

Mr. MONK. Is it in conformity with the law that the Auditor General puts this correspondence in this report?

The MINISTER OF FINANCE. Of course the hon. gentleman is aware that the Auditor General's Report includes a large mass of documents. When we speak of the Auditor General's Report we speak of the whole printed book. Merely bringing down any special part of his report without all the details would not be a compliance with the statute.

Mr. BENNETT. I desire to call the attention of the premier to this fact, that many members who live west and north of Toronto, owing to the fact that there are no Sunday trains on a great many of the branch lines, are compelled to wait till Monday before they can start for Ottawa. So if there is nothing to be done to-morrow, and we have an opportunity of getting home to-night, we will have a couple of days at home without losing an extra day.

The PRIME MINISTER. If my hon. friend will look at the Votes and Proceedings to-day he will find that the hon. member for East York (Mr. Maclean) has given notice that when the government moves the House into Committee of Supply, he will move a motion of a very important character. We can discuss it to-morrow.

Mr. HAGGART. With reference to the Auditor General's Report, if I remember rightly, there is an order of this House that the report shall be published before the 31st of October. Why is not that done? There is also a provision for its distribution before parliament meets.

The PRIME MINISTER. It may be proper when the Public Accounts Committee is organized to have this subject discussed. With regard to bringing down the Auditor General's Report at the present time, the hon. gentleman knows that we are quite powerless in the matter.

Mr. MACLEAN. If the House will pardon me, after what the First Minister has said I wish to repeat that I am willing to let the discussion on my motion go over until next week if that will suit the convenience of members. My hon. friend from West Huron (Mr. Holmes) has just come to me and says that he and others of his friends would like it to go over until Monday.

Mr. HOLMES. I agree with what the hon. member for Simcoe (Mr. Bennett) has said with reference to the adjournment. There are quite a number of members from the west who would like to return home, and who will necessarily lose Monday from the cause he stated. If some arrangement could be made whereby we would not lose Monday, it would be an advantage for the members from the west.

Mr. FIELDING.

COMMUNICATION WITH PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.

Mr. HACKETT. I desire to call the attention of the Postmaster General (Hon. Mr. Mulock) to the fact that we have had no mails from Prince Edward Island for the last eight days. What steps has he taken to overcome this difficulty? I know the government has two steamships blocked in the ice, and while these ships are not available, I want to ask the Postmaster General if he is going to have the mails conveyed by ice boat from Cape Traverse to Cape Tormentine, as formerly.

The POSTMASTER GENERAL (Hon. Wm. Mulock). When my hon. friend the Minister of Marine and Fisheries (Sir Louis Davies) succeeds in getting across from the island to the mainland and reaches Ottawa, I will consult him, and be then in a much better position to answer the hon. gentleman's question. At present I understand that all communications between the mainland and the island is interrupted by reason of the condition of the ice.

Mr. HACKETT. I want to say in answer to the minister—

Mr. SPEAKER. Order, the hon. gentleman has already spoken.

Mr. LEFURGEY. I would like to know what the passage of the Minister of Marine and Fisheries from the island to the capital has got to do with the transmission of the mails. What action has been taken with regard to the transmission of the mails from Prince Edward Island to the mainland? There are a number of people here who are interested in what is going on down in the island.

Mr. WALLACE. Before that motion is carried—

Mr. SPEAKER. Order, the hon. gentleman has already spoken.

THE PARLIAMENTARY MAILS.

Mr. LaRIVIERE. I have not yet spoken. I want to ask the Postmaster General if he could not get better service at the post office here. The evening papers from Montreal only reach us on the following morning. They get here at nine o'clock by the mail service and they never come up from the city office until the following day. This is my experience since the opening of the session. It is not the fault of the office in the Commons, but it appears that the distribution office in the city is not carried on as it should be. The same thing takes place in regard to our western mail. The mail from the west arrives at two o'clock in the afternoon, and we do not get our mail in the House until eight or nine o'clock the same evening. I think it is quite too long