

in dams and others constructions which expenditures would have had to be undertaken by the provincial government to develop the waterways. As to the question of the water-powers along the Trent, they are largely developed by the work done by the federal authority in the construction of these dams and creation of reservoirs. And the provincial government, whatever might otherwise be their claims in law, have handed over to us their rights in the present canal.

Mr. GEORGE GORDON. What does the minister consider a 'navigable stream'?

Mr. GRAHAM. That is a large question, and I would refer it to my hon. friend from the Sault, who is a legal man. It is a question that might be discussed in connection with certain treaties. I would not care to express an opinion.

Mr. GEORGE GORDON. The reason I ask is because at the present time, in the constituency which I have the honour to represent, there is a very small stream known as the Veuve river, which is not navigable in the proper sense of the word, that is, no boats can go up there of any capacity at all. It is said to come within the meaning of the Act. Just now a party wants to build a small bridge over it; it seems he has got to get permission from the department to build that bridge.

Mr. GRAHAM. Of course, if it be considered a navigable stream they could not construct a bridge over it except by consent and approval of the Department of Public Works. If it is navigable up to a certain distance, I suppose it is a navigable stream; but I would not like to express an opinion.

Mr. GEORGE GORDON. It is navigable for canoes, or small boats drawing three or four feet of water.

Mr. CONMEE. Certain streams have been held by our courts to be navigable. For instance, the Winnipeg river is one, though it has a great many rapids and falls. But the river is navigable in certain sections. In an action that arose, the courts held that though certain portions of the river were composed of rapids and falls, it was nevertheless a navigable stream. A question arose in connection with the diversion of certain waters in the State of Minnesota. The waterway of Birch lake is entirely within the state of Minnesota, but the waters discharge into the Rainy river, which is a boundary stream. It was held by the Waterways Commission, both by the American and Canadian sections, and confirmed by the Secretary of War at Washington, who is charged with navigable waters in the United States, that their ruling was correct, that it was a navigable water, though navigable only for floating timber, ties or

logs. Certain portions of it, such as Maline lake, Basswood and Birch lakes, are swells of the river, so to speak, though the water channel is comparatively shallow outside the lakes. There were some tugs on these lakes. Any stream of that character, it would appear from these decisions, would be regarded, and perhaps properly, as a navigable water, although not entirely navigable in a state of nature.

Remuneration to A. Brunet, government director, Grand Trunk Pacific Railway, \$2,000.

Mr. FOSTER. I would like to know what Mr. Brunet's duties are.

Mr. GRAHAM. As I understand, he has to represent the government on this board.

Mr. FOSTER. That is so many English words, but what does he do?

Mr. GRAHAM. He has a place on the board, as any other man; he has a voice, and attends meetings. I asked him this year to make me a report concerning his work. He has given me such a report, and I will be glad to lay it on the table.

Mr. FOSTER. How long has he been commissioner?

Mr. GRAHAM. He was appointed in July, 1906.

Mr. FOSTER. Has the government given him any instructions at all as to what he has to do? Is he a restraining force, and in what way? Does he follow his own sweet will and do as he likes, or has he any instructions given him by the government, or does he go whichever way the tide runs, or does he simply look after his salary? All these are pertinent inquiries when a man is getting \$2,000 a year of the people's money. He may earn it, he may earn a good deal more; but we want to know what the man is doing.

Mr. GRAHAM. My hon. friend will remember that last year when this item was up some questions were asked, and the hon. member for Jacques Cartier (Mr. Monk) made some extended remarks, very eulogistic, of Mr. Brunet. I had several conversations with him during the past year. I really had not met him last year. I discussed with him unofficially his duties on the board at various meetings, and asked him to give us a report as to his work on that board, and he did so. I have that report, and I will lay it on the table early next week.

Mr. JOHN HAGGART. Is he still in the employ of the government?

Mr. GRAHAM. Yes, in this capacity, a director of the Grand Trunk Pacific representing the government.

Mr. JOHN HAGGART. When will it end?