

1. Copy of the commission appointing the Hon. Mr. Justice S. E. Richards;

2. Copy of a communication addressed to me by the national war labour board providing for the immediate introduction of the eight-hour day, three-watch system, on vessels operating on the great lakes and St. Lawrence waterways.

We hope that the operators and the employees will give 100 per cent cooperation, and we hope also that through the good offices of the commissioner a firm agreement will soon be consummated between the disputing parties so that the government control can be lifted.

The task of negotiating the terms of the contracts to take the place of the agreement which has existed heretofore between many of the companies and their employees is not going to be an easy one. However, Mr. Justice S. E. Richards, if given reasonable cooperation by the parties, will, I am sure, obtain results which will be satisfactory.

Under the order in council which I have just tabled, control is also taken of oil tankers operated by the oil companies. Most of these companies are already working on an eight-hour day by direction of the national war labour board. However, since these vessels in consequence of the strike have not been operating, it was deemed advisable in the public interest to bring them under the control order.

I would like to say a few words about the qualifications of Captain Brand for the position of controller. He holds his rank because of service in the imperial royal navy, and during the war period has been on loan to the Royal Canadian Navy with the temporary rank of captain.

Throughout the war he has been serving as naval intelligence officer and director of the trade division. For the last year he has been one of the key officers on the naval headquarters staff, and has served since July, 1942, as a member of the Canadian shipping board.

He has been selected as controller because of his long experience in naval and navigation matters and because of his administrative capacity and good judgment.

I might add, Mr. Speaker, that one of the companies involved in the dispute, the Upper Lakes and St. Lawrence Transportation Company Limited, operating one of the largest services on the lakes, consisting of twenty-seven vessels, has accepted the strike settlement formula which appears on pages 2632 and 2633 of *Hansard*, and pursuant to clause 1 thereof has to-day signed a supplementary memorandum of understanding with the Canadian seamen's union which provides for the practical application of the eight-hour day,

three-watch system. This company's vessels are now being manned and will commence to sail to-morrow.

[Later:]

On the orders of the day:

Mr. CLARENCE GILLIS (Cape Breton South): I would like to address a question to the Minister of Labour arising out of his statement a few moments ago. Perhaps I did not understand him correctly. In appointing the controller is he taking over only the ships which transport the commodities he mentions—coal, grain and oil—or are all commodities included?

Mr. MITCHELL: If my hon. friend would like to have a copy of the order I will see that he gets one. It is all-inclusive, with the exception of passenger transport, and I have been assured by the men's organization that there will be no interference.

WAR EXPENDITURES

CHANGE IN PERSONNEL OF SPECIAL COMMITTEE

Hon. IAN A. MACKENZIE (Minister of Veterans Affairs) moved:

That the name of Mr. Cockeram be substituted for that of Mr. Jackman on the special committee on war expenditures and economies.

Motion agreed to.

PRIVATE BILL

FIRST READING—SENATE BILL

Bill No. 196, to consolidate and amend the Acts relating to La Société des Artisans Canadiens-Français.—Mr. Fournier (Maison-neuve-Rosemont).

HOUSE OF COMMONS

REVISION OF STANDING ORDERS

On the orders of the day:

Mr. T. L. CHURCH (Broadview): I wish to ask the leader of the government a question. I understand that the special committee on the revision of standing orders has presented its final report. When will this matter come up for consideration? This is the fifty-sixth day of the session. The chairman of the committee is not here.

Right Hon. W. L. MACKENZIE KING (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I am afraid the chairman of the committee will have to give my hon. friend the information he is asking for. I cannot give him any answer at the moment.