

2. If so, by what additional amount and on what ground?

Mr. BENNETT: I think upon reflection the hon. gentleman will realize that this question, asking the government what its purposes are, is an improper form of question.

#### QUESTION PASSED AS ORDER FOR RETURN

##### MAIL SUBSIDIES

Mr. WOODSWORTH:

What amounts were paid for the carrying of mails, by way of subsidies, contracts, grants or otherwise to: (a) the Canadian Pacific Railway; (b) the Canadian National Railways; (c) the Canadian Pacific Steamships; (d) the Canadian National Steamships, during the last calendar year?

Mr. CAHAN: Return tabled herewith.

#### BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

##### PRECEDENCE FOR GOVERNMENT BUSINESS AFTER MONDAY, MARCH 5

Right Hon. R. B. BENNETT (Prime Minister) moved:

That on Monday the 5th of March, 1934, and every Monday thereafter until the end of the session, government notices of motions and government orders shall have precedence over all other business except questions by members and notices of motions for the production of papers.

He said: This means that Monday last was the last Monday for private members. I think that perhaps we have gone longer than on some other occasions before taking Monday as a government day. This will still leave Wednesdays for private members, together with the usual provisions for private bills. I do not know that I can usefully add anything to what the motion itself indicates.

Mr. J. S. WOODSWORTH (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, there is still on the order paper a number of notices of motions, and I wonder if the government could allow one other Monday before taking Mondays for government business.

Mr. BENNETT: Mr. Speaker, the government extended the period one Monday beyond the usual Monday. We did not ask that last Monday should be taken. There has been an opportunity I think to discuss every motion that has been on the order paper. They were called, but the hon. members in whose names they stood were not prepared to go on. Wednesday will still be available for private members, and I see no reason why there should be another Monday taken, but

[Mr. Michaud.]

if later on it should develop that that is desirable we shall try to make arrangements accordingly.

Mr. WOODSWORTH: May I point out to the Prime Minister that the government, contrary to its usual custom, took up several Thursdays in connection with the debate on the address. I would also point out that there are some motions on the order paper which have not yet been reached.

Mr. BENNETT: I only desire to point out that taking the course we did was a distinct advantage to private members, for the order that gives precedence to the address involves that every Thursday that is a private member's day shall be taken up with the debate on the address. But in this instance that was not the case, and there were Thursdays when hon. members were afforded an opportunity for the discussion of private members' resolutions.

Motion agreed to.

#### HARD SURFACE ROADS

On the orders of the day:

Mr. J. L. ILSLEY (Hants-Kings): I would direct a question to the Minister of Labour, based upon a passage in the speech from the throne in the province of New Brunswick, reading:

My government intends with the assistance of the Dominion government to commence during the present year the laying of some hard surface roads.

Has this government agreed with the New Brunswick government to assist in the laying of hard surface roads, and if so, upon what terms? Has it refused similar assistance to the province of Nova Scotia?

Hon. W. A. GORDON (Minister of Labour): I have not before me the agreement with the province of New Brunswick, and details of the extent to which this sort of work is being carried on are not presently within my knowledge. I shall look into the matter and give an answer to-morrow or Monday.

#### THE POTATO MOTH

On the orders of the day:

Mr. THOMAS REID (New Westminster): I should like to direct a question to the hon. Minister of Agriculture (Mr. Weir), based on a telegram I have received from the Hon. K. C. MacDonald, Minister of Agriculture in the province of British Columbia, in which he states that in a shipment of potatoes from