

Mr. BRODEUR. I suppose through the pilotage authorities.

Mr. BARNARD. Are the pilotage authorities under salary?

Mr. BRODEUR. The members of the Board are not paid; but generally the secretary is paid a small allowance.

Mr. DANIEL. In St. John, the Board pays the secretary out of the earnings of the pilots. When may we expect the hon. minister's Bill, No. 155, to be brought up for a second reading and referred to the Committee on Marine and Fisheries?

Mr. BRODEUR. The Bill is not yet printed in French. As soon as it is ready, my intention is to ask that it be read the second time and referred to the Committee on Marine and Fisheries, where it can be discussed, and where an opportunity can be given to any persons to appear and give their views upon it.

Mr. DANIEL. Will that be done before the Easter recess?

Mr. BRODEUR. Yes.

Mr. EDWARDS. If that Bill is put through, will there be the same discrimination against Ontario vessels as now obtains, or will they be put on a parity with vessels of other provinces in so far as the payment of pilotage dues is concerned?

Mr. BRODEUR. There will be no discrimination at all, but all will be put on the same footing. All vessels of a certain draught will be obliged not only to pay pilotage dues, but to take pilots.

Mr. EDWARDS. Will that in any way lessen the responsibility of the vessel owners? In other words, will the placing of a vessel in charge of a pilot place any of that responsibility on the pilot's shoulders?

Mr. BRODEUR. There is no provision in that respect. The liability of vessel owners will be the same as to-day. When they take a pilot, they are just as responsible as they would be if the vessel were under the control of the master of the ship.

Mr. EDWARDS. The captain of a vessel who has navigated these waters year after year would no doubt consider himself just as capable of handling it as a pilot, and probably more so. The placing of a pilot on board does not in any way, I understand, lessen the responsibility of the captain, and the vessel has to pay pilotage dues to this close corporation in Montreal, no matter whether a pilot be really required or not.

Mr. BRODEUR. There is a provision in the Bill to enable masters to take charge of

their vessels when in the St. Lawrence on one condition, and that is that they pass before us an examination, and I understand that this is acceptable to the Dominion Marine Association.

Mr. BARNARD. But the vessel would have to pay in any case.

Mr. BRODEUR. No, when the master has become qualified by examination, and takes charge of his own vessel, there is no need to take a pilot on board or pay any pilotage dues.

Mr. DANIEL. Does this apply to every part of Canada?

Mr. BRODEUR. It applies to the two pilotage districts of Montreal and Quebec.

Mr. CROSBY. Why should it not apply also to St. John and Halifax?

Mr. BRODEUR. I have never had any request from St. John and Halifax to make pilotage compulsory there.

To provide for maintenance and repairs to wharfs, \$5,000.

Mr. DANIEL. There was an appropriation made for the purchase of some wharf property in St. John for the use of vessels of the department. Has anything been done in that matter?

Mr. BRODEUR. It has been engaging the attention of the department. We are trying to find a suitable locality. Negotiations are going on, and if we can find a locality, I think there is a vote in the estimates for that purpose.

Mr. DANIEL. There was a vote last year of \$50,000.

Mr. BRODEUR. Is there not a vote this year in the Public Works Department?

Mr. DANIEL. I think it was put in the Public Works Department.

Mr. CROSBY. I draw the hon. minister's attention to the condition of a wharf at East Chezzetcook. It is a substantial and well constructed wharf, but nothing has been done to it for a number of years, and it is in urgent need of repairs. If it be not put in proper repair soon, it will become useless. There are also two wharfs, one at Moshers river and one at Port Dufferin. In these, surface planking is absolutely necessary. Of course if these repairs be not attended to in time, the department will have to stand a much heavier expense later.

Mr. BRODEUR. I shall take a note of my hon. friend's remarks.

To provide for the establishment of telephone reporting stations along the St. Lawrence river between Montreal and Quebec, \$24,000.