

cers" instead of officials. I understand from his explanation that he does not mean to go down the line.

Sir HENRY DRAYTON: It would be covered by using the words, "officers and directors," Mr. Speaker.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The motion will be amended by using the words "officers and directors" instead of the word "officials."

Motion as amended agreed to.

SHIPPING AND RAILWAY STRIKES 1922

Sir HENRY DRAYTON moved:

For a copy of all papers, correspondence, letters, documents, and other writings relating to the strikes of workers in shipping, railway and other crafts in 1922 and also for copy of the opinion of the Department of Justice given in relation to the conduct of either employers or employees affected by such strikes.

He said: Before this motion is put, Mr. Speaker, let me say that the hon. Minister of Labour (Mr. Murdock) draws my attention to the fact that the words "and other crafts," will make a great deal of work in connection with this order. I have no objection to the return being limited to strikes in shipping and railway crafts, striking out the words "and other." I understand that that meets the objections he raises.

Hon. JAMES MURDOCK (Minister of Labour): Mr. Speaker, in that case I would call the attention of my hon. friend to the fact that although there were strikes in other crafts there were not any in the shipping or railway crafts that I recall at the moment.

Sir HENRY DRAYTON: Then we will let the motion stand. Perhaps we can arrange as to the papers required.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Motion stands.

SPECIAL WAR REVENUE ACT 1915

Hon. Mr. STEVENS moved:

That, in the opinion of this House, a select committee of this House be appointed with instructions to conduct an enquiry into the operation of the Special War Revenue Act, 1915, having particular reference to the sales tax and its difficulties of administration and collection and alleged inequities, with power to summon witnesses, to call for documents and information from government departments and to report its findings or recommendations, from time to time, to the House.

Hon. JACQUES BUREAU (Minister of Customs): May I ask my hon. friend to let that motion stand. It covers the operation of the special War Revenue Act since 1915. We might get together and try to limit its rather large scope.

Mr. STEVENS: I am quite willing to let it stand for the time being.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Motion stands.

TREATY WITH AUSTRALIA

Right Hon. ARTHUR MEIGHEN moved:

For a copy of the treaty referred to by the Prime Minister in his statement to the press of December 29th last as having been concluded between the government of Canada and the government of Australia.

Right Hon. W.-L. MACKENZIE KING (Prime Minister): I am sure I do not know what my right hon. friend refers to when he speaks of a statement having been given by me to the press. Any statements to the press I have usually given in writing in a form in which they could be quoted. I have not gone to the trouble which my right hon. friend has apparently gone to of searching all the newspaper files to see what they contain. I must confess he seems driven to a far point when he is obliged to look for a flaw in the government from what may appear in some press report. I have, however, looked up the Ottawa papers, and I find that the Citizen and the Journal each have articles somewhat similar, and yet so dissimilar as to make it perfectly apparent that whoever wrote the two articles used what they thought appropriate and proper to put into them. Certainly they contain nothing to indicate any statement made by the government.

I mention this because my right hon. friend has one motion referring to Australia, another to Belgium, another to Great Lakes Disarmament, and another to the Lake of the Woods levels. He makes mention in one motion of treaties having been concluded. I find the report in the Ottawa Citizen is in this form:

Reviewing the work of the government during the past year, treaties have been concluded with France, Italy, Belgium and Australia, and negotiations are now proceeding with Spain.

Possibly that is the statement my right hon. friend has in mind. On the other hand, the Ottawa Journal mentions that:

Treaties have been arranged—

not concluded.

—with France and Australia for the betterment of trade conditions between the Dominion and those countries, and other treaties seeking the widening of markets in other directions are in course of negotiation.

I have no doubt at all that if my right hon. friend wishes to search through the press to find some little comment that he can bring to bear upon the work of the administration, he will find plenty to serve his purpose, but I do submit, Mr. Speaker, that it is somewhat beneath the dignity of the leader of a great political party to come to