

cerning the sad death of the late Hon. Raymond Prefontaine in Paris—an event which was followed with a closeness commensurate with its interest to a large section of the Canadian people.

The proceedings of the Alaska Commission were also fully reported by our service. It was a satisfaction to note that our reports on all these three events were wired from Toronto to leading American journals that had not been favoured by the American service, with such full reports. I think that the Alaskan Boundary report showed the enormous national value of having the views of Canada's representatives in London fairly and adequately reported to their constituents at home.

The immense sporting constituency of the Canadian press has also been well served, for every sporting event of importance, including results of every principal race run in Great Britain and of leading athletic sports, especially football games, are cabled as they occur. In fact, every sporting event of moment in Great Britain is promptly covered. Not only were there events in Great Britain covered, but also reports of sporting events in Australia in which Canadians were interested by reason of Canadian competitors taking part.

The satisfactory manner in which the London manager of the Canadian Associated Press handled the mission of the hon. Rodolph Lemieux to Japan deserves special mention. It was thought by some members of the press that this event should have been covered direct from Tokio, but to do so would have involved an expenditure of not less than \$2,000. It would have involved the expense of a special agent and cables would have cost at the press rate, forty-seven cents a word—we covered the assignment from London by careful selection and compilation of the ample cable reports of the London daily press, at the cost of Atlantic cabling which did not amount to over three cents a word delivered in Canada to each paper of the association. These reports were very satisfactory.

Then our cattle and market reports are a new and important feature added to our service. We had great difficulty at first in getting satisfactory reports. Our London manager, however, personally interviewed the leading cattle firms in Great Britain and Ireland, with the result that the association receives reports from two of the leading cattle firms free of all cost for the information, and at a cost only of the cabling to Canada.

The cattle dealers of Canada have expressed their great satisfaction with the accurate and ample reports that are so forwarded. These reports also permit the farmers to know exactly where they are at in relation to the old country quotations that are the basis of the export price for cattle.

Our cable service also supplies the cheese quotations which are of vital interest to the Quebec and eastern Ontario cheese producers.

Our service is now confined to twelve papers in Toronto, Montreal and Ottawa. Two papers in Winnipeg that were members had to withdraw some months ago owing to increased rates imposed for general news service by the Canadian Pacific Railway. These papers were perfectly satisfied with our service, but the large increase in the price of their general telegraph service compelled them to withdraw. This withdrawal is, I understand, only

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temporary and in the near future, the service will be renewed under an arrangement that will give all the daily papers west of Winnipeg to the coast the opportunity of receiving through the Western Associated Press the service at a much lower rate than the Canadian Associated Press could forward it direct.

I understand they have now come in.

I desire to also call your special attention to the fact that all the cables received by the Canadian Associated Press after publication in the papers of the association are either wired to daily papers not in the Canadian Associated Press or are sent as plate matter to hundreds of daily and weekly papers published in Canada, so that the Canadian Associated Press reaches all the people of Canada by indirectly serving tens of thousands of readers who do not see copies of the papers that belong to the Canadian Associated Press. This feature has been impressed on me by the reading of our cables in scores of provincial weeklies and in the dailies of the smaller towns that are not of our membership.

Now, Sir, I have tried to cover in summarized form all the points which I think clearly show that the Canadian Associated Press has made good in its efforts to carry out the purpose for which it was organized.

Under the present agreement, the limit of the amount to be paid by the government was \$60,000. But the amount earned by the service only involves the sum of about \$50,000.

The association suggests that the same amount be granted, but that instead of \$15,000 for three years and \$10,000 and \$5,000 respectively for two years, the limit be \$60,000 for five years, payable at the rate of \$12,000 a year—or whatever portion of that amount is earned by the association. It is, of course, to be borne in mind that the members of the association have expended an amount equal to that paid by the government.

Permit me to state that the work of the association has been carried on with a close regard to thorough business principles and that our expenditure has been most carefully guarded. We have endeavoured to get the best possible value for the money we expend and we have tried to serve the country in our association so as to give a comprehensive, prompt and efficient service.

You will, as an old newspaper man, recognize the difficulties that have to be faced by any man who undertakes to manage such a service as ours. It is a difficult matter sometimes to please everybody, and it is a pleasure to know that some who were inclined to criticize us in the beginnings of our work have now nothing but good words for the efficient manner in which our news service has been conducted.

It is for the government to decide whether the public end it tried to promote by the original terms of the agreement with the Canadian Associated Press has been served.

If so, the Canadian Associated Press is willing to continue and extend its work somewhat on the lines of the present agreement. If not the Canadian Associated Press will have to continue its work on other lines. I do not doubt that the minister is as familiar with