

colonial Railway at Ottawa, at any time during the year 1909 ask for tenders for any wire fencing?

2. If so, were any tenders received for such fencing, and from whom?

3. What were the prices quoted by the said parties tendering for the different kinds of fencing??

Mr. SPEAKER. Stand as notice of motion for return.

WM. PAUL—GASOLINE BOAT.

Mr. TAYLOR:

Has the Department of Public Works purchased from one Mr. William Paul a gasoline boat? If so, what was the price paid, for what service is the gasoline boat required, on whose recommendation was the said boat purchased, who valued said boat, and who fixed the price?

Mr. PUGSLEY:

1. Yes.

2. \$3,500.

3. Required for towing purposes and general service in connection with the works of this department in the district of Montreal.

4. On recommendation of Mr. James Howden, General Superintendent of Dredging, and Mr. L. J. Michaud, District Engineer, who examined and valued the boat and considered fair and reasonable the price asked by the owner.

J. B. KAINE—TUG 'WITHERBEE.'

Mr. TAYLOR:

1. Has the Department of Public Works purchased from one Mr. J. B. Kaine, a tug, the 'G. J. Witherbee'? If so, at what price, for what service is the tug required, on whose recommendation was the said tug purchased, who fixed the value of said tug and when was it built?

2. Was there any debt or mortgage on said tug when purchased from Mr. Kaine? If so, to whom was the money paid?

Mr. PUGSLEY:

1. (a) Authority was given by order in council, December 30, 1909, for the purchase at \$12,000, but no payment has yet been made. (b) Required to tend departmental dredges. (c) Purchase recommended by Mr. James Howden, General Superintendent of Dredging, who examined and valued her, with Messrs. Samson and Duclos, government hull and boiler inspectors. (d) built in 1872.

2. (a) Yes. (b) Payment not yet made.

CHIEF JUSTICE DUBUC, MANITOBA.

Mr. A. HAGGART:

1. On what date was the Hon. Joseph Dubuc formerly chief justice of the Court of King's Bench for Manitoba retired from this office?

Mr. WILCOX.

2. What is the cause of the delay in filling the vacancy?

3. Have any representations been made to the government to the effect that the number of cases ready for trial is said to be increasing, that the present judges cannot overtake the arrears, and that the public and legal profession are suffering serious inconveniences?

4. Have any representations been made to the government that the former chief justice as the only judge of French origin on the Court of King's Bench of Appeal, and claims made that the vacancy on the Court of King's Bench should be filled by appointing one of the French speaking people of that province?

5. Is it the intention of the government to recognize such claim in making the appointment?

Hon. A. B. AYLESWORTH:

1. Chief Justice Dubuc was not retired from office, but resigned of his own motion. His resignation was received on November 15, 1909.

2. The subject is one for careful consideration.

3. No.

4. Yes.

5. In considering the appointment the principal object which the government will keep in view will be the importance in the public interest of securing for the position the best man available—giving due weight in doing so to the natural desire of all classes and languages and creeds to have adequate representation on the Bench in every part of Canada.

MOTIONS AGREED TO WITHOUT DISCUSSION.

For a copy of all accounts of George Tracy, of Selkirk, against Indians of St. Peter's reserve, Manitoba, now on file in the Department of Indian Affairs here, and of all correspondence of the department in relation thereto.—Mr. Bradbury.

1. For a return showing the name, cost, date of construction, place of construction, and gross tonnage of each of the steam vessels now owned by the Dominion government.

2. The names of those built in Canada.

3. What ones thrown open to Canadian competition.

4. In each case that was open to Canadian competition, the difference between the lowest Canadian tender and the price paid.

5. In each case where a contract was made with a builder for the construction of any of said steam vessels, the month and day when each of said contracts were signed, and when each of said contracts called for delivery of vessels.

6. The price each of the said steam vessels would have cost if the government in each case paid the current Canadian customs duty chargeable on vessels constructed outside of Canada.—Mr. Sinclair.

For a return showing—1. What amount has been annually expended by the govern-