

Mr. GARLAND (Bow River): I am puzzled to know how it is going to go on the record if it is not produced until to-morrow. Do I understand that questions that remain unanswered and orders for returns that remain unfilled may be filled during the recess, or do they simply lapse?

Mr. MEIGHEN: If the House meets to-morrow, even for the purpose of prorogation, the minister can read it, or he can ask Hansard to take it as read. Then it goes into the record. If the House does not sit to-morrow, I do not see any way of getting it into the record. The hon. member knows who is responsible for that. The government is responsible.

Mr. LOW: I would be very glad to send to the hon. member (Mr. Garland, Bow River) a copy of the letter I send to the leader of the opposition.

Mr. MEIGHEN: Let it be put on the record.

Mr. SHAW: I do not understand yet. I would like to get the information. Is it to be confined to the leader of the opposition?

Mr. LOW: Not at all.

Mr. SHAW: It will be read into the record to-morrow?

Mr. LOW: If we meet to-morrow.

Mr. GARLAND (Bow River): My question remains unanswered. What happens to these orders unfilled and questions unanswered at the end of any session?

Mr. MEIGHEN: I do not think the minister can undertake to get it into Hansard to-day, because there are no officials at work. I do not absolve them on that account. It is utterly indefensible that we should have had to bring this up to-day at all. But if the House sits to-morrow, even for the purpose of prorogation, then it goes into the record. That is the undertaking of the government. If the House does not sit to-morrow, all that can be done is to have the information given to me and to the hon. member. As to the other orders, there are any amount not complied with. There are at least a dozen?

Mr. GARLAND (Bow River): What happens to them?

Mr. MEIGHEN: They stand a monument to the evasion of this government.

Item agreed to.

[Mr. Meighen.]

Canada-West Indies Trade Conference, \$20,000.

Mr. LOW: This is to take care of the expenses in connection with the conference that is being held in Ottawa at the present time.

Mr. MEIGHEN: I earnestly hope there will be success to this conference, but I would like to have a statement as to just what is the object of the present delegation. What variations do they hope to secure? I do not mean to say in detail, but speaking generally. What modifications of the agreement of 1920 are they desirous of securing? The minister will know doubtless from the correspondence. What is the complaint? Is it in respect of tariff, or is it in respect of transportation, and if either or both, what is wrong as to tariff, and what is wrong as to transportation?

Mr. LOW: It is in connection with transportation and the existing trade agreement. The transportation question has been a very live one for some years, in fact, ever since the last agreement was entered into in 1920, the matter has been under discussion. Up to the present, nothing definite has been concluded. The conference met for its first business meeting to-day, but nothing has been discussed in detail so far. We hope that the trade agreement entered into so profitably in 1920 may be enlarged and the transportation problem worked out. That would help very much in our trade with the West Indies.

Mr. MEIGHEN: Then, generally speaking, the tariff arrangement is satisfactory?

Mr. LOW: Generally speaking.

Mr. MEIGHEN: But transportation is not?

Mr. LOW: That is the real question.

Mr. MEIGHEN: Is the complaint with the frequency of the service or the speed?

Mr. LOW: That is one of the questions, and the service generally.

Mr. MEIGHEN: I presume the government has gone far enough into the matter to realize now that they certainly cannot get on without the merchant marine if they are to continue relations with the West Indies. The silence is eloquent.

Item agreed to.

Honorary Advisory Council for scientific and industrial research—further amount required, \$15,000.

Mr. MEIGHEN: Why this further amount?

Mr. LOW: Last year there was a grant of \$10,000 to the Canadian Engineering Standards Association. It was felt that that work could be properly carried on by the research council,