

Questions

included in the amount of the Harbour Commissioners' elevator from that date to the end of the crop year.

Note.—It must be borne in mind that a large part of this wheat is shown twice—first as a receipt at the lake ports, then again at the elevators in Montreal, Quebec or St. John, N.B.

CANADIAN CUSTOMS OFFICER AT NEW YORK

Hon. Mr. STEVENS:

1. Did the government pass an order in council, providing for the establishment of a Canadian customs officer at New York to facilitate the transfer of goods originating in eastern Canada and destined to the Pacific coast port of Vancouver?

2. If so, has such officer been appointed?

3. If no such officer has been appointed, what is the reason?

4. Did said order in council limit the shipment of such goods via New York to British bottoms; if so, why?

5. Has the government received representations from Vancouver board of trade requesting the elimination of such limitation?

6. If so, has the government reached any decision in the matter or when can such decision be expected?

Hon. Mr. BUREAU:

1. The order in council provides for a Canadian customs officer being stationed at the point of transfer in the United States, and for the transfer of the Canadian goods from car to vessel and vice versa, and from vessel to vessel, to be made in the presence of the officer and to be certified by him.

2. No Canadian customs officer has as yet been assigned to duty at any place in the United States under the provisions of this order in council. When the department has been notified that Canadian goods have arrived at a place of transfer in the United States under special customs manifest as provided in the regulations, the department will assign an officer to supervise the transfer of the goods under the provisions of the regulations.

3. Answered by No. 2.

4. Yes. For the purpose of confining the benefits of this trade to Canadian and British vessels.

5. Yes.

6. No change in the present regulations is contemplated.

MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT—WEMBLEY EXHIBITION

Miss MACPHAIL:

1. How many steamship passages have been booked for England for members of parliament by or on behalf of the government in connection with the British exhibition at Wembley?

2. With what steamship company have the passages been booked?

Hon. Mr. ROBB:

1. None.

2. Answered by No. 1.

[Mr. Low.]

DOMINION ELECTIONS ACT AMENDMENT

On the Orders of the Day:

Right Hon. W. L. MACKENZIE KING (Prime Minister): I want to ask my right hon. friend the leader of the opposition (Mr. Meighen) whether there would be any objection to our proceeding with the second reading of the bill regarding the transferable vote?

Mr. MEIGHEN: Although I am in a very conciliatory mood I cannot agree to that; it would be the last thing I would want to proceed with to-day or, indeed, any other day.

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: It was understood that we would proceed with the matter yesterday, but if my right hon. friend prefers that it should still be deferred we will take it up at the first favourable opportunity.

TRUST COMPANIES ACT, 1914, AMENDMENT

Hon. J. A. ROBB (Acting Minister of Finance) moved that the House go into committee to consider the following proposed resolution:

Resolved, That it is expedient to amend the Trust Companies Act, 1914, and to provide,—

1. That the Superintendent of Insurance shall annually ascertain and certify the total amount of the expenditure incurred by the Government for or in connection with the administration of the Act during the last preceding fiscal year, and the total amount of income received during the last preceding calendar year by each company, and the findings of the superintendent shall be final and conclusive.

2. That thereupon the superintendent shall ascertain the ratio or percentage which the total expenditure so found and certified bears to the aggregate of the income aforesaid, and shall assess each of the companies an amount equivalent to that percentage of the total amount of the income received, and such assessment when certified by the superintendent shall be binding upon the said companies, and be final and conclusive.

3. That the amount so assessed against each company shall constitute a debt payable to His Majesty, and shall be payable upon demand of the superintendent, and may be recovered as a debt in any court of competent jurisdiction.

Sir HENRY DRAYTON: Will the minister explain the resolution?

Mr. ROBB: The purpose of the amendment is to make some minor changes defining the classes of securities that would come under the act. The investments are also defined, with certain reference to loans to shareholders and directors and to provide for assessment for administration and inspection. As my hon. friend knows, the cost of inspection is at present entirely levied on the insurance companies and we propose under the three bills which we intend to submit to assess on the