

3. 52 at sea; 30 inland.
4. 2 at sea; 14 inland.

YUKON TELEGRAPH SERVICE.

Mr. SINCLAIR:

1. Has the Government a contract with any person or firm for supplying the cabins on the Government telegraph lines from Quesnel north to Dawson in the Yukon territory?

2. If so, what is the name or names of the contractors, and also the cost of the goods supplied by such contractor or contractors, for the year 1912?

3. If no regular contract exists now, from whom are such supplies purchased, and on whose recommendation?

Mr. ROGERS:

1 and 2. No.

3. To November, 1912 (last return); P. Burns & Co.; Whitney & Pedlar; Hudson Bay Company; W. J. Larkworthy; Kelly, Douglas & Co.; Jos. Horsfall; A. Klimesch; John A. Fraser & Co.; R. Boyd Young & Co.; Boss Bakery; Barton Bros.; H. E. Brown; McIntosh & Dickson; J. B. Kershaw; E. L. Gillman; Henry Detras; Taylor & Drury; Marryfield & Co. (recommended by H. S. Clements, Esq., M.P.); Arctic Trading Co. (recommended by Dr. Thompson, M.P.).

MEADOWVILLE-MURRAYFIELD MAIL SERVICE.

Mr. MACDONALD:

1. Who is the mail contractor for the service between Meadowville and Murrayfield, county of Pictou?

2. What amount is paid to him per trip?

3. Has a permanent contract been entered into?

Mr. PELLETIER:

1. Alexander Murray.

2. The contract stipulates payment of \$165 per annum (about \$1.05 per trip).

3. Yes.

GOVERNMENT RAILWAY SYSTEM—EXTENSIONS.

Mr. COCHRANE moved that the House go into Committee to-morrow to consider the following proposed resolution:

Resolved, that it is expedient to provide that the Minister of Railways and Canals may, subject to the authority of the Governor in Council, construct, purchase, lease or otherwise acquire, in whole or in part, any railway, railway bridge, railway station, railway terminal, railway ferry or other railway work; and that any such railway or other work shall become a part of the Government railway system.

Motion agreed to.

STEFANSSON POLAR EXPEDITION.

Sir WILFRID LAURIER: Persistent rumours have been going around to the

Mr. HAZEN.

effect that the Canadian Government has arranged with Mr. Stefansson for the organization of a polar expedition. I see in to-day's Citizen a despatch from New York to the effect that there is something in this rumour, and that the Canadian Government has purchased a whaler, the Karluck, barkentine rigged. I should like to ask my right hon. friend if there is any truth in this rumour.

Mr. BORDEN: Yes, there is, and the Order in Council will be laid on the Table at once if my right hon. friend so desires.

Sir WILFRID LAURIER: The whole correspondence had probably better be brought down at the same time.

Mr. BORDEN: Yes. I am not aware of any correspondence of importance; but any that there is can be brought down. The circumstances briefly stated were these, that an expedition under the auspices of certain institutions in another country, was going to explore lands over which we claim sovereignty. The Government was asked to assist in the expedition. The expedition seemed to be a desirable one for certain purposes; but it was thought that if it were going at all it should go entirely under the auspices of this country and not under the auspices of the institutions mentioned. These institutions, very courteously, renounced any interests they had in the sending of the expedition. But, of course, some scientific men may go on their behalf. I do not know that that is to be the case.

QUEBEC AND SAGUENAY RAILWAY AND ST. CHARLES RIVER IMPROVEMENTS.

Mr. LEMIEUX: I desire to ask two questions, one of the hon. Minister of Railways and Canals, and the other of the hon. Minister of Public Works. There is a rumour that the Government has decided to take over the Quebec and Saguenay railway, and I desire to know whether there is any truth in that rumour. Then, I would like to know if it is true that tenders have been received in connection with the lock on the St. Charles river to the amount of \$3,000,000.

Mr. COCHRANE: With reference to the Government taking over the Quebec and Saguenay railway, I know nothing about it. Certainly the Government is not taking it over.

Mr. ROGERS: I understand the hon. gentleman to refer to the works on the St. Charles river. Tenders have been received, and as soon as the contract is awarded, I shall be glad to bring down all the papers.