

Attorney General apparently has accepted similar rumours. The following article dealing with the piano story appeared in the *Victoria Times*, a good Liberal paper, of March 17:

Camp Piano Story Refuted

Also Nothing in Carload of Radios Rumours, Manson Tells Committee

The mystery of the piano at the Blue river relief camp, which has been causing politicians so much concern, has been solved.

A. M. Manson, K.C., M.P.P., who had the matter up last week, announced at Wednesday's session of the legislature's unemployment investigation committee, that he had had telegraphic inquiries made and that "The piano story arose from an old piano taken into camp."

"As for the carload of radios, which people report having seen come in, there is nothing in it," said Mr. Manson. "It is only proper when a member gets information sent to him in connection with matters like these, we should clean it up."

I hope hon. members of this house will take cognizance of that statement. The article continues:

"It was not fair for any member of the committee to present the piano story in jest," said J. W. Berry, M.P.P. "We are deluged here with this kind of stuff—reports about the way moneys have been expended," Mr. Manson went on.

The following article appeared in the *Colonist* of March 23:

Cousin Rumour Goes by Board

Another Myth Exploded at Public Accounts Hearing

Joining the "carload of radios" and the "Blue river piano" myths, which had been previously exploded before the unemployment committee, another choice bit of gossip was dissipated yesterday before the public accounts committee, with another retraction from A. M. Manson, K.C., who had introduced the subject to the committee on the strength of a letter from a citizen at Coalmont.

As it reached the committee the rumour was that a cousin of the Minister of Mines had made a good thing out of renting some machinery to the government on Tulameen road-work, with machinery he was supposed to be buying on time purchase from the government. Examination into the rumour showed that the man in question, B. L. Hatfield, was no relation to the Minister of Mines and that he did not rent machinery to the government for this work.

The hon. member for New Westminster, speaking in the house on April 19, stated that his information in regard to blankets was given to him by a prominent business man in Vancouver. Surely it is time that a letter verifying these statements should be presented to the house. If I were to give in the house all the statements that I hear on the street or from business men, I am afraid we would need a greatly enlarged Hansard. He further made this observation:

[Mr. Plunkett.]

This would seem to indicate that, generally speaking, all my statements were accurate, or eleven of them would not have been left unchallenged.

The hon. member has something to answer now.

Mr. MUNN: May I ask a question?

Mr. PLUNKETT: The hon. member can make his speech later. I have very little time.

Mr. MUNN: I should like to say this—

Mr. PLUNKETT: I do not interrupt any hon. member when he is speaking, and I hope the same courtesy will be extended to me.

The hon. member for New Westminster, speaking in the house on these questions which he considered to be of such moment, missed something good regarding his own port. I should like to help him out; I want hon. members to know that New Westminster is a great and growing port and it is going ahead even in these dull times when everybody is visiting the wailing wall in Jerusalem. This is from the *British Columbian*:

March export of lumber best for more than year. March was the best month for lumber exports from the Fraser river for more than a year, according to the month's figures issued at the harbour board office to-day. The export of lumber totalled 18,638,989 feet, as against some 14,000,000 in March, 1931.

There were twenty-nine ships in port in March, as compared with twenty-six in the corresponding month last year. For the first three months of this year there were eighty-two ships, as against seventy-five in the first quarter of 1931.

Export of shingles also showed a marked increase, being 8,236,800 in March this year against some 2,000,000, in March, 1931. Canada salmon was another product that showed an increase; 13,447 cases this March against 1,300 in March last year.

There are several other figures given, but my time is almost up.

I wish to make just one remark in regard to educational methods in Canada. It was not long ago in British Columbia that the college students went on strike because the provincial government had reduced its estimates by \$250,000. I sometimes think these days that education has gone a little too far; that we must stop at the public or high school point and let those who desire a better education pay for it. It has become such a burden upon the people, it is almost unbearable. University students of to-day seem more capable and informed upon communism, atheism and companionate marriage than they are upon political economy or any national virtue which would help in the advancement of our citizenship or the relief