to draw in order to put across this material." These people were amazed when I told them that the advertisements were printed at the expense of the state, and that it was pretended to be for the good of the country and not political propaganda. I told them this was supposed to be an advertisement for the good of Canada at large. There is not the least doubt, Mr. Chairman, that the intention behind these successive advertisements which appeared in every paper throughout the country was merely to make good that Canada first policy, which I previously termed, and which I term again, a Canada alone policy, trying to trade merely with our own people. There is not the least doubt that these advertisements were intended to further the policies submitted to the people by the government of the day, and I do say in all sincerity that a number of people thought these advertisements were political literature published by the Conservative organization at the expense of the party. If this discussion to-night, in addition to putting hon. members on record with regard to the principle of propaganda of this kind, has only the effect of letting the people know that this is not Conservative literature, paid for by Conservative funds, but that it is advertising paid for by the country at large, then at least we shall have accomplished something.

This matter has been fully discussed; I think it is well understood; both sides of the case have been well presented, but I say again that the point is not as to whether what is contained in these letters is true. We do not believe in this sort of thing. My hon. friend does believe in it, but this is a matter for discussion; it is a matter of policy, and the government had no right to propound and expand their policy throughout the country and charge the taxpayers for it. I think if it had been possible for the government to avoid that expenditure and reduce at least by that amount the taxation we find in the budget, it would have been worth while.

Item agreed to on division.

Mail subsidies and steamship subventions, $1,052,220.

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: My right hon. friend was courteous enough to allow the tariff board bill to stand for a little while to oblige some of us, seeing that we had not known of the changed arrangements he was about to make. I believe I am only asking what is reasonable when I suggest that we should return to the tariff board discussion now rather than continue with supply. The understanding was that we should go on with the ways and means resolutions as expeditiously as possible, with the tariff board legislation in between. To continue in estimates now would be to delay both other matters.

Mr. STEVENS: In the circumstances I move that the committee rise and report progress and ask leave to sit again.

Item stands.

Progress reported.

TARIFF BOARD

PROVISION FOR APPOINTMENT, POWERS, DUTIES AND SALARIES

The house resumed consideration in committee of Bill No. 47, to provide for the appointment of a Tariff Board—Mr. Bennett—Mr. MacDonald (South Cape Breton) in the chair.

Mr. BENNETT: When the committee rose I had concluded all I desire to say with respect to one phase of my right hon. friend's argument, which was based largely on the assumption that we should not accept what two years ago he thought was wrong and what at the same time, he says, I thought was right. I think the mere statement of that indicates that we are dealing with something I did not then and do not now regard as relevant to the principle involved here. I have endeavoured to point out what that principle is. May I also point out that my right hon. friend is in error in assuming that this board is taking away powers heretofore possessed by any other functionaries or appointees in relation to the customs tariff. It will be observed that the language used is this:

> The board may be empowered by the governor in council to hold an inquiry under section 15 of the Customs Tariff, in the same manner as the judge of the exchequer court or any other judge therein referred to—

They are not dispossessed of jurisdiction; their jurisdiction still continues. This, however, is an additional body authorized to carry out investigations under the section in question. In any event, as the Minister of National Revenue pointed out the other day, in no case do their findings become effective until approved by the minister himself. It will be observed also that, with respect to the Combines Investigation Act, there is no diminution of power so far as investigation by the registrar or commissioner may be concerned; because the governor in council may merely empower the board to make any investigation or hold any inquiry authorized