

bill on the technical reasons of incorporation, and not in any sense expressing dissent with either the individuals who are promoting this particular enterprise or the objectives they are stating in it.

Clause 1 negatived: Yeas, 21; Nays, 35.

Mr. Aiken: Mr. Chairman, in view of the fact that clause 1 has been defeated, I presume the same vote will carry throughout and the bill has effectively been defeated. I would suggest, therefore, that we do not proceed.

QUESTIONS

(Questions answered orally are indicated by an asterisk.)

DOMINION-PROVINCIAL CONFERENCE ON HIGHWAYS

Question No. 1,188—Mr. Latulippe:

1. Is it the government's intention to call a federal-provincial conference on highway problems this fall?

2. Has the Minister of Public Works discussed this matter with the ministers of highways in the provincial governments and, if so, what were the results of these discussions?

[Translation]

Mr. Badanai: 1. No.

2. Discussions with all the provincial departments of highways are not yet completed.

[Text]

INCREASE IN WAR VETERANS PENSIONS

Question 1,778—Mr. Irvine:

1. Is it the intention of the government to consider increasing war veterans pensions in line with the present standard of living and in view of the recent increase in old age security payments?

2. If so, when will this be considered, and what is the proposed amount of the increase?

Answer: 1 and 2. The War Veterans Allowance Act is under continuous study and review, and due weight is given to changing conditions and related factors. The time when the act will be amended is based on considerable research and any decision to amend the act, which would include proposals for increases in rates and ceilings, will be announced in the house at the appropriate time.

MEDICAL ASSISTANCE TO APPLICANT FOR VETERANS PENSION

Question No. 1,800—Mr. Douglas:

Have representations been received to the effect that a veteran applying for a pension, or making an appeal to the Canadian pension commission, should, with the consent of the Minister of Veterans Affairs or his nominee, be able to call on the services of a physician of his own choice to assist him in preparing his case and in presenting it

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Questions

verbally before the commission, such physician to be compensated from public funds, and, if so, what consideration has been given to this proposal?

Answer: Such representation was received quite recently, and this matter is receiving very careful consideration at the moment.

SHORE DAMAGE, STE MARGUERITE GALLIX, QUE.

Question No. 1,831—Mr. Caouette:

1. Has the government any information concerning the extent of the damages caused by the sea last November to the North shore of the St. Lawrence river at Ste Marguerite Gallix, county of Saguenay?

2. Was a request for assistance made by the residents of Ste Marguerite Gallix and, if so, did the government indicate that such requests for assistance should be addressed to the appropriate provincial authorities?

3. Would the construction of a breakwater prevent further damage, particularly during the period of high tides, in December and January?

[Translation]

Mr. Badanai: 1. Yes.

2. Yes. The department suggested that assistance be sought under the winter works incentive program in which the provincial government participates. Since the erosion was not caused by navigation or by other factors involving the responsibility of the federal government, it is felt that this matter comes under provincial jurisdiction.

3. The construction of a breakwater might remedy the situation, but it seems that a protection wall would also be needed.

SHERBROOKE-MEGANTIC BRANCH RAILWAY LINE

Question No. 1,832—Mr. Latulippe:

1. In what year was the branch line of the Sherbrooke-Megantic railway opened?

2. How long did its construction take and what was its cost?

[Translation]

Mr. Cantin: The Board of Transport Commissioners for Canada advises as follows:

1. The railway line between Sherbrooke and Megantic was constructed by the St. Francis and Megantic International Railway Company (now part of the Canadian Pacific Railway Company) and was opened for operation in 1883.

2. Information in the board's files indicates that construction commenced about the year 1872. The board has no information as to the total cost of construction of the section of the railway line in question.

[Text]

POST OFFICE CONSTRUCTION, PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

Question No. 1,854—Mr. Macquarrie:

1. When is it proposed to commence construction of post office buildings in Crapaud, North Rustico, and Mount Stewart in Prince Edward Island?