

fewer than one hundred young men have come on their own and have been accepted for short service commissions. We welcome these pilots. They are first rate young men and we wish to do everything in our power to facilitate their entry.

I should like to know whether any steps have already been taken by Canada to enter into such an arrangement. If not, is it the intention of the government to enter into such a system?

Hon. IAN MACKENZIE (Minister of National Defence): My hon. friend was good enough to give me notice of the question. A few minutes ago I laid on the table a return to an order containing exhaustive information in reply to a question asked by the hon. member for Kindersley (Mr. Elliott). The question my hon. friend has just raised is fully answered in that order, but if it is not I shall be glad to bring down supplementary information at a later date.

PORT OF VANCOUVER

REQUEST FOR INVESTIGATION INTO HANDLING OF WATERBORNE FREIGHT

On the orders of the day:

Mr. ANGUS MacINNIS (Vancouver East): I wish to direct a question to the Minister of Transport (Mr. Howe). For some time there has been more or less dissension on the Vancouver waterfront on the part of rival organizations, and the shipping federation has been brought into the matter. I understand that the city council of Vancouver has asked the Department of Transport or the federal government to appoint a commission or some unbiased authority to investigate the situation. I should like to know whether that request has reached the government yet and whether the minister is prepared to say what action will be taken in the matter.

Hon. C. D. HOWE (Minister of Transport): The hon. gentleman kindly gave me notice of the question. I received, dated March 16, a telegram from the city clerk of Vancouver reading as follows:

The following resolution was adopted by city council March fifteenth: That the federal government be asked to appoint a competent unbiased authority on port and marine matters to make a survey of the situation on Vancouver waterfront with a view to ascertaining whether the handling of waterborne freight into and out of Vancouver is not so out of line with international practice as to militate against the best interests of the port.

[Mr. W. R. Macdonald.]

In reply to the hon. member's inquiry I may say that the intention of the National Harbours Board of withdrawing from the British Columbia Shipping Federation has already been made known to the house. I am advised by the National Harbours Board that this policy is being worked out as rapidly as conditions will permit. No situation appears to exist at Vancouver which prevents the facilities of the port being fully used for the benefit of Canadian trade, nor does there appear to be necessity for any survey and investigation as requested.

THE PARLIAMENTARY GUIDE

On the orders of the day:

Mr. GEORGES BOUCHARD (Kamou-raska): May I ask the Secretary of State (Mr. Rinfret) whether the Canadian Parliamentary Guide has been printed this year? Is it true that it has been printed and distributed to the senators, and may we hope that it will soon be distributed among members of this house?

Hon. FERNAND RINFRET (Secretary of State): The Parliamentary Guide is published by a private individual, though he is a member of the civil service. The publication is a private one. The House of Commons used to have an estimate out of which it bought copies of the Parliamentary Guide and distributed them to members of the house, but I understand that this year that estimate has not been introduced and the money has not been provided for the purpose. Neither the Secretary of State's department nor the printing bureau has anything to do with it, the publication being, as I say, a private one.

Right Hon. R. B. BENNETT (Leader of the Opposition): I should like to inquire whether the Secretary of State has told us the whole story in view of the fact that the Parliamentary Guide has been distributed to the Senate.

Mr. RINFRET: I will be quite frank; I have told everything I know about it. If there is something I do not know and which the leader of the opposition knows I shall welcome the information.

Mr. BENNETT: It is of such a character that I will communicate it to the hon. gentleman privately.

Mr. POULIOT: Therefore he was right not to state it.