

REMOVAL OF RIPPLE ROCK

On the orders of the day:

Mr. WILFRED HANBURY (Vancouver): I would like to ask if the report prepared by the engineers investigating the removal of Ripple rock has yet been handed in, and when it will be tabled.

Hon. H. A. STEWART (Minister of Public Works): I have not yet received the report.

WINNIPEG VETCRAFT SHOP

On the orders of the day:

Mr. CAMERON R. McINTOSH (North Battleford): Before the orders of the day are called I have a question for the Minister of Pensions and National Health (Mr. MacLaren). The question is of some concern to the returned men of Canada and to veterans' organizations. I understand that we have seven vetercraft shops in Canada, one for the maritimes, at Halifax; one for Quebec at Montreal; two for Ontario, one at Toronto and one at Hamilton; and two for British Columbia, one at Victoria, and one at Vancouver. The one for the three prairie provinces at Winnipeg was burned last July. The matter was to be investigated, but up to the present time no action has resulted and there has been a great deal of uncertainty, and the returned men of the three western provinces would like to know what is the exact situation. My question is simply this: Will the minister take into consideration an investigation of the vetercraft shop in Winnipeg with a view to reestablishing it on a larger basis, or if that is impossible, will he consider the cases of the men affected, about 150 in number, and make them 100 per cent pensionable?

Hon. MURRAY MacLAREN (Minister of Pensions and National Health): That question involves several questions. I can answer it partially by stating that the matter was investigated, and some time ago an answer was given to the effect that it was not proposed to restore the building that had been destroyed. Certain arrangements were made for the men who had previously been engaged there; something like two month's pay, I think, was given. There is no objection, however, to further consideration of the matter. These matters never really receive final consideration.

INQUIRY FOR RETURN

On the orders of the day:

Hon. P. J. VENIOT (Gloucester): I desire to draw to the attention of the Minister of [Mr. Stevens.]

Public Works (Mr. Stewart), so that it might facilitate the business of the house when the estimates for New Brunswick are under consideration, that certain letters have not been brought down in Reference No. 6, which was laid on the table the other day. The missing letters include one from G. M. McDade, the member for Northumberland, also a letter appointing Mr. Albany M. Robichaud, agent for the Department of Justice, to procure certain deeds in connection with the work reported on in this file, together with his reply, also a letter accompanying the deeds. These letters have not been produced. I would ask the minister to look into the matter and to complete the file by producing the missing letters.

Hon. H. A. STEWART (Minister of Public Works): I will take note of what the hon. gentleman says, and have the matter checked up.

SALE OF GASOLINE

On the orders of the day:

Mr. E. J. YOUNG (Weyburn): I would ask the Prime Minister if any steps have been taken to compel oil refineries to supply oil and gas to cooperative organizations which are willing to pay for it.

Right Hon. R. B. BENNETT (Prime Minister): That would rest entirely within the jurisdiction of the provinces.

RAILWAY COMMISSION

AMENDMENT OF JUDGES ACT TO PROVIDE ANNUITIES FOR CHIEF AND ASSISTANT CHIEF COMMISSIONERS

Hon. HUGH GUTHRIE (Minister of Justice) moved that the house go into committee to consider the following proposed resolution:

That the Judges Act be amended to provide for an annuity to any judge of a superior court of Canada who is or has been, since 1st January, 1931, appointed chief commissioner or assistant chief commissioner of the Board of Railway Commissioners for Canada.

Motion agreed to and the house went into committee, Mr. Hanson (York-Sunbury) in the chair.

Mr. STEWART (Edmonton): Will the minister explain?

Mr. GUTHRIE: This resolution provides for an amendment to section 27 of the Judges Act, adding a clause to protect judges who may be appointed to office other than upon the bench of the superior courts of Canada. At times it is desirable to appoint judges to other positions, such as to the Board of