

*Montreal Harbour*

and the Minister of Marine (Mr. Duranleau) will make a statement with respect to a bill which he will ask the house to permit him to withdraw. I should like to take this opportunity to thank the opposition, both official and unofficial, for the way in which they have contributed to-day to the transaction of business and the disposition of matters which we have had under discussion.

Motion agreed to and the house adjourned at 11.05 p.m.

### Thursday, May 26, 1932

The house met at eleven o'clock.

#### QUESTION

(Questions answered orally are indicated by an asterisk)

#### \*KAMOURASKA COUNTY—COLLECTION OF NEW TAXES

Mr. BOUCHARD:

Was any appointment made in Kamouraska county in connection with the new taxes on telegrams and telephones?

Mr. RYCKMAN: The answer is no.

#### MONTREAL HARBOUR

On the orders of the day.

Hon. FERNAND RINFRET (St. James) (Translation): Mr. Speaker, I wish to put a few questions to the hon. Minister of Marine (Mr. Duranleau) in connection with the Montreal harbour. May I first inquire whether the report of Commissioner Gibb on Canadian ports has been printed and translated?

Hon. ALFRED DURANLEAU (Minister of Marine) (Translation): Mr. Speaker, the report of Sir Alexander Gibb, I think, has now been printed in the two languages.

Mr. RINFRET (Translation): I wish to thank the hon. minister. May I further inquire whether the government intends, previous to prorogation, to make known its policy with reference to legislation or measures to implement the report.

Mr. DURANLEAU (Translation): It has been impossible owing to the arduous work of this session to discuss the details of Sir Alexander Gibb's report which is voluminous and, as all know, covers all Canadian ports. The government intends to closely study this report between now and next session and then to state its policy.

[Mr. Bennett.]

Mr. RINFRET (Translation): I thank the hon. minister for his information. I have but one other question to ask, I make a request under the form of a question so as to comply with the rules of the House, however, in truth, I wish to persuade the government to grant my request. Is it the intention of the Montreal harbour commission during the summer season to give all the work possible to the working population of Montreal and to restrict as much as possible this assistance to the people of Montreal?

Mr. DURANLEAU (Translation): The Montreal Harbour Commission, sir, this season will carry out its usual work. If it is possible to extend such work so as to stem unemployment, we shall do so. I am aware that lately, the commission has started the construction of wharves in the eastern part of Montreal, and I think that before long other works will be undertaken.

Mr. RINFRET (Translation): I again wish to thank the hon. Minister of Marine, and to also inform him that I made all these inquiries for the purpose of co-operating.

#### REPARATIONS

#### STATEMENT BY SECRETARY OF STATE AS TO RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS IN COMPENSATION FOR INJURY AND LOSS

On the orders of the day:

Hon. C. H. CAHAN (Secretary of State): Several hon. members on both sides of the house asked me at a late date in the session if I would not make a statement to the house with regard to reparation payments made by Germany and the right of soldiers who saw service in the war to obtain not only pensions but also certain awards by way of compensation for physical injuries suffered while they were prisoners of war. As a great deal of misapprehension seems to exist in the minds of many throughout the length and breadth of the country, with consent of the house I should like for a few moments to make a statement as to the facts.

Under articles 231 and 232 and annex I to article 232 of the treaty of Versailles, Germany agreed to pay for certain loss and damage, particularly to the civilian population. Article 231 reads:

The allied and associated governments affirm and Germany accepts the responsibility of Germany and her allies for causing all the loss and damage to which the allied and associated governments and their nationals have been subjected as a consequence of the war imposed upon them by the aggression of Germany and her allies.