

SUPPLY—MARINE AND FISHERIES—AGENCIES—*Con.*

*Reid, J. D. (Grenville)*—3594.

It has cost \$2,500 altogether to provide the furniture. Did the hon. minister ask for tenders, or simply send for Mr. Valliquette and tell him he could supply this stuff at the prices charged here?—3594. The minister knows that this item is only one of many, and if he were to ask for prices on these goods he could procure the goods much more cheaply. It does not cost more than \$5 or \$10 to insert the necessary advertisement in the Montreal papers—3545. The minister knows that in the Auditor General's Report there are items of the Marine and Fisheries Department of \$10,000, \$20,000, \$60,000, or even \$100,000, in which tenders were never called for—3596. The other day the minister wanted 20,000 tons of coal at Sorel. The minute a strike was on he advertised for tenders. I appealed to the minister to wait one week, and he refused to do it—3597. American coal can be got right opposite Prescott for \$3 to \$3.25 per ton on these boats, yet he pays \$5 per ton—3598. I am not finding the slightest fault with the minister for advertising for the coal, but I do find fault with him for advertising for coal when a strike was on. There is not the slightest doubt that a strike was on—3599. I would rather see the minister use Canadian coal, but he has been buying coal from the American side—3600. I said that an American, who had been supplying the lighthouse at Prescott, and who was one of his friends, wanted an opportunity to put in a tender for the coal at Sorel—3601. I would like the minister to make that insurance statement officially now, because he would not make that statement unless he knew it to be a fact—3605. We are not objecting to improving the channels to improve navigation; what we have been objecting to is the way the money has been expended. I believe the hon. minister is carrying out the same policy of distributing the supplies that his predecessor did—3608. The letters that passed between him and the minister were not private. Reads the minister's reply—3609-10. I know that in the province of Ontario the price of coal went up—3610. I can prove it by those who are supplying the coal. I am not reckless—3611. The strike was on. There was a strike pending, and no business man would have called for tenders while a strike was pending, and closed a contract—3612. I distinctly stated that I had no knowledge about the price in Nova Scotia—3613.

*Sproule, T. S. (East Grey)*—3605.

It was contended either last year or the year before, that there had been no reduction in the insurance rates for several years, notwithstanding all the improvements that had been made in the channel—3605. The hon. member (Mr. T. Martin) is unfair—3614.

## SUPPLY—MARINE AND FISHERIES--'ARCTIC'—MAINTENANCE.

Maintenance and repairs to government steamers and ice-breakers, including steamer 'Arctic,' \$375,000—3350.

*Alcorn, G. O. (Prince Edward)*—3396.

The word 'supplies' includes more than merely the edibles and drink, it includes dry goods—3396.

*Borden, R. L. (Carleton, Ont.)*—3350.

Quotes auctioneer's notice of certain articles brought back by this steamer to Montreal; would like to obtain cost of goods when put on board; would like to know what was object and purpose of expedition, and all necessary information regarding her outfitting—3350. There are only 34 men mentioned in item, who are the other 14?—3352. Was this expedition fitted out on basis of the English expedition? How much was expended on repairs to 'Arctic' after she arrived in Germany? Acceded to request two or three sessions ago made by the then Minister of the Interior (Mr. Sifton) that vote for purpose of preventing poaching in northern waters, go through without discussion. No one questions desirability of having waters patrolled, but because they are patrolled we should not sit here silent when three or four times the quantity of goods reasonably required were put on vessel or the pretense made that they were—3361. Two hundred thousand dollar's worth of supplies, were put aboard or pretended to put aboard this ship—3362. If the supplies were put on board ship for three years, and only \$31,000 worth were brought back, what has become of balance? Has minister (Mr. Brodeur) inventory of goods returned?—3363. What is total value of goods returned?—3364. What proportion of supplies taken out was brought back? Quotes Major Moodie's report at p. 6—3365. Reads memorandum given to leader of opposition by a member of government regarding information on matters of state; refers to expeditions similar to 'Arctic'—3372-3.

*Brodeur, Hon. L. P. (Minister of Marine and Fisheries)*—3350.

Object of expedition was to go to northern regions of Canada to administer and enforce the laws of Canada. Negotiations for purchase of steamer began in 1903; vessel was brought to this side of the Atlantic in 1904; expedition was put in charge of Major Moodie; Capt. Bernier was commissioned as sailing master. Cost of expedition so far has been \$155,451.04; contrasts cost with that of other expeditions—3351. Capt. Bernier, in making an estimate of the quantity of goods required, has followed to a certain extent the government regulations as to the rations of the Northwest Mounted Police—3352. There were 8 mounted police on board with Major Moodie, his wife and son and deputy outside the 34 men comprising crew—3353. When expedition was