

SUPPLY—RAILWAY COMMISSION—*Con.*

*Barker, S.* (East Hamilton)—*Con.*

Understood the minister to say that there was practical agreement of the 3, 3083-4. You had a gentleman from New York, Mr. Cooper, to give advice, 3086. Have they his written advice, 3088.

*Blain, R.* (Peel)—3073.

Asks who is responsible for the insufficient piers and light structure of the Quebec bridge, 3073. Asks if the loss of life cost the government any money, 3074. Asks if the company was created to build this bridge, 3075. When the minister came here and investigated he found a contract with a very weak company, 3081. The Finance Minister said the bridge would be completed in December, 1906, 3085. Conclude that the government blundered, and the people are of the same opinion, 3086. We have been endeavouring to ascertain who was responsible for this blunder, 3088. This side of the House has never made any very severe criticism of the government on that score, 3089.

*Borden, R. L.* (Halifax)—3071.

Was not aware until a few days ago that there was anything wrong with the piers, 3071. Would like to know where the responsibility is ultimately to be found, 3074. What the original stockholders put in; the position in regard to remedy, 3075. An extraordinary tale of neglect in the management of public affairs, 3077. The government has shown most remarkable and unheard of disregard of the public interest, 3078. Even the minister did not discover it till after the bridge fell down, 3082. He has never seen the work, he was never on it, 3090.

*Crocket, O. S.* (York, N.B.)—3070.

Asks when the Transcontinental trains will run into Quebec, 3070. This bridge is a very important factor in the matter of western freight, 3072. The \$100,000 security, is it lost? 3076. Asks if the government has contract for the removal of the scrap iron from the river, 3082. Is the board of engineers to be employed till the completion of the bridge, 3083.

*Crosby, A. B.* (Halifax)—3070.

Asks when the bridge will be completed, 3070. Asks if it is intended to adopt a ferry across the St. Lawrence, 3071.

*Fielding, Hon. W. S.* (Minister of Finance)—3085.

Was not informed then that it was going to fall, 3085. Mr. Cooper was chosen as engineer to have direction and charge of the whole work, 3086. Mr. Schreiber advised that the matter be left in Mr. Cooper's hands, 3087. No step was taken without the cordial approval and support of Mr. Schreiber, 3088. If the government selects the best engineer the people will give them credit, 3089. That does not necessarily prove anything, 3090.

SUPPLY—RAILWAY COMMISSION—*Con.*

*Foster, Hon. Geo. E.* (North Toronto)—3070.

Asks if the old foundations are not being utilized, 3070. Asks who was responsible for the notification, 3076. Calls attention to a grave abuse, putting a misrepresentation into the mouth of His Excellency, 3082. Asks concerning the first piers, 3083.

*Gordon, G.* (Nipissing)—3081.

Asks if nickel steel is to be used in the new superstructure, 3081.

*Graham, Hon. Geo. P.* (Minister of Railways and Canals)—3070.

Four years for construction, contract cannot be let until the autumn; car ferry temporarily, 3070. Estimates total cost at \$11,000,000. A structure of this magnitude must be done carefully, 3071. Cannot say when the N.T.R. will be running into Quebec, Mr. Grant's report, 3072. The report on the fall of the bridge too technical to interpret, 3073. The Phoenix bridge company settled all claims that we made, 3074. The contract contained a clause providing for penalties in case of failure, 3075. An attempt being made to realize on the \$100,000 bond. Company has done good work, 3076. Has recommendations from engineers, 3077. The answer always given after the question, 3079. Blain was in the House all the time with these documents under his eyes, 3081. The bridge fell down before he became minister, debris being taken out, 3082. Some had to be removed for navigation and some for the new piers, 3083. It is likely before they get through they will absolutely agree on all points, 3084. Where it will be of any advantage nickel steel will be used, 3085.

*Haggart, Hon. J. G.* (South Lanark)—3070.

Asks re completion of the foundation piers, and the estimated cost of bridge and approaches, 3070. Asks the principle adopted, 3072. If the company settled the claims the government took over their responsibility, 3074.

*Hughes, S.* (Victoria)—3074.

Asks how much the Phoenix Bridge Company was paid by the government, 3074. Part of the bridge did not fall, can that be used, 3084.

*Lennox, H.* (South Simcoe)—3078.

Might be a little interesting to note how generous the government is after the event, 3018. Quotes questions and answers from *Hansard*, 3079. They were paying these gentlemen bonuses and interest for looking on and doing nothing, 3080.

*Monk, F. D.* (Jacques-Cartier)—3084.

It is rumoured in Montreal that there is absolute disagreement between the three engineers, 3084. Understood part wanted a suspension bridge and part a cantilever, 3085. There was no government examination of the plans. M. Cooper was the Company's engineer, 3086. It