

Mr. BENNETT: It is marked with an asterisk.

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: If there is to be a debate on the subject it should be transferred to notices of motion, where it may be taken up in regular order. The asterisk opposite a notice of motion for the production of papers signifies simply that the matter is not one for debate.

Mr. BENNETT: It is the other way about in some matters.

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: Yes.

Mr. SPEAKER: Will it be transferred?

Mr. LAPOINTE (Quebec East): No; just permit it to stand until the hon. member is in the house.

Motion stands.

CIVIL SERVICE—EMPLOYMENT OF MORE THAN ONE MEMBER OF SAME FAMILY

Mr. BETTS:

For a return showing—The number of cases and particulars in connection with each case, in which (a) more than one member; (b) more than two members; (c) more than three members; (d) more than four members; and (e) more than five members of the same family, including in the term family, husband, wife, son and daughter, are employed in the civil service of Canada.

Mr. RINFRET: If this order should be passed in the form proposed by the hon. member it would involve having a questionnaire submitted to every civil servant in Canada. The personnel records of each department are kept separately, and information such as that sought by the hon. member is not available in the records kept by any department. In a case where two members of a family were employed in the same department, the information might be obtained with a certain degree of speed and accuracy, but if a father should be employed in one department and three sons in three other departments, the only way by which the information could be obtained would be by having each civil servant fill out a form.

There are between fifty and sixty thousand persons in Canada employed in one capacity or another by the dominion government. The expense of printing a questionnaire, sending a copy of it to each of these employees, and then tabulating the information received, would be very great. I may add, however, that the government has some sympathy for the object obviously sought by the hon. member, and although we cannot permit the motion

to pass, due to the great difficulties and costs involved, I suggest it is a matter which might well be discussed when civil service matters are before either the house or a committee of the house.

Motion dropped.

NATIONAL HARBOURS COMMISSION

Mr. LAPOINTE (Matapedia-Matane—for Mr. Parent, Quebec West and South):

For a copy of all correspondence and other documents exchanged between the National Harbours Commission and any person or persons, during the years 1935, 1936 and 1937, with respect to obtaining grain for the elevators at Halifax, Saint John, Quebec, Three Rivers, Sorel and Montreal.

Mr. BENNETT: I think the hon. member means "for shipment through elevators at Halifax," does he not?

Mr. LAPOINTE (Quebec East): Yes.

Motion agreed to.

A CANADIAN FLAG

PROPOSAL FOR ADOPTION OF A FLAG SYMBOLIC OF CANADA AND HER PARTNERSHIP IN THE BRITISH EMPIRE

Mr. CAMERON R. McINTOSH (North Battleford) moved:

That, in the opinion of this house, a special select committee be appointed for the purpose of considering the advisability of adopting a distinctive Canadian flag, representing Canada as a whole, thereby symbolizing the dominion senior partner in the British commonwealth of nations.

He said: Mr. Speaker, the resolution appearing on the order paper in my name is one sponsoring a recognized distinctive flag for our dominion—Canada our homeland, a senior partner in the British Commonwealth of Nations.

To all intents and purposes, at the present time Canada is a sovereign state, or a sovereign nation within a sovereign empire, and because Canada occupies such a proud position, I think it only right that this resolution be brought before the house. Of course limitations still exist to a certain extent in connection with the constitutional development of our dominion, but they are largely fragmentary, or exist only in the imagination. They will disappear, as other limitations have disappeared down through the years, through the advancement of constructive Canadian democracy.

Therefore, the resolution for a distinctive flag for Canada is one which rightly asks that a distinctive emblem be established for our