

Hon. Mr. STEVENS:

1. What amount of liquor has been imported into British Columbia during the calendar years 1922 and 1923?
2. What amount of liquor remained in bond and later released for export?
3. What amount of liquor was released for local consumption?
4. What amount of revenue was secured for liquor released for local consumption?
5. What amount of gross revenue was received from liquor in bond, and what is the total refund under the regulations controlling liquors in bond during the said years?

Mr. STEVENS: I had the courtesy of a conversation with officers of the Customs Department, and they point out certain impossibilities in this question. I have a change to suggest, and then, with the permission of the House, I wish to ask that it pass as an order for return. I would suggest that the word "imported" in the first line should be changed to "brought;" that in the last question, after the word "revenue," the words "or security" be inserted and that after the word "refund," the words "or release" be inserted. With these changes, if the question could pass as an order for return, I have no doubt it could be dealt with.

TREATY OF PEACE WITH TURKEY
STATEMENT IN EXPLANATION BY THE PRIME
MINISTER

On the Orders of the Day:

Right Hon. W. L. MACKENZIE KING: (Prime Minister): Yesterday my right hon. friend the leader of the opposition (Mr. Meighen) asked me, in the course of the remarks I made on the subject of the Treaty of Peace with Turkey, whether there was a reply to a despatch I had referred to, of December 31, 1922. I answered that there was not. I regret to say that I was mistaken in that regard; the fact that there was such a reply escaped my attention in looking over the files I had before me. That reply was to the effect that the British government acquiesced in the view that the plenipotentiaries who negotiated the treaty should be the parties to sign it. I will see that the despatch is submitted to my right hon. friend with the other papers.

THE BUDGET

On the Orders of the Day:

Sir HENRY DRAYTON (West York): Can the Acting Minister of Finance (Mr. Robb) tell us when the budget is likely to be brought down?

Hon. J. A. ROBB (Acting Minister of Finance): May I remind my hon. friend, who himself had more than once the re-
[Mr. Stevens.]

sponsibility of bringing down the budget, that the financial year has only ended this week, and he knows that the officers of the department should have at least a little time to check up accounts.

Sir HENRY DRAYTON: I am not complaining; I merely want to know. I see that the newspaper reports say that it may be brought down any time.

Mr. ROBB: I will let my hon. friend know a couple of days in advance.

Sir HENRY DRAYTON: I think the House should have longer notice than that.

CHIEF INSPECTOR OF FISHERIES,
VANCOUVER

On the Orders of the Day:

Mr. LADNER: Is the government seriously entertaining the proposal to abolish the office of Chief Inspector of Fisheries at Vancouver? If so, has it consulted all parties concerned?

Mr. CARDIN: The matter is under consideration.

PACIFIC HALIBUT FISHERY

Hon. P. J. A. CARDIN (Minister of Marine and Fisheries) moved the third reading of Bill No. 21, to amend the Northern Pacific Halibut Fishery Protection Act.

Motion agreed to and bill read the third time and passed.

CANADIAN NATIONAL RAILWAYS
BILLS PROPOSED TO AUTHORIZE THE CON-
STRUCTION OF BRANCH LINES

Hon. GEORGE P. GRAHAM (Minister of Railways and Canals) moved that the House go into committee to consider the following proposed resolution:

Resolved, that it is expedient to bring in a measure to provide for the construction of a Canadian National railway line from Rousseau, on the Canadian Northern Quebec railway, to Laurent, on the Quebec and Lake St. John railway, in the province of Quebec; estimated mileage including existing grading, 17 miles; estimated cost, \$1,000,000.

Motion agreed to and the House went into committee, Mr. Gordon in the chair.

ROUSSEAU-LAURENT

Mr. GRAHAM: I desire to lay on the Table a communication from Sir Henry Thornton.

Mr. MEIGHEN: In regard to any particular line, or all?

Mr. GRAHAM: It covers in a general way, I think, everything.