

PARLIAMENT HILL

REQUEST FOR STATEMENT ON CLEANING OF MONUMENTS

On the orders of the day:

Mr. H. W. Herridge (Kootenay West): As somewhat of a conservative—

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear.

Mr. Herridge:—so far as works of art and beauty are concerned, I want to ask the Minister of Public Works a question prompted by the shock I received on taking an after lunch constitutional around this building with a gentleman of the fourth estate. I wish to ask the minister this question. Who ordered the scouring and consequent desecration of the monuments on parliament hill, and what is the reason for this unusual and unique treatment of bronze monuments?

Hon. D. J. Walker (Minister of Public Works): I cannot give the hon. gentleman the real answer to his question—it would not be polite—but may I thank him for his question and say that from one who calls himself a conservative it is delightful to have these examples of poetic licence in which he usually indulges and in which he has indulged again today. Perhaps, some time, he could frame his question in blank verse.

Knowing that we have many connoisseurs in this house, before attempting the much-needed cleaning of these monuments we sought the advice of the national research council, of which the hon. gentleman is a great admirer, and after considering many alternative methods we decided on this expert method of cleaning which, I am sure, will work out to the satisfaction of even the hon. member for Kootenay West.

(Translation):

BRIDGES

THREE RIVERS—STE. ANGELE—INQUIRY AS TO NEGOTIATIONS

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Samuel Boulanger (Drummond-Arthabaska): Mr. Speaker, may I direct a question to the Solicitor General? Further to the promises made in 1957 and 1958 to the effect that a bridge would be built between Three Rivers and Ste. Angele as soon as a Conservative government was in power, could he tell us what stage discussions have reached in that connection?

Hon. Leon Balcer (Solicitor General): Mr. Speaker, the bridge between Ste. Angele and Three Rivers is one that local people are anxious to see built; and if my hon. friend will refer to local newspapers, he will see

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Inquiries of the Ministry

what great progress has been accomplished in the matter.

Mr. Boulanger: I have a supplementary question, Mr. Speaker, is it not the minister's opinion that the bridge should be built at this time when there is such widespread unemployment in our area?

Mr. Balcer: I think that construction of that bridge will be very useful, and the sooner it can be undertaken the better.

(Text):

POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT

DISCUSSION OF METHODS FOR PREVENTING ROBBERIES

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Azellus Denis (St. Denis): May I direct a question to the Postmaster General. During his trip to France did the hon. gentleman have an opportunity of meeting the French postmaster general and, if so, did he take the opportunity to discuss measures to be taken in order to stop robberies of post offices?

Hon. W. M. Hamilton (Postmaster General): Unfortunately my time in Paris and in France was devoted to other matters—

Some hon. Members: Oh.

Mr. Chevrier: Give us the details.

Mr. Hamilton (Notre Dame de Grace):—also of an official nature, which required to be attended to on a certain date. Immediately those were over I returned to Canada because I did not want to miss a moment of my association with the hon. gentleman opposite while this house was sitting. Perhaps on another occasion when this house is not sitting I shall be able to return to France and meet the postmaster general there.

INCOME TAX

REPORTED INQUIRY INTO EXEMPTION OF CHARITABLE DONATIONS

On the orders of the day:

Mr. D. M. Fisher (Port Arthur): I should like to direct a question to the parliamentary secretary to the Minister of National Revenue. I had intended to ask it yesterday, and today the minister is not here. Perhaps the parliamentary secretary will take it as notice.

Could we have a comment confirming or denying the sensational story about Ottawa studying tax files in connection with the exemption from taxation of charitable donations?