

the Chairman or Presidents and Members of the said Commissions, with the amounts expended in connection therewith including rents, travelling expenses, stationery, printing, advertising, telegrams, telephones, postage and all other expenses, as well as the reports made by the said Commissions.

Sir WILFRID LAURIER:

For a copy of all memoranda and petitions by Slav subjects of Austria, naturalized in Canada, setting forth grievances and suggesting remedies.

Sir WILFRID LAURIER:

For a copy of all petitions, letters or communications of any kind either asking for or opposing the importation of coolie labour, from the first of September last to date.

Mr. LEMIEUX:

For a return showing the total money value of the hard coal, soft coal, oil and gasoline imported into Canada during the years ending March 31, 1914, 1915, 1916, and 1917, and for each month since March, 1917.

QUESTIONS PASSED AS ORDERS FOR RETURNS.

Mr. PREVOST:

1. What is the total amount of war contracts fulfilled in the Province of Quebec, from August, 1914, to January, 1918?
2. How many war munitions establishments are in activity in the Province of Quebec?
3. How many shells are manufactured weekly in said province?
4. How many hands are engaged in such establishments in said province?

Mr. CANNON:

1. Who are the contractors for the transportation of His Majesty's Mails in the County of Dorchester?
2. What sums do they receive annually for this work?
3. When were the contracts in each case given, and upon whose recommendation?
4. When does each of these contracts terminate?

Mr. POWER:

1. How many officers who were engaged in active service overseas have returned to Canada during the year 1917?
2. What was the reason for their return?
3. What was the rank of such officers?
4. To what battalion were they attached overseas and in what capacity?
5. What are their respective occupations and the amount of salary paid to them since their return?
6. How many were returned because they refused to revert to a lower rank in order to go to the front?

Mr. VERVILLE:

1. What number of Chinese entered into Canada during the months of September, October, November, December, 1917, and January and February, 1918?
2. How many have remained in Canada during the same period?
3. How many of them have gone to work in mining districts?
4. How many of them have gone to work as agriculturists?

5. Under what conditions were they admitted?

6. Was there any representation made to the Government as to the necessity of Asiatic labour? If so, by whom?

7. Was there any representation made to the Government against such immigration? If so, by whom?

Mr. CAHILL:

1. Has any money been paid to the Dundalk Herald, the Flesherton Advance, the Markdale Standard, the Durham Chronicle, the Grey Review, or the Hanover Post, for advertising or for any other reason since October 1, 1917?

2. If so, how much was paid in the case of each of the papers mentioned?

RESTRICTION ON SALE OF PROVINCIAL AND MUNICIPAL SECURITIES.

DISCUSSION ON ORDER IN COUNCIL PASSED BY GOVERNMENT.

Hon. RODOLPHE LEMIEUX (Maison-neuve) moved:

For a copy of all letters and telegrams exchanged between the Dominion Government and the various Provincial Executives concerning the Order in Council of December 22, 1917, respecting the sale of securities by provincial, colonial or foreign governments, municipalities and other bodies.

He said: Mr. Speaker, the question alluded to in the notice of motion is one which vitally interests the Dominion of Canada and, especially the provinces. We are all aware that prior to Confederation there were two schools of thought as regards the respective powers of the Dominion and the provinces. It is a well known historical fact that at least one of the fathers of Confederation, Sir John Macdonald, was in favour of legislative union, but when it came to the test in England he had to yield to public opinion and to the well known views of his colleagues, notably Sir George Etienne Cartier, who favoured a federative union system. That it is the better system of the two need not be demonstrated. We are a heterogeneous nation, with a population scattered over a very large territory, and as a consequence the separation of powers is absolutely necessary in order to govern efficiently the various parts of this Dominion. A federative union for such a large country as ours is the only system to ensure civil and political liberty. And I would go further, Mr. Speaker, and state, without fear of contradiction, that even for a homogeneous people, scattered over a large territory, the local wants of the people can best be ministered to through a federative union system. If we take the case of the United States, we find that they are one people, speaking practically one language, with one system of laws, and yet