,000.

3. Harbour work at Port Colborne is included in estimates referred to in Answer No. 2.

HARROW EXPERIMENTAL FARM

Mr. GOTT:

1. What was the cost of operating the Harrow, Ontario, Experimental farm for the year 1926?

2. What returns did the farm make?

3. Who is the superintendent of the farm?

4. What salary is paid him?

Hon. Mr. MOTHERWELL:

1. \$22,582.03.

2. \$14,641.39.

3. Mr. Henry Alonzo Freeman.

4. \$2,400 per annum.

REPAIRS TO ESSEX COUNTY PIERS

Mr. GOTT:

1. When repairs were made to the piers at Kingsville, Leamington, and Pelee island, Ontario, why was the lumber for same not purchased in Essex county despite the fact that there are reputable lumber dealers in the said county?

2. Does the patronage of the member from Antigonish-Guysborough extend as far west and south as Essex south?

3. In view of the fact that the estimates contain a \$5,000 appropriation for repairs to piers in Essex county, will the department make an attempt to purchase material as close

to the work as possible regardless of what political opinions are held by the lumber dealers of the county?

4. Have tenders for lumber for repairs in Essex county ever been asked for from Conklin or Ludlam lumber companies of Kingsville, and Leamington, Ontario, respectively, or from the Smith Lumber Company of Harrow, Ontario?

5. If so, were they on the same equality as other firms, and subject to the same consideration?

Hon. Mr. ELLIOTT:

1. Because the prices asked by lumber dealers in Essex county were considerably higher than those quoted by lumber dealers elsewhere, and in other cases no prices at all were submitted by dealers in that county.

2. The patronage in this as in other ridings is controlled by the government.

3. Yes.

4. Yes, tenders have been asked for from Conklin Planing Mills and Ludlam-Ainslie Lumber Company, but not from Smith Lumber Company of Harrow, Ontario, whose name does not appear in the Canada Gazetteer or Fraser's Directory of Lumber Industries.

5. Yes.

GREAT LAKES LEVELS

Mr. ARTHURS:

1. Having regard to sessional paper No. 118, question No. 1, has any department of the government kept any record of the levels of the great lakes or any part thereof, for all or part of the last ten years?

2. If so, what does such report show as above or below zero?

3. What is zero for each of the great lakes?

Hon. Mr. CARDIN:

1. Since 1910 precise records, of the levels of the great lakes, have been kept under the hydrographic survey branch of the Department of Marine and Fisheries. The records are computed from hourly readings obtained by maintaining automatic water gauges on each lake.

In addition to the above, copies of all other authentic water levels (from staff and automatic gauges) of the great lakes, since 1860, have been obtained from both Canadian and American sources. These records have been compiled to a relative basis for comparison with the later records.

2. On the great lakes the yearly mean surface elevations have shown an almost constant lowering of the surface from 1916 and 1919 to the present year of 1926, as follows:

		Feet
Lake Superior.. . . .	1916-1926	Loss 2.40
Lake Huron.. . . .	1918-1926	Loss 3.19
Lake Erie.. . . .	1919-1926	Loss 1.80
Lake Ontario.. . . .	1919-1926	Loss 1.84