

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: With regard to the reply which the Prime Minister has just made, I understand some questions have been asked with respect to harbour commissions, but they have been ruled out of order. I hope they will be reconsidered in view of the statement that has just been made by the Prime Minister, because I think they are covered by what he has said.

Mr. BENNETT: I do not want to take up time unnecessarily, but with respect to the sixth question:

What percentage of these products are used for military purposes?

How can the government answer the question How does it know what the product of any particular factory is and how can it compare what is used for military purposes with the total output? As regards the seventh question:

How much did the Canadian government buy from these firms from 1928 to 1932, inclusive?

This is a proper question, although it is very general. As regards the eighth question:

Can rayon factories be turned into munitions factories in case of war?

It might be said with respect to any factory in the world that it could be turned into a munitions factory in case of war.

I do not wish the right hon. gentleman to misunderstand me. There are questions which obviously the government would not think it fair to ask commissions to answer. For instance: Did John Smith work for the harbour commission and did he receive \$2.50? You spend a dollar in time and energy in getting that question answered and the answer cannot be of any real value, nor is it the intention of the government to ask the commission for it. I do not, however, think my right hon. friend referred to questions of that character.

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: I think the question might be permitted to appear on the order paper in case there should be any criticism of anyone for not allowing it so to appear.

Mr. BENNETT: At the risk of being tiresome, I might point out to the right hon. gentleman that on one occasion in the house during recent years it was indicated that some discretion must be exercised by the Speaker as to what should appear on the order paper. I fancy the incident to which he refers is one in which the Speaker, in the exercise of his discretion, thought the question should not appear on the order paper. That is as far, I understand, as the matter has gone; that is, the Speaker is responsible for what appears on the order paper.

53719—158½

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: The right hon. gentleman is quite correct, but I think if his honour the Speaker would reconsider the question in the light of the statement as made by the Prime Minister this afternoon, he would allow it to appear on the order paper.

Mr. SPEAKER: In view of the attitude of the government at this session regarding questions asked as to the internal management of harbour boards, certain questions along the same lines have not been put on the order paper, the government having announced its intention of not answering such questions. As to question 1 on to-day's order paper, the first question seems fair enough and depending on the answer to that, questions following might or might not be properly asked. I should say questions 1 and 7 might properly be asked, the others to be dropped.

Mr. CAHAN: I give the answer to this question so far as we have information. The answer is very meagre.

1. No.
2. Answered by No. 1.
3. No information.
4. Wages:

	Per hour
Males—	Cents
Skilled..	50-80
Semi-skilled..	35-50
Labourers..	25-35
Youths..	15-20
Females—	
Adults..	13-30
Girls..	15-21

5. Hours: Standard hours of labour: 50 to 55 per week.
6. Nil.
7. Nil.
8. No information.

RADIO COMMISSION

Mr. ILSLEY:

1. Has the position of assistant to the chairman of the radio commission been established?
2. If so: (a) what will his duties be; (b) what will his salary be; (c) will he be appointed by the Civil Service Commission; (d) will he be appointed after competitive written examination?

Mr. DURANLEAU: The following information has been furnished by the Canadian Radio Broadcasting Commission:—

1. No; no such position is contemplated.
2. Answered by No. 1.

ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE

Mr. DUFF:

1. What is the total cost of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, in the province of Nova Scotia, for the calendar year 1932?