

'ARCTIC' EXPEDITION, THE—*Con.**Pardee, F. F.* (West Lambton)—6412.

No argument could more forcefully demonstrate the weak case of the opposition than the speech of the hon. gentleman (Mr. J. D. Reid)—6412. The provisions of the 'Arctic' were to have cost in the neighbourhood of \$118,000 and due and proper precautions were taken to see that goods were properly purchased—6413. The Prime Minister himself sent a man to Quebec to check the goods and see that no fraud was committed—6414. Taking the evidence of Bernier, Moffet and Weeks we have sufficient evidence that the goods were actually received and stored on the 'Arctic'—6415. If trouble had been taken to go through the requisitions, it would be found that the requisitions are correct with the goods that came on board—6416. Undoubtedly a portion of the supplies of the 'Arctic' were used up in the furnishing of the Esquimaux with food during the time the vessel was at Fullerton—6417. When Weeks, who checked the goods, did bring down the red book and the original sheets, it was found that the goods on hand tallied almost exactly with them; quotes preamble of resolution—6418. Where has it been shown by the cross-examination of these witnesses that any one of the government employees benefited to the extent of one copper?—6419. Is it a fair thing for an opponent, when all other means fail, to say that a witness has been 'fixed'?—6420. Captain Bernier swears that he knows of his own knowledge that all the goods ordered by these invoices were actually received on board the 'Arctic'—6421. Duchesnay's evidence is not reliable because he has a grievance against one of the officers—6422-3. Quotes first motion made in committee by hon. member from East Hastings (Mr. Northrup)—6424. Quotes second motion made by hon. member from East Hastings—6425. Quotes motions made by Mr. Bennett and Mr. Northrup; these motions could not have been executed without unduly prolonging the sittings of the committee; the opposition have proven absolutely nothing to support the conclusions of the minority report—6426. The 'Arctic' expedition accounts have been proven—6427.

Reid, J. D. (Grenville)—6407.

Quotes speech made by Prime Minister (Sir Wilfrid Laurier) on May 18; explains statement regarding capacity of ship; quotes resolution for investigation—6408. The only expert the government brought to testify was an official from the Marine and Fisheries Department. If there was wrong-doing while the late Mr. Préfontaine was alive, the same system went on after he was dead—6409. Every witness was either an employee of the government, or he had in his pocket a promise that he would be taken back on the 'Arctic' as soon as it started on another expedition—6410. \$335 was paid for a boiler by Merwin for which he charges the government \$936.50, and he certifies that his price is reasonable and fair—

2½

Hansard by volumes: I.—1 to 2018; II.—2019 to 4028; III.—4029 to 6128; IV.—6129 to 7704.

'ARCTIC' EXPEDITION, THE—*Con.**Reid, J. D.* (Grenville)—*Con.*

6411. If we had had the opportunity of going thoroughly into this investigation there is not the slightest doubt that we would have shown that exorbitant prices were charged—6412.

Roche, Wm. (Halifax)—6376.

When the witnesses were examined respecting the damage to machinery, what portion of the machinery was reported to be damaged?—6376.

Speaker, Mr.—6411.

If the matter is still pending before the committee it is not proper to refer to it—6411.

Stockton, A. A. (St. John's city and Co.)—6372.

Quotes motion made by right hon. gentleman (Sir Wilfrid Laurier) on May 18; gives questions referred to the committee for investigation—6372. If the equipment was for a three years' voyage, when the vessel came to Quebec to repair why did she not return to Hudson Bay when the repairs were made—6373. Why were the various motions for further investigation in committee voted down?—6374. We had a statement that the government paid more than three prices for pemmican and more than two prices for tobacco in addition to ordinary trade profit—6375. The inquiry was restricted in the first place by the Prime Minister in sending it to a special committee; but under the terms of the resolution we were entitled to a full inquiry—6376.

APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT TO POSITIONS UNDER GOVERNMENT.

On the Orders of the Day, Mr. Bergeron desires to call the attention of the House to an answer which was given a few days ago to a question put by him—6543.

Bergeron, J. G. H. (Beauharnois)—6543.

It took the government so long to answer the question that I thought at least the answer would be complete, but it is not—6543. The list would have been long in its original form, because the demand was from 1867, but I told Mr. Pope I did not want the entire list, that from 1896 would do—6544. The wording may be wrong but the spirit is good—6545.

Fielding, Hon. W. S. (Finance Minister)—6545.

We do not regard a Senator of Canada as being in the pay of the Government—6545.

Laurier, Rt. Hon. Sir Wilfrid (Prime Minister)—6544.

This information was brought to the House as it was received from the Secretary of State. I cannot vouch for its accuracy—6544. I do not remember that Mr. Watson was a member of the House when appointed to the upper chamber—6545.